South Lakeview Neighbors
Over Forty Years of Service

1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657
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
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.)

NOVEMBER, 2012

Next Meeting
TUESDAY – November 13, 2012

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

Dear Neighbors,

Our November meeting occurs the week after election day and probably by then all the votes will have been tallied, and we will know who will lead this nation for the next four years. Consistent with our tax-exempt status and my bipartisan approach, I will not weigh in on who I think will do a better job (discerning readers probably already know). But in between election day and our meeting are two dates that I think deserve our organization’s attention: the birthday of the United States Marine Corps (Nov. 10 – 237 years, 1 year older than our nation) and Veterans’ Day (Nov. 11). They both have personal significance to me: I was born outside Camp Lejeune, the Marines’ headquarters, where my father was a Judge Advocate General officer (that’s militarese for lawyer), and my mother wanted nothing to do with the Navy doctors who would have treated her on the base (for historical and operational reasons, the Marines have lawyers but no doctors in their ranks). And of course, my father, as a veteran of both World War II and Korea, received the benefits of a veteran’s pension and a color guard when his ashes were laid to rest.

We in the upper Midwest have been largely insulated from our nation’s recent military adventures. Lakeside Veteran’s Hospital near Northwestern Hospital has been shut down for many years and while Jessie Brown VA (near the U of I medical center south of the Ike) and Hines VA serve both in- and out-patient populations, I rather doubt that many of our members have been there to visit an injured or disabled veteran. Great Lakes in North Chicago still trains every Navy “boot” (enlisted person), but apart from seeing them in uniform downtown, how many of us have approached one to thank him for his service. It is said that but 1% of our population has a family member (child, parent, spouse) serving in the military, but even if the number is five times that we scarcely do enough for those on the other end of the line when the nations dials 911. I know that one son of a SLN board member has answered the call

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of duty, but at least statistically there should be many more in our midst. Veterans’ Day is on a Sunday this year, so please think how you can honor those who have offered their lives so that we and others can have free elections.

Representatives from the new Belmont Medical Building will be at our November meeting to tell us what services they are now offering and advise us about the most recent developments in medical knowledge (I haven’t re-started salting my food, even though I have heard that it’s OK). I’ve been a patient of Northwestern’s many medical facilities since returning from New York (it may have something to do with my days depending on student health) but understand now that the different groups under the NU umbrella are now talking to each other with electronic records that are instantly accessible. We can learn more about it that night.

Winter will be here before we know it, and if you’re like me, you haven’t done all you can to insulate your home. A representative from Energy Impact will also be present to discuss incentives to add a layer of insulation to your attic.

How about those Bears (and the ‘Cats)? See you on the 13th.

Sincerely, David G. Duggan

NOVEMBER 2012 MEETING PREVIEW

Northwestern Medical Center – 1300 Belmont
A representative and medical professional will be present to explain the overall operations of the new Medical Center that opened in August 2012. A medical professional or doctor will also be on hand to describe the medical opportunities the Center offers to the neighborhood.

Energy Impact Illinois – energy rebates
Energy Impact Illinois, along with your local Utility Companies, is providing rebates to help lower our energy bills. A representative will describe the program which mainly consists of air sealing and insulating programs. Rebates of 70% of your cost up to $1,750 are available. If you cannot wait until the November meeting, call 1-855-9-IMPACT to set up an appointment.

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey
The Cook County budget has been in the news lately. Increases of $1 per pack for cigarettes (I picked a bad day to stop sniffing glue) and the Violence Tax on bullets (take better aim) are a few of the controversial budget items. Commissioner Fritchey contacted SLN and requested some time to discuss the 2013 County budget. Bring it on.

