



# IWCA<sub>news</sub>

*The official news source of the Indian Woods Community Association*

**A Quarterly Newsletter**

**Fall 2013**

**find us on Facebook!**

*we've joined the digital age - find us on Facebook and 'like us' to stay up to date with neighborhood news.*

**[www.facebook.com/IndianWoodsCommunityAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/IndianWoodsCommunityAssociation)**

**FAiR Coalition**

IWCA is proud to support the FAiR Coalition in their effort to ensure that the distribution of flight paths into O'Hare airport is evenly spread out - and not only over our heads. **see page 3**

**Safety on the Streets**

We all rest assured that we live in a safe place - please consider this as you drive around our neighborhood - speeding and rolling through stop signs is creating danger in our community for all residents. Please slow down.

**Community Connection**

IWCA is now open to business members - any interested business, be it a grocery, bank, fast food, or individuals such as attorneys, realtors, or dog walkers are welcome to join our association

**Snow Plowing**

We are pleased to announce that we will again provide private plowing service to the neighborhood. Please turn in your 2013 dues so this program can continue throughout this snow season. **see page 5**

**Community Meeting**

**Tuesday,  
Dec 10th, 7pm**

**Colletti's**

**IWCA to elect new board members**

It is time again to elect a new board of directors for the community association. Here are the positions which are open for elections (along with a brief description):

**President** - will organize and conduct community meetings and interact with the community leaders as required.

**Vice President** - will assist the President as required

**Secretary** - will document association events and distribute minutes of such.

**Treasurer** - will collect membership monies and pay expenses

**Director (3 positions)** - will offer assistance to the board and manage tasks as required.

***IWCA Board of Director Elections!!  
December 10th***

*Elections will be held at our Dec 10th community meeting at Colletti's restaurant.*

*All members who have paid their 2013 dues will be eligible for voting. Dues can be paid at the event.*

The IWCA has a long running presence and it is important for our community to continue the association as it provides a powerful connection to elected government officials, local community leaders and organizations. These local leaders have a great respect for our association. Our unity as a neighborhood association allows our voice to be heard more effectively by our Alderman, Police, Forest Preserve, etc.

Our current board has continued to build on the charge of Past-President Walsh that we should focus on families and stay connected to developments around our community.

Now is your opportunity to step forward and join the board. Thank you in advance! *Fill out the attached form and return by Dec 1.*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Hello everyone.*

*Where did the year go?! I hope you all had an enjoyable year and are ready to gather with the family to celebrate the holidays.*

*Every other year the IWCA holds elections for the board of directors. The time has come to do this again. I will be turning over the reins as my 6 year term limit has been met. I will continue to be on the board as Past-President.*

*All positions on the board are up for election.*

*Over the last several years, the Board has been busy working with community leaders on things such as safety in the neighborhood, economic development issues like the taxi cab company moving in on Armstrong, and keeping you all informed of current events such as the Central Ave street closure.*

*We created new ways to get you information quicker, such as our Facebook page and our emailed updates to our neighborhood email list - if you haven't received one of these official looking emails, we don't have your address (send it our way and we'll get you included.)*

*We look forward to receiving your 2013 membership dues in preparation for the upcoming snow plowing season! Please get them to us ASAP, or just bring them to the December 10th meeting at Colletti's.*

*Please join us on the 10th and let's have a toast to the year end.*

*Jonathan*

Jonathan Sladek  
IWCA President

## Ready For Winter?

The frosty mornings are a reminder that winter is just around the corner. Here's some ideas on things to do to prepare from the Better Business Bureau:

Following is a BBB home winterizing checklist for consumers to consult when preparing for the cold months ahead:

- **Furnace.** Furnaces older than 15 years might be due for a replacement. For younger furnaces, BBB recommends making sure the furnace filter is clean, the thermostat is working properly and the pilot light is functioning. Homeowners can also hire an inspector to do the job and make sure the furnace is in safe working order.

