



SOUTHPORT

NEIGHBOR

JULY 2006

VOL. 15, NO. 3

Summer on Southport

Sat. July 22nd & Sun. July 23rd

SNA's 5th annual "Summer on Southport" festival is this weekend. Please come out for the city's best adult music and arts festival including the very popular Children's Festival. This year our businesses on Southport will be showcased with a sidewalk sale. So stop and shop while you rock!

The hours of our fest are from 10am until 10pm on Saturday and 10am until 9pm on Sunday. PLEASE remove any cars from the 3700 and 3800 blocks of Southport before Friday night at midnight. Parking may resume on Southport on Sunday night at midnight. Cars parked on the 3700 and 3800 blocks of Southport will be relocated. We are sorry for any inconvenience this causes. If your car happens to be relocated, please stop by the SNA booth at the corner of Southport and Grace during festival hours for information.

While you are at our booth, please sign up for a FREE membership to SNA. This is being offered between 10am-4pm, both days. You MUST live within our boundaries to receive this offer, so bring your ID.

This event benefits the Southport Neighbors Association and the SNA Grant Program. A significant portion of our proceeds will go to Blaine School to further their efforts to build a Campus Park. See you there!!

Special Meeting

7:00pm, JULY 31st @ MERCURY THEATER

Muggings, Southport Update, Blaine & Cubs

With the news of 12 armed robberies in our neighborhood in the last four weeks, SNA is holding this special meeting with police officers from the Community Policing Program. The discussion will concentrate on how the police are handling the recent incidents and how to establish a Neighborhood Watch Program. As Wrigleyville has become one of the hottest destinations in the city, we will also explore ways to permanently increase the police presence in our area, including regular foot and bike patrols. This meeting is open to our entire community as well as neighbors in the Sheil Park and West Lakeview Neighbors area. *See page two for related crime story.*

Following the CAPS portion of the meeting, we will hear from our Retail Committee and Heather Way, Executive Director of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce, who will present Spotlight on Southport, including an update on the Osco/CVS/Jewel changes, major fashion and unique shopping events.

Also on the agenda are updates about the Blaine Campus Park project and the Cubs Midseason Report. Please do join us on **Monday, July 31st!**

AGENDA:

- Spotlight on Southport — A presentation by our Retail Committee and Heather Way from the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce; including an update on the Osco/CVS/Jewel changes, major fashion and unique shopping events.

ALSO:

- Special Meeting with Community Police Program
- Blaine Campus Park Development Report
- What's Happening at Wrigley Field—A Midseason Report

Spotlight on Southport

by Heather Way, Executive Director, Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

Part of the mission of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce is the promotion of area businesses. With Southport being one of the hottest shopping districts in the City, fulfilling this part of the mission is fun! The first of several great events we have planned throughout the summer is the return of **SHOP Lakeview**, a shoppers rebate program. It is particularly important to note that **SHOP Lakeview**, while administered by the Chamber, is fully funded by SSA 27.

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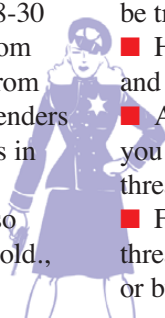
Police Issue a Community Alert

ARMED ROBBERIES

The Chicago Police Department is investigating a series of armed robberies occurring in Area 3 which includes the Southport district, which now total 12 since June 14th. The most recent incident was reported on July 11th.

The robberies have occurred primarily between Waveland Ave. south to School Street and between Racine west to Ashland, with one incident happening on the 1400 block of Irving Park Road. The majority of these incidents are occurring between midnight and 5:00am. It is believed some of these incidents have been targeted at people walking home from the bars late at night onto dimly lit streets.

More than one offender has been described by the victims. In the majority of the cases they have been described as African American males, 18-30 years of age, ranging in height from 5'8" to 6' with weights ranging from 150-200lbs. In two cases, the offenders were described as Hispanic males in their early 20s, 5'6" to 5'10". An African American female was also described in one incident, 30 yrs old, 5'8", 170lbs.



