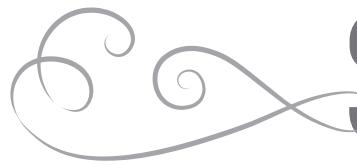


OLD IRVING PARK



NEWS



 SEPTEMBER

VOLUME 34 | ISSUE 8 | 2020



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 34 * Issue 8 * September 2020

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for and about people living in the neighborhood. Old Irving Park neighborhood boundaries includes: Addison on the south, Montrose on the north, Pulaski on the east and the Milwaukee District North Line on the west [from Addison to Irving Park] continuing with the freight/Amtrak railroad tracks from Irving Park to Montrose (i.e., east of Knox Ave.). A map can be found on our website.

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.

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A note about the advertisement featured in this issue.

As the Phases to open Chicago occur, check with the individual advertiser by calling or visiting their website for information on their status

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Cover: Photo by Kaitlyn Keely



Planning During a Pandemic

— Adrienne Chan, President, Old Irving Park Association

It is hard to believe that Summer 2020 is already coming to an end. Since our last general meeting in March, our communications with OIPA membership have been primarily in writing—through our newsletter (including Secretary Bart's lively meeting minutes), e-Blasts, and Facebook posts. We miss seeing you on the second Monday of the month! After a hiatus of almost six months, I had hoped that we would be kicking off our regular OIPA meeting schedule this Fall with a "Welcome Back Wine & Cheese Social." Given the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Chicago, that would probably not be socially responsible. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the OIPA Board of Directors has decided that we will not be conducting in-person general OIPA meetings for the remainder of 2020. If we are lucky, perhaps we will be able to recycle this "wine & cheese" meeting idea for September 2021.

We do plan to hold a virtual general meeting in October to provide updates on OIP news and allow for some

Q&A to supplement what has been months of written news only. Information regarding this meeting will be published in our October newsletter, Facebook, and e-Blast. We will re-evaluate our meeting format for 2021 and will resume in-person general meetings when it is safe to do so.

In addition to enjoying wine and cheese, per the Old Irving Park Association By-Laws, the September meeting was supposed to be our "Annual Meeting" of membership when we hold elections for directors (even years) and officers (odd years). The OIPA Board has postponed our 2020 Annual Meeting until it is safe to do so in person. The last thing we want to do is further clog the USPS with an attempt at voting by mail in what is typically an uncontested election. Except for Anna (who still insists on retiring when her term ends September 30), all current directors will be appointed to continue their roles until we can hold director elections at the rescheduled annual meeting.

We hope everyone is nearly recovered from the "derecho" storm that tore through Old Irving Park mid-August. Despite the devastation to property and, particularly, the trees that line our streets, I was encouraged to see neighbors working together to clear streets, parkways, sidewalks, and yards of debris within minutes of the storm clearing. During the rest of the week, I saw numerous coffee, water, and charging stations for use by neighbors still without power. Regardless of the challenges 2020 has brought our way, OIP neighbors have demonstrated that "Good Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen" is the product of neighbors working together and looking out for each other. We ❤️ OIP!



Neighbors on the 4000 block of Kilbourn gather together to help clean up after the storm. Photo by Steve Venturino.

Rewards of Joining the OIPA Board

— Scott Legan

Almost two years ago, I joined the board of OIPA at the recommendation of my wife. While I don't always listen to her, I am glad I did when it came to joining the board. Being part of the board has allowed me to become more invested in the community than I could ever have imagined. As one of the younger and newer members of the board, I have learned so much from the more experienced board members and their wealth of experience working to make our neighborhood a better place. I have enjoyed getting to know neighbors through community events such as the ice cream social and discussions around local and national initiatives (it's always a pleasure when Congressman Quigley stops by a meeting or joins one of our parties). I have had the opportunity to work with the alderman and local developers to promote our neighborhood's long-term vision by contributing ideas for the People's Gas and Sears sites. As a CPS teacher and the father of young children, I am committed to making our neighborhood an awesome place to raise a family. I hope to be a resource for the neighborhood as we navigate through changes brought upon by the pandemic and our current movement toward anti-racism. It has been incredibly rewarding to have the opportunity to serve the community on the OIPA board, and I would love to have the chance to continue serving for another term.



Photo courtesy of Scott Legan



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Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on August 4, 2020

— Bart Goldberg, OIPA Secretary

Attendees: Adrienne Chan, Lynn Ankney, Scott Legan, Annie Swingen, Merry Marwig, Meredith O'Sullivan, Anna Sobor and Bart Goldberg.

Commencement: President Chan commenced the meeting of this august body on the 4th day of August at 7:05 PM. In the spirit of her introduction we tried to proceed with actual solemnity and decorum, but we were only moderately successful.

Ice Cream Truck Social: Since we were unable to have our traditional Ice Cream Social we did it a little different this year. We hired an ice cream truck to give out free ice cream at two locations: Disney II and Belding. We had good attendance and it was great that **Congressman Quigley** came by and partook. I was particularly pleased that **Howard and Judy Silver** took the bait from my previous newsletters and returned to get some ice cream. Like myself, Howard always knew that chocolate is wonderful in all of its varieties and that it should be consumed in substantial quantities. We served 122 ice cream bars that day, but Howard ate only one as he was saving room for their next stop which was Smoque. Smart. He was also smart to leave our Board when he did (he moved) since we are not getting any deserts at these Zoom meetings. Anyway, it was great to see him, and I think we may want to consider doing this again in the future.

