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 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, 2012



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

MAIL 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. Thank You.

Dear Neighbors,

ComEd has had a monopoly on providing electrical service and supply for my entire life, and that of my parents. (My grandparents grew up in the days of gas lighting; Peoples Gas was known as Peoples Gas, Light & Coke Co.; the gas was a byproduct of the coal coking process). But that monopoly has gone the way of the dodo bird as we have the brave new world of competition for the energy component of our electric bills. (If you read your bill closely, you see two types of charges: for the distribution network, and how much juice you actually use, then a host of taxes, fees and other gimmicks). Maybe it's just me, but I've noted a 10-

MEETING AT A GLANCE APRIL 10, 2012

Location: Basement – St. Alphonsus Church

1429 W. Wellington

Agenda: 7:00 PM: Coffee & Cookies

7:30PM: Meeting

1)Cubs Care

2) ComEd – representative

3) Zoning Change 1244 W. George St.

20% increase in my electric bill since last year, with no discernible increase of usage. Did ComEd get a stealth rate increase that somehow I missed? And what about the smart grid that is supposed to vary your charges according to when you turn your lights on?

We've asked a ComEd representative to our April meeting to discuss what to expect from alternative energy suppliers, and how to avoid scams. ComEd is not a benevolent actor in this drama: they still get paid for providing the lines and the transformers. But they've sold off a lot of their generating capacity (particularly the coal-fired units which were a public relations-and environmental-nightmare). Still, ComEd has lots of 'splaining to do about antiquated infrastructure, service that seems third world, and a host of other issues. Bring your questions to April's meeting.

Despite our effort to rally our members about the judicial elections, voter turnout at last month's primary was the lowest in ages: maybe it was the



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fact that there were no top-ticket races on the Democratic side of the ledger. (Nobody got very excited about Dorothy Brown v. Richard Munoz in the Circuit Court Clerk's race, and Mitt Romney provided little reason to spend part of that glorious mid-March day at the polls.) The judicial candidates' races went pretty much as the Democratic party wanted them: so far as I can tell, the slated candidates all won. The Cubs' home opener is April 5th, and we've invited the team's community relations person to tell us about what's new at Clark and Addison. We've all read about Theo Epstein, Dale Sveum and the McDonald's lot; less well known is what is going to happen with the "triangle lot" at Clark and Waveland (where the ice rink has been the last several years). A planned development was proposed for that parcel about a decade ago, but for all I know, the time to develop it has expired and it may be back to the drawing And then, there's the question of the concerts: I won't bore you with what we've discussed at other community meetings regarding payments for using Wrigley as a rock emporium. Suffice it that politicians (and wannabes) see untapped potential for getting their favorite charities and causes funded courtesy of the Boss, Sting and Jimmy Buffett.

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

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For membership call Ann Sy at 773-477-8840

When I first moved here during the first year of King Richard II's reign, the corner of Lincoln, Lakewood and George was a marvel of meat processing: chickens went in at one end of a building and pot pies came out the other. There was even an outlet store for damaged packages. The last vestige of this quintessential Chicago usage, Wetterling's Butcher Shop on George is up for a rezoning to residential use, and we'll vote on it. Details will be provided at the meeting. See you then'

Sincerely,

David G. Duggan

APRIL 2012 MEETING PREVIEW

Cubs Care and by the way of being sponsored by the ball club the Theo Epstein Chicago Cubs (no players) will appear this month. A representative will discuss the charitable activities of Cubs Care and how the summer concerts, Brad Paisley in June and maybe the Boss later generate funds for area schools and organizations.

ComEd – the SLN Board has been discussing alternative energy providers that are now available. But inviting one would seem to be promoting that particular company. So the Board decided to bring the electric provider to give their viewpoint on the issue and to discuss plans to improve Chicago's electric issues as we approach what may be a hot summer following the warm Spring.

1244 W. George St - Zoning Change. The 2900 block of Lakewood, the 1200 block of George St. and the west section of 1200 Oakdale were at one time major meat processing plants. Battles between businesses and residents were frequent. But all the businesses moved to more spacious areas that were more conducive to conducting meat processing and allowing truck deliveries. The final meat processor, Wetterlings, is on the block. Currently zoned M1-2 for manufacturing. The developer is requesting a zoning change to RT-4 in order to build a 3 story single family house. This is the maximum zoning for 25 ft. wide lot to build a single family house. It would be somewhat bigger than the other houses to the east. The down side to the location for a

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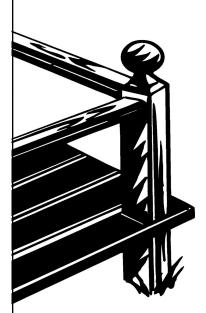
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single family home, is that it is located across the street from the Elbo Room and next to a vacant building that has housed in recent years, troublesome night club businesses such as La Vida that the neighbors and the City closed down. This will be a voting issue.

