

**INDEPENDENCE PARK
COMMUNITY**

VOICE



MEMBERSHIP

**GIPNA 2020
Membership Drive
Critical to Raising
Funds During the
Pandemic**

Every September, we encourage our neighbors and local businesses to sign up to become new members or to renew their memberships to GIPNA. You usually stopped by our booth at GIPNA's sponsored Independence Park Farmers Market to pay your dues while shopping for all the wonderful fresh produce, bakery goods, meat and handcrafted items. We loved catching up with you and your families on those beautiful Sunday mornings. While the pandemic doesn't allow us to gather together this year, GIPNA's work goes on.

Your membership fees and the money we raise throughout the year help us to publish our bi-monthly *Independence Park Community Voice* newsletter, post email news blasts regularly to keep members aware of what's happening in the neighborhood, maintain our community gardens, and organize various community events and/or projects. See

our article later in this issue about the Emerald Ash Borer treatment program we've developed and are subsidizing.

As a member, you also get to add your voice to our work with local government officials.

The larger our membership, the louder our voice is.

At this time of year, we usually talk about all of the great events we've sponsored throughout the year and how these events help us to develop a stronger community, while raising additional funds for local causes and organizations we feel strongly about supporting. We believe in helping our neighbors and helping our neighborhood.

Sadly, our Annual Alley Cleanup, Fine Craft Fair, Gourmet Pancake Breakfast, Independence Park Farmers Markets, and the Wine & Cheese Party have all had to be cancelled or drastically altered due to the pandemic.

While our IP Farmers Markets team acted quickly this summer to combine our resources with Portage and Jefferson Parks to create a remote ordering and drive through format, we look forward to gathering again as a neighborhood in our own park next year.

In years past, your generous contributions at these events have allowed us to donate much needed cash to John B. Murphy Elementary School, to The Irving Park Community Food

Pantry, to Lydia Home, to Carlson Community Services, to Openlands and to help needy families in the area during the holidays. This year organizations like these and others will need our help more than ever.

While we are working to find new ways to raise money safely in the future, know that we need to count on your membership fees and donations this year for most of our funding.

We know these times are very hard for many folks right now, so if you can renew or become a new member, we'd really appreciate your support to help others who count on us every year.

Here are the various levels of membership:

- *Single \$10
Family \$20
Business \$15
- Lifetime Individual \$100

Individual \$10
Family \$20
Business \$15
Lifetime \$100

Join as a new member
Renew your membership
Donate to GIPNA

All memberships are up for renewal starting in September. Lifetime members do not need to renew, but if you wish to donate extra funds to GIPNA, we would appreciate it.

For your safety, we are offering contactless payment on line.

Go to <http://gipna.org> to join, renew or donate.

Or fill out the form inside this newsletter and mail it back to us with your check.

*Anyone signing up for a new or renewing membership by September 19, 2020 will be entered into a drawing for a free upgrade to a LIFETIME membership (value \$100).

GIPNA is a 501 c3 organization and membership dues and donations are "tax deductible as permitted by law."

July GIPNA meeting is Tues., Sept. 1, 7 p.m., October meeting is Tues., Oct. 6, 7 p.m.

Join us online. Link to join these ZOOM meetings: Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855, Password: GIPNA.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Due to the on-going coronavirus pandemic, some future events are cancelled for the foreseeable future. Please contact GIPNA (info@gipna.org), IPAC (ipac.chicago@gmail.com), AFAC (athleticfieldpark.com), Friends of Murphy (friendsofmurphy.org), and CAPS (CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org) for updated event information.

SEPTEMBER

TUES., SEPT. 1—GIPNA Board Meeting, 7 p.m., online Zoom Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855, Password: GIPNA

SUN., SEPT. 13—Northwest Side Farmers Market Collective, 10 a.m. to noon, 4730 W. Irving Park Rd.

MON., SEPT. 14—AFAC Meeting, 6 p.m. (online)

SUN., SEPT. 27—Northwest Side Farmers Market Collective, 10 a.m. to noon, 4730 W. Irving Park Rd.

OCTOBER

TUES., OCT. 6—GIPNA Board Meeting, 7 p.m., online Zoom Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855, Password: GIPNA

MON., OCT. 12—AFAC Meeting, 6 p.m. (online)

NOVEMBER

WED., NOV. 4—Board Meeting, 7 p.m., online Zoom Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855, Password: GIPNA

MON., NOV. 9—AFAC Meeting, 6 p.m. (online)

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, please contact GIPNA (info@gipna.org), IPAC (ipac.chicago@gmail.com), AFAC (athleticfieldpark.com), Friends of Murphy (friendsofmurphy.org), and CAPS (CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org) for updated event information.

SCHOOLS

The Fine Art of John B. Murphy Elementary School

One of the things Murphy is known for is the art. There are many art pieces in and around the school that make the environment more vibrant. A lot of the art was made by students who attended the school. Our neighborhood embraces art, and even holds a festival every year known as the Fine Arts Festival. At the festival there are many exhibits of the students' work that they made along with other fine arts activities. There is also a big performance from each grade that ranges from dancing to singing.

Mr. Ballar joined Murphy School last year as the fine arts teacher. "I really wanted the new challenge," Mr. Ballar said. In the past he has only worked in middle schools and high schools teaching music, but never at an elementary school teaching art and music. The thing he finds most

rewarding is to teach kids is choir. "I love teaching them to find their voice and learn to sing together in a group," he said. When I asked him what's the most difficult thing about teaching he said, "Having the worry that there's some kid that has the potential to do something great in art or music and for some reason they got lost in the shuffle with a big class."

In addition to fine arts and choir, the students at Murphy School are exposed to dance and drama with Ms. Hawkins. "I admired my teacher and her passion for teaching; she had the ability to motivate her students to do their best. Although I always loved dance before ever taking her class, it was she who inspired me to want to teach dance," Ms. Hawkins said. When she was a new teacher she was scared to teach high school levels, so she chose K-8th. "After teaching for so many years in this elementary school I can't imagine teaching anywhere else," she said. "I am rewarded when students enjoy what they are learning by engaging, creating, and making connections," she said when I

asked what she found most rewarding to teach kids. I also asked Ms. Hawkins if she likes teaching the kids at Murphy and she said, "Murphy has the most caring, empathetic, and loving students I have ever taught. They take on leadership roles and responsibilities and they enjoy learning."

