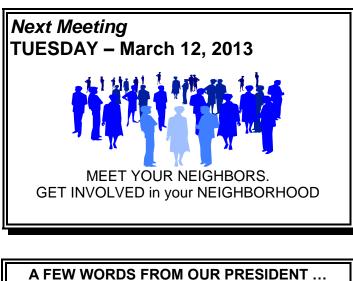
South Lakeview Neighbors Over Forty Years of Service

1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

Web Site: <u>www.slneighbors.org</u> General email: info@slneighbors.org President email : president@slneighbors.org

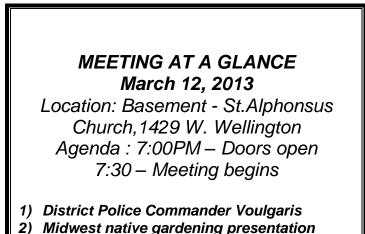
BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT - RAVENSWOOD TO RACINE Membership Dues (per person) \$10.00 - Seniors (those over 60) \$5.00 September 1 through May 31 Meetings held at St. Alphonsus Church Basement, 1429 West Wellington on the second Tuesday of every Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. (Coffee at 7:00 p.m.)



Dear Neighbors,

By the time you read this, I will have paid my 1st half property tax bill, which is now 55% of last year's total of the two bills (it used to be 50%, but I guess the County officials who lay and collect the property taxes reckon that we're less likely to notice a huge increase in the second bill if the 1st half bill is higher: who says these folks are dumb?). One new feature of the new bill is that it gives the taxing unit's budget, its pension liability, and then the portion of that pension liability that is "unfunded". While I am neither an actuary nor an accountant, I suspect that "unfunded" means that the City or the School Board or whatever hasn't put that money in the bank to pay for future pensions. Whether this new disclosure is to soften us up for future tax increases may be cynical speculation, but I can just hear Toni Preckwinkle and Rahm Emanuel chuckling in some back room: "We showed these peons how bad it is, then shamed them that retired teachers and firemen and police officers will have to go begging for their pensions if

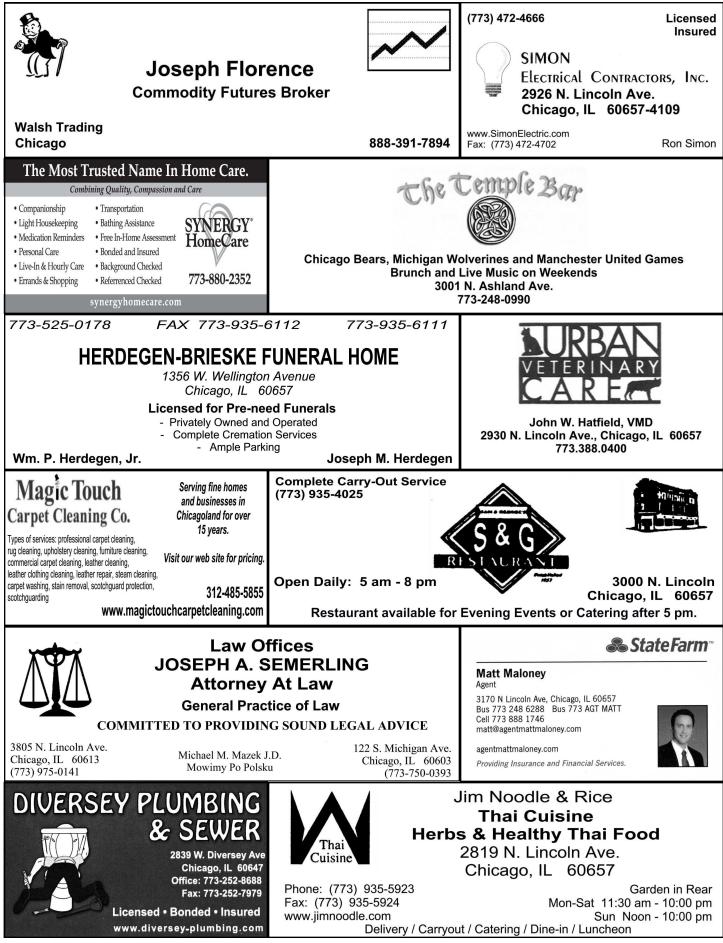
MARCH, 2013



3) St. Alphonsus - Octoberfest

they don't pony up. And then continue to re-elect us".

