1521 West Wellington 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 Center, 2936 N. Southport every
Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

#### **APRIL 2024**

#### SLN Officers and Directors for 2024-2025

SLN's Nominating Committee will be meeting in April 2024 to come up with a slate for the next season. If you are interested in joining the Board of a Not-for-Profit Organization that:

- 1) has been in existence since the 1960's;
- is involved directly with the Alderman on all zoning change requests and development proposals;
- holds regular membership meetings with our elected officials;
- invites candidates to speak to members and holds candidate forums,
- features new businesses and interacts with the local Chamber of Commerce, and
- 6) has raised funds for local charities and playlots

send us some background information about yourself to our email at:

SLN email address = info@slneighbors.org.

Please note that you must be a member in good standing for one year in order to serve on the Board.

### -----

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

To All of South Lakeview,

Spring is actually here, though the temperature fluctuations make me question that fact...in the 60's one day, in the 30's the next. But daylight is getting longer and before you know it, everything will turn green. It is a season of growth, new life and new

# MEETING INFORMATION TUESDAY- APRIL 9, 2024

7:00PM SHARP Doors open at 6:30PM

### At the ATHENAEUM CENTER

for Thought & Culture in the EVENT CENTER 2936 N. Southport

#### Agenda:

- 1) PAUL SAJOVEC- Chief of Staff to Alderman Waguespack to speak on the "Connected Communities Ordinance."
- 2) SOUTH LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS Blue Playlot Committee presentation for 2024 Repairs and Programs

energy. Try to spread positive vibes and do something nice for others.

Our primary elections are over. The presidential primary results were no surprise. As I write, the

Democratic contest for Cook County States Attorney is still in doubt, with Eileen Burke having a miniscule lead over Clayton Harris. "Thank you" Mr. Harris for speaking at our March membership meeting. Also, the referendum to place the "millionaire's tax" on high-end real transactions on the November ballot was defeated. Though I agree with its intention of providing housing for the needy and homeless, the lack of a clear plan on spending that money led to its defeat. Chicago's history dictates that funding from the citizens must be clearly targeted. Speaking of public funding, NONE should go to any of our billion-dollar sports teams.

The most disappointing aspect of the recent primary election was the low voter turn-out. Barely 20% of the eligible voters cast a ballot. The closeness of the state's attorney race shows how important one's vote can be. The argument that "my vote doesn't matter" just doesn't hold up. Every vote matters! As we head towards a most consequential presidential election in November,

# South Lakeview Neighbors 1521 W.Wellington Avenue

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Co-President: Sam Samatas
Recording Secretary: Bill Haderlein
Treasurer: Geoff Gass
Corresponding Secretary: Ed Silverstein

Directors:

Fionn McManigal Mike Harring Kimberly Ross Ryan Griffin

Newsletter Articles: Bill Haderlein
Newsletter Editor: Jeanne Haderlein
Web-Site Design: Ed Silverstein
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keep that in mind. Every vote counts! Be well-informed. Know the candidates, their platforms and vote accordingly. Some candidates rely on voter apathy. Those candidates do not support a true democracy. Again...when November comes around, VOTE!

This is being written on March 27th. Tomorrow, the University of Illinois plays in the "Sweet Sixteen" for the NCAA basketball championship. Being a "basketball nut" and always cheering for the "home" team, I wish the Fighting Illini the best. They've been a bright spot for our local sports teams.

I live across the street from the old DIAG restaurant. A new restaurant will open later this spring. The owners listened to the neighbors and replaced the brick wall facing George, reducing noise from its outdoor area. Thank you! I am optimistic that the new restaurant will be a good neighbor.

Speaking of restaurants, make it a point to patronize one of the great eating establishments in South Lakeview: Que Rico, Sal's, Side Street, Tutto Fresco, S&G, Golden Apple, Dear Margaret, Tatas Tacos, Art of Pizza, Chicago Pizza, Breakfast Club, Red Hot Ranch, Farm House...I'm sure I forgot some. But we are blessed with great restaurants. Go have some good food and support our local businesses.

Bob Blitstein

Co-President

South lakeview Neighbors

#### APRIL 2024 MEMBERSHIP MEETING – PREVIEW

# Connected Communities Ordinance as presented by Paul Sajovec, 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward Chief of Staff

Paul Sajovec, Chief of Staff for Alderman Waguespack, has contributed several presentations over the years to the SLN membership on 32 Ward and City-wide issues. At this meeting he will be dissecting the effects of the

Connected Communities Ordinance adopted in July 2022 under Mayor Lightfoot's term.

The Ordinance was the result of two years of engagement with over 80 community and civic stakeholders to build a truly equitable Transit-Oriented Development (ETOD) policy. The Ordinance is organized into 3 categories:

- Create jobs and allow for more homes and businesses near transit by expanding existing TOD incentives.
- Improve the safety of our streets and sidewalks near transit, and encourage walking, biking and rolling.
- Increase housing opportunity, affordability and accessibility, especially near transit.

