1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

Web Site: www.slneighbors.org
General email: info@slneighbors.org
President email: president@slneighbors.org

BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT - RAVENSWOOD TO RACINE
Membership Dues (per person) \$10.00 September 1 through May 31
Meetings held at Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport on the second Tuesday of every
Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

**MAY 2019** 

#### FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

Late Night Musings From Barry Ave (the last)

The South Lakeview Neighbors May general membership meeting is the last meeting for this 2018/19 term. It is also my last meeting as president of this excellent and highly revered organization. It is time for someone else to take over, review and possibly formulate some new priorities, ideas, style and direction. It has been a great 3½ years and I really appreciated working with a very fine and committed group of board member volunteers. Additional pleasure was getting to know, hear from and work with many of you - our concerned members and residents as well as various politicians, police officers and especially Alderman Waguespack and his staff.

I am not going away and I will still be involved with SLN. I chair our nominating committee and we have developed a slate of officers with a new president which is subject to your vote. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter. I will be returning to my old role as 1st VP which is essentially a back-up for the president. As of this writing I will still be involved in zoning issues and continue to facilitate Neighborhood Development Review Committee, the NDRC. With new changes to Transit Oriented Districts "TOD" ordinances, possible changes to "alderman prerogatives" and some large potential developments the future feel, makeup and tranquility of SLN will be challenged and the subsequent role and direction of the NDRC will be pivotal.

Back to neighborhood business. Baseball season is in full swing [sorry for the pun]. This month's meeting we have returning Heather Way Kitzes – Manager Neighborhood Relations and

**MEETING AT A GLANCE TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2019** 

ATHENAEUM THEATRE
2936 N. SOUTHPORT

6:30 PM- Member socializing 7:00PM – Meeting begins

Agenda:

- 1) State Rep Ann Williams Office to Report on Springfield issues
- 2) Chicago Cubs Neighborhood Relations
- 3) Congressman Quigley's office reponsenior and social security and medicare issues
- 4) Victor Giustino neighborhood historian
- 5) Election of Officers and Directors

Governmental Affairs/CUBS. She will review everything new with the Cubs/Wrigley/concerts and what we can expect this summer. I urge you to bring your questions, comments and concerns. She wants to hear them.

Also, in an attempt to get a read out on Springfield's legislative agenda State Rep Ann Williams' Chief of Staff Emily Melbye will present an overview. We all know we have a new governor and there is a new direction...I am guessing it means higher taxes, cannabis and casino gambling

legislation. Personally, I am [and most folks should be] against anything that makes it easier for people to get high and middle/lower income individuals to lose wages. I would love to hear instead how the state is trying to cut expenses in addition to the non-punitive revenue [tax] enhancements.

In addition, we will introduce Elli Song, a member of Congressman Quigley's staff who is a specialist in Medicare/Social Security issues. She will be present after the meeting to answer anyone's questions.

Next, is a PSA – public service announcement: Lakeview Township went through a tri-annual property value reassessment last year with an average increase of about 31% that you will see in a shocking July 2019 tax bill. If you are a property owner without a senior freeze you have till May 23 to take a second bite out of the apple. You or a designated firm can file another appeal case to reduce your taxes. At a minimum, just go to cookcountyassessor.com with your address or PIN # and quickly and easily fill out an appeal form - they will do the rest. About 65% of the appeals receive some sort of reduction [sometimes not much but it all helps].

Finally, I would like to invite all members and friends and family who live within our boundaries [Belmont- Diversey, Racine – Ravenswood] to join a free fun social evening at our Summer Party July 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30pm Will's Northwoods Inn at Racine/Nelson. More info to follow.

I want to take one last opportunity to thank you all for your participation, sincere involvement, help and support in these last few years. Overall, we have a very savvy, active and impressive group of members. You helped make my role worthwhile, easier and enjoyable.