Of course one of the many benefits of paying property taxes is the police protection that we receive, and for our March meeting, we have invited the new commander of the 19th District, Elias Voulgaris, to address us. It has been more than a year since the 19th and 23rd Districts were consolidated in the new police station on Addison just west of Halsted, and I haven't noticed any increase in crime or nastiness in this area. Still, two years ago, there were a series of break-ins and assaults along Barry, and I for one would like to know what changes have been made to beats, foot v. car patrols, and other police functions as a result of the consolidation of the districts. While it is the gun violence that gets the headlines, it is the dayto-day police work that yields real improvements in the quality of life in Chicago. Come to our March meeting to ask questions of our new commander.



March 1 is the start of meteorological spring, or so Tom Skilling says, and while we may not be able to dig into our gardens then, it is not too early to think about what we can do to spruce up our neighborhood. Several years ago, I built a masonry parkway planter to dress up a dismally drab streetscape on Southport. I have the usual ornamental plants there, but one year I planted some non-native grasses (bought at one of the high end garden stores about three miles from here) to fill in the middle zone between the ground cover and the lilacs. Bad idea. They lasted a season and did not return. A friend, Charlotte Adelman, has written with her husband a book entitled "The Midwestern Native Garden", and she will come to our meeting to tell us of the virtues of planting native species instead of the greenhouse bred annuals that we can buy just about anywhere: less water usage, plants that are survivable under our extreme weather conditions. Still, there may be a happy ending to my story: late last summer some grasses miraculously appeared in this front planter without any effort on my part, and kept growing well into the fall. I'm hoping they'll return, like the swallows at Capistrano.

Later this spring, we'll be having our annual election of new officers and director. Volunteers for both the nominating committee and for our board and officer corps are asked to speak to our able secretary, Bill Haderlein.

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

Officers:

President:	Г
1st Vice President:	ç
2nd Vice President:	F
Recording Secretary:	Ē
Treasurer:	A
Corresponding Secretary:	E
Web Master:	5
Directors:	
Greg Brown	5
Mark Anderson	Γ
Lisa Voigt	J
Jim Volkober	J
Joan Gatz	F
Newsletter Articles:	E
Newsletter Editor:	J
For membership call Ann Sy	at

David Duggan Sam Samatas Perry Castrovillari Bill Haderlein Ann Sychowski Ernie Toth Steven Stern

Susan Radzinowicz Marge Fahrenbach Joseph Semerling James Frendreis Robert Taugner Bill Haderlein Jeanne Haderlein t 773-477-8840 Just think: a month after our March meeting will be opening day. Hope springs eternal.

Until the 12th.

Sincerely, David G. Duggan

MARCH 2013 MEETING PREVIEW

District 19 Commander Voulgaris

Commander Voulgaris is the new commander of the Town Hall District that was combined with the former Belmont District. The District now encompasses the area between Lawrence to Fullerton and from the Lake to the Chicago River on the west. The operations are run out of the new police station on Addison just west of Halsted. The Commander has contacted various groups to introduce himself and meet the residents and will be appearing at the March meeting. This is the first time in almost 20 years that the standing Commander has reached out to meet personally with neighborhood groups. Show your appreciation by attending this months meeting.

Commander Voulgaris can be contacted at <u>elias.voulgaris@chicagopolice.org</u>.

The Midwest Native Garden

Charlotte Adelman who is the author of The Midwest Native Garden will give a presentation on the subject. Topics may include native plant suggestions, growing requirements, attraction of birds, and reduction of pesticides and water usage. Ms. Adelman's book has been positively reviewed by The National Gardener and Audubon Magazine and will be available for purchase.

St. Alphonsus Octoberfest

It is never too early to plan. The Octoberfest Committee has requested a few minutes to gauge the feelings of the neighborhood and to reveal plans for this Fall. Gemutlikeit.



Chicagoland Deck Cleaning & Sealing

- Powerwash
- Premium Sealers
- Natural Stains
- Brush Applied
- Residential, Commercial
- & Condominiums

"The Condominium Experts"

- Large Crews
- One Day Cleaning
- One Day Sealing
- On-Time

Since 1995 Over 6,000 Satisfied Customers For a Free Estimate Call Bill Haderlein (Your Neighbor)

A-Rated Award Winning Company

(773) 348-4516 www.deck-sealing.com





SCOTT WAGUESPACK*

32nd Ward Office: 2657 North Clybourn • Chicago, IL 60614 773 248 1330 tel • 773 248 1360 fax info@ward32.org

Hours: Monday to Friday: 9am to 6pm

Ward Night: Monday: 5pm to 8pm, excluding holidays & special events.

