

INDEPENDENCE PARK COMMUNITY

VOICE



BLOOMING ANEW

Lucky 13: Farmers Market Opens with Sunny Day and Tote Bag Offer

The Independence Park Farmers Market opened its 13th summer with its hottest first market ever. Temperatures were in the 90s, but the heat didn't discourage neighbors from turning out to shop and reconnect with friends. The Independence Park Ramblers entertained with their wonderful acoustic bluegrass music while shoppers greeted familiar vendors and met new ones.

As always, people are able to sign up for or renew their GIPNA membership at the market. This year we're offering a terrific premium for a new membership: a beautiful insulated tote bag emblazoned with the GIPNA logo. Each new or renewed membership gets you a bag you can use immediately, and also helps support the Farmers Market and make contributions to local schools and charities.

The market and the community support each other. If the vendors are there, the shoppers will come; if the shopper turnout is strong, the vendors will keep coming back. Please support our community by coming to the Farmers Markets all summer, on the second and fourth Sundays of every month from June to October.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



JULY

- SUN., JULY 2** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Independence Park, *The Secret Life of Pets*.
- SAT., JULY 4** **Independence Park 4th of July celebration**, 10 a.m.
- WED., JULY 5** **The regular GIPNA Board Meeting WILL NOT BE HELD** in July.
- SUN., JULY 9** **Independence Park Farmers Market**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- TUES., JULY 11** **Athletic Field Advisory Council**, 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park Fieldhouse.
- WED., JULY 12** **CAPS Beat 1732 Meeting**, 7 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.
- SAT., JULY 15** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Independence Park, *Grease Sing-A-Long*
- SUN., JULY 16** **Portage Park Farmers Market**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.
- WED., JULY 19** **Pickin' Up the Parkways**, 6 p.m., corner of Drake and Waveland.
- TUES., JULY 18** **Senior Meeting**, 11 a.m. to noon, 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski.
- WED., JULY 19** **Independence Park Advisory Council**, 7 p.m., Independence Park Fieldhouse.
- THURS., JULY 20** **Dance in the Parks**, 6 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.
- FRI., JULY 21** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Independence Park, *Batman Lego Movie*.
- SUN., JULY 23** **Independence Park Farmers Market**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- FRI., JULY 28** **Movie in the Park**, dusk, Athletic Field Park Ball Fields, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*.
- SUN., JULY 30** **Portage Park Farmers Market**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Irving Park Road and Long.

AUGUST

- TUES., AUG. 1** **Street sweeping in our area**, Section 21 of the 45th Ward.
- TUES., AUG. 1** **GIPNA Board Meeting**, 7 p.m., Independence Park Bungalow.
- WED., AUG. 2** **Street sweeping in our area**, Section 21 of the 45th Ward.
- SUN., AUG. 6** **Portage Park Farmers Market**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Irving Park Road and Long.
- TUES., AUG. 8** **Athletic Field Advisory Council**, 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.
- WED., AUG. 9** **CAPS Beat 1732 Meeting**, 7 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.
- SAT., AUG. 12** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Independence Park, *Rocky*.
- SUN., AUG. 13** **Independence Park Farmers Market**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- TUES., AUG. 15** **Senior Meeting**, 11 a.m. to noon, 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski.
- WED., AUG. 16** **Pickin' Up the Parkways**, 6 p.m., corner of Drake and Waveland.
- WED., AUG. 16** **Independence Park Advisory Council**, 7 p.m., Independence Park Fieldhouse.
- THURS., AUG. 17** **Movin' to the Music**, 5:30 p.m. in the playground, Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

- FRI., AUG. 18** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Independence Park, *La La Land*.
- SUN., AUG. 20** **Portage Park Farmers Market**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Irving Park Road and Long.
- FRI., AUG. 25** **Movies in the Park**, dusk, Athletic Field Park Ball Fields, *The Little Mermaid*.
- SUN., AUG. 27** **Independence Park Farmers Market**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



CHARITABLE EFFORTS

News from the Food Pantry

Community Donations: The Irving Park Community Food Pantry received a number of major contributions in recent weeks, including:

- \$500 from the Old Irving Park Association for general operations.
- \$1,440 from Liberty Tax Service, from a promotion in March and April based on number of completed tax returns. It followed a program in January and February that generated a donation of \$420.