Talk to you all soon. Sam comments: president@SLneighbors.org

#### Get (Getting) Well Soon – Ann Sychowski

Longtime (it seems like forever) SLN Treasurer had some hospital time during April. She is AOK and back home at this time. So wish her good luck or good health the next time you see her. Unofficial sources put Ann Sy as the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest SLN member.

### **South Lakeview Neighbors 1505 West Oakdale Avenue**

www.slneighbors.org email = info@slneighbors.org

#### Officers:

President: Sam Samatas
1st Vice President: Bob Blitstein
2nd Vice President: Fionn McManigal
Recording Secretary: Bill Haderlein
Treasurer: Ann Sychowski
Corresponding Secretary: Steve Stern

#### **Directors:**

Susan Radzinowicz Robert Taugner David Duggan Harvey Levin Caty Norman-Burke Ed Silverstein

Newsletter Articles:Bill HaderleinNewsletter Editor:Jeanne HaderleinWeb-Site Design:Steve SternAdvertising Set-up:Ed Silverstein

#### **MAY 2019 MEETING - PREVIEW**

## State Rep. Ann Williams – Report from her Office

Our State Rep. Ann Williams has been busy down in Springfield with the new Governor and all. So she wanted to let us know what is going on before SLN breaks for the Summer. She will be sending her Chief of Staff Emily Melbye to update us on the legislation.

#### **Chicago Cubs Neighborhood Relations**

The Cubs have finally moved above .500, so Heather Way-Kitzes, Manager of Cubs Neighborhood Relations feels it safe to come out to discuss what's happening at Wrigley Field and Gallagher Way this year and to describe some of the charity activities that the Cubs are involved with in the immediate neighborhood. Is she going to bring anything to give away? I don't know.

## Senior and Social Security Issues – from Congressman Quigley's office

Elli Song, who handles senior, social security and medicare issues for the Congressman's office will give a brief talk and be able to meet with SLN members regarding any issues or questions they have on those issues.

## Victor Giustino- neighborhood Chicago historian

Victor gave an interesting bullet-point performance at last year's May meeting, so we have asked him back for 15 minutes of obscure Lakeview, Chicago and Illinois historical facts. Victor is still a frequent contributor on various Chicago talk radio programs. You may not know who he is, but you have probably seen him going to McDonald's for a cup of coffee in the morning, at a local street fair during the summer, in the back section at the 7:45 St. Alphonsus Sunday mass or sunning himself in his Southport Ave front yard. Now see him in person. Parental Guidance suggested

#### **Election of Officer and Directors**

Here is the slate to be voted on for the 2019-2020

Term:

President: Bob Blitstein (new)
1st Vice President: Sam Samatas
2nd Vice President: Fionn McManigal
Recording Secretary: Bill Haderlein

Treasurer: Ann Sychowski

Corresponding Secretary: Steve Stern

Directors: - David Duggan, Bob Taugner, Susan Radzinowicz, Harvey Levin, Caty Norman-Burke

and Ed Siverstein

New directors - still working on at press time

## Candidates for all positions can be nominated from the floor.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee who were at their third SLN-related meeting for the month of April. Some Art of Pizza's pizza and some wine made the process a little easier. Then after a little neighborhood gossip, we got down to business. Sam Samatas-Chair, Susan Radzinowicz, David Duggan and Bill Haderlein. Excused abscense: Steve Stern and Ann Sychowski.

#### AT THE APRIL 2019 MEETING

We had a nice low-key social meeting of eating and drinking in the Curtain Call Club at The Athenaeum Theatre. Some new members joined up and a few current SLN members brought in some new members. Those people got their free advertised drink. We had three large Art of Pizza pizzas. They looked so good, is was a shame to pull them apart to start eating them. Sam Samatas, like the good Greek that he advertises himself as, brought additional food in the form of a Costco cake that had some delicious frosting. A great gardening talk by Fertile Ltd. on Diversey and a Jeff DeLong behind-the-scene tour of The Athenaeum rounded out the evening.

