



October 2016 Newsletter

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

A few words from our President:

Thoughts from Barry Avenue

Politics! – Rats! - Crime! It is safe to say these are three issues that many of our residents are deeply concerned about. I am not connecting them since they are mutually exclusive. However, it does appear that overall circumstances have most of our officials dealing with these issues backwards and ineffectively. Nothing seems normal any more or the way we remember the way things should be.

Some thoughts:

POLITICS: Last spring, I distinctly remember hearing from City Hall that there would need to be “shared sacrifices by all stakeholders” to shore up city finances including pensions, salaries and project costs. The only sacrifice I see is a \$3000 + increase in a property tax bill with little recourse or general outrage and more increases to come. My front street and back alley look like a bombed out ISIS airstrip. 311 is a black hole. It takes almost 3 weeks to get a new garbage bin delivered. Adequate parkway tree trimming requires

multiple calls and crews dispatched over a year’s time. I have a new fee for garbage and soon a tax for flushing the toilet. There is a City Hall/council leadership deficit and I do not see many imminent problem solvers in the pipeline. I remember we were known as ‘the city that worked.’ Nationally, I don’t fare any better. On Nov 8th I will make a presidential choice between the lesser of two lessers. It is a sad time when most of us are voting against someone rather than for someone.

RATS: Last year’s mild winter resulted in more rats surviving it to thrive and breed in the springtime. Add in an increase in local construction projects disrupting old boroughs and a new flock of twenty something tenant neighbors mishandling garbage and dog feces and you have a perfect storm for more and bigger rats. The city response: 10 new abatement crews [for a total of 28??], a committee for developing strategy across city departments and most recently utilizing dry ice placed in holes to suffocate rodents. Recently, I saw a two person crew [driver and a baiter] bait a yard [more personnel than

1505 West Oakdale Avenue,
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BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT.
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we normally have in police cars]. They placed just a tablespoon of rat poison in a few holes, totally inadequate. Their concern was killing wildlife. Activity is being confused with progress. PETA just announced their position that the suffocating rats with the nitrogen from dry ice is inhumane.

Unbelievable! Folks, it only takes one yard or overflow bin that is a food source that can lead to problems for the whole block or area. Streets and Sans should cite these mostly absentee landlords with steep fines. I'll take responsibility for my lot, others... I don't know.

CRIME: We all know crime is getting worse in our community in all categories – bank robberies, shootings, assaults, burglaries, muggings etc. It sounds more like old Dodge City than Lakeview. Politicians tell us this is a complex social/ economic /demographic issue. I am not a criminologist, urbanologist, sociologist or claim any special knowledge. What I do know is that there is a slowdown and hesitancy in police aggressiveness and steep reductions in proactive police street stops of suspicious persons. Major disincentives include required ACLU laborious paperwork, becoming infamous on internet video, losing a job, pension and personal savings. Even one gang leader has stated he placed a bounty on police executions! It seems like unlawful protestors, agitators and hardened criminals are free not to comply with lawful orders while concurrently the police can be investigated. We can't solve this problem but we can help. We see something – say something. Make the call.

Police are then in a better position to act

Thanks for letting me vent.

Meeting Preview

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

ATHENAEUM THEATRE

2936 N. SOUTHPORT

6:30PM - Member socializing

7:00PM - Meeting begins

Agenda

1. Congressman Mike Quigley
2. 1333 W. Wolfram - zoning change

CONGRESSMAN MIKE QUIGLEY

Congressman Quigley has told SLN that most 2nd Tuesdays of the month he is normally in Washington D.C. conducting business. There is a break in the action this month and the Congressman requested to appear before the SLN membership.

Mr. Quigley is currently serving on the following committees or subcommittees:

- Founder and co-chair of the Congressional Transparency Caucus.
- Member of the House Committee in Appropriations.
- Subcommittee on Financial Services.
- Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.
- Appointed by Nancy Pelosi to serve on



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the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (oversees the activities of the entire Intelligence Community).

- NSA and Cyber-security Subcommittee.
- Emerging Threats Committee.

1333 W. WOLFRAM - Up Zoning request

The owner/developer of the property is requesting a zoning upgrade from RS-3 to RT-4.0 in order to build an oversize single family home similar to the house at 1331 W. Wolfram. 1333 Wolfram is currently the side yard for the single family home at 1331 Wolfram.