Paul will expand on the Ordinance's goals and how the -3 (dash3) zoning to accommodate the TOD Developments with its higher density and reduced required parking per Unit could change the main streets and how it may affect the residential side streets of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward and the SLN neighborhood.

# Blue Playlot Committee (South Lakeview Playlot) presentation for Repairs and 2024 Programs

The Blue Playlot Committee has been dormant since the COVID-19 Pandemic in Spring 2020. The Committee has been resurrected under new leadership. Various areas of the Playlot are in dire need of repairs. The New Committee will present their plan for the repairs and 2024 Summer Programs and the possible sources of funding from the Park District, the Alderman's office and private donations.

#### AT the MARCH 2024 MEETING

#### Chicago Police Department – CAPS Captain Terry Forbes

CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) was represented by 19<sup>th</sup> District Captain Terry Forbes. The Captain has been on the CPD force for over 28 years. Terry was promoted to Captain in September 2023 and was recently assigned to the 19<sup>th</sup> District. Prior to his promotion, Terry was a Tactical Lieutenant for the 16<sup>th</sup> District (Jefferson Park) responsible for teams focused on violent

crimes and emerging crime patterns. The Captain was accompanied by Officer Diaz.

The Captain started his presentation by stating that based on the crime reports, the SLN neighborhood is relatively safe. He acknowledged that the citizens are on edge due to TV and other media reports of the armed robberies and car-jackings being perpetrated by young criminals. But he wanted us to know that Chicago is a big City and there are hundreds of thousands of people walking, driving, taking CTA, etc. that are not victims of these crimes.

The Captain's crime stats for the SLN boundaries consisted mainly of calls for disturbances, car accidents, burglaries and retail theft. The Jewel on Ashland Ave. is the main center for retail theft. He noted that the SLN area did have two robberies. Motor thefts are down 80% in Chicago. Catalytic converters thefts are still a big crime. Get your catalytic converter etched to prevent theft or prevent resale.

STRONG-ARM ROBBERY and CAR-JACKING CRIME GROUPS: The Captain described the M.O. of the groups that are terrorizing the City. Generally, these crime groups will consist of carloads of people in 2 or 3 cars driving around looking for victims walking alone on side streets or getting into or out of or sitting in a car. The criminals quickly jump out the car, rob the person of all belongings, including cellphones, and make a speedy get-away in the cars. As the victim has no cell phone, they cannot call the Police and criminals are long gone. The Police have done some saturation of certain areas, where several unmarked Police cars with 2 or 3 officers in the cars drive around looking for suspicious activity. He admitted, this is hit and miss as the criminals try to avoid the places they think the Police will be. The Captain related a story where the Police did catch a robbery in progress, but the young criminals abandoned their cars and took off on foot, not to be caught.

The questions from the membership focused on how one can be safer. The Captain said "situational awareness" is the key. Avoid isolated areas, cross to the other side of the street if something is suspicious, get eyes off of your phone and on the street.

The Captain stated a big solution to Crime Prevention is to call the Police for EVERYTHING. If

your bike is stolen, don't just ignore it because you don't think it will be returned. The more data the Police have, the more "dots they can put on the criminal map."

TEXT CRIME INFORMATION: Officer Diaz gave the membership the CPD Text Crime Code. To text CPD from your cellphone, enter 274637 which spells out CRIMES to begin your crime tip message. Rewards for positive tips can be up to \$1,000.

HOME SECURITY CAMERAS: If you have an outside Home Security Camera, it can be connected to the CPD Strategic Room Center. Contact the 19<sup>th</sup> District for more information.

#### RECENT CRIME REPORTS from CWB CHICAGO

CWB Chicago reports 79 robberies in 2024 compared to 51 in 2023 or a 55% increase in Lakeview.

Thursday, March 21 Robberies:

1400 block of George St at 3:10AM. 60-year old man on the sidewalk approached by two men who implied they had weapons. They took his valuables. 1700 block of Grace St at 3:37AM. Offenders hit a man in the head with a pistol and took his keys, cash and phone.

Robbers described as black men, late teens mid-20's, wearing black hoodies, one man had long hair and red hoodie. Driving dark-colored Dodge Caravan or a dark compact car.

Though occurring close together, they may be unrelated.

#### Mayor's Office of Community Engagement

1st Deputy of Community Engagement Sara Mathers from the Mayor's Office of Community Engagement gave a first-time presentation to the SLN membership. This Office is the first line of communication between neighborhood groups, communities and citizens and the Mayor's Office.

Ms. Mather's covered a lot of information as to how Mayor Johnson's term as mayor is progressing. A copy of the super-fantastic brochure she brought to the meeting follows page 5 of the newsletter. Read it over.

Some other comments she made or questions she answered were:

Migrant Issue - the City is trying to figure out how to accomplish election goals while dealing with the

Migrant Issue. City Colleges are starting programs to teach English to the migrants.

