

February 2017 Newsletter

Meeting Preview

Athenaeum Theater 2936 N. Southport

6:30 PM - Doors open 7:00 PM - Meeting begins

AGENDA

- Zoning change 3015 N. Southport (parking lot behind Herdegan Funeral Home)
- 2. 32nd Ward update: Recycling Ordinance / bag tax / water tax and other issues
- 3. Valentine's Day Raffle

3015 N. Southport - Zoning change

This is the Herdegan Funeral Home parking lot north of the alley. Zoned commercial B-2-3. The owners are looking for a zoning upgrade in order to build a 5 story building. No commercial/retail on the first floor. 9 units of rental or condo units on floors 2-3-4. 15 parking spots in the back and 6 parking spots along the alley at ground level. The building would be 4 feet higher than the condo building directly to the north. This is a voting issue. The immediate area will be flyered.

32 Ward Office to speak on Several Topics

Paul Sajovec, Alderman Waguespack's Chief of Staff, and Pedro Borrero, 32nd Ward Streets and San., will address the membership on a variety of new 2017 issues affecting our fine citizens including but not limited to:

- New Recycling Ordinance
- Bag tax
- Water tax
- Property taxes (enough with the taxes)
- Arrest expungement
- · Decriminalization of marijuana

Valentine's Day

This is not the first time that the 2nd Tuesday of the month has fallen on Valentine's Day. However, it appears to me that most of the people at the meetings are either unattached or their wife does not care to spend quality neighborhood time with their husband who dresses like bum. So come to the February meeting, have a pre-meeting drink, keep your eyes and ears open and you may find yourself closing the Lincoln Tap at 2AM and calling into work sick on Wednesday. Free raffle of a bottle of wine for attendees at the Valentine's Day meeting. Bill Haderlein, Editor Yes. I am married.

1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

http://slneighbors.org General: info@slneighbors.org President: 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



A few words from our President:

Late Night Musings from Barry Avenue

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and had pleasurable experiences with close friends and family. This is our first full newsletter for our 2017 meeting schedule. Briefly recapping, SLN had another great holiday party with free food, drinks and large raffle last December. I would like to thank Kevin Kruse and the staff at Will's Northwood's Inn for going the extra mile in hosting the event. In January we had a special makeup meeting where we hosted an Educational Choice Forum with the highly impressive principals from Agassiz, Burley, Jahn, Prescott and Lakeview H.S. This was extremely interesting and well received. We are now considering a similar expanded forum with all local education options represented for our October meeting.

As of Jan 1, 2017 Illinois and Chicago have about 200+ new laws and ordinances and that is in spite of a political stalemate in Springfield [I kind of like the Trump plan - for every 1 new regulation you have to eliminate 2 existing]. Some of these laws include "expungement" of an arrest record when not convicted, new recycling laws, water and sewer tax/fees, plastic bag fee, decriminalizing marijuana possession in small amounts, eliminating the not so funny "tampax tax", new parking fees, city council tax hike, CPS tax hike etc, etc, etc. The net result of the more relevant laws/fees is about a \$400 increase in 2017 taxes for every \$250 thousand of assessed property value. For the average Lakeview single family home of \$1.25+ million this means an extra \$2000 on the tax bill due in 2018 on top of the 2016/17 increases. At our February meeting Paul

Sajovec, Chief of Staff to Alderman Scott Waguespack and Pedro Borrero, 32nd Ward Street and Sans Supt. will sort through and help us understand and deal with these various issues. They will also stay until the end of the meeting and attendees can fill out service request forms.

Also at this meeting developers for 3015 N Southport, the former parking lot for Wellington/Southport funeral home, will present their plans for a 5 story residential building. Their current planned configuration has 15 parking spaces at ground level with 9 dwelling units in the remaining 4 levels. They are seeking a zoning change from the current B3-2 which requires commercial at ground level to B2-3 which allows for residential. They also need a variance beyond the 50ft height limit to 54ft [59ft to parapet] to accommodate the 5th story. This is 6 feet higher than the building to the north. A ballot vote will be taken after their presentation. The NDRC will review beforehand and make a recommendation.

Finally to all seniors, which I am one, you need to apply ANNUALLY NOW if you haven't for your property tax exemption as the deadline is Feb 8th. If you earn less than \$55,000/yr apply for the tax freeze. Also, keep in mind that the Lakeview assessment notices go out this year on April 7th. Appeal deadline is 30 days later. With the fore mentioned tax increases every property owner should file an appeal with the Assessor's Office shortly and later with the Board of Review. You can do it yourself but feel free to find a competent agent.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting [It's Valentine's Day – most nice restaurants are too crowded with inflated pricing... give flowers and card instead]. As



always, stay safe and let me know of any thoughts and issues.