A little zoning history: During his term, former Alderman Ted Matlak received a zoning upgrade request for 1331 and 1333 Wolfram from RS-3 to RT-4 to build two oversized single family houses.

This request was rejected by SLN's NDRC. Alderman Matlak decided to allow 1331 parcel the RT-4 upgrade, as long as the 1333 parcel remained RS-3. The 1333 parcel was never built on and became 1331 Wolfram's side yard.

This is a voting issue. The neighbors nearby will be flyered before the meeting and allowed to vote along with all paid members of SLN.

Member Socializing - 6:30 to 7:00 in the Athenaeum Lobby.

The Athenaeum opens its bar for members to purchase some beer, wine or pop before the start of the monthly meeting. Come a little earlier to the meeting for some member socializing. Your purchase helps support the operations of The Athenaeum Theatreader

AT THE SEPTEMBER 2016 MEETING

Big crowd at the September meeting. A lot of new faces that responded to our Block Captain flyers or found SLN on Facebook or by a search of the Website. Probably around 60-70 in attendance. All attendees enjoyed a cocktail on SLN, which goes to the operations of the Athenaeum Theatre, host of the monthly meetings. Thanks for the big turnout.

NEW COMMUNITY RELATIONS STRATEGY (formerly CAPS) OFFICER

Our new 19th District, Sgt. Mary Hein was introduced to the SLN membership. Sgt. Hein is a 20 year veteran of the Chicago Police Force and started as our Community Relations Strategy Officer about four months ago. Sgt. Hein noted that CAPS has various events through the year including specific meetings for seniors, crime issues and business establishment (bars) issues.



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As Sgt. Hein was scheduled mainly to be introduced to the members, the floor was opened for a short question/answer session. The members brought up the August 29th late afternoon crime spree involving a three-person crew robbing people at knifepoint which included the robbing of four St. Josaphat students at Wrightwood Park and a robbery of a woman at Greenview and Wellington. No one is in custody. A follow up question involved the robbery of an off-duty Chicago Police Officer 9:25PM, September 3 on the 3100 block of Ravenswood.

The members commented on some social media postings noting the slow response time from CPD on these crimes. Other members noted that there just does not seem to be the Police car presence that they feel used to be felt in the neighborhood. Sgt. Hein noted that the District Commander addresses the crime reports every day. Sgt. Hein noted to keep doors and windows locked to prevent non-forced burglaries and be more aware of how to protect yourself. Sgt. Hein encouraged people to attend CAPS meetings (see schedule in the newsletter) and get to know your neighbors better.

ALDERMAN SCOTT WAGUESPACK - STATE OF THE WARD

The Alderman thanked SLN for inviting him for an annual update. This is the Alderman's 3rd term and he noted that City finances have made things tougher than when he started on how the City is able to address certain issues.

The Alderman stayed on the crime issue. He reinforced the idea of getting involved by going to the CAPS meetings. There is a Court Advocacy Program wherein neighbors attend court in numbers and that shows the sentencing judge that the neighbors want to see justice in crime sentencing. He encouraged voters to look at judicial ratings for the November election and elect judges that are tougher on serious crime. The Alderman has a program for younger criminals who have committed less serious crimes and are assigned to the Alderman's office for neighborhood work. Addressing the previous issue of less police cars on the street, the Alderman noted that there are more TAC team cars and unmarked cars on the street than before. However, he admitted that the 369 total officers in the 19th District is less than what we had in 2012. With a few hundred officers reaching retirement age, the City needs to replace those retirees and hire additional officers. He noted that the City and the Superintendent are still working on the number of officers needed. Of course, the City will have to find the money for the hirings. It costs \$100,000 to train an officer for the street. The Alderman is against all the money being spent on police overtime, noting that the officers are getting burned-out at a high stress job. The City is creating the new police review board, which he believes is a move in the right direction. He noted the City paid \$500 million in police settlements. The goal is to reduce conflicts of interest and paying large legal fees for defending Detective John Burge types with



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taxpayer money.

Questions and answers on crime (please note that the following was done from notes and are not word-for-word):

Question: Is there a direct correlation between the ACLU lawsuit on stop and frisk and increased crime?