Citizen Violence Intervention (CVI) - intervention programs are now geared to 18–26-year-olds, but that needs to be changed to include young teenagers 11 years old and up.

Homelessness - currently have 3,000 city beds for the Homeless. Want to get to 5,000 by the end of this year and eventually to 10,000. Need to develop long-term supportive living arrangements.

The Mayor's wife is a staunch environmentalist and is working on securing federal funding for lower-income neighborhoods that are more affected by environmental, clean air and water issues.

SEE FULL 2 PAGE BROCHURE FOLLOWING PAGE 5.

#### Primary Candidate drop-ins

Candidate for Democratic Cook County State's Attorney Clayton Harris III and Judicial candidate for Appellate Court Ceila Louise Gamrath droppedin and made presentations to the members.

#### NEIGHBOR NEWS AND INFORMATION

Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce (LRVCC)

1409 W. Addison Chicago, IL 60613

Office: 773-472-7171 ext. 105 www.lakeviewroscoevillage.org

#### Annual Meeting and Award Winners

The Chamber hosted their Annual Meeting on March 13 at Stage 773 on Belmont Ave.

The 2023 Chamber Award winners were:

Above and Beyond Award - Ben Castronovo of Central Savings Bank for his service on the Chamber over many years, networking and member orientation and welcoming new businesses. Look for the Welcome to Lakeview mural to be painted on Bank's wall facing the parking lot.

Entrepreneurial Spirit Award - Dr. John Reuter of Universal Wellness Source - Chiropractors located at 1902 W. Belmont and

Alison and Brian Reff of Alice & Wonder woman's clothing store located at 3542 Southport.

#### 19th DISTRICT POLICE COUNCIL

Website = www.19thdistrictcouncil.com

Your District Council is: Maurilio Garcia

Jenny Shaffer

Sam Schoenburg

The 19<sup>th</sup> District Police Council continues to have the required monthly meetings. The meetings are very informative, well run, and end by 8PM and held in a variety of 19<sup>th</sup> District locations.

Next meeting is scheduled for APRIL 24 @ 6:30PM at the ATHENAEUM CENTER – 2936 N. Southport. TOPIC – to be announced.

Go to 19<sup>th</sup> District Police Council website for detailed information of the past monthly meetings or to view a recording of previous meetings and see a schedule for future meetings.

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### **Community Safety**



Launched People's Plan for Community Safety, investing \$100M in crime prevention and intervention in the 4 most disinvested communities (Austin, Englewood, Little Village & West Garfield Park)

Created an Office of Reentry to reduce recidivism and support 13,000 returning residents

Added 300 civilian positions to support sworn officer duties

Hiring 200 detectives to solve crimes

### **Mental Health and Wellness**



Dedicated 80 additional mental health positions to respond to mental health crises

Launched 5 public health vending machines to address overdoses, located in Harold Washington Library, Roseland, Uptown, West Garfield Park, and 95TH/Dan Ryan Red Line CTA Station

Opening 2 public mental health clinics

### **Homelessness**



- Led passage of Bring Chicago Home resolution to put a binding referendum on the ballot for creating a dedicated fund to combat homelessness in the City of Chicago
- Committed \$250M to services and support for unhoused Chicagoans

MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON



### **Housing**





Completed 100 affordable housing units since May 2023 and over 700 more under construction across the South and West sides



Investing \$10M to support homeowners with repairs and modifications, prioritizing individuals living with disabilities

### **Youth Jobs and Education**





Increased youth jobs by 20% in 2023, employing nearly 25,000 young people (97% Black and Latine), and adding 4,000 more youth jobs in 2024



Supporting neighborhood schools and expanding sustainable community school models



Expanding of Youth Commission from 32 to 40 members

### **Workforce and Economic Development**





Signed executive order streamlining commercial and housing development



**Loubled** paid time off for nearly LAM Chicago working families and delivered the most expansive paid parental leave for CPS employees



Raised sub minimum wage for 100,000 tipped workers



Revitalizing vacant storefronts and investing in small businesses in Chatham, Chinatown, Downtown, Humboldt Park, Rogers Park and South Shore

### **Environment and Infrastructure**





Secured \$306M in FEMA funds for 60,000 Chicago residents, primarily on the West Side



Re-Established the Department of Environment



Investing \$53M to replace lead service lines









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Italian Sausage Sandwich 6.00 Baked Lasagna Dinner 9.00

### TUESDAY

Italian Meatball Sandwich 6.00 Half Fried Chicken Dinner 10.00

### WEDNESDAY

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#### THURSDAY

Cheese or Meat Ravioli Dinner 9.00 Full Slab BBQ Rib Dinner 17.95

### FRIDAY

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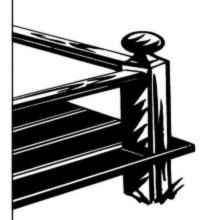
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Thanks to the **South Lakeview Neighbors** for your strong commitment to the neighborhood throughout the year.

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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