



Volume Eleven  
Fall/Winter 2010

# OptimaOutlook

## Awards & Accolades

### 2010 Design Excellence Awards



At the Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier, **optima's** Founder and President, David C. Hovey, FAIA, received the highest award given in the **Distinguished Building** category, the Honor Award for Optima Old Orchard Woods. **optima** was also the **Citation of Merit for Interior Architecture** for its sister development, Optima Camelview Village, in Scottsdale, Arizona

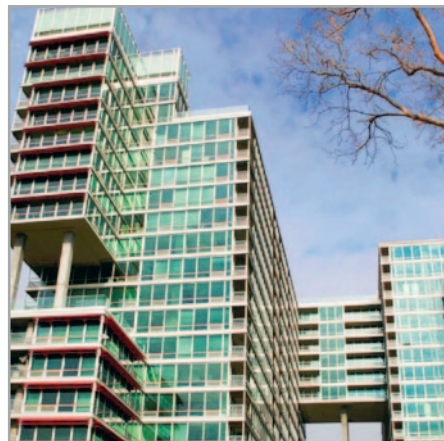


PHOTO: Courtesy of Ani Hovakimian. All rights reserved.

### 2010 Environmental Improvement Awards



**Optima Old Orchard Woods** is also the recipient of a Merit Award from the Professional Landcare Network's (PLANET) 2010 Annual Environmental Improvement Awards for the development's landscaping. The award recipients reflect PLANET's commitment to creating and preserving the beauty of our landscape. The program is designed to reward independent landscaping that exudes superior projects.



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## Getting to know you . . .

*We think our homeowners are very special and you are each a member of the distinctive family we call **optima**.  
In this Issue, meet Kew and Kyung Chai. . .*

### **Korean-American businessman relaxes in the luxury and natural beauty of Optima Old Orchard Woods in Skokie**

Optima Old Orchard Woods Resident, Kew Chai, has a life story that could fill volumes of books. The latest chapter would be his move to Optima Old Orchard Woods where he is making friends among the Korean-American residents, as well as the wide variety of owners in the popular condominium community.

Mr. Chai has wide interests and abundant energy for the world around him. He and his wife, Kyung, decided to move from their downtown Chicago condominium into a three-bedroom, three-bath extra-large combination unit on the 19th floor of one of the towers in January of 2009.

“We chose Optima Old Orchard Woods for many reasons, including its convenient location to downtown Chicago, expressways and O’Hare Airport because I travel frequently,” Mr. Chai said. “The building offers a combination of suburban and city attractions, and the architecture of the building is interesting. I knew the reputation and impressive projects of David Hovey, the architect who designed and developed the building.

“We visited Optima Old Orchard Woods because members of my church and friends live here. We saw a shiny new building and the beautiful forest preserve across the street, and we really liked the peaceful environment.”

The serenity of the building and the forest preserve provide a restful contrast to Mr. Chai’s busy life. Before coming to America in 1970, he served as an aide to Four-Star General John H. Michaelis who was Commander-in-Chief of the UN Command and Commanding General of the United States Eighth Army in Korea. He came to America and Illinois on a Department of Defense scholarship to pursue his MBA in economics and management at the University of Chicago.

Now retired, he was manager of the Amoco Retirement Plan in the last four years of his twenty-three years of his service to Amoco. He also served on the pension board and general assembly council of Presbyterian PC USA in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is a board member of the church’s Historical Society. He is the former president of the Korean-American Community Services and is a current board member and former president of the Korean-American Scholarship Foundation. He was also president of the Korean Christian Businessman’s Committee (CBMC).

Kew and Kyung delight in the beauty of their condominium that was a model home featured in “City By Design” coffee table book. The large terrace faces downtown Chicago, as well as the expansive horizon of the forest preserve.



*From the 19th floor, Kew and Kyung Chai enjoy the beauty of nature and the luxurious living at Optima Old Orchard Woods.*

High ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows set a light and airy mood, they feel. Each morning, they enjoy breakfast outside, noting the serenity from high atop the building, delighting in the birds. Inside their unit, Mr. Chai notes how peaceful it is—another reason they love living at Old Orchard Woods.

“We planted flowers on the terrace, and we can enjoy nature and the changing colors of the trees,” he said. “The location is ideal, with the fitness center nearby on the same floor, and the swimming pool, spas and party room just an elevator ride away. We’ve already hosted a children’s event in the party room. Each day I try to take a two- or three-mile walks with my friends. We also visit The Grove, the private residents’ park with a tennis court, picnic tables, barbecue grills, and his favorite duck pond with the “resident ducks and beautiful landscaping.”