Answer: The ACLU stop card does take longer for officers to fill out. He believes it has not stopped police from stopping truly suspicious people. They are working with City Corporate Counsel to get the true information.

Question: Never see cops on the streets like before, but you see hundreds of police at places like Wrigley Field. Is there information on how many police are on beats?

Answer: that information was on the Alderman's Website.

Question: How do you feel about neighborhood block watches?

Answer: Barry/Nelson neighbors have a dog walking group. The Alderman's block has a Face Book page and email contact. He is in favor of organizing. There needs to be communication between neighbors. A security camera on one garage can watch what is happening in an alley. The Bucktown neighborhood watch has their own video that the Police monitor.

Question: To what extent does the FOP Union stop policing changes that are trying to be implemented?

Answer: The FOP has recently testified on some police reforms. The issues are long-standing Police contract provisions. The FOP has to prove a legal reason for their objections.

Question: How long will it take to get more police in the District?

Answer: Officers constantly rotate through with transfers, retirements and new hires. 340 officers in February and 369 in June. He does not see a spike to 400 unless there is substantial hiring, which will take time. (see Mayor Emmanuel's 9/29 crime news conference).

Question: What about minimum sentencing guidelines?

Answer: Currently being discussed. Talk that the jails are currently full; however, many of those inmates are really mental health patients. More discussion is needed.

Question: Lack of police cars being seen on the street?

Answer: They are out there. There are more unmarked cars than before and more are on the street at night.



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Question: When is the last time a seated judge lost an election?

Answer: The Alderman intends to put some judicial information on his web-site before election time.

Question: Can you describe the tone in the council meetings?

Answer: For years the Council just relied on what the Mayor and the Police Superintendent fed them. Now with more resources, information is being challenged. Department Heads say they are working with what they have, but is that enough? Two City Council caucuses found a \$500 million mistake in an O'Hare Airport bill. The Black and Hispanic caucuses want more minority hiring. The new water tax passed. A discrepancy was found five years out in the projections, but the bill was passed. Figure \$250 additional tax per family. IF you get a water meter, your tax will probably be less. He still does not like how the Mayor does not give Council enough time to review voting issues.

Other Issues:

19 blocks of new water mains in 32nd Ward - Some sewers are getting polymer linings that will extend those lives 50-100 years.

Working on lead in CPS schools - Apparently a connector valve on drinking foundations is part of the problem.

Schools: Prescott School on Wrightwood and Ashland was on the CPS closing list in 2009. The parents group, principal and Alderman worked to keep it open. It is now one of the top 15 schools in the city.

Repaving of 1/2 streets after water main projects - The City felt it could save money by doing paving just the ripped up side. Not really working out, as the seam between old and new street is breaking down.

No. 11 Bus: Trying to get feedback from CTA. Pilot plan was set up to fail.

Building demolitions: a developer must have a rodent abatement plan. The Alderman is trying to get an asbestos abatement plan requirement.

The Alderman ended his talk and stayed to the end of the meeting. He was able to speak directly with SLN members who came up to him after the meeting.

Police hiring update:

On September 21, Mayor Emanuel announced a plan to hire nearly 1,000 officers, detectives and supervisors over the next two years. The Alderman reports in his newsletter that the number is 500 new officers. The Alderman reports in his September 30 newsletter that this may balance out the number lost to retirement or attrition, and the other "hundreds" are promotions of officers to supervisory roles or detective positions (getting us to the 1,000 number). The Mayor's budget has not been released so the Alderman is waiting for detailed information on how we will pay for



the new staff.

1444 W. DIVERSEY - Zoning Change

Owner requested a zoning change from RT-3.5 to RT-4. Owner wants to 1) elongate the current building, 2) add a third unit to the current building creating a duplex living unit, 3) convert the basement to a dwelling unit, 4) add a roof deck on top of the 3rd floor and 4) renovate the building. The end result is 3 total rental units, with top unit being duplex.

