(312)409-SLN6 Web Site: www.slneighbors.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.)

APRIL. 2011



1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

SLN if investigating emal newsletters for those interested versus our current method of mailing. See the Article later in the newsletter

Dear Neighbors,

I admit it. I'm a Cubs fan. Have been since my earliest days when I had a teddy bear. When Ernie Banks played shortstop, and George Altman roamed right field. When Glen Hobbe and Dick Ellsworth pitched. My mother took me to my first game and I saw the two greatest players of the era: Banks and Willie Mays. We sat under the press box, and couldn't see very much, but the experience was magical. Even though the 1950s were the era of the go-go White Sox (Minnie Minoso, Luis Aparicio, Nellie Fox, Jungle Jim Rivera, Early Wynn, Billy Pierce, Sherm Lollar, Ted Kluszewski, Jim Landis led by the intrepid Al Lopez, owned by the immortal Bill Veeck), I kept my allegiance to the Cubs. Through the college of coaches, the death of Kenny Hubbs and the Lou Brock trade, even through the 1969 meltdown when I was a college freshman out East and had

Meeting a Glance ... April 12,2011

Location: Basement of St. Alphonsus Church 1429 W. Wellington

Agenda:7:00 pm:Cookies & socializing 7:30 pm:

- 1) Cubs Care
- 2) 1300 Belmont Medical Center -update
- 3) 2954 N. Racine Zoning Change

to live down my classmates' rejoicing over the 'Mazin' Mets and the fadin' Cubs. Now you have proof of my insanity.

The Cubs at least went to the playoffs after the Wrigley family sold them, but the disappointments didn't let up. I won't bore you with 1984, 1989, 1998, 2003, 2007 and 2008. TS Eliot, the English (by way of St. Louis) poet and playwright, said (and he had reason to know) that a second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience, and being a Cubs' fan is like that. Yet with a second ownership change in the last three years, we're looking forward to a great 2011 season. And to celebrate, we're hosting a Cubs representative at our April meeting. The Cubs are the second leading entertainment venue in Illinois (only Navy Pier surpasses, but it doesn't charge at the gate and is open, if you can stand it, 365 days a year). And CubsCare is a leading charity, having built the ballfields at Hamlin Park west of here. Like it or not, the Cubs affect our Neighborhood: traffic and restaurant/bar trade, drunken patrons and out-ofstate gawkers in our midst. How can we derive more from this engine of our economy and what is the new ownership doing to improve the general area? Hopefully we'll find out on Tuesday, April 12.



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Our organization depends on new members and new blood in the management ranks. (I wouldn't be involved but for this need.) So during our April meeting, we'll be soliciting nominations for officer and director as well as volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. We have a 10-person board and 6 officers, for a total "executive council" of 16, which meets typically on the Tuesday after our regular monthly meeting. Any institution can become inbred on its way to irrelevance, and so that we don't follow that well-trod path, please consider whether you'd like to get your two cents worth in. You'll be rewarded in ways that I can only begin to describe. I'm not sure how many of our members attended the Lakeview Area Merchants Plan unveiling last month, which pre-empted our regular meeting. I have my views on creating a pedestrian "Low-Line" under the "el" tracks between Southport and Paulina and beautifying a pharmacy north of Addison, when the crumbling sidewalks and vacant storefronts on Lincoln south of Belmont are ground zero of the need for a better Lakeview shopping experience. But as my mother said, if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.

April is the cruelest month, Eliot wrote. I don't know when taxes are due in England, but this month we're getting a double-whammy: first half estimated

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www.slneighbors.org

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President: David Duggan

1st Vice President: Sam Samatas

2nd Vice President: Ernie Toth

Recording Secretary: Bill Haderlein

Treasurer: Ann Sychowski

Corresponding Secretary: Marge Fahrenbach

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Joan Gatz

Newsletter Articles: Bill Haderlein Newsletter Editor: Jeanne Haderlein For membership call Ann Sy at 773-477-8840

property taxes due April 1 (a fitting homage to April Fools' Day: we're supporting the fools who run us). And then we get to file our Federal and State returns two weeks later. At least we get another weekend (they're due on April 18), meaning that this year the Sunday of the Passion will be one bloody Sunday.