Join our mailing list to receive bi-monthly e-newsletters. Sign up at info@ward32.org.

AT FEBRUARY MEETING

Lathrop Homes – current Developer Plans

The appointed developer Lathrop Community Partners (LCP) and the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) presented the current three versions for redevelopment of the property to the SLN membership and to a large contingent of Lathrop residents, community activists, internet news reporters and men in great looking suits.

A little history. The current site has 925 units. 170 of the units are currently occupied by families. The original design was that of an enclosed "superblock" design. A large green space is in the center of the area north of Diversey. Lathrop Elderly is located at the south end and will survive all current plans. The CHA's original marching orders to the developers was for 1200 units of 400 low-income, 400 affordable and 400 market rate.

The Developer's Current Plans as presented:

All three of the current plans are for approximately 1600 units consisting of 400 low-income units, 400 affordable units and 800 market rate units. The developer showed the membership a very slick video presentation.

A short summary of the three plans are : (All plans can be viewed at www.lathropcommunity.org.)

The Greenscapes:

All buildings are new. The old buildings are demolished. Creates a 5 acre riverside park. 3 new street connections to Clybourn and 2 new street connections to Damen that replace the current super-block with 4 typical Chicago blocks. Community facility along river. Creates neighborhood retail through small shopping centers. No buildings taller than the current Lathrop Elderly building south of Diversey. Many buildings are 8 stories tall.

The Riverworks :

Retains and remodels existing buildings. Keeps the Great Lawn design of the interior courtyard area. Pedestrian paths to Clybourn. 3 new streets to connect Damen to the south area. Multi-use community center in the center of the site. Creates a "Main Street" of neighborhood retail on Damen. Two new residential towers will be built at each end of the project. The south tower is 27 stories and the north tower is 18 stories high.

The Gateways:

Reuses a critical mass of the existing buildings but makes extensions to these buildings. New Midway public park. Street connections to Damen and Clybourn. Community facility at end of Midway park. Neighborhood retail around a central "town square." New residential tower at the south end is 27 stories tall. Many north section buildings are 8 stories high.

The presentation was disrupted several times by people complaining that this information was old news and presented at previous neighborhood meetings. Some disgruntled people said that a "Master Plan" was near final as reported in the newspapers and why isn't that plan being presented. The developer noted they were in a process of presenting plans, getting feed-back and coming up with a "Master Plan." The developers claimed there was no Master Plan at this point.

After the presentation was completed there were several questions regarding financing – private, public, TIF and real estate taxes that the project will generate for the City. Overall complaints followed a pattern of too dense, too much traffic, not enough public services or public transportation, not enough low-income housing units, minority jobs during construction, developers not being responsive to the community. All complaints, no positive comments were issued by anyone.

The Developer went over the results of surveys done in November and on-line focusing on issues deemed important in the surveys. The main points of the survey were: 1) support for restoration or reuse of current buildings, 2) people favored overall lower-height development but a taller building at the south end is more acceptable, 3) 1600 units is too dense and 4) increased traffic conditions at the already congested Damen/Clybourn/Diversey intersection. These and other issues are being incorporated into the final Master Plan.

The Developer whispered at the of the meeting that the final unit number, considering all the negative response, may be around 1300. Can you live with that?

The finalization process is unclear. The Developer indicated that they are shooting for an end of March date for the Master Plan. SLN has been contacted by other neighborhood groups to join forces. We will keep you posted.

Access to the world's best insurance companies. In your neighborhood.



1**248 W. George St (La Vida Lounge) - Rezoning** As previously reported, this property is the former La Vida Lounge across the street from The Elbo Room.

The owner/developer intends to convert the building into his own single family house. The current building's 1^{st} floor goes lot-line to lot-line. The 2^{nd} floor extends from the front to about half way back. Construction is 100% brick. There is no basement.

As is often the case, the plans produced and voted on by the NDRC and information flyered to the immediate neighborhood was revised at the last minute by the owner. The owner presented revised plans that added a 3rd floor on top of the 2nd floor with no rear extension of floors 2 and 3 and the elimination of the penthouse building on the 4th floor. Garden decks will be installed on the garage roof and the 3rd floor roof. In order to access the 3rd floor roof decks, staircases with surrounding walls will be constructed. The height of the 3rd floor will be 39'1". The stairwells to the 4th floor will measure 46'1". In order to build to these specifications, the property will have to be rezoned to RT-5. This version reduced the overall size of the building from the original plans.

