

SOUTHPORT NEIGHBOR



a publication of the Southport Neighbors Association

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Council members elected for Blaine

Eighteen residents ran for the 2 positions available for community members on the Local School Council, 12 parents were candidates for 6 parent slots and 4 teachers for 2 teacher positions. One hundred and forty-seven community residents and 202 parents voted as did all 45 members of Blaine's faculty and staff.

Elected were: community representatives Gretchen Coffman and James Bohn.

Parent representatives: Martha Marquez-Morales, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Ann Cline, Wilma Lee, Jane Sickler and Linda Maldonado.

Teacher representatives: Carolyn Price and Bruce Gorelick.

The Council held its organizational meeting Oct. 18. Future meetings will be open to the public. The council will set up a committee structure and interested community representatives are invited to participate on the committees. We will run the meeting schedule as soon as one is decided.

Just Do It!

We all know that just a little bit of exercise can make a big difference in leading a healthier life. But when the cold weather hits its easier to reach for a good book or watch the Bears, than to take that brisk 30 minute walk. That's where Sheil Park's indoor facility (3505 N. Southport) can help take the chill out of a winter exercise. The Park's adult programs range from aerobics and yoga to basketball and women's volleyball. These low cost, no frills exercise regimes offer the encouragement and structure of scheduled group exercise that are often so helpful in getting started and staying with a regular exercise program. Just do it!

Sheil Park offers more than just a warm and friendly place to exercise. It has a fully equipped wood

working shop, classes in crafts, piano, and theatre arts, as well as a variety of programs for kids. You can pick up a brochure that spells out the schedule of winter activities at the Sheil Park front desk.

Raisin' children's reading levels

The North Lake View Library, 3756 N. Southport Ave., is offering the "Cool Readers" program using the ad symbol of the California Raisins™ to encourage youngsters between the ages of 6 to 11 to read. The local library is offering Cool Reading cards, similar to baseball cards, for every three books a child reads. Youngsters can enroll in the program when they check out books.

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Parks give new life to plastic bottles

Recycling your plastic milk, water, juice and soda bottles will help the Park District build beautiful, low-maintenance playground structures.

The following article is reprinted courtesy of *Lake and Prairie*, a publication of the Great Lakes Chapter of the Sierra Club. We were going to write our own article on the recycling program, but found the Chicago Group Chair, Carl Holmgren, the author of the following, said it all very well.

Plastics on Parks (better known as POP), an innovative and energetic program initiated by the Chicago Park District, needs and deserves your support. Plastic, though only about 8% by weight, constitutes approximately 30% by volume of our solid waste stream; it has the added drawback of being nonbiodegradable, meaning that much of our garbage will probably outlive us by several generations.

The Park District's program begins with the collection of green, clear, or white-frosted plastic milk, water, juice, and soda bottles. They will be accepted at all fieldhouses in the Chicago park system during normal operating hours. (Please remember to rinse them out first, for obvious health reasons.)

Join your Southport neighbors

Join the Southport Neighbors Association. Dues are \$5/year per person, senior citizens \$1. Complete this application and send it to 1446 West Grace, Chicago, Illinois 60613. For information call 477-3583

Name _____

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The plastics will then be shipped in 750-pound bales to Hammer Plastic Recycling Corporation in Iowa, a private recycling company. The firm, which last year received a service award from Sierra Club's Iowa Chapter for its clean remanufacturing process, hopes to expand its operations into the Chicago area.

Hammer will turn the plastic into landscape timbers, which will be used in Chicago to replace wood timbers in the ongoing rehabilitation of more than 500 park playlot structures. The plastic timbers can be cut and nailed or bolted in the same manner as wood, but do not splinter, deteriorate or require paint, stain, or preservatives.

The program has a trifold effect: It diverts high-density, long-lived plastics from overcrowded landfills, provides a low-maintenance product for the park system, and demonstrates to Chicago residents the value of recycling. Public support of such emerging reuse and recycling alternatives is crucial. Instead of pitching out your plastic bottles, pitch in to the Park District's POP program!

All Chicago Park District Offices are accepting plastic containers for recycling. For our area, go to Bernard Shell Park, 3505 North Southport Ave. Hours: 8 A.M.—10 P.M., Mon.—Fri.; 9 A.M.—5 P.M., Sat. & Sun.

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