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## NEWS



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# OCTOBER

VOLUME 34 | ISSUE 9 | 2020



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# OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 34 ❁ Issue 9 ❁ October 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: The Hall & Miller House on Keeler. (Thank you)

Photo by Kaitlyn Keely

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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

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# General Member Meeting Scheduled for October 19

— Adrienne Chan, President , Old Irving Park Association

**M**ark your calendars for the **first virtual OIPA General Meeting on October 19 at 7 p.m.** (note that this meeting is on a different date/time than we usually would meet). This meeting will feature special guest speakers from the **Chicago Bureau of Planning and Zoning, Deputy Commissioner Kathleen E. Dickhut, and Eilish Tuffy, Coordinating Planner (NW Planning Region).** They will educate us on the Chicago Department of Planning and Development's application and review process for large development projects. We will publish a link to join the meeting in an E-Blast closer to the meeting date; please note that you may need to sign up in advance. If you have any questions, please email us at [oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com](mailto:oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com).

## Show Off Your Halloween Spirit

Halloween is coming soon, and this year OIPA is sponsoring a Halloween Spirit Contest! Email your nominations for the best outdoor Halloween decorations in OIP to [oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com](mailto:oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com) no later than October 24, 2020 (please include "Halloween Contest" in the subject line and your name, address, and the address of your nominee in the body of the email ). The top seven nominations will be announced on Facebook and E-Blast, and will move on to the neighborhood voting round for best decorations the week of October 25 (a survey will be distributed by E-Blast). The winner will get to select either a \$100 gift certificate to a local business of their choice or a \$100 donation to their local charity of choice. We are not yet sure what limitations the City of Chicago may impose on Halloween celebrations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once we know more, we will also share suggestions on Facebook of possible alternatives to traditional "Trick or Treat." Stay tuned!

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## Board Vacancy Filled

Lastly, as you may recall from our recent newsletters, **Anna Zolkowski Sobor** has, in fact, retired from the OIPA Board of Directors. While it is impossible to find sufficient words of gratitude, we will start simply with a big thank you to for her decades of service to the Old Irving Park Association! Due to our inability to hold our Annual Meeting and director elections this Fall, the Board has appointed **Michael Cannon** to fill the Board vacancy resulting from Anna's retirement. Thank you, Michael, for volunteering to help lead our organization!



*Photo by Kaitlyn Keely*



## Meet the New OIPA Director — Michael Cannon



*Photo by  
provided by  
Michael Cannon*

### **Favorite local business:**

My favorite local business is probably Community Tavern, but there are so many great places that have opened up (OIB, Eris, CTA, Pursuit, Distinct, etc.) in the last few years!

### **Breakfast drink of choice:**

Coffee (black)

### **Interests/hobbies:**

I used to enjoy remodeling, photography, and reading, but the kids take pretty much all my free time!

### **Favorite things to do outside:**

Play catch or kick a ball with the kids. Golf, when I can find some time.

### **Last book you read:**

*Fall*, by Neal Stephenson

### **History with OIPA:**

We have been members of OIPA since we moved to the neighborhood, and have admired the excellent work that it has done.

### **Favorite part of serving on the OIPA board:**

Well, it's a little early for me to have a favorite part, since I'm just now joining the Board, but I'm pleased to have an opportunity to listen and learn, and to help where I can. Many trees came down in the recent storms, and I'm particularly interested in seeing what we can do to replace them. The graceful tree canopies in front of our wide lots are something we are well known for, and it's one of the things that brought us to this neighborhood. I'd like future generations to see that restored.

### **Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in Austin, Texas, and moved to Chicago after college in 1994.

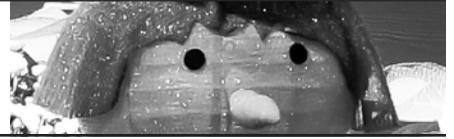
### **How long have you lived in Old Irving Park, and who is in your household?**

Meridith and I moved to Old Irving Park with our kids, Christopher (almost 13) and Helena (10), in 2013. My sister had moved here about 12 years earlier, and my brother followed a few years after we found our spot.

### **Work outside of OIPA?**

After a brief stint as an Assistant State's Attorney, I spent about six years as an attorney specializing in construction law before switching to a role more directly managing the real estate development process, rather than just fighting over problems after they occur. I am the Senior Development Manager for Golub & Company in the adaptive reuse of the historic landmark Tribune Tower, which we are converting to luxury condominiums and ground-floor retail.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



# Let's Talk About Trees! — Merry Marwig

Following the August 2020 derecho storms in Chicago that downed numerous trees in Old Irving Park, the Old Irving Park Association is conducting an assessment of the need for new or replacement trees in the parkway in front of OIP residents' homes. While we are not responsible for planting parkway trees, we would like to understand the neighborhood's tree needs. We plan to share this tree assessment information with Chicago's Bureau of Forestry and other arborist organizations to prepare for future planting of parkway trees. We've had a good number of responses already, and we'd like to hear from you, too. Please feel free to share the survey link with other neighbors in Old Irving Park, as well.