Joe Semerling, Chairman NDRC, presented the opinion of the NDRC which was a 4 to 4 tie with one abstention. The floor was opened for comments, with Mr. Semerling soliciting comments from residents who live near the project. Several nearby residents spoke favorably about the project, citing the cooperation of the owner with concerns the neighbors had over the size of the original proposals and elimination of the business zoning which will preclude any business (bar, restaurant, night club) from ever occupying this site. 100% of the nearby residents were in favor of the project. A hand vote was taken. In favor, YES=35, against NO=0 ABSTAIN=2. The vote has been communicated to the Alderman.

If the project is approved by the Alderman, SLN and the owner have agreed to a restrictive covenant that will rezone the property back to RT4 after completion of construction.

MEETING SITE CHANGE -THANK YOU PERRY

24 hours before the SLN meeting, there was a realization that St. Alphonsus was using the Church basement for their Mardi Gras celebration. Perry

Castrovillari, neighborhood man-about-town and St. Alphonsus employee retained the School basement for our meeting and took care of all of the last minute (and it was last minute) set-up. Thank you, my man

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

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

State Rep Ann Williams was recently appointed Vice Chairperson of the House Judiciary Committee which is charged with hearing all pending civil and criminal law matters. This session will likely be the subject of firearms-related legislation. She will also be serving on Labor and Commerce, Insurance, Adoption Reform and Mass Transit. Additionally, she will be chairing the "Illinois Green Caucus" which is a bipartisan group of legislators concerned about keeping our air and water clear, preserving our natural resources and open lands, and growing the green economy.

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

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



Delivery Begins at 11:00 A.M. Every Day \$2.95 Deliver Charge Prices Subject to Change Without Notice **NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED**

Bar-B-Que

Rib Dinner

\$9.95

Dinner

\$5.25

Manicotti

Dinner

\$5.75

& Meatball

Dinner

\$4.95

Chicken

Dinner

\$5.75

Parmigiana

w/Spaghetti

\$8.00

Lasagna

Dinner

\$5.75

founded 1893

Central Savings

Serving the Community for Over 114 Years

Need A Loan?

Home and Commercial Loans **Construction Loans Income Property Loans Quick Commitments Reasonable Closing Costs Expedited Construction Payouts**

Anthony A. Nichols President

Gerald Haase Vice-President

Locations

1601 W. Belmont (773) 528-0200

2800 N. Broadway 3800 N. Lincoln (773) 528-2800

(773) 528-0010

Chicago Illinois



CAPS MEETINGS – Sam Samatas reporting

Beat 1921, 1922 and 1931 Next meeting is March 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 March 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 March 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.

Vounteers to serve on committees are needed.

BURLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Burley is excited to announce that it is in the process of installing a community garden!! Look for more ways to get involved and contribute at <u>http://www.friendsofburley.org</u>.

The 2013-2014 school year is closer than you think. If you're planning to register, do so as soon as possible by contacting the school directly at (773) 534-5475.

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. Friday, March 15 is your last chance for the Knights of Columbus sponsored Fish Fry 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

www.lakeviewpantry.org ; 773-404-6333

Chi Town Jazz Festival – Festival director. Fr. John Moulder, has brought together a group of jazz artists who will donate their performances for the cause of hunger relief in Chicago. The Festival kicks off March 12 and runs through March 22. For a lineup of performers and venues, go to www.chitownjazzfestival.org.

Drop-off hours for donations - are Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-8:00PM and Saturday 10-1:00PM at 1414 W. Oakdale. 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 for more information.

LAKEVIEW CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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

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



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

BOOKS FIRST

Curb the clutter, create a library! Books First is collecting children's books to create libraries in those CPS schools without them. For more information contact: <u>booksfirst01@gmail.com</u> or 773-296-0950.

EASTER EGG 'FUN'DRAISER

The Hamlin Park Advisory Council (HPAC) is hosting the 2nd Annual Easter Egg FUNdraiser on Sunday, March 24th from 10am to noon at Hamlin Park (3035 N. Hoyne)). Suggested \$10 donation includes free candy, refreshments, entertainment, Easter bunny photos, and more!.

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.

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.

FACEBOOK YOUR SLN BUDDIES

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.