The arts have affected all of us in different ways, but for me it's my past history and present. I have seen most of the artwork around the school since I was in preschool. I have grown up with this artwork, and it holds memories for me, it makes me who I am. In about a year I will be graduating and leaving all those memories behind, but at least I got to make them!



Alyssa Jordan, seventh grade student

INDEPENDENCE PARK COMMUNITY

VOICE

The Independence Park Community Voice is published by the Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA), a 501(C)3 corporation.

This newsletter is for the Independence Park community. Please consider renewing your membership or joining GIPNA now. We need your support. Thank you.

Editorial: Sue Ryan
Photography: Robin Hochstatter, Cindy Schuch
Writers: April Bayne, Pat Clark, Anita Hageman, Robin Hochstatter, Patti Kimbel, Laurel Miltner, Ellen Ryan, Sue Ryan, Gretchen Siffing, Cindy Schuch, Dr. Christine Zelenka
Student Intern Writers: Alyssa Jordan and Olivia Martinez
Design/Production: Cindy Schuch

For submissions for the Sept/Aug 2020 issue:

Editorial Deadline:
October 15, 2020

Advertising Deadline:
October 10, 2020

The editorial board reserves the right to edit all submissions. Errors in advertisements are the sole responsibility of the advertiser.

E-MAIL: INFO@GIPNA.ORG

MAIL: GIPNA, P.O. BOX 18184
CHICAGO IL 60618

WEBSITE: WWW.GIPNA.ORG

The Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA) is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in the Independence Park community by involving, informing, and encouraging people to participate in matters relating to the community, and by protecting the historical, social, cultural, and architectural character of the neighborhood.

This all-volunteer publication is made possible by the creative voices of our community and the generous support of area advertisers.

Join GIPNA on Facebook

Check out the GIPNA Facebook page for news, alerts, and conversation with your neighbors. Post your own comments to get the word out on your activities and announcements. To find the page and like it, search for GIPNA: Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association.

GIPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dickie Nichols, President
Kevin Haight, Vice President
Alison Benjamin, Treasurer
Sharon Sears, Secretary

Board of Directors

Bobbie Bolociuch
Scott Dewey
Wes Matucha

Lara Lerner
Sue Ryan
Greg Shea

Anne Watkins
Directors-at-Large

Jodie Bargeron
Pat Clark
Robin Hochstatter
John Kuczura
Amy Mastrolanni
Honorary Director-at-Large:
John Fusco

GIPNA BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES

3800 Avers - Candace Wayne
3600 Byron - Jackie Ropski
3700 Byron - Larry Gates
3800 Byron - Suzanne Edwards
3900 Byron - Roseann Seablom
3600 Central Park - Sharon Gilbert
3700 Central Park - Bob Brutvan
3800, 3900 Central Park - Vanja Bandelli
3900 Dakin - Joel Contreras
3600 Grace - Alison Benjamin
3700, 3800 Hamlin - Sharon Nichols
3900 Hamlin - Linda Lehman
3700 Irving Park Road - John Kuczura
3800 Irving Park Road - Linda Lehman
3700 Lawndale - Dorene Jordan
3800 Lawndale - Mark and Casey Watkins
3900 Lawndale - Cy Clausen
3600, 3700 Monticello - Pat Clark
3800 Monticello - Barbara Shaw
3900 Monticello - Cindy Schuch
3700 Ridgeway - Josh Urban
3800 Ridgeway - Karen Fontanetta
3900 Ridgeway - John & Sang Kuczura
3800 Springfield - Roseann Seablom

COMMUNICATION

E-Blasts to GIPNA Members

All GIPNA members who have access to email should be receiving e-blasts each Thursday. The emails are compiled by GIPNA and feature such news as announcements of events in the community, crime reports, and notices of meetings.

If you're a member in good standing and are not receiving the blasts, send an email to us at info@gipna.org. We'll sign you up so that you don't miss any more neighborhood announcements.

REMEMBRANCE

John Jemilo—A Good Man

In November of 2019, Independence Park and GIPNA lost John Jemilo, a neighbor and a friend. John was the First Deputy Superintendent with Chicago Police Department, an attorney, a college professor, and director of the Illinois Crime Commission. John's love of Chicago and the Independence Park neighborhood was unmatched. He was truly a good friend to all of us. In his honor and with the concurrence of his wife Candace and daughters Leahruth and Stephanie, a memorial bench inscribed, "JOHN JEMILO—A



GOOD MAN" was installed in the community garden at the southern end of the 3800 block of Avers Avenue. The bench is strategically located so that John will be able to keep a continuous vigil on Avers Avenue, his home and family, and the southern end of Independence Park. This bench was the result of generous donations made by his friends and neighbors. JOHN JEMILO—A GOOD MAN will truly be missed by many.

TALENTED NEIGHBOR

Record Release

Kudos to GIPNA resident, Max Bessen on the upcoming release of his debut album *Trouble*. The album will be released in September by Ropeadope Records. You can listen to his new single *Blue Glass Halo* on his website MaxBessen.com.



COMMUNITY

Have an Idea for the Newsletter?

If you want to see something in the neighborhood highlighted or just want to provide feedback, reach out to us at newsletter@gipna.org.