AT THE MARCH 2012 MEETING

The judicial forum presented by SLN for the first time ever was pretty interesting to say the least. Voters never see candidates for the judgeships. In a perfect storm situation, 3 judgeships in the County Subcircuit became vacant for this election. 10 candidates for these vacancies attended. The candidates expressed their appreciation for the forum as many discussed, they know how to be judges, but no one has figured out how to run a election campaign. President judge moderator, David Duggan was at his irreverent best with some off the chart questions. No need to rehash the answers, as the primary election is over. The winners were all Democratic party slated candidates: Celia Louise Gamrath, who was seated to the far left, had a slight case of laryngitis and was very sharply dressed with 49% in a 4 person race, John Ehrlich, tall, introspective and no tie or suit coat with 35% in a 6 person race and Deborah Jean Gubin, who had a sore hip and had trouble getting in and out of her chair when answering the questions with 54% in a 3 person race..

What struck this reporter about the event was that all 10 candidates had 20 plus years of legal experience. They definitely were not slick politicians but they all seemed pretty down to earth in conversations that I had with them during the social ½ hour before the meeting. And to me, they all seemed to be honest, professional individuals. But I still think that O.J. didn't kill anyone, so what do I know. They were also generally quite short.

Local resident Diann Karen Marsalek won her judge election for the Circuit Court of Cook County. Congratulations.

What's with all the middle names on the female candidates?

FORGOT to REPORT from the FEBRUARY MEETING:

A Plate on Southport, 2819 N. Southport – Sidewalk Café.

The owner Sanyakon Wanmoephon presented his plans for a small sidewalk café. His family has owned the restaurant for about 4 months. The capacity will be 4 tables with 8 seats total. To be in operation Tuesday to Sunday 11AM to 10PM. Restaurant reviewer Joni G. (who had a bag over her head to hide her identity) commented that she had given the current owners a very positive review in a recent SLN newsletter. A hand vote was taken. Approve: YES=24, NO=0. The information was forwarded to the Alderman.

South Lakeview Playlot – Mayor Daley proclamation May 24, 1969.

A blast from the past. Mr. A. Mead Gifford, former president of SLN in the late 1960's and still a grandfathered-in member even though he no longer lives in the boundaries came to the March meeting unannounced and asked to speak to the membership. While cleaning out his stuff, he came upon a plaque from Mayor Richard J. Daley proclaiming May 24, 1969, South Lakeview Neighbors Day for their work done in procuring the land at the corner of Wolfram and Lakewood as an neighborhood park. Formerly a coal yard, that had caught on fire. Mr. Gifford related how SLN fought hard to have the City obtain the land and turn it into a park. Mr. Gifford hoped that SLN has kept up the park. Of course, now known as the South Lakeview Playlot with funds raised by SLN and events run by the Advisory Council, it is a jewel of the neighborhood.

Mr. Gifford also related how SLN got the Tiger Inn at Southport and George, a trouble-maker bar in the neighborhood, closed down. Some things never change.

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee is looking to assemble the 2012-2013 slate. If you want power, and I mean real neighborhood clout and you want to get out of the house another Tuesday night and meet in a bar, you want to be an officer or a director. Want the Alderman to listen to you, become an officer. It is known fact that current officers start every phone call to a government agency with "Hello, my name is John Q, Public and I am an officer of SLN.

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Seriously, make the Nominating Committee's job easy and volunteer your service. We don't really need things done, but SLN does need fresh ideas. Contact Bill Haderlein at email = chicagolandeck@rcn.com.

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

Clean & Green Day

Saturday, April 21st from 9:00am to 11:30am
For more than two decades, community groups and the City of Chicago have been helping to beautify their communities by cleaning up and recycling litter and trash. The City will provide limited resources, so bring your brooms, rakes, shovels and bags needed to get the job done. To register, call our office or call 311 to request a location.

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

Check out State Rep Williams's new constituent services website. You can sign up for her enewsletter and also get information on other upcoming community and district events, as well as legislative updates. You can also communicate your concerns on what is going on in Springfield and your perspective on legislation that may come for a vote.

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey Office @ 2539 N. Southport, 773-871-4000 Email=bridget@fritchey.com

www.fritchey.com

Commissioner Fritchey will be hosting two property tax appeals and exemption workshops. Representatives from the Assessor's office will help explain the appeals process and assist tax payers in filing a property tax appeal on-site. Staff will also help tax payers file for the long-time homeowners exemption.

Workshop details are as follows:

When: Monday, April 16 at 6:00pm

Where: Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 N Lincoln

When: Monday, April 23 @ 6:30m Where: Saint Luke, 1500 W. Belmont

Bring a copy of your most recent property tax bill.

If you are applying for the long-time homeowner exemption, bring your 2010 1040 Federal Income Tax form and a state-issued ID.

