



OLD IRVING PARK

NEWS



1897

Beginning to Elevate the Railroad Tracks
Theodore H. Bacmeister Collection,
IPHS Archives

See article on page 12



NOVEMBER

VOLUME 31 | ISSUE 8 | 2017



HEATHER LANGE

YOUR IRVING PARK RESIDENT EXPERT

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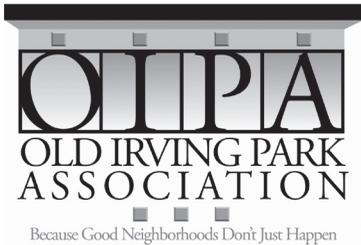


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Source: MRED, LLC (closed sales volume, all brokerages and all property types in Irving Park from 1/1/16 12/31/16)



OLD IRVING PARK NEWS Volume 31 ♣ Issue 8 ♣ November 2017

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for and about people living in the neighborhood bordered by Montrose, Addison, Pulaski and Milwaukee Avenue. The Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) is a non-profit, all volunteer community group active since 1983. The *Old Irving Park News* is published ten times a year.

oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com | www.oldirvingpark.com

FB: [oldirvingparkassoc](https://www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc)

Delivery Staff

Mary Lou Agronomoff
 Bindu Alexander
 Bridget Bauman
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 Gabriel and Adrian Christiansen
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 Barbara Cohn
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Zoning

Gayle Christensen
 Howard Silver

Delivery Coordinators

Meredith O'Sullivan (Chair)
 Barbara Chadwick (N. of Irving)
 Bart Goldberg (S. of Irving)

Editor / Design & Production

Kearns Design Group 773-296-9824
k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com

Advertising

Colleen Kenny ... oipaadvertising@gmail.com

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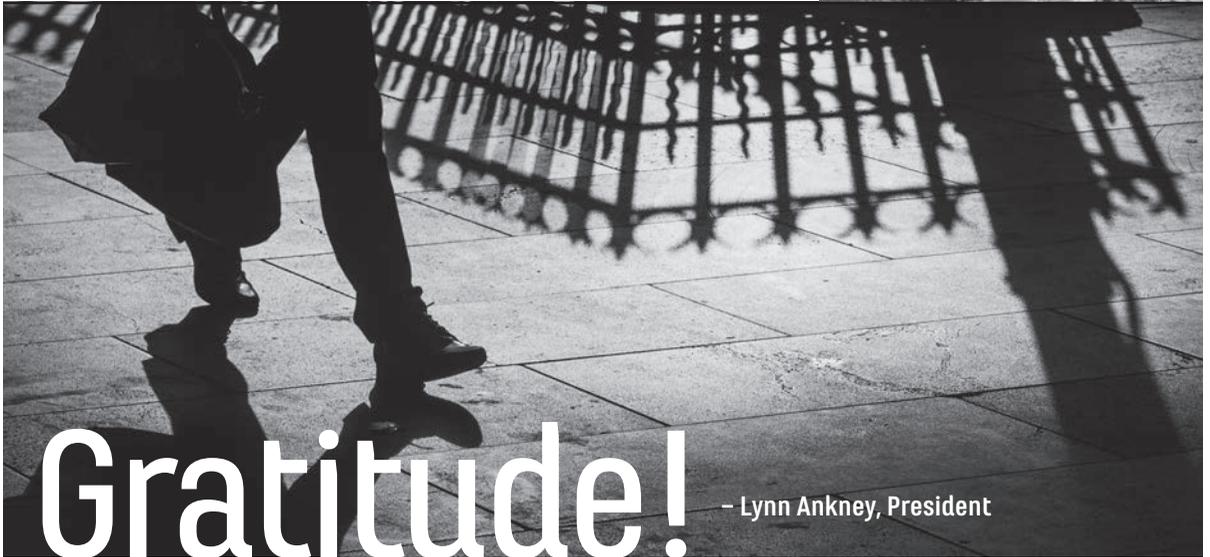
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"I want to give a big thank you to **Dee Barrett** and her daughters **Peighton, Keira and Mollie** who subbed for me from April until now while I was recovering from two hip replacement surgeries. I wasn't ready for all of those steps. The girls were more than happy to help! That's what this neighborhood is about. Thank you Barretts."

— *Barbara Cohn*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Gratitude!

– Lynn Ankney, President

I love this newsletter, but I often struggle with what the heck to write in this column. “President’s Page” connotes important information, weighty issues, thought-provoking missives and the like.

I suppose given that it’s November, I’ll go with the trite, but always appropriate, topic of being thankful. Specifically, I’m thankful for this newsletter, despite the dread of my monthly assignment given to me by this column! (Note to self: possible December column topic: recruiting guest columnists)

I’d like to start with thanking the people who take part in creating this publication. Each month, more than two dozen folks submit content to our creative and talented newsletter editor and designer, Kathleen Kearns. And while this newsletter may be a throwback inasmuch as it’s PAPER and hand-delivered to your doorstep each month (more on that later), it’s our goal to provide timely, relevant, hyper-local content our members value. Our OIPA Board relies on this publication as a means for communicating the work we conduct on our members’ behalf throughout the

month (see page 4 for the board meeting minutes) and, of course, to highlight the keynote speakers we engage for our monthly meetings (see page 6 for our general meeting minutes).

