



Volume Eight, Spring/Summer 2009

# Optima Outlook

## Optima, Inc. Founder and President, David C. Hovey, Named Among “Who’s Who in Chicagoland Real Estate” by *Chicago Agent Magazine*



David Hovey



The equation that has guided David Hovey from the company’s inception in 1978 to its success today is “Architect + Developer = Optimal.” This pursuit of excellence has earned him awards in every decade, from his foundation as a student at Illinois Institute of Technology, through his years as Associate Professor and, now, Trustee. A talented artist in his own right, he expresses a whimsical side with his exterior sculptures for Optima Camelview Village in Scottsdale, *Sundance* and *Windsong*, noting “while homes are rational and scientific, art should be fun.” He and wife, Eileen Sheehan Hovey, President of Optima Realty, Inc., direct the company’s in-house teams that include two of their older children. Thirty-three years and two generations later, we believe Optima is a thriving family of homeowners, staff, and award-winning developments.

## DCH Management, Inc. Welcomes Two to the Team

DCH Management, Inc. is pleased to announce two additions to the property management team: Property Manager Martin Moran, who joined Optima in February. Marty brings over a decade of condominium experience, most notably with Sudler as well as Draper & Kramer properties. Property Mgmt. Administrator Jen Mattson, began in April. Jen’s experience includes several years with a leading homebuilder, most recently as Customer Service Manager. Marty and Jen look forward to assisting you and making the Old Orchard Woods community an exceptional place to live.



Martin Moran



Jen Mattson

## Optima gets social!

Old Orchard Woods offers a dynamic community life and energy like no other. Want to know what we’re doing? Stay connected! Mark your calendars - follow us - become a fan . . .

**twitter** @optimacondos

**facebook** /optima old orchard woods

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### ATTENTION ILLINOIS RESIDENTS

Take advantage of the sales incentives being offered in Arizona. If you are looking for a second home in sunny Scottsdale, Ariz., be sure to stop by Optima Camelview Village or call 480-425-7177 to find out about the special sales incentives we are extending to our neighbors here in the Chicago metropolitan area.

## New Homeowner and Her Maltese Enjoy All That Optima Offers



We think our homeowners are very special and you are each a member of the distinctive family we call Optima. A new feature is to introduce you to some of your neighbors and learn more about them. Meet Ilana Lemberger and the Bergmans.

A chemist who works in Deerfield and a graduate student at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Ilana Lemberger toured Optima Old Orchard Woods and was very impressed. Lemberger moved into her unit on the sixth floor of Maple Tower in December of 2008.

"The location was very convenient and gave me easy access to my family in Lincolnwood, my job in Deerfield, and grad school and recreation in Chicago, not to mention the Old Orchard Shopping Center. The floor-to-ceiling windows offer great northwest-facing views of Harms Woods Forest Preserve, and each day I enjoy watching a family of deer traveling through the area. The recreational amenities are top-notch, and I am enjoying the indoor pool and spas as well as the fitness center in my tower," she said. "It is fun to swim in the heated pool while looking out the floor-to-ceiling windows and seeing snow on the forest preserve trees. The sun deck adjacent to the pool room is a great spot to watch the sun set over the woods. I am also enjoying the Party Room and have attended social events planned for the residents, which are a great way to get to know other people in the building.

"I also appreciate the fact that the building is pet-friendly and has a designated pet area so my little Maltese dog, Lily, feels at home, too.

"Every detail has been taken care of at Optima Old Orchard Woods," she said. "The entrance is so impressive you feel you're entering an exclusive resort, and every area is well-lit and well-decorated to be as safe and attractive as possible. I can even buy homemade baked goods at the gourmet market. Optima Old Orchard Woods is so ideal and so convenient that several of my friends are saving their funds to purchase here."

As a first-time buyer, Lemberger is appreciative of the caring customer service she received from the staff at Optima Old Orchard Woods.

"Every person I've dealt with was knowledgeable and quick to respond to any questions or concerns I had," she said. "The building maintenance is excellent. Optima Old Orchard Woods combines the best of the Chicago lifestyle with the best of the suburban lifestyle."