Treasurer's Reports: The Treasurer's Report for July, the first month of our new fiscal year was presented by Treasurer Ankney. The figures indicated a net shortfall for the month of about \$1,500 that was largely due to timing issues. We continue to receive income from memberships and advertising, but it is not peak season

for that. The expenses were up due to three factors: the cost of producing the extra issue of the Newsletter for July, the cost of the Ice Cream Truck Social, and our annual \$349 fee to Wufoo. To that I inquired "Wufoo, What For?" I was told that it was an online form builder with a cloud storage base that can be used for survey monkeys. Some of you may have already known all of this, but I was shocked to find out that we were surveying monkeys. However, I did then have a better understanding as to why it was so expensive, as surveying monkeys must be difficult, particularly if it is to be done in the humane manner that I am sure that our socially responsible Board would insist upon. When I asked for an example of when we had actually used it to survey some monkeys, I was told that we had used it to decide what flavors to offer at the Ice Cream Truck Social. It turns out that monkeys really like ice cream, nearly all types, but that two stubborn ones in the testing lab are still holding out for banana. The July financial report was unanimously approved by the Board.

Postponement of Annual Meeting and Board Elections:

OIPA holds an Annual Meeting of the Membership in September of each year, or soon thereafter. The Annual Meeting is pretty much indistinguishable from one of our public General Meetings. Hopefully some of you remember such meetings back in the pre-pandemic days. The only difference between an Annual Meeting and a General Meeting is that we conduct elections at the Annual Meeting. Every other year we elect officers to two year terms, and in the other year we elect the rest of the Board to two year terms. This year we just are not



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

able to hold public meetings so there have been no General Meetings. We considered trying to have the Annual Meeting via zoom but concluded that it was not a practical option. Accordingly, we have decided to postpone the Annual Meeting indefinitely. The only people that have submitted Candidate Statements to run for the Board are the normal gluttons for punishment, those being our present Board members **Scott Legan, Merry Marwig, Colleen Kenny, and Meredith O'Sullivan**. It is expected that at our next Board meeting we will appoint the four of them to continue serving until the next Annual Meeting. I am sure that many of you will note one glaring omission from the above list. As I mentioned in a prior

Newsletter, **Anna Sobor** has decided to retire from the Board so that she can concentrate on other pursuits. To say that we will miss her assistance is quite the understatement as her prior experience on the Board and in local affairs probably exceeds the sum total of the experience possessed by the rest of us combined. Just as importantly we will miss her personality, energy and friendship. Meetings will be a lot less fun, but we must thank her and wish her well.

Proposal re Kolmar Park: Merry Marwig had an interesting idea concerning this park. Presently the park is simply named after the street where it is

Continued on page 6

Stephanie Cutter Irving Park Real Estate

Let's Garden Together while we are #AloneTogether!



For the third year, Stephanie will be distributing Sunflower seeds to homes and businesses all around Old Irving Park in an effort to grow and display a community-wide garden of large sunflowers.

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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



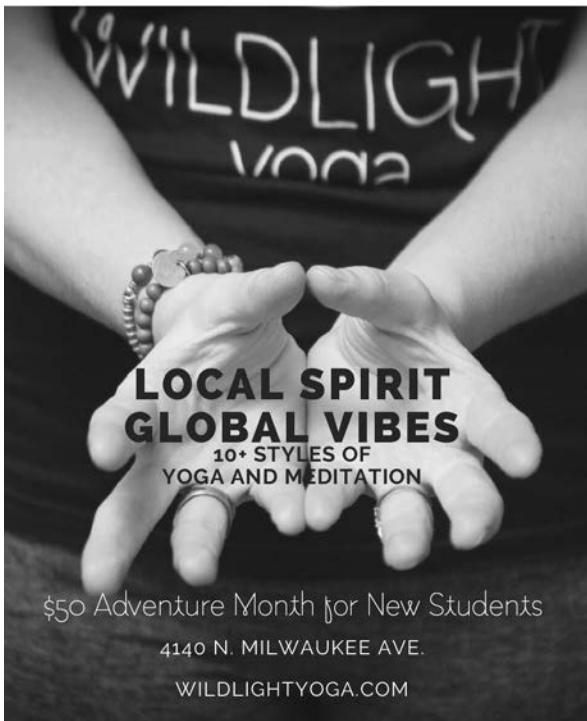
Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on August 4, 2020, *continued from page 5*

located, which was in turn taken from the name of a town on the border of France and Germany. Merry's proposal is to rededicate the park in honor of Gertrud Kolmar, who was a 20th Century German poet of considerable renown who subsequently died in a Nazi concentration camp. When I volunteered that (not surprisingly) I had never heard of her and asked if anyone else had, Annie snapped back that "She's a Poet, and I know it." Case closed. It does sound like a great idea and we have asked Merry to look into the process to do this and report back for possible authorization at a later meeting.

Northwestern Memorial Medical Facility: This is the project that is being proposed for the site that includes what used to be Sabatino's, that being the entire area on the south side of Irving Park Road between Kenneth and Kilbourn and extending back to the alley behind it. On July 15, 2020 eight members of our Board, along with Alderman Gardiner participated in a Zoom call with the Northwestern Memorial team to learn about their intentions for this space. There were seven people on the call that worked for either the Hospital or for Cannon Design, which is the closest we have ever come to being outnumbered at one of these meetings. **Charles Cloutier** who is the Director of Planning and Construction at NW Memorial was in charge, but several others spoke at some length and were clearly very involved including **Rob Christie** and **Christine Strom**.