- Food donations from a drive held by Beaubien Elementary School.
- Socks collected by Belding School during its sock drive in April.
- Large amounts of pet food donated by Pet Supplies Plus.
- Completed Easter baskets donated by the congregations at Irving Park Lutheran Church and Irving Park United Methodist Church.

All donations of time, money and effort are appreciated.

Pantry Serves 1,259 in March: In March, the Pantry served 1,259 people in 432 households. Volunteers also helped 19 households with 26 people apply for Web SNAP benefits. Pet food was distributed to 196 households. The Pantry thanks everyone who volunteers and donates.

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.

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: Jim O'Connor and others
Photography: April Bayne and others
Design/Production: Cindy Schuch

For submissions for the September/October 2017 issue:

Editorial Deadline:

August 10, 2017

Advertising Deadline:

August 10, 2017

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

E-MAIL: GIPNMAIL@GMAIL.COM

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.

GIPNA Email Address

GIPNA's email address is:
gipnmail@gmail.com.

Please use this address for all correspondence.

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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 gipnmail@gmail.com. We'll sign you up so that you don't miss any more neighborhood announcements.



GREEN KNOWLEDGE

Some Simple Steps for Keeping the Earth Clean

We all want the Earth to be green and clean. Here are a few very simple tips to help accomplish that:

- Don't let your car idle. Idling wastes fuel and pumps pollutants into the air.
- Turn the water off when you're brushing your teeth. That will save at least four gallons of water per brushing.
- Try to take all the items you need out of the refrigerator at one time, and put all items away at the same time. Continually opening and closing the door raises your electricity usage as the refrigerator kicks in each time the door is opened to maintain the interior temperature.
- Keep your alley trash bins closed tightly. Rats are a big problem in our area. If you need a new black trash bin to replace a damaged one, call 311 to request a replacement.
- Start a compost bin for food leftovers, vegetable peels, egg shells, and that dab of pasta that no one ate—even toss in shredded paper. (However, fat, bones, or meat don't go in.) The worms will just magically appear and break down it all down into beautiful compost for your garden.
- Set up a separate trash can in your kitchen to recycle the newspaper, junk mail, cereal boxes, paper egg cartons, cans, and milk and juice jugs. Then it's just an easy trip to the put it all in the blue recycling can. It's easy to remember not to put plastic bags in the blue bin; if the collectors see plastic bags, they don't collect.
- Run your yard sprinklers early in the morning or late in the afternoon. Less water will be lost to evaporation from the sun.
- Put down your electronic device and look up at the sky, the trees, and birds. Scan the ground for butterflies and flowers. That email or Twitter feed can wait.

Planning Update for Independence Branch Library

In May the community was invited to a presentation about the latest plans for the new Independence Branch Library on Elston Avenue north of Irving Park. GIPNA board members Alison Benjamin and Sharon Sears are liaisons to the Steering Committee and reported on the issues and concerns discussed and clarified at the meeting.

Basic Building Details: A six-story structure with four floors of residential housing over a two-story library. The residential component will consist of 44 affordable housing units for seniors (ages 62 and older); 36 one-bedroom and eight two-bedroom units.

Residential Housing Features: The building will feature an onsite management office, fitness room, two small meeting rooms, balconies, and outdoor roof deck garden.

Library Details: The 16,000-square foot facility will offer a young children's area, teen area, and adult area, all designed with flexible seating and computer access. Space will be designated for art exhibits and for display of art salvaged from the old library. A large community room will be available for community events and library functions, and sometimes shared with the residential community for their events. The outdoor landscaped garden will be available for supervised library activities.

Parking: There will be 33 covered parking spots accessed off the alley. Some spots will be designated for library use; others will be designed for the residents. The exact number

and configuration of parking spots hasn't been finalized.

