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.)

DECEMBER 2020

FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

MEMBERS and NEW MEMBERS - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP or JOIN NOW for 2020-2021

- 1) on the website at www.slneighbors.org
- 2) by mail to 1505 W. Oakdale

Handy membership form is on the back page of the newsletter.

You must be a PAID MEMBER in ORDER to VOTE on the NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES.

Hi South Lakeview,

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, probably with fewer friends and family than in the past. But, 2020 is a year like no other. Unfortunately, the pandemic continues and we must continue to 1) mask, 2) distance, and 3) wash. It is important for all of us to behave in a socially responsible manner. We must act together to protect each other. It appears that a vaccine may be available in the near future, but our protective behaviors will have to continue, even as vaccinations take place. The elections are over and Joe Biden will be our next president. I truly hope our divisions can be healed and the U.S. can move forward, united and of a common purpose to help all of our citizens and provide guidance and assistance worldwide to those most in need.

As the positivity rate has increased, a shut-down advisory has really hurt our local businesses. Thanks to Dillon Goodson, Executive Director of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce, for his presentation at our November Zoom meeting. All I can say is, patronize our local businesses, especially our small businesses, as much as you can. Your carry-out dinner may help to keep some

MEETING INFORMATION

SLN normally has the Holiday
Party in December (obviously
cancelled) and takes off the
month of January. (See Lakeview
Pantry donation information in
this newsletter).

The next ZOOM Meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2021.

The SLN Board will continue to meet monthly via ZOOM during the next couple of months.

We will keep you informed of any issues that might need to be addressed in the meantime.

Contact the SLN Board at our general Email if you have any issues or suggestions: info@slneighbors.org

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to ALL HAPPY NEW YEAR- 2021

local restaurant from closing.

Unfortunately, South Lakeview Neighbors will not have a holiday party this year. Even our family gatherings need to be limited, in order to curtail the virus.

This year our neediest families are hurting worse than ever. South Lakeview Neighbors traditionally donates funds from our holiday raffle to the Lakeview Pantry. We ask all members to make a donation to the Lakeview Pantry.

We are working with The Lakeview Pantry to set-up a link for the SLN members. We will have details on the website as soon as we get them and will email the SLN members something as well.

If you send a check, note that you are a member of South Lakeview Neighbors on your donation.

Website: lakeviewpantry.org Address: Lakeview Pantry

3945 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago, Illinois 60613

South Lakeview Neighbors 1505 West Oakdale Avenue

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

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Our next Zoom meeting will be February 9, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza, Merry Christmas, and Happy New year to all. Stay healthy. Stay safe.

Bob Blitstein President South Lakeview Neighbors

AT THE NOVEMBER 2020 - ZOOM MEETING

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

Lakeview Chamber's Executive Director Dillon Goodson presented at the November ZOOM meeting. Dillon has been with the Chamber since 2015. He was responsible for launching the Lakeview Public Art Program (sculptures and murals) and the Lakeview Low Line. He has been the Executive Director for about 1.5 years. The service area for the Chamber is from Diversey Parkway to Irving Park Road and Racine Ave. to Ravenswood. This area fully encompasses the SLN boundaries.

Dillon started out by summarizing the Chamber's focus for its Program Areas:

Neighborhood Promotion: marketing our neighborhood as a desirable destination for consumers, investors, community events and assisting individual businesses with promoting themselves.

Business Development: providing networking and educational events and one-on-one technical assistance to strengthen the existing businesses and recruit new businesses.

Advocacy: serve as the voice of local businesses and protect the neighborhood's commercial interests by representing small businesses needs on policy and development issues that impact the area.

Public Space Enhancements: the Chamber maintains clean, green and welcoming sidewalks and develops spaces that allow people to linger and connect with their community.

The Chamber then provided the ZOOM meeting with an inspiring video featuring owners or employees from area businesses that addressed the issues related to the Covid-19 Pandemic, that small businesses were not given federal bailouts,

that they still rely heavily on word-of-mouth referrals and the area residents that support the local businesses.