PLEASE NOTE that SLN will present a tax appeal workshop at the May 2012 membership meeting.

Commissioner Fritchey's office has been provided with a limited number of general admission tickets and parking passes to the Brookfield Zoo, and he would like to share them with members of the South Lakeview Neighbors. Contact Bridget Luehrsen at bridget@fritchey.com or call her at 773-871-4000. Tickets are limited.

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

www.quigley.house.gov

Here are some upcoming events as organized by the Congressman :

Small Business Fair – Friday, April 13, 9AM to 12Noon at Chicago Academy, 3400 N. Austin. A one-stop shop of government resources for small businesses in the district. Two panels will discuss government resources and small business funding. RSVP is required for the Panels. Lynora or James at 773-267-5926.

Mike Quigley's One-Stop Job & Resource Fair Tuesday, April 24, 10AM to 1PM at Northeastern Illinois University – 5501 N. Kedzie Ave.

The fair will include employers and workforce development agencies to provide you with resources you need to take your next step to a new career. Free and open to the public.

Employers interested in participating, call Tim at 773-267-5926.

CAPS MEETINGS





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

- Beat 1931: Hamlin Park, 3035 N. Hoyne, next meeting TBD (normally 1st Tuesday of every month quarterly)
- Beat 1932: 2nd Thursdays on 3/8/12 & 6/14/12 @ 7:00 pm, Illinois Masonic Hospital-Clarke Auditorium, 836 W. Wellington.
- Beat 1933: 2nd Monday of the month, quarterly, March 12th @ 7:00pm, New Life Church, 1110 W. Lill

Sites will remain the same until further notice.

CAPS Officers -

email = CAPS.019District@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.

Business or Individual Sponsors - The Advisory Council is looking for financial sponsors for its 2012 Summer programs.

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

Burley School – the only school located in the SLN boundaries – is about to get even better with the addition of the Burley Community Park. On schedule to be completed for the start of the 2012-13 school year, the park will be a neighborhood amenity for many years to come.

Friends of Burley, 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, continues to fundraise for additional park and outside projects. Proudly display a personal message or family name with decorative bricks to be installed in front of the school. More information about the park and support the campaign can be found at our website.

The SLN Board approved a donation for the purchase of a large brick for the Burley Community Park at the March Board Meeting.

2012 Local School Council (LSC) elections will take place at all elementary schools including Burley at 1630 W. Barry on Wednesday, April 18, from 6AM-7PM. Your local LSC consists of parents, community members, teachers and the school principal. Primary responsibilities are approving the school plan, the budget and any new principals.

LAKE VIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL - LVCC www.lakeviewcitizens.org.

As reported by Mark Anderson-SLN representative.

LVCC has been meeting with the Cubs regarding summer concerts at Wrigley Field. To date, the Cubs had agreed with Alderman Tunney and donated \$75,000 for each concert they have had. The donation goes to various local projects. The LVCC subcommittee has been meeting currently with the Cubs regarding this years concerts and the donation amount.

ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH www.stalphonsuschgo.org , 773-525-0709

Pastor Fr. Hurlburt announces that the 12 foot copper cross from the steeple under repair should be back on site for Easter. The Church will hoist the cross 260 ft to serve as a beacon to all in the neighborhood. Keep your eyes open.

Boy and Cub Scout Annual Spaghetti Dinner: Sunday, April 22 from 3PM to 7PM in the School Basement. \$7 for all you can eat spaghetti and the famous canoe salad bar. Tickets may be purchased from any scout or in the rectory in advance or at the event. Call Bonnie Budde at 773-885-7560 with any questions.

LAKEVIEW PANTRY DONATION

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City of Chicago Summer Internships

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The vacated Bank of America Building on the 3100 block of Ashalnd (Roberts Hall for the old-timers) had a work permit sign in the window. The owner listed is the owner of the Pet Care Medical Building across the street. The sign on the building also says "LEASED." We will try to find out what is going on.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER by EMAIL or GOING to the WEBSITE to READ the NEWSLETTER, but you HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES?

The title of this article says it all. If you are reading the newsletter on-line and feel there is no reason to pay dues, please consider that SLN has 7 membership meetings per year with political speakers. candidate election debates informational speakers. SLN pays rent for the space of these meeting. As a not-for-profit, SLN still has insurance cost for liability and directors and officers, newsletter production costs for those who are not getting the email version, flyering costs for voting issues or big speaker events such as the Alderman, Secretary of State filings and other expenses. So if you live in the fine boundaries of SLN between Belmont and Diversey and Racine and Ravenswood, please fill out the membership form supplied with the website and send in your dues.

Only paid members can vote on all issues including zoning changes, liquor licenses, street cafes, new business, etc.

RESTAURANT REVIEW - by Joni G

Joni will return next month with her fantastic reviews of neighborhood restaurants.



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