ALDERMAN TUNNEY'S SAFETY TIPS

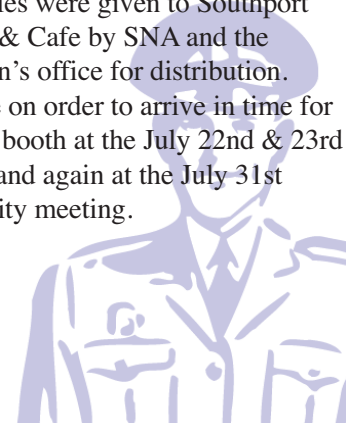
- Walk, ride, or jog with a partner.
- Avoid dark, isolated places—don't walk or park there.
- Be alert, look around.
- Keep at least one hand free—don't carry bulky purses or parcels.
- When alone, avoid wearing headphones or talking on your cellphone.
- Late at night, have someone meet you at the train station. Have the taxi driver watch while you enter your home.
- On public transportation, try to use the busiest, best-lit stop possible, both to get on and off the bus or train. When waiting for a train, stay close to other people in the most well lit area of the stations. When on the train or bus, sit near the driver or operator.
- After dark, tell family and friends when to expect you and how you will be traveling.
- Have your house and car keys out and ready to use.
- Adopt a frame of mind that allows you to recognize and avoid potential threats on the street.
- Follow your instincts—if you feel threatened, go to the nearest open store or business and call **911** immediately.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Travel with a companion, if possible.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash or all your credit cards.
- Do not wear valuable jewelry or carry expensive purses.
- Residents should leave their porch lights on all night long.
- Report any suspicious activity.
- Get involved by attending Beat Meetings.
- Call Area Three Robbery/Burglary/Theft Crimes Unit **312.744.8263**
- Police District 19 **312.744.5983**
- Community Policing **312.744.5574**

A LITTLE HELP

Whistles were given to Southport Grocery & Cafe by SNA and the Alderman's office for distribution. More are on order to arrive in time for the SNA booth at the July 22nd & 23rd Festival and again at the July 31st community meeting.

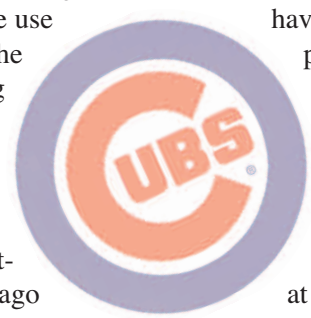


Chicago Cubs and Neighborhood Protection

Here's a mid-season update. Despite a disappointing 34-54 record at the All Star Break, the Chicago Cubs have an improving record when it comes to transportation/parking issues around Wrigley Field. To date, the use of remote parking at DeVry University has been expanded with over 300 cars parked per game and nearly 19,000 fans taking advantage of the remote parking shuttle since the beginning of the season. The double-decker bus continues to transport fans from downtown hotels and the Metra Station at Ravenswood and Lawrence. Also, the free bicycle valet service has already

been used by over 2,100 riders.

Additionally, the Chicago Cubs have donated the use of Wrigley Field for the Gay Games closing ceremonies on Saturday July 22. Participants in the week-long athletic and cultural event hosted by the City of Chicago will attend the closing celebration. While expected attendance is less than a Cubs game, neighborhood protections and traffic enforcements similar to those in place for baseball



games will be implemented.

The Cubs and the City of Chicago have a neighborhood protection plan in place with the goal to alleviate the "stresses" (ie. traffic, parking, clean-up) facing the surrounding communities which includes Southport Neighbors. For further information, please contact the Cubs at **773.404.4175** or on actual game days at **866-4-CPD-TOW**.

SNA wants to hear your comments and ideas regarding these and other important community issues.

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Spotlight on Southport

The program begins on August 1st and runs through Labor Day. During this time, consumers who spend at least \$300 at a minimum of 3 participating merchants, earn \$50 in **SHOP Lakeview** gift certificates. These gift certificates can be redeemed at the participating merchants. Merchants participating in **SHOP Lakeview** include Southport Grocery & Café, Petite Feet, Sinead Salon and Flirt. For a complete list, visit shoplakeview.net.



Alderman Tunney's Community Directed Development Council (CDDC) is in the final stages of preparing a strategic plan. Final drafts will be ready in September, 2006. Each month the Alderman presents new projects in the 44th Ward to the City Council for input.

In our area, a large project has been proposed for the LaSalle Bank site at Belmont and Ashland. Centrum properties has purchased the bank building and adjacent lot and is seeking a zoning change. The original plan proposed a 7 story mixed use planned development with retail on the first two floors and condominiums on the remaining floors and 400 parking spaces and a

The Chamber is proud to sponsor the 6th Annual Southport Sidewalk Showcase on August 12th & 13th. This is a great chance to take advantage of **SHOP Lakeview** while getting awesome deals at your favorite retailers.

Lastly, for the first time, Southport is featured as part of Mayor Daley's Fashion Focus Week. Southport is one of three retail districts being featured during this unique week dedicated to Chicago fashion and local designers. Because Southport consists largely of independently owned businesses, we

drive though bank and only 11% of the area set aside for green space.

Several area neighborhood organizations, including SNA, objected to the scale of the project, citing problems with height, bulk, traffic issues and lack of green space. Centrum has now reduced their plan to propose a 5 to 6 story planned development with 325-360 parking spaces, and between 11-20% of park area. The project would also include a large parking lot with about 325-360 spaces. Hopefully this project will be presented to each community group for further review.

Related to this project is a planned retirement residence on the Greenview and Melrose or St. Luke's Lutheran Church property at the East and North end of the LaSalle Bank site. The neighborhood groups all support the construction of affordable housing in

were hand selected by the Mayor. On Saturday, September 23rd, the Chamber in conjunction with the Department of Cultural Affairs, will host a day long shopping and retail event dedicated to the Fashionable Family. For more details please visit lakeviewchamber.com as the date approaches.

