

Bowmanville Bee

The Bowmanville neighborhood is bordered by Foster, Rosehill Cemetery, Ravenswood and Western. Visit our website at www.bcochicago.org.



Winter 2018

Who's Who in the BCO

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BCO Bowmanville
Community
Organization
www.bcochicago.org

Thanks, 2017—and Welcome, 2018!

By Mona Yaeger, BCO President

As my husband and I move towards our fourth year in Bowmanville, I'm really happy that we chose this little-known gem of a neighborhood. I'm excited to be a part of this community and delighted to be the new BCO President. One of the things we love about living here is the sense of community. Whether you live in an apartment, a condo or in a single-family home, you're among people who value this neighborhood, become your friends, and support volunteer activities on our beloved blocks. We are all Bowmanville.

One of the best parts of living here is how active the BCO has become. Did you know that the people who make up the BCO Board are all volunteers? We all have joined for various reasons, but number one is because we love this neighborhood and the people in it. As the Board, it may seem we ask a lot of BCO members, but that's because we know that giving back to a community of people who cares strengthens and benefits us all.

We especially appreciate everyone who volunteered for or participated in great 2017 events like these:

- Andersonville's MidSommerfest, where we poured beer one Friday night to help raise money for the Gateway Garden project
- Ravenswood On Tap, the local craft beer fest planning for its third year this June
- The BCO Garden Walk, which brought in some new neighbors' gardens and continues to be one of the few Chicago garden walks that draws people from all over
- The BCO Summer Social, which this year brought new and great fun with a really cool waterslide, egg toss, and yoga session.

- First Friday happy hours with BCO Board Members at neighborhood bars
- Fundraisers and other events supporting our local schools.

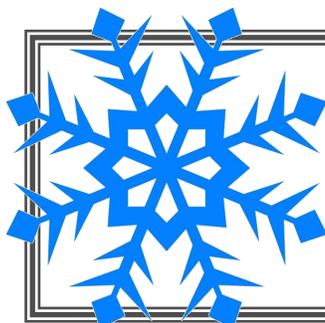
Our biggest thank-you is for your support of the Gateway Garden Expansion project. As you'll read elsewhere in this issue, your generous contributions of time and money made this exciting initiative possible.



We are very grateful for every dollar and every hour of time you gave to make it happen. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

But your neighborly support didn't stop there. We looked out for each other's homes, we supported the "Hate Has No Home Here" campaign and rally in Ravenswood, we welcomed two new breweries, and we shopped locally in Lincoln Square and in Andersonville. Let's do things like that again.

As we start this new year, I'm asking all of you to continue to strengthen our community by supporting BCO and each other in whatever way you can. Volunteer for our local summer events, grow things in our community garden plots, become part of the Gateway Garden expansion, meet with neighbors at the First Fridays happy hours, and continue to help the BCO provide not just a sense of community, but the reality of it. We are all Bowmanville, the BCO couldn't do what we do without your support, input, and love for this Chicago hidden gem.



Winter in Bowmanville

BCO Open Meeting!
Open to all! Neighbors, News, Nosh.
March 15, 7pm
Location TBD
Check bcochicago.com for updates

First Friday Happy Hour!
April 6-8p
Claddagh Ring,
[2306 West Foster](http://2306WestFoster.com)



Bowmanville's community newsletter, The Bowmanville Bee, is published quarterly with the goal of sharing the neighborhood buzz and promoting local business. Managing Editor Tim Noworyta, Layout Editor Claire Shingler and Ad Manager Ann Scholhamer work closely with BCO members and neighbors to gather and present the local stories that help make Bowmanville the unique and proud community it's become. The Bee urges the submission of relevant content to news@bcochicago.org. **If you are good with layout and would like to get involved, we could use an extra set of hands. Current layout is done using MAC's PAGES software OR Microsoft Publisher.**



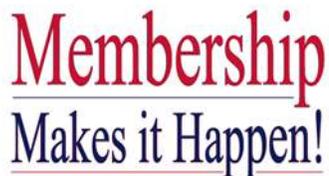
The Communications Committee provides many ways for the BCO to connect to the community and for the community to make its voice heard through the BCO. These include our website, Facebook page, quarterly newsletter (the Bowmanville Bee), online and email eBlasts for timely or urgent announcements. We also manage our BCO hotline (773) 349-2268 and have joined twitter! Contact: comm@bcochicago.org.



The Events Committee is one of the best ways to meet neighbors throughout the community, and have a lot of fun while you're at it! Next year we'll continue our **Annual Street Sale in early June, Bowmanville Garden Walk in early July, and Summer Social Mid-August. If you can help let us know! We need help to make it happen.** We are always looking for new twists for annual events and new event ideas. Following our informal Bee Social concept, we also have a First Friday's happy hour series underway with the next one April 6th. Contact events@bcochicago.org with an idea for a next Bee Social or to pitch in on any event.



