



Mayfair Messenger

A publication of the Mayfair Civic Association
Neighbors making a difference since 1945

February 2020
Volume 23, Issue 1

Monthly meeting on February 13

Our next meeting will to be at **7:30pm** on **February 13** at the Irish American Heritage Center, **4626 N Knox**. Please plan on attending to participate in neighborhood developments and discuss important community topics.

Note that the subsequent meeting will be on **March 19**, which is the **THIRD Thursday** of the month, rather than the usual second Thursday.



Civic Association Officers

- President:** Ron Duplack, rduplack@rieckcroty.com
- Vice President:** Tom Keating, keatingtj@gmail.com
- Vice President, Community Relations:** Walter Eliassen, wjebde@aol.com
- Treasurer:** Gavin Chase, gavinmargie@yahoo.com

Committee Heads

- Zoning/Development:** Christopher Lambesis, chris@lambesis.net
- Membership:** Darlene McDermott, darlene_mcdermott@hotmail.com
- Beautification:** Tom Keating, keatingtj@gmail.com

In This Issue

Letter from the Editor.....1-2
 St Edward School & Parish.....2
 Neighborhood Checklist.....3
 Updates from the Alderman.....4
 Business Buzz.....5
 Arts in the Area.....6
 Irish American Heritage Center.....7
 Credits.....8

Letter from the Editor

Ryan Kinderman

Happy New Year, Mayfair residents! This year, we’re hoping to see progress on building out the new Park 593 (aka “Triangle Park”) at the intersection of Kasson and Wilson Ave, as well as updates on a proposal for new senior housing development on 4655 N Pulaski, in the parking lot across the street from the 17th District Police Station. We’re also looking forward to [Maplewood Brewery](#) finding a home in the neighborhood. Stay tuned for info and updates on all of this and more in future issues of the Messenger, and please attend Mayfair Civic Association meetings.

The Mayfair Civic Association holiday party in December was lots of fun. The kids went to work on some coloring books, neighborhood friends caught up, and the folks from [Cafe Tacuba](#) came by and made us all hungry for tamales. Thanks to all who volunteered to help with the event. Special thanks to [Marie’s Pizza](#) for catering, as well as [Marianne and the Imaginary Band](#) for the festive melodies. Congratulations to our raffle winners and donors, your contributions will help fund the party and our operations during the year.

2020 MCA Meetings

Membership meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave. No meetings are held in January, July, or August. These are the rest of the dates scheduled for 2020, with proposed discussion topics.

March 19 Gardens	June 11 To Be Announced	November 12 Annual Party Planning
April 9 Zoning & Development	September 10 Traffic & Parking	December 10 Holiday Party
May 14 Mayfair Park	October 8 Elections	

Our Board generally meets during the intervening months.

Letter from the Editor

Ryan Kinderman

Holiday Party Photos



St Edward School & Parish 4343 W Sunnyside Avenue

Jenny Dreyer

Attention St. Edward School Alumni! Do you want to give back to your school? Now is your opportunity...thanks to a donation from a St. Edward alum, **all donations to this year's Fund-a-Need for new classroom furniture will be matched dollar for dollar!** This is such exciting news and will help us achieve our goal of new furniture for our classrooms, teachers, and students twice as fast! You can get more information and donate via the St. Edward School website: <https://www.stedwardchicago.org/fund-a-need.html>. Thank you for your support!

Our annual **McNulty/Kelly Corned Beef Dinner** is **Sunday, March 1** beginning at **12 noon** in Buckley Hall (gym) of the St. Edward School campus (**4447 N Lowell**). All proceeds from this event will provide scholarships to St. Ed's 8th graders that will attend Catholic high schools in the fall.

These upcoming Community Events give you a night off from cooking and benefit St. Ed's!

Thursday, February 20th, Community Tavern, 4038 N Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 60641; no flyer needed but must mention St. Ed's.

Thursday, March 5th, Panda Express, 2949 W Addison, Chicago, 60618; flyer needed (available online).

This year, St. Edward School celebrates 110 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade! Join us for **Welcome Wednesday, March 4**, with registration beginning at **8:30am** in the main school building, **4343 W Sunnyside**. Meet our principal, teachers and students! Sign-up at www.stedwardschool.com.