**Parkway Tree Needs Assessment Survey Link:** <http://bit.ly/OIPAtrees>

*DISCLAIMER: Filling out this form is \*not\* a promise for new trees, but rather a means of collecting information on the Old Irving Park neighborhood's tree needs.*



Photo by George Bakos on Unsplash

## 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](http://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/311ProjectInformation); <https://311.chicago.gov>

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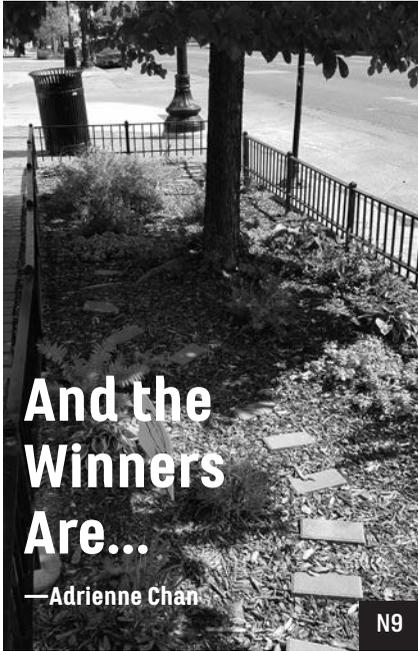
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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



### And the Winners Are...

—Adrienne Chan

N9

For the past few years, OIPA has asked neighborhood residents and businesses to “adopt” one or more of the six “mural planters” and sixteen in-ground planting beds on Irving Park Road. Adopting means agreeing to take care of plant upkeep and trash clean up. This year our community stepped up — all of the spaces were adopted for the season!

OIPA held a contest again this year for the in-ground Garden Beds. “Before” pictures were taken in May. The **Old Irving Park Garden Club** reviewed the in-ground garden beds in June and August to determine which beds earn bragging rights.



## THE WINNERS THIS YEAR ARE:

### It's a Tie for *Best Overall* – Urban Wellness (N9) and The Yoest Family (S8)

Both of these gardens won prizes last year, and they continue to shine. With an even number of judges, The Garden Club split the vote, so they argued, tried bribing each other, and ended up deciding to go for the tie. These beds stand out with lovely plants, pleasing design, shots of color, and added elements. Both beds are well tended, mostly free of weeds and especially litter. Well done!

### Honorable Mention: *Most Creative* – Michelle Skoropistsev and Jana Hwang (N8)

A new winner this year! The Garden Club was charmed by the “Please Don't Litter” signs, which seem to be making a difference.

### Honorable Mention: *Most Improved* – Team Kilbourn (4000-4100 Blocks) (N6)

We had another new winner this year. The bed looked good in June and looked great in August. Well mulched, nice plants, and good color.

### Honorable Mention: *Most Colorful* Team Kilbourn (4000-4100 Blocks) (N7)

Team Kilbourn was the winner in this category last year. Their bed has colorful annuals, peonies, and pink roses; it's charming and certainly stood out from the other beds in this category.

*Photos by Adrienne Chan*



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

### THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PLANTER & PLANTING BED SPONSORS FOR THE 2020 SEASON:

- Andrea Guthmann
- Eileen Stern
- Chicago's Pizza
- Kelly Construction & Design
- Billy & Jess Navin
- Team Kilbourn (4000-4100 blocks)
- Jana Hwang & Michelle Skoropistsev (with plant and mulch donations from Berman Subaru of Chicago)
- Maureen & Jon Miller
- Katrina Kopps Rigali
- The Uhmes Family/Wild World Gardens
- Urban Wellness
- The Ankney Family
- Residences of OIP
- Sow Chicago Community Church
- The Yoest Family
- A special thanks to Kelly Construction & Design for cleaning up and re-planting the pedestrian island at Irving Park and Kilbourn, and to Farmers Market Garden Center for its assist with Fall clean-up of the garden beds at Irving Park/ Kolmar (Northwest side).

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.

Visit [www.stephaniecutter.com/sunflowers](http://www.stephaniecutter.com/sunflowers) to sign up for a packet of FREE sunflower seeds, and Stephanie will "non-contact" deliver your seeds right to you to plant and nurture!

Share photos of your sunflowers' progress with us on social media and you can be entered into drawings for free prizes! Tag your photos with #IrvingSunflowers!