The owner and his architect combined for the presentation. The owner informed the membership that he also owns and lives in the building to the west at 1446 Diversey, which was previously converted from a two unit rental to a single family house in 1994. The owner commented that the inside of the 1444 Diversey building is basically unlivable. They intend to keep the 100 year old front brick facade intact to preserve the historic character of the building. The third floor addition would be set back so the building would not look out of place compared to neighboring structures. There would be a 3 car parking pad, not a garage. Garbage can would go on the side of the building so as not to clog up the alley with garbage cans. The architect encouraged the rehabbing of an existing structure instead of the continuous demolition and rebuilding that is going on in the neighborhood.

Sam Samatas presented the opinion of SLN's Neighborhood Development and Review Committee (NDRC). Mr. Samatas prefaced the NDRC's reasoning with a quick lesson on

FAR (floor area ratio) as it pertains to zoning requests. This building is on a 24x124 lot, which has 149 square feet less than a standard 25x125 Chicago lot. The basic current zoning rules do not allow for a 3 unit building on this lot. So, though there were many things desirable about the rehab, the NDRC reluctantly did not support the zoning change. The NDRC does recommend the overall plan to proceed but with 2 duplex units.

The floor was open for comments. A resident of 1400 Wolfram whose house backs up to Diversey was opposed to upzonings noting that people have invested in the neighborhood as is and do not desire increased density and more cars and tenant garbage in alleys. He stated that if one zoning change is given, developers would get wind of it and start buying up the 1400-1500 Diversey properties and request upzonings based on the theory of if he got an upzoning, it is only fair that I get one too. Other comments from the membership confirmed the belief that all within the residential zoning districts adhere to that zoning designation. The previous overlay district instituted by SLN back in the 1990's and rezoning done by Chicago 6-7 years ago saved the residential streets from the needle-like 3 unit condo/rentals seen in other neighborhoods.

A ballot vote was taken. The previous week, SLN had flyered 1400-1500 Diversey and the south side of 1400-1500 Wolfram to alert them of the vote.



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Do you support the zoning change request as presented?

YES = 19, NO = 31.

A written communication reporting the results was forwarded to the Alderman's office.

OTHER SLN INFORMATION:

South Lakeview Neighbors - a special group

Alderman Waguespack's office had previously informed SLN that we are one of only two total official neighborhood groups that are within his 32nd Ward boundaries.

BURGLARY SEMINAR - 6/26/16 @ Illinois Masonic Hospital

The 19th District Community Policing District (CAPS) hosted a Burglary Workshop titled "Keepin It Real." Newsletter Editor Bill Haderlein, SLN President Sam Samatas and SLN member and owner of Lakeview Computer Specialist Ed Siverstein were SLN members among the attendees. Sgt Hein was a meeting greeter.

The seminar was run by Sgt. Joyner stationed on the South Side and also a South Side resident. It included a panel of four convicted felons, who were in the last two years of their time behind bars. They volunteered to be in Program and got a reduction in their sentences. These felons were adamant that

they were burglars only, not home-invaders.

Sgt. Joyner went over basic security issues to prevent burglary:

- Always LOCK your doors.
- Lock your windows. No open windows when you are not home. Not even a crack.
- Lock car doors.
- Lighting is a proven deterrent to burglar night attacks.
- Stop all deliveries when going out of town.
- Sliding doors and patio windows need lengths of metal or wood placed in the inside track.
- Do not advertise your habits, wealth or impending events on FaceBook, Twitter, etc.
- Keep all shades and curtains closed at night. You do not want to advertise your valuables to burglars casing jobs at nighttime.
- Alarm your residence and use it.

Sgt. Joyner then would call on a felon, not by name but by number (felon #2) and pose a question to them. Here are some highlights of their answers:

1. All four of them had jobs while doing burglary. It supplemented their income.
2. They all preferred the suburbs due to



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smaller police forces, higher class victims.

3. All normally had at least one helper. One had a team of four. Easier to get more stuff and have a look-out in the car.
4. They used police scanners, to see if they are being reported.
5. Preferred entrances were a) back door, b) side window or 3) basement window. They would break a window to gain access. After breaking the window, they would wait to see if anyone came to investigate before entering.
6. They all loved 6ft. high wood fences. Totally hides what they might be doing around the house. They just jump or ladder over. Wrought-iron fence is better deterrent.
7. They know where to look: dresser drawer, sock drawer, lingerie drawer, under the bed. A master bedroom is the Holy Grail of stuff to steal.
8. Pre surveillance: a) somebody gave them inside information, They liked houses near a park so they can stake out. They sit on the block to time the habits of residents and how often the police come by.
9. Time to commit crime: in and out in 5-8 minutes. Almost never in a house for more than 10 minutes.