Thanks. Sam

AT THE JANUARY 2017 MEETING

Local Public School Education Forum

SLN put together a fantastically informative meeting for a special January meeting. The Forum was organized by SLN 1st VP and former CPS Principal Bob Blitstein. In attendance were the principals from Burley, Jahn and Prescott Elementary Schools and Lakeview High School.

Mr. Blitstein gave an overview of the grammar schools. All three of the schools are CPS Magnet Cluster Schools. A Magnet Cluster School is a specialized neighborhood school that has a neighborhood attendance boundary and focuses their curriculum on one of four subjects: 1) fine and performing arts, 2) world language, 3) technology or International Baccalaureate. A neighborhood school gives admission preference to families that live within preset boundaries. Then, if enrollment space is still available, the remaining open spots can be filled by students outside the boundaries via a lottery. Though, once you are in, you do not have to go into the lottery every year.

The principals gave presentations on each of their schools. The floor was then open for questions. Here are highlights with some advice from the Elementary school principals:

All three schools are highly ranked educationally with diverse enrollments. All principals agreed that a tour of the school is the most important component of choosing a school for your child. The principals felt that

a tour will allow you to feel the inside culture of the school, its' overall vibe and see that the kids are engaged. They encouraged parents to do background checks on test scores, but at the same time to shy away from websites like GreatSchools, because choosing a school is more than picking the supposed "best."

Class size is not always the best measure of school. The principals stressed how rigorous they are in selecting great teachers to work with and great teachers know where they would like to teach. It was noted that a great teacher with 32 kids is better than an average teacher with 16 kids.

All the principals were proud of the historical nature of the physical buildings they teach in. The schools were built in the late 1800's and early 1900's and are constantly being upgraded and improved by the CPS and volunteer work of the teachers, parents and students.

Here is the Elementary school information:

Burley - 1630 W. Barry, 773-534-5475. Principal Catherine Plocher. A Literature, Writing and Technology Magnet Cluster School.

Website = Burley.cps.edu. Tours every Wednesday at 8:30AM. Neighborhood boundaries: north-School St., south-Diversey/Wolfram, west-Ravenswood and east-Lakewood/Racine.

Prescott - 1632 W. Wrightwood, 773-534-5505. Principal Dr. Erin Roche. A Literature and Writing Magnet Cluster School. Website = Prescott.cps.k12.il.us. Tours 2nd Tuesday of the month 9AM. Neighborhood boundaries: north-Wolfram/George, south-Fullerton, west-Damen and east-Janssen.



Jahn - 3149 N. Wolcott, 773-534-550.
Principal Michael Herring. A Fine Arts Magnet Cluster School. Website = jahnschool.com.
Tours every Wednesday at 8:30AM.
Neighborhood boundaries: northBelmont/School, south-Diversey, westWestern Ave./Chicago River and eastRavenswood.

Lakeview High School: Principal Paul Karafiol gave a very upbeat talk on Lakeview H.S. Lakeview is a neighborhood school of about 1,300 very diverse students drawn from all over the city. Lakeview is an Early College STEM School (STEM= Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), which enables students to earn both a high school diploma and college credits. Lakeview was the STEM Tech Fest Champions in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. Microsoft is Lakeview's STEM corporate partner and has sponsored 30 internships for Lakeview students. The school has 26 sports, 32 clubs and several STEM and Arts Partnerships. 65% of the students are involved in sports or extracurricular activities. Mr. Karafiol believes that our neighborhood is a very viable option to the go-to magnet high schools that all seem to consider for their graduating 8th graders.

Lakeview's neighborhood boundaries are north-Montrose/Irving, south-Belmont/Diversey, east-Lake Michigan and west-Western Ave./Chicago River. For more information: 773-534-5440 or Website = Lakeviewhs.com.

South Lakeview Neighbors would like thank the principals for their attendance. The meeting easily was 1.5 hours long and they all did this on their free time.

Holiday Party 12/13/16 at Will's Northwoods

Held in the Winter Big Tent, a large crowd including a dozen or so kids jammed in for the Holiday festivities. SLN would like to thank Will's Northwoods for hosting the event for the umpteenth year in row. The great food and service was greatly appreciated.

Thanks to the SLN officers for donating the wine and liquor for the raffles.

Thanks to the following businesses for their gift donations.

- · Art of Pizza
- Golden Apple Restaurant
- S&G Restaurant
- Heritage Bike and General Store
- A Little Photo Studio
- Rene the Barber
- · Gino's East Pizza
- Beermiscous

The liquor and split the pot raffles generated cash donations of \$75 to the Lakeview Pantry and \$75 to The Athenaeum Theatre Restoration Fund. SLN Director Fionn McManigal and his wife Meghan were the big winners for the night, proving the old financial advice that you have to spend money to make money.

