

INDEPENDENCE PARK
COMMUNITY

VOICE



COMMUNITY

Farmers
Market Kicks
Off 12th Season

The Independence Park Farmers Market opened its 12th season in June, and the first market couldn't have had a more beautiful morning. Apparently IP neighbors were ready for the market, which unofficially kicks off the summer, because the support from the community was strong all day.

The GIPNA-sponsored market is a major factor in Independence Park's strong sense of community. Most farmers markets in and around Chicago are run

by chambers of commerce and funded through the city or municipalities, but our market is independent. It's ours.

Come to the market for the food and the camaraderie, and stop by the GIPNA booth to renew your membership. Your dues help us sponsor the Farmers Markets, as well as our other events, which generate the donations we make to schools, local charities, and community organizations such as IPAC.

We couldn't do it without our members and the volunteers who make this market possible. In fact, we still could use some help on setup and teardown for some of the markets. If you're interested, please contact Dickie Nichols at dnichols@immucor.com.





BOOK BONANZA

Summer Learning Challenge at Independence Park

As part of the citywide Summer Learning Challenge, the Chicago Public Library is providing eight children's and/or family programs in the Independence Park Field House. Online registration is required for all but the one remaining Monday morning Story Times:

- The programs being offered are:
- On the Move Preschool Story Time on Monday, August 22, for ages 3 to 5. Registration is not required for Story Time.
 - Joshua Koppel Presents Fold and Fly, Wednesday, July 13, 6:00 p.m., for ages 8 to 12. Registration is limited to 20 participants.
 - Emerald City Theatre Presents The Magic Treehouse with Jack and Annie, Thursday, July 21, 6:00 p.m., for ages 6 to 9. Registration is limited to 50

participants.

- Scribble Monster Presents Shake and Groove on the Move!, Monday, July 25, 6:00 p.m., for ages 2 to 9. Registration is limited to 60 participants.
- Mad Science Presents Going Places, Wednesday, August 3, 6:00 p.m., for ages 6 to 13. Registration is required.
- Kites on the Go, Wednesday, August 10, 6:00 p.m., for ages 5 and up. Registration is required.

There are added bonuses: weekly drawings for free books; receive a bag of books courtesy of Bernie's Book Bank when you register (available while supplies last); children aged five or younger will receive a new book courtesy of KPMG (available while supplies last); children who complete the challenge by September 1 will earn a suitcase book bag.

To find and register for these Independence Branch programs being held at the Independence Park Field House, go to the chicpublib.org home page and click Hours & Locations. Type in the IP zip code (60618) and click the

search icon. On the Find a Location page, click on Independence; on the Independence page, click on the blue link to Summer Events at Independence Park Field House (center column); on the News page, click on the blue link to six events at Independence Park Field House from July

13 to August 22; on the following page, use the scroll arrow on the right to see all the programs. To see the program details, click on the program title; to register for the program, click on Register, fill out the required information, and click on Complete Registration.

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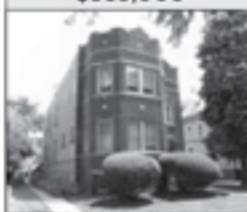
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2016-2017

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



JULY

SAT., JULY 4 Independence Park 4th of July Celebration, 10:00 a.m.

TUES., JULY 5 The regular GIPNA Board Meeting **WILL NOT BE HELD** in July.

WED., JULY 6 Pickin' Up the Parkways, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, Drake at Waveland.

SUN., JULY 10 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

TUES., JULY 12 Athletic Field Advisory Council, 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park Fieldhouse.

WED., JULY 13 Joshua Koppel Presents Fold and Fly, 6:00 p.m., for ages 8 to 12, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See story on page 10 for details.

WED., JULY 13 CAPS Beat 1732 Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

FRI., JULY 15 Movie in the Park, Grease, dusk, Independence Park.

SUN., JULY 17 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

TUES., JULY 19 Senior Meeting, 11:00 a.m. to noon, 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski.

WED., JULY 20 Pickin' Up the Parkways, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, Drake at Waveland.

WED., JULY 20 Independence Park Advisory Council, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Field House.

THURS., JULY 21 Emerald City Theatre Presents the Magic Treehouse with Jack and Annie, 6:00 p.m., for ages 6 to 9, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See article on page 10 for details.

THURS., JULY 21 Moving to the Music, outdoor play and recreation for children, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Athletic Field Park.

SUN., JULY 24 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

THURS., JULY 28 Scribble Monster Presents Shake and Groove on the Move!, 6:00 p.m., for ages 2 to 9, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See article on page 10 for details.

FRI., JULY 29 Movies in the Park, Jurassic World, dusk, Athletic Field Park Ball Fields.