The next round of thanks goes to the folks who play the important role of getting the newsletter ready for delivery. After Kathleen works her editorial magic and sends the file off to CopySet Printing in Des Plaines, we receive 3 – 4 heavy boxes containing 500 – 600 newsletters. A team of 2 – 3 of us on the OIPA Board assemble each newsletter into one of three categories:

- 1. Mailers** – the ~50 newsletters we place in envelopes, address and mail via USPS to our out-of-boundary recipients;
- 2. NOIP routes** – 14 bundles that **Barbara Chadwick** delivers to our 13 volunteers (**Lisa Cesar** is a rockstar and does 2 routes!) located on the north side of Irving Park Rd; and
- 3. SOIP routes** – 23 bundles **Bart Goldberg** delivers to our delivery volunteers living – you guessed it – south of Irving Park Rd.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Additional Thanks!

The final group to thank is the small army of newsletter delivery staff who open and close entrance gates and trudge up and down steps in order to place your newsletter into a mailbox, through a mail slot, or in a cute little wicker basket on your front porch. Please turn to *Page 1* to see a complete listing of our delivery crew. And, in keeping with our theme of thankfulness this month, you'll note a special thank you message from a longtime newsletter deliverer to her several month-long substitute delivery fill-ins (aka her helpful, sweet neighbors, the Barrett sisters).

For more information on how you can get involved in contributing to this publication, please see page 16.



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Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

on October 16, 2017 — Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Attendees: Lynn Ankney, Howard Silver, Adrienne Chan, Colleen Kenny, Anna Sobor, and Bart Goldberg

The Board meeting commenced at about 8:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Reports: The Treasurer's Reports for the month of September were unanimously approved.

Membership: Plans on how to reach the members that have not yet renewed were discussed, and for the future exploring to see if we can possibly offer an auto-renewal system. We were pleased that about 275 have already paid their dues electronically this year which is considerably more than used that method last year.

Outside Meeting: Lynn Ankney and Anna Sobor reported on an initial meeting with the Gidley Management Group and others regarding a possible business association for our area. They also reported on the status of The

Point at Six Corners development at the corner of Irving Park and Milwaukee that is still yet to break ground. A meeting concerning that project has been postponed by the developer.

Zoning: Howard Silver updated us on a few ongoing zoning issues, including the possible development of the church property located at 4047 N. Keeler.

Holiday Party: We have been investigating the possibility of having our annual holiday party at a different location this year. We are still in the process of evaluating costs and will make a decision soon.

Miscellaneous: Our website, the newsletter, the above ground planters, and the greenspace program, were all also discussed.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:30 p.m.



NEXT MEMBERS MEETING

Monday, November 13, 2017
at 7 p.m.

Lower Level of
Irving Park Baptist Church



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Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting

on October 16, 2017 — Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Attendance:

Approximately 28 good souls were at the meeting, which was a fine turnout in light of the postponement from the week before. I attribute the good attendance to a combination of to the fine speaker we were presenting and the provision of cookies once again. (Many thanks to **Fannie's Bakery** at Milwaukee and Montrose for the tasty selection). The meeting was postponed last week due to a conflict with the Cubs playoff game and the Bears on Monday Night Football. **President Ankney** reached out to the Cubs to remind them that we had scheduled this meeting some time ago, and they were courteous enough to reschedule for the afternoon. The Bears tried to accommodate us, but the Commissioner had to clear it with the President and he was unavailable on the golf course, so we moved it. There were a couple of new attendees to welcome at this meeting: **Mike Abbott**, who resides on Kenneth, and **Kate Kane** of the 3700 block of Kostner. Please consider yourselves welcomed! President Ankney commenced the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Board Elections: The membership elected new officers for OIPA at this meeting and President Ankney wisely devoted very little time to this, since there were no contested elections. A hand vote was taken and **Lynn Ankney** (President) **Howard Silver** (Treasurer) **Bart Goldberg** (Secretary) were all re-elected, and **Adrienne Chan** was elected as our new VP. There was one nay vote against the slate, but it is our policy to not report on this so as not to discourage a free election. However, **Wendy Jo**, you should know that we are reconsidering that policy for future elections.

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Meredith O'Sullivan updated us on membership and noted that as is normally the case this time of the year we have a lot of stragglers that have yet to renew their annual membership. People, we need you!

Colleen Kenny updated us on advertising (which seems to be going quite well). It was good to hear that we now have some more advertisers on our website.

Adrienne Chan discussed the new round of banner sales that are about to begin. The cost is \$500 for two years to fly your beautiful Old Irving Park banner. She pointed out that you do not have to be a business or an organization to purchase one and be identified on it. For example, a family could buy one, or a block or other group of neighbors. This could be a great way to honor that truly special dog of yours too! (I hope my wife does not read this, as she would really do it).

A representative gave us an updated report on the City of Chicago meeting concerning the Cook County Towing company. It seems that many people are very disturbed by the actions of this company. Some of these include very reckless driving, noise complaints, and parking towed cars on Milwaukee Ave, and now their activities at their new location on Knox Avenue just south of Montrose. At the City meeting, the Business Affairs department set some new restrictions on Avondale Collision on Milwaukee Ave to help address this problem. We will keep you posted.

Continued on page 8

Peggy Brockhaus

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- Karen P.

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OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



Continued from page 6

Main Speaker: State Representative Jaime Andrade, Jr.

Representative Andrade has been the State Representative for the 40th district (which includes nearly all of Old Irving Park) for four years now, and while he has been at meetings before, this was the first time we have had him as the featured speaker. It was long overdue!