Sincerely,

David G. Duggan

APRIL 2011 MEETING PREVIEW

CUBS CARE

Each year the Chicago Cubs raise over \$1.5 million dollars for Chicago Cubs Charities which helps to support local organizations and people in communities throughout the Chicago area. Several programs include Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI). Rehabilitation Institute cross-disability. competitive wheelchair softball team, Rookie League in partnership with the Park District to introduce baseball to 6-9 year old kids at no cost and Cubs Care Legends Fields at Hamlin Park that rebuilt the fields and installed an excellent lighting system in our own neighborhood park. A representative will give a presentation. For more information go to www.cubs.com and go to the Community page. Hey Hey, Holy Mackerel, no doubt about it, the Cubs are on their way.

1325-41 W. BELMONT – MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING – Update

In order for the Chicago Zoning Board to approve this project, due to parking space issue, the property needs to be rezoned to a dash 5(-5) to be considered as Planned Development. The project still will be built to the 3-story specifications as allowed under the current zoning and presented at the special December 2010 meeting at St. Lukes. A representative of the developer and/or a representative from the Alderman's office will explain the mechanics. This is NOT A VOTING ISSUE. Go to the Alderman's Website at www.ward32.org for additional information.

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2539 N. Southport Ave & Chicago, IL 60614 (773) 871-4000 & Commish@fritchey.com www.fritchey.com Back after WWI and WWII, when there were housing shortages in the city, many apartment units were cut into two smaller apartments. In addition, as the era of the neighborhood storefront ended, those storefronts were converted into apartment units. This three-story property has 10 apartments: 2 ground level storefronts and 4 front and back apartments on both floors #2 and #3. The building has been configured in this manner as long as anyone can remember. The building is zoned R-4 (which is really under-zoned). The new owners wish to rehab the current apartments keeping the same configuration and keeping them as rental units. In order to obtain a building permit, the Zoning Board has required the owner to upzone the property to R5.5 in order to make the storefront apartments legal. The SLN-NDRC would require a restrictive covenant rezoning back to R-4 after rehabbing is completed to prevent a large building to be built if this property was ever demolished. The NDRC is working with the owner to replace the surrounding sidewalk and improve the landscaping. This IS A VOTING ISSUE.

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee will be meeting shortly after the April 12 Membership Meeting. If you are interested in serving as an officer or director or know someone who is a good candidate, contact Bill Haderlein at: chicagolanddeck@rcn.com.

The officers and directors meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Wills Northwoods. Activities include planning the monthly meetings, involvement in zoning changes and working with community organizations and elected officials to provide a forum for the residents of our boundaries. Officer perks include some free meals and drinks and moving to the front of the line at the store. Get involved now.

AT THE MARCH MEETING -

LAMP Meeting – presented at St. Lukes by the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

LAMP = Lakeview Area Master Plan.

Held in St. Lukes Memorial Hall (where we vote) to a Standing Room Only crowd which included Alderman Tunney and Waguespack, a CBS camera crew and a Chicago Tribune reporter. A rather large article appeared on the front page of the Live section about a week later. It was an event. The food looked fantastic. No alcohol. The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce (Heather Way, Executive Director, Kris Hallowell, Chamber President and owner of Lakeview Funeral Home) and SSA #27(Special Service Area) hired PLACE Consulting and Moss Architecture to proactively plan for business, economic development and sustainability initiatives in Lakeview.

A Working Group was created, composed of members of neighborhood and community associations, property owners, business owners and representatives from the Lakeview Chamber and the SSA 27 Commission. The Group created a website (www.thisislakeview.com), a Face book fan page, shopper surveys, interviews and outreach at community association meetings. Nearly 1,200 completed a survey, attended an open house or visited and answered questions on website.

Some Lakeview Chamber demographic, psychographic and economic findings (area is Diversey to Irving Park Road and Racine to Ravenswood encompassing the Lincoln Belmont Ashland and Southport Corridor business areas).

55% of population is between 25-44 years old but becoming older, middle-aged and wealthier.

We spend more outside of our community than in. Retail categories and iconic businesses attract people to the neighborhood.

Households with children only 12%. Less than half of the Chicago average.

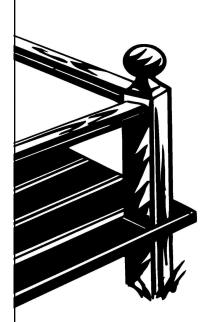
The Working Group conducted three main interviews 1) shopper surveys, 2) business owner surveys and 3) stakeholder (17 specific businesses). Some of the findings are:

New stores need to be added with restaurants and clothing stores topping the list.