MEMBERSHIP

GIPNA Members List

Thank you to our LIFETIME members for their longstanding support of GIPNA and to our BLOCK REP members who deliver our newsletters and special notices to our mailboxes throughout the year. Thanks to our BUSINESS PARTNERS who advertise in our newsletters, who contribute to our events and who provide us with great discounts to do the work we do. And finally, a thank you to our CIVIC PARTNERS who work closely with the GIPNA Board and our members on various issues important to the neighborhood.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Lucille Aiello
Heather Aitken
John Aitken
Deb Allspaugh
Hugh Allspaugh
Chris Anderson
Joan Baker-Carr
Anne Bartlett
Edith Bauer
April Bayne
Alison Benjamin
Bobbie Bolociuch
Eugene Bonior
Chris Brink
Steve Brown
Rosa Bucio
Tony Bucio
John Burley
Selma Burley
Jennifer Byrd
Corey Cherr
Cindy Chisholm
Dakota Chisholm
Tim Condon

Carol Lynn Coughlin
Chris Cunningham
Kellie Cunningham
Gloria Dawson
John Dowd
Liz Drew
David Dumo
Yvette Echeverry
Ashley Ellis
John Fusco
Eileen Garcia
Jose Garcia
Holly Geroulis
Chris Geymer
Barry Glaser
Judy Glaser
Meredith Glick
Richard Glick
Clara Guerrero
Lourdes Guerrero
Kevin Haight
Virginia Hail
Krissey Hakanson
Evan Hanover
Robert Harty
Daniel Heald

Heidi Heilemann
James Heilemann
Sandra Hillis
Terry Hillis
Andy Holub
Kristen Holub
Jan Huber
Dante Ingram
Beverly Jedynek
Miri Kotche
John Kuczura
Sang Lee Kuczura
Chikako Kurihara
Chuck Lehew
Ed Loye
Aurelie Lozier
Jeffrey Lozier
Daniel Lurie
Lindsey Marcus
Christopher Mark
Mary Marubio
Valerie Matucha
Wesley Matucha
Phil McGrath
Steve McKenzie
Susana Meza
Maureen Milota
David Mordini
Paul Moreno

Andrew Mouton
Darcy Mouton
Maryann Mullan
Dan Natschke
Maria Natschke
Dickie Nichols
Sharon Nichols
Audrey Niffenegger
Kris Nowak
Karen O'Connell
Jim O'Connor
Meredith O'Sullivan
Lynda Olander
Ellen Olech
Ronald Olech
Dane Olsen
David Orrick
Kanak Parikh
Brandy Parker
Florian Pasillao
Anthony Passero
Shannon Passero
Jennifer Pembroke
Johnson
Dennis Puhr
Carmen Quinones
Maria Quinones
Bryan Rahning
Rick Reardon

Peter Rogers
Ellen Ryan
Susan Ryan
Rebecca San
Don Schroeder
Rebecca Schroeder
Sally Scott
Sharon Sears
Allen Shechtman
Penny Shultz
Janina Siedlarz
Kevin Slattery
Peter Sloan
Rachel Sloan
Susan Strong-Dowd
John Stummer
Holly Van Essen
John Varde
Rebecca Varde
Nels Wadycki
Valerie Wadycki
Anne Watkins
Mark Watkins
Candace Wayne
Karen Wegryzn
Ken Wilk
Roberta Wilk
Ryan Wolcott
Stacey Wolcott

Craig Youngberg
Helen Youngberg
Christine Zelenka
Christine Zyzda

BLOCK REPS MEMBERS
Vania Bandelli
Alison Benjamin
Bob Brutvan
Pat Clark
Cyrus Clausen
Joel Contreras
Suzanne Edwards
Karen Fontanetta
Larry Gates
Sharon Gilbert
Dorene Jordan
John Kuczura
Sang Lee Kuczura
Linda Lehman
Sharon Nichols
Jackie Ropski
Cindy Schuch
Roseann Seablom
Barbara Shaw
Josh Urban
Mark and Casey
Watkins
Candace Wayne

Are you a GIPNA member? Join today!

Pay at www.gipna.org or mail in the form below with a check. For information, send an e-mail to: membership@gipna.org

GIPNA
MEMBERSHIP FORM
(Must be 18 yrs old) Fill in this form, and send with check, payable to GIPNA, to: GIPNA P. O. Box 18184 Chicago, IL 60618

Check amount enclosed:
 Single \$10 Family \$20
 Business \$15
 Lifetime \$100 per person
 Check here if a new member

Annual Dues enclosed:	\$
Tax Deductible Donation for GIPNA:	\$
Total of enclosed check:	\$

Check if you would like to volunteer for events. (GIPNA is an all-volunteer association.)

PLEASE PRINT: DATE _____

NAME #1 _____

NAME #2 _____

ADDRESS _____

Check here if new member, new to the neighborhood.

PHONE #1 _____

PHONE #2 _____

E-MAIL #1 _____

E-MAIL #2 _____

BUSINESSES PARTNERS

Alternative Home Improvement
Barry Bebart, AIA Architect
Bluebird Wellness
CHE Realty
Co-Create
Designs by April
Disney II Magnet High School
Friends of Murphy School
Hearth & Crust Restaurant
Independence Tap
InTouch & Motion
Irving Park Convenience Store
Irving Park Food Pantry
Jamie Andrade, Illinois State Rep.
John B. Murphy Elementary School
Jorge's Landscaping
JT's Genuine Sandwich Shop
Lange Property Partners
Master Johnny Inc.
Ross Printing
St. Edward School
St. Viator Elementary School
Stephanie Cutter Group
Stola Contemporary Art Gallery
Taylor Made Landscape Design, Inc.
Thai Thai Restaurant
The Original Alps Restaurant & Pancake House
Tipton's 1 Hour Cleaners
Triangle Auto Service
Vanguard Plumbing and Sewer
Villa Property Maintenance & Landscaping, Inc.
Wintrust Bank

CIVIC PARTNERS

Adrienne Chan, OIPA, President
Anna Faford, IPAC, President
Dennis Puhr, AFAC
Dr. Christine Zelenka, John B. Murphy Principal
Jim Gardiner, 45th Ward Alderman
Julie Thompson, Independence Park Supervisor
Katie Speth, Disney II Principal
Mike Webber, West Walker President
Rosanna Rodriguez, 33rd Ward Alderman
State Rep. Jaime Andrade, 40th District
State Senator Iris Y. Martinez, 20th District
Thomas Wayda, Athletic Field Supervisor
U.S. Rep. Chuy Garcia, 4th District
U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, 5th District



SCHOOLS

Murphy School Coming Together (Remotely) Against Racism

As a neighborhood school we are united in support of our families, students, and our community now and forever. We recognize the awesomeness of our responsibility to educate our young people to be prepared to lead our world to a more just and equitable world. As a community, we acknowledge the incredible pain and grief of systemic racism and the lives it has taken from this world: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud

Arbery are just a few names in a long list of names. In step with Chicago Public Schools equity work and CEO Dr. Janice K. Jackson's call for us all to take action, we unequivocally state Black lives matter. Murphy is committed to our work as "the Caring Community," to educate our students from an anti-racist framework and to continue our own learning to fulfill this objective.