St. Edward School is a 2017 recipient of the National Blue Ribbon. Before and after school care is available. For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com or call us at 773-736-9133.

Neighborhood Checklist

Thomas Keating

This section is a selection of items from the MCA's checklist of things we'd like to see addressed around the neighborhood. If there is a blue check near an item, it means that the item has been discussed with the Alderman, or some other follow-up has been done within the past year. If the item has a green check, it means the item is considered to have been sufficiently-addressed (and will not recur in subsequent issues). We'll rotate through the list, including a few in future issues. You can find past issues of the newsletter that we reference in this section at <http://www.mayfaircivic.org/newsletter>.

If there are items you'd like to be included in the list, contact Tom Keating, MCA VP, to discuss at keatingtj@gmail.com, or attend an MCA meeting.

Potholes

In the 2019-09 issue of this newsletter, we reported that many streets in Mayfair are in very poor condition, and need potholes repaired, or resurfaced. There was significant progress made during the latter half of the summer of 2018 with requests to the Alderman's office, and calls to 311.

Many of the potholes were filled by the beginning of winter, but the snow and freezing seems to have undone the work, and they need filling again.

If you spot a pothole that needs filling, please call the Alderman's office at 773-736-5594, or email at ward39@cityofchicago.org. They will file the request with 311, and appreciate the opportunity to keep track this information as well.

Missing Street Signs

We are pleased to report that we consider this item complete!

In the 2019-09 issue of this newsletter, we reported that the one-way sign at the southwest corner of Lawrence and Kildare had been knocked down again, and needed to be replaced. The sign has been replaced. The sign got knocked down in 2018 at this location as well; hopefully it will fare better the second time around!

Also in 2018, we asked the Alderman's office to add a one-way sign at Keeler and Lawrence near the War Memorial, because the two signs that face Lawrence say "Do Not Enter", but people did not always see this. One-way signs have now placed.

Repairs needed on garden fencing, and cement around bump-out gardens on Lawrence

In the 2019-09 issue of the newsletter, we reported that the metal garden fencing and cement around the bump-out gardens at the southeast and southwest corners of Lowell and Lawrence needed repairs. This is still the case, and the Alderman's office said, as of 2/4/2019, that they're looking for community partners to help fund the repairs, as the ward's 2020 menu dollars have already been allocated through the Participatory Budgeting, and for dire street and sidewalk repairs.

Updates from the Alderman

Samantha Nugent, 39th Ward

Here are some selections from the Alderman's recent newsletters and communications.

Participatory Budgeting Projects Funded

Congratulations! Thank you to all the neighbors who voted in the first-ever cycle of participatory budgeting in the 39th Ward. All projects were submitted by 39th Ward residents, carefully vetted and selected by a committee of dedicated community members, and voted on by 39th Ward residents. Over 1,200 community members voted online, in-person, and at pop-up voting locations to choose the top projects that will be funded in 2020.

To see the projects that got funded, please visit <https://aldermannugent.com/participatory-budgeting>

Sewer Project at Irving Park and Pulaski until late March

The intersections of Irving Park and Pulaski Roads will be undergoing a sewer project, beginning this month until late March 2020. The 1st stage of the project will involve a complete closure of the Northwest and Southwest corners of Irving Park and Pulaski. Northbound traffic at the Southeast corner will only be one way going East to Irving Park Rd. Stage 2 of the project will have Irving Park Rd. gradually opening while portions of the North and South bound lanes of Pulaski will be used as entry points for businesses at their respective corners. We hope to minimize

the traffic headaches this will cause, but the City is committed to solving some of the flooding issues in this area so appreciate your patience with this.

In Stage 1, southbound Pulaski traffic will be prohibited south of Irving Park starting sometime in January and all of February 2020. Northbound Pulaski traffic will have to turn right at Irving Park. Tanker trucks will need to use northbound Pulaski to get into the gas station on the NE corner during Stage 1, which we anticipate to start in January and finish sometime in February. The station on the NW corner will have to use southbound Pulaski. Businesses on the SW corner will have to use the alleys or the Irving Park driveways into Walgreens.