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#IrvingSunflowers  
#HappyHomesIrvingPark



## Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on September 14, 2020

— Bart Goldberg, OIPA Secretary

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

**Commencement:** **President Chan** commenced the meeting, which was again conducted via Zoom (some may think I own shares of that company since I refer to it every month, but rest assured I was not that smart) at 7:07 p.m

**Treasurer's Reports:** The Treasurer's Report for August was presented by our ace **Treasurer Lynn Ankney**. She did a better job this month, showing a growth in Association funds, instead of the steady drip of losses that I have had to describe as "timing issues" in recent months. The income for the month was nearly \$4,000, partly due to increased membership revenues that should continue to increase now that we near renewal season. The main reason was nearly \$2,500 in advertising revenues. **Colleen Kenny** reported that our ad revenues had been hurt by the pandemic, but as seen in this month's figures it is clearly looking up. The only interesting disbursement was a very small reimbursement to **Scott Legan** for his efforts in getting our fancy (but malfunctioning) clock on Irving Park Road repaired. We thank Scott for getting this done for us. The August financial report was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Appointment of Directors:** As previously discussed, we have not been able to hold our Annual Meeting, or any public meetings for that matter since the onset of the virus. Our Board is currently comprised of nine members, those being the four officers and the five general Board Members. All members are elected

for two year terms, but the Officers are elected in alternate years from the Board Members. The Board Members would have been elected this fall if we had been able to hold an Annual Meeting. Since we could not hold that meeting, we re-appointed four of the five people currently serving as Directors to extended terms to run until the next Annual Meeting of the membership, whenever that should occur. Those four Board Members are **Meredith O'Sullivan, Colleen Kenny, Scott Legan, and Merry Marwig**. We are very grateful that they will continue on.

**Retirement of Anna Sobor and Appointment of Michael Cannon:** This meeting marked a sad milestone in the history of the Old Irving Park Association. After approximately 25 years of incomparable service to our community, Anna Sobor has decided to retire from OIPA. Any historian or statistician of OIPA (and there may not be that many) knows that Anna ranks at the pinnacle of the list when it comes to either time served or major projects accomplished. Frankly, there is no one else that comes even close. Suffice to say that we will miss her greatly, but I will not continue to "eulogize" her at this time for three reasons: (1) She is very much alive and well; (2) I have a hunch that she will continue to stay active in community matters so we will continue to hear from her; and (3) we intend to later have a more proper occasion to honor her when the present health concerns abate. I know that Anna had really been looking forward to exiting OIPA for a number of years, but did not want to do so until she felt that there was a Board in place that had the abilities to continue her work. We will hopefully not disappoint her. Since this was her last meeting, and we



## OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

had one vacancy on the Board, we appointed Michael Cannon to serve on the Board until the next Annual Meeting of the membership, when all of the Board members will again be up for election. We have heard some wonderful things about the abilities of young Michael, but in the interests of space I will let him introduce himself to you elsewhere in this Newsletter.

**Membership:** Meredith O'Sullivan reported that things are still really looking up in this regard. She said that our current paid membership is 587, compared to 479 at this time last year. A gain of more than 100 members in one year is truly extraordinary.

**Future Meetings and Newsletters:** We are going to conduct our **first virtual Public Meeting of OIPA on**

**October 19 at 7 p.m.** *[note that this meeting is on a different date/time than we usually would meet].* Special guest speakers from the **Chicago Bureau of Planning and Zoning, Deputy Commissioner Kathleen E. Dickhut, and Eiliesh Tuffy, Coordinating Planner (NW Planning Region).** They will be discussing the recent changes that have been made in the approval process for larger projects in Chicago. This seemed particularly appropriate in light of the many large projects being proposed in our area right now, and that many of us have questions about how they are to be analyzed and potentially approved.

*Continued on page 10*

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# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



## Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on September 14, 2020, *continued from page 9*

We also decided to add a feature to the November newsletter where each of the Board members recommends a Thanksgiving recipe. We also made a final decision that we are not going to be able to hold the All-Star party this year due to safety concerns. So we talked about some gift ideas that we could give to our All-Star members in lieu of providing the party. In rejecting one of the suggestions, Anna Sobor voiced in her direct and pithy style what may prove to be her final substantive suggestion in an OIPA Board meeting when she stated that "I would love a cookie". Well said Anna!

**Various Merry Marwig Proposals:** Since Merry is a veritable whirlwind, I am combining several of her proposals in one section to economize. I had reported last month on her suggestion to rename Kolmar Park after a 20th Century poet named Gertrud Kolmar. She updated us on that idea and her work continues. She has been quite active this month in her efforts to help people plant new trees in our parkways to replace the large number of trees that were lost in the August derecho. Merry created a form which she then circulated amongst the OIPA membership to find people that would be interested in requesting

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## OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

replacement trees. She reported at our meeting that so far she has received 26 responses from people wishing to participate. The Board voted to authorize her to take the next step which is to submit an application under the Openlands Tree Planters Grant. Thanks Merry. Fresh off our great success that we have had with the "Heart OIP" signs that she suggested, designed, and distributed, and motivated by her love of all things "OIP," Merry now suggested that we consider designing other forms of OIPA swag. This sounded like a fine idea, but then Colleen reminded us that her Mama always said "Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free?" Meredith then stated that while that might have been a fine plan to lure Colleen's husband Rich, she wasn't sure of its relevance here. Colleen (who as an advertising Executive has more than a little knowledge in such matters) explained that she did not want to see us dilute our brand, and that we should save such things for more important matters such as membership drives. So for now, we are not going to open an OIPA pop-up shop.