Although Mr. Chai continues to maintain a busy schedule, he and his wife are making new friends with many people in their building, from all different backgrounds.

“Korean-Americans traditionally have a strong desire to own property,” he said. “Korea is a small country that experienced wars and conflict and in America it is possible to buy a home, start a family and make a good investment for the future. I consider Optima Old Orchard Woods an excellent investment for those who are seeking condominium living.”

Mr. And Mrs. Chai look forward to the visits of their three grandchildren to “this big exotic building,” and he announces proudly that both he and Kyung have sons who are doctors, as well as a doctor daughter-in-law.

“My life has been one of building bridges, and I am pleased to be able to reach out to both Korean residents and the larger community of wonderful people at Optima Old Orchard Woods,” he said.

## Meet the optima Old Orchard Woods Sales Team!

Congratulations to a very successful summer for Team optima!



From left to right: Justin A. Silva, Patricia Ahern, Eric K. Richards, Carole Herzog

## Overheard as being the best amenity at OOW?

Why, the indoor lap pool, of course! The envy of everyone in the midst of winter.



## Considering a vacation home?

### “Experience Arizona” at optima Camelview Village in Scottsdale. Deep relaxation and desert beauty is just a plane ride away...



There is no better time to consider Camelview Village as an excellent investment or second home for all of you snowbirds and Cubs fans! Spend winter in the desert

and our Luxury Leasing division can manage your home for you for terms of three-, six- or nine-months. Once a new homeowner closes, and wishes to use only part-time, the current list-to-lease period is less than thirty days. Enjoy the best of both worlds.

Wondering what it would be like to have a vacation home there? We were most fortunate to have two distinguished guests from Chicago “experience optima” recently. Erica Minchella [real estate/personal finance attorney, <http://ecminchellalaw.com>, 847-677-6772] and Mimi Acciari [Exec. Director, Lincoln Bend Chamber of Commerce, [www.lincolnbend.org](http://www.lincolnbend.org), 773-334-0614] recount their long weekend at Camelview Village in mid-October:



“When we walked into the unit, we went from one end to the other, both of us saying over and over again, ‘Oh my gosh!’ We got ourselves situated and went for our tour. Paula [Tollaksen, Sales Manager] could not have been more gracious or accommodating. After our tour, we went to eat at Nourish and shared an appetizer. The food and atmosphere at Nourish were great—and just what we needed. We enjoyed wine on the terrace that evening and sat back we were done for the day.

On Sunday, I lounged in bed, then went for a workout. I spent time on the treadmill (great equipment—I work out every day at home, so this was important to me) and then Mimi met me for a swim. We had breakfast on a different terrace than the one on which we had had our wine the night before, and then we headed out for a tour of Taliesin West—Frank Lloyd

Wright’s estate. Having done a tour of the homes he designed in Oak Park, IL, this was really a treat for us. We had a late lunch of sushi and tempura at a restaurant in Old Town and did a tour of the Old Town area to stake out which shops we wanted to hit on Monday.

Everything we did, we did leisurely. It was an absolutely perfect climate. The development is beautiful, the residents friendly, the residences perfect.” —Erica

“We so enjoyed ourselves and I ended up thinking of the condo as our 3rd partner in making our trip such a wonderful experience. Paula’s tour of the development and insights about Scottsdale gave us a great orientation. I loved the bedroom I had, complete with a master bathroom and that closet! I have dreams about that walk-in closet. The way the development is situated makes it ideal for just looking out the windows in awe, especially at night.

Scottsdale is an ideal town to navigate. We found everything nearby with no problems at all. The shopping we did gave me an appreciation that I never had before for the artistry behind turquoise/silver jewelry.

It was really an ideal trip and the only flaw is that it was too short. Congrats on a development well done.” —Mimi



## Autumn Broker Open at Old Orchard Woods



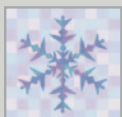
Optima rolled out the welcome mat to over thirty-five real estate professions on October 13th. Thanks to all who attended and made the night very enjoyable. We have loved seeing you return with clients who are now new Homeowners. Congratulations!



## A Mid-summer Night's Housewalk...

Well, early summer... We had a beautiful evening for this second residential housewalk that featured two spectacular homes and a Model in Maple Tower. An enormous thank you to Ruthie and Jerry Hechtman and Jane Zimble.