We are beginning this 2020 school year on a remote learning platform but this will not stop our community from coming together to support one another. We are on a mission to challenge ourselves and one another to explore

our internal belief systems, our prejudices, and expand our comfort zones to support the under-represented members of our community. Our teachers will be reaching out to our students to comfort them, educate them, and help them navigate our complicated world to help them become leaders of the future.

Murphy is a Fine and Performing Arts School. And, true to our core values, we will be using art to support the exploration of these feelings. Please stay tuned for an external art display that will demonstrate the students, faculty, and school community's journey to end racism.





RECOGNITION

Chapter 1: Independence Library Snags Design Award

It isn't often our neighborhood is recognized for award winning architecture but such is the case for the Independence which houses the new Independence Branch Library and senior housing. It is definitely not your cookie cutter library. The building on Elston is hard to miss with its white facade set off by distinctive multi-pastel colored windows and balconies. Inside the library, a two story atrium gives off an airy environment and the bleacher-like seating gives kids and teens a place to read. The new library is an amazing upgrade from the previous branch on Irving which closed permanently due to fire damage. That library was housed in a rented storefront. Cramped and ragged looking, it was not an enticing place.

The Independence, designed by John Ronan Architects, snagged first place for Architectural Excellence in Community Design. According to the Richard Driehaus Foundation, which holds the annual competition, "The award was created, in conjunction with the Chicago Neighborhood

Development Awards, to encourage development that respects and strengthens the City's unmatched architectural heritage – especially in neighborhoods confronting economic and social challenges. For consideration, a project must: demonstrate superior quality design; enhance or serve as an integral part of the comprehensive development of the community; and exhibit a creative design solution that could become a model for projects in other neighborhoods. Each year, the award recognizes three developments that are making a significant contribution to the social, visual, and cultural life of neighborhoods through quality design."

The library is once again open after being closed for three months because of the pandemic. To ensure the safety of staff and patrons, everyone must wear masks and practice social distancing. All meeting rooms and study rooms are closed until further notice. Checking out books is contactless though a librarian is there to offer guidance and answer questions. All in-person programs and events are on hold as well. Programming these days is limited to on-line events sponsored by the Chicago Public Library. For more information on visiting the library refer to the library COVID Reopening FAQs located <https://www.chipublib.org/faq/covid-19-reopening>.

HISTORY

Historic Piano Gets a New Home

Lifelong Indy Park resident, Shirley Steiner, who is always incredibly generous to her neighborhood, donated a spinet piano to Disney II. The piano was in the basement of her rental property and had to be wrangled up some tortuous pie-shaped steps by three very strong piano movers.

The piano has a colorful history. It was played by Harry Cool, who was the pianist for the Dick Jurgens Orchestra in the late 1940's at the Aragon Ballroom on Lawrence Ave. Shirley and her late husband Herman danced to music there in the late 1940's. She described the music and the evenings as very romantic with music you could actually dance to. Shirley sometimes chatted with Dick Jurgens and sent him

cards when she heard he was ill. When he responded, he wrote two bars of his theme song on the card. Terri Burnett was Harry Cool's girlfriend, but she later became Dick Jurgens's girlfriend. When Harry got a new piano while living in California, he shipped the spinet to Terri, who was a very good pianist and still a dear friend, for her home here in Chicago. Shirley was friends with Terri and her parents. Unfortunately, Terri died and her parents didn't know what to do with the spinet. Shirley said that her church needed a piano and so it then took a trip to the Gethsemane Lutheran Church at Monticello and Belle Plaine where it stayed until that church closed.

And now, after a ride in the big truck, the piano will come alive again in the halls of Disney II School. Mike Aguilar, Dean of Students, happily accepted the spinet.



RX for COVID-19 Travel? Try an RV.

Want to go somewhere but keep your distance from others during a CORONA-19? Rent an RV and head out west. We made this spontaneous decision in early June and two weeks later, hit the road. I take no credit whatsoever for the idea, the research, the RV rental (except for cost), the mapping out of our trip, the requisite RV camp reservations and the 3,600 mile drive of the 33-foot long RV. Hubby Hasnain did it all.

Some tips? DO AS WE SAY, NOT AS WE DID!

- Clarify that “sleeps six” doesn’t solely pertain to a family with four tiny kids. Otherwise, one of your 23, 21 or 20 year old “kids” will be sleeping on the floor nightly.
- Ensure the RV door always opens or else prepare yourself to enter and exit the RV through the passenger window. See photo of son, Khalil, entering the van during this 15 hour time period.



- Check that the RV stairs will always retract so you can drive the vehicle when the stairs aren’t sticking out several feet and you don’t waste several hours in the RV campground trying to fix the problem.
- Make sure the generator works for simple pleasures like AC, lights, electricity for the fridge and microwave and – most importantly – the cell phones. Otherwise, you might have grumpy young adults and need a technician to make a service call to the RV camp not once, but TWICE, to get the generator working.
- In sum, don’t be overly frugal like this author and spring for a more “modern” RV which is less than 15 years old. Many



of our problems probably would not have existed if we rented a newer RV.

Other tips? DO AS WE SAY!

- Don’t overpack. All of our RV camps had laundry facilities.
- Don’t sweat the small stuff/ go with the flow. If you are stuck in an RV camp for an extra day because of excessive winds in Nebraska, chill, swim in the pool, read, take a walk, talk to your neighbors.
- Don’t be queasy about emptying the blackwater, or human waste, before leaving a campground. Bring plastic gloves for handling the sewer hose, bleach wipes and lots of hand sanitizer.

Again, thanks, Hasnain.

- “Make friends” with your RV camp neighbors. We stayed away from politics and enjoyed each and every one of them.
- Don’t try and pack too many activities in one day. Things always take longer than you think.
- Get off your phone and take in the scenery. We are lucky to live in a country with gorgeous landscapes from sea to sea.