**Housing Issues:** Since the proposal that has been made before the City Council to allow the use and even construction of new accessory dwelling units (thereby legalizing some accommodations in coach-houses, attics and basements) is one of the more substantial zoning changes that we have seen in recent years, the Board decided to obtain further information and monitor the status of the now stalled legislation, so that we could later consider if we want to take a position on such an amendment to the Zoning Code. We also had an initial discussion concerning the pros and cons of allowing short-term rentals in our neighborhood.

**Adopt-A-Greenspace:** Thanks to the efforts of President Chan and many, many volunteers, our planters "looked alive" again this year. The winners of the Garden Contest have been selected and they will be announced shortly. The Board had hired Farmer's Market Garden Center to clean up the three planters on the west end of Irving Park Road (they are ones that we had not been able to find sponsors for) and the Board was very pleased with their work.

**Northwestern Memorial Medical Facility:** As reported in the last issue, we had a meeting on July 15th with the Alderman Gardiner and many members of the NW Memorial team to learn about their plans for

*Continued on page 12*

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# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



## Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on September 14, 2020, *continued from page 11*

the construction of a medical facility on the block that formerly contained Sabatino's. On August 3rd there was a meeting where we were not involved, where the participants were various residents from Kenneth Avenue, the NW Memorial team and the Alderman. Since the residents on Kilbourn had not been involved in that meeting we decided to hold a meeting with them. This meeting occurred on August 31st, and did not include either the NW Memorial team or the Alderman. We were a little disappointed that NW Memorial did not allow us to show any of the prior planning graphics at this meeting. They had two reasons for this: (1) they were in the process

of drafting revised plans and (2) they did not want graphics to be discussed at a meeting where they were not present to answer questions and concerns. This meeting was still helpful since we were able to learn the main concerns shared by most of the immediate neighbors, those being serious concerns about the height of the building and traffic. One neighbor asked us to inquire if they had considered any design options where traffic would enter (and exit) the building and into the parking garage by entering directly off of Irving Park Road, and we will make that inquiry. However, at this time we are waiting to see the revised plans that they have said are forthcoming before considering next steps.

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# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

**Other Zoning and Building Developments:** Annie Swingen informed us that the sale of the land currently housing Stan's Automotives to Modern Garden Chicago that was reported on here probably a year ago is not going forward. (This is not wholly a bad thing since in my opinion Stan is the world's finest mechanic). There were no new developments re the People's Gas project. We were also brought up to date concerning the demolition of the church at 4300 N. Kedvale, and we are trying to get a meeting with Alderman Nugent and the developer.

**Synchronized Female Hair Adjustment:** At precisely 9:26 p.m. I was blown away by what appeared to be a scientifically significant development. I looked up

at my screen and saw that nearly all of our female Board members were simultaneously stretching and adjusting their hair. At first I thought it could have been a commercial for Pantene or some other shampoo. I could not understand how this had happened in such a synchronized fashion. In my first draft of these minutes I was speculating as to the cause. Since then I found out from Lynn that it had just been announced that we were going to take a group picture of our meeting. My brain had simply failed to process this because there is not much that I can do to improve my appearance. In retrospect, perhaps this did not even need to be reported on here.

*Continued on page 15*

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*When I see Your heavens, the works of*



*Your fingers, the moon*

*and the stars, which*

*You have ordained,*

*What is mortal man,*

*that You remember him,*

*and the son of man,*

*that You visit him?"*

*Psalms 8:3-4*

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# OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



## October Anniversaries

- 1 Jaime & Mark Murray
- 3 Jeremy & Julianne Ohmes
- 3 Kellee & Joe Simz
- 4 Josh & Prutha Davis
- 4 Kathryn & Burke Leshner
- 4 Midge Stocker & Diana Clegg
- 5 Barbara & Steve Cohn
- 6 Rob & Victoria Ross
- 7 Jasmin Cardenas & Jesus Nunez
- 7 Jorge Garcia & Mona Garcia (RIP)
- 9 Jason & Amy Nuttelman
- 9 Pete Jurgeleit & Carolyn Morehouse
- 10 Lauren & Felix Lopez
- 10 Tonnia & Mike Koehler
- 12 Adrienne & Chris Chan
- 12 Claudia & T. J. Hine
- 13 Jill Hopke & Peter Eckels
- 13 Margaret & Vernon O'Donnell
- 14 Corey & Shoshana Friedman
- 15 Alisun DeKock & Richard Liu
- 15 Jarod Dixon & Christina Fuhrman
- 15 Kristin Gross & John Nicewick
- 16 Leslie & Blake Batterson
- 16 Mark & Cindy Malin
- 17 Beth & John Ruark
- 18 Meridith & Michael Cannon
- 20 Phoebe & Chris Craig
- 22 Cynthia & Jose Rivera
- 22 Jorge & Illeana Gomez
- 22 Michael & Elizabeth Basile
- 23 Fraya & Christopher Black
- 24 Andrew Gardner & Carey Peters
- 26 Mary & Marc Sussman
- 27 Susan Gidley & Phil Timberman
- 29 Lisa Yeadon & Bob Riley
- 30 Kiki & Brad Schotanus

