1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

(312)409-SLN6

Web Site: www.southlakeviewneighbors.org

BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT - RAVENSWOOD TO RACINE

Membership Dues (per person) \$10.00 - Seniors (those over 60) \$5.00 September 1 through May 31 Meetings held at St. Alphonsus Church Basement, 1429 West Wellington on the second Tuesday of every Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. (Coffee at 7:00 p.m.)

OCTOBER, 2009

NEXT MEETING ... TUESDAY - OCTOBER 13, 2009

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ..

It is my intent that SLN continues its' mission and purpose. We continue to address the needs of our membership and intend to respond to those needs. However, the reality is that membership has declined and The Board and Officers have grave concerns. There are activities we need to reevaluate and implement some changes. I ask for all to give us guidance and suggestions.

One of my objectives is to increase membership and participation. I need your help with this commitment Initially, my thought is to designate a Membership Chairman and engage all contacts and resources to explain the accomplishments of SLN and all the good we as a neighborhood organization have achieved. If we take every opportunity to promote the virtues of SLN, it may be a beginning. Let me know if you are interested in such a challenge. As always, I can be reached at 773-858-1592.

Previously, I mentioned newsletter ads are a major source of revenue for our organization. I want to personally thank Ann, Carol and Jim and all who assisted in this effort. Currently, we are in need of an Advertising Manager to work throughout the year in this capacity. If anyone is interested in this process, please contact me at the above phone number. I look forward to seeing everyone at our October meeting.

Best Regards, Susan Radzinowicz

Meeting at a Glance ...

October 13,2009

Location: Basement of St. Alphonsus Church

1429 W. Wellington

Agenda: 7:00 pm: Coffee & Cookies

7:30 pm: Wellington Tap - kitchen

expansion

Ward Superintendent - Streets

& Sanitation

OCTOBER 2009 MEETING PREVIEW

Wellington Tap - 1300 W. Wellington

The owners are applying for a zoning variance to allow for the expansion of the premises. The owners wish to expand to include a full-service kitchen. The current RS3 Residential District Zoning does not currently allow for this expansion. The immediate neighborhood will be flyered. This will be a voting issue and the results will be forwarded to Alderman Waguespack.

Ward Superintendent Streets and Sanitation

Mr.Pedro Borrero or a representative will address the membership on a variety of issues including rats, garbage pickup, street cleaning and repairs, snow removal and rats. Did I mention rats?

AT THE SEPTEMBER 2009 MEETING. .

Alderman Scott Waguespack

Now 2.5 years in office, the Alderman addressed issues relating to the City, the Ward and SLN neighborhood.

Rats: it appears that no matter what is done, this issue is overwhelming the neighborhood. A combination of increased garbage and an increase of vacant lots owned by absentee owners and unfinished condo developments and decreased budget issues have combined to allow an increase in the rat population. The Alderman is working on ideas to alert homeowners on how they can thwart the increase.

Collapsing sewers: 40 sewers citywide are currently being worked on (visit Lincoln/George/Lakewood). There may an increase in our water bills to fund the repairs. Bus route sewers are collapsing. Call the Alderman's office to report any repair issues.

2802 N. Lincoln Ave Development: The "Green Building" also known as the "Battleship." The developers lost their financing and walked from the project. It continues to be an eyesore to the neighborhood.

Peerless Lot – 1300 W. Diversey: Demolished a few years ago, the Alderman is hoping for ground breaking soon. It appears a Pocket Park for that area is in the works.

South Lakeview Neighbors 1505 West Oakdale Avenue (312) 409-5LN6

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For membership and Newsletter Ad information, Please call Jim Volkober at (630)373-3362. Crime: The rash of violent muggings in the Lakeview area was the main issue. The Alderman met with Superintendent and Commander of Police with several other Aldermen. The main issue is the lack of police officers on the street. Some have diverted to the high crime areas on the South and West sides. The city requested 400 new officers under a US Federal program. The City will receive 50. The Alderman is examining what it will take to put more officers on the street when crime generally increases.

TIF Transparency Ordinance – originally opposed by the Mayor and eventually passed by a vote of 48-0, this ordinance allow taxpayers to see who is actually is getting these tax TIF breaks.

Parking Meters – the moaning when this was addressed was evident. The membership offered various comments and suggestions; however, as the Alderman stated, he voted NO, but this is done deal. The city is getting the Parking Meter Company LAZ to adjust some of the meters to make them more user friendly.