Building Entrance: The library and housing units will share a large covered entrance off Elston Avenue. Residents will use a secure door; library patrons will use the adjacent entrance. The entrance also includes space for strollers and bike racks.

Project Development and Financing: This is a joint project between the Chicago Public Library and the Chicago Housing Authority. The funding is essentially all federal, consisting of HUD dollars and tax credits for the developer. Because of that, the project must meet federal guidelines for fair housing, subsidized housing, and tax credits. The makeup and size of the building are binding for 15 years and renewable for another 15 years.

Developer and Building Management: Evergreen Real Estate Services, 566 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60661. The firm manages 58 properties in nine states in the Midwest, a total of 6,500 units. Evergreen will develop, manage, and rent the units. Rents will be income-based. Income levels must be between \$27,650 and \$37,920. Rents are estimated to be between \$570 and \$894 per month.

Evergreen will do extensive advertising for applicants around four months before construction is complete. Outreach through local community organizations and aldermanic offices is planned. All applicants will submit to extensive background checks.

All residents must be at least 62 years old, and all residents in each unit must be on that unit's lease. Evergreen and CHA will perform inspections on the units several times a year to verify occupants and the condition of the units. At the meeting, officials said all

applications for this development will be site-based, meaning people must apply for this development specifically. The intent appears to be that applicants will not come from the central CHA waiting list, but this final direction was not definitively stated. We'll report on this as it becomes clear.

Transportation Concerns: People raised questions about transit issues at the meeting, including bus and bike access, parking spaces, parking meters, crossing safety for pedestrians, deliveries,

taxi pickups for residents, and traffic backups on Elston. These are all good questions that may require further meetings as the design and site planning process progresses.

Next Steps: The project continues in design development and will go before the Zoning and Plan Commission in early fall. Construction is expected to start in November or December of 2017, with construction completed no later than the end of 2018.



LOCAL BUSINESS

Every Cabin Needs a Good Porch

The Cabin at Old Irving has been a popular spot since it opened a few years ago at 4104 N. Pulaski, but owners Harry and Maria Nyholm and Sherrill Bodine aren't resting on their laurels. They're expanding next door to develop the Cabin's Picnic Basket, an old-fashioned sandwich and pastry shop.

"We love this neighborhood and wanted to create a unique spot for the entire family," they

say. Harry says he designed the space to evoke a relaxing time on your favorite front porch in the country, including hand-carved tables from Scott Rabb of Paradox Studios in Trenton, Tenn. Rabb is the son of Carol Tornow, who once operated D&H Bar in the Cabin's present location.

The menu will offer Eli's pastries and cheesecakes, old-fashioned deli sandwiches made with Manny's corn beef, other high-quality meats and cheeses, homemade salads, an artisan cheese plate with fruit and nuts, and pizza. And the Cabin staff plans to expand the menu over time.

EVENT RECAP

Playground Dedication Ceremony Celebrates Results—and Dedication

On May 6, the Independence Park Advisory Council, neighbors, and elected officials gathered in Independence Park to officially open the wonderful new playground. State Representative Jaime Andrade (40th), 45th Ward alderman John Arena, and IPAC president Anna Faford cut the ribbon to mark the occasion.

Kids had been swarming the playground for weeks—in fact, it was packed during the ceremony—but the time spent and

effort exerted to get it done deserves to be recognized.

Faford thanked Andrade and Arena for their unceasing support through years of funding and legislative challenges, and acknowledged the Chicago Park District staff for its contributions. She extended special gratitude to IPAC's Playground Committee—Linda Lehman, Jennifer Olson, Nell Rhoades, Sherri Gonzalez, and Erin Folan, and Clara Guerrero (not pictured)—for sticking with the work through periods of frustration when it seemed like the new playground would never be built.

Congratulations to IPAC for its success, and for this wonderful contribution to the community!

EVENT RECAP

GIPNA's New Officers Installed

Lack of space in the May/June issue prevented us from running pictures of the new GIPNA officers installed in April. Since everyone likes to see their picture in the paper, we wanted to correct that as soon as possible!

