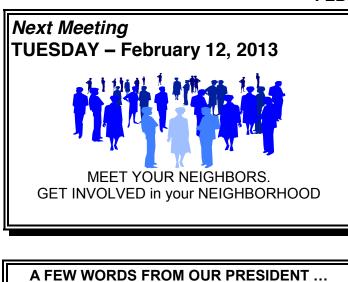
South Lakeview Neighbors Over Forty Years of Service

1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

Web Site: <u>www.slneighbors.org</u> 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.)



Dear Neighbors,

The Mayan end-of-the-world prediction came and went, and since the winter solstice, we've had to deal with the demise of the Lovie Smith era at Soldier Field, tax increases to avoid the fiscal cliff, and the longest period in recorded Chicago history without a measurable snowfall and snow on the ground. As a near lifelong taxpayer, Bears' fan and Chicago resident, two out of three isn't bad. But one constant in this is redevelopment, whether of single buildings or of large scale complexes. Our February meeting will address this constant of our Chicago existence.

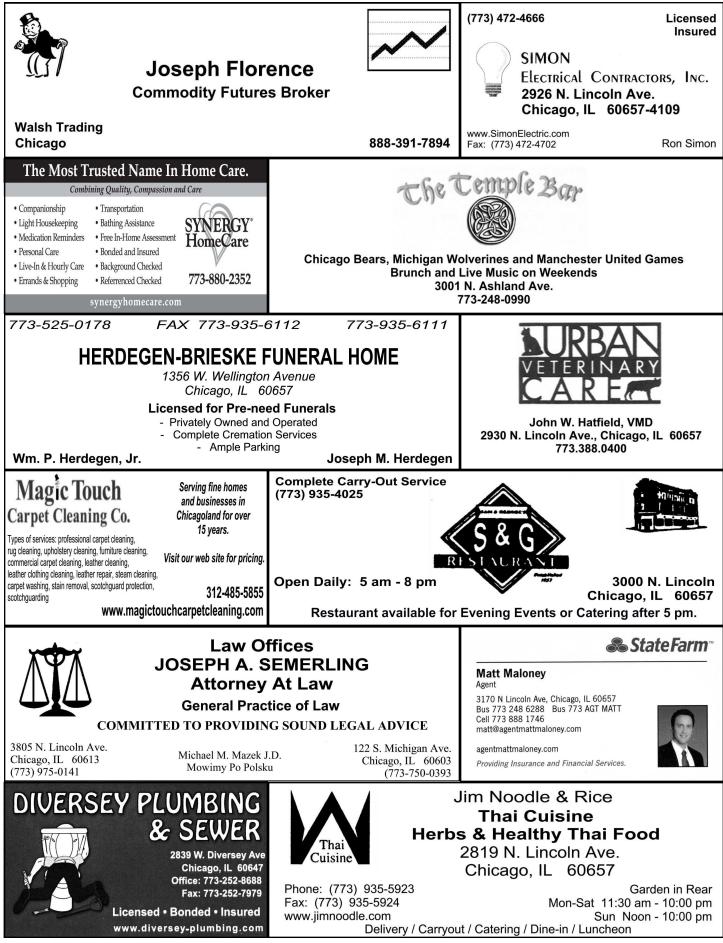
The contract-purchaser of the former Vida Lounge on George Street (and before that Thurston's) wants a zoning change to allow him to convert this cavernous structure into a single-family residence where he can also "showcase" his business of building roof-top gardens. He wants to add another floor to the existing two-story structure, and have a couple of "doghouse" projections to allow access to and egress from his roofdeck. The Neighborhood

FEBRUARY, 2013



2) 1248 W. George St (Vida Lounge) – zoning change

Development and Review Committee has met several times about this and has negotiated to reduce its impact on its surroundings. Still, zoning changes require an amendment to the zoning ordinance, and our alderman has sought our input. One feature of this property is that it does not have a basement, and to get the desired square-footage for what has become a standard single-family home in this area, the purchaser wants to build up and not down. (Under zoning rules, a basement in which more than half of the depth is below grade is not counted in square-foot calculations,) So the trade-off is more above-ground volume with a residential use v. not demolishing the existing structure, excavating a basement with sheet-pilings to prevent subsidence of adjacent foundations v. the possibility that a lounge, restaurant or other use consistent with "M" (manufacturing) zoning could go there. To me, this is a no-brainer, but members and nearby residents will have a chance to vote their position.