## October Birthdays

- |                   |                     |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jonathan Miller | 11 Jana L Murray    | 24 Jonathan Ankney   |
| 1 Kelly Williams  | 12 Maureen Miller   | 24 JR Cadawas        |
| 2 John McKernin   | 13 Ben Hoffman      | 25 David Evaskus     |
| 3 Mary Czarnowski | 14 Frank Gogliotti  | 25 Sara Yoest        |
| 4 Deborah Maron   | 15 Kurt Fries       | 26 Alice Sheets      |
| 4 Jennifer Rood   | 16 Kyle Cohlhepp    | 26 Chris Evaskus     |
| 4 Kate Cain       | 17 Katie Brandt     | 26 Gayle Christensen |
| 4 Rachel O'Mara   | 17 Maile Solis      | 27 Nancy Munsterman  |
| 6 Emily Plagman   | 17 Peggy Krischer   | 27 Tracy Hoffmann    |
| 6 Sarah Kessler   | 19 Jason J Murray   | 28 Artur Nowak       |
| 7 Alan Arlan      | 20 Maire Dempsey    | 28 Beth Ruark        |
| 7 Felix Lopez     | 21 Brian O'Donnell  | 29 Kinsey Wolf       |
| 7 Joe Gugle       | 21 Dee Barrett      | 30 Tim Alexander     |
| 8 Gregory Ward    | 22 Chris Faris      | 31 Bridget Bauman    |
| 8 Kellee Simz     | 22 Heather Boran    | 31 Samantha Schmitz  |
| 9 Leslie Becksted | 22 Vernon O'Donnell |                      |
| 9 Megan Beseth    | 23 Megan Anderson   |                      |

## Kid & Pet Birthdays

### September

- 6 William John Mason
- 11 Sophia Unzueta
- 13 Frances Mason
- 16 Lula Johnston
- 17 Elise Lopez
- 18 Madeline McKelvey
- 21 Charlie Reimann
- 24 Nathan Wolf

### October

- 2 Everett O'Donnell
- 3 Peter Reimann
- 6 Langston O'Donnell
- 8 Winston Greene
- 24 Christopher Cannon



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](mailto:meredithosullivan@gmail.com) or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.



## OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

### Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on September 14, 2020, *continued from page 13*

**Get Your Flu Shot!:** The regular seasonal flu is often far more deadly than most people want to think about and disease specialists warn that this is expected to be a bad flu season, and that when combined with a little-known virus named Covid-19 that we could be in for a “tsunami of sick”. Everyone should get the flu shot, but it is particularly important for us seniors. Early October is evidently the perfect time to get your shot as the flu season is just beginning and it should give you coverage throughout. I am getting mine and to those of you who might not because they believe that they are immortal I say “Be realistic... Don’t be a Statistic” and get yours as well.

**Future Meetings:** We hope that you will join us for the virtual October OIPA General Meeting. You can obtain login information for the meeting in an e-blast that will be forthcoming. Our next Board meeting is on October 5th.

This long meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

### **Virtual OIPA General Meeting October 19 at 7 p.m.**

*(note that this meeting is on a different date/time than we usually would meet).*

Special guest speakers from the Chicago Bureau of Planning and Zoning, Deputy Commissioner Kathleen E. Dickhut, and Elliesh Tuffy, Coordinating Planner (NW Planning Region).

## **HAVE YOU RENEWED Your OIPA Membership?**

**Everyone’s annual OIPA membership expired on August 31st (unless you joined since 5/1/20, then you’re good through 8/31/21).** Whether you’re renewing for the 20th time or joining for the first, we ask everyone to use the online form to sign up and pay at [www.oldirvingpark.com/join-us](http://www.oldirvingpark.com/join-us). Having our members join or renew online is easier for everyone and allows us to quickly and accurately manage our member data, such as birthdays and anniversaries. For the few who are unable to pay online, please find the paper form on page 35 to complete.

Why is membership so important? Dues go a long way to finance the publication of this newsletter, and only current members receive a copy (delivered to their door, by our tireless army of volunteers). Also, elected officials take notice of community organizations, like ours, with strong membership. It’s one sign of a caring, engaged community. You know, the kind filled with people willing to put on garden gloves and take care of a public green space for the good of their community.

**See you at the next (virtual) general OIPA meeting in October.**

# OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

[C] = Court Approved [F]= Foreclosure Sale [S] = Short Sale



## Single Family

4309 N. Kostner .....	\$ 440,000
4065 W. Waveland .....	\$500,000
4404 W. Waveland .....	\$525,000
4249 N. Kolmar .....	\$610,000
3936 W. Kilbourn .....	\$649,900
3850 W. Lowell .....	\$650,000
4146 N. Kilbourn .....	\$660,000
3824 N. Keeler .....	\$1,010,000



## Attached Single Family

4112 N. Keystone, 2W .....	\$135,000
4333 N. Keeler, 2B.....	\$141,200
4342 N. Kedvale, 1C.....	\$144,900
4041 N. Kilbourn, 1N .....	\$384,000



## 2-4 Units

3641 N. Kedvale .....	\$505,000
-----------------------	-----------



## TAKE A WALK AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**Do you enjoy architecture, local history, and walking around our neighborhood?**

Then grab your phone, log onto [www.olderirvingpark.com/house\\_history](http://www.olderirvingpark.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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## Local Heroes at Work — Claudia Hine,

Irving Park Garden Club board members had the pleasure of judging OIPA's In-Ground Garden Bed contest this year (winners to be announced, see page 6). It provided us with the opportunity to walk both the north and south sides of Irving Park Rd. to view, up close, what we might otherwise not have noticed if we were just driving by.