In the first part of his remarks Representative Andrade stressed that he sees himself as being primarily a service oriented representative (as opposed to a legislative specialist). His considerable skills in providing constituent services were honed from over 20 years of service with Alderman Mell's office. He discussed two big projects in our community that he has is particularly proud of. The first was the new playground at Independence Park, where he not only was instrumental in getting it built, but insisted on making it fully handicapped accessible. The second was the new public library being built at 4022 N. Elston. This incredibly important project was approved in record time and he said that they should break ground on it this spring. He said that the new big project in his crosshairs is remedying the filthy viaducts under the Blue Line. This includes the one on Irving Park Road, and the two adjacent ones on Avondale and Keeler (and he said that he will look into the one on Kostner as well). OIPA has been trying to get this addressed for a long time, and through the efforts of many it has been getting cleaned more regularly, but he is absolutely correct that it is still a big problem. With his characteristic energy, Rep. Andrade has already assembled all of the relevant parties: CDOT, IDOT, Streets and Sanitation, the CTA, Union Pacific, and Office of the Mayor. He has them working on potentially new ways to address this issue since netting and sounds are not effective, and cleaning is just a short-term remedial solution. He acknowledges that it will be difficult and probably expensive, but it is now finally a priority. He has even reached out to the Chicago

Cubs to see if they want to help. This is great news!

Representative Andrade then discussed some of legislative efforts, and it turns out that he was being unduly humble when he downplayed his contributions in this sphere. He spoke of a couple of pieces of legislation that he has proposed and passed. The first concerned mortgage foreclosures. Many lenders will not take anything less than full payment of all arrearages once an account is delinquent. They would refuse payments of the current monthly obligation meaning that the property owner got hopelessly behind. His bill created a way for the lender to accept these partial payments. A second law that he has worked on now requires volunteers at a park district (or their parents if they are a minor) to certify that they are not a sex offender before being allowed to volunteer. He also discussed some of the big issues that have arisen in Springfield, such as the budget, pension, and the school funding bill that was passed. Finally, he wanted everyone to know that they can reach him via his cell phone, and even agreed to have it published here. The Andrade Line is (773) 597-5571. It was all very informative and we hope that he will return soon

The meeting then adjourned at about 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 13, 2017 at 7 p.m. at our normal location, the basement of the Irving Park Baptist Church at 4401 W. Irving Park Road. We are going to call this meeting "Chicago 101" as we are going to have an experienced panel to answer questions about various government services, and what office you should call with various concerns. For example, if you don't know who to contact about a tree that died in your parkway, bring your questions to the next meeting. The meeting after that will be the Holiday Party. It will be on either December 10th or the 11th, and the location has not yet been determined for sure. Please look for notices from us for the time and place. See you there!

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IRVING PARK Historical Society

Visit to the Past

— Laura Marie Sanchez

We at the IPHS thought it might be a good time to draw attention to these two topics, both of which have 'anniversaries' this year.

It was 120 years ago that the Chicago & North Western Railway (now Union Pacific) began to elevate its tracks within the Chicago city limits. The railroad had been at grade level since the origins of Irving Park nearly thirty years earlier, and recent annexation to the city as well as increased population growth contributed to the need for more open and safer thoroughfares. These photos, taken beginning in 1897, show the local track elevation in progress. The following year, the work was completed, and traffic flowed freely westbound on what was then called Irving Park Boulevard.

Continued on page 14



Track elevation nearing completion, looking north on Irving Park Blvd at Keeler (Irving Park Club in bkgd), 1898

Theodore H. Bacmeister Collection, IPHS Archives



Above: View west on Irving Park Blvd from Kedvale, 1898

George Waterstraat Collection, IPHS Archives



Beginning to elevate the tracks at Kedvale, 1897

Theodore H. Bacmeister Collection, IPHS Archives

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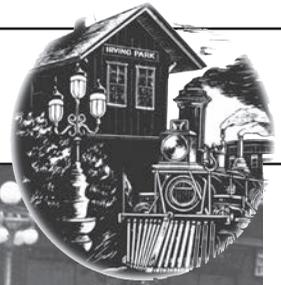
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Young Irving Parkers participate in the war effort, as students from Belding School hold a war bond drive, Avondale south of Irving Park Blvd, 1917
Hugh Colburn, Jr. Collection, IPHS Archives

Honoring Mary Lucile Pepon

This year marks 100 years since U.S. troops joined their allies in France to finish fighting World War I, the Great War. Accompanying them was a local young woman - one of the first to volunteer her services as a Red Cross nurse. Her name was **Mary Lucile Pepon**. She was the daughter of Dr. Herman Silas Pepon, himself a well-known professor of zoology, botany, and biology at Lake View High School. Lucile lived with her family at 3842 Byron and completed her studies at the German-American Hospital in 1909. She took a position with the city's health department as a school nurse, which she held until the day in May 1917 when the first Chicago Base Hospital Unit No. 12, was mustered into the Army and left for France. The unit was stationed near Boulogne, working with a large British hospital that was



Lucile Pepon's passport photo, taken in June 1917 at the U.S. Embassy in London
IPHS Archives



Mary Lucile Pepoon, R.N.

*Lawrence Pepoon Collection,
IPHS Archives*

repeatedly bombed by the enemy. Lucile and fellow medical staff tended to more than 35,000 wounded and sick. On March 20th of the following year, Lucile caught trench fever but insisted on working the next two months despite running a fever daily. On June 18, she was taken to the hospital at Etaples in northern France and put under the medical care of the King of England's physician. Five months later, on November 23, Lucille Pepoon died. According to the chaplain who officiated at her funeral, she was buried with full military honors at the Somme American Cemetery at Bony, Dept del'Asine, Picardie, France. Attending her funeral was both American and British generals and officer, a large number of Nursing Sisters, and Sir Bradford (the King's doctor).