The BCO Gardening Committee continues to enhance and maintain our community garden spaces. We are thankful for our volunteers and still need the help of the whole community as we endeavor to improve our natural surroundings. We look to the entire community to join our efforts in implementing a sensible and enduring stewardship plan for all of our open spaces. **For more details and to pitch in contact the garden committee at gardening@bcochicago.org or on our phone line (773) 349-2268. Please join any workdays when you see volunteers in the gardens.** The scheduled work dates are posted online and included in the Bee's calendar (back page). Join the gardening email list on the BCO website.



The Membership Committee focuses on ways to continually engage and support our community and grow our membership base. We reach out to new neighbors and new and renewing members to help match their interests with needs in the community. **Our next Open Meeting is March 15th. In the meantime please join in to the great events the BCO organizes and help where you can.** Reach out via email at membership@bcochicago.org. **Get involved, you won't regret it!**

Like public radio, all of our neighbors can freely enjoy the benefits of the hard work of the BCO. But in the end, "Membership makes it happen"! Join or renew today, we'd love to have you! Over 200 community members recognize the value of what the BCO does for this community, and know that it doesn't happen without financial and volunteer support. BCO membership fees are low at \$20 annually.



The Planning & Development (P&D) committee gathers periodically to discuss issues of change, development and improvement of our fine community. P&D interacts with local residents, businesses, and the Alderman's office to influence the evolution of our community. The P&D committee meets as issues arise. **Reach out to the chair of P&D with ideas and feedback or to join the committee's email list planning@bcochicago.org.**



The BCO acts as a steward for the green space at 5384 N. Bowmanville Avenue and our community gardens along Bowmanville and Ravenswood Avenues. We also continue to look for opportunities to expand and improve on green space in our community. We need your help as we continue to move forward with our goal of ensuring Bowmanville is one of the greenest, most livable communities in Chicago. **We are currently working on the expanded Gateway Garden at Ravenswood. Please contact green-space@bcochicago.org to get involved.**



The Public Art committee was formed in 2010 to explore the idea of a mural in the Berwyn pedestrian tunnel at Ravenswood. That idea became reality very quickly! A restoration of the painted interior took place Summer 2016. If you see graffiti in that mural contact berwynmural@gmail.com. You can also contact publicart@bcochicago.org to get involved or with new ideas.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Gateway Garden Expansion Taking Shape

By Russ Klettke

On the heels of the BCO's successful fundraising and land-acquisition effort, the Gateway Garden Preservation & Expansion committee is moving forward to provide improved resources to members of our gardening community for the 2018 growing season. But the expanded Gateway Garden site — on the west side of the Metra tracks, along Ravenswood between Balmoral and the Berwyn pedway — will be for more than just gardening. It's being designed to also be a community space where anyone can go for a walk through a healthy environment, meet friends, observe nature at work, or volunteer.

The project is a triumph of community action. After raising over \$56,000 in donations from more than 200 individuals and organizations — including generous five-figure grants from the Driehaus Foundation and the City of Chicago's Open Space Impact Fund program — BCO was able to partner with NeighborSpace, a community land trust, to buy the land

(sandwiched between city- and Metra-owned property) and save it from development. The acquisition secured the one-third-acre parcel (the equivalent of four lots) for our neighborhood's use in perpetuity.

And what a project it's shaping up to be! More than 40 individuals gathered in November at the Rogers Park Montessori School for a design charrette — essentially a brainstorming session on what the expanded garden site could be. From that session, professional landscape designers and landscape architects are drawing up conceptual plans for the new Gateway Garden. The plans will take into account the size and configuration of the space, the availability of funding, maintenance needs, and the path of sunshine over the narrow north-south site.



One idea that arose organically from just about everyone at the charrette is this: There should be a walking path that winds through the parcel and connects in a loop with the existing West Andersonville garden path (on the east side of the Metra tracks, from also Balmoral to Berwyn). Our colleagues in Andersonville who manage that garden are thrilled about the connection and have provided ongoing support for the project.

Other features might include: group gathering areas, access for people of varying abilities, public art, native/pollinator plantings, "community picking" (fruit trees, berry patches), protected fencing around the allotment beds (4'x8', raised), nature play areas, and managed community composting. Some existing trees can be transplanted to accommodate these features, according to an arborist BCO consulted.

Additional funds and in-kind donations are welcome — as are volunteers! To donate money, you can write a check to NeighborSpace with "Bowmanville Gateway Garden" in the memo area, and mail it to NeighborSpace, 445 N. Sacramento Blvd. Ste. 204, Chicago IL, 60612. To get involved in the project, let us know your interests via email to Planning@BCOchicago.org

If you're not familiar with the site, go over and take a look.