SUN., JULY 31 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

AUGUST

TUES., AUG. 2 National Night Out (Police and Community Partnerships), 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., 4651 N. Pulaski Rd. (east parking lot). Entertainment, music and children's games.

TUES., AUG. 2 GIPNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Bungalow.

WED., AUG. 3 Mad Science Presents Going Places, 6:00 p.m., for ages 6 to 13, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See article on page 10 for details.

WED., AUG. 3 Pickin' Up the Parkways, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, Drake at Waveland.

SUN., AUG. 7 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

TUES., AUG. 9 Athletic Field Advisory Council, 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

WED., AUG. 10 Athletic Field Kites on the Go, 6:00 p.m., for ages 5 and up, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See article on page 10 for details.

WED., AUG. 10 CAPS Beat 1732 Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

FRI., AUG. 12 Movie in the Park, Rocky, dusk, Independence Park.

SUN., AUG. 14 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUES., AUG. 16 Senior Meeting, 11:00 a.m. to noon, 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski.

WED., AUG. 17 Pickin' Up the Parkways, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, Drake at Waveland.

WED., AUG. 17 Independence Park Advisory Council, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Field House.

THURS., AUG. 18 Moving to the Music the Music, outdoor play and recreation for children, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park Playground.

SUN., AUG. 21 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

MON., AUG. 22 On the Move Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m., for ages 3 to 5, Independence Park Fieldhouse. See article on page 10 for details.

FRI., AUG. 26 Movies in the Park, Zootopia, dusk, Athletic Field Park Ball Fields.

SUN., AUG. 28 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

TUES., SEPT. 6 GIPNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Bungalow.

WED., SEPT. 7 Pickin' Up the Parkways, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, Drake at Waveland.

SUN., SEPT. 11 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

TUES., SEPT. 13 Athletic Field Advisory Council, 6:30 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

WED., SEPT. 14 CAPS Beat 1732 Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison.

FRI., SEPT. 16 Movie in the Park, Lego Movie, dusk, Athletic Field Ball Fields.

SAT., SEPT. 17 Guided Tour of the Villa, 2:00 p.m., meet at the northeast corner of Addison and Pulaski. Cost is \$10.

SAT., SEPT. 17 Third Annual Independence Park Beer-Fest, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SUN., SEPT. 18 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

TUES., SEPT. 20 Senior Meeting, 11:00 a.m. to noon, 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski.

WED., SEPT. 21 Independence Park Advisory Council, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Field House.

SUN., SEPT. 25 Independence Park Farmers Market, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

SAT., OCT. 1 and SUN., OCT. 2 Circus in the Parks, Independence Park.

SUN., OCT. 2 Portage Park Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Irving Park Road at Long.

TUES., OCT. 4 GIPNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Independence Park Bungalow.

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 2016 issue:

Editorial Deadline:
August 15, 2016

Advertising Deadline:
August 1, 2016

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

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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:
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Please use this address for all correspondence.

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3800 Springfield - Roseann Seablom

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.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

45th Ward Participatory Budgeting Results

The 45th Ward office reports that in May 279 people voted in the 2016 participatory budgeting process, which decided the projects to be funded through the Neighborhood Capital Infrastructure Program (also known as aldermanic menu money).

Each voter selected up to four projects. Voters allocated 50.9% of the \$1 million for street resurfacing throughout the ward. The remaining \$491,000 will be used on the top vote-getting projects:

- Trees throughout the 45th Ward: 169 votes. Of those, 38 voted for 150 trees (\$81,000), 33 voted for 300 trees (\$162,000), and 57 voted for 450 trees (\$243,000).
- Curbs and sidewalks throughout the ward (\$200,000): 126 votes.
- Viaduct lighting on Milwaukee under the UP Northwest Line

(\$30,000): 104 votes.

- 14 decorative trash cans in various locations (\$32,000): 103 votes.

Other projects on the ballot that won't be funded included crosswalks across Milwaukee at Wilson, Windsor, and Leland (86 votes); Austin Neighborhood Greenway with bike lanes (69); fencing and lighting near the Gladstone Park Metra (69); sidewalks and curbs around Jefferson Memorial Park (58); repaving and adding a sidewalk and lighting to the 4800 block of Avondale (50); new ornamental street lights on the 5200 block of Lawrence (48); pedestrian refuge island at Lavergne across Lawrence (44); and pedestrian bump-outs near Hitch Elementary School (34).

45th Ward Alderman John Arena was disappointed by the low voter turnout, noting that "in the end, participatory budgeting works when people participate, and we'll do our best to make that easier and more meaningful for everyone."