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

Update re: recent 1600 W. Diversey shootings as reported by the Alderman's office

- The person shot on Jan. 24th at 1651 W. Diversey, near the Cardinal Bernadin School, was a known gang member from the neighborhood walking back from work to his home near Hamlin Park. The offender was an unknown male in a black vehicle.
- The second shooting victim was also a west side gang member and called in the address of shots fired on the 2300 block of W. Diversey.

Alderman Waguespack's office has been in touch with the Cardinal Bernadin, Prescott and Alcott schools. Police have added additional cars to the area and specifically assigned a separate car for all three watches throughout the day and night.

The neighborhood has improved greatly over the years but there are still pockets of problem gang members and the criminal elements they interact with that are adding to the burglaries and robberies in the area. The 19th District has done a good job of keeping them in check.

Prior to the merging of the 19th and 23rd Districts in 2012, there was a staff allocation of about 470 officers in the 19th District. The staffing was reduced to as low as 326 but has grown to about 370. At the time we were promised by then Superintendent McCarthy that the closing of the Belmont district would not lead to a reduction in officers. That was simply not true. Since then, strong arm robberies and burglaries are on the increase and while they show a slight decrease over the past year, the long term outlook for adding officers is not good. Mayor Emanuel is hiring around 480 new police officers over the next two years what

will be allocated to districts throughout the City.

The Dept. of Justice recently released a report that shows we need a lot of improvements in training, supervision and other aspects of policing but does not address the problems with entities of government, including city hall, city council and other agencies. The report doesn't address the fact that there has been a shell game played with citizens or aldermen who want to obtain and review annual police reports, staffing allocations or manpower numbers or much of the data needed to correctly run a billion dollar city department.

So while all of us want to see more patrols each day, we cannot get there until we get more answers about how the police department operates, changes policies and staff to what is needed to make our neighborhoods safer again.

CAPS Meetings

meeting attendee.

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 email=chicagolanddeck@rcn.com if you think you will be a regular CAPS

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.

Community Relations Strategy (previously called CAPS)

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



Next meeting is Tuesday, March 14th 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, March 13th 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, March 15th 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

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS/INFORMATION

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

www.lakeviewchamber.com 773-472-7171

Have you ever wondered who is responsible for the holiday decorations in West Lakeview? Or who empties the neighborhood's litter baskets and plants the sidewalk planters year-round? These are just some of the services provided by Special Service Area (SSA) 27.

SSA 27's mission is to support a vibrant local economy and high quality of life for the benefit of Lakeview businesses and residents by improving and enhancing public streets and spaces, creating memorable experiences, encouraging spending locally and promoting the neighborhood. The

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce serves as the Sole Service Provider for SSA 27, whose work is guided by the Lakeview Area Master Plan.

SSAs are funded through a property tax levy on properties within their boundaries. Each SSA is governed locally by a publicly-appointed Board of Commissioners (who are local SSA taxpayers such as property owners, businesses and residents) who serve in a volunteer capacity.

SSA Commission meetings are open to the public and agenda and minutes are posted publicly online. Visit www.lakeviewchamber.com/ssa27 for more information.

Don't Be Fooled by Imposters

Peoples Gas is partnering with the Chicago Police Department's CAPS Implementation Office to bring you this important safety message:

Always ask for identification from anyone claiming to represent a utility company. All Peoples Gas workers must carry their IDs when making service calls.

Always be suspicious of individuals requesting cash for service. Any work done on your home by Peoples Gas will be billed directly through your account.

If you want to verify whether a Peoples Gas worker has been dispatched to your home call our customer service office at 866-556-6001.

Best Pizza Places in Chicago - Art of Pizza Makes the List!

According to Thrillist, Art of Pizza has been



voted one of the best deep dish pizzas in Chicago. The Thrillist Media Group is a digital media company consisting of food, drink and travel website 'Thrillist' with over 13 million monthly subscriptions. According to Thrillist "the Art of Pizza gets everything right, from the flaky crust to the brightly spiced tomato sauce on top".

The Art (as it is known by the regulars) is a long-time SLN advertiser.

Real Estate Watch within South Lakeview Neighbors boundaries: Compiled by Susan

Radzinowicz, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

Address	Price	Days on Mkt.
Multi-Unit:		
3139 N. Racine	\$700,000	47
1244 W. Nelson	\$735,000	8
Condos:		
2853 N. Lincoln, #1	\$330,000	11
1245 W. George, #403	\$335,500	62
3127 N. Ashland, #3	\$422,000	19
2943 N Lincoln, #211	\$495,000	4
2740 N. Racine	\$1,225,000	61

Restaurant Review by Michael V. FarmBar Chicago – 1300 W. Wellington

As we continue to hunker down and wait out our delayed winter here in Chicago, we evaluate seasonal criteria for decision making: How many episodes is that new Netflix series? How far is the restaurant I'm walking to? Do I need to order delivery again or take an Uber? Luckily for members of South Lakeview, FarmBar rings the bell on providing a warm, welcoming environment close to home. After more than surviving their first 14 months on Wellington and Lakewood, FarmBar continues to build its reputation as a neighborhood staple.