We embraced the good times and were able to laugh off our misfortunes. We loved every minute of our trip to and time in Aspen, the Tetons, Yellowstone and the Badlands. Our numerous hikes were challenging and breathtaking, the views while kayaking, stunning, the wildlife (grizzlies, black bears, elk, bison, moose, and antelope) bountiful, the Wyoming sky endless, the array of RVs in the camps dizzying and the family bonding deeply satisfying. Highly recommended!

Ellen Ryan

CELEBRATION

Sally's Excellent Birthday Party

On a lovely July summer evening in the 3800 block of Monticello, Sally and Kurt Noblett hosted the Corner Cabaret, street vaudeville for the new 20s, in their front yard for everyone to attend. The Avondales Trio set up on the front porch to play jazz. Ruby and Roy sang, told corny jokes and had the audience join in on some songs. The Galaxie

Girls danced twice: once with smiling masks and the second time with black fringed masks. Scamp the Tramp performed some amazing tricks with an old cane and hat. The action-packed performance was one-half hour long and a delightful diversion—light-hearted, entertaining, and such a welcome respite to be around other human beings, our neighbors, who were wearing their masks and keeping their distance. And it was for Sally’s birthday!

Happy Birthday, Sally, and thanks for all the human interaction.



Save GIPNA's Ash!

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive beetle that attacks and slowly kills ash trees. The EAB originated in Asia and was first detected here in Illinois in 2006. This tiny but deadly beetle literally sucks the life out of a tree from the inside. The larvae of this green menace bore into a tree and feed under the bark. The infestation results in a slow death for the tree as it can no longer transport needed water and nutrients from the ground. Once a tree is infected by this strangler, death is certain within a two to four-year time period.

The EAB is responsible for the death of millions of ash trees across the U.S. Some estimates are as high as hundreds of millions. There are an estimated 45,000 ash trees across the city of Chicago. In Independence Park, we have identified 48 parkway ash trees

and GIPNA is on a mission to save them all. In 2013, the City of Chicago began treating the ash trees located on city parkways. Due to budget cuts and a change in mission to focus on planting new trees rather than saving current trees, the city discontinued its treatment of the ash trees. Some area communities such as Horner Park and Ravenswood Manor have taken the initiative to raise their own funds and independently treat their ash trees. In other communities such as Humbolt Park, the killer beetle decimated 650 trees that were left untreated and were subsequently cleared by the city. While the City of Chicago replanted about half that number of trees, it will take years and years for the trees to reach the heights of the prior ash trees. It is also significantly expensive to remove a tree (\$1000 per tree) and often dead trees will languish in neighborhoods for years before the city chops them down.

The good news in this story is that treatment is effective! The

treatment costs roughly \$150-\$200 per tree and lasts for two to three years. We are very fortunate to have a certified Arborist in the GIPNA community, who volunteered his time to do an assessment of the ash trees in our neighborhood. Forty-eight trees were identified that, while infested with ash borer, are able to be saved. Through GIPNA connections, we are eligible for a "group rate" which provides us a substantial discount to treat the infected trees. The timing is important as we need to begin the treatment by September 1st. Hopefully, you have seen the "Save our Trees" campaign and already donated. If not, please consider donating to this very worthy endeavor. We need to raise roughly \$4500 to pay for the treatment that will last for two years. We will maintain an ongoing designated 'Save Our Trees' fund to help support the future treatment needed.

While the sustainable reasons to contribute to this cause are



foremost, there are also smart financial reasons to support the effort. For homeowners, mature trees add an average of 10% to a home's property value. Similarly, houses on tree-lined streets have home values between 9-18% higher than those with few to none. Mature trees also help to lower energy bills with the net cooling effect of a shade tree being equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating for 20 hours in a day. In case this was not convincing enough, your donation to the GIPNA 501c fund is tax deductible. Please help save our ash trees literally and figuratively with your contribution by donating to the tree fund at GIPNA.org.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Blake/Hageman Family

Chris Blake and Anita Hageman made the 3700 block of Monticello their home 34 years ago, as Chris's animation career was beginning and Anita, who had a writing degree, was getting another degree in graphic design. They are passionate about politics. When working with Independence Park neighbors on their second Harold Washington mayoral campaign, they became acquainted with members of the community.

Chris and Anita were drawn to their home's openness, with southern-facing windows and

two nearby neighborhood parks. Chris was surprised to discover the ceramic studio in Athletic Field. He learned pottery as a teenager, while spending summers with relatives in the south of France, and continued to cultivate his skills in college. Chris spent his spare time at Athletic Field, crafting Southern French and Japanese-influenced vases, plates, bowls, and teapots. Anita freelanced in calligraphy, graphic design and copywriting. She designed and sewed clothing, eventually opening a business designing children's clothing. Four years later she closed her business to work in sales.

Art is intrinsic to their family. Chris's family has a long history of careers in the arts. His father, Hayward Blake, was a long-time

Chicago fixture in the graphic design world, creating the iconic signage for O'Hare airport. Chris's great-grandfather, Paul Bouquet, was a French Impressionist painter in Reims. Anita's mother, Margaret, is a talented seamstress, needleworker, and calligrapher. She now resides with them on Monticello.

Chris and Anita's children had childhoods where drawing, crafting, playing music, and dancing were woven into each day. The arts continue to be a part of their lives. Their oldest daughter, Anais, performed with the Trinity Irish Dance Company, before becoming a ballerina, where she danced with The Richmond Ballet, Suzanne Farrell, and The Sarasota Ballet. After nine years with The Sarasota Ballet, she began a career on Broadway

with her performance as Penny, in *Dirty Dancing*. Their second daughter, Aniko, is a therapist, and skilled calligrapher. She is known for her distinctive fashion sense, which on two occasions has had her featured in the New York Times fashion section. Their son, Hayward, who is beginning his senior year at Loyola University studying criminal justice, plays piano, and writes poetry.

Chris's animation career has flourished throughout the years, as has Anita's calligraphy. Their house on Monticello expresses their shared love of art and craft, and continues to be a home that nurtures creativity and political activism.

©anita hageman 7/1/2020



COMMUNITY

Fall Gardening Advice

Fall Gardening Advice

Fall is the perfect time to evaluate your garden successes and failures and plan for the future. Make some notes of ideas you would like to try next year.