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

MAKING MOM SMILE

9th Annual Pre-Mother's Day Fine Craft Fair a Success

This year's Fine Craft Fair returned to its original location in the Independence Park Fieldhouse gymnasium. (As you know, the Abbey Pub, the location for the past two years, was not available due to the fire it suffered last October.) Several new artisans showed their inventive work: silhouetted linden leaf laser-cut panels made into beautiful light boxes that could be free-standing or mounted on a wall; lost wax method handmade jewelry using vintage components; handmade fleece dog and cat toys, 100% of the proceeds of which were used to provide enrichment items to animals in small shelters in the Chicagoland area; and gorgeous handwoven blankets, towels, and scarves.

Thank you to all the returning artisans and their wonderful craft items and the welcoming shoppers.





SPRING CLEANING

Our Rite of Spring: Annual Alley Cleanup Brightens Independence Park

A rainy day didn't discourage the Independence Park stalwarts who turned out on April 30 to clean the alleys in our community. For almost three hours—until April showers finally halted activity—neighbors, their children, and kids

working for school credits or to fulfill peer jury obligations raked, swept, and shoveled up the accumulated debris of winter.

Thanks to GIPNA board members Alison Benjamin, Karen Wegrzyn, and John Fusco, who organized the workers and coordinated with the 45th Ward offices for supplies. Let's also acknowledge the neighbors who cleaned alley areas beyond their own property—that willingness to help out wherever needed is a hallmark of our community.

Great work, everyone!

PEST CONTROL

Rats! Vermin Sightings Fire on the Rise, Again

There's been an increase in rat sightings in the Independence Park neighborhood. Unfortunately, if you take a stroll any evening you're likely to see the nasty creatures scampering around. Another relatively mild winter let the population grow, and as a result rodents are on the rise.

The most common reasons for rat infestation are badly maintained garbage cans and uncollected dog feces. Check the city-supplied garbage bins behind your house and make sure the bins close properly and the area around the cans is clean. If you see holes or evidence of gnawing, you've caught the attention of some rats. The city will replace damaged bins; request those through the 45th Ward office (ward45@cityofchicago.org).



Always clean up after your dog, and don't put out feed for wild animals like squirrels and pigeons—that's just a buffet for rats.

You can put out rat poison in your own yard. Just be sure that the poison can't be carried away by squirrels, dogs, or children. Streets and San will also bait your back yard when given written permission to enter the premises.

Request this service on the S&S website: cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/streets.html. You'll find the registry under Report/File, Rodent Control. Please be as specific as possible if you know the location of a rat hole or nest.

If you notice someone else's garbage can, or the area around that can is not tidy, you can report that address to Alderman Arena's 45th Ward office.

CRIME PREVENTION

How to Handle Graffiti

The 17th District of the Chicago Police Department distributes information at each CAPS meeting. The CAPS meeting for the 17th District is held at Athletic Field Park each month. (See our Events calendar on page 2 for future meeting dates.) We're passing along guidelines the district handed out for dealing with graffiti.

The 17th District is developing a Graffiti Database. If you see anyone illegally performing graffiti, please call 911. If you observe any graffiti

1. Take a picture (camera phone photos are acceptable).
2. Note the address, date, and time.
3. Email the information and photos to caps.017district@chicagopolice.org, or drop off at the 17th District, 4650 N. Pulaski Rd., CAPS office.
4. Call 311 to have the graffiti removed. Have the following information ready when reporting graffiti for removal:
 - Is the graffiti on the front, rear, or side, or on the garage?
 - Is the graffiti on wood, brick, painted brick, or unknown?
 - Is the graffiti higher than 6 feet off the ground?

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Immigrant and Refugee Rights

If you or someone you know is arrested or facing a deportation, call the Deportation Family Support Hotline at 1-855-435-7693 for referrals to legal, social, and workplace services, and for information on your rights. Your rights include remaining silent, refusing to answer any questions, and speaking with a lawyer before answering any questions.

If you are involved in an ICE raid, remember: If ICE does not have a warrant, do not open the

door. Do not sign any documents you don't understand. Remain silent. Report the raid by calling 1-855-435-7693.

If you or someone you know is an undocumented young adult, you may qualify to stay and work in the U.S. legally. Visit www.DreamRelief.org or call the above phone number.

To obtain a temporary visitor's driver's license (TVDL), you must first make an appointment by calling the Secretary of State at 855-236-1155 or visiting www.cyberdriveillinois.com. For more information on TVDLs, go to www.icirr.org.

Are you a GIPNA member?

Join today!

Use PayPal at www.gipna.org

or mail in the form below with a check.