Dillon addressed some of the Covid-19 Pandemic statistics. Since April 2020:

- ½ of the area businesses were closed at some time since the start of the Pandemic and just as many faced restrictions during this period
- there was an 80% drop in revenue early in the Pandemic but revenue has been improving slightly since
- 2500-3500 jobs were lost in the Lakeview Chamber area during the Pandemic
- two-thirds of businesses are still without Federal or State support and are facing closure within 2-3 months
- area businesses make 40% of their sales during the Holiday season of late November to New Year's Day.

Dillon presented the plan for supporting the local businesses. He noted that businesses have made the investment in PPE and are abiding by the Governor's restrictions. So, feel safe to shop in person, shop on-line either for curbside pick-up or delivery, continue to order from restaurants as you normally would and tip generously and consider virtual options being offered by gyms or venues such as the Music Box or The Athenaeum Theatre. But most of all – before you shop, think LOCAL FIRST.

A silver-lining in the Chamber stats was that during the Pandemic, more new businesses were opened than businesses were closed. Dillon listed the new businesses as follows:

Barks N'Rec – 3030 N. Lincoln

Hux Hemp CBD – 3101 N. Lincoln

Body Time – 2924 N. Lincoln

Aura Candle – 3338 N. Southport

SpaDerma – 3200 N. Southport

Dona Tola Restaurant – 3751 N. Southport

Garfield's Beverages – 3200 N. Lincoln (coming soon)

Southport Beer Wine & Spirits – 3201 N. Southport (coming soon)

Pescadero – 1258 W. Belmont (coming soon, in the former Fahlstrom's space)

Pedestrian Street Designation – Lincoln Ave. As previously reported in the SLN newsletters, Lincoln Ave. from Diversey to Belmont is being designated as Pedestrian Retail Street creating a contiguous stretch from Fullerton to Montrose. Dillon said this was a partnership between the 32nd and 47th Wards. The goal of the designation is to preserve the retail identity of Lincoln Ave by requiring new building developments to abut sidewalks, have 60% transparent windows that are interesting for the pedestrian consumer to look at, no curb cuts or strip malls allowing for pedestrian safety and the easing of parking restrictions for residents. The hope is that the Designation will increase future interest in retail activity on Lincoln Ave.

Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland intersection -

Dillon has been in contact with CDOT. He noted that a lot of the details of the final build-out for sidewalks, bike lanes, trees, etc. are still uncertain. There is an indication that some construction could begin in Spring 2021. He stated that CDOT is planning on having more community input on the final project. SLN has requested a seat at the table for input on the final proposals. SLN has had membership meeting discussions on the topic and also conducted a survey on the intersection changes done during late 2018.

New business – Barks N' Rec – 3030 N. Lincoln This independent pet supply store has been opened since May 2020. Part-owner Josh was the presenter at the November ZOOM meeting.

Barks N' Rec is an independent retail store focused on an active, natural and healthy lifestyle for you and your pets. The Owners see the store as a community resource for your companion dog and cat animals. The store will help provide access to organic, premium, and raw diets and a wide range of holistic supplements for your pets.

Josh says 98% of their business is local walk-in traffic; however, the store has an extensive website for your on-line purchases.

Visit the website to view food, merchandise and other options available from the store. Many 5-star ratings.

www. Chicagobarksnrec.com 773-698-6595.

3056 N. Racine – Business v. Residential Zoning designation

This zoning issue was brought up at the ZOOM meeting by an attendee that rents a small space on the Barry Ave side of this property for her sewing/knitting business. This property at the SW corner of Racine and Barry is zoned residential RT-4. However, there have been various businesses operating in the store front on Racine Ave. as long as anyone can remember. The 2nd floor is an apartment. Most recently the store front was rented to a HVAC business and prior to that, it was a small grocery store. The City has allowed the Owner to rent out the store front to businesses as long as it did not sit vacant for certain period of time. The current vacancy extended beyond the specified time period and now the property is under the RT-4 zoning requirements. So, now the long-time owner cannot legally rent the store front to a business. The Owner petitioned the Alderman's office for relief. The Alderman referred the issue to SLN's NDRC for consideration. The NDRC feels that the best value to the Owner is to develop it as an RT-4 residential property. However, the Owner would prefer to keep things as they are and continue to find a commercial renter for the store front. Considering that information, the NDRC has recommended the zoning be downzoned to a B1-1 which allows for the most inobtrusive businesses to occupy the space. The issue in now before the City Council for a vote.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS/INFORMATION