## Fertile Ltd. – Spring Planting Advice Located at 1646 W. Diversey Parkway

Susan Brandstetter, the owner of Fertile, Ltd. on Diversey just east of Paulina, gave a spirited gardening talk to the membership. Fertile Ltd is a 25,000 sq.ft. retail facility that provides an excellent selection of cut flowers, annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees and garden elements. Their specialty is individualized garden design and installation.

Fertile also is involved in a Charitable Giving Policy where Fertile works with community groups or charities to create gardens, giving a 40% discount on plant materials. Fertile also provides gift certificates for silent auctions and free seed packets for school projects.

The two tips that stuck in my mind from the talk were:

- Even if you have a large patch of your yard that needs grass repair (even 100-200 sq.ft), she recommended you use the "Allin-One" grass or repair bags. The reasoning is that the All-in-One kits contain a fast start fertilizer, high performance mixed grass seed and mulch. Everything you need other than water. Like Hamburger Helper (do they still make that?)
- 2) It is best to water your grass in the evening to avoid evaporation and wasting of water.

A flowering container planter was raffled off and for the life of me I cannot remember who won as I was occupied eating my second piece of cake.

#### Athenaeum Theatre – behind the scenes tour

Following the Fertile garden talk, Jeff DeLong, Director of Marketing & Development at the Athenaeum, met the members in the lobby to lead them on a behind-the-scenes tour of the Athenaeum Theatre facilities. Jeff started out with some Athenaeum facts. Built in 1911, the Athenaeum is the oldest continuously operating Off-Loop theatre in Chicago. The building has provided the neighborhood over the years with meeting rooms, a library, a gymnasium, music, billiard and card rooms and 4 bowling alleys. From 1926 to 1966, the Sisters of Notre Dame ran a girl's commercial high school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. In 1939, a fire destroyed the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and the attic apartment of the building's caretaker. In 1950, the Athenaeum served as a temporary Church after a massive fire destroyed much of the interior of the St. Alphonsus Church.

As most of the founding parishioners of St. Alphonsus were of German and German-American descent, they conceived a neighborhood playhouse where they could enjoy their beloved German operas. Jeff took us into the main theatre. Of course, we have all been there before at an SLN meeting, but Jeff told us the main theatre seats 985 and due to its unique design, where the balcony extends 2/3 over the main floor, even a seat in the far corner of the upper balcony is only 95 feet from the stage. No columns or pillars obstruct the view of the stage. Jeff continued the tour behind the stage, down into the dressing and waiting rooms, pointed out some furniture donated by the talk show host Trevor Noah and the hallway that comedian Patton Oswalt walked down in his cable comedy special. Jeff concluded his tour with a discussion of whether the Theatre is haunted by a variety of ghosts and the experiments conducted that verified their existence.

This editor has not really been a big theater or concert goer in recent years. Movie and bar goer, yes. But Jeff's pep talks at the start of the SLN meetings got me to get off my butt and see the Nutcracker Suite Ballet, an unknown Canadian singer-songwriter and most recently Todd Rundgren. I am not a big Todd fan, but figured how can I pass up a concert by a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member when the concert is only two blocks away. The convenience of this venue cannot be beat and The Athenaeum red light sign truly gives the neighborhood a totally different vibe.

Website = www.athenaeumtheatre.org.

Neighborhooder tip: For any that might attend an upcoming sold-out performance, don't use the bathrooms on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lobbies at intermission. They are for the "non-neighborhood" people. Exit the Theatre to the main lobby, go up the large staircase to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and use the private SLN bathrooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Big, roomy and retro. A tremendous perk for the SLN members. You are welcome.