Stages 2 & 3 will open up Irving Park traffic. In Stage 2, businesses on the southwest corner will still need to use either the Irving Park entrance to Walgreens or the alleys west and south of Walgreens for Stages 1 & 2, which will be through February 2020.

During Stage 3 in March, businesses on the SW corner will be able to use southbound Pulaski for entrance but will have to exit through the alleys.

Visit and Subscribe!

Visit <https://aldermannugent.com/> to subscribe to Alderman Nugent's newsletter and learn about what she's doing for the 39th Ward. You can also visit her office at 4200 W Lawrence Ave Mondays from 9am-8pm and Tuesday-Friday from 9am-5pm.

CAPS Meetings (Beat 1722)

CAPS meetings for Beat 1722 are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for **February 19** and **March 18**. Meetings are held at the 17th District Police Station Community Room located on **4650 N Pulaski Road** at **7:00pm**.

Dates are subject to change, so please contact the CAPS office to confirm a date at 312-742-4588, or email caps.017district@chicagopolice.org. Learn about the CAPS program at <https://home.chicagopolice.org/office-of-community-policing/how-caps-works>.

Problems with Trash or Rats?

If you've got problems with trash where it shouldn't be, missing trash cans, rats in your area, etc., call 311 or contact:

Chicago Division and Sanitation Offices

4808 W Wilson, 312-744-2333 or 312-744-2336

39th Ward Superintendent

312-459-7286

Rodent Control

312-746-5232 or 312-746-5233

Business Buzz

Jean-Marie Minton

Welcome to the “Business Buzz”, where we highlight businesses located in and around our Mayfair neighborhood. In every issue we’ll profile one or two businesses that support the neighborhood, and that we hope you will support in turn. If you have a favorite business that you think we should learn more about, please let us know.

Have you ever wondered what lurks within the industrial park along Knox south of Montrose Ave?



Did you even know there was an industrial park just west of the Montrose Blue Line stop?

In my 30 years as a Mayfair resident it never occurred to me to venture too far south on Knox at Montrose. Those big buildings were always a mystery to me and not very interesting. What kind of fool am I??

Last Monday night I attended a business networking event held at 2112 Inc. located at 4255 N Knox, home of Fort Knox Studios. What? Huh? Fort Knox?? 2112, Inc. is a 20,000 square foot business incubator for creative types working in music, film/video, fashion, sports, interactive/immersive technology and lifestyle brands. That’s a lot of real estate, and yet 2112’s 20,000 square feet is comfortably situated within 160,000 square feet of space operated by Fort Knox Studios, a recording and performance space and home to 92 band rehearsal rooms, 32 music production studios, 6 recording studios, a 7,200 square foot film and video production family, 4 live sound

production companies, a 30 seat theater and additional office space.



Who knew? Who knew that our own little northwest corner of Chicago was home to a massive mecca of creative entrepreneurs committed to supporting Illinois’ nearly 1 billion dollar creative industry? According to 2112 director Scott Fetters, he and his fellow directors, Amor Montes de Oca and Rob Tovar, looked all over Chicago before finding the square footage they needed to support their mission. They were drawn to our neighborhood by its access to the Blue Line, the Metra and our proximity to downtown and the airport. A side benefit, according to Fetters, has been access to the creatives who live and work in the area as well as the creative vibe in Six Corners.

By mid-winter, 2112 Inc. will be launching the Center for Creative Entrepreneurship, whose focus will be training creative entrepreneurs in the areas of finance, law, sales and marketing.

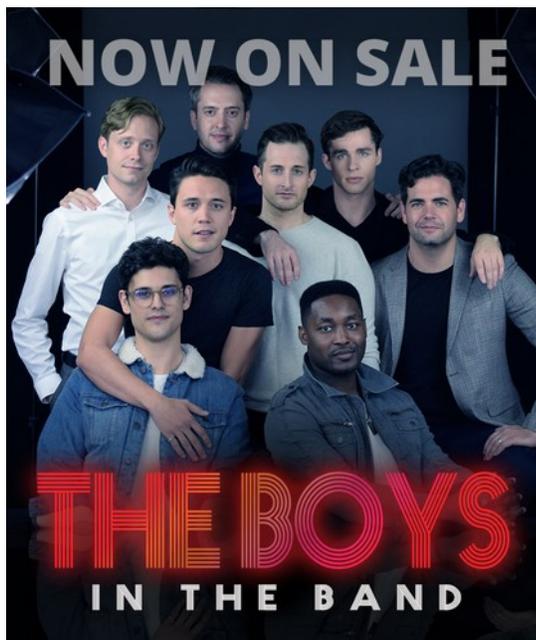
Interested in learning more? Check out the website for 2112 Inc. (<https://2112inc.com>) or simply stop by SoundBites Coffee (<http://soundbitechicago.com>), a very hip coffee shop within the space at 4255 N Knox, open 11am-7pm most days.