Lakeview Pantry Donation by SLN members – in lieu of the Holiday Split-the-Pot donation

For many years now, the proceeds from the SLN Holiday split-the-pot raffle was donated to the Lakeview Food Pantry serving the food insecure residents within our own area. As the 2020 Holiday Party is cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions, we are calling on SLN members to donate directly the Lakeview Pantry on behalf of the South Lakeview Neighbors. If you plan to donate on-line, SLN is working with the Lakeview Pantry for a link and we will have the details on the website as soon as we get it and then will email info to the SLN members. If you donate by check, you

can denote "This gift is given in honor of The South Lakeview Neighbors."

We will tally up the donation total and report to the membership. These are trying times for many in our area. SLN thanks you for your help.

Website = lakeviewpantry.org/donate
By Mail = Lakeview Pantry - 3945 N. Sheridan
Road, Chicago, IL. 60613.

EVERY DOLLAR YOU DONATE HELPS PROVIDE 8 MEALS TO OUR NEIGHBORS WHO ARE FOOD INSECURE.

Computer Talk – by Ed Silverstein, Lakeview Computer Specialists LLC

I am Ed Silverstein, the owner of Lakeview Computer Specialists, LLC. My wife and I moved to our home on Southport in 2004, just before our son was born. I have been working on computers for friends and family since the early 1990's when I got BS and MS degrees in computer science at UIUC. In 2008, I founded the Lakeview Computer Specialists to help neighbors in and around Lakeview. We (my teenage son and I) work on PCs and Macs, both desktops and laptops. We also help our clients with their home networking. We are like a 2-man Geek Squad, but with a lot faster response rate, often within 24 hours. And yes, we make house calls.

In our highly digital lives, cybersecurity is very important. Especially during this pandemic cybersecurity threats have skyrocketed as the bad actors are taking advantage of so many people who are interacting primarily through their computers at home. Everyone needs an assortment of software components to keep our devices safe. Having just an anti-virus program is no longer enough. Fortunately, most security packages also come with a firewall, have real-time protection against ransomware, as well as prevent phishing and online fraud. The top brands for these products (in particular order) are: Norton, McAfee. Bitdefender, and Kaspersky. All of these packages have annual subscriptions, and all have several levels of protection, some of which are overkill for a home system. Most of the security packages offer packs of 5 or 10 licenses at a discount.

If you have internet via AT&T, you have been able to get McAfee security software for free for a while.

It is officially called the AT&T Internet Security Suite. That is a great product, and you cannot beat the price. If you have internet via Comcast, you have been able to get the Norton Security Online for free. However, this free deal is ending at the end of 2020. If you are using the free Norton Security Online, you should consider another internet security software solution. Don't just automatically click on the pop-up to start a new, paid, Norton subscription as you may end up paying the full price for every computer you own. Now is the time to look around and choose a security solution that fits your needs, both in terms of number of devices and price.

If you'd like help sorting this out, shoot me an email at: Ed@LakeviewComputerSpecialists.com. Security software is something everyone should have, just like a lock on our front doors, to keep us safe and secure.

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

The Lakeview Holiday Stroll will take place on Fri, 12/4 - Sun, 12/6 at local businesses throughout Lakeview as an alternative holiday shopping program to our annual Southport Holiday Stroll & Cocktail Crawl. Participating businesses will have special deals and holiday festivities (such as decorating your store or playing holiday music) and be open from 11am-7pm on Friday, 11am - 7pm on Saturday and 11am-5pm on Sunday for customers to do their holiday shopping. The Lakeview Holiday Stroll is free to attend and we'll also have carolers and holiday characters walking along Southport Ave between Roscoe and Grace to add to the festivities. Contact Carisa@LakeviewChamber.com with any questions.