Dickie Nichols was elected president and Sharon Sears was elected secretary, both for two-year terms. Jen Byrd and Alison Benjamin will continue as vice president and treasurer, respectively. Wes Matucha joined the board as a director, and Jessi Chartier and Robin Hochstatter joined as directors-at-large.

April Bayne and Roberta Wilk retired from the board and were presented with plaques in recognition of years of invaluable service (to April, who couldn't attend, for handling GIPNA's online communications, and to Roberta for her unmatched skill at acquiring silent auction items). Outgoing secretary John Kuczura—maybe the only person ever to volunteer to be secretary without knowing how to type—was honored for his unfailing willingness to help in any way he can.

Elected officials U.S. Representative Mike Quigley, State Representative Jaime Andrade, and 45th Ward Alderman John Arena also attended and addressed the assembled neighbors.



(Top) New GIPNA president Dickie Nichols, U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, Bobbie Bolociuch, 45th Ward Alderman John Arena, and State Rep. Jaime Andrade.

(Second) New GIPNA secretary Sharon Sears and president Dickie Nichols share a reflective moment.

[Third] Volunteer par excellence John Kuczura.

[Bottom] Retiring board member Roberta Wilk receives a plaque honoring her years of service.



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GIPNA member?

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Check if you would like to volunteer for events. (GIPNA is an 501(c)(3) association.)

LOCAL TALENT

Meet Dan the Piano Man

Hi there. I'm Dan Gillogly. My wife, Amber, and I are your neighbors.

We raised our four kids here in Chicago, where I have worked full time as a music producer, writer, and entertainer. It's been great living here because there is a ton of great work in Chicago.

I've done film scores, music for advertising, recording sessions, theater projects, bar gigs, corporate events, trade shows—you name it, and it's probably going on here in Chicago.

This Independence Park neighborhood has been great because all our neighbors are equally diverse, open-minded, and supportive. I broke my arm a couple years back, and all kinds of folks reached out to help—without even asking!

We know the parents of all our kids' friends. Our children attended public high schools, and now that they're moving out into the world on their own, they have a real solid "Can Do" Chicago work ethic. They treat people as individuals, not as an ethnic or religious subset. They're all in their 20s and for the most part on their own.



So I'm traveling all over the world writing and selling music for all forms of broadcast media—I can work from anywhere in the world. I still perform in public doing music and comedy in cabarets, performing arts centers, 55-and-up communities, corporate events, trade shows, and membership clubs—if there is a room full of people, I can make 'em laugh with a microphone and a piano. Lately I've been traveling all around the Caribbean, where no one asks me to shovel their sidewalk.

Last fall, Amber and I discovered that Barcelona is still majestic and artistically eclectic. I'll be heading back to Europe in the fall of 2017.

Thanks to Pat Clark for asking me to write a little something for you. I can be found all over that World Wide Web thingy, at PianoMusicShow.com. Or let's catch up this summer at the next Farmers Market.



EVENT RECAP

It's a Beautiful Day in This Neighborhood

Saturday, May 6, was one of those sparkling, clear Chicago days, perfect for the 10th Annual Fine Craft Fair in the Independence Park Fieldhouse gymnasium.

Twenty-nine artisans showed their work—everything from stained glass yard ornaments, exquisite garments made from vintage tablecloths, clever little ceramic houses, doll clothes, games, small bags made from men's silk ties, knit and crocheted summer hats and tops, gorgeous pine needle baskets, soaps in a jar, paper crafts, baby garments and blankets, handmade cards, to boxes made from Italian door plates.

And such a variety of jewelry! Jewelry constructed from recycled hardware, wire, or sterling silver; beads of wonderful colors and shapes; and crocheted and beaded bracelets in lovely colors. It was hard to choose!

Thanks to Avery and Gavin Byrd for chalking many sidewalks in the neighborhood with the message: "Fine Craft Fair, Indy Park, 12-4." It certainly helped with the turnout.