AT THE OCTOBER 2012 MEETING

November 2012 Election – Candidate Forum
I guess our elected politicians are doing such a great job, that most of them are running unopposed in November. At least they are saving money on election expenses. Nevertheless, several politicians made some pitches to the membership

Cook County State’s Attorney: 
Anita Alvarez – Democratic incumbent. Ms. Alvarez appeared before SLN four years ago during her successful campaign of 2008. Ms. Alvarez touched on some laws and prosecutions during her tenure. One of the laws created was named for a slain Chicago policeman and involves the ability to prosecute crimes committed with guns. Formerly, offenders caught with guns were often just given probation. Under the new law, known gang
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members that are caught with a gun will face jail time.
The Illinois Children’s Act received national attention for human sex trafficking crimes. In the past, children forced into prostitution were charged with the crime. When in reality, these children are really the victims. The new law is designed to use information to arrest and prosecute the pimps or sex traffickers, not the child prostitute. Ms. Alvarez informed the membership that due to being a transportation hub, Chicago ranks 3rd in human sex trafficking in the USA.

RICO – The State’s Attorney office is using RICO as a way to get gang leaders behind bars. Ms. Alvarez stated that street gangs are run like Corporations, where the higher-ups do none of the work and live in nice houses in the suburbs. RICO allows the Attorney’s office to connect the dots from the street soldiers, back to the gang leaders and put them behind bars.

Ms. Alvarez said she was made for this job and has been working at the State’s Attorney’s office for over 23 years. She noted that the city budget had caused her department to lose around 75 administration employees which forces the prosecuting attorneys to do more work with less. See her website at = www.statesattorney.org

Lori S. Yokoyama – Republican challenger.
Principal/Managing Partner of Yokoyama & Associates. Ms. Yokoyama also teaches at DePaul University. Ms. Yokoyama believes the Chicago elected officials are some of the most corrupt in the nation and that is causing Chicago to becoming the murder capital of the U.S. Ms. Yokoyama believes that her opponent, Ms. Alvarez is too entrenched with the Democratic machine to perform her duties in a totally objective manner. She noted the lack of prosecution in the Mayor Daley nephew Rush Street punching/killing case and the lack of politicians prosecuted by Ms. Alvarez during her term despite the overall corrupt environment. As a business owner, Ms. Yokoyama believes she will be able to cut the current budget of the State’s Attorney Office. For more information, see her website at = www.Lori2012.com.

Nancy Wade – Green Party
Ms. Wade did not reveal much personal information, but got straight to the issues. She feels there is no shortage of solutions to the current set of problems, but the current elected officials do not have the fortitude to solve them. She believes in fairness in taxation, jobs for our communities, universal health care and getting “big money” out of politics. She believes in big cuts to the military and bringing the soldiers home. She stated that historically, warring countries eventually fail to compete economically with the rest of the world. The Green Party will institute a National Environmental Defense Plan to combat climate change.

According to her website, Ms. Wade resides in Chicago with her husband and two children. In 2005 she earned a Masters of Teaching Language Arts from Northeastern Illinois University and graduated in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Communication from the University of Minnesota. She has been an activist since the mid-70’s when the feminist movement had a major resurgence. She became a community activist in 1992 when she joined her neighborhood watchdog group, the Horner Park West Neighborhood Association. For more information, see her website at www.wadeincongress.org.

Lathrop Homes – Developer (?) presentation
The rehabilitation, rebuilding or rehab of the historic Lathrop Homes is somewhat moving forward. Way back in 1999, the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) started planning the redevelopment of Lathrop Homes. In 1999, 747 families occupied 925 apartments. As of now, all of the residencies north of Diversey have been vacated by the CHA. Now in 2012, 165 households exist and 750 rental units are vacant.

Finally in January 2010, the CHA selected Lathrop Community Partners (LCP) to be the development team for the Project. The CHA requested a plan with a scope of approximately 800-1200 units of market quality, new and/or rehabbed mixed income housing, both ownership and rental of which approximately 1/3 must be public housing. The CHA also requested the requirement for a vigorous, community based planning process and an open public planning process.

Public meetings started in November 2011, with several SLN officers and directors in attendance.