## CULINARY UPDATE- Redhot Ranch #2 French Fries in Chicago

Phil Vettel just published his 50 favorite restaurants in Chicago. Will not be going to any of them. But in the same newspaper, the Tribune had their top 20 picks for Chicago's best French fries. At number 2 was Redhot Ranch (they listed the store at 2072 N. Western but the fries are all the same). The article mentioned that the crust has an audible crunch, which breaks into an interior that's like the creamiest mashed potatoes you can imagine. Redhot Ranch does not rinse the potatoes after cutting. This causes the fantastic crunch and some fries latch onto each other (maybe for one final fling). The article did not mention that they are deliciously greasy, which allows the salt to stick to the fries. And still, they are actually good for you, or at least they make you happy.

So with this news, now within the SLN borders we have:

Art of Pizza - #1 pan pizza and an SLN Advertiser. Art now has a 2<sup>nd</sup> location in the South Loop in case you are down that way.

Redhot Ranch - #2 french fries

and appearing on WGN's Chicago's Best were S&G Restaurant for breakfast skillets, also an SLN advertiser and

Continental Café at 3134 Lincoln for its' Georgian (Russian) cuisine.

## Jon Bunge – long-time owner of Will's Northwoods Inn: Honorary Street Designation as reported by Cathy Norman-Burke

On a chilly, damp spring Chicago afternoon, a bagpipe tolled the passing of a good neighbor, Jon Bunge, late owner of Will's Northwoods Inn and newest honoree of an honorary street designation. Hereafter, the 1200 block of Nelson will be known as Jonathan Bunge Way in honor of the graduate of Princeton University, Harvard Law School, respected lawyer, US Army veteran, father of 3 and husband of 57 years of Trudy.

We in South Lakeview will always remember him as the owner of Will's, which continues to serve the neighborhood as a friendly refuge, including generously hosting SLN social gatherings.

Jon's friend and business partner Kevin Kruse remembered him as a humble man who expanded the business while maintaining the corner bar feel. Remembering his many Musky Fests (and looking forward to the next one on Sept.8th), Kevin recalled his own first Musky Fest. Although Musky Fests seemed always blessed by good weather, that fateful day was rainy and promised to be a financial disaster. Jon reminded Kevin that, "We did not create Musky Fest for the money, we created it for the fun and comradery of the day." This spirit infused Will's and Jon's relationship with the neighborhood for the 20 years of his ownership here, and promise to continue under Kevin's management long into the future.

Alderman Scott Waguespack's assistant, Elizabeth Gomez, who was instrumental in gaining the honorary street designation, remembered that Will's was always a positive presence. Congratulations to the Bunge family and to the Will's family and staff.

Jon passed away April 10, 2018.

#### FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

## Community Relations Strategy (previously called CAPS)

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

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm at Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington, 7<sup>th</sup> floor auditorium at 6:30pm.

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

Next meeting is Monday, May 13th at 7:00 pm 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, May 15th at 7:00 pm at the 2452 W. Belmont Police Auditorium.

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

Twitter = ChicagoCAPS19

Email = caps019district@chicagopolice.org

Contact information:

Community Policing Office

Sgt Mary Hein

Email: mary.hein@chicagopolice.org

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 meeting attendee

#### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS/INFORMATION

## Burley Local School Council (LSC) Meeting as reported by Amy Walsh

These meetings are open to the public and are super informative especially given the school's overcrowding issue, the South Lakeview housing boom and the need to build an addition to the school. Join us at our next School Council meeting and get the latest updates on Burley from Principal Plocher and the Burley Local School Council.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm Located: Enter at main entrance at 1630 W. Barry and proceed to lunch room.

#### Lakeview Chamber of Commerce (SSA 27)

1409 W. Addison

www.lakeviewchamber.com 773-472-7171

PorchFest Lakeview – Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> form 1-5PM – Within two blocks of Southport, Lincoln and Wellington

The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Front Porch Concerts presents PorchFest Lakeview. PorchFest Lakeview is a community-building festival featuring local musicians performing on front porches within a few blocks of South Lakeview. Lakeview residents volunteer their porches to host the concerts, and local musicians will perform throughout the

afternoon. There will be kids' activities, craft beer (cash only), and great times with the community.

