

South Lakeview Neighbors

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 December, January, June, July and August) at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

March, 2026

RENEW YOUR 2025-26 MEMBERSHIP NOW

1) on the website at www.slneighbors.org

2) by mail to 1521 W. Wellington

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

**MEETING INFORMATION
TUESDAY- MARCH 10, 2026
7:00PM SHARP
Doors open at 6:30PM
At the
ATHENAEUM CENTER
for Thought & Culture
2936 N. Southport**

Agenda:

**1) 19th Police District – CAPS
Representative to Present**

**2) 3040-42 N. Lincoln Ave (Rita Rugs)
zoning upgrade request to build 4-Story,
14-16 Unit Rental Development**

THIS WILL BE A VOTING ISSUE.

**3) 3043 N. Ashland (formerly School of
Rock) zoning upgrade request to
Convert Ground/Street-level space to a
Rental Unit**

THIS WILL BE A VOTING ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

To South Lakeview,

Spring is just around the corner. However, on Feb.2, Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, saw his own shadow, indicating 6 more weeks of winter, extending to mid-March. Hopefully, the first signs of spring in Chicago will be a robin and not ICE.

Our February membership meeting hosted a forum for candidates running in the March 17th primary elections. We heard from individuals running for Cook County Commissioner, Assessor, Board President, State Senator and judgeships. Presentations were made and questions were posed by the membership. Kudos to my co-president, Sam Samatas, for deftly managing the presentations. Do vote on March 17th, either by mail or in-person, and, definitely, vote in the Nov. 3rd mid-term elections. If voting by mail, vote early due to changes in the USPS procedures for date stamping. If you vote on Nov. 2nd or 3rd, the ballot may not be stamped until the 4th or 5th and rejected as too late. Not to be too dramatic, but vote as if your life depended on it! It will impact the way we all live our lives. A final thought on election campaigns... we are all peppered with ads for the candidates. Some are fact-based, others are questionable. Some are quite negative. I personally get turned off by negative ads. I am looking for positive ads about the candidate's ideas to improve our lives.

Local School Council elections take place at the schools on March 18. These elections select 6 parents and 2 community members. Voters get 5 votes among the 8 elected members. LSC's select the principal, approve budgets, and determine the direction of the school. South

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lakeview feeds into Burley, Prescott, Tubman and Jahn elementary schools and Lakeview High School.

I am living 2 houses down from a teardown and new construction. Other than blocking the alley, the work has been clean and ostensibly, within code. If you live next to construction, observe carefully. Find the name and number of the developer on the permit. Call the developer, 311 or 911 if there are obvious code violations, unsafe procedures, or damage to your property. Alderman's Waguespack's office is also a great resource if suspected violations exist. Several years ago, we experienced issues with new construction next door. Each time we contacted the city, inspectors came out and cited the developer for what we observed plus additional violations identified by the inspector but hidden from the outside. Be vigilant.

Please patronize our local businesses and keep South lakeview vibrant.

Stay well and stay safe.

Bob Blitstein
Co-President
South Lakeview Neighbors

South Lakeview Neighbors 1521 W. Wellington Avenue

www.slneighbors.org

email = info@slneighbors.org

Officers:

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

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Ryan Griffin	

Newsletter Articles

Bill Haderlein

Newsletter Editors

Carla Martinucci
Ed Silverstein

Web-Site Design

Ed Silverstein

Advertising Set-up

Ed Silverstein

March 2026

MEMBERSHIP MEETING – PREVIEW

19th Police District – CAPS Representative to Present

A Representative from the 19th District will present to the members on neighborhood safety, crime stats and issues and take questions from the attendees.

3040-42 N. Lincoln Ave (Rita Rugs) zoning upgrade request to build 4-Story, 14-16 Unit Rental Development

The Developer is looking to demolish the current building and construct a 4-Story Rental Property with 14-16 Units and 10 on-site parking spaces. The current zoning is B1-2 which requires commercial space at the ground level and allows for 3 large apartments on each lot parcel for a total of 6 apts.

What is now being proposed by the development team is 14 or 16 apartments, in a 4-story building with a small 1000 sq. ft. commercial space at ground level and 10 parking spaces inside the rear of the building. This would require a zoning change to B2-3 from the current B1-2 to accommodate the higher dwelling unit count.

Issues from the Alderman's office and the NDRC will be discussed at the meeting.

THIS WILL BE A VOTING ISSUE.

3043 N. Ashland (formerly School of Rock) zoning upgrade request to Convert Ground/Street-level space to a Rental Unit with NO COMMERCIAL SPACE on the Ground-level.

This is a very old frame and masonry building just north of the Art of Pizza that for many years housed the School of Rock for many years. The business was on the ground and basement levels, and apartments occupied the two upper levels. With the relocation of the SOR business further north on Lincoln the storefront has now been vacant for the last few years. The property owner, along with his attorney Thomas Moore, has requested that we find an appropriate methodology to modify the zoning to allow for the

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conversion of a ground level commercial space to a residential space.