The re-developers of Lathrop Homes, Lathrop Community Partners, elected not to attend our October meeting, whether because they did not understand what was at stake, or their planning process had not produced a proposal they were prepared to live with. Regardless, and despite what you may have read in the popular press as to LCP's planning efforts since mid-November, they have asked for more of our meeting time to "explain" how responsive they have been to the community in whittling the number of proposals from three to two, while graciously increasing the number of units from 1,200 to 1,600. Not one to be accused of pre-judging issues or stifling the chance to present another side of the story, I have invited LCP to our February meeting to show us their latest plan.

Sincerely, David G. Duggan

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

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FEBRUARY 2013 MEETING PREVIEW

Lathrop Homes – current Developer Plans

The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) and the appointed developer Lathrop Community Partners (LCP) have responded to Aldermen Waguespack and Moreno and the surrounding community for more input on the master development plan of the Lathrop Homes. The CHA and LCP have compiled results from the surveys taken at the Open House meeting held in November 2012 attended by 366 people resulting in 258 surveys and 54 additional online surveys. The CHA is now focusing on what they feel are two crucial points (1) direct engagement with community groups and (2) movement toward developing one master plan.

One single master plan has now been created. Starting in January 2013, the CHA and LCP will meet with community groups to discuss topics such communities, mixed-income historic as preservation, density/scale, diversity, unit mix and amenities. These discussions will provide an to communicate the Project's opportunity perspective and the CHA and LCP hope these discussions will result in a mutual understanding of the proposed development.

The Master Plan will be presented to SLN at the February meeting.

1248 W. George St (La Vida Lounge) - Rezoning This property is the former La Vida Lounge across the street from The Elbo Room. The building was most recently run as a night club. That night club was very disruptive to the immediate residential neighborhood and by neighborhood pressure, was forced to close its operations. The building haa been vacant for over two years.

The potential owner/developer intends to convert the building into his own single family house. The current building is lot line-to-lot line. It is of brick construction with a lot-line to lot-line 1st floor and a 2nd floor that extends from the front to about half way back. There is no basement. There would be no demolition of the current property. The owner will extend the 2nd floor and add a 3rd floor that will run 95 ft. from front to back. The 3rd floor will be recessed about 5 ft. in the front. Garden decks will be installed on the garage roof and the 3rd floor



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roof. In order to access the 3rd floor roof decks, staircases with surrounding walls will be constructed. Except for these stairwell structures, the 3rd floor roof will be mainly all garden decks with a shade pergola. The height of the 3rd floor will be 39'1". The stairwells to the 4th floor will measure 46'1".

In order to build the specifications, the property will have to be rezoned to RT-5. After the conversion is complete, the owner has agreed to down-zone the property to RT-4, in order to prevent a large building to be constructed on this site. The R (Residential) zoning will eliminate the potential for any business to be located at this site. The owner is a neighborhood business, who is a Lakeview resident and intends to live in the building.

The surrounding neighborhood will be flyered and vote will be taken.

AT DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

We had a large and festive crowd at the December Holiday Party held at Will's Northwoods Inn. The party spilled over to the Winter tent in the beer garden so people could sit and eat the Will's appetizers featuring the fried Wisconsin cheese curds. Beer was guzzled and wine was sipped. Some of our older members attended and several first timers came and had a great time. We had a visit from the new 19th District Police Commander Elias Voulgaris (non-alcoholic visit). The liquor basket raffle with items donated by SLN officers and directors and wrapped by Marge Fahrenbach and Joni Gatz was a big hit. Split the pot raised \$80 for SLN.

SLN also raised \$365 in cash and checks and food items all donated to the Lakeview Food Pantry. The Pantry sent thank you letters for the check donations where addresses were available and wishes to thank all who donated cash and food items.