RETURN OF THE NATIVE

In IP, You Can Go Home Again

I'm back home! I'm Dianna (Perz) Rudd, and I recently moved back to my childhood home on Monticello with my husband, Richard and my youngest son, Jon. We have two dogs, Savannah, an Irish Setter and Chuck, a white mixed breed. Savannah is an escape artist and has already introduced herself to some of the neighbors. (Thank you for bringing her home!) You will also see my new granddaughter, Josefine, who is three months old and, in my unbiased opinion, the world's best baby.

Although I moved away, I never really left Monticello because my parents never left. I visited often and know a lot of neighbors.

I loved growing up in this neighborhood. It has always been busy with friendly people walking to and from the Blue Line, walking their dogs, or just walking. I still identify the houses in the neighborhood with the families that lived in them in the '70s. There seemed to be hundreds of kids in the neighborhood, many from large families of seven, eight, or even 10 children. And I know that I am not the first to return. I look forward to getting to know new and old neighbors once again.

EVENT RECAP

IP Fathers Enjoy 13th Annual Gourmet Pancake Breakfast

As we have for many years, Independence Park residents started Father's Day at GIPNA's Gourmet Pancake Breakfast. The weather was gorgeous, and the community seized the opportunity to enjoy great food and great conversations with family and friends.

The menu by chef Bobbie Bolo-ciuch featured children's pancakes with all the trimmings, Cubbie Blue pancakes to honor Chicago's recent champions, a savory Scotch confection packed with oatmeal, nuts, and butterscotch chips, and a terrific egg, cheese, and pesto sandwich served on a croissant. Diners enjoyed bidding on prizes in a raffle, and everyone was entertained by the legendary Independence Park Ramblers, IP's beloved bluegrass band.

Murphy School principal Christine Zelenka helped in the

servicing line, and 45th Ward Alderman John Arena and State Representative Jaime Andrade took a turn at the griddle. Both have been friends and supporters of the Independence Park neighborhood for years. And vice president Jen Byrd, who's moving, was surprised with a plaque and our heartfelt thanks for her friendship and contributions to GIPNA. (We also thanked her kids, Gavin and Avery, who have helped out since they were young whippersnappers.)

We thank Bobbie for planning the wonderful food, and Alison Benjamin, Jodie Bergeron, Jen Byrd, Pat Clark, Dickie Nichols, Sharon Sears, Greg Shea, Lara Shugoll, and Roberta Wilk for their many hours of prep and help in the weeks leading up to the breakfast. We also thank the many, many volunteers who pitched in on Saturday and Sunday to chop food, set up the Bungalow, flip or serve pancakes, bus tables, take tickets, and help in whatever way was needed.

As always, we succeed when we work together. Thanks, everyone!



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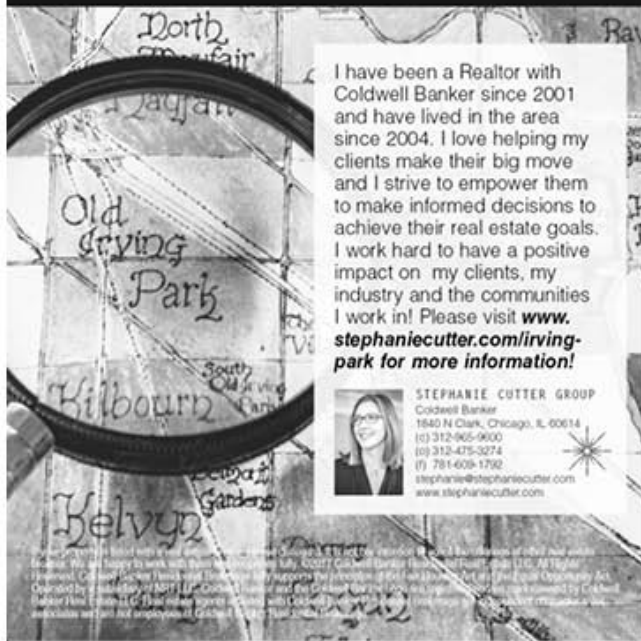
Our Gourmet Pancake Breakfast wouldn't be a success without the generosity of our wonderful donors. Our sincere thanks go to:



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