**HOST:** Hosting is a great way to meet your neighbors and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of live music from talented local musicians right on your own front porch! By hosting, you're helping to make Lakeview a stronger, more tight-knit community and supporting the local music scene.

PLAY: Perform at this wonderful event where you will be welcomed onto a Lakeview resident's front porch to share your music with the community! You are sure to meet new fans and create special memories as you perform in this intimate, unique setting.

**VOLUNTEER:** Volunteers are needed to help with event setup, managing artist performances on various porches, assisting with activities, and welcoming the Lakeview community to the event.

Email Carisa@LakeviewChamber.com if you are interested in hosting, playing or volunteering.

#### OTHER SLN INFORMATION

#### **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 and renew on-line. You must be a PAID MEMBER in ORDER to VOTE on the NEIGHBORHOOD **ISSUES** 

#### 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/

#### Block Captain Program - members needed for the 2018-19 season. Volunteer now.

Still looking for block captains to flyer their blocks for the monthly membership meetings. 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

#### Switch to the Email Version of Newsletter

Please help reduce costs of hard copy newsletter production and assembly time. In addition, if you are on the email list, you can receive e-mail blasts from our Tech Dept. regarding area meetings, community alerts from the police and other timely information. Go to www.slneighbors.org to sign up for the email version.

#### Attention Advertisers – Ad Space for 2018-2019

Contact SLN at email =info@slneighbors.org or call Ann Sychowski at 773-477-8840 for advertising opportunities. Over 750 monthly copies to SLN members, email recipients, Facebookers and businesses right in the neighborhood. exposure on the SLN website.

9 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 2018-2019 Advertisers!!! Welcome new advertiser - BREAKFAST HOUSE The Art of Pizza-two full page ads **Bras Galore** Will's Northwoods Inn Chicagoland Deck Cleaning & Sealing **Central Savings** Thomas Ward Insurance Group Car Care Specialists Scott Waguespack 32nd Ward Golden Apple Grill & Breakfast House Honeybaked Ham John Haderlein & Son Real Estate - Real Estate Sales and Management Joseph Florence - Commodity Futures Broker Joseph Semerling Law Offices Lakeview Computer Specialists LLC - Ed Silverstein owner

Office Depot Pearle Vision S&G Restaurant Simon Electrical Contractors, Inc. Waxman Candles Breakfast House - Breakfast & Lunch

#### Restaurant Review by Ed S. Tutto Fresco, 2901 N. Ashland Avenue

Tutto Fresco has been open in the SLN area for about a year and a half now. They offer a modern interpretation of an Italian dining experience. The restaurant is divided into two parts. The "indoor" section has 8 tables and connects to the bar area with seating for about 20. The previously outdoor section is now enclosed and has a dozen tables.

Three of us dined on a Friday night and were quickly seated in the enclosed patio area. Our waiter, Luis, was attentive and quickly offered us drinks and told us about the specials. My wife ordered a glass of Chianti and I ordered a Peroni beer. Our teenage son ordered a tall glass of milk. We started the meal by splitting a Caesar salad that was big enough for 3, and an order of the Grilled Calamari, which was outstanding: sautéed with garlic, rosemary, white wine, and lemon.

We enjoyed three delicious entrées. The pasta special was a squid ink pasta dish with seafood, including shrimp, scallops and smoked salmon, in a tomato cream sauce. We also ordered the Veal Parmigiana, arriving in a Pomodoro sauce and spaghetti. Our son ordered the Bianca Pizza, which comes with prosciutto and arugula, as well as parmigiano reggiano on a thin crust. All of the portions were generous and we had enough to take home some of each of the entrées.

While we were tempted to try the Cannoli, Tiramisu, or gelato, the generous portions left us without the ability to order more.

The atmosphere at Tutto Fresco is friendly and comfortable. The sound level is low enough that it is easy to have a nice conversation and the lighting is muted, but bright enough to read the menu. Tutto Fresco does a wonderful presentation of classic Italian food. We recommend it and on our return trip we'll remember to save room for dessert.