SLN would like to thank Kevin Kruse and his crew at Will's Northwoods for donating the beer and wine to the party. The appetizers were excellent and tummies were filled. Will's Northwoods Inn was recently featured on WGN's Chicago's Best food program as the place to go for authentic Wisconsin food. Kevin says the Friday Night Fry is excellent.

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

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

Chicago Volunteer Expo – There are so many ways to give back to your community. Find the one that's right for you at the Chicago Volunteer Expo. It will be on February 10th from 10am-4pm at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum located at 2430 N. Cannon Drive. For more information email us at chicagovolunteerexpo@gmail.com.

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.

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

In December State Representative Williams, along with 20 rank and file colleagues introduce HB 6258, a pension-related proposal which includes guaranteed funding to ensure the State will no longer shirk its responsibility to make pension payments. No resolution was reached during the recent "lame duck" session. This bill was refiled for the new session as HB 98.

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

On January 4th U.S. Representative Quigley was appointed by the Democratic Caucus to the House Committee on Appropriations, which is responsible for approving the federal government's annual spending levels for nearly all federal programs.

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Dinner

\$5.75

Parmigiana

w/Spaghetti

\$8.00

Lasagna

Dinner

\$5.75

Rep. Quigley will be the only member from Illinois to serve on the committee in the 113th Congress.

On Jan. 15th Rep Quigley introduced the Buyback our Safety Act, legislation establishing a new matching grant at the Department of Justice aimed at bolstering local gun buyback initiatives nationwide.

On Jan. 23rd Rep. Quigley reintroduced the Excess Building and Property Disposal Act (H.R. 328) to cut wasteful federal property spending that costs taxpayers \$1.67 billion annually. The bill passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support. Staff members from Rep. Quigley's office visited an Illinois property, reportedly worth more the \$8 million, that costs taxpayers \$80,000 a year to maintain. H.R. 328 creates a five-year program that would expedite the disposal of the most profitable properties by removing red tape and increases transparency by creating an online database for property owned by the federal government.

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

CAPS MEETINGS

The demise of the CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) has been greatly exaggerated as they say. The program is being reorganized and tailored to the needs of each district/beat depending on the types of local crime statistics and metrics. South Lakeview Neighbors organization at this time encompassed three different police beats. East of Lincoln to Racine is beat 1933, west of Lincoln to Ashland is beat 1932 and west of Ashland to Ravenswood is beat 1931.

We should be please that an experienced police officer is returning to our district, Sgt. Jason Clark, who will be heading up our district CAPS program. The new programs are still evolving but we can expect more property and street crime prevention workshops and a revival of the district's Explorer Scout program. Anew feature will be a "Senior on Patrol" program in which older volunteers serve as liaisons between police, business and our community group. Details are still being worked out and operation is not likely to begin until early spring.

The beat CAPS meetings are regrouped and rescheduled back to monthly meetings for each beat rather than every two months or quarterly as previously scheduled. To see a complete beat map go to <u>www.gis.chicagopolice.org</u> and click on district 19. It is possible that this map may change depending on some future realignment. The new CAPS meeting schedule is as follows;

Beat 1921, 1922 and 1931

Next meeting is February 20th at the Police Auditorium at 2452 W. Belmont at 7PM.

Future meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Beat 1933 and 1924 Next meeting is February 14th at Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington, 7th floor auditorium at 7PM.

Future meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of every month.

Beat 1932 and 1935 Next meeting is February 11th at the New Life Church, 1110 W. Lill at 7PM Future meetings will be held on the 2nd Monday of every month.

Dates/times may change and you can call the office at 312-744-0064 with questions.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS / INFORMATION

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 – <u>www.friendsofburley.org</u>

Join us at the 7th Annual Burley Winter Party and Silent Auction to support Burley Elementary School and Friday, February 8th at 6:30PM at the Center on Halsted - 3656 N. Halsted. As one of our larger events, we're counting on our neighbors to attend and help us achieve our fundraising goals. Purchase advance tickets online at www.friendsofburley.org/winter-party.html. Invite your friends, family NEIGHBORS and colleagues to help make this event a huge success. Ticket prices are \$50 in advance and &60 at the door (includes two drinks). See you there!!