Frankly, our main drag of Irving Park Rd. needs all the help it can get. That's why we really appreciate the sweat equity our civic-minded neighbors have put into these spaces.

Cultivating, planting, mulching, pulling weeds, and picking up trash are not easy tasks, and to do them someplace other than your own yard is commendable. Who benefits? All the residents, businesses, and commuters who frequent our neighborhood do.

I hope if you spot one of these volunteers at work that you will take a moment to thank them for their efforts. They are local heroes who make our world a little brighter.



Ellen Ruschhaupt is one of 10 volunteers to participate in a cleanup of the Tripp Garden in August. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*

---

### Tripp Garden and Beyond

The garden club also has local heroes working on public spaces. A recent cleanup at the Tripp Garden (across from Eris Brewery) brought out 10 volunteers in August. They include **VP Mike Basile, Karen Wehrle, Trudy Moore, Pam Rock, Mary Jo Pesut, Jen O'Brien, her friend Joe, Ellen Ruschhaupt, Josh Boggioni,** and his daughter **Frankie.**

According to Mike, "We generated 12 large bags of plant material and debris. We cut back all the daylilies, daisies, and yarrow, in addition to deadheading other plants. We also cleaned up all the Queen Anne's lace along the fence line. We left the garden much cleaner

and more organized, leaving space for new materials to be planted."

Another group of volunteers tends the garden club's square concrete planters along Irving. Earlier this year, we relocated a few of the planters to give them a little more visibility. Every time I'm at the Keeler/Irving Park intersection, I can't help but notice how great the planter by Potbelly looks. "Barb" (as it is now named) is tended by **Madelyn Ryan,** who makes daily, and sometimes twice daily, trips lugging a gallon of water to keep it from drying out.

## IRVING PARK GARDEN CLUB



Other members tending planters during this hot dry summer are **Mike Basile, Lynne Huston, Sue Geisler, Peggy Krischer, Carolyn Frazier, Trish Hinkes, Gayle Christensen, Karen and Bill Whitehead, Eileen Stern, Laura Marie Sanchez, Lisa Hopper, Ed Caplan, and Gina Iliopoulos.**

In addition to watering, these volunteers have had to face other challenges. It pains me to report that plants have been stolen out of several of our containers on more than one occasion this season. And, the containers being used as trash cans is another big problem.

Still, they look lovely, and they should perform well into the fall. The plant selection was chosen for us by the gals at **Farmers Market Garden Center.** We also value the firemen on Engine 69 and local businesses, such as **Chicago Roots Hydroponics,** for helping to keep some of the planters watered. We do appreciate you!

In the lousy year that is 2020, there are people striving to brighten our world. I am so grateful. Where would we be without them?

*We are the Irving Park Garden Club. We like to dine, drink, and dig. For more information, visit [Facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub) or contact me at [claudiahine@icloud.com](mailto:claudiahine@icloud.com).*



Due to its location outside the Potbelly sub shop, we named this planter Barb. The USS Barb submarine reportedly compiled one of the most outstanding records of any U.S. submarine in World War II. Barb is tended by Madelyn Ryan. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*

Eileen Stern pulls a water wagon on her way to tending her adopted planter. Eileen's son built the battery-powered pump and sprayer to make her task a little easier. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*



# Do you know a Native Language?

An Indigenous Peoples' Day Project for All Ages

POTAWATOMI ODAWA/OTTAWA  
MENOMINEE ONEIDA BLACKFOOT  
OJIBWE CREE LAKOTA  
DAKOTA NAVAJO CHOCTAW  
CHEROKEE

Please help us honor the true native languages of this land by learning and sharing nature words of local Native American Chicagoans. Here's how!

- 1 Visit the St. John's garden (next to 3857 N Kostner Ave). Write down the words for the things you see that you want to learn the names of, such as dirt, grass, rabbit, tree, robin, flower, worm etc. You can also do this in your own yard or park near you.
- 2 Choose a local native language you wish to learn. Details at [www.stjohnschicago.com](http://www.stjohnschicago.com).

- 3 Write the Native word you learned in permanent marker on the colored ribbon indicated. You can also add a drawing or photograph.
- 4 Go back to the garden and tie the ribbon to the tree, flower, etc. and bring some sticks to tie ribbons and pictures for other words like rabbit, butterfly, wind.
- 5 Practice saying the words!