US Congress, 5th District –

Though not opposed by the Republicans, Congressman Mike Quigley is opposed by a Green Party candidate.
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LCP had a few meetings early on, but subsequent public meetings were postponed or cancelled. In August 2012, without any additional public meetings, LCP released three development scenarios for the site. The three plans have total Units of 1,322, 1,531 and 1,610. The plans also include a high-rise building ranging from 12 stories to 28 stories high. Retail space included ranges from 47,000 to 71,115 square feet.

Aldermen Waguespak and Moreno, and several community groups have mobilized to reject these plans. Issues relating to the plans are an inappropriate density, height of buildings and lack of transit services (streets and public transportation) for this type of density. It is felt that the plans are completely inconsistent with the context and character of the surrounding residential neighborhood. The Lathrop Homes are on the National Register of Historic Places as the first federal public housing development in Chicago. The three plans do not address the historic preservation of the buildings. The Alderman and the neighborhood groups also noted no opportunities for public input after the initial three public meetings.

SLN invited LCP to present its plans to the membership. In addition, Mr. John McDermott, Housing and Land Use Director of the Logan Square Neighborhood Association was invited to present opposing views to the three proposals. At the last minute, LCP declined to attend the SLN meeting. Mr. McDermott gave a historic presentation of the Lathrop Homes, a time-line of the current public meetings or lack thereof and a critique of the current plans. In addition, Mr. McDermott floated an alternative vision of preserving and rehabbing the current buildings as the construction will allow for increasing the size of the rental units within the current building footprints. His proposal called for a mix of 50% public housing and 50% affordable housing, with 0% market rate rentals.

The floor was open for questions or comments. The membership was generally in favor of preservation and low density. Members also expressed concern of increased crime associated with public housing.

The membership was polled as to the current three plans proposed by LCP the developer. Do you support any of the plans presented by the developer? The opposition to the plans was unanimous.

SLN intends to assist the Alderman and neighboring groups to initiate a coordinated response to the unreasonable and damaging elements in these plans for the Lathrop Homes before it is too late.

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

If you have a service request, please contact the Alderman’s office or call 311 rather than posting the request on Facebook, Twitter or other social media websites. The Alderman’s office does NOT receive these requests directly. These are standalone websites and we might not always see requests that are posted on these sites.

Electricity Aggregation Program – On Nov. 6th, City residents will vote on an Electricity Aggregation referendum question that would authorize the City of Chicago to negotiate lower electricity rates on behalf of residential and small business electricity consumers located within the City. If enabled by referendum, the City will negotiate an agreement with a certified electricity supplier that will guarantee lower monthly electricity supply prices. For more information on Electricity Aggregation go to www.cityofchicago.org/ElectricityAggregation.

Discounted Annual Physicals – For a limited time, Saint Joseph Hospital is offering discounted physicals for employees of local business. The $40 annual physical includes: exam by physician, TB test, cholesterol test and diabetes screening. You must mention this offer and the name of the business when making an appointment. Where: Laboure Outpatient Center, 2913 N. Commonwealth, 5th Floor on the Campus of Saint Joseph Hospital. For appointment, call 773-665-3080.

CAPS – At the latest Police Dept. hearing for the 2013 budget, it was mentioned by Superintendent McCarthy that CAPS would soon be dismantling the CAPS program and replacing it with something at some point.
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A Special Thanks to Our Neighbors
For our Beer Garden!

Celebrate With Us at Neighborhood
Appreciation Day in August!

www.WillsNorthwoodsInn.com
State Representative Ann M. Williams
Office located- 1726 W. Belmont, 773-880-9082
Email –www.repannwilliams.com
The Illinois General Assembly will meet for the fall veto session during the last week of November and first week of December and may meet for one additional week in January. In addition to addressing any vetoed items, there is a strong possibility that a pension bill will be considered in January. At this point it is unclear what this legislation will look like. State Representative Williams will provide details as they become available.

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey
Office @ 2539 N. Southport, 773-871-4000
Email=commish@fritchey.com
www.fritchey.com
Cook County Commissioner Fritchey will appear at the November meeting.

