

The Newsletter of Southport Neighbors Association

# SOUTHrePORTer



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photo by Lynne Wallack

## Hello Neighbors!

Many of you have been active members of Southport Neighbors Association (SNA) for years, working together to build community in our neck of Chicago. If you haven't been active in the past, please take this as your invitation to get involved! You can check out our upcoming events and other volunteer opportunities on the back of the newsletter. Whatever your time or talents, we welcome your participation. Together we can make our community a better place to live.

Here are our major accomplishments from the past year:

- Partnered with SSA 27 to bring the new mural, "Urbs in Horto" by Ouizi, pictured above, to the neighborhood
- Overhauled our website, [www.southportneighbors.com](http://www.southportneighbors.com)
- Sponsored the Southport Art Fest
- Restarted the annual neighborhood Fourth of July Parade
- Held our Second Annual Christmas Tree Recycling event
- Saw the reopening of Juniper Park
- Hosted a 44th Ward Aldermanic Candidate Forum
- Delivered our first annual newsletter (this one!)
- Reviewed a number of proposed new developments, public place of amusement licenses, liquor licenses & plan of operations
- Made a fresh update to our kiosk at Southport & Waveland

With your help, we can have a successful & fun 2019-2020!

-- Southport Neighbors Board

# NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

**MONDAY, JULY 15 @ 7PM**  
**VENUS THEATER: 3741 N SOUTHPORT**

ALL HOMEOWNERS, RENTERS & BUSINESS OWNERS/REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS.

# New Mural Blooms on Southport

We hope you've been loving our new mural, "Urbs in Horto" by artist Louise "Ouizi" Jones, as much as we have!



"Urbs in Horto"

In the works since 2017, nearly two dozen SNA members participated in the process of selecting the artist and concept for the mural. (Missed out? Join our Beautification Committee to work on more projects like this!)

The mural's title, "Urbs in Horto", is the City of Chicago's official motto meaning "City in a Garden". Ouizi painted specific flowers in the mural to honor our city's close relationship with nature. The prominent chyrstanthemums are Chicago's official flower and the roses and wildflowers are found throughout the Chicago area.

The mural was sponsored by Southport Neighbors Association and SSA 27, and supported by Alderman Tunney, CVS Health and Dahlgren & Sons, Inc.



Presenting our check for SNA's portion of the mural costs.



SNA Board Members pose with Artist Ouizi at the mural dedication on May 12.

## Ahoy, Block Captain!

Fancy yourself a friendly, helpful neighbor? Then we're looking for YOU to volunteer to be a block captain (or co-captain) for your block.



This could be you!

Block captains help to bridge the gap between the SNA Board and the residents within SNA's

boundaries. As a block captain, you'll help to communicate SNA's activities to help maximize the results of our community projects, and help us better understand the priorities of our residents.

Being a block captain doesn't require much of your time - it mostly just gives you a good excuse to get to know your neighbors and build a tighter community on your block. You're interested, right? **Email us at [info@southportneighbors.com](mailto:info@southportneighbors.com) to volunteer!**

## Zoned & (Not) Confused

One of SNA's stated purposes is to encourage compatible residential and business development.

We work closely with Alderman Tunney's office in reviewing all new plans of operations, liquor license applications and proposed developments that require zoning variances.

Over the past year, the Board has met with the owners of, and reviewed and commented on the Plans of Operations for, Big Star, Rizzo's Bar and Inn, Trace and Full Shilling. We've also met with the owners, architects, and attorneys for proposed developments at 1119-24 W Patterson & 1113 W Patterson. These groups have then gone on to present at our community meetings.

# Adopt-a-Corner Parkway Program



Help us turn



Does the sight of an untended corner parkway make you a little sad? (Yes!)

Are you an avid gardener, enjoy planting flowers or just looking for something rewarding to do? (Yes!)

Then we need YOU to adopt a corner parkway in our neighborhood and give it some much needed love!

Not only will it feel great, SNA might give you some money to help cover some of your costs.

For 2019-2020, SNA is awarding **up to ten \$100 reimbursement grants** to adopt & plant a corner parkway within our boundaries. The money can be used on plants and planting materials - no garden tools, please.