Their presentation was impressive in nearly every respect. They exhibited great attention to detail and thoughtfulness as to structure and purpose and were responsive to all of our questions. However, they stressed that their plans are still in a formative stage and could change due to their own objectives, or due to feedback from the community, and of course any concerns that might be voiced by Alderman Gardiner in order to obtain aldermanic approval (which is virtually necessary since approval of the City Zoning and Construction Departments will be required). Their hope is to start construction by late in 2021 and to be open by the third quarter of 2023.

The building as presently designed is a five story structure that covers virtually all of the land. There will be about 140,000 square feet of gross building space plus parking. It will include a retail space on the first floor containing approximately 5,000 square feet. The floors above the retail space on the east side





OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

will be primarily comprised of the medical facilities, while the west side of the building is primarily parking. There will be a very wide range of medical services available there. In addition to the immediate care facility which would be a core service for the location, some of the many specialties and services that they intend to provide there include: primary care physicians, ophthalmology, dermatology, urology, orthopedics, cardiology, imaging, physical therapy exams, and several others that your Secretary was not skilled enough to recall and list. The immediate care facility would be open from 8 AM to 8 PM, and the other

medical services would probably have more limited hours.

The building will contain 367 parking spaces under the present plan. Vehicular traffic will enter the garage from Kilbourn Avenue and it would exit the building traveling east down the alley. It would then make a left turn onto Kenneth and then feed back to Irving Park Road. We expressed concerns about trying to make left turns onto Irving Park and suggested that allowing only right turns may be preferable.

Continued on page 8



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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on August 4, 2020, *continued from page 7*

Some factors that substantiate our perception of thoughtfulness include:

- They studied other architecture in our neighborhood in an attempt to make it compatible.
- They set back part of the upper floors on the building to try and diminish the perception of height.
- The mechanicals will be located in a roof penthouse with steps taken to decrease noise to the surrounding area.
- There will be screening on the exterior of the parking garage so vehicles are not so visible from the street.

- A lot of glass will be used to try to make the interior space feel warm for visitors.
- There will be a green roof and the entire project is to be LEED certified, with a goal of a silver level.
- They have planned for patients that also arrive by Ubers, bicycles and buses.
- They intend to install some type of protection on their large glass panes (possibly a frit pattern) in order to protect birds from flying into it.

As to the negatives, the main one beyond the traffic issue mentioned above is the height of the building. It will be 69 feet tall at its peak. That is taller than the neighboring properties which we were told are 44 feet high. This is also approximately one story taller than the tallest buildings currently on our section of Irving Park Road, those two being the YMCA and Eris Brewery. Of course, I am sure that it is NW Memorial's contention that they need every bit of that height and space if they are going to build the medical facility that they desire at this location.

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and the son of man,
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Psalms 8:3~4*



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At the conclusion of our meeting we all agreed to meet again once plans have become more firm or in the event of substantial change. All of the foregoing was discussed by us as a Board at our meeting on 8-4-20. We also discussed the feedback that we had received about a later meeting that had occurred the night before our Board meeting between the NW Memorial team, the Alderman, and many of the neighbors most closely impacted by the project. It is our understanding that while these neighbors were impressed with much of the project, they have concerns about the height of the building, traffic and noise. We of course take these concerns very seriously and hope to meet with them soon to see if we can help them get addressed. Lastly, I want to make clear that this Board has not yet



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

approved of the plan, and it would in fact be premature to do so, but we look forward to continuing the discussion as we value the possibility of having a first class medical facility in our neighborhood.

Other Zoning and Development: A developer has been working with the Alderman's office and with our Board concerning an apartment building that is to be built at 4524 W. Irving Park Road, which is next to Chicago Pizza. It will contain nine apartments on three floors. The apartments are pretty large with an average size of about 1,250 square feet. There is parking in the back. We were concerned that the west façade needs more windows or some other strategy as we are worried that without addressing this that the large wall will be too inviting for graffiti. We agreed to support the requested zoning change conditioned on this one modification.

We also discussed the internal demolition occurring at the former church at 4200 N. Kedvale, along with the unrelated house demo at 4242 N. Kedvale. Finally, we agreed to reach out again to the developers of the People's Gas site to see their response to our proposals and to try to schedule a new meeting

Future Meetings: Public safety still precludes scheduling any General Meetings for now. Our next Board meeting is on September 7th. Until we meet again, Stay Safe and Stay Sane.

This long meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m., and I am proud to say that I did not take a single bathroom break. While I may have wanted to, my duties as your Secretary take precedence.



STATE SENATOR Iris Y. Martinez

Assistant Majority Leader
20th Senate District

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September Birthdays

2	John Doyle	8	Jennifer Barton	15	Frances Lewis	21	Katrina Kopps Rigali
2	Steve Broderick	10	David Jones	15	Mike Roche	22	Brian Pearson
2	Tom McNally	10	Midge Stocker	15	Pagasa Ochoco	22	Roger Tye
3	Laura Baginski	11	Kathryn Lesher	16	Diana Clegg	24	Cathie Van Wert
4	Annie Swingen	11	Kristin Jukes	16	Judy Maas	25	Cara Buffa
4	Stacey Blaha	11	Marian Roche	18	Kris Cloud	25	Joe Weston
4	Tom Camell	11	Robert Ernst	19	Christy Ludwig	25	Jorge Garcia
5	Bob Becksted	13	Bart Goldberg	19	Meredith O'Sullivan	26	Andrea Montgomery
5	John Adamski	13	Dana Sarros	20	Alison Weston	28	Gina Iliopoulos
6	Tom Brandt	13	Reetu Sanders	20	Blake Batterson	28	Paul Springer
7	Christine Krogmann	13	Terrence Connors	20	David Werem	29	John Cook
7	Kiki Schotanus	14	Corey Friedman	20	Matthew Kamykowski		
8	Adam Young	14	Nora Henschel	20	Pete Jurgeleit		
8	Jean Faris	14	Steve Bauman	20	Randall Coe		