Be sure and stop by the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce booth at Summer on Southport to learn more about these events, the Chamber and SSA 27.

our area but requested certain changes to the project to reduce height, address parking, traffic, and green space issues. The Alderman is working with the planning department to address those concerns and move that project to fruition.

Also in our area, the Bert Weiman Ford property has sold to a developer interested in building a residential property. No details are currently available on the proposed plan, but SNA will keep the community informed as they develop

CDDC meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of every month. Minutes are posted on the 44th Ward website at www.44thward.org. You may also contact us with your questions or comments at info@southportneighbors.com or call **312.458.0762**.

Blaine Beautification is Now In Session

School may be out but Blaine Campus is likely to be full of activity this summer. With help from Alderman Tunney, major funding has been put together from the Cubs, the city and CPS, all earmarked for enhancement of the school's landscape. Some of the highlights include a turf field, a sensory/native species garden, as well as, improvements to existing play areas.

From pure aesthetic appeal to a fantastic recreational and educational resource, this project not only benefits the school but the Southport neighborhood as well. Some additional funds may still be needed to truly get this underway so stay tuned for more information, as well as, artistic renderings of the plans.

About this newsletter

We at SNA wish to thank Larry Roth (a Lakeview resident) of *Larry's World of Design* for volunteering his editorial and design "know-how" in creating this periodical.

Larry is available for your print-ed projects, such as brochures, other newsletters, corporate reports, business cards and letterhead.

Contact him at lroth@flash.net.

New Businesses in our Neighborhood

If your new business has opened in the last 3 months and has not appeared in a newsletter, please pardon the oversight! Let us know who you are and we will spread the word and add you to the list in our next newsletter. Contact Kelly Lawrence at 312.458.0762 for information.

Spring Pilates Wellness Center

3701 North Southport #2

773.327.1678

www.springpilateschicago.com

Spring is a fully equipped Pilates studio offering private equipment lessons and group classes including Pilates Mat, Yoga, Yogilates, NIA and Tai Chi. Our motto is "Affordable, Accessible, Attainable." We offer quality instruction at a great price!

Revival

1401 West Irving Park
SW corner of Southport and Irving
773.248.1211

Open daily Noon—6pm

Revival features visually arresting furnishings and decorative accessories for the home and garden. Each item is chosen for its unique style merits.

Business Updates

Deleece Gets a Makeover

Deleece, an affordable, eclectic neighborhood haunt recently had a makeover. The transformation began with the hiring of new chef, Steven Obendorf and a face-lift inside and out. Substantial menu changes are present as well as an expanded appetizer menu. The large mural is replaced by striking photo art by local artist, Carrie Notari.

Providing value to its customers for the past eleven years has proven to be the key to success, and on Mondays

and Tuesdays, patrons can enjoy a 3-course meal for only \$20. Brunch now starts at 9am on both Saturday and Sunday, and lunch is served every day but Monday with free WiFi internet.

With its new décor, exciting new menu, and renowned friendly service, Deleece is the neighborhood restaurant that everyone wishes was in their neighborhood. At the northwest corner of Southport and Irving Park, it's kid friendly with outdoor patio seating.

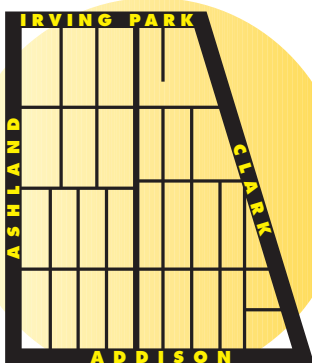
Osco is now CVS

With the recent sale of Albertsons (Jewel-Osco stores parent company) by Super-Valu, some changes are underway. Based on requests by SNA and Alderman Tunney, CVS has agreed to improve the look of this store. They plan to add more outdoor benches, potted plants and to update the look of the large brick wall along Southport. The 'look and feel' of the store will be similar to other CVS stores around the city.



3501 N. Southport Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60657
☎ 312.458.0SNA (0762)

www.southportneighbors.com



Founded August 8, 1988

Sign me up! I gotta join Southport Neighbors Association (SNA)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Email _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Individual • \$10 Family • \$15 Business • \$15 Senior • \$2

Please send me the *Southport Neighbor* via email (*our preferred method!*)

Please send me the *Southport Neighbor* via US mail (*no charge*)

Also enclosed is my additional tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ to support the work of the Southport Neighbors Association.

Total enclosed: \$ _____ *Mail check payable to:*

Southport Neighbors Association (SNA)

3501 North Southport Avenue • #201 • Chicago, Illinois 60657

I'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER WITH SOUTHPORT NEIGHBORS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Neighborhood Protection/Cubs Membership Business Liaison

Block Representative Newsletter Traffic & Safety

Property Tax Reform Preservation Public Relations

Planning & Development Social Welcome Committee

Summer On Southport Garden Walk Beautification