Arts in the Area

Windy City Playhouse

Check out Windy City Playhouse's latest production, at a neighborhood rate!

Fresh off its Tony Award-winning revival, "**THE BOYS IN THE BAND**" returns to Chicago for the first time in 20 years! Staged in the Playhouse's signature immersive style and helmed by Associate Artistic Director Carl Menninger, you won't want to miss the next birthday party by Windy City Playhouse. (We promise; it's just as juicy and drama-filled as "SOUTHERN GOTHIC" was). Performances begin **January 29th**, and run through **April 19th**.



To purchase, visit www.windycityplayhouse.com/the-boys-in-the-band/, or call our friendly team at: 773-891-8985.

Residents of greater Mayfair

Use the code 'MAYFAIRBOYS' at checkout for **25% off** your tickets!

Windy City Playhouse is located at **3014 W Irving Park Rd.**, at the corner of Irving Park & Sacramento.

NEIU's Stage Center Theater

"**NATIVE GARDENS**" by Karen Zacarías, directed by Leslie Hull, has performances from February 20-22, and

26-29. "Good fences make good neighbors!" Or so Robert Frost once told us. But fences take on new meaning when our new neighbors are not the ones we expected, and often not the ones we'd choose.

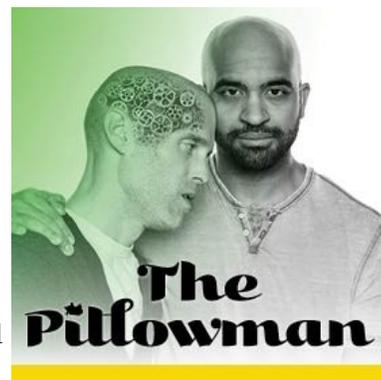
"**RESIDENCE**" by **Laura Jacqmin**, directed by John Bliss, has performances from April 9-11, and 15-18. A layered, poignant, and vital examination of the fragility of our day to day lives, "Residence" is an exciting new work from Chicago favorite Laura Jacqmin. New mom Maggie returns to her medical sales job, checking into an extended-stay hotel in Arizona as she pursues the commission that will get her out of debt and back on track. When she befriends two hotel employees intent on making her visit a five-star experience, they discover that their lives are all on similarly shaky ground.

For tickets and to learn more about each of these productions, as well as others, visit

<https://www.neiu.edu/university-life/stage-center-theatre/current-season>.

The Gift Theater

"**THE PILLOWMAN**" by Martin McDonagh, directed by Laura Alcalá Baker, is performing from **March 2-29**. Once upon a time, there lived a writer who only wrote gruesome tales. He lived with his brother under the watchful eye of an unnamed



authoritarian regime. But when a string of horrific child murders begin to mirror his frightful tales, our writer finds himself before two investigators who want more than answers. Martin McDonagh's *The Pillowman* doesn't shy away in this dark, twisty, and utterly unforgettable masterpiece.

For tickets, performance times, and more, visit

<https://thegifttheatre.org/shows-events/the-pillowman>.

Irish American Heritage Center 4626 N Knox Avenue

Here are some upcoming event selections from the website, <https://irish-american.org>.

The Beauty Queen of Leenane



St. Patrick's Drama Group, Westport presents a modern classic of Irish theatre at the Irish American Heritage Center this February.

"The Beauty Queen of Leenane" by Martin McDonagh is a dark comedy set in the mountains of Connemara that tells the story of Maureen Folan, a plain and

lonely woman in her early 40's, and Mag, her manipulative aging mother. Mag's interference in Maureen's first and potentially last romantic relationship sets in motion a chain of events that are as tragically funny as they are horrific.