Issues from the NDRC will be discussed at the meeting.

THIS WILL BE A VOTING ISSUE.

At the FEBRUARY 2026 Meeting

March 2026 Contested Primary Candidate Forum

The South Lakeview Neighbors have been hosting Election Candidate Forums in order for our members to meet and hear candidates face-to-face beyond the flyers we all receive in our mail boxes. For the February meeting, SLN hosted candidates for the March 2026 Primary for the more local “contested races.”

The candidates were given 8-10 minutes of uninterrupted time to present their election pitch followed by member questions.

SLN does not endorse any candidates. However, SLN would like the members to know which candidates appeared and their contact information.

Listed Alphabetically

For Democrat Cook County Board of Commissioners - District 12 (being vacated by Bridget Degnen)

- 1) Elizabeth Granato –
www.ElizabethforCookCounty.com
- 2) Isaiah White –
[Face book - /isaiah4cook](https://www.facebook.com/isaiah4cook)
- 3) Jose “Che-Che” Wilson
www.votecheche.com

For Democrat State Senator 6th District

- 1) Sara Feigenholtz
www.sarafeigenholtz.com
- 2) Nick Unijewski
www.nickforillinois.com

For Democrat for Judge 8th Subcircuit

- 1) Dan Balanoff
www.BalanoffForJudge.com
- 2) Katherine C. Morrison

www.morrisonforjudge.com

- 3) Garson Fischer
www.GarsonforJudge.com

For Democrat Cook County Assessor

- 1) Fritz Kaegi
www.FritzForAssessor.com

For Democrat Cook County Board President

- 1) Brendan Reilly
www.reillyforcookcounty.com

CRIME – Arrest in Dunkin Donuts robbery

On Saturday morning, January 3, at approximately 5:45AM, two young felons robbed the Dunkin located at Ashland and Wellington. The two perpetrators entered Dunkin with masks on and guns drawn, jumped over the counter, put their guns in manager’s face, while screaming out orders. They took the cash register drawer and two cakes.

Several weeks later, a Chicago police officer recognized one of the felons from surveillance images, leading to his arrest and later to the other accomplice. It was determined that the duo went on a crime spree on that Saturday morning starting by robbing a female employee at Burger King at 2344 W. Chicago, then to Dunkin, they then broke into and burglarized a 7-11 at 2600 N. Lincoln Ave and then robbed the Circle K at 3180 N. Broadway.

The Judge ordered the felons detained pending trial. The main felon previously received a 4-year sentence in 2024 for carjacking.

OTHER INFORMATION

South Lakeview Blue Park Playlot – Fundraising for planned Renovation/Repairs - \$100,000 still needed

The South Lakeview Park Advisory Council is working with the Chicago Park District on the renovation/repairs at the Playlot. The total project will cost \$450,000.

You can also donate by going to their Face Book page at – South Lakeview Park

Or by check to:
South Lakeview PAC
c/o Melissa Vachris- Treasurer
1226 W. Wellington, Chicago 60657

Email = southlakeviewbluepark@gmail.com



TAX SEASON IS COMING

TAX & BEYOND Tax & Business Services

Everyone's CPA seems to be retiring. If you are looking for professional tax help, please visit SLN sponsor:

Tax & Beyond
Tax & Business Services
3013 N Ashland
872-817-9650
www.taxbeyond.com

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

LRVCC Annual Meeting - Join us to celebrate our vibrant business community and business champions! Join us for a cocktail hour beginning at 5:30 pm and dinner following. The event will take place at Heineken 2nd Star Tavern at Fire Pitch.

Coffee Stroll 2025

Stroll, sip, and shop on Southport Corridor and at the Paulina Hub. The second annual Coffee Stroll, benefiting Friends of Lakeview, will be a relaxing and fun Sunday morning filled with samples, shopping, and community. Come get caffeinated!

19th DISTRICT POLICE COUNCIL

Website = www.19thdistrictcouncil.com

Next meeting is scheduled for
WEDNESDAY, March 18 @ 6:30PM at Sulzer
Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave
TOPIC – TBD

Here is a Review of some of issues tackled by the Council in 2025

- 1) Parking Alternative Response Team- data revealed that about 10% of 911 calls in the 19th District were for parking violations. The Council Plan would be to have the Department of Finance handle these non-violent calls, speeding up response times and optimizing police resources. An Ordinance has been introduced to the City Council.
- 2) Created educational and advocacy resources to protect and expand the current CARE (Crisis Assistance Response Engagement) supporting mental health crisis support in dealing with 911 calls that can be deescalated with the help of professional mental health assistance
- 3) ICE enforcement- worked with community organizations to discuss the legal limits between local and federal enforcement and to present a “know your rights” training program.