33% of business owners live in the area. 60% believe the economy will improve, 42% are planning expansion and 16% are cutting back or closing.

Business vacancies need to be reduced. Sidewalk conditions on Lincoln Ave and south of Belmont are deteriorating and need to be fixed.

Nearly 12% of the commercial buildings have some historic value; however, the poor 1st floor facades detract from the beauty and architectural detail that exists in the upper floors of the buildings.



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The Working Group also sponsored two open houses to gather information, and an audio story contest, photo contest, LAMP parties and a youth summit to see what kids want.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Enhance the Pedestrian Environment by physical improvements to sidewalks, turning blank walls in murals, emphasizing the historical elements of key buildings at ground level and program vacant land or spaces for alternate uses until development occurs.
- 2) Improve the Mix of Uses and Programming by enhancing niche districts, encouraging 2nd floor space use to help support daytime activities, shared business models, develop regular programming in underused areas and new proposed plaza areas and support regular activities to different major age groups.
- 3) Strengthen Existing Businesses by sharing LAMP data, helping businesses with their on-line presence, sharing back-office expenses and developing a campaign to help residents to get to know local business owners and encourage them to shop locally.
- 4) Sustainability by installing rain gardens throughout the neighborhood to beautify and retain rainwater, advocate for street light enhancements that decrease light pollution and focus the light on the pedestrian, enhance urban wildlife (butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, etc.), improving bicycle infrastructure, encourage local food production with urban gardens on vacant land.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS for LINCOLN AVE south of BELMONT

VISION: to become a shopping destination with enhanced furniture, home furnishing and self-improvement businesses.

Recommendations: 1) façade improvements, sidewalk treatments and landscaping efforts, (2) recruit complementary home good stores, kitchen stores and unique furniture stores (3) develop an "improvement-related" district including home improvement to spiritual improvement, encourage property owners to continue historic elements on the ground floors of buildings.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS for LINCOLN AVE north of BELMONT

VISION: a village-like character through pedestrian plazas and sustainable open space and expand the late-night offerings near the Lincoln Belmont Ashland intersection.

Recommendations: (1) developing continuous active retail between the Paulina L stop and Melrose, (2) develop the vacant space at the L stop to grow local food, (3) create a plaza at the north side of Lincoln, School and Marshfield by closing off Marshfield (see BIG IDEAS).

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS - SOUTHPORT North of Belmont and BELMONT AVE.

VISION: to become the premier pedestrianoriented corridor in Chicago with better integration of landscaping, sustainable design and an enhanced sidewalk experience.

Recommendations: 1) Southport south of Addison to become a more complete clothing destination 2) Southport north of Waveland to become a dining destination embracing the elements of the Music Box Theater by recruiting fine dining establishment near the Music Box and developing a cohesive outdoor dining area, 3) reducing curb cuts and 4) supporting an improved farmers market.

BIG IDEAS:

- The "Low-Line" a green walking path beneath the L tracks between Southport and Paulina. The path would have decorative lighting and native landscaping as a means to connect different parts of the community.
- 2) Vacant Lot next to Paulina L a new community park to serve as open space and local food production (urban farming).
- 3) Improvements at the Lincoln Belmont Ashland intersection to enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians.
- 4) North side of Lincoln, School and Marshfield – transform this area into a triangle plaza for regular performances and gathering space that could be extended along the back of Whole Foods on Marshfield to create a larger plaza for bigger community events.

REACTION: Comments at the presentation ranged from asking about safety in the area and reinstating the Beat Cop with the attendees perception of an increase in area crime, how would

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pedestrians deal with L train noise while enjoying The Low-Line, why the area south of Belmont was virtually ignored in the presentation and how can the Chamber keep the area from becoming one giant hair and nail salon Mecca.

IN CONCLUSION: some interesting ideas. But the elephant in the room is funding. Heather Way and the Chamber are in the process of determining what the initial projects are going to be. Funding would be a combination of Aldermanic-City funds, State funds and Private Donations. Two of those three sources are broke. However, we have a new mayor straight from Washington D.C., our former Congressman via a rented house located just north of the Lincoln Belmont Ashland area. Maybe that will help.

We all have to put our heads together to make something like this work. The days of waiting for things to happen are over. Get involved.

Go to www.thisislakeview.com for the full report.

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News www.ward32.org Street Sweeping Starts 4/1

Help the cleaning cause by keeping drains and curbs as clear as possible. Remove leaves clogging sewer drain covers. Go to the Alderman's website to download a cleaning schedule. Leaves and winter debris – bag leaves and place next to your garbage can. DO NOT PUSH INTO the STREET. This ruins the street sweeper brushes and causes breakdowns.

Mayor Daley's Spring Clean & Green - Saturday, April 16. Contact the Alderman's office for use of cleaning equipment or supplies.

Project Exploration – in partnership the Chicago Public Schools and Motorola Solutions Foundation. Connect with students with various summer camp opportunities revolving around exploration, discovery and science. www.projectexploration.org.

CAPS MEETINGS

CAPS Meetings are now being held quarterly. 2011 meeting dates are:

- Beat 1931: 1st Thursdays on 6/2, 9/1 and 12/1 at 7:00 pm, Hamlin Park, 3035 N. Hoyne.
- Beat 1932: 2nd Thursdays on 6/9, 9/8 and 12/8 @ 7:00 pm, Illinois Masonic Hospital-Clarke Auditorium, 836 W. Wellington.

CAPS Officers -

email = CAPS019District@chicagopolice.org.

Sign up for Community email alerts with Lt. John Willner email=john.willner@chicagopolice.org.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS / INFORMATION

SOUTH LAKEVIEW PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL – a 501c3 Not for Profit Organization

You are welcome to join the Advisory Council for the 2011 season. The next meeting is Monday, April 18 @ 7PM at the Golden Apple. The Council is working on the Summer and Halloween schedule.

CLEAN-UP day in the Park. May 15 10AM to NOON. The planters outside the Park are clogged and need some maintenance. Can anyone donate this service?

Corporate or Individual Sponsors - The Advisory Council is looking for sponsors for its 2011 Summer and Halloween events.

Contact Jennifer Roche at jenniferroche@yahoo.com or Carolyn Withey at witheycarolyn@yahoo.com for additional information.

BURLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Friends of Burley

2011 Spring Book Fair fundraiser to support programs at our neighborhood school. At the Burley Fieldhouse behind the School at 1630 W. Barry.

Monday 4/4 9AM-3PM, Tuesday 4/5 9AM-3PM, Wednesday 4/6 Noon-6PM, Thursday 4/7 9AM-3PM and Friday 4/8 9AM-Noon.

See www.friendsofburley.org for info.

LAKEVIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL - LVCC www.lakeviewcitizens.org.





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For more information or to register call 1-800-323-8622 Code =9X15 (Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center) or 1-877-737-4636 (St. Joseph Hospital). Sponsored by St. Luke Academy Ministries.

For membership information. See website www.lakeviewcitizens.org.

ST. ALPHONSUS - Fish Fry, April 8

An Old-Fashioned Lenten Fish Fry.

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SLN - WEBSITE = www.slneighbors.org

Visit the site. Links to Community Resources. 1) 32nd Ward links to Alderman Waguespack's website. 2) City Service Requests. 3) CPD Crime Stats – view maps showing up to date crime information. 4) Deleterious Impact Ordinance – trouble with a business or bar. Learn how this Ordinance works. 5) Everyblock for SLN – gathers information (permits, business openings, licenses, and crime data) for every block in Chicago.

EMAIL SLN NEWSLETTER - save SLN money

If you wish to receive the newsletter by EMAIL, go to the SLN website at www.slneighbors.org. Click on the link on the right side of the page under "Subscribe to our newsletter." And follow the prompts. SLN's biggest expense is the production of the monthly newsletter. Switching to the email version will reduce our future costs.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS – long time Lakeview businesses:

Have you ever noticed at the top of some Condo buildings, the year 1999 might be etched in the bricks? I don't think we will be gazing at that date

in 2099 and wondering how things were 100 years ago. But here are some businesses that have stood the test of time:

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Dinkel's Bakery – loved by all, old-timers and new comers. They have stayed old-fashioned and yet have changed with times and have outlasted many bakeries that have closed in our neighborhood over the years. My kids insist on Dinkels when they come home from college (as long as Mom goes to get it). Now expanding into a Café next door to the Bakery. Good luck.

ARTICLES AND ACCOUNCEMENTS

Individuals, Community Groups, Schools, Churches or Business can submit announcements or informative information for the newsletter to Bill Haderlein at email = chicagolanddeck@rcn.com.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS – AD SPACE AVAILABLE

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