The event began with a quick resident verification and check-in, then margaritas and an assortment of chips and salsa before donning protective footwear and visiting our neighbors.



## Save the date!

**Winter Housewalk on  
Wednesday, February 2, 2011**

We have received notice that some residents would be willing to serve as "co-hosts" to help shepherd the visitors, which would be great. If you are interested in hosting your home, please contact us at oowsocial@gmail.com, or 847.835.8400 x1252. We cannot wait to warm a chilly evening with hot cider and warm laughter!

## Stay in touch...

Why Follow Us or Become a Fan? optima keeps you informed of breaking news in Skokie and greater Chicago, upcoming local events of interest, special offers and discounts, and frequent posts of photo albums and videos.



@optimacondos  
@optimacondosAZ



/ old orchard woods  
/ camelview village

## In the News...

### Camp P.E.A.C.E: An Opportunity for All to Learn Photography & Explore the North Shore

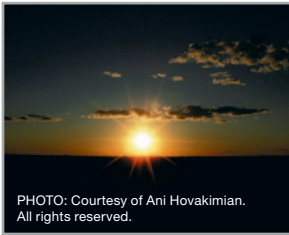


PHOTO: Courtesy of Ani Hovakimian. All rights reserved.

Optima is pleased to announce that we have been chosen as the Architectural Site for a uniquely exclusive Photographic Art Camp beginning in 2011, Camp P.E.A.C.E. (Photographers Excited about Art and Conserving their Environment). The camp will be held in sessions within the

four seasons, year round. Participants, children especially, will be touring the beloved North Shore and Chicago Metropolitan Area via the many transit systems available to us. Excursions include events with leading innovators of Design, as well as Artists of various disciplines, who gather inspiration from their environments.

Please join us in welcoming the participants as they learn more about architecture and photography. This Program is open to the public. optima supports nurturing the arts and our surroundings from which we all gather inspiration.

For those interested in the camp, please send an e-mail to Ani at [ani.hovakimian@hotmail.com](mailto:ani.hovakimian@hotmail.com) or call 847-409-0980 to be added to the Camp's Guest List, as rollout and registration information will be sent in December!

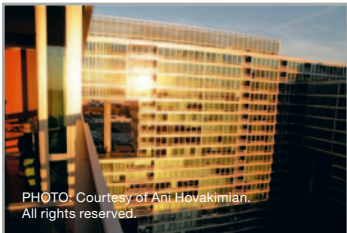


PHOTO: Courtesy of Ani Hovakimian. All rights reserved.

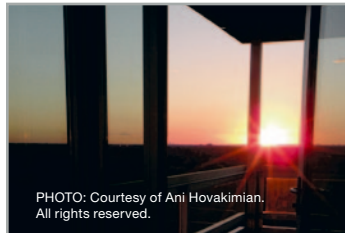


PHOTO: Courtesy of Ani Hovakimian. All rights reserved.

### Meet bookmobile librarian, Phil Carlsen!



Optima is proud to announce and welcome the Skokie Public Library Bookmobile, which will be providing Old Orchard Woods with mobile library service every Thursday

from 5:45-6:15 PM carrying books, CDs, audiobooks, and DVDs to our Residents. Need a library card? Register to vote? Foreign language newspapers, on request, and FLIP cameras available. Learn how to use and download a library book on your eReader! Check-out and return all materials.

To request that materials be placed on the Bookmobile, please direct your request to the appropriate department of the main Library by calling 847.673.7774 at least one day in advance. If you'd like to donate your own books to the Library's Used Book Sale Room, please bring your donations to the East or West Circulation Desk.

### Construction Begins On Yellow Line's Oakton Street Station

by Optima Old Orchard Woods on Monday, November 15, 2010  
From <http://www.skokienet.org/node/27168>



Construction began week of 8 November 2010 on the CTA Yellow Line Oakton Street Station in Downtown Skokie. It is scheduled to be completed late fall 2011.

The Village of Skokie is funding \$6million and an additional \$14 million coming from federal funds. The new station is adjacent to the Illinois Science + Technology Park (IS +TP) in Downtown Skokie and will directly connect Downtown Skokie and Chicago.

"I am grateful to officials from CTA, the Illinois Department of Transportation, The Federal Highway Administration, Skokie's state and federal legislators, Commonwealth Edison, The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Forest City Enterprises and, of course, the Village staff who persevered with this project for many years," said Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen. "Their collective vision, hard work and dedication to this important public transportation initiative will benefit the region for decades to come."