For more information on securing a vegetable garden plot there, visit <http://bcochicago.org/gardening/gateway-garden>.

Check out what's coming up at Amundsen & Chappelle

FRIENDS OF AMUNDSEN Come out for the 2nd Annual Celebrity Bar Night on May 4, 2018 at Rojo Gusano on Ravenswood Ave!

www.friendsofamundsen.org

Next Meeting Date: February 26, 7pm

Amundsen Tours:

Check out <http://amundsenhs.org> and click on **admissions** tab for information about tours and shadow days.

Chappell March Family Pizza Night is March 14 at Roots Handmade Pizza, [2200 W. Lawrence](http://www.rootspizza.com). Mention Chappell when you dine and proceeds will go toward the school!

Contact at friendsofchappell@gmail.com

Follow @FriendsofChappell on Facebook

www.friendsofchappell.org/events

Chappell tour info on page 13

Send photos and news to news@bcochicago.org

Water Main Replacement Will Run Through April

As you may know by now, the city's Department of Water Management in mid-January began a three-month project to replace the old water main in the neighborhood, which dates to 1895, with 2,728 feet of new 8-inch water main. The work will take place on:

- Damen from Rascher to Farragut (roughly from Scooterworks to the Leadway)
- Balmoral from Damen to Ravenswood (roughly from Tempel Steel to RPMS)

Expect to see No Parking signs between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., and streets to be limited or completely closed to traffic during those hours. Outside of working hours, a travel lane will be left open for local traffic only. Residents should be able to reach their home or business despite closures.

Note that after the project is completed, you will need to flush your plumbing of any sediment, rust or metals, including any lead, to maintain water quality. These items may also collect in the aerator screen located at the tip of your faucets. These screens should be removed prior to flushing. Here's how to flush your plumbing (see illustration in the letter mentioned below):

- Find the closest available tap (an outside hose spigot, laundry sink faucet or bathtub) to where the water comes into the home that is NOT used for drinking water.
- Fully open the cold water tap and let the water run for at least 5 minutes.
- Next, flush any other cold water faucets on that floor for at least 5 minutes.
- Move to the next highest floor and repeat.
- Move to additional floors in sequence and flush any taps or faucets for at least 5 minutes.

You can learn more about the project from this letter by Alderman O'Connor: aldermanoconnor.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Damen-Balmoral-Project-1701017.pdf. If you have additional questions, you can call Alderman O'Connor's office at 773-769-1140. You also can sign up for the city's WaterALERT program to receive email updates on this project. Visit BuildingANewChicago.org, and enter your name, email address and Project #1701017.

Metra Bridge Work to Impact Balmoral

Metra is finally starting Phase II of its Ravenswood Station reconstruction project, which involves building a new station for southbound trains and replacing bridges over several streets, including Balmoral Ave. in Bowmanville.

Work on the Balmoral bridge will start this March. Combined with the water main replacement work taking place on Balmoral, the replacement will probably cause further slowing or disruption of traffic near the viaduct. For more on this project, see the January 17, 2018 edition of the [Chicago Sun-Times](http://ChicagoSunTimes.com).



Jennifer Dianovsky
Travel Concierge

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1000 DOOR HANGERS \$189

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Banner \$98

4ft.6ft Full Color One Side on Vinyl Material

COMMUNITY NEWS

BCO Board News

We are pleased to announce two appointments ratified at the BCO General Meeting on December 14, 2017, to fill mid-term openings:

- **For BCO President:** Mona Yaeger, a BCO board member of several years and current chair of the Membership Committee
- **For BCO Vice President:** Ann Scholhamer, a BCO board member of several years and past chair of the Summer Social

Our thanks go out to those who previously served in these roles for their significant contributions to a better and more beautiful Bowmanville!

- **William Ferguson**, who stepped down from being president but remains with us in a Board of Directors seat
- **Sabine Cummins** who stepped down from being vice-president and from the board after several years of service

We also want to give a warm welcome to two new board members who volunteered to fill open seats:

- **Alexandre Schleider** of the 2000 block of Berwyn

- **Ron Galant** of the 2200 block of Farragut

A big thank-you and welcome to these committed neighbors! Your willingness to jump in when needed is very much appreciated.

Join us for BCO's First Friday Happy Hours!

Looking to meet splendid people? Or perhaps help solve the world's problems? Then come mingle with friends and neighbors at our First Friday Bowmanville Happy Hours!

Throughout 2018, we will meet bimonthly at local establishments from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Good drinks, good people, good times. Hope to see and say cheers to you there some time.