Turf

If you only fertilize your lawn once a year, fall is best. Fertilizers for fall will help build strong roots so when grass greens up next spring, it will be strong and healthy enough to crowd out the next crop of weeds.

Fall is also a good time to overseed a thinned out existing lawn. Temperatures are cooler and rain is more plentiful. Don't forget to water for 10 days or so until the seed germinates. 10-20 minutes should do it. Covering the lawn with a thin layer of peat helps as a starter fertilizer and hides the seeds from hungry birds.

If weeds are a problem, look for a fertilizer formula with weed control included. Be sure to wet the lawn before application on a day when no rain is expected for the next few days.

Fall Leaves

Chop up falling leaves with a mulching mower or remove most of the leaves from your lawn. I like to just move clean leaves to my planting beds for the winter to compost in place and provide winter protection

for plants. Do not rake diseased leaves like Maple leaves with black spot onto your planting beds.

Planting Beds

Fall cleanup is largely a cosmetic routine depending on your tolerance for messiness and interest in helping wild creatures through the winter. The exception is removing leaves of plants with insect or fungal damage. Insects and disease often overwinter on the leaves so removing them helps to prevent the problem from recurring. Consider applying dormant oil, such as neem oil, to branches of shrubs with insect damage to smother larvae there. Plants are often on sale, but selection is limited. The earlier you plant, the more time the plants have to establish good roots and the better chance the plant will survive.

Bulbs

Fall is the time to plant bulbs for next spring. I recommend Crocus, Daffodils, Iris reticulata and Hyacinth, which are less bothered by squirrels. Be sure to plant your bulbs at the depth recommended on the package. You can layer bulbs at different depths to promote a longer bloom time.

Mulch

Fall is a good time to mulch your plants. It gives them extra protection from cold weather. Apply mulch after fall cleanup is complete. You can mulch over the leaves in your beds, which will improve the appearance while feeding the soil. Two to three inches is normal with less mulch on smaller perennial plants.

Trees

Do not create mulch volcanoes around your trees. This is the same as planting your tree too deep and it will create rot. Three inches of mulch is enough. Consider planting Hostas, Heucheras and Epimedium in the tree ring to define it and keep mowers from damaging the trunk. It will also

remind you not to pile mulch too deep around the tree. If you have mulch volcanoes, use a radius edger or square garden spade to dig the tree ring a little wider and redistribute the mulch to a 3" depth. You can also use these tools to edge your planting beds.

April Bayne

www.designsofapril.com

COMMUNITY

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Since the shutdown began, I have been walking the neighborhood. And what a beautiful neighborhood it is. While on my walks I have enjoyed taking pictures of the ever changing gardens and flowers. There have been bees, butterflies and birds too. Then there are the smells, from lilacs to phlox to roses to honeysuckle, and so many more. We are truly lucky to have all the talented gardeners providing the care to make this such a pretty area in which to live. I am amazed at all the varieties and colors that are in bloom. I have learned a lot about gardening over the years and realize I have so much more to learn. Thanks to everyone who spreads a little bit of joy for those who happen to walk past their home.

Cindy Schuch



Art Break with the Pause Sisters

Although arts and crafts are a mainstay of childhood, they've become even more popular during the pandemic as parents scramble to engage their children in something other than screens. Budding young artists abound in our neighborhood. If you ask the Pause sisters—Isla, 8, Noa, 6 and Haven, 3-1/2—to show you their art projects, they'll bring you piles of paintings and crafts.

The most recent additions to their collection are paintings of the sunset inspired by a recent trip to the shores of Michigan. Isla excitedly talks about the different colors used to capture "the gorgeous, really gorgeous" sunsets they saw while on the beach. The girls also dabble in animation that carries an environmental warning: "In a couple of hundred years, the earth could be gone."

They've also been cultivating their jewelry making skill. With the aid of a gadget called the *Rainbow Loom*, the girls use small rubber bands in a variety of colors to create different patterns—and like millions of other DYers, they turned to YouTube for directions and ideas. Noa and Isa excitedly explained (in extensive detail) and demonstrated how to make friendship bracelets and keychains. They sold several to neighbors and donated the money to *Foster for Progress*, an organization that helps foster children.

Given that the three sisters are under the age of ten, they have quite an impressive



portfolio—and the collection builds every day. Their latest endeavor is *Inventions on the Go*. In a nod to COVID-19, the creations are the *On-the-Go Dishwashing Station* and the *On-the-Go Handwashing Station*. As the names imply, the stations consist of a spray bottle, paper towels, and soap with sponges added for the dishwashing station. They even added containers and sealable bags so there's no mess afterwards. Everything is mounted on a sturdy 18" by 12" piece of cardboard, and these handy inventions are ready to go anywhere—a picnic, a car ride, or the beach. Currently, only a prototype has been developed, so the girls are not taking orders.

Artisans young and old bring beauty and joy to the neighborhood. If you would like your children's art featured in the *GIPNA Voice*, please submit photos and a description of your artist and his/her work to info@GIPNA.org.



LOCAL BEAUTIFICATION

Addison Expressway Garden

Perhaps you've noticed the huge colorful improvement in the triangle of land at Addison and the northbound expressway ramp: a beautiful garden! This is a temporary installation while members of the community work with Alderman Ramirez-Rosa to create a more permanent installation.

The Alderman has pledged his support to this small parcel he calls the "heart of the northwest side" since it's approximately 3600N and 3600W. The garden was planted by neighbors who came out for the June AFAC Pickin' Up the Parkways cleanup. AFAC contributed about \$300 in plants, soil, and wood chips. The hope is to have something bigger and better in 2021. If anyone is interested in helping, message AFAC via Facebook or the new improved AFAC web site: <https://www.athleticfieldpark.com>



An Uncommon Farmers Market for Uncommon Times

I'm a member of GIPNA, and I don't even live in the neighborhood. I live in Old Irving Park, on Kedvale between Berteau and Belle Plaine. I'm a member of GIPNA because, after moving to Chicago from Cleveland in 2013, and not knowing a soul in the city, I found community in this neighborhood. Most especially at the Independence Park Farmers Market.

I love farmers markets. I grew up in rural Ohio, where I spent my summers picking produce and hoeing fields for mall cash, a trip or two to Cedar Point, and a meager savings account at the local bank. Midwest produce feels like home to me. I found it, in the vastness of Chicago, along with friendly faces and tasty treats, just a 10-minute walk from my new home.