What STOPS them:

1. Neighbors around
2. nosy neighbor sitting on porch or looking out from a window
3. Neighborhood Watches.
4. noisy neighborhood. They prefer quiet, secluded neighborhoods and
5. a loud TV or radio, is somebody home? You can get a TV timer.

What DOES NOT STOP them:

1. Alarms - they know they have x minutes to get in and out. Sometimes they will answer the phone if the alarm company calls, pretend they are a visiting relative and talk to the Alarm Company to slow down their process in contacting the police.
2. Xigs - people do not train their dogs to be vicious. They give the dog some treats, then they are good buddies.

Other interesting stuff :

Check book - if you are burglarized, check your check book. They will take checks from the middle and spend or cash later.

Home Owner Guns - they will take the whole box. A burglar's dream is finding a gun or gun box.

Burglar tip info: they can get good info from 1) contractors that work in your house, 2) drug users in your family, 3) people your kids bring home (know your kids friends), 4) social media - hello we are out of town, come



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and get our stuff, 5) owners blabbing when they are leaving on a vacation - "hey we're going to Nashville for the weekend", you have 3 days to burglarize our house, 6) vacation pictures after they return, 7) newspapers on porch, lawn not mowed, mail in mailbox, snow on sidewalk or driveway. 8) Empty box of your new TV in the alley, Guys, I have some new stuff for you to take.

Time of day: 9:30-10:30 AM. People do not usually come back home in the morning.

Block Captain Program - members needed for the 2016-2017 season. Volunteer now.

The block captains get the word out for the monthly membership meetings to non-members the old-fashioned way, by putting flyers in mailboxes. Some also use email to reach their immediate neighbors. This has worked in recruiting new SLN members. A flyer in a pdf form will be emailed to the block captain that can be printed off and distributed. Seven membership meetings per year (Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb. Mar, April & May).

We currently have 14 block captains covering about 50% of the SLN territory.

Contact Bill Haderlein at the SLN email address = info@slneighbors.org. If you are interested in becoming a block captain

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/southlakeviewneighbors/>

Looking forward to interacting with you online.

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

CAPS Meetings

SLN is looking for members to attend CAPS meetings and report to the membership either through the newsletter or at the membership meetings.

Contact Bill Haderlein, editor at chicagolanddeck@rcn.com

if you think you will be a regular CAPS

meeting attendee.

CAPS meetings will now take place every two months and each meeting will have a specific theme as well as continuing arrest data review and strategies to address identified problems. The topics for 2016 are:

November - Seasonal crime trends

Community Relations Strategy (previously called CAPS)

Beat 1933 - east of Lincoln Ave and west of Racine, Belmont to Diversey

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 8th at Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington, 7th floor auditorium at 6:30pm.

Beat 1932 - east of Ashland and west of Lincoln, from Belmont to Fullerton

Next meeting is Monday, November 14th at the New Life Church, 1110 W. Lill at 7:00pm.

Beat 1931 - west of Ashland, between Belmont and Fullerton, to the Chicago River.

Next meeting is Wednesday, November 16th at the 2452 W. Belmont Police Auditorium at 7:00PM.

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

Twitter @ChicagoCAPS19

Email caps019district@chicagopolice.org

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News

Office located 2657 N. Clybourn, 773-248-



1330

www.ward32.org , email = info@ward32.org

1) Property Tax Rebate Program - to be eligible, you must: 1) be a Chicago homeowner, receiving the Homeowner Exemption, 2) have a household income of \$75,000 or less, 3) have received an increase in the City portion on your last property tax bill and 4) be current on your property tax payments. Applications accepted October 1, 2016 to November 30, 2016. To learn more visit:

www.cityofchicago.org/ChicagoPropertyTaxRebate.

2) Free Flu Shot - The Alderman's Office is partnering with the Chicago Public Department of Health to host a FREE Flu Shot Clinic. Residents of all ages can come and get a free flu shot. It will take place at our 32nd Ward Office at 2657 N. Clybourn on Friday, October 14th from 11am to 3pm.