***If you're interested AND you're an SNA member, please email us at [info@southportneighbors.com](mailto:info@southportneighbors.com) for full details and to apply for a grant. If you're not a member yet, see the back for how to join.***

Thanks in advance for helping to make our neighborhood just a little more pleasant!

## Want a Parkway Tree? It's Free!

Is the parkway in front of your residence treeless? You can do something about it! The City of Chicago will plant a tree in your parkway for FREE. Yes, FREE.

**To get your free tree, just call 311 or submit a request on the Chi 311 app or online at <https://311.chicago.gov>.** It will only take about 3 minutes of your time (seriously!).



Besides making our neighborhood more beautiful, your new tree will help: improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gasses, reduce the "urban heat island" effect, increase property values, assist with storm water attenuation and help abate noise.

So, request that tree and help make our neighborhood a little greener!

## Christmas in June?

We all enjoy seeing twinkling Christmas trees in many of our neighbors' windows during the holiday season. But, what happens to all those trees? Are they destined for the landfill after they're taken down? Thankfully they don't have to be.

The city of Chicago offers drop-off locations for Christmas trees, where they're turned into mulch & wood chips for use at Chicago Park District properties and materials for use by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District.

For two years running, SNA has made the process of tree recycling easier for the neighborhood. We've asked members to place their trees in their alleys on designated days, and then some wonderful SNA

volunteers have picked them up in a truck and hauled them to a city drop-off location.

All in all, SNA has helped to recycle over 75 trees the past 2 years.

Keep a lookout for our tree pickup dates & call for volunteers in December and January!



## Get Involved!

SNA can make a bigger impact when you're involved! We have so many opportunities for you to give back to the neighborhood:



Volunteer at our upcoming Fourth of July Parade. We need flyer hangers, street crossing monitors, after-parade treat distributors, and more!



Volunteer as an Artist Liason at the Southport Art Fest.



Join our Beautification Committee, and work on initiatives like the CVS mural.



Join our Crime & Safety Committee, and work on initiatives like labeling garages with addresses.



Join our Communications Committee and help maintain our website and other communications.



Join our Events Committee and help plan our next great neighborhood activity.

To volunteer, email us at [info@southportneighbors.com](mailto:info@southportneighbors.com).

## Join SNA

**Hey there!** In order to make all the great things you've read about in this newsletter happen, **we need your participation** (and dues!). So, please consider joining SNA and becoming involved with your fantastic little neighborhood non-profit!

To sign up (or renew) your membership, head over to:

[southportneighbors.com/join](https://southportneighbors.com/join)

Annual membership dues are just:

- Individual: \$10
- Family: \$15
- Business: \$15
- Senior: \$2

and they go towards supporting great programming and initiatives in our neighborhood.

So, *before you forget*, head on over to [southportneighbors.com](https://southportneighbors.com) to signup, renew and/or volunteer today. You can also sign up at any of our events or meetings.

Questions? Email us at [info@southportneighbors.com](mailto:info@southportneighbors.com).

## About SNA

We're a not-for-profit organization serving the Southport Neighborhood from Addison Street north to Irving Park Road and Clark Street west to Ashland Avenue. Our purpose is to encourage compatible

residential and business development; initiate and support beautification projects; and provide residents with neighborhood forums on timely issues and neighborhood concerns including but not limited to quality of life issues and historic preservation.

## Upcoming SNA Events

<b>JUL 4</b>	<b>Neighborhood 4th of July Parade</b> 9:30 AM lineup; 10 AM start Juniper Park	<b>JUL 15</b>	<b>SNA Quarterly Community Meeting</b> 7 PM Venus Theater: 3741 N Southport
<b>JUL 13-14</b>	<b>Southport Art Fest</b> 10 AM - 7 PM Along Southport Avenue from Waveland to Byron	<b>AUG 21</b>	<b>Beautification Committee Meeting</b> 7 PM Grassroots: 3747 N Southport

For our full event calendar, please visit [www.southportneighbors.com/events](https://www.southportneighbors.com/events).