BONUS: Watch this short video about why language preservation is important: <https://theways.org/story/living-language>

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### Sabatino's Gone Forever— Terry McGuire

While Sabatino's, Old Irving Park's premier restaurant since 1969, closed more than a year ago, only this August has it gone forever. The land owned by Enzo and Angelo Pagni, including the restaurant, a mortuary, and three apartment buildings, has been entirely razed to the ground. Northwestern Medical plans to build an emergency medical center on the property. As a delightful culinary destination for close to fifty years, Sabatino's is now a memory.

Sabatino's was a time machine, offering a decor and bill of fare not easily found anywhere in Chicago today. Fee-free parking by an attendant you tip as you leave, rarely found today. Going through the big double front door and into the restaurant was like walking into a Martin Scorsese film. Entering the door, you were first greeted by a piano bar, something I hadn't seen in a long time. The seating was separated into a casual space at the front and a more formal area in the rear with banquette seating. A crew of servers who had been there for what seemed forever knew their business and moved quickly.

Then there was the menu. All selections included soup and salad. There was a page with different veal preparations. Pasta dishes. Seafood. Steaks. Chicken Vesuvio, with a forty minute lead time.



Photos by Terry McGuire

There were two wine menus options: middle-range, mostly Italian wines, and another for high-end offerings. The most amazing selection of desserts you would find anywhere in the city, with four flaming choices produced at table side. Crepes Suzette. Cherries Jubilee. Bananas Foster. Baked Alaska. All excellent. Brandy Ice, a super-sized version of a frozen Brandy Alexander, with lots and lots of brandy blended into vanilla ice cream.

A live music duo in tuxedos, violin, and guitar, roamed the main dining room playing old favorites. Large family gatherings were often there, the guest of honor often someone in their 90s, celebrating a birthday. Clientele dress was usually casual, and on a busy Saturday night, it got loud. The food never disappointed, and the walk home helped settle the meal.

I passed by as the wreckers were finishing the demolition of the building. I wish Enzo and Angelo well in their retirement after so many years of running such a fine establishment. May I live long enough to enter another fine establishment in the area as good as Sabatino's.



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- \* BRICK AND STONE PATIOS & WALKWAYS





# Trick or Treat with the Pantry!

The Irving Park Food Pantry hopes to make trick-or-treating a little more fun for its clients' children this year by providing them with some Halloween candy during October. To do that, we are seeking candy donations to make up small bags that can be distributed to each child up to age 13.

With many holiday programs canceled and few homes planning to participate in trick-or-treating, children will have one more event taken from them this year. We hope we can offset that in a small way to help them celebrate.

Donations of typical wrapped Halloween candies can be dropped off at the Pantry (4256 N. Ridgeway Ave.) on Mondays from 10 to noon, Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m., or put into our gray metal dropbox by the main door at any time.

They also can be taken to Big Helpers (4184 N. Elston Ave.) from 10 to 6 on Monday through Friday or put into the box on the enclosed front porch at 3833 N. Tripp Avenue at any time. Make Donations to help us purchase candy via PayPal at [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org). Online registries for contactless donations have been created; please check our Facebook page for links.



Irving Park Food Pantry volunteer Andrea Picard shows off one of the 2,000 masks donated by Metropolitan Family Services. The masks were distributed in school-supply bags and given to clients who needed an extra. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

---

## Update on School Supplies Drive

In August, the Pantry's school-supply program provided supplies to 428 of our clients' children in 1st grade through high school. The effort represents a 50% increase from previous years, as we expected. We offer our gratitude and thanks to Park Ridge Presbyterian Church for running a collection drive, and to Jet's Pizza for hosting the dropoff point.

---

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

John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry  
e-mail: [info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org), | [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org).



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry



Photo (left) Patricia Eldridge, AVP branch manager at Wintrust Bank Mayfair (4242 N. Elston), delivered a \$3,000 donation to Executive Director John Psiharis. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

---

### Grateful for All the Support

Thank you to Wintrust Bank Mayfair (4242 N. Elston), which provided a donation of \$3,000 to help us continue to purchase the increased amounts of food needed these days.

We appreciate the donation of 2,000 masks provided by Metropolitan Family Services in August. Masks were put in each school-supply bag. And we continue to give masks out to those who need one.

Thank you for all your support in so many ways to help us meet our mission of being “Neighbors Helping Neighbors!”



SPOTTED: OIP resident Megan Stalder and daughter Lillian stopped by the Irving Park Food Pantry in August to deliver 10 cases of Girl Scout cookies. Supporters of Girl Scout Troop 23148 donated the cookies at Disney II Elementary School. *Photo by John Psiharis*



## The Buzz at Belding — Michele Stefl, IB Coordinator

### Back to Belding

**B**elding families and teachers came together, while social distancing outside, for the annual "Back to Belding" event on September 3. Families were given a time frame to pick up supplies, meet their teacher, and of course, receive their Belding t-shirt, which features the new theme: Bee community; Bee connected; Bee a learner.