For information, send an e-mail to: gipnamail@gmail.com



THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PLEASE PRINT: DATE

NAME #1

NAME #2

ADDRESS

PHONE #1

PHONE #2

E-MAIL #1

E-MAIL #2

GIPNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Check amount enclosed:

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

Annual Dues enclosed: \$

Tax Deductible Donation for GIPNA: \$

Total of enclosed checks: \$

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

CHARITABLE EFFORTS

News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry again is in need of pet food, especially cat food. The IPCFP is one of only a few food pantries in the city to offer pet food to its clients, through a partnership with the Community Animal Rescue Effort (CARE). The Pantry works with a number of regular donors, but supplies have dropped while the list of clients wanting pet food grows. If you want to donate to the Pantry, please consider donating pet food, which is unavailable through other sources.

Other needs: both men's and women's white crew socks, and



IRVING PARK COMMUNITY

Food Pantry

toiletries such as shampoos, soaps, razors, shaving cream, diapers, deodorants, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, Kleenex, toothpaste, and toothbrushes; travel-sized items are accepted.

In April, the Pantry served 1,311 people in 457 households, including 118 new people in 40 households and 96 people in 30 households during its Tuesday night hours. Volunteers also helped seven people in six households apply for SNAP benefits. The Pet Food Corner gave pet food to about half of all of our households for dogs, cats, birds, and other pets.



EVENT RECAP

Gourmet Pancake Breakfast Makes It an Even Dozen

Neighbors and friends turned out in droves for the 12th Annual Gourmet Pancake Breakfast, held on Father's Day, June 19. Mother Nature served up a gorgeous morning, and around 300 Independence Park residents and assorted friends took the opportunity to buy Dad breakfast, enjoy some delicious pancakes and egg strata, and—best of all—savor coffee, conversation, and laughs.

Thanks go to chef Bobbie Bolocuch, who topped herself yet again; to Alison Benjamin, Jodie Bergeron, Pat Clark, Sharon Sears, and Roberta Wilk for their work over the preceding months of planning, volunteer organization, and prize solicitation; to Independence Park supervisor Julie Grigar Thompson and her staff; to the donors who generously gave to our raffles; and to the many volunteers on the day of the picnic who helped set up, cook, serve, and clean up.



EVENTS

Gourmet Pancake Breakfast Donors

GIPNA would like to thank the following wonderful people and businesses for their support!

Albany Park Auto Clinic

The Alps Restaurant and Bob Theo

Ashland Addison Florists

AVP Jewelry and Beads

Bakers Square

The Fish Guy

Greg Stivers Coffee

The Independence Park Advisory Council

Julie Grigar Thompson

Kohl's Children Museum

Lou Malnati's

Old Town School of Folk Music

The Olive Garden

Precision Plating

Rosa and Tony Bucio

Sabatino's Restaurant and Lounge

Smoque BBQ

The Spice House

Trader Joe's

And all our volunteers, without whom the Gourmet Pancake Breakfast wouldn't be possible.

Homeschoolers in the Neighborhood

You may have heard the stereotype that homeschoolers stay at home a lot and are socially isolated. These misconceptions couldn't be further from the truth—at least for the homeschoolers near Independence Park!

A Girl Scout troop for homeschool girls has more than 50 members, age 5-16 years old, and meets twice monthly in Portage Park. Three of these Girl Scouts live within a block of Independence Park, and they recently earned community service badges by hanging signs for

the Independence Park Farmers Market and the Gourmet Pancake Breakfast in 25 local businesses.

On nearly every Friday throughout the school year, local homeschoolers have gone swimming at the Independence Park pool, and many gathered after swimming for a jam session of singing and playing musical instruments in the gym. Nearly every week there were as many as a dozen families involved, with sometimes up to 20 children ranging in age from 6 months to 13 years old. This kind of cross-age socialization is one of the best parts about homeschooling.

In May, more than 40 homeschoolers from the Northside Unschoolers Group had their weekly park day at Independence

Park. This included children, toddlers, and teenagers. The NUG has more than 100 families, many with more than one child—and this is only one of the many dozens of homeschool groups in the Chicago area.

On June 22, neighborhood homeschoolers gathered at Independence Park for a Retro Games day to teach our children playground games we used to play as children. And on June 23, the E.D.G.E. Theater company—which has helped put on productions by homeschooled kids for 10 years—hosted the First Annual Charity Chicago Muggle Quidditch event at Independence Park. The event raised money for organizations supporting families with children with Down's Syndrome.

Also, there will be a family potluck for homeschool families at Independence Park on July 10. Nearly 40 people have already RSVP'd. Independence Park is really becoming a hub for homeschoolers on the Northwest Side, and that others are traveling to in order to be part of this vibrant community!

There may be thousands of homeschoolers in the Chicago area, and most are lovely, wonderful children and families who add richness to their communities. If you're interested in learning more about the homeschooling/unschooling community in Chicago, feel free to contact me at drdennistutoring@gmail.com.

—Sarah E. Dennis, Ph.D.



Pictures From the June 12 Farmers Market