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

Senator John J. Cullerton
Sen. Cullerton recently moved locations and is sharing office space with State Rep Ann Williams located at 1726 W. Belmont.

CAPS MEETINGS
Report from October 11 meeting: I Phone thefts continuing on street, in restaurants, coffee shops, etc. Officer Jason Clark recommends all users get an app that registers your phone and allows police to track, lock or wipe phone of information. Some suggestions are “Find I Phone” or “Mobile Me”. Robberies continue to increase over last year by small groups of gang members coming into area and strong arming victims. Be alert, avoid suspicious characters on street and don’t use ear buds when walking alone. Burglaries are up district wide, most occur during the day, garages are hit frequently, mainly through small side door.

A special alert has been issued for small businesses on the north side. A group of two to five male blacks, 20-35 years old, 5’9” to 6’3” enter a business in evening hours and rob the store, employees and customers at gunpoint. Offenders are wearing “hoodies” and some kind of hats.

A special panhandling seminar is being held at the station house, 850 W. Addison on Thursday, Nov. 15th, 6:30pm-7:30pm.

East of Lincoln is Beat 1933
Meetings back to once a month. Next meeting is November 8th (2nd Thursday).
Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington, 7th floor auditorium at 7PM.

Between Lincoln and Ashland is Beat 1932
Meeting dates are 11/5 and 12/10.
New Life Church, 1110 W. Lill at 7PM

Contact 19th District CAPS 312-744-0064 or email at 019district@chicagopolice.org

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS / INFORMATION

ASH TREES UNDER SIEGE IN CHICAGO
Have you visited the slneighbors.org homepage and looked at the banner picture of the lovely and colorful ash trees in our neighborhood? Almost every ash tree in the City is now infected with the emerald ash borer (EAB).

According to the City of Chicago website, the emerald ash borer is an exotic beetle from Asia that was discovered feeding on ash trees in southeastern Michigan in 2002. EAB is responsible for killing over 20 million trees. In Chicago, ash makes up around 19% of the City’s street tree population or about 87,000 trees. The adult EAB is a striking metallic green, with an iridescent purple abdomen hidden beneath the forewings.

There are products that can help to eliminate the EAB and provide stability for our ash trees. Chicago will again begin treating City trees in the spring. But not all trees will receive treatment. If your street tree does not receive treatment, expect it to die within two to four years. South Lakeview Neighbors is in contact with the alderman’s office to try to develop a plan to reduce the beetle’s impact in our neighborhood.
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SOUTH LAKEVIEW PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL
– a 501c3 Not for Profit Organization
www.southlakeviewpark.org
Business or Individual Sponsors - The Advisory Council is looking for financial sponsors for its 2013 Summer programs.

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

LAKEVIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL - LVCC
www.lakeviewcitizens.org.
Please renew your LVCC membership dues for the 2012-2013 membership years. Using PayPal with a major credit card of by mail to: LVCC Office, 3355 N. Clark, Chicago, IL. 60657.

ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH
www.stalphonsuschgo.org, 773-525-0709
Athenaeum Theatre
Upcoming events:
- Dance Chicago – offers the city’s broadest range of dance styles from over 350 choreographers. Runs Nov. 10 thru Dec. 1
- The Nutcracker – experience the thrill of this #1 Holiday Classic. Runs Dec 15 – Dec 23.
- Long Day’s Journey Into Night – the Eugene O’Neill season concludes with his finest work and an American masterpiece. Runs Nov 4 thru Dec 9, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 2pm.

www.athenaeumtheatre.com

LAKEVIEW PANTRY
Lakeview Pantry Fundraiser – Come join Lakeview Pantry for their annual Eliminated Hunger social event on Nov. 9 from 7:00pm – 10:00pm at State Restaurant and Cafe, 935 W. Webster. Tickets are $45 in advance or $50 at the door. Admission includes all you can eat and drink hors d’oeuvres, draft beer and cocktails and a raffle ticket. For more information call 773-424-1777 ext 17.