September Anniversaries

1	Debby & Kurt Fries	15	Joy Westendorf & Morgan Foster
1	Kate Geisler & Garrett Harabedian	15	Julie Whittington-Cirton & Shawn Cirton
3	Kevin Cisner & Terrie Carpenter	16	Renée & Jeff Linnemeyer
4	Jacob Wilkoff & Margaret Jahn	17	Dee & James Barrett
5	Joe Gugle & Joey Sevigny	17	Kristin & Andrew Jukes
6	Manuel Acevedo & Jeremy Hisaw	18	Kerry & Matt O'Brien
6	Megan Beseth & Andy Greene	19	Jason J & Jana L Murray
7	Helen & Brad McDowell	19	Maureen & Jonathan Miller
7	Janine Klich & Gregory Jensen	20	John Doyle & Katherine Heinrich
8	Allison & Mete Mutlu	21	Amy Meadows & Tom Camell
11	Cecilia Munoz-Cohlhepp & Kyle Cohlhepp	21	Sara & Mark Yoest
11	Craig & Mary Kay Shutt	22	Gina Oderda & Patrick Cicere
12	Christine & Olivier Lopez	23	Melanie & Rodney Zech
13	Joseph & Christine Stycka	23	Ronnie Kuller & Patrick Murray
13	Robert & Jennifer Groszek	27	Katrina Kopps Rigali & Chuck Rigali
14	Karen Wehrle & Scott Tomlin	28	Cynthia & Dan Andrews
14	Sandra & Steve Broderick	30	Phuong & Wade Johnston



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.

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4023 W. Addison	\$540,000
3704 N. Milwaukee.....	\$599,000
4049 N. Keystone.....	\$615,000
4512 W. Dakin	\$675,000
3734 N. Kostner.....	\$840,000
4027 N. Lowell	\$1,275,000
3600 N. Keeler	\$1,349,000



Attached Single Family

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4243 N. Kedvale, 3E	\$149,777
4337 N. Kedvale, 206.....	\$156,500
4147 N. Kedvale, 3A.....	\$179,000
4125 N. Keystone, 402.....	\$185,000
4127 N. Keeler, 302S	\$192,000
4312 N. Keystone 1F.....	\$200,000
4231 N. Kedvale, 2C	\$216,000
4135 N. Kedvale, 102	\$230,000
4531 W. Irving Park.....	\$430,000



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TAKE A WALK AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Do you enjoy architecture, local history, and walking around our neighborhood? Then grab your phone, log onto www.oldirvingpark.com/house_history and hit the sidewalks of Old Irving Park. We've recently uploaded highlights from the first five years of the Irving Park Historical Society's house walk program. Every featured home includes the address and picture, architectural details to be observed, and fascinating historical information ranging from notable inhabitants and original construction costs.

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Feed Worms To Feed Your Plants

— Claudia Hine

The Irving Park Garden Club is tackling the subject of vermipost, or worm composting, at its September 17 meeting. Members **Emily Plagman** and **Nick Frank**, who are volunteers at the Garfield Park Conservatory for its compost program, will present via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Worm composting is a great way to keep year-round compost material for “feeding” your indoor and outdoor plants and improving your soil structure. It also diverts some of your veggie and fruit waste.

Members who attend this session will primarily learn the how-tos and benefits of this easy-to-implement indoor compost solution. Secondarily, they will hear other ways to compost in the city.



Nick Frank (left) demonstrates vermipost basics at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Nick, along with Emily Plagman, will teach the how-tos of composting for the Irving Park Garden Club's September meeting. *Photo by Emily Plagman.*

Hands-On Fiber Art

Each year the garden club holds a “hands-on” meeting to learn a new skill or tackle an art project. The hands-on meeting was the brainchild of former IPGC President **Maureen Taylor**, who introduced it several years ago.

We have learned flower arranging skills with **Angie**

Yorath; decorated stepping stones using mosaic techniques taught by **Laura Marie Sanchez**; and painted canvases under the instruction of **Mary Foster**, to name a few.

For this year’s event in August, member **Carolyn Aronson** taught a class on felting wool to create luminaries for LED candles. Attendees chose small



IRVING PARK GARDEN CLUB

bundles of wool fiber, or roving, to combine and work into the desired light vessel.

Members who were not interested in the craft project met with **Mike Basile** at the Tripp Garden, the club's community garden at Irving Park Rd. and Tripp Ave. They did a late summer cleanup, pruning, deadheading, and trash collecting. The garden looks great, so check it out.

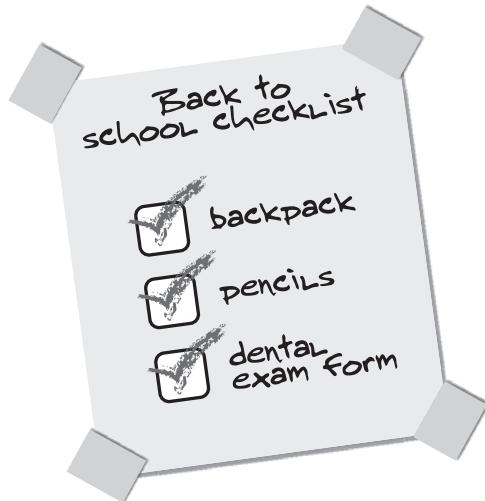
We are the Irving Park Garden Club. We like to dine, drink, and dig. For more information, visit Facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub or contact me at claudiahine@icloud.com.