### Introducing airport limousine service!



Thanks to Immanuel Limo Service, Inc., and its owners Mr. and Mrs. Joo, for offering our residents discounted Town Car sedan rides to and from O'Hare and Midway airports. All drivers are familiar with the OOW residences and are bi-lingual (English/Korean).

**OOW SPECIAL RATES:**\* to ORD \$35 (\$2 ea. additional person) to MDW \$60 (\$2 ea. additional person) from ORD \$39 (incl. \$4 City of Chicago fee) \*Please add \$1 toll to O'Hare airport trips.

Advance reservations accepted 24 hours day: 224-522-0948 or [immanuel\\_limo@yahoo.com](mailto:immanuel_limo@yahoo.com). Cash and credit cards accepted (no Discover). Guaranteed private rides.

### 5-Star Service and Transportation for Special Times

Whatever the occasion, from corporate travel to an elegant wedding, Immanuel Limousine is the right choice for your ground transportation needs. You will always find a driver and one of our luxury cars waiting for you precisely at the proper time and place. Whether you require service to the city or just in the area, our experienced staff is ready to serve you.

- Weddings/rehearsal dinners
- Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, proms, graduations
- Airport transfers to and from O'Hare and Midway Airports
- Downtown city excursions
- Chicago sporting events
- Parties (i.e. bachelor/bachelorette)
- Events (i.e. season openers, premieres, charity fund raisers)

## For our Residents...

### Corepower Yoga



We are located across the Edens Expressway in Old Orchard Mall.

CorePower offers beginner to advanced hot & power yoga classes.

**New Students get a FREE WEEK of yoga!**



CorePower Yoga Old Orchard Studio  
4999 Orchard Shopping Center  
Skokie, IL  
www.corepoweryoga.com

*\*All Optima Old Orchard Woods residents will receive special rates with proof of address*

### Woods Mart Annual Food Drive

Woods Mart is hosting its Annual Food Drive to benefit the Greater Chicago Food Bank Depository now through Thanksgiving. Drop off a perishable item and help a local family enjoy the holidays.

Open six days a week from 7AM until 9PM, Mon. – Sat. Stop in for all of your immediate pantry needs – snacks, dinner items, fresh, ready-made sandwiches – and don't forget your morning coffee on-the-go! A selection of domestic/ imported beer and wine are now offered.



### Are you connected? Homeowner Connect™

This web-based portal has several features and functions that permits our community to access information online. If you have not done so, follow the steps below to create a user account. Please be sure to update your email address with DCH Management, as well.

1. Go to <http://www.optimawoods.com>
2. Click the **"Resident Access"** button on the bottom left corner of the page
3. Click the **"Create New Account"** link on the bottom of the page
4. Click the **"Optima Old Orchard Woods (Oak/Elm/Maple—depending on your address) Condominium Association"** link
5. Select the building & unit number. Fill in the rest of the required information on the page, including your "email address"
6. Click the **"Submit"** button

### Special OOW resident offer:

#### Kick-off Winter @ Chipotle Skokie

Stop by Old Orchard Chipotle, show them a piece of mail with your Old Orchard Woods address and they'll hook you up with a BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE BURRITO!



Sat. & Sun. Dec. 4-5  
11 AM to 8 PM  
Skokie Blvd. and Emerson  
(Fax and Online orders accepted, too)

### Woods Cleaners



Don't forget Expert Alterations by Lilly (25+ yrs. experience) and Shoe Repair/Polish. Woods Cleaners has contracted with an outstanding offsite shoe service and is offering OOW Residents the convenience of bringing in your shoes or boots in need of repair or cleaning. Another way we're making life easy at Optima!  
**HOURS:** Mo & Fr: 7A – 6P; Tu, We, Th: 7A – 7P; and Saturday: 8A – 4P

Woods Cleaners offers OOW Residents same-day service, convenient 24-hour drop-off chute, pick-up/delivery service and expert alterations. (847) 967-5060.

#### FALL / WINTER SPECIAL for Old Orchard Woods Residents:

**\$3  
OFF**

**Dry Cleaning order of \$15 or more**

Must present coupon upon drop-off. Not valid with any other offers. One coupon per order.

Expires Feb. 28, 2011

**\$6  
OFF**

**Dry Cleaning order of \$30 or more**

Must present coupon upon drop-off. Not valid with any other offers. One coupon per order.

Expires Feb. 28, 2011