On a recent January evening I visited FarmBar and was greeted by not one but two outstretched arms – presumably a host and a manager opening the innermost door of the infamous temporary winter vestibule. Inside you can instantly recall the layout of the former tenant - Wellington's - only so much nicer I wonder how it wasn't improved upon years earlier. 10 – 12 tables line the east side and two larger 5-person booths hug the front, south corners. The large wooden bar anchors the west edge and on the night I visited many diners opted to eat at the bar.

My dining experience started with comfort food from my Wisconsin upbringing – cheese curds and pickles – and set the tone for what was to come. The food menu is relatively brief but varies from fresh, bespoke vegetable salads to burgers, fish and hearty entrees. I got through the food menu faster than the beverage 'book' – selecting the right beer from the many locally-sourced options proved slightly more challenging given the number of choices. I settled on an Alpha Klaus Christmas Porter from our Indiana neighbors.



Food at FarmBar seems built for cold weather – hearty burgers, meatloaf, grilled cheese – but this isn't your typical heavy food menu. The restaurant's focus is on locally-sourced, fresh ingredients and most are sourced from their own farm in Mineral Point, WI. With entrees in the \$13 - \$18 range, the premium on fresh and local feels fair and the food is presented with good attention to detail: house-made ketchup, fresh pickles, etcetera. Dessert is limited to one or two options, we enjoyed a caramel pie from Bang Bang pie shop. I'd be interested to see what an inhouse pastry chef might create outside of the currently listed bread pudding.

With all of the upside on the gastronomic aspects of FarmBar, there are some challenges – if your Uber drops you off at the wrong time (read – their busy time), you may suffer a wait without much physical room to maneuver, and if you're interested in an exorbitant amount of elbow room at dinner or brunch, you may be out of luck given the tight footprint of the main dining room. The host recommended calling ahead to prevent a surprise wait; more space would be a welcome addition to ease some of the congestion.

Overall, FarmBar is a great spot to visit as we wait for the 50's and 60's to return. The cramped space can be overcome with a good meal and strong local beer and cocktail selection. The servers treated us as if they've known us for some time and we're looking forward to a return trip.

FarmBar is located at 1300 W Wellington. Monday-Thursday 5pm - 10pm, Friday+Saturday 5pm - 11pm, Sunday 5pm -9pm. Brunch Saturday+Sunday 11am - 4pm. Farm-Bar.com

OTHER SLN INFORMATION:

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

Still looking for block captains to flyer their blocks for the monthly membership meetings. Good exercise. Full benefits. 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

SLN on Facebook - Get on It!

If you are on Facebook, consider joining our Facebook group. The URL to access the group is

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

Looking forward to interacting with you online.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW

Members: please renew your membership using the enclosed MEMBERSHIP FORM or go to SLN's website at www.slneighbors.org and renew using PayPal. You must be a PAID MEMBER in ORDER to VOTE on the NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

Attention Advertisers – Ad Space

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- Susan Radzinowicz Real Estate Broker
- Sherwin Williams Paint Store

State Representative - Ann Williams.

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www.repannwilliams.com Chief of Staff Colleen Smith email = =colleen@repannwilliams.com

U.S. Congressman Mike Quigley

Office @ 4345 N. Milwaukee Ave., 773-267-5926.

Email=melanie.thompson@mail.house.gov www.quigley.house.gov

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey

Office @ 118 N. Clark St., Rm 567, 312-603-6380

Email=commish@fritchey.com www.fritchey.com

Senator John J. Cullerton

1726 W. Belmont Chicago, IL. 60657 773-883-0770 www.senatedem.ilga.gov Email = mchirico@senatedem.ilga.gov

Alderman Tom Tunney 44nd Ward News

Office located 3223 N. Sheffield, 773-525-6034

email = ward44@cityof chicago.com



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

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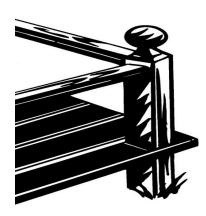
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SCOTT WAGUESPACK

32ND WARD ALDERMAN ★ WARD32.ORG

Thanks to the **South Lakeview Neighbors** for your strong commitment to the neighborhood throughout the year.

Visit **ward32.org** to find out more about available services. While you're there, sign up for the 32nd Ward email newsletter to receive up-to-date information about news and events in the Ward and City.

We look forward to working with you!

32ND WARD SERVICE OFFICE

2657 North Clybourn • Chicago, IL 60614 Tel: 773 248 1330 • info@ward32.org

Monday-Friday: 9am-6pm

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