Carolyn Aronson taught a workshop on creating felted wool luminaries for IPGC's August Hands-On meeting. Photo by Carolyn Aronson.

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OIPA MEMBERS, WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS!



- » Do you have any fun meeting topics or desired guest speaker requests?
- » What will pull you away from home on a Monday night?
- » A couple of topics to consider are: cool stuff you found during a renovation, bullet journaling in the digital age, and urban farming, composting and chicken keeping.

If you are interested in a topic, chances are others will be too.

Send ideas to oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Viaduct Cleaning

Keeping Our Neighborhood in Tip Top Shape

Note to our neighbors:

I completed my drive through of the cleaning zones with our cleaning service to ensure a more thorough job is performed. I'm hoping September's cleaning will be better than previous cleanings. If you have areas you'd like cleaned or suggestions please let me know. Our current balance in the account is \$478.43. If you'd like to donate to our cleaning efforts please send via PayPal to KeepOIPClean@gmail.com

Thanks,

Dan William

312-259-0054

When to Call 311 vs. 911

Call 911 while the incident you are reporting is in progress and the on-site presence of a police officer is necessary to help resolve the matter (e.g., burglary in progress, incident involving injuries, quieting loud neighbors, etc.). You should contact 311 if the incident you are reporting has occurred and the offender is gone from the scene.

Use 311 to find information, request non-emergency services, or report non-emergency issues. You can call 311 to find out what Police District and beat you live in, as well as the date, time and location of your next beat meeting. Contacting 311 gives you easy access to non-emergency police services, from filing police reports to talking to police personnel in your district.

For more information and to download the app or use the services visit <https://311.chicago.gov>

Source: www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/311ProjectInformation; <https://311.chicago.gov>

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CITY OF CHICAGO 311.chicago.gov 311



Architecture Firm to Assist Neighborhood Eateries with Outdoor Spaces

— Kelly McGrath

An architect in our community is part of a citywide team providing pro-bono consulting to restaurant owners who seek to create or re-imagine open and outdoor spaces in the face of the COVID-19 crisis.

Lis Battle, an architect with **Aria Group** who has extensive experience in restaurant design, says she is eager to use her skills and experience to help our neighborhood eateries.

"Some of my favorite restaurants are in Old Irving—my baby shower was at ERIS Brewery and Cider House!—so I have an extra-vested interest in the ongoing success in the area," Battle said. "Sidewalk café seating has been particularly helpful, given social distancing and interior occupancy reduction guidelines, so I've focused my energy on trying to help businesses get, or expand, their outdoor seating."

Battle and her colleagues at Aria Group, a full-service design and architecture firm specializing in hospitality work, have helped restaurants design and/or implement dedicated to-go areas for safe food order pick-up by customers and delivery drivers; assisted with the layout and design of partitions to maximize occupancy safely; and helped restaurant owners secure sidewalk café permits to add or increase outdoor seating and offset the restrictions on interior dining occupancies.

They are part of a broader, citywide effort initiated by **City Open Workshop**. In partnership with the Illinois



Photo by Joseph Vajda, Principal at Aria Group Architects

Restaurant Association, City Open Workshop brought together a team of local designers to create a resource guide for small businesses struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic. Co-authored by Aria Group, the practical guide includes answers to commonly asked questions, and images and infographics on things like setting up a tent and acquiring a sidewalk cafe permit.

Though the guide was created specifically to address COVID-19-related issues, City Open Workshop believes that, over time, this effort will evolve into more innovative ways to use streets, plazas, sidewalks and parks for more flexible and equitable cities.

Battle added that while she has been focused on assisting the hospitality industry, she also can facilitate connections to assist in other areas affecting community small businesses. Anyone interested in benefiting from Aria Group's consulting services at no charge should reach out to Lis Battle via email (ebattle@ariainc.com) and her team will be happy to help find solutions for you.

Aria Group Architects, Inc | ariainc.com



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Schurz High School

IN MEMORIAM > MARILYN SABERMAN WEISS

What Marilyn Taught Me

— *A Remembrance by Dr. Anthony Rodriguez, Principal, Schurz High School*

One of the first people to welcome me to the Schurz family when I started here ten years ago was Marilyn Weiss, and one of the very first things she taught me was the pancake rule. For those of you that knew her, you know this rule. For those of you who didn't have the chance to know her, it goes something like this: The things we undertake in our lives are much like making pancakes. That first one never comes out quite right either burned or undercooked. After learning from the first one, the second one comes out better, and the third even more so. And so on.

It is a rule that she would remind me of when I "burned" a few pancakes as an assistant principal, and when I entered my first year as principal. It has become something that I now share with others and often remind myself of when reflecting on my work.

I feel blessed to have known Marilyn. The positive impact that she had on so many people's lives was abundantly clear in the number of past and present students who shared their memories of her on Facebook. For me, it was a reminder of the

power having teacher like Marilyn can have on a young person's life and a reminder of the intangible and invaluable things about teaching. She reminded us that we could be so much more than educators—if we choose to be. And she did—every single day.

Marilyn, the world is a better place to have had you in it. I will do my best to share with others what you have shared with me. There is always another pancake to flip.