Several years after the war, the State Federation of Women's Clubs resolved to plant memorial trees for soldiers who fell during the war. One of the first memorial trees planted was dedicated to a woman —



Miss Lucile Pepoon, R.N. The ceremony took place on May 28, 1921, at Independence Park. The celebration included speeches and a performance by the chorus of the Irving Park School (Lucile's alma mater). The plaque (pictured above) accompanying the memorial tree, placed several hundred feet from her parents' home, read: *Lucile Pepoon, R.N. Gave her life to France nursing soldiers of the World War. In her memory, this tree was planted and dedicated by the Field Nurses, Department of Health, Chicago. May 28, 1921.*

Above: Pepoon Memorial at Independence Park, in a 1941 photo. *Chicago Park District Collection, IPHS Archives*

All photos courtesy of the Irving Park Historical Society Archives



Anniversaries

- Randall & Susan Patke
- 07 Bob & Jan Jones
- 08 Lisa Cesar & Ryan Booth
- 08 Richard & Bridget Bauman
- 11 Chris & Jean Faris
- 12 Stacy & Mike Blaha
- 13 Adam & Beth Young
- 16 James & Joan Bychowski
- 17 Mary Kane & Nate Tovo
- 20 Janice & Paul Stechman
- 20 William Lachman & Gregory Ward
- 22 Erin & Meni Sarris
- 26 Patricia & Clisson Rexford
- 27 Marie & Richard Hoffman
- 29 Charity & Dave Miska

Birthdays

- 01 Ben Mania
- 01 Dasha Barsz
- 01 Jim Gruber
- 01 John Larsen
- 01 Sinead O'Sullivan
- 02 Liz Sturrock
- 02 Rebecca Miller
- 03 Jan Jones
- 03 Therese Jezuit
- 04 Carlos Touza
- 04 Seamus O'Sullivan
- 04 Terry Burns
- 06 Jean Pitzen
- 06 Lin Romano
- 07 Lowell Krischer
- 07 Nicholas Hanhardt
- 08 Marie Hoffman
- 10 Brad Schotanus
- 10 Melanie Zech
- 10 Susan Spilman
- 11 Jose Rivera
- 13 Curtis Giszczynski
- 13 Gerald Pitzen
- 15 Claudia Hine
- 16 Robert Kleisch
- 17 Adrienne Chan
- 17 Richard Kenny
- 18 Dawn Wu
- 18 Florence Tamayo
- 19 Jennifer Dahir
- 20 Kathy Lucki
- 20 Michael Cannon
- 21 Justin Ware
- 21 Kris Nielsen
- 27 Julia Henriques
- 27 Mary Koscinski
- 28 Diane Roels
- 28 Jeff Linnemeyer
- 29 Katherine Meints
- 29 Kerry O'Brien
- 29 Kyle Kostelny
- 29 Premjit Anupawan
- 30 Brian Fugate
- 30 Joseph Stypka
- 30 Liz Kantor
- 30 Susan Delby

Is your birthday or anniversary missing from this list? Not sure if you provided your info in your renewal form? If so, please contact Meredith O'Sullivan at meredithosullivan@gmail.com or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.



Call for Contributions To The OIPA News

While we receive most of our content from organizations, we welcome individual article submissions!

A few ideas:

- Give a shout-out to a kind neighbor.
- Did you recently visit a new business or restaurant? Then share your great experience.
- Write a fun story about our neighborhood or a fond memory.
- Share your knowledge on a topic.

Deadline for editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. to k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include "OIPA submission" in the subject line of the email. See page 40 for full details on submission requirements.

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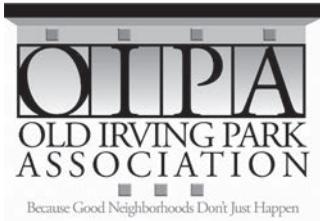
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2018-2019 OIPA Banner Program

If you would like to purchase a street banner, please complete the form below and return by **November 30, 2017** to: Adrienne Chan, OIPA Director, 4101 N. Kilbourn Ave. Chicago, IL 60641. Questions? Contact at adriennechan@gmail.com

Banners are displayed on Irving Park Road from Kilbourn to Pulaski. Each banner sponsor has 2-3 lines, up to 15 characters on each line, including spaces. Please print the information as you would like it to appear on the banner, including capital letters and punctuation (we cannot print logos). A final proof will be sent for your approval to the email address you provided.

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Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

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BANNER SPONSORSHIP COST: A \$500 payment must accompany this form for a 2-year banner sponsorship. Please make checks payable to Old Irving Park Association.

Receive a discounted rate of \$350 if you register as a website sponsor by November 30, 2017 (6 months+)

Local Old Irving Park business, **Bishop Image Group** (www.bishopimagegroup.com), will fabricate and install the banners in Spring 2018. The banners will remain on the poles through at least December 2019. *OIPA is not responsible for damaged banners (e.g., due to inclement weather).* Replacement banners will be available for \$250 each.

Each street pole will have two banners (measuring 8 feet tall by 30 inches wide) printed on both sides. One side of the pole will have a neighborhood identifier banner and the other side will be one of four taglines, with your chosen sponsorship message. Each sponsor will have an entire pole to market their business/organization. Locations are assigned on a first-come basis.



Moods and Foods | Woodard Plaza | Free outdoor performances at Diversey/Milwaukee/Kimball
Nov 1 & 2 | 6-9:00 p.m. 2nd Annual Day of Dead Celebration

www.northwestartsconnection.com

NW Side artist Robert Kameczura has a Solo exhibit at Laluz Gallery, 1545 W 18th Street from Oct 19–Nov 4. The show is a cross section of his entire oeuvre: photographs, watercolors, drawings, and paintings.