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

Each month Principal Heather Yutzky offers virtual school tours for prospective parents. These virtual tours are an excellent opportunity to learn more about our school and the Belding community. The next tour date is November 17 at 8:00 a.m. Check out our new website: [www.beldingelementary.com](http://www.beldingelementary.com) for more information on how to join the virtual tour!



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## The Scene @ Schurz — Dee Barrett, Parent & Community Outreach



## 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 are introducing a race-day family-friendly Old Irving Park neighborhood scavenger hunt (no registration required). Register at [bit.ly/schurzschuffle2020](https://bit.ly/schurzschuffle2020)



## MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Friday, October 30th (weather permitting)

We are going to keep Movie Night Under the Stars going as long as we can this fall, so bundle up and join us for a Halloween themed flick!  
More information coming soon!

Foundation presents  
**Jazz Night**  
with  
**Steve  
Thomas**



**Wednesdays  
7:00 – 10:00**

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## St. Edward Scoop – Jenny Dreyer

### 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.comMIMJMjo01k>

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](http://www.stedwardschool.com).



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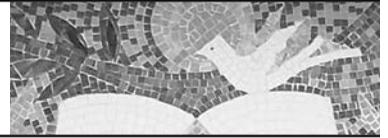
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## Viator Vibrations — Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

Stay tuned for upcoming events at [stviatorchicago.org](http://stviatorchicago.org) or on our Facebook page.  
Twitter: @ChiViator & Instagram: @stvschoolchi.

# Back to School, Pandemic-Style!

St. Viator students returned to school the week of August 24th, with families taking advantage of our in-person and remote learning options. In-person students were enthusiastically welcomed back to campus by teachers and staff, who had been working hard all summer to ensure a safe return to school. Besides meeting and exceeding the Chicago Archdiocese requirements for safely re-opening Catholic schools, St. Viator is implementing some additional programs to promote safety and enrichment. One example is the Peaceful Playgrounds program, which consists of “no equipment” games

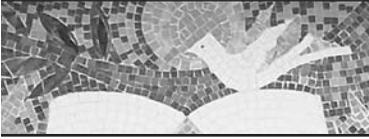
and activities for recess and physical education, which will allow students to enjoy their recreation time in safe and meaningful ways. Parent volunteers painted large rectangles on the pavement in front of the school, which are the designated areas for each class to line up in preparation to enter the building and for dismissal after school. Each class will create sidewalk art on their space to make it welcoming and unique.

On the e-Learning side, we have a team of St. Viator teachers dedicated exclusively to our remote learners.



The Downes Family enjoying the day at the St. Viator Eagle Classic Golf Tournament.

*Photo courtesy of the Downes Family.*



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | St. Viator Elementary

Students and teachers meet several times each day in their virtual classrooms for live instruction and group interaction. They use the same curriculum as the in-person students. Textbook and supplies were provided at the beginning of school. Scheduled live classes, breaks, independent work time, lunch, and even recess are all a part of the day.

### Golf Outing a Success!

The Eagle Classic Golf Tournament was held on August 29th at Chick Evans Golf Course. This socially-distanced outdoor event was fun for all who participated. The competition was friendly (most of the time), and several prizes were awarded throughout the day.

Thanks to the event organizers, sponsors, and all who came out to golf and raise funds for St. Viator!

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

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2020-2021 school year. Spots are still available in select grades for both in-person and remote learning. To schedule a one-on-one tour, contact Marge Tiritilli at [mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org](mailto:mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org)

St Viator Elementary School | 4140 W. Addison Street, Chicago, IL 60641 | [www.stviatorchicago.org](http://www.stviatorchicago.org)

## Advertise with Us!

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

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# CALENDAR of EVENTS

## OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

**Advertising:**  
First Tuesday  
of the month

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

## October

- 19 **OIPA General Member Meeting, Virtual Meeting | 7 p.m.**  
*(note that this meeting is on a different date/time than we usually would meet).*  
Special guest speakers from the Chicago Bureau of Planning and Zoning, Deputy Commissioner Kathleen E. Dickhut, and Eiliesh Tuffy, Coordinating Planner (NW Planning Region).

**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.

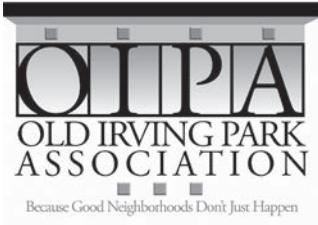
## OIPA MEMBERS, WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS!



- »»» 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](mailto:oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com).**



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- Gift Membership

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at [www.olderirvingpark.com/join-us](http://www.olderirvingpark.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)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL E-MAIL 2

**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 — name(s) and birthday(s) of your child(ren) and/or pet in newsletter, and an OIPA Tote Bag.
- \$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: [olderirvingpark.com/join-us](http://olderirvingpark.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. **PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE DOCUMENT.**
- 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 [wetransfer](https://wetransfer.com).
- 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.olderirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad](http://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) 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](mailto: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
November	10/6	10/1
December	11/3	11/5



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**OLD IRVING PARK NEWS**

Old Irving Park Association

3749 N. Keeler Avenue

Chicago, IL 60641

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RENEW**

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