Snow Plowing Privatization: the City might allow the private contractors to plow side streets. The Alderman is not in favor of this. The Alderman believes the snowplowing problems stem from the management of the system, especially in not listening to the input from the drivers.

The Olympics – the Alderman loves the Olympics but has not been able to vote for the Olympic initiative. Despite the committees to oversee the spending, he sees the Olympics as money flying out the door. Several issues were signed by the Olympic committee without City or taxpayer input.

The Alderman opened the floor to the membership for questions. Here are some highlights:

Skyway and Parking Meter sales – no rainy day fund. Money is being spent as fast as it comes in. Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland streetscape – looking for

money to finish this 1/3 done project. Midway Airport sale/lease – dead deal

Blue bin recycling - 70% of contents are getting recycled.

City government oversite – any contract over \$1,000,000 has to be approved by the Council.

Bike racks – with parking meters removed for the

Bike racks – with parking meters removed for the middle of the block terminal, places to lock your bike have disappeared. Some bike racks are being installed. The SLN membership would like to thank the Alderman for his continued support of our group and his availability to the membership.

State Representative John Fritchey

State financial outlook: State Rep. Fritchey described the State of Illinois being in dire financial straits. Depending on which report you read, the deficit could be 7-12 billion dollars. The State is trying to divert expenses to the future and slow down payments to certain vendors. The State is looking for revenue sources. Mr. Fritchey did not support the Income Tax increase because it was not a graduated tax (lower on low income people) and it did not address Real Estate Tax Reform.

Capital bill signing Goods news. For the first time in almost 10 years, the State approved a large capital bill for roads, sewers and bridges

Video Poker Rep Fritchey voted against it. Any bar with a liquor license can apply for 5 machines He believed it was major shift in policy to produce revenue and bad politics that got passed with little discussion

Federal Stimulus Money Illinois received a good portion Our representatives in Washington DC are waiting for the appropriations to go through Congress

State Pensions the fundings are becoming a higher percentage of the State budget. Payments to pension funds are constitutionally required. The State needs to change to 401K system where the employees contribute on their own behalf

The Future - Cook County Board Seat Rep. Fritchey announced a few days earlier that he is not running for reelection of his Representative seat He will be running for the Cook County Board Seat vacated by Forrest Claypool. We asked why he is not running for Board President Rep. Fritchey stated that he felt he needed to come in and learn how the system works before he could decide if Board President would be appropriate Fritchey commended the work that Board members Mike Quigley and Forrest Claypool have been doing for the taxpayers. Fritchey believes that he can continue the battle of cleaning up the problems in the Cook County government

Finally Rep. Fritchey alerted us to the upcoming elections in 2010. He urged the membership to pay

attention to the candidates, the issues and most importantly to vote

SLN thanks Mr Fritchey for his service as our State Representative and wishes him the best in his future endeavors

HALLOWEEN FUN

South Lakeview Playlot

HALLOWEEN PARTY – from its humble beginnings to now a World Class Event. Bring the family and kids

Location South Lakeview Playlot - Wolfram & Lakewood

Date October 10

Time, 10AM to NOON

Costumes Definitely Including parents.

Volunteers set-up/ clean-up/ help at party 20 needed. Contact Jennifer Roche at email = Jenniferroche@yahoo.com

Trick or Treat on Southport

Location On Southport from Belmont to Byron Date October 25 Time 1PM to 3PM

Trick or Treat at participating stores
Festivities from 1PM to 4PM on Southport between
Grace and Byron.

Sponsored by the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce Suggested donation = \$5.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS AND INFORMATION

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News

Anyone needing assistance on their real esate taxes can go the Tax Assistance Center at City Hall, 121 N LaSalle, Room 100 between 8:30AM-5:00PM

Kids ID Program City Clerk Miguel del Valle reminds parents to receive free ID cards for their children For information on office locations call 312-74-CLERK or visit www.chiCityClerk.com

Call the Alderman's office at 773-248-1330 or email his office at 32ndWard@gmail.com to get his newsletter emailed directly to you

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber invites you to join Women Out Working WOW WOW is a program dedicated to women in business. Membership includes enrollment in all WOW events, opportunity to connect with over 100 businesswomen, access to

all resources and more Contact the Chamber at email address = info@lakeviewchamber.com.