City Lit Books | 2523 N Kedzie

Nov 3 | 6:30 p.m. | NW Side author Tim Chapman book signing *The Blue Silence*. Tim Chapman is a former forensic scientist for the Chicago police department. "Part crime

story, part historical fiction, *The Blue Silence* moves from modern day Chicago to Reconstruction Era Louisiana and back to the bayou where the most dangerous animals aren't the gators." – *Goodreads*

NW Side Writers Open Mic

Nov 10 | 7:30 p.m. Merla's Kitchen, 5207 N Kimball
Nov 11 | 5 p.m. Art Colony, 2630 W Fletcher
Nov 14 & Nov 25 | 7 p.m. Gallery Cabaret, 2020 N Oakley
Nov 15 | 6:30 p.m. City Lit Books, 2523 N Kedzie

Art Colony Studio | 2630 W Fletcher

Nov 11 | 5-9 p.m. | Lost Art Colony 2nd Anniversary Celebration. Curated by James Vellne

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Art, Culture & Entertainment

Irish American Heritage Center

4626 N Knox

Nov 4 | 6-7 p.m. **Piobairi**, International Uilleann Piping Day; Patrick & Karen Cannady & Musical Colleagues

Nov 5 | 5 p.m. **Moya Brennan**, First Lady of Celtic Music
\$25 adults children 18 & under free.

Nov 19 | 3 p.m. **Irish Heritage Singers** "Letters from Ireland" \$20 adults \$12 children 5-12 Free children under 5

www.irish-american.org or 773-282-7035 x10

Copernicus Center | 5216 W Lawrence

Nov 22 | 8-11 p.m. | Persian Concert "Siavash Ghomayshi Live in Chicago,"

Nov 24 | 7 p.m. | Latin Christmas "Merry-Achi Christmas"
Info: copernicuscenter.org

Northeastern Illinois University Auditorium | 3701 W. Bryn Mawr

Nov 17 | 7:30 p.m. Acclaimed flautist, Demarre McGill, known for richly saturated tone, spirited technique, & expressive warmth. Tickets: \$25 Seniors, \$10 Parking \$5 773-442-4636.

Submitted by: Marlena Ascher, President/Founder, Northwest Arts Connection (NAC)
Collaboration | *building community through the arts.* | 773-481-1749 | marlenaascher@sbcglobal.net

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THE FISHMAN'S BOAT	\$22.95
<i>Red snapper, salmon, scallop, shrimp & calamari in garlic black bean sauce</i>	
HONG KONG STEAK	\$21.95
<i>Grilled & wok tossed beef tenderloin with fresh vegetables & taro root fries</i>	
"BARBARIAN" STEAK	\$19.95
<i>Grilled-marinated filet mignon, 5 spice crispy onion, red wine sauce & herbed butter</i>	
TEA SMOKED SALMON WITH SCALLOPS	\$18.95
<i>Wok smoked Atlantic salmon in jasmine tea with star anise & tempura scallops</i>	
CRISPY RED SNAPPER	\$18.95
<i>Crispy crusted red snapper in red wine peppercorn sauce with sautéed vegetables</i>	
STAR ANISE SHORT RIBS	\$18.95
<i>Slow roasted short ribs in star anise brandy sauce with sautéed wild mushrooms</i>	
HONEY GLAZED WALNUT SHRIMP	\$17.95
<i>Jumbo Shrimp with Szechwan aioli, champagne cucumber & candied walnut</i>	
"CHA CHI GAI" FRIENDSHIP SPECIAL	\$17.95
<i>Shrimp mousse stuffed boneless baby chicken with crispy prawns in lobster sauce</i>	
WHISKEY DRUNKEN SHRIMP	\$17.95
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FOR A COMPLETE MENU PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE



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Visit the New Learning Garden

Hundreds of Schurz students worked together on September 29 to build a Learning Garden on the front lawn - and the results are stunning! Congratulations to the teachers and students who made this dream a reality. Many thanks to the community members who stopped by to help move dirt and celebrate the ribbon cutting, including Alderman John Arena. Through botany classes and BuildOn, students now are learning how to tend the plants and help grow to produce for nearby food pantries. Stop by to see this beautiful outdoor classroom!

Photo courtesy of Schurz High School

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SCHURZ

Share Your Story at Career Days

The Schurz Post-Secondary Team and Friends of Schurz are planning two career day events in November.

The project kicked off with an all-student survey to find out the careers that most interest Schurz students. We're now seeking community volunteers to match with students' career preferences. These volunteers will meet with students to talk about their career paths and answer questions.

The freshman-sophomore career day is on November 8 and the junior-senior career day is on November 29. Both events take place at Schurz from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.

Sign up to volunteer at <http://bit.ly/SchurzCareerDay2017>

Yolobe Launches the Bulldogs Professional Community Network

The Yolobe program is expanding this year by launching the "Bulldogs Professional Community Network" in November. The program will run through May 2018 and aims to match more than 1,000

talented Schurz students with jobs, internships, apprenticeships, volunteer opportunities, and career advice. If you have an opportunity, want to speak with students or be a career confidante, or are available to answer questions, e-mail the Yolobe business team at schurz@network.yolobe.com.

Chicago Northside Mini Maker Faire

The annual Chicago Northside Mini Maker Faire, held at Schurz each May, has become a popular showcase of invention and creativity that draws families to our neighborhood. It's also a massive undertaking run entirely by students and volunteers. The organizers are seeking volunteers to help make the 2018 Maker Faire a success. Among the types of support they need are people to help identify and recruit community sponsors, write grant proposals, and help get the word out in the weeks leading up to the Faire, including interviewing and writing blog posts about exhibitors on the Faire's website, chicagonorthside.makerfaire.com. If you'd like to get involved, send an email to CNSmakerfaire@gmail.com.