- **Heating ducts.** Ducts should be cleaned once every two years. Homeowners should also consider adding insulation to any exposed ductwork. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a home with central heating can lose up to 60 percent of its heated air before that air reaches the vents if ductwork is not well-connected and insulated, or if it travels through unheated spaces.

- **Chimney.** Before lighting up, homeowners planning on using their fireplace come winter should have the chimney inspected for animals, debris and leaves that may have fallen in. BBB also recommends installing a screen over the chimney opening.

- **Gutters and ridge vents.** Gutters should be cleaned to prevent any clogs that would cause rainwater to back up and freeze, making the gutters expand and crack. The ridge vents need to be cleaned as well in order to allow the house to "breathe" correctly. Otherwise, air will stagnate and create an unhealthy environment.

- **Smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors.** BBB recommends testing smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and installing fresh batteries.

Homeowners should consider replacing smoke alarms older than 10 years.

- **Caulking and Weather Stripping.** The average American home has air leaks that amount to a nine-square-foot hole in the wall, according to the EarthWorks Group. To prevent leaks, homeowners should inspect the caulking around windows and doors and check for cracking and peeling. In addition, BBB recommends ensuring that doors and windows shut tightly and no cold air is coming in due to worn down weather stripping.

- **Seasonal equipment.** Homeowners won't need their spring and summer equipment for a few months, so BBB recommends draining the water from garden hoses and air conditioner pipes and the gasoline from the lawnmower and other garden tools. It's also time to pull out the snow shovels and plows and ensure they are in good repair.

- **Emergency kit.** When a winter storm strikes, an emergency kit should have all essential materials in one handy place. An emergency kit should include flashlights, candles and matches, a first aid kit, bottled water, non-perishable food and a battery-powered radio. BBB recommends creating the same emergency kit for the car as well, including a couple blankets.

For more advice you can trust on home maintenance and saving money this winter visit BBB online at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).

## Bike Trail Update

The bike trail extension project is scheduled to begin construction in the fall of 2014. The path will extend the forest preserve bike trail from Devon/Caldwell through Indian Woods over to Forest Glen. This will give our community a very pleasant way to walk or bike to Edgebrook – avoiding the business of Central Ave.

## 2012-13 IWCA BOARD

### Officers

**Jonathan Sladek - President**  
5247 West Ardmore Avenue  
Chicago IL 60646  
(847)-858-2242  
jonathansladek@mac.com

**Patrick J. McCann - Vice President**  
5320 West Ardmore Avenue  
(773)-988-1092  
patrick@mccannlawgroup.com

**We need a secretary!!  
Can you step up and volunteer  
some time to fill this critical spot  
on our board.**

**Denise Viverito- Treasurer**  
5251 West Ardmore Avenue  
(773)-631-5683  
rdfrederick2002@yahoo.com

**Donald W. Walsh - Past-President**  
5245 West Ardmore Avenue  
(847)-875-7750  
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**Rick Erbacci - Director**  
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**John Ernst - Director**  
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(773)-631-4719  
jdernst18@gmail.com

**Mary Smythe - Director**  
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smythe1934@gmail.com

## Contact us:

Feel free to contact any of the board members. For official business:

**Indian Woods Community Association**  
c/o Jonathan Sladek

[www.indianwoods.org](http://www.indianwoods.org)

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

[IndianWoodsCommunityAssociation](http://IndianWoodsCommunityAssociation)

## Safety for all of our residents

At the request of IWCA and Ald. Arena, CDOT conducted a traffic study of Central Ave near Indian Road. In response to their findings (too many people driving at excessive speeds) the Alderman said that CDOT would be installing pavement markings in the southbound lanes North of Indian Road as a speed reduction tool. *You'll notice these did not get installed this summer as promised - we have requests in to the Alderman's office to learn of the plan for completion.*

## Bus Barn

We have received comments from a few residents along Ardmore Ave regarding the CTA bus barn. The CTA has constructed a new steel security fence on the south side of the current wood fence, and have stated that they do not plan to maintain the wood fence as it has come to the end of its service life. There were also comments about the buses left running and left parked along the fence. The only way the association knows of these issues is when residents notify us. I would suggest we create a committee of residents along the south side of Ardmore whose houses are adjacent to the CTA facility. If you are interested in being on this committee please let us know.