3) Midnight Circus - Join your neighbors in Hamlin Park (3035 N Hoyne Ave) for fun under the big top on October 8th and 9th (2pm and 5pm shows). Enjoy a jaw-dropping acrobatic circus while raising money for our parks. This event is co-hosted by Chi Che Wang Park Advisory Council and Hamlin Park Advisory Council.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS/INFORMATION

Another Mattress Store Alert

The former Radio Shack spot in the strip mall at Ashland and Oakdale is now occupied by an Art Van Mattress Store. Maybe this was the store that was going into Herdegan Funeral Home but changed their mind. No recent activity at Herdegan.

Only three mattress stores within the SLN boundaries. Not enough. We need more

Restaurant Review by Susan R.

Farm Bar - 1300 W. Wellington

I and my dining companion walked into the Farm Bar and it was packed. I thought we would have a long wait to be seated, however it was only a five minute wait. It was a Wednesday night about 6:30 pm. My first thoughts were - great to see a neighborhood establishment thriving and it is a bit loud.

My friend ordered the grilled chicken club sandwich and it was tasty and juicy. The French fries were perfectly cooked and seasoned just right. I had the chopped Kale salad. It was wonderful. Our server allowed me to have cheese rather than blue, as I dislike blue cheese and gave me my dressing on the side. I also ordered the soup du jour which was a beer and cheese. It arrived warm not hot. I requested it to be further heated and once it arrived to my table, it was delicious. Our server was most accommodating with the soup and other needs at the table. I drank a Pinot Grigio that



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was dry and splendid, while my dining companion drank a local craft beer that appeared to be enjoyable. I would recommend Farm Barn to others. Not inexpensive, but good for the price.

South Lakeview Neighbors
1505 West Oakdale Avenue
www.slneighbors.org

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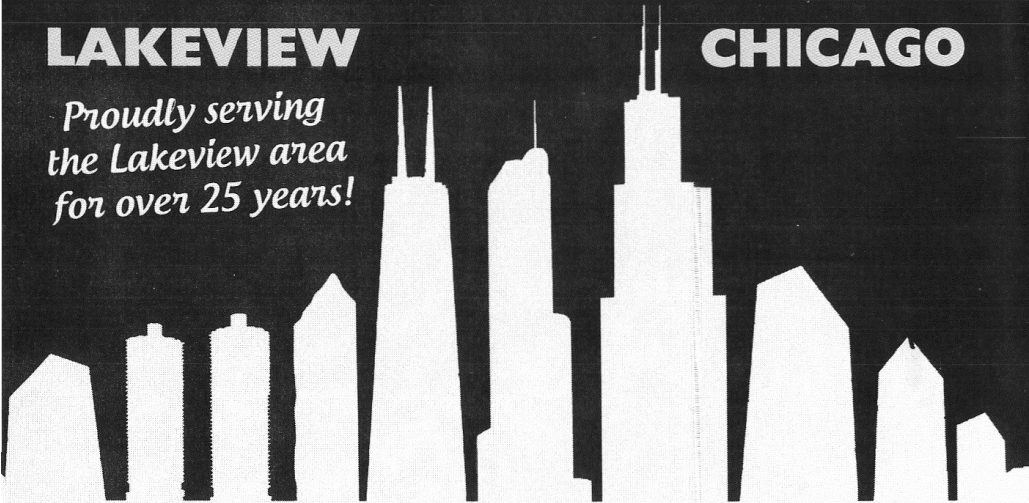
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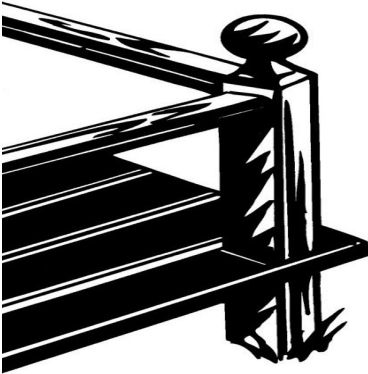
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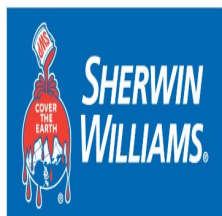
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