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Sunday 10:00am-11pm



Viator Vibrations — Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

Students from the St. Viator National Junior Honor Society volunteered with the Birthday Party Project, helping to host a birthday party for children at Safe Haven in Chicago. NHJS brought birthday presents for the children celebrating birthdays. Every child staying at Safe Haven were welcome to attend and enjoy the party. Our students raised funds for this project by baking treats for a school-wide bake sale. It was great to watch our students spread a little joy and have fun themselves while doing service for others.

Up for a PepsiCo Recycling Challenge?

We have added a second recycling bin this year for you to help us fill. We collect aluminum non-alcoholic cans and PET #1 plastic. Collect items at home and work, then drop them off (separated, in bags) at the bins on the northwest corner of the school. We are competing with schools from all over the country to win the grand prize of \$20,000! Added bonus – studies have shown that single-stream recycling programs like this are more effective at keeping recyclable items out of landfills than mixed recycling programs.



St. Viator students participating in National Walk to School Day on October 4th. Photo credit, Nicole Porrata

Join our growing community!

St. Viator Elementary School and Parish is a diverse and thriving community, and we invite you to learn more by attending our events or taking a tour of the school. For more information, please call 773-545-2173 or email Marge Tiritilli at mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org.

Stay tuned for upcoming events at stviatorchicago.org or on our Facebook page.

Upcoming Events

All events at the St. Viator Rec Center are open to the Community:

Wiggles & Giggles Playgroup – Nov. 2 and 16, Dec. 7, 9–10:30 a.m. – This fun and FREE playgroup is for children in the community (ages newborn-4) and their parents/caregivers. Open gym with balls, blocks, hula-hoops and so much more!

Open House – Nov. 3, 9–10:30 a.m. – Tour the school while classes are in session to see all that St. Viator has to offer. Or call the office to set up a tour date/time that works for your schedule.

Primary Gym – Nov. 4 and 18, Dec. 9, 8:30–10 a.m., Primary gym offers a relaxed yet active environment where children and parents can participate in basketball, baseball, scooters, floor hockey, parachutes and more. Open to children ages 3 to 3rd grade. \$20 per family for the year.

Winterfest! Dec. 1–3, St. Viator gym and parking lot. – Mistletoe Market and Artisan Craft Fair, outdoor ice skating rink, wreath and tree sales, Snowflake Café and Hot Cocoa Bar, Winter Cocktail Bar, indoor bounce house, kids crafts, photos with Santa and more! Check the St. Viator website for complete schedule of events. Vendor applications for the Mistletoe Market are also available on the website

SEEN & NOTED IN OLD IRVING



SPOTTED & CONGRATULATIONS:
To the St. Viator 8th grade girls basketball team for winning the 2017 Resurrection Basketball Tournament- 3-time champions!
Photo by Lisa Jones



SPOTTED: Diana Parker LaPiana (left) and Laura Marie Sanchez at Kilbourn Park Organic Greenhouse for Northwest Arts Connection's community celebration of four new murals that are part of the 30th Ward Year of Public Art 50x50 Neighborhood Arts Project.

Photo by Claudia Hine.

SPOTTED (above): Alderman John Arena, 45th Ward, and Schurz High School students gather for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the newly installed Learning Garden on the Schurz campus. *Photo provided by Schurz High School.*





Blue Ribbon School

On Thursday, September 28, Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, announced St. Edward School a 2017 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The National Blue Ribbon School has been in existence since 1982 and over 7,500 schools in the U.S. have received this award. There are approximately 132,400 schools in the country and about 400 schools each year are awarded the Blue Ribbon School. The Blue Ribbon School recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence. Every year the U.S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American Schools demonstrating that all students can achieve to high levels. The National Blue Ribbon affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The Blue Ribbon Award is a coveted award and one that is given for a five year period.



Members of St. Edward school display the school's Blue Ribbon Honor. *Photo provided by St. Edward School.*

Please join St. Edward School for Tour Tuesday!

On November 14, St. Edward School will host a school tour. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the campus tour begins at 9 a.m. Tours are open to all prospective parents with children entering school or older students that might want to transfer. We will have parents available to answer questions and tour classrooms while school is in session. The next Tour date is December 12.

Questions or to RSVP please email rsvp@stedwardschool.com If interested in scheduling a shadow day please call the school office 773-736-9133.

Upcoming Event Time to embrace the holidays! Join us for the annual cookie walk, Santa's Breakfast and the Christmas Tree Sale all in Buckley Hall on Sunday December 3 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

For over 100 years, St. Edward School has provided a Catholic education to children from three-year old pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. We have an average student-teacher ratio of 18:1, and feature an extensive music program as well as art, gym, sports, chess, and Spanish at all grade levels. Our school is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or visit www.stedwardschool.com

St. Edward Boy Scout Troop 904 Annual All-You-Can-Eat Pasta Dinner.



Join us on Saturday, November 18, 4–8 p.m. in Buckley Hall Gym (4447 N. Lowell). Tickets at the Door: \$10 for Adults and \$7 for Children (10 and under). Enjoy some delicious pasta and all you can eat salad bar! Yum!

Submitted by Cosette Bergin
St. Edward School Communications Volunteer



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The Buzz at Belding

— Lisa Owens, 4th Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher

Walk-A-Thon Results

The Belding Walk-A-Thon was a successful fundraiser to bring in additional funding for art classes for our students. In addition to music and dance classes, our students will now also receive fine arts classes from exceptional local arts educators.

The Belding community donated more than \$15,000 for arts, and this success was celebrated with Paint the Principal event with each student having an opportunity to fling paint, Jackson Pollack style, on Principal Heather Yutzy. Great fun was had by all, except perhaps the principal.