Marilyn Weiss was an extraordinary human being whose teaching career spanned over 50 years. Before her retirement last year, she had taught at Schurz High School for nearly 20 years. Her dedication to her students and fellow teachers was evident to everyone. Even in retirement, she continued to substitute teach at Schurz. Her energy, enthusiasm, no-nonsense, pick yourself up, and start again philosophy will live on in all of us. Most importantly, she will be remembered in the hearts and minds of the students fortunate to have her in their lives.



2nd Annual Schurz Schuffle Saturday, October 24th

Fret not! The pandemic isn't going to ruin our plans this year. Join us for the VIRTUAL Schurz Schuffle on Saturday, October 24th. You can run/walk wherever, whenever and however you choose! This year, we introduce a race-day family-friendly Old Irving Park neighborhood scavenger hunt (no registration required for the scavenger hunt). Register for the Schurz Schuffle at bit.ly/schurzsshuffle2020



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Back to School – Back to Nature

— By Serena Westcott

Everyone knows the feeling of COVID-19's inescapable presence in our city, country, and world. With confirmation that local education will be virtual or partially virtual, many possess an unresolved heavy heart. These emotions cannot be pushed to the side with a "return to normalcy." Thus, youth, and adults, need to experience healing and empowerment, which you may find in the natural refuge just walking distance from your home: Keeler Gardens.

As an After School Matters intern, my work at Keeler Gardens brings me an overwhelming sense of peace and comfort. Urban communities need youth programs, such as After School Matters, that offer unique benefits, especially when we have limited interactions with others.

For those in need of a respite this fall, visit Keeler Gardens to rest or observe the native plants sway in the wind. And if you are looking for an educational program, how about an in-depth horticultural tour? Students can learn about valuable environmental topics, hands-on, like urban soil science and caterpillar life cycle analysis, along with soft skills such as accountability.

It has indeed been a pleasure to grow a diverse skill set as an intern while simultaneously serving my local community.

I invite you to allow Keeler Gardens to build a growing sense of self-empowerment in the community. We hope students will come away from their visit with a



Photo courtesy of Keeler Gardens.

yearning for more nature in their everyday lives and the desire to protect it at all costs. A much-needed connection to nature amid the ongoing coronavirus may be just what we *all* need.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, @keelergardens.

Keeler Gardens is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization improving the health and sustainability of urban community life through environmental experiences, supporting diversity and youth development, and building a love of nature. Visit us at 3631 N. Keeler Ave., our website KeelerGardens.org, and participate in our virtual programming via Facebook Live at Facebook.com/KeelerGardens. Contact Keeler Gardens at Gina@KeelerGardens.org for details on opportunities for youth.

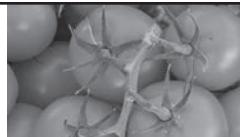
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Jet's Pizza Gives Back to the Community

Thank you so much to the folks at Jet's Pizza and our friends in the community who ordered pizza and other menu items on Saturday, July 25th. Co-owners **Dan O'Donohue** and **Bryan Gilbert** presented Carlson Executive Director Liz Mills with a check for \$1,673, the proceeds of Local Charity Saturday, where 20% of Jet's Pizza's sales go to a designated charity. Dan and Bryan created Local Charity Saturday to give back to the community that has supported them during the pandemic and to support the work of non-profit organizations.

With our programming and in-person fundraisers suspended due to Covid-19, the donation from Jet's will help Carlson get its after-school program off to a strong start, keep our community garden green, and our concert series humming! Thank you, Dan, Bryan, and the whole Jet's team at the Kimball Avenue store!



Jet's Pizza co-owners Dan O'Donohue (left) and Bryan Gilbert visited Carlson Community Services' Three Brothers Garden to present Executive Director Liz Mills with a check for \$1,673. The donation represents 20% of sales at Jet's Kimball Ave. on July 25th. *Photo courtesy of Carlson Community Services.*

that in-person classes will not take place for at least the first quarter. We're looking for ways to support our families and students, with staff and student safety our top priorities.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is unable to present our usual concert fare given Covid-19 limits on gathering. We hope to be back soon, but in the meantime, artistic director **Roger Bingaman** is working with musicians to present virtual concerts. Our Summer 2020 Online Concert features performances by Fine Arts Series' friends **Scott Metlicka, Jean Bishop, Elena O'Grady, Ben Melsky, and Bear Williams**. The video is interesting, varied, and beautiful! Check out Carlson's YouTube channel or visit carlsoncommunityservices.org/events/ to see for yourself.

Update on Carlson's Programs

Three Brothers Garden is growing again! After a year-long hiatus, we planted the garden in the spring, and the first harvest was held in mid-July. All vegetables raised in the garden are donated to the Irving Park Food Pantry. We'll be opening the Tuesday night harvests to volunteers via SignUp Genius in the coming weeks. If you'd like to receive notifications about the harvests, sign up for our newsletter at carlsoncommunityservices.org.

The Magic After-School Place staff is making plans to support remote learning now that CPS has announced

Carlson Community Services connects the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture, and service. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766 or lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org.



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We encourage you to stop by if you need help accessing state services and to share your thoughts and ideas on ways to improve our community and state.



Jaime Andrade, State Representative, 40th District

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Pantry Totals Expected to Rise

The Pantry's client totals have risen, fallen, and risen again in recent months as the economic conditions changed. In August, with the unemployment stimulus ended, and many businesses still closed, numbers were expected to rise again.

Totals rose as high as 200 clients per week in May, dropped to 130 in late June and then rose again to 160+ in July. These high numbers (compared to 75 or so in February), combined with many sources of food being unavailable, put a strain on our resources for purchasing and finding supplies.