I joined GIPNA at the market that summer. I won the gift basket one week and was way too excited about it. I started volunteering at the GIPNA table last year, putting those gift baskets together each week for some lucky local shopper.

This year's farmers market has a different vibe, given the state of things. But thanks to the volunteers who give to this labor of love year after year, we still have one. By partnering with neighboring markets in Portage Park and Jefferson Park, our broader community created a whole new kind of market—a drive-through, socially distant market at the Marketplace at Six Corners, 4730 Irving Park Rd.

Volunteers contacted vendors

and organized a growing group of farmers, producers, artisans, and local shops and restaurants to participate. The first few markets were admittedly a little shaky, as no one knew quite what to expect. Again, our volunteers worked together to improve everything from vendor quantity to traffic flow.

If you haven't been to the market yet this year, here's how it works:

1. Create an account on the WhatsGood app or at source-whatsgood.com.
2. On the site or app, search for "Northwest Side Farmers Market Collective." That's us!
3. Select your items and place your order. You'll pay through the site or app—no cash or slow credit card machines needed!
4. You must place your order by midnight on Friday for pickup on Sunday. This way our vendors can have your orders all ready for you.
5. Schedule your pickup time in response to a confirmation email on Saturday.
6. Pick up your items at each vendor station you ordered from, driving through our one-way market.
7. At the market, please stay safe. We require that all shoppers maintain at least 6 feet of distance between themselves and other shoppers and vendors. Even when you're driving, a mask is preferred.
8. DO NOT come to market if you are feeling sick.

The Farmers Market is every second and fourth Sunday of the month, with remaining events Sept. 13 and 27.

I'm a member of GIPNA. I joined because I love the farmers market. I stay because of the community.

This month is GIPNA membership month. If you appreciate the Farmers Market as much as I do—and that our community made it happen even during COVID times—please consider joining or renewing.

Laurel Miltner



⋮ GIPNA ⋮

Join today!

Use PayPal at www.gipna.org
or mail in a check.

For information, send an e-mail to:
newsletter@gipna.org

Doggie Doo Do's

The majority of dog owners are responsible, but it is always good to have reminders.

Keep your dog on a leash.

We live in a densely populated city where frequent interactions between dogs and people occur. When out walking, keep your dog leashed and I don't mean those 20-ft. retractable leashes. The fine for violating the leash ordinance starts at \$300 and increases if there is damage to property or if the dog bites a person or another dog. This is rarely, if ever enforced, so just be respectful and do the right thing.

Don't let your dog out of your yard without you.

Few things instill more fear in me than walking outside and encountering a dog without an owner in sight. Sometimes the owner comes around the corner, but other times the dog has gotten out of the yard with the owner unaware. I know that dogs on occasion escape from even the most vigilant owners and a frantic search ensues. My gripe is not with these owners, but with those where these are recurrent episodes. If your dog gets out through an open door or gate, please be more cognizant of doors that don't close automatically or gates that don't shut without a strong pull. Perhaps put a sign reminding visitors (or yourself) to close the door tightly behind you. Neighbors with a chain linked fence abutting the sidewalk should not allow their dogs up to the fence because they can still bite through the fence.

Don't assume that everyone loves your dog even if it is 'really



friendly.'

I have been bitten twice

-- non-provoked-- by so-called friendly dogs. I make it a habit to divert from the sidewalk to the street when I see a dog. Perhaps a bit of PTSD on my part. Even if you promise your dog won't bite, please keep your dog on a tight leash. I don't like dogs sniffing and licking me either. Of course it works both ways. Neighbors should not walk up close to a dog or start petting it without the permission of the owner.

Clean up after your dog.

I am not sure why this even needs to be stated. Of course every dog owner is responsible for picking up after their dog and the vast majority do. But, at times I still see a pile of poop on the parkway or even on a sidewalk. And just because a lot or building is vacant doesn't mean it's okay to leave your dog's mess. Has anyone checked out the southeast corner of Pulaski and Dakin lately in front of the vacant lot? It is a mess, literally. Owners could be fined up to \$400 for violating city ordinance 7-12-420. However, we shouldn't need aldermanic signs planted in parkways telling people to clean up after their dogs.

Dogs bring a lot of love in the

JAIME

ANDRADE

Illinois State Representative • 40th District
Staterep40@gmail.com • (773) 267-2880



3007 W. Irving Park Rd, Suite A Front

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

neighborhood, offer companionship -- critical during these challenging times, are loyal and bring smiles to our faces. So let's enjoy the great qualities about

dogs and be mindful of dog-owner etiquette. Bottom line is be a good neighbor by being a responsible dog owner. Thank you.

Sue Ryan

BEING NEIGHBORLY

Hey GIPNA Neighbors: You Got Mask?

Face masks are an effective means to stop the spread of the Corona-virus and are required in all indoor commercial spaces and outdoors when social distancing is not possible. We are all in this together so let's mask up.



Thai Thai

RESTAURANT

3922 N. ELSTON, CHICAGO
DINE-IN, CARRY-OUT, DELIVERY

(773) 478-1079

OPEN EVERYDAY, EXCEPT TUESDAY, FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. CLOSED TUESDAYS.

TRIANGLE AUTO SERVICE

- * Certified Air Conditioning
- * Full Mechanical Repairs
- * Cooling Systems

4060 N. Elston,
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 539-5858 (773) 539-7676
www.triangleradiator.com

Master Johnny Inc.

Carpentry and Handyman Services

3811 N. Monticello Ave. 773-633-4803
Chicago, IL 60618 chrismastro@yahoo.com

Chris Mastroianni

Owner

See photos on: Facebook/Master Johnny, Inc

CoCreate

Relational Psychotherapies

Joann Dakota Cimo, PhD

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Theodora Pintzuk, LCSW

3850 N. Lawndale Ave, Chicago, IL 60618
p 773.539.9183 | f 773.509.0874
www.CoCreatePsychotherapy.com

WE'RE READY!