Fall Fun Fair

Join the Belding community at an after-school event to celebrate the fun and joy of fall on October 28 from 4-6 p.m. A D.J. will spin current hits while children dressed in costumes can play games for prizes and run a bouncy house obstacle course. The evening will culminate with the annual flash mob Thriller dance by our eighth-grade zombies. We're hoping for a beautiful night when Belding families and neighbors can come together as a community.

Are you curious to see what Belding Elementary has to offer your child?

Each month Principal Heather Yutzy offers school tours for prospective parents. A tour is an excellent opportunity to see Belding teachers and students in action and to learn more about our school. Upcoming tour dates include October 17, November 21, December 19, and January 16. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.



Belding students celebrating their successful Walk-A-Thon with a Paint the Principal event.



Dr. Kirk Kollmann Dr. Cissy Furusho

We are very grateful for the trust and confidence our families have shown us through the years.

From our family to yours,

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IPFAC Presents Free Holiday Concert

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee (IPFAC) present a free holiday concert featuring An Octave Above on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 2 p.m. **An Octave Above**, one of the hottest *a cappella* vocal groups in Chicago, is comprised of eight professional singers who combine their vocal talent with a love of a cappella harmonies. The group of four men and four women are also members of prestigious area Chicago-area choral ensembles, including the Chicago Symphony Chorus. They will perform holiday favorites along with doo-wop, jazz and pop standards.

The concert will be held at the Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Avenue. Admission to the concert is free of charge, although donations are welcome. A special holiday reception with the artists follows the concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. Bring the family!

The 2017/2018 season is dedicated to the memory of **Nancy and Gordon Johnson**, the Irving Park Lutheran Church members who founded the series in 1994, along with artistic director Roger Bingaman. Future concerts in the series include a saxophone quartet on January 28th and a string quartet on March 25th. All performances are at 2 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church.



ABOVE: A cappella group An Octave Above will be featured in the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's holiday concert on December 10th.

Photo by Jimmy Binder

RIGHT: The Fine Arts concert on December 10th will be followed by a special holiday reception. *Photo by Liz Mills.*



Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that helps at-risk kids succeed with The Magic After-School Place (MAP), reduces hunger and beautifies our neighborhood with Three Brothers Community Garden and makes fine arts affordable and accessible through the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org.

40th District State Representative



Jaime Andrade



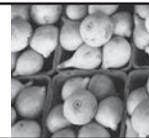
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IL 40th District-Jaime Andrade



Pantry's Holiday Distributions Need Donations

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry has begun gathering donations for its two holiday distributions, in November and on December 20th. We are asking for contributions of funds, food and fun (i.e., books and toys) to make the season brighter for those in our community who need a helping hand during the holiday season.

In November, we provide clients during our regular weekly distributions with additional meat and trimmings for a Thanksgiving dinner. On December 20th, we hold a special distribution at which clients receive the makings for a full holiday dinner and can take home a gift for each of their children, along with a book and stocking stuffer.



Volunteers prepare the stocking-stuffers and book table for clients during the Pantry's 2016 holiday program. Books often are in short supply. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

For these special distributions, we are especially in need of juice, stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned yams and vegetables, instant potatoes, cake mixes, Jell-O and pumpkin-pie filling.

We typically give out about 400 toys to children (up to 12 years old). For some, it will be the only gift they receive. We especially need gifts for older children (more than 10), especially boys. Soccer balls and basketballs are popular options.

We also run out of books for all ages early in the day. We find older boys enjoy biographies, sports and other nonfiction books.

Unwrapped new toys and food donations can be brought to the Pantry at the Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler Ave.) on Wednesday mornings (9 to noon) or on Tuesday evening, Nov. 14th (6 to 7:30 p.m.). Local businesses also have drop-off boxes; please check our Facebook page for locations.

The deadline for contributing toys is Friday, December 15th. Volunteers are needed to collect toys, organize the toy room, and help with the toy distribution on December 20th. **For information, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com.**

Certified

Executive Director John Psiharis and volunteers **Eileen Poepel** and **Joyce Benninghouse** attended classes and were certified as Food Service Sanitation Managers by the Chicago Department of Public Health, allowing them to supervise our handling of food products.

*Article submitted by Craig Shutt. John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry
3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago IL 60641 | e-mail: info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org, Web: www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.*



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry



Thank you to eleven volunteers from MB Bank who volunteered in September through the MB on the Block program. They also donated a case of reusable grocery bags for clients. We appreciate everyone's help and support to ensure we can continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

Photo by Craig Shutt.

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Leaves & Snow Removal Reminders

Please remember that it is illegal to blow leaves into the city streets. When leaves are disposed of in our streets, it clogs the drains and inhibits the street sweeper from effectively cleaning the streets.

Additionally, unless Streets and Sanitation witnesses a lawn care contractor blowing leaves into the street, a homeowner can be held responsible for actions the contractor takes. Instead, please bag your leaves and yard debris for the Department of Streets and Sanitation to collect.

SNOW! Also, we want to remind residents that Chicago city ordinance requires you to shovel your sidewalks in a timely manner after a snowfall. Not only is it the right thing to do, but you could be fined for failing to remove snow. If you have an elderly or disabled neighbor who is unable to clear their sidewalk, please do the neighborly thing and lend a hand. Together, we can get through the notoriously brutal Chicago winter.



Photo by Annie Spratt

NEIGHBOR'S NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 • 7-10 p.m.

EASY STREET PIZZA & BEER GARDEN

3750 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE

All Old Irving Park, Portage Park, and Jefferson Park Forward Neighbors are invited to this quarterly Neighbor's Night Out. Join us for a fun evening to mingle with friends and neighbors, enjoy complimentary appetizers and various drink specials, all while supporting a local business!