LAKEVIEW CHAMBER of COMMERCE
1409 W.Addison, 773-471-7171
www.lakeviewchamber.com,
email = info@lakeviewchamber.com
Cash for Candy
Belmont Dental Care, located at 3344 N. Lincoln Ave. will make a $50 donation to the Lakeview Pantry and give kids $5 for every pound of Halloween candy they bring in. Simply walk into their office between Thursday, Nov. 1st and Friday, Nov. 9th.

Fall Family FUNdraiser
Celebrate The Peace School’s 40th anniversary and support our building improvements. Adults: $25 and Children 13 and under: $10. Ticket price includes a delicious buffet of pizza, pasta, salad, dessert and soft drinks. The event is Sunday, Nov. 11th, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at Chicago’s Pizza, 3114 N. Lincoln Ave.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS – AD SPACE
Wishing to advertise - Contact Ann Sychowski at 773-477-8840 for advertising opportunities. Monthly issues to over 350 members and businesses right in the neighborhood. 24/7 exposure on the SLN website. Spaces are limited and were almost sold out in 2011-2012.

Pro-Rated for 6 issues plus 24/7 exposure on the SLN Website : Smallest $50, next smallest $75, 1/6 page $110, 1/3 page $210, ½ page $310.
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To individuals and businesses, if you can receive the newsletter by email, please go to the website at www.slneighbors.org to enter your information. Emailing the newsletter will save SLN printing,
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postage and assembling costs. Your help in reducing costs is appreciated. Thank You. Renew your membership at the same time.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
Please use form in this newsletter or go to the website for a form to renew your membership for 2012-2013. We appreciate you taking the initiative to renew in advance to reduce the number of follow-up letters to be sent by our Treasurer.

RESTAURANT REVIEW – by Joni G
Rice Bistro, 2964 N Lincoln Ave.
In case you have a difficult time finding this restaurant, it is directly across the street from the “Peoples Parklet”. You will not be able to count on that landmark supposedly after December 1, 2012. I have seen the Rice Bistro sign from Southport hanging from a tree in their outdoor eating area. There is very minimal signage except a small neon sign in the window on the Lincoln Ave. side. So slow down, you do not want to miss this gem of a Thai restaurant in the heart of our South Lakeview neighborhood.

First off, it is BYOB and as I have stated before, this is a big plus for any budget-minded diner. On one of the first chilly weekend evenings of this autumn, entering this warm and simply decorated restaurant made for the beginning of a very pleasant dining experience. We arrived at 7 on a Friday evening and good that we did, because the 8 tables serving a maximum of 26 customers filled within the first half-hour.

We started with steamed dumplings stuffed with shrimp and pork served with a sweet soy sauce. The taste and texture of these little packets were very good. The edamame could have been fresher. At this time I did find only one sad note about Rice Bistro: they do not serve low sodium soy sauce, which is a must for this heart healthy reviewer. However, the very affordable prices suppressed my craving of soy sauce immediately. Service is very attentive and if there was music playing it was not heard. A very conversation friendly sound level allowed the three of us to talk and be heard with ease. All of the serving vessels such as the soup bowls, plates and glassware were beautiful. We did have to request chopsticks.

For entrees we each tried the others. The Thai Fried Rice was mildly spicy with veggies and scrambled eggs. A little dry for my preference although my friend enjoyed it very much. The Tom Yum Kah Moo is a piquant stew of ribs, red onion, herbs and Thai chili served with Jasmine rice. This was my second favorite of all three. My special of the day entrée was agreed by two of us to be the best. Thank goodness it was served in a clay bowl so I could slurp up all the noodles nestled with veggies, chicken, beef and shrimp. The special was a real potpourri of a meal, as long as you like a very spicy kick.

We were delightfully full and could not order dessert, although the offerings of Thai custard or Mango with sticky rice were no more than $6 each. Another plus for the evening was an additional 10% discount on our entire tab if we paid cash. Off to the Chase ATM conveniently located next door and we were on our way having paid only $18 each for a most pleasant Thai dining experience.

Holiday Party
Mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 11th.
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