## IWCA Email updates

Have you received an email from the IWCA??? If not, it's because we don't have your current email address. If you'd like to stay up to date on all IWCA news and events, please send us your email and we'll get you added to our growing list. Get on the list, email [jonathansladek@mac.com](mailto:jonathansladek@mac.com) today.

## Forest Preserve Volunteering

Join your IWCA president along with the Northbranch Restoration Project on Saturday December 14th for a volunteer workday at Indian Road Woods. The group will continue their ecological restoration work in 'our' beautiful woods by removing invasive species.

Join us for some hearty exercise in cutting buckthorn brush and tossing it on the fire.

9 to noon - meet in the parking lot adjacent to Indian Road at the 'Ecological Management' kiosk. Kids (with parents) welcome.

Please RSVP [IRWfriends@gmail.com](mailto:IRWfriends@gmail.com). so they know how many bagels to buy!  
[www.northbranchrestoration.org](http://www.northbranchrestoration.org).

## Block Captains

At our last community meeting, we asked for people to volunteer to be block captains. We received only one signup - thank you Tim!

The Block Captain role is an important position which can help unify our neighborhood. please consider volunteering to represent your small section of the neighborhood.

## FAiR Coalition

IWCA, along with many other local associations on the NW side, has joined the FAiR Coalition. FAiR is committed to even distribution of flights landing and leaving O'hare airport. You've probably received a flier on your door and heard about their efforts in the news. We thank them for their commitment and dedication to speaking for fairness. see more at [www.fairchicago.org](http://www.fairchicago.org)



# IWCA Community Connection

*Family owned Colletti's welcomes you to stop in for a visit.*

*A northwest side Chicago institution! The Colletti family has been serving Chicago for over 60 years, 3 generations in the family.*

*It is most likely that you have been to Colletti's in the past, but have you seen the new Colletti's renovations inside and out?*

*This year Rick and Bob undertook a major renovation adding a beautiful outdoor patio providing our community with a place to dine outdoors. And not only dine, but to*

*have some great food at the same time. Offering a fine dining experience, its easy to find a favorite. Voted 'best ribs' they aren't only Italian food either. But lets not forget the Pizza.*

*IWCA would like to welcome Colletti's as our newest (and oldest) Community Connection.*

*We thank them for hosting us and look forward to many fine community events at Colletti's in the future. Watch for a patio party in the Spring.*

*Join IWCA for our December 10th Community meeting at Colletti's*

*7pm*

**[www.collettis.com](http://www.collettis.com)**

## 2013 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The 2013 dues will be \$30.

This is the same as last year.

The majority of our budget is used for private snow plowing. Many of you have commented on the value of having private snowplowing, and we will continue to provide this service provided we have the funding to do so.

The cost of snowplowing is estimated at up to \$4000 annually. With 200 homes in the neighborhood, and a 70% budget cap on snowplowing, the \$30 number theoretically provides an adequate pot of money to cover the plowing services.

Your dues are going towards running the organization in an effort to provide you with an invaluable information resource, and a collective community voice. Your dues will also be used to help fund community events such as the Halloween party, meetings, and neighborhood fliers.

Please fill out and return to us your 2013 Membership Application and dues (see attached form). We would appreciate this payment by the December 10th IWCA meeting to ensure that we are ready to snow plow this season.

Thanks to you all for helping - and for those who have already paid!!