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

Lenten Fish Fries – Sponsored by Knight of Columbus. Save the Fridays of: February 15, March 1 and March 15. These will be held in the lower church Festival Hall from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. All proceeds go to local charitable projects supported by the Knights of Columbus and the parish Peace and Justice Committee.

LAKEVIEW PANTRY

Drop-off hours for donations - are Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-8:00PM and Saturday 10-1:00PM at 1414 W. Oakdale 773-404-6333. Cash donations are preferred as the Pantry can spend the money on food that is needed at that time and have the expertise to make the donated dollar go farther. Go to their website at <u>www.lakeviewpantry.org</u> for more information

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. Support our advertisers

EMAIL me the NEWSLETTER

To individuals and businesses, if you can receive the newsletter by email, please go to the website at <u>www.slneighbors.org</u> to enter your information. Emailing the newsletter will save SLN printing, 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.

PAYPAL YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES

Are you interested in becoming a member of South Lakeview Neighbors, but no longer use checks? You can now pay your annual dues with a credit card via PayPal. Navigate to the South Lakeview Neighbors home page (slneighbors.org), click on Become a Member and follow the prompts.

Also, if you are on Facebook, consider joining our Facebook group. Within Facebook, search for South Lakeview Neighbors – Chicago and ask to join the group to get started participating in the discussions there.

LAKEVIEW CHAMBER of COMMERCE

1409 W.Addison, 773-471-7171 <u>www.lakeviewchamber.com</u>, email = <u>info@lakeviewchamber.com</u>



Tell them you saw their ad in the South Lakeview Neighbors Newsletter.

Letter of Introduction from new Commander of the Town Hall (19th) District

Greetings,

As the new Commander of the Town Hall District, I would like to introduce myself and express how pleased I am to serve in the community. Earlier in the year, the Town Hall District combined with the former Belmont District to encompass the area between Lawrence to Fullerton, with the lake on the east and the river on the west. It is a great privilege and responsibility to provide police service in such a vibrant and expansive area of the city.

I have 28 years of service with the Chicago Police Department and have worked in various assignments throughout my career, including the Patrol Division, Organized Crime Division and the Targeted Response Unit. I am committed and dedicated to bringing my experience and leadership in each of these roles to my current assignment as Town Hall Commander.

Town Hall is a thriving residential community and entertainment venue that attracts an infusion of people. These dynamics make robbery and burglary incidents a priority concern as officer's work to safeguard against all crimes – particularly violent offenses – and resolve quality of life issues in the community. I am eager to implement initiatives designed to combat robberies and burglaries through the visibility and enforcement efforts of my great team of officers. At the same time, we remain prepared to address the potential for violent crime and other offenses, especially in the limited areas where there is gang activity.

My hope is that we all can work together to eliminate crime and quality of life issues. I invite community members to assist the police to these ends in the following ways:

- 1. If you see a crime or suspicious person, please call 911 and report it. Document as much information as possible, without placing yourself in danger.
- 2. Protect yourself from being a victim. Know your surroundings, and don't go into dark areas alone. Walk with a group and know where you are going. Don't advertise your possessions or walk while distracted by headphones or other activities. Trust your

instincts. If you feel threatened, walk into a store and call police.

- 3. Provide me with your feedback; let me know if what we are doing is working. I encourage and need your suggestions, constructive criticism, and positive notes about our police officers.
- 4. In non-emergency situations, send me an email about any chronic crime conditions or suspicious activity. For emergency situations, always call 911 immediately.

In closing, I am truly dedicated to making the Town Hall District safe for its residents, visitors and business owners. I look forward to achieving great results and building strong relationships with you. Please contact me at any time at <u>elias.voulgaris@chicagopolice.org</u>. Thank you.

Sincerely, Elias Voulgaris Town Hall (19th) Commander



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