AROUND the NEIGHBORHOOD

Witt's Bar and Grill in the 2900 block of Lincoln Ave. has closed it operations after 7 years. They posted a thank you note on their door.

Little Green Tree House Daycare and Learning Center for 6 months to 5 years old on the 3000 block of N. Ashland is now open. This business is located in the former temporary site of the Bank of America offices when they moved from the LBA offices. For the old timers, the Roberts Hall store. www.littlegreentreehouse.com or 312-492-9876.

Dinkel's Bakery – long time advertiser in the SLN newsletter has officially opened its sandwich shop connected to the bakery at the south. The sandwiches (again for the old timers) are named after former LBA businesses such as The Woolworth, The Rothschilds and The Kotz (where my mommy bought my shoes as a kid)

MEETING PREVIEWS

Some Board Members are really kicking butt getting topics ready for future meetings. Here is sneak preview:

April 9, 2013 – principals representing neighborhood elementary and high schools and the educational opportunities that are offered.

May 14, 2013 – Culture in Your Neighborhood with representatives from SLN neighborhood theaters The Athenenaeum, Stage 773 and Theatre Wit.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

It is not too early to start thinking about the future. I know I am. SLN is looking for volunteers for the Nominating Committee to present the 2013-2014 slate. If you feel there are members out their that you feel should be tapped, please contact us. If you cannot serve on the Committee, but still have a recommendation, you can still contact us.

If you are interested in volunteering to become an Officer or a Director, that will work too.

Why get involved? SLN is a not-for-profit that has been serving the SLN area since the 1960's. SLN is involved with scheduling political candidate forums, zoning changes. liquor licenses and new business issues. SLN is the direct liaison between the Alderman's office and the neighborhood to gauge residents feelings on certain Aldermanic votes. Seven public monthly meetings are presented. SLN officers frequently meet with local politicians and news services. Finally, being an officer is the fastest way to meet your involved and concerned neighbors.

Contact email = info@slneighbors.org.



2915 N. Lincoln Ave. • Chicago, IL 60657

Tel: (773) 472-1346 · FAX: (773) 472-8263

RESTAURANT REVIEW – by Joni G Fireside Restaurant and Lounge, 5739 N. Ravenswood

For a supper club experience without driving all the way to Wisconsin, you can head up to the north side of Chicago for wonderful dining, country atmosphere and very friendly service. We try to visit this cozy spot at least once a year. Usually it is not during the peak of winter because they do have a wonderful patio to relax, chat and dine during the summer. This winter evening was a sheer delight mainly due to the very warm fireside table where we were seated and of course a hearty meal with drinks.

Besides the very generous selection of tap, bottle and craft beers, there is a nice offering of wines, as well as a full bar. The Fireside offers daily specials, which some of our party took advantage of. For starters we had the baked artichoke heart special. This was not your typical veggie dip that is served at a bridal shower and/or super bowl party. These were whole baked artichoke hearts in a slightly creamy sauce served with crispy bread.

For entrees all of us were unique in our choosing. I had the Cajun meatloaf which was stuffed with Andouille sausage. The meatloaf had a perfect texture and not too chewy or mushy. I only came upon a little of the spicy sausage. The tomato based sauce on top was gently spiced but the broccoli on the side was almost raw.

Instead of mac and cheese on the side, one of us ordered an entrée with a similar name, which means you get lots more and this one the Fireside calls Gouda and Mac. A big YUM, with crisp prosciutto and peas and a very mild cheese which did not seem to taste like it would go directly to your waistline, although I am sure it did.

The more health conscience diner ordered the blackened salmon with a small side of mac and cheese. He was impressed with the salmon preparation, presentation and taste although the soupy mac and cheese was lacking to whet his appetite, especially after tasting the Gouda and Mac.

Another special was Brisket Enchiladas, although I did not taste any. It was reported to be so good that she thought she was dining in a true Mexican restaurant. In fact she ate the entire serving whereas some of us had leftovers for lunch the next day. Fireside probably has a very seasoned cook who knew how to make brisket to perfection.

All entrees are served with your choice of fresh veggie. You can add soup or salad for an extra \$1. Go for a salad because all of their dressings are homemade and very fresh tasting. The atmosphere of The Fireside is warm and friendly. The ambience is supper club-like. On Sundays you can enjoy the Bloody Mary bar to create your very own beverage just the way you want it. Make reservations on weekends. We were glad we did, even though the place was packed, we were able to linger at our fireside table.