"The Beauty Queen of Leenane" is **Thursday, February 20** and **Friday, February 21 at 8pm**. Tickets are **\$36** for IAHC members and **\$41** for general admission (includes ticketing fees). Parental guidance is recommended.

Friday Night Fish Fry

Join the Irish American Heritage Center every Friday during Lent 2020 for the Friday Night Fish Fry.

The Friday Night Fish Fry runs from **February 28-April 10 from 6:30pm-9pm** in the Fifth Province Pub and the menu features fried cod, French fries, a vegetable and coleslaw.

Families can enjoy a meal together and kids can watch children's movies that run during the meal. **Live music** begins at **9pm** and selected nights feature music and dance performances from Trinity Irish Dancers, O'Hara School of Irish Dance and The Academy of Irish Music.



The cost is **\$14** for adults and **\$10** for children and patrons pay at the door.

St. Patrick's Month!

Celebrate St. Patrick's MONTH at the Center with the 13th annual **Wearing of the Green Dance**; THE official kick-off to the St. Patrick's Day season at the Irish American Heritage Center.



The dance features dancing, live music with Gerry Haughey and Friends, raffle prizes, cash bar and dinner catered by Harrington's Deli and Catering.

The dance is **Sunday, March 1** from **5 to 10pm** and tickets are **\$45**.

Purchase tickets from the IAHC website, call 773-282-7035 ext. 10, or purchase at the door.

Tea with Jane Addams

Have tea with social justice crusader and founder of Hull House, Jane Addams at another in the Saturday Morning Tea series. Enjoy sandwiches, scones, tea and a solo performance by actress Betsey Means. The tea is sponsored in part by Susan Touhy.

Tea with Jane Addams is **Saturday, February 22 at 11am**. Tickets are **\$25** for adults and **\$8** for children 12 and under.

Order tickets

All tickets for events at the IAHC can be purchased by visiting www.irish-american.org, calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10, or visiting the IAHC office.

Go Green: Get the *Mayfair Messenger* via e-mail

Reading a paper copy of this newsletter? Have access to the Internet? Please consider reading an e-mail version instead (we won't share your e-mail address with anyone else).

To receive the *Mayfair Messenger* via e-mail, please send an e-mail to mayfair-civic-newsletter@googlegroups.com.

Thanks for helping us stretch your membership dues!

A note from membership

To keep your membership current for the following year, renewals will be billed in January and July. If you joined the association between May and October, your renewal will be billed in July. If you joined between November and April, you'll be billed in January.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation!

A note from the editor

Please submit articles of interest or announcements of upcoming public and community events to mayfair-civic-newsletter@googlegroups.com (the editor reserves the right to edit submissions for space and content; items may not appear if they're past the publishing date).

Mayfair Civic Association Affiliations

Mayfair Civic Association is proudly affiliated with the following area organizations, working together for the good of the neighborhood!

- Mayfair Park Advisory Council (<https://www.mayfairpac.org/>)
- North River Commission (<https://northrivercommission.org/>)
- Northwest Arts Connection (<http://northwestartsconnection.org>)

Publication Schedule

This newsletter is published on the first Thursday of February, April, June, September, and November. You can find issues at <http://www.mayfaircivic.org/newsletter>.

Visit Us Online

If you would like to be notified when new issues of this newsletter are published, request to join our email list at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mayfair-civic>. If you are a paid member of the Mayfair Civic Association, you will be added to this list automatically.

Also, we have a website! It's a bit out-of-date (we're working on that), but it's there. Check it out at <http://www.mayfaircivic.org>.

Credits

This newsletter and its contents have been planned, composed, and edited by members of the Mayfair Civic Association. Special thanks to Ron Duplack, MCA president, and Carol Kroskey, the previous newsletter editor, who set the bar for quality.

If you're already a member, please pass this on to a neighbor.

Mayfair Civic Association Membership Application
\$10 per household; \$6 for senior citizens

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please fill out the above information, and return with your check to:

Mayfair Civic Association
c/o Darlene McDermott
4739 N. Kelso Ave
Chicago, IL 60630-4353