Wired Wednesday at Central Federal Savings – 1601 W Belmont, October 7, 6PM-8PM Food, drinks and fun Members free, \$20 non-members.

Lake View Citizens Council – LVCC
LVCC Founder's Club Reception
Tuesday October 27, 6-9PM at Harry Caray's,
3551 N Sheffield Platinum member \$150 Gold
member \$100 and Silver member \$50 A portion of
the donations will be sent to support our troops.

Membership – a reminder to all SLN members. You should join LVCC to get a broader sense of what is happening in Lakeview community See the website for an application = www lakeviewcitizens.org

CAPS Meetings - by Sam Samatas

Meetings are run by a Beat Sergeant, some shift officers and a CAPS liason Beat 1932 majority of arrests take place near Clark and Belmont, After 10PM, this area is a hotbed for activity including shoplifting, illegal prostitution,battery to cause bodily harm, assault and drug activity. The SLN portion of Beat 1932 main crimes are burglary, theft of private property and vehicles, DUI and gang activity Approximately 60-70 arrests are made in the beat per month. The recent rash of assault/muggings in the Lincoln Park area have been met with an increase in uniform police presence and the addition of special crime teams brought in from other parts of the city Some perpetrators have been arrested. A blue-light police security camera was installed above the Starbucks at Clark and Belmont.

CAPS Meetings Beat 1932 east of Lincoln Ave October 8, 7:00PM at Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W Wellington and Beat 1931 west of Lincoln Ave. November 5, 7:00PM at Hamlin Park.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS – AD SPACE AVAILABLE ...

Some spaces are still available for the 2009-2010 season. Members are encouraged to contact their favorite restaurants or vendors. This is SLN's major revenue source. Get in NOW. Yearly rates (per year). Smallest \$50, Next smallest \$75, 1/6 page \$110, 1/3 page \$210, ½ page \$310. Contact Jim Volkober at 630-373-3362 to place an ad.

Annual St. Alphonsus Children's Garage Sale
Very big and very organized. Children's
clothing toys, furniture, baby gear and maternity
stuff For more info go to contact Trish Kelly at
tricia@inmarksales.com
DATE October 10 Saturday, 8AM-NOON

RESTAURANT REVIEW by Joni G. Witts – Tavern Grill Patio, 2913 N. Lincoln

Witts has a new look and taste The new menu is impressive featuring ingredients from local purveyors, such as Paulina Meat Market, Fritz Bakery and Green City Market. It has been a while since we last dined at Witts and upon recommendation from a fellow SLN officer we thought they were due another look/taste.

Witts still has specials of varying degree every evening such as Belgian beer and glasses of wine for \$6 each on this Thursday evening. The half dozen other customers have surprisingly matured The average patron on an early week night was about 40+ couples Whereas our previous visits. we were surrounded by 20 something mostly males Maybe our timing was excellent too Our dining choices ranged from excellent to so-so For an appetizer, we had cognac-soaked dates wrapped in bacon with apples and honey; an interesting combo of taste and texture. We loved it! One of us had the pulled pork sandwich special serve with a dollop of coleslaw on top nestled inside a pretzel bread for only \$5. We would pay more for this sandwich or come back and reorder it a few times a week for that price but it is only offered on Thursdays. The Chef's special Muffaletta was overshadowed by the pulled pork sandwich and tasted better for lunch the next day The sandwich is really that large. The sides of fries and mac and cheese lacked seasoning

The ambience is still of sports bar nature with multiple large screen TVs and bar top video games, although muted The music at first was low and afforded a good conversation level, but became quite loud as the evening grew later. There was interesting and well-lit photography on display.

Witts has definitely grown-up when it comes to food and beverage selections. With their new wine bottle logo and very classy to-go bags, you leave feeling sated and content after having spent only a little extra money for neighborhood sports bar. Give Witt's new menu a try.



Joseph Florence Commodity Futures Broker





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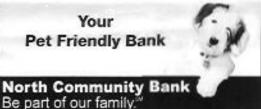
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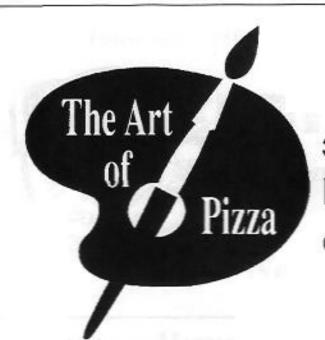




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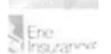
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