We are always in need of nonperishables (cereal, pasta, peanut butter, tuna, mac & cheese, etc.) and other items. Donations can be brought to the Pantry on Monday (10 a.m. to noon) or Tuesday (1 to 3 p.m.). Please do not bring donations during operating hours on Wednesday due to the large crowds and barriers to access. Please email info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org if you have a large donation and want to arrange a delivery.

Monetary donations can be made at the PayPal link at our website, www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.



Thaddeus from Mariano's Harwood Heights store delivered a carload of the most in-demand items--canned goods, dry beans, pasta, and pasta sauce—to the Pantry in early August. *Photo by John Psiharis*



Client's food supplies are handed out to them through the Pantry's back door, where they are packed into wagons to deliver to clients' cars (unless they have their shopping carts). *Photo by Craig Shutt*

Article submitted by Craig Shutt (773-282-3627; craigshutt@ameritech.net).

John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry

e-mail: info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org | www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Volunteer Manager Betsy Minor at voluteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org. Volunteers are needed for Monday (10 a.m. to noon to take in deliveries), Tuesday (1 to 3 p.m. to pre-bag groceries), and Wednesday (8:30 a.m. to noon to hand out food). **Please do not come in to help unless you have been contacted and placed on the schedule.**

Many Thanks

Thank you to the management team at **Mariano's in Harwood Heights**, who delivered a carload of our most in-demand items--canned goods, dry beans, pasta, and pasta sauce! **Thaddeus** from Mariano's dropped off the products, which were quickly turned around to our clients.

Thanks to everyone at **Koval Distillery** (4241 N. Ravenswood), especially **Dr. Sonat Birnecker**,



Andrew from Koval Distillery loads eight gallons of hand sanitizer into the car of Irving Park Community Food Pantry Publicity Coordinator Craig Shutt, the second donation of sanitizer the distillery has made. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

president, and **Otto Ade**, regional distribution manager, for the donation of eight gallons of hand sanitizer to the Pantry. It follows an earlier donation of four gallons that are being used right now. We appreciate their continued support.

Coat Drive

Unfortunately, the Pantry will be unable to run its annual coat drive this year. We are working on ideas for our Holiday program and hope to announce plans in early fall.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Thank you to everyone during these difficult and uncertain times as we work to alleviate food insecurity in our neighborhood. You prove that we truly meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Rebecca and Elmer Haneburg stopped by the Irving Park Community Food Pantry in July to deliver to Executive Director John Psiharis the first harvest from the Three Brothers Garden, a partnership of Carlson Community Services and the Irving Park Lutheran Church. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



St. Edward Scoop – Jenny Dreyer

St. Edward School welcomed our students and staff back for the 2020-2021 school year. The safety and well-being of our students and school employees is our primary concern, and we will do what we must so everyone in our school feels safe. Our large classroom spaces, small class sizes, multiple entrances, temperature checks, and hand-washing provide optimum safety for our students and staff. The campus is sanitized daily through extra intensive cleanings.

The individual classroom operates under a "cohort" model in which students and staff are grouped by homeroom. We have made our students' learning a top priority. We will test students at the beginning of the school year to assess each student's needs individually and focus on the core subjects of reading, math, religion, English, science, and social studies. Special content classes (art, music, Spanish, PE, and STEM) come to the students. You can read the full reopening plan on the St. Edward School website.

A big welcome to our new teachers, we wish them a successful first year at St. Edward!

We are introducing a new STEM learning program for all grades. Mr. Enrile, our current junior high science teacher, has transitioned our current technology program and developed the STEM program for preschool through 8th grade. STEM promotes critical and creative thinking through the collaboration of science, technology, engineering, and math.



Photo by Surface on Unsplash

Take a Tour—In Person or Virtual

St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. We are accepting 2020-2021 registrations for new families. Scholarships are available through our parish, the Archdiocese, and the government.

Take our virtual school tour at <https://youtube/cMIMJMjo01k>

You can also arrange for an individual school tour by calling the office at 773-736-9133 to explore our campus and learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

St. Edward School celebrates 110 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade!

For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com.

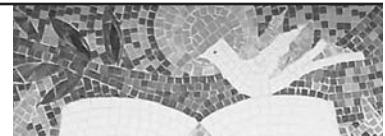
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Viator Vibrations

— Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

Stay tuned for upcoming events at stviatorchicago.org or on our Facebook page. Twitter: @ChiViator & Instagram: @stvschoolchi.

Back to School Fall 2020

St. Viator has a robust plan to provide a learner-centered, purposeful, and engaging experience for each student as the 2020-2021 school year gets underway.

In-person learning is held five days a week since school operations were restructured to meet the latest public health guidance. St. Viator also offers two options 1) an e-learning option using its teachers who are solely responsible for remote learning or 2) a third-party e-learning option through the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools.

"As we seek to nurture the spiritual, physical, and social well-being of our students, staff, and the community at large, we've gone to great lengths to create a holistic plan that offers a high degree of customization," said Principal Lisa Rieger. "Also, we are thrilled to announce that St. Viator secured government funds to purchase 150 supplemental iPads to put our many EdTech tools to good use for both in-school and remote learning."

The primary safety components of in-school learning:

Social Distancing: Students are organized in cohorts, similar to a homeroom class. Drop-off and pick-up procedures and hallway traffic patterns are designed to minimize interaction between cohorts. In the event

of a diagnosis of coronavirus, the entire cohort will be quarantined.

PPE: Students wear masks at all times, aside from outdoor play and lunch. Additional PPE face shields, forehead thermometers, hand sanitizer, non-toxic cleaners, and disinfectants are in regular use.