RSVP on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/289711691526535>



Photo by Priscilla Du Preez on Unsplash



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Need Your Walk Shoveled?

Local teens are ready to get bundled up, have their snow shovels in hand to clear sidewalks and driveways for a small fee. For reliable service contact:

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CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

For complete event details, go to the organization's feature page.

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**Advertising &
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BOTH DUE**

NOVEMBER 14
(SECOND TUESDAY OF
THE MONTH)
BY 5 p.m.

November

-
- 2** **Schurz Fall Open House** for prospective students | 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
-
- 4** **Carlson's Trivia Night**, fundraiser for Carlson's programs
Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym | 4057 N. Harding Ave.
Visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org
-
- 5** **Maker's Mart**
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. | St. John's Episcopal Church | 3857 N. Kostner. Shop for art, food, crafts, jewelry, and home goods made by local artists and artisans during the Maker's Mart. Free to attend, cost of purchases apply.
-
- 12** **BrewAsana at Old Irving Brewing Company**
9:30 – 10:30am | A one hour vinyasa flow yoga class. This all level class is led by Debby Fries from The Yoga Shop. If you Namaste for brunch you'll receive a complimentary OIB beer included in the class price. \$20 BYOM (bring your own mat). Brunch hours are 11–2pm. Reserve your spot: eventbrite.com/e/brewasana-at-old-irving-brewing-co-tickets-38639297178

December

-
- 1–3** **St. Viator Mistletoe Market and Artisan Craft Fair**
-
- 10** **Holiday Concert | Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents** An Octave Above
2 p.m. | Irving Park Lutheran Church | 4100 N. Harding Ave.
Free Admission – Reception follows the concert

Be a Connector — Spread the News!

Please consider passing this newsletter on to a neighbor as a gentle reminder to renew his/her household membership or, better yet, to someone on your block who is either a new resident or not familiar with OIPA.





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2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

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- Renewal
- Gift Membership

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at www.oldirvingpark.com/join-us If you don't have access to our online membership form, please complete the form below.

We like to celebrate our members in our newsletter. Birthday and anniversary information is optional. If you wish to be included on the birthday and anniversary page in the newsletter, **you must provide the information annually** to be included (adults members and spouses/partners only).

NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ANNIVERSARY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS expire August 31 and are due by September 1. Membership dues received after May 1 will be applied to the following year membership.

MEMBERSHIP DUES (per household)

- Membership Benefits:** Monthly meetings, hand delivered paper newsletter, member/spouse birthday and anniversary published in newsletter, ice-cream social, holiday dinner
- \$25/year Standard - \$15/year Standard Seniors (age 65+)
 - \$75 Good Neighbor: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter and an OIPA Tote Bag
 - \$150 Neighborhood All-star: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter, an OIPA Tote Bag, and admission for two to an exclusive OIPA party
 - Add \$17/year for OIPA NEWSLETTER deliveries out of boundaries. (Boundaries: South of Montrose, North of Addison, West of Pulaski & East of Milwaukee District North railroad tracks adjacent to Kilbourn/Kolmar)

GIFT MEMBERSHIP: Simply complete the form above or the online form with your neighbor's name(s) and address. You may not know their birthday/anniversary info. That's okay - we'll follow up with them. **If purchasing online:** Please indicate this is a gift subscription in the final box titled, "Special Instructions."

SEND FORM & PAYMENT TO: Old Irving Park Association, c/o Meredith O'Sullivan, OIPA Director / Membership, 4061 W. Warwick Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE: Old Irving Park Association **OR** join/renew online: oldirvingpark.com/join-us

From the Editor: SUBMISSION TO THE NEWSLETTER POLICY

Note: Ten newsletters are produced annually (Newsletters are not published in the months of January and June). A heartfelt thanks to everyone who continue to submit articles and photos for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you throughout the year.

**Submission
deadline:
2nd Tuesday
of the month.**

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, articles (440 words maximum without photos, 300 with photos) for publication. Send your contributions to: Kathleen Kearns at k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include "OIPA submission" in the subject line of the email. Also include the category of the item you are submitting — advertisement, article or event for community calendar, etc.

Photos should be accompanied with a caption(s) and photo credit. If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wettransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using wettransfer.

Deadline for advertising AND editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. Materials SUBMITTED AFTER this date will be held over to the next month's issue.

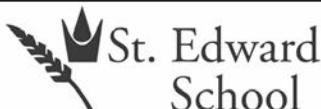
AD SPACE

**Purchase and upload your ad at:
www.olderirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad**

AD SIZES: Full Page: 6.25" X 7.5"
Half Page: 6.25" X 3.75"
Quarter Page: 3" X 3.75"

ACCEPTABLE AD FILES: High Resolution (minimum 300 dpi) grayscale; jpg, PDF, or eps.
Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Information printed in the newsletter may be reproduced with Old Irving Park Association cited as the source. Opinions in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.



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I have been a Realtor with Coldwell Banker since 2001 and have lived in the area since 2004. I love helping my clients make their big move and I strive to empower them to make informed decisions to achieve their real estate goals. I work hard to have a positive impact on my clients, my industry and the communities I work in! Please visit www.stephaniecutter.com/irvingpark for more information!



STEPHANIE CUTTER GROUP

Coldwell Banker
1840 N Clark, Chicago, IL 60614
(c) 312-965-9600
(o) 312-475-3274
(f) 781-609-1792
stephanie@stephaniecutter.com
www.stephaniecutter.com



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

Old Irving Park Association

3749 N. Keeler Avenue

Chicago, IL 60641