## From Hardship to a Home with History: Maple Tower Residents Share Their Holocaust Survival Story

The architecture of Old Orchard Woods frames a community in which homeowners bring a history and life that adds to the vibrancy of the development. On a weekend afternoon, taking advantage of the sundeck to return to their home, Howard and Leone Bergman have shared what brought them here. Howard, a retired tour operator in the travel industry, conveyed that the road to Skokie began an ocean away, during a time when both their childhoods were tragically interrupted by Nazi occupation, separating each of them from the security of family life.



Born in Dęblin, Poland, Howard Bergman's hometown was captured by the German army on September 15, 1939. Howard, his brother and parents were chosen to serve as laborers and stayed together initially, until late 1942. Howard performed many tasks during the Occupation, including work in an office as a janitor and later in a munitions factory. Ultimately, Howard lost his brother, his father and thought his mother had perished as well, after she was sent away on a transport of women prisoners. Three months after the war ended, he received a telegram from Sweden, which needed translation from English, informing him that his mother had survived. Howard wired back, telling her not to return and he would ultimately join her. It would take a year before he was able to reunite with her and granted a visa to enter Sweden, and five years more for both of them to obtain entry to the U.S., joining relatives in Chicago.

Leone (formerly Taffel) Bergman was born in Berlin, Germany. In 1938, she and her family were forced to flee to Belgium for safety. Her sister was taken in by a family, while Leone found refuge in a convent run by the Franciscan Sisters. Not able to venture outside, she knitted socks that the Sisters distributed to the Allied troops. Sadly, in 1944, their parents were put on one of the last fatal transports from Belgium. Surviving the Holocaust, Leone and her sister, who now resides in Florida, travelled to the U.S., initially staying in New York with a couple of families. In 1949, a family in Chicago adopted her and, after high school, she met Howard through mutual friends. They married a year later in December 1956 and have two children and four grandchildren.

After five years in Philadelphia, it was time to return to Chicago and find a new home. The Bergmans looked at a number of properties on the North Shore. "We ultimately selected Old Orchard Woods," as Leone explained, "For its location, value, floor plan and amenities, such as the convenience store and the garage parking. "I don't have to shovel snow anymore or warm up the car," Howard added. They moved into their Maple Tower home in December 2007.

Today, the Bergmans, a charismatic and active couple, entertain their family and friends at their home, often accompanying guests next door to the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, which opened its doors in April. So far, the Bergmans have made a dozen trips, perhaps

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reflecting on the authentic German rail car representing those used to transport during the Holocaust.

As the Bergmans enjoy retirement and their neighbors, Howard is looking forward to assisting with translations for the Museum, as he is fluent in Yiddish and Polish, as well as several other languages. Leone and Howard are involved residents, often seen at the monthly Social Events, co-sponsored by the Woods Social Committee on which Leone serves.



Photo Credit: Mark2Photography/ Courtesy of the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center. July 24, 2007.

Surviving adversity and loss, the Bergmans as Optima homeowners have honored us with their selection of residence. Sharing their history ensures it is not forgotten and becomes part of the fabric that makes up the diverse Old Orchard Woods community.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center welcomes Woods residents to enjoy the use and tranquility of the café, the Hall of Reflection (meditation area) and the Reading and Resource Room with no charge for access.

Know of someone who has a special story or makes a good neighbor? E-mail us at [optimaincmedia@gmail.com](mailto:optimaincmedia@gmail.com) and let us know.

## Residents Enjoy Added Benefits

Westfield Old Orchard Mall is pleased to extend weekly offers to Old Orchard Woods Residents. Updated every Thursday. Stop by the DCH Mgmt. office for a brochure after 2 pm each Thursday, or go to [www.westfield.com](http://www.westfield.com).

The Broadway in Chicago Series invites Old Orchard Woods new season ticket holders the opportunity to get the best seats for the 2009-10 Fall/Winter Season. Check the HOA website or contact the DCH Mgmt. office for details.

By special arrangement with the Skokie Park District, Old Orchard Woods Residents are invited to a "sneak preview" of upcoming performances at select monthly OOW Social Events. Watch posted flyers for details. Look for "Still Acting Up" - the senior acting troupe performing original musical comedy pieces (early Oct.); "Footloose" - Devonshire Youth Theatre (end of Oct.) and "The Dining Room" - Devonshire Players, cabaret-style with appetizers and desserts for sale prior to the performance (Feb.).