**Hours**: 5pm-10pm Mon-Fri; 5pm-11pm Saturday; 3-9pm Sunday.

Order online via: tuttofrescochicago.com/orderonline.aspx

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## MONDAY

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Baked Lasagna Dinner 6.95          | 5 |
| TUESDAY                            |   |
| Italian Meatball Sandwich          | ) |
| Half Fried Chicken Dinner          | , |
| WEDNESDAY                          |   |
| Beef & Sausage Combo Sandwich 5.75 |   |
| Chicken Parmigiana with Spaghetti  | , |
| THURSDAY                           |   |
| Cheese or Meat Ravioli Dinner      | 5 |
| Full Slab BBQ Rib Dinner11.95      | 5 |
| FRIDAY                             |   |
| Shrimp Dinner                      | , |
| Baked Mostaccioli Dinner 5.95      | , |
| SATURDAY                           |   |
| Ribeye Steak Sandwich              | , |
| Cheese Tortellini Dinner 6.95      | , |
| SUNDAY                             |   |
| Full Slab BBQ Rib Dinner           |   |
| Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner 5.95   | , |
|                                    |   |

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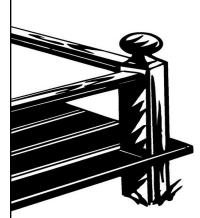
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www.WillsNorthwoodsInn.com





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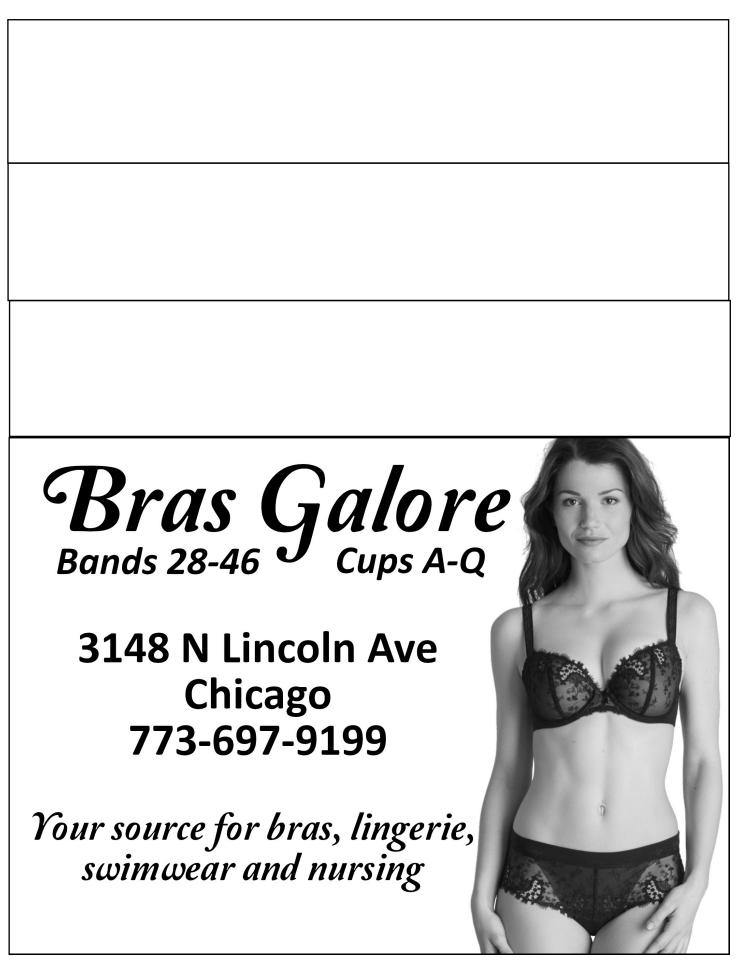
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## **SCOTT WAGUESPACK**

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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.

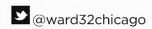
We look forward to working with you!

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