Infrastructure: Plexiglass table dividers enforce social distancing behavior for preschool and kindergarten students. Touchless water fountains and towel dispensers were installed for everyone.

Maintenance: A maintenance porter was hired to implement an intensive cleaning and disinfecting schedule during school hours.

While most of St. Viator's beloved community gatherings are on-hold, the fundraising must go on!

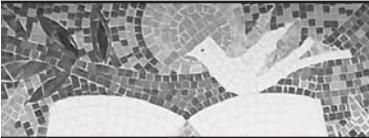
The Old Irving Park Beer and BBQ Challenge pivoted to a To-Go format, and there was plenty of local craft beer and BBQ goodness to go around.

The first-ever Eagle Classic Golf Tournament was held Aug. 29 at Chick Evans, delivering on its promise of friendly competition for all.

Join St. Viator's spirited, caring, and safe community!

Contact us for a one-on-one tour: Marge Tiritilli: mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org

4140 W. Addison Street, Chicago, IL 60641 | www.stviatorchicago.org



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | St. Viator Elementary



2020 OIP Beer & BBQ Challenge



The Old Irving Park Beer and BBQ Challenge couldn't bring 1000+ community members under one tent this year, but we knew summer wouldn't be the same without it. So the organizers offered To-Go Packs with the best local craft beer and tasty BBQ to enjoy in ticket holders' backyards.

The August 1 event garnered a unanimous thumbs up. Changes in format from years past to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions included:

- A single cook team versus the 20 teams that competed last year
- Each To-Go Pack featured a half-pound of pulled pork with a trio of secret-recipe sauces plus house-made sausages from the Haymarket Pub kitchen
- Local brewers that opted in were compensated for their contributions versus donating product
- Volunteers from St. Viator served ticket holders via a special drive-through window experience at Haymarket Pub
- What stayed-the-course? A sold-out event and plenty of beer and BBQ goodness to go around!

"I'm so proud we were still able to advance St. Viator's fundraising goals, continue this neighborhood tradition for a 7th year and support local businesses despite the social distancing restrictions and economic turmoil," said event organizer **Jaime Guerrero**.

Many thanks to the top-shelf brewers who participated this year: **Alarmist, BuckleDown, Eris, Haymarket, Lake Effect, Mikerphone, Off Color, Old Irving, Pipeworks, Revolution and Solemn Oath.**

And to the businesses that donated funds, expertise, and infrastructure: **Wintrust, Epic Builders & Haymarket Pub & Brewery.**

Have you missed out? It's not too late to show your support with a donation: www.beerbbqchallenge.com. **Find us on social media** – @beerbbqchallenge and #beerbbqtogo2020

Photo Top Left: Julian Guerrero, incoming St. Viator 8th grader, and Reese Kalinsky were stationed in the heart of the West Loop all-day ticket holders knew precisely where to go for To-Go Pack pick-up.
Photo by: Heather Slagg

Photo Top Right: St. Viator moms Ellen Conroy and Stacey Stevens enjoy the aftermath of way too much BBQ on the patio.
Photo by Malia Stevens, incoming St. Viator 8th grader



CALENDAR of EVENTS

OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Advertising:
First Tuesday
of the month

**General Editorial
Submissions:**
First Thursday
of the month



NOTICE: As Phases for reopening plans take shape, please watch for updates from OIPA and the individual organizations that usually post events in our calendar. Information can be found on Facebook or the organization's website.

A note about the advertisement featured in this issue. Check with the individual advertiser by calling or visiting their website for information on their reopening status and hours of operation.



Start sharing the news...

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

Advertise with Us!

The OIPA News is distributed to approximately 600 area residents, in addition to surrounding neighborhood groups and elected city officials.

10 ISSUES PER YEAR

We publish ten issues per calendar year [omitting January and July].

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2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

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).

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MEMBERSHIP DUES (per household)

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- \$25/year **Standard** – \$15/year **Standard Seniors (age 65+)**
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- \$150 **Neighborhood All-Star:** Good Neighbor membership plus — admission for two to an exclusive cocktail 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

Contribute to the OIPA News | SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, and articles for publication. Ten newsletters are produced annually [newsletters are not published in the month of January]. We extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who continue to submit articles, photos and purchases ad space for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

General Submissions

Community Calendar, Articles & Photos

- Please send articles and calendar items as a Word document, in an email or Google doc. **Include in the document the author's name, company or organization (if applicable) and contact information. If submitting images, please include photo captions and photographer credit.**
- 400 words maximum without photos, 300/325 with photos and captions.
- Submissions as Links to websites or Facebook are NOT accepted.
- Articles should be information-based and should not contain advertorial content. Bylined articles should be written in third-person, unless the submission is an opinion piece or a personal story. Byline includes the author's name, business name and contact info.
- Photos and images should be provided as separate files. We cannot use photos or images that are embedded in a document.
- Photos should be accompanied with photographer credit and a caption(s). If submitting photos for an article, please include captions and photo credits in the same document as your article.
- If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wetransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using weetransfer.
- 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 necessary reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

Advertising Submissions

- Purchase ad space and upload your ad at: www.oldirvingpark.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) gray scale; jpg, PDF, or eps. **Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.**

Submission Deadlines

- **Advertising:** First Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m.
- **General Submissions:** First Thursday of the month by 5 p.m.
- **Materials SUBMITTED AFTER** the deadline date will be held over to the next month's issue.
- **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 community calendar.

SUBMISSION DATES		
Publication Month	Advertising	General
October	9/1	9/3
November	10/6	10/1
December	11/3	11/5

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