Split the Pot Raffle – Half of each ticket sold supports Friends of Lakeview and its efforts to improve the neighborhood through public art and initiatives like the Low-Line Farmers Market and Dine Out West Lakeview. Attempting to raise \$10,000. Over \$3,500 raised as of 11/27. Grand prize drawing on Wednesday, December 16. Purchase raffle tickets at the Chamber website www.lakeviewchamber.com 773-472-7171

Visit the Lakeview Chamber website for other Holiday activities happening from December 1 to New Years Day. www.lakeviewchamber.com

Featured SLN Advertisers

SLN waived advertising fees for the 2020-2021 season due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SLN would like to thank the following advertisers for their continued monetary support during the Pandemic:

Lakeview Computer Specialists LLC - Ed Silverstein owner The Art of Pizza Central Savings Thomas Ward Insurance Group Joseph Semerling Law Offices S&G Restaurant

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS STRATEGY MEETING (previously called CAPS) on ZOOM

19th District CAPS Meetings – To receive a link to these virtual CAPS meetings, please email your district - caps.019district@chicagopolice.org

1932 (South Lakeview/Lincoln Park- Lincoln to Ashland, Belmont to Fullerton)- will resume in 2021

1933 (South Lakeview- Racine to Lincoln, Belmont to Diversey)- will resume in 2021

1931 (Roscoe Village/Lincoln Park- Cornelia to Fullerton, Western to Ashland)- will resume in 2021

SUPPORT OUR FOOD BANKS

Donations to area Food Banks will be greatly appreciated as their resources will be tested during this period of high unemployment.

Lakeview Pantry
www.lakeviewpantry.org
773-525-1777
Greater Chicago Food Depository
www.chicagofoodbank.org
773-247-3663

OTHER SLN INFORMATION

Neighborhood Development and Review Committee (NDRC) is recruiting Committee Members

The NDRC is the most visible Committee of SLN. Working with Alderman Waguespack, the NDRC receives building zoning requests from the Alderman and reviews, suggests revisions and then recommends an approval or a rejection of the zoning change before the issue is brought to the SLN membership for a vote. This process has helped ensure quality zoning change requests being presented in our SLN neighborhood. The NDRC is looking to expand the Committee. The NDRC deals with very experienced developers, attorneys and architects, so some qualifications in dealing in those areas would be helpful.

Contact SLN at our email address: info@slneighbors.org

with some information about yourself if you are interested.

NOTE – you must be a SLN member for at least one year to qualify for a Committee position.

2021 SLN OFFICERS and DIRECTORS WANTED

The SLN Board has committed to having a Nominating Committee meeting in April 2021 and an election of Officers and Directors in May 2021, either in person or by ZOOM.

Contact us at our email address (info@slneighbors.org) if you are interested in coming on the Board or if you have any questions about doing so.

We have been keeping a LIST of people that have contacted us during the Covid-19 Pandemic period. NOTE – you must be a SLN member for at least one year to qualify for a Board position.

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/

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 2020-2021 9 monthly newsletters.

The newsletter is mailed or emailed to over 550 members, businesses and neighbors. The newsletter is available to SLN's 1,100 Facebook participants. From \$50 for a small ad to \$310 for a ½ page. Support your volunteer not-for-profit neighborhood organization. Individuals are welcome to take an ad space announcing their support of SLN.

Contact SLN at email =info@slneighbors.org or call Ann Sychowski at 773-477-8840 for advertising opportunities.

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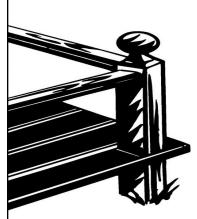
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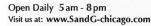
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SCOTT WAGUESPACK

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

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Monday-Friday: 9am-6pm

ward32.org



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