## SNOWPLOWING

The IWCA Board voted to continue our snow plowing services with WR Event Services (a neighborhood resident) as they have provided excellent service for the past few years.

The success of the snow plowing program is up to you.

- Plowing costs money, so we need to collect everyone's dues to make it economically feasible.

- Plowing is a challenge - we need everyone's cooperation with the plowing contractor to move cars and not interfere with their work.

The plowing services will include curb to curb on the streets and one pass down the alleys. Snow will be pushed from the street to the edge and will therefore be placed in front of driveways. There is no way (within our budget) for the plowing contractor to avoid this.

Costs for services:

4-6" of snow: \$400

6-8" of snow: \$500

To cover the costs of the plowing program we are asking for \$30 annual dues this year.

There are a couple of problem areas noted by the plowing contractor has areas which are difficult to plow. One is Rosedale Ave between Linder and Indian. This is due to the rough condition of the road surface. They will plow as best they can. IWCA has urged the City that this road be resurfaced and we must keep the pressure on the Alderman to get it on the list. Please call Alderman Laurino's office and make your request. The second is the dead end alley between Rosedale and Ardmore. This has a similar problem with a gravel service at the East end -

again, keep calling the Alderman's office... but also a problem of where to push the snow to. Snow will be pushed to Linder and placed in the 'parking areas' of the street as best we can.

The IWCA annual budget is allowed to spend a maximum of 70% of it's collected dues for the snow plowing program. The plowing program will be halted when we have reached that quota.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the IWCA Board.

## Halloween Party?

You may have noticed that we did not hold the annual Halloween party this year. It wasn't due to the weather, which was crummy, but instead to lack of help. We really would like to do this again, so let us know if we can count on your help to be part of a planning committee.

Is anyone interested in leading a Holiday party committee to have an IWCA Holiday Party in December?

## Crime Alert

Another reminder to keep an eye on your neighborhood. This month we received a report that someone stole a downspout off the front of a house on Ardmore and ran into the woods. After being chased by the resident who saw it happen, they were later caught by Police when the suspect tried to scrap the metal at Midwest Metals on Lynch. If you have copper downspouts you may want to anchor them to your house securely.

And most importantly, if you see something suspicious or downright unlawful, please call the police. Thank you to this resident you did just that and was able to inform the police, who could then catch the criminal.

# IWCA Calendar of Events

*please join us - volunteers always appreciated*

**December 10th - Community Meeting, 7pm, Collettis**  
 Corner of Elston and Central

**2014**

**Jan 28th - IWCA Community Meeting**

**June 7-8 Garage Sale Weekend**

**October 25 - IWCA Halloween Party**

## Important Phone Numbers:

Emergencies: 911

City Services: 311

Forest Preserve Police: 708-771-1001

Alderman John Arena's office:

45th Ward: 773-286-4545

Alderman Margaret Laurino's office:

39th Ward: 773-736-5594

## Contact us:

Feel free to contact any of the board members. For official business:

**Indian Woods Community Association**

c/o Jonathan Sladek

5247 W Ardmore Ave

Chicago IL 60646

[info@indianwoods.org](mailto:info@indianwoods.org)

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November 23, 2013

Dear Resident of Indian Woods Community Association,

This is an invitation to run for office for the Indian Woods Community Association. Your participation and help is gladly welcomed and much appreciated.

Any member who has paid their 2013 membership dues prior to the election is eligible to run for office. All officer and director positions are open for election.

Elections will be held at 7pm at Collettis' Restaurant on Tuesday Dec 10 2013.

Please fill out the form below if you are interested in being placed on the ballot for IWCA board of director elections.

**Return the below form by December 1st to Jonathan Sladek at 5247 W Ardmore**

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Please indicate which position you would like to be placed on the ballot for:

- \_\_\_ President
- \_\_\_ Vice President
- \_\_\_ Secretary
- \_\_\_ Treasurer
- \_\_\_ Director

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Offical use:*

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_