Go to the Councils website for more details on 2025 issues and to view recordings of previous monthly meetings.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS STRATEGY MEETING

19th District CAPS Meetings:

1931 (Roscoe Village/Lincoln Park - Cornelia to Fullerton, Western to Ashland) - Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00 pm at the Gantz Boys & Girls Club at 2915 N. Leavitt

1932 (South Lakeview/Lincoln Park- Lincoln to Ashland, Belmont to Fullerton) – Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm at the Gantz Boys & Girls Club at 2915 N. Leavitt

1933 (South Lakeview - Racine to Lincoln, Belmont to Diversey) - Tuesday, March 10 at 6:00pm at Illinois Masonic, 836 W, Wellington
Email= CAPS.019district@chicagopolice.org
Phone= 312-744-0064

OTHER SLN INFORMATION

Block Captains – WANTED

SLN is looking for volunteers to circulate flyers to their Block neighbors announcing the SLN Monthly Meeting and Agenda.

The duties are as follows: A Block Captain will receive a PDF flyer for an upcoming membership meeting. The Block Captain will print off 25-50 flyers and distribute them in mailboxes on their block alerting people to the upcoming meeting. Seems archaic? But that is how most of the new people find out about the SLN meetings. Block Captains can also email the flyer to neighbors. There are seven meetings per year (Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb, Mar, April & May). Can't do every month? Just do the best you can and your assistance will be appreciated.

To volunteer contact Bill Haderlein at the SLN email: info@slneighbors.com.

SLN on Facebook - Get on It!

If you are on Facebook, consider joining our Facebook group. The URL to access the group is www.facebook.com/groups/southlakeviewneighbors/

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Congressman Mike Quigley

1925 N. Clybourn

773-267-5926

202-225-5603 (fax)

Contact by email through his website at:

quigley.house.gov/

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News

Office located 2657 N. Clybourn, 773-248-1330

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

State Representative 11th District Ann Williams

3505 N Ashland Ave, Unit B, 773-880-9082

www.repannwilliams.com

Chief of Staff Lauryn S. Schmelzer email =

lauryn@repannwilliams.com

Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnan

District Office: 4253 N. Milwaukee

Phone: 773-283-7850

Email: bridget.degnan@cookcountyil.gov

State Senator Sara Feighenholtz

3233 N. Sheffield, Suite A

773-296-4141

Website: senatorsara.com

Email: sara@senatorsara.com

Attention Advertisers – Ad Space for 2025-2026

9 monthly newsletters.

The newsletter is mailed or emailed to over 800 people and posted to the SLN Facebook page which has 1,500 members. From \$50 for a small business card 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 for advertising for more detailed information.

ADVERTISERS/SPONSORS for this year

The Art of Pizza – two full pages!

Central Savings

Tax and Beyond

Pearle Vision

Joseph Semerling Law Offices

S&G Restaurant

Alderman Scott Waguespack 32nd Ward

Will's Northwoods Inn

Breakfast House

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Lakeview Computer Specialists LLC - Ed Silverstein owner

Lakeview/Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce

Office Depot / Office Max

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THURSDAY

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Full Slab BBQ Rib Dinner 18.95

FRIDAY

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SATURDAY

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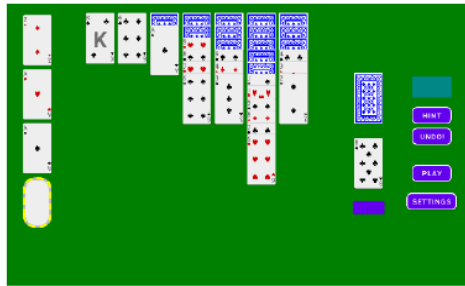
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2601 W. Division
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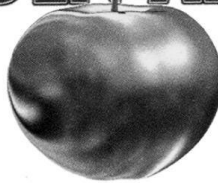
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Thanks to the **South Lakeview Neighbors** for your strong commitment to the neighborhood throughout the year.

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!

32ND WARD SERVICE OFFICE

2657 North Clybourn • Chicago, IL 60614

Tel: 773 248 1330 • info@ward32.org

Monday-Friday: 9am-6pm

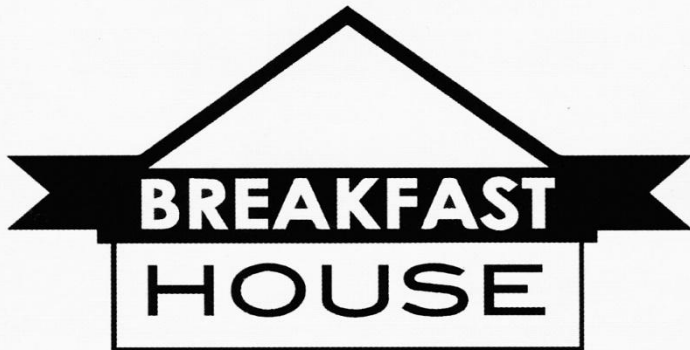
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