## Optima and the Old Orchard Woods Social Committee announce the Summer Events Calendar

### JUNE

- 23/24 Art Institute of Chicago presents Reflections on Glass Tour - Four stops, incl. OOW
- 25 Twilight Tours of Optima Models, 6 - 8:30 pm - Meet in Sales Center for a guided tour of the Optima-staged units, including Maple Penthouse. Enjoy a glass of wine afterwards and watch a new Optima video.
- 28 Ravinia at OOW, 4 - 7 pm - Bring a picnic dinner/beverage and enjoy the music. The Grove by tennis courts, weather permitting; party room if rain.
- 29 Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, Woods "Town Hall" Meeting, 6:30 pm - Cngrwmn. Schakowsky represents the 9th U.S. District of Illinois. Organized by Oak Tower Treasurer Bob Weisman. Party Room. Time subject to change - check website and posted flyers. Coffee/tea/ dessert provided by the Social Comm.

### JULY

- 17 Weekend Kickoff at Woods, 5:30 - 8:30 pm - Unwind and mingle to music of the Seventies and Eighties. Bring a bottle or favorite beverage to share. Party mix and music provided. The Grove.
- 21 Travel Club, 7:30 pm - New group chaired by Mary Lee Lally. Residents are invited to come and share their travel experiences.
- 23-26 Helping Our Heroes Charity Clothing and Care Package Items for the Troops Drive

### AUGUST

- 5 Taste of Woods, 5:30 - 8:30 pm - Resident "chefs" will offer samples of their specialties + wine tasting. The Grove. To sign up and reserve your spot with your special dish (no charge), drop off a note at DCHM office or e-mail [oowsocial@gmail.com](mailto:oowsocial@gmail.com).
- 5 AIA, Chicago architects tour, OOW.
- 22 Art Fair, 10 am - 3 pm - Social Committee member Maureen Rich chairs this event, featuring photography, jewelry, sculpture, and more! Interested in displaying? Drop a note off at DCHM office or e-mail her: [rich1530@aol.com](mailto:rich1530@aol.com).

### SEPTEMBER

"Homeowners House Walk" - OOW Residents are invited to open their doors for an evening of cocktails and tours of residents' homes. E-mail [oowsocial@gmail.com](mailto:oowsocial@gmail.com) if interested in hosting your home and highlighting your decorating acumen.

## Watch For Details on Upcoming Events

Story Hour for children/grandchildren. Watch for details.

Gentlemen: Interested in forming a men's bridge group? Contact Will Jacks 847.983.8044

Softball Players: A few more players are still needed to form teams for this 16" competition. E-mail [oowsocial@gmail.com](mailto:oowsocial@gmail.com).

*Hope to see you!*



## Seen and Heard

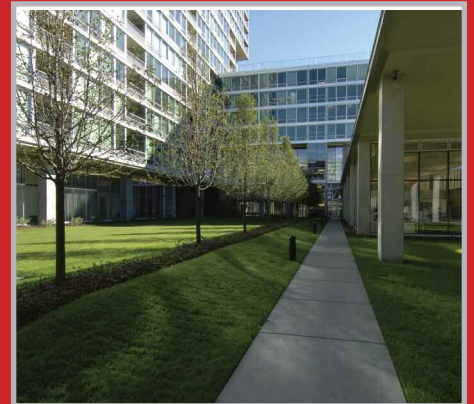
Look for us on Comcast channel 100 and On Demand, featuring Old Orchard Woods and a guided tour by Optima's Tara S. Hovey.



## A Special Thank You to the Zambranos!

Optima and the Old Orchard Woods Social Committee thank Julio and his son, Erik, both of Maple Tower, who generously provided homemade salsa and tacos and brought tortilla chips and a variety of sodas to the Monthly Social Event on May 28th. Everyone was treated to Julio's specialties while the 40 residents who attended enjoyed a "sneak preview" performance of Skokie's Devonshire Players' "BIG The Musical." Our heartfelt gratitude to the Zambranos for being such good neighbors and making the event more special.

**Announcing a New Developer Program by Optima, Inc. Homeowners, look for this special flyer with your printed newsletter delivery.**



## OPTIMA-SPONSORED YOUTH RUGBY TEAM HAS CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON - TIER I STATE TITLE RUNNER-UP



In a battle for the 2009 IL State Championship, the Optima-sponsored Naperville Warriors concluded one of their best seasons ever with a run at the title on May 25. Final score, 7-6. Optima congratulates these young men and is proud of their outstanding season.