St. Edward is a Catholic elementary school offering Pre-K through 8th grade, designated a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for Exemplary Education in 2017. Providing excellence in education, we offer outstanding Academics, Art, Music, STEM, Physical Education, and Extra-curricular Activities to all grades. In addition, we offer full time and part time Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds. We offer before and after school extended care.

SCHEDULE AN INDIVIDUAL TOUR: Visit stedwardschool.com to sign-up or email Mrs. Lasica, our Principal at slasica@stedwardschool.com
4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue - Chicago, IL 60630 - 773-736-9133
www.stedwardschool.com

||| GIPNA |||

Jorge Rodriguez

773-491-5379

JORGE'S LANDSCAPING

Lawn Maintenance Specialists

Lawn Maintenance • Tree Removal
New Sodding • Hedge Trimming



We maintain the three GIPNA Gardens
Monticello and Waveland, Avers Parkway, Hamlin and Grace

Ross Printing has moved to 3942 W. IRVING PARK ROAD

Here are some products we offer:

Banners • Black & White Copying • Booklets • Brochures • Business Cards
Business Forms • Carbonless Forms • Catalogs • Color Copies • Coupons
Door Hangers • Envelopes • Flyers • Invitations • Invoices • Labels
Letterheads • Menus • Newsletters • Post Cards • Posters • Presentation Folders
Wide Format Printing & More!!!

Ross Printing
3942 W. IRVING PARK ROAD
773-267-4212
rossprinting@gmail.com

Barry Bebart, AIA Architect

Licensed Architect
Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin

House Expansion, Renovation
Remodeling. Kitchen, Bath, Deck.
Commercial, Interior.

25 years of experience in Chicago.

barry@bebartarchitecture.com
773-844-4580





Since 2003

Contact Sam Alt @ (773) 972-9459

Deck Cleaning - Staining - Sealing Wrought Iron Painting

Deck Cleaning &
Pressure Washing of:

- * Decks & Porches
- * Fences & Pergolas
- * Vinyl Siding
- * Composite (Trex) Decking
- * Outdoor Patios & Beer Gardens



Residential
Commercial
Condominiums
Associations

Celebrating 17 Years in Business and winner of the
2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016 Angies's List "Super Service Award"

"Sam Alt, an Independence Park resident for over 40 years"

www.alternativehomeimprovement.com

Visit us on Facebook to see our work!



JOHN B. MURPHY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3539 W Grace St • Chicago, IL 60618
The Caring Community • www.murphy.cps.edu

Murphy School

IS A FINE & PERFORMING ARTS MAGNET

SUPPORTS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

PROVIDES COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR ALL

IS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

Please join us in our auditorium
for Community Sing on the last
Friday of each month at 8AM,
followed by a tour.



SPONSORED BY FRIENDS OF MURPHY

WE ARE SELLING IRVING PARK!



UNDER
CONTRACT

4041 N. Kilbourn
Duplex • 3 bed/2.1 bath



UNDER
CONTRACT

3850 N. Lowell
45' x 144' lot • 4 bed/2.1 bath



ACTIVE

3832 N. Keeler
50' x 156' lot • 4 bed/2.1 bath



UNDER
CONTRACT

IN ONLY 5 DAYS!*

4427 N. Kilbourn
52' x 156' lot • 5 bed/3.1 bath

UNDER CONTRACT QUICK AND FOR TOP DOLLAR, CALL CONNIE AND HEATHER!



CHE
CONNIE H. ENGEL

CONNIE H. ENGEL
MOBILE 773.251.3837
cengel@atproperties.com

Your Trusted
Real Estate Advisors
for over 20 Years!

@properties

*MRED, LLC Closed Sales Data Collected 07/23/20

Lange
HOME PARTNERS

HEATHER LANGE
MOBILE 312.961.9926
hlange@atproperties.com



Breakfast & Lunch

Pancakes
Waffles
Crepes
Blintzes
Omelets
Skillets
Burgers
Sandwiches
Soups



3637 W Irving Park Rd. Chicago, IL 60618
Ph. 773.267.5112 Fx. 773.267.6031
www.originalalps.com



TAYLORMADE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN, INC.
INFO@TAYLORMLD.COM ■ 773.255.2789
WWW.TAYLORMLD.COM
MAUREEN TAYLOR
Longtime Old Irving Park Resident!



Create YOU @ Disney II

A place to learn, discover, and do.

Disney II Magnet:

- PreK-12 grade Fine Arts and Technology Magnet School
- LEAP Innovations Breakthrough School
- Emphasizes Personalized and Project Based Learning
- Home to the prestigious AP Capstone diploma
- Recipient of a James Dyson Foundation Makers Lab
- 14 High School Level Sports and 23 After-School Clubs

**Disney II Magnet accepts students
from all Chicago neighborhoods.**

To apply visit: www.go.cps.edu

Come to Disney II to Create YOU!

DISNEY II MAGNET ELEMENTARY
3815 North Kedvale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60641
P 773 534 3750 • F 773 534 3757

DISNEY II MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL
3900 N. Lawndale Ave, Chicago, IL 60618
P 773 534 5010 • F 773 534 5199

For tour information visit: www.disneyiimagnet.org



Google
Reviews



Vanguard Plumbing and Sewer

Superior Plumbing Services

773.633.6139

CALL NOW!

Receive \$25.00 off any service.
First time customers only

\$25.00 OFF

We specialize in:

- Water Leak Repairs
- Faucets
- Hot Water Heaters
- Tankless Water Heaters
- Garbage Disposals
- Clogged Drains
- Ejector/Sump Pumps
- Battery Backup Systems
- Low Water Pressure Problems
- Water Booster Pumps
- Gas Line Installation & Leak Repairs
- Rehab & Custom Shower Systems
- Sewer Power Rodding
- Sewer camera

vanguardplumbing@gmail.com

www.vanguardplumbingandsewer.com

MEMBERSHIP MONTH

Without our popular neighborhood events, membership dues and donations are our only way to raise funds in 2020.



Join as a new member

Renew your membership

Donate to GIPNA

*Annual Memberships: Individual \$10 Family \$20 Business \$15

Individual LIFETIME \$100

www.gipna.org

**Anyone submitting membership dues by September 19, 2020 will be entered into a drawing for a LIFETIME membership upgrade (\$100 value).*



GIPNA

THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION