1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657 Web Site: wv

Web Site: www.slneighbors.org
General email : info@slneighbors.org

President email : president@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.)

DECEMBER, 2011



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please renew your memberships so you can keep your voting privileges and receive your newsletter.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

If you did not receive the newsletter by email this month, please go to the website at www.slneighbors.org to enter your information. Our goal is to email as many newsletters as possible to eliminate copying and postage costs and assembly time. Some email addresses we tested bounced back to us due to transcription errors. So help us by using the web-site to submit (correct) your email information.

Dear Neighbors,

Judging solely from the number of credit card solicitations I receive and the new-home construction activity two doors from me, it would appear that things are getting better. But I'm not so sure. Three years into our economic malaise, I suspect the best thing that can be said is that it isn't worse. We don't live in Europe where the continent is on the brink of collapse, or in China

MEETING AT A GLANCE December 13, 2011

Location: Will's Northwoods Inn

3030 N. Racine

Agenda: 6:30 PM : Cocktails & Appetizers

7:00PM-8:30 : More cocktails &

appetizers

Liquor Basket Raffle Spilt the Pot Raffle

where earthquakes and mudslides kill tens of thousands, or in Africa where civil unrest and famine claim a butcher's bill that defies enumeration. Even when times are tough, we are privileged to live in the United States, and I count my blessings that I live in Chicago, IL, in the neighborhood called South Lakeview. Not that we should be oblivious to our neighbor's needs on farther shores, but simply that a little perspective can help us through the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune.

This year once again we will be celebrating the holidays at Will's Northwoods Inn on Tuesday evening, December 13. There will likely be a few new menu choices, but our festivities will include old favorites: an open bar for beer, wine and soda from 6:60 to 8:30, raffles for liquor baskets and gift certificates, and just some good old fashioned conviviality. And again ask that those attending bring a canned good, or (unopened) box of food (cereal, pasta?) for distribution to our neighbors in need through the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Our members may be suffering from charity-solicitation overload during this season of parties and gift-buying, but this is one chance to assist for those in our midst.



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The City's budget crisis is hitting home as the 19th District police station at Belmont just west of Western is scheduled for the chopping block. Fear not, for as I do the math, the 23rd District station at Addison and Fremont is closer to both the nearest and the farthest points in our neighborhood's boundaries than is the 19th District (if you don't believe me, I'll explain at the party, before I've had a couple of drinks). There's an undoubted desire to keep what we have, but if the out-of-whack City budget is ever going to be balanced without backbreaking tax increases, some changes are imperative. For our neighborhood as far as I am concerned, closing the 19th District is a no-brainer.

A year after the proposal was presented to our group (and opposed), the Belmont Medical Building has begun construction. The hookah lounge proposed for the same block has chosen to seek its fortunes elsewhere: Bleeding Heart Bakery is planning to move into that space from its current place on Belmont at Damen. If pulmonologists are regretting this turn of events, perhaps gastroenterologists have reason to rejoice. I won't say what I paid for two Thanksgiving pies from another "designer bakery", but I hope that Bleeding Heart will match its convenience with more competitive prices.

South Lakeview Neighbors 1515 West Oakdale Avenue www.slneighbors.org

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I just celebrated a milestone birthday, although perhaps at my age, any birthday is a milestone.

But don't worry, I'm not Social Security or Medicare-eligible so I won't be further bankrupting those systems. As I reflect on what will undoubtedly prove to be the first two-thirds of my life, I think of how lucky I have been, particularly to get to know my neighbors through this organization. Whatever your particular faith or persuasion, may you have a joyous celebration of the holidays.

Sincerely,

David G. Duggan

DECEMBER 2011 MEETING – HOLIDAY PARTY

PLACE: Will's Northwoods Inn - 3030 N. Racine

DATE : Tuesday December 13 TIME : 6:30PM Sharp – 8:30PM

FOOD: Appetizers prepared and served hot by Wills Northwoods kitchen and S&G Restaurant's famous Greek salad prepared by actual Greeks.

DRINKS: Beer, wine and pop will be graciously donated by Will's Northwood Inn. All other mixed drinks will be on a CASH BAR basis. No exceptions.

RAFFLES: Liquor baskets and Cash Split the Pot. FREE for all dues paying members, family, friends, advertisers and those wishing to join SLN.

Please join us for non-serious evening of eating, drinking, reconnecting and general goodtime BS.

Thanks to the generosity of Will's Northwoods for the use of facilities and the beverage donation. Remember to tip your servers for their service.

LAKEVIEW PANTRY DONATION - those attending the Party are asked to bring a canned food donation or cash/check contribution for the Lakeview Food Pantry located at St. Alphonsus and serving the residents in our immediate neighborhood. Food pantries across the US are struggling to keep food shelves stocked as we enter another year of economic recession. Most needed food items are peanut butter (due to a nationwide shortage), jelly, canned tuna or other canned meat, soups or stews and canned fruit and vegetables. In addition, razors and shaving cream

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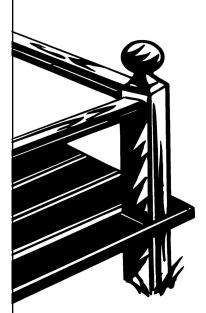
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and as the cold weather has set in, cooking oil, long underwear and socks are in need.

If you cannot make the Holiday Party, members are encouraged to donate to the Lakeview Pantry. Drop-off hours are Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-8:00PM and Saturday 10-1:00PM at 1414 W. Oakdale 773-404-6333. Go to their website at www.lakeviewpantry.org for more information.

AT THE NOVEMBER 2011 MEETING

U.S. CONGRESSMAN - MIKE QUIGLEY

Congressman Quigley came to SLN for a more in depth talk on Washington D.C happenings. He spent the beginning of the talk describing the "gridlock" we all hear and know about. Mr. Quigley relayed a story from the 1980's when Ronald Reagan was the Republican President and Tip O' Neill was Speaker of the House for the Democratic Party. They worked together and passed one of the most extensive tax reform bills in history. Why Congress work doesn't that today?Congressman Quigley noted that in the 1980' s, Democrats and Republicans were more moderate, not all far apart in their political ideals and willing to work together to "get things done in the middle" for the betterment of the USA. Mr. Quigley noted that in the last election, moderates lost ground and were replaced with more liberal leftists and more conservative rightists. This is the main cause of the gridlock. Groups not willing to bend. He noted that financial bills to stimulate jobs and economy often have emotional issues attached to the bills such as Planned Parenthood or NPR Radio funding. This stalls or eliminates the passage of bills.

Jobs Bill: Mr. Quigley believed this bill was DOA. The Republicans were against it from the start. He has hope that the Infrastructure Bill portion of the Jobs Bills may pass as studies have shown that infrastructure investment creates the kick in economy, the most permanent and high paying jobs and is needed to keep the USA competitive in the world economy.

Deficit and the Super Committee :

According to Congressman Quigley, the US is currently spending .42cents of every dollar on the deficit. We have spent \$4,000,000,000,000 trillion on the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The U.S. spends more on weapon research per year than

China spends on its whole military. Since 911, Mr. Quigley reports that some 40 terrorist plots have been foiled. But they have not been foiled by aircraft carriers, they have been foiled by intelligence and mainly domestic policeman. He feels the U.S. is wasting its money on a military that if not relevant to our dispersed, terrorist enemy.

The Super Committee is trying to find items to cut to balance the budget. Mr. Quigley's solution. Cut the military and end the wars.

Mr. Quigley is working with a group of Congressman he refers to as the "worker bees" that are talking with gridlockers to move legislation along. In addition, he has formed a Transparency Caucus to root out the costs of corruption in federal government.

Congressman Quigley has an extensive web-site dealing with many issues and specifically the Deficit. Go to Congressman Quigley's website at www.quigley.house.gov for more detailed information.

COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER - JOHN FRITCHEY

SLN's long-time State Rep has gone County. Replacing our former Commissioner Forrest Claypool, now head of the CTA, Mr. Fritchey is keeping closer to home. Recently, Mr. Fritchey made a splash announcing a plan with several Chicago Alderman to make the possession of 10 grams of marijuana an offense punishable with a ticket. Mr. Fritchey noted that small amount weed cases are normally thrown-out in court, wasting the police and courts time. Offenders would be issued a ticket and not be arrested, processed or made to appear in court. According to Mr. Fritchey, this fine methodology would keep police officers on the street instead of processing offenders freeing-up 80,000 man hours for police to be on the street and saving the County over \$50,000,000 per year including the fines produced from the violation. Mr. Fritchey noted that 15 States currently have ticket policies for small possession amounts. Mr. Fritchey also requested that people stop referring to him as the Marijuana Guy.

Cook County Budget – under Commissioner Preckwinkle, the Board is undoing the Todd Stroger mess. Ms. Preckwinkle is keeping her

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promise of rolling back the Stroger sales tax increase. Each ½% roll back in the tax equals \$50,000,000 in revenue that has to be cut from spending. The County will have to do with less. This last budget included 1,000 in County employee layoffs. Mr. Fritchey is proposing the combination of the County Clerk (David Orr) and the County Recorder of Deeds (Gene Moore) departments as many of their activities are redundant. Savings could be \$1,000,000 per year. He intends to have this as resolution on the November election ballot.

Mr. Fritchey noted that a large part of the County deficit comes from the Health System especially the Cook County Stroger Hospital where people who are not from Cook County are lining up for less expensive procedures at the County Hospital and then many times not paying their medical bills. The Board is addressing this issue. In addition, Mr. Fritchey comments that the County is slowly getting rid of many of the patronage Stroger hirings.

BURLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Friends of Burley – www.freindsofburley.org

Representatives from Friends of Burley presented Phase Two plans for the current concrete area behind the school. The multi-purpose green space is designed to benefit all ages and areas of the community. The park will be funded by a combination of public funds, grants, corporate gifts and private donations. Phase One, new play equipment was completed this summer.

Artificial turf playing field - \$170,000 Latex running track - \$75,000 Basketball court - \$35,000 Tetherball courts - \$10,000 Benches - \$10,000 Outdoor Classroom - \$25,000 Greening Community Garden - \$75,000

Friends of Burley has already raised \$105,000 toward Phase Two.

All donations are appreciated. Contacts with businesses are welcome. Volunteers are needed to get the word out.

Donate on-line at : www.friendsofburley.org /burleycommunitypark.html or send donations to : Friends of Burley c/o Burley School 1630 W. Barry , Chicago, IL. 60657

The Burley School is one of only four schools to achieve a CPS A+ rating.

ZIP CAR Parking at Lakewood and Wellington

This issue was raised at the October membership meeting from the floor as to why public parking spots are being given to businesses in a neighborhood that has parking issues. Joe Semerling and Bill Haderlein of SLN's NDRC met with Paul Sajovec, Chief of Staff to Alderman Waquespack to find out how this parking spot was allocated.

Mr. Sajovec indicated that this spot is on a testbasis. The idea is that these shared cars actually help to take the pressure off street parking by giving people another option rather than owing a second or third car that would be parked on the street. This in turn promotes the use of transportation options such as public transit, biking and walking. The spots are given to these companies in a similar manner that standing and loading zones are given to businesses. No fee is currently being charged. The City allocated 10 such cars in high density areas throughout the city. The Wellington Lakewood site had 46 different people use that car since September 16 to early November. All drivers lived within walking distance to the car. The Alderman's office is working with ZipCar on making sure the cars are moved for street cleaning.

A ballot vote was taken on the subject: Do you support the reservation of public street parking spots for ZipCar or similar businesses? YES=22, NO=27. The information was forwarded to the Alderman's office.

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News Office located 2657 N. Clybourn, 773-248-1330 www.ward32.org, email = info@ward32.org

Winter Parking Alert – in the SLN boundaries, Belmont, Ashland and Diversey have 2 inch snow route bans. Get your cars off these streets when it starts snowing or you will get a ticket.





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Senior Gift Drive – to benefit area low income seniors in need. Suggested gift is a gift certificate (\$25) for groceries, restaurants or gift baskets. Bring donations to the Alderman's office.

Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 – the City is embarking on a plan for safe city bike riding. First meeting is Saturday, 12/10 10AM-4PM at 23E, Madison St.

(www.facebook.com/streetforcycling2020)

State Representative Ann M. Williams Office located- 1726 W. Belmont, 773-880-9082 Email – ann@repannwilliams.com

Fall Veto Session - State Rep voted NO on the proposal to permit automated speeding tickets to be issued by cameras in school and park zones. However the bill passed. Now it is up the City of Chicago to implement. Ms. Williams voted NO on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange/Sears tax reform package as the package lacked a balanced approach to tax relief. Also, certain vetoed funds were reallocated for critical human services such as mental health, substance abuse services for homeless and MAP grants.

District Office Open House – Thursday January 26 6PM – 8PM at 1726 W. Belmont with Congressman Quigley.

Ms. Williams has polled voters by email on some issues she recently voted on. Sign up for her newsletter and be part of the decision process.

For more information and to sign up for Rep.William's newsletter, call or email her office.

U.S. Congressman Mike Quigley
Office @ 1057 W. Belmont, 773-267-5926.
Email=bridget.geraghty@mail.house.gov
www.quigley.house.gov

District Office Open House – Thursday January 26 6PM – 8PM at 1726 W. Belmont with State Rep. Ann Williams.

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey Office @ 2539 N. Southport, 773-871-4000 Email=bridget@fritchey.com www.fritchey.com HELPING HANDS CAMPAIGN – Commissioner Fritchey's office will be collecting hygiene products as well as new or slightly used hats, gloves, scarves and socks. These items are given directly to local service organizations. Items can be dropped off at Mr. Fritchey's office.

For more information contact Bridget at Commissioner Fritchey's office.

CAPS MEETINGS

CAPS Meetings are now being held quarterly. 2012 meeting dates are:

- Beat 1931: 1st Thursdays on and 3/1 at 7:00 pm, Hamlin Park, 3035 N. Hoyne.
- Beat 1932: 2nd Thursdays on 3/8 @ 7:00 pm, Illinois Masonic Hospital-Clarke Auditorium, 836 W. Wellington.

Sites will remain the same until further notice.

Crime alert – Brass or metal kickplates are being removed from residence entry doors.

Do not leave Christmas packages in plain sight inside your car. Vehicle break-ins are on the rise for your presents. Put packages in your trunk if possible. In addition, get your UPS packages off your front porch ASAP as criminals are following UPS trucks and swiping packages off front porches. Other than that – Merry Christmas.

CAPS Officers -

email = CAPS.019District@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 www.southlakeviewpark.org

SLPAC is looking for volunteer leaders to take on key positions for the 2012 park season. We need new volunteers to keep Tuesdays in the Park and Halloween party going strong. Please contact SLPAC President Jennifer Roche at JenniferRoche@yahoo.com.



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The Chamber is relocating their offices to : 1409 W. Addison.

SLN ISSUE UPDATES:

Items that have come before the membership.

- 1) Medical Building 1300 Belmont. Current building being demolished. Moving forward.
- 2) Hookah Lounge dead deal. It appears Bleeding Heart Bakery will be moving in.
- 3) Racine/Wellington Apartments sidewalks and parkway are being replaced/repaired
- 4) 3100 Southport new single family house being built under current zoning. Previous zoning upgrade was rejected.

SLN ADVERTISERS – SUPPORT

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Contact Ann Sychowski at 773-477-8840 for advertising opportunities.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOILDAYS. HAPPY NEW YEAR. May you all have a happy and healthy holiday season. Officers & Directors – South Lakeview Neighbors.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING – 2/14/2012

RESTAURANT REVIEW – by Joni G A Plate, 2819 N. Southport, 773-525-6695

There is a new twist to everything at the former Barberry. With a fresh coat of paint making the place much brighter and cleaner (although a lingering scent of Pine Sol was initially detected). Not sure if these are new owners or the former Barberry owners decided to make some major improvements. Whoever owns the license now kept their BYOB policy which pleases this reviewer very much.

We chose to sit in the upstairs balcony area. At the former Barberry this reviewer had concerns with the lack of attention to cleaning upstairs. The balcony is very much improved, clean and hip looking.

The menu is modern Asian with a twist. A wonderful example of the twist is the appetizers called Crispy Candy. These beautiful shapes appearing to be "hard candies in wrappers" are all edible and very delicious Crab Rangoon. The only other diners recommended this appetizer enthusiastically.

I had the Chicken Roti which is chopped chicken, cucumbers, carrots, eggs and jalapenos in a sweet & sour sauce served on top of Roti, an East Indian flat bread. Presentation was uniquely piled high and very colorful as you revealed the various layers. My partner had the Spicy Tilapia, crisply fried and topped with a mild spicy sauce. The fish was another beautiful presentation served with a side of rice in the shape of a flower. Both dishes were excellent and made us want to return to order more from their Signature Plates on the new menu. American Fried Rice is described as stirfried with ham, peas, carrots, raisins and tomato sauce served with fried mini hot dogs, chicken wings and a fried egg on top.



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I cannot wait until my next visit! I am a sucker for food presented well. A Plate gets and A+ from this reviewer in presentation as well as taste sensations. The prices are very modest and the service is exceptional and friendly. Go, enjoy and savor something new.	

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