Here's the schedule (check the BCO website, www.bcochicago.org for updated information):

- February 2, Leadway Bar & Grill, [5233 North Damen](#)
- April 6, Claddagh Ring, [2306 West Foster](#)
- June 1, August 3, October 5, December 7 - locations TBD

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Time to Apply for Your BCO Community Garden Plot!

The BCO Gardening Committee is planning for another season of vegetable gardening in BCO's community garden plots: Gateway Garden (along Ravenswood by the Metra tracks) and Bowmanville Garden (along Bowmanville Avenue along the cemetery wall). See bcochicago.org/gardening for more information.

2018 garden maintenance days can be found on the BCO website. <http://bcochicago.org/gardening/garden-work-dates>

Visit the BCO website to get more information. Direct questions to gardening@bcochicago.org.

Individuals wishing to participate often ask how to obtain a space. The process of allotting plots begins each year with the release of the current years' application and rules/guidelines form. This year the application forms were posted on the BCO website on February 1. Though the application deadline is March 1, applications will continue to be accepted beyond that date. Prospective gardeners agree to abide by the established rules and guidelines. **Prospective gardeners should never pay a plot fee until after they have been assigned a plot.**

Volunteers will be needed to complete veggie bed maintenance projects this spring. All are welcome to come out to help. The calendar of



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in Andersonville



“The child is capable of developing and giving us tangible proof of the possibility of a better humanity.”

- Maria Montessori

Urban Pooch Champion Corner



Hi! My name is Lizzie, and I'm a five-year-old tri-color Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who lives in Bowmanville on the 2200 block of Berwyn. My Mom got me about four and a half years ago from Dansyn breeders in St. Anne, IL. My Mom's sister has two Cavaliers, which is how my

Mom fell in love with my breed. Cavaliers tend to be sweet, silly and loving, and each of us has a personality of our own.

My breed is also known as "velcro" or lap dogs, since we are always right beside you or on your lap demanding attention. Don't even think about leaving the room without me, because I will follow you everywhere! Since my Mom doesn't have any kids in our house, I'm one spoiled fur baby. We shed a lot, but the good news is that most people do not have an allergic reaction to Cavaliers. So if you have allergies like my Mom does, we could be the perfect dog for you.

My Mom and I moved to Bowmanville three years ago, and we love it here! We used to live in Wrigleyville, but wanted to get out of that chaos. We wanted a place that had a nice neighborhood feel while still being in the city. Most important was a nice yard for me to play in and a place for Mom to garden in. We found all this in a beautiful two-flat on Berwyn.

You might see us walking around the neighborhood or on our way over to Winemac Park, which is my absolute favorite place because there are SO MANY squirrels to chase! I have also taken agility classes at Urban Pooch. Mom said it helped with my overall training, but I just like to run through the tunnels.

We joined the Chicago Cavalier group and go to

monthly meet-ups where I get to play with all my friends. We've also gotten involved with the Chicago Cavalier Rescue group, which is a fantastic team dedicated to getting displaced or puppy mill dogs adopted into loving homes. You can learn more about it here: <http://gccavalierrescue.org/>

Summer can be tough, since Cavaliers do not do well in high heat, but now that winter is here, I'm delighted. I absolutely LOVE the snow! Once my winter jacket and booties are on, I'm off to bound through the snow and roll around in it like a regular little snow bunny!

I'm a good travel companion too. This holiday season I got to travel to Omaha to be with my two Cavalier cousins, Louie and Charlie. They belong to my Mom's sister's family. I love hanging out with them and my other friend, Napoleon, who also lives in Chicago, just four blocks away. When we are not traveling, I'm usually at home on the couch watching my favorite shows on Animal Planet or hanging out with my best friend Copper.

Well, that's about it for me. Oh, I love other dogs, so if you see us around, feel free to come say hi. I'd be happy to meet you!

Lizzie & Suzanne (owner)

If you would like to have your dog, cat, bird or other pet featured in our next "Pet Profile," please submit a short article (500 words or less) about your pet and yourself, including some things you like most about Bowmanville and two or three pictures of you and your pet, to news@bcochicago.org by March 15, 2018.



Unique to Chicago, Urban Pooch Training & Fitness Center is a state-of-the-art 10,000 sq. ft. facility that offers training, fitness, agility and daycare . . . with many classes you won't find anywhere else. Our award-winning trainers can solve any behavior issue. We are located at 5400 N Damen, corner of Balmoral.

New BCO High School Scholarship Program



The BCO is pleased to announce the first annual "Bowmanville Scholarship Program" for high school seniors living in Bowmanville proper or attending Amundsen High School. A scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to each of two graduating seniors who demonstrate a commitment to making the city of Chicago a better place.

Scholarship money can be used to pay for tuition, books, housing, and/or transportation. The 2017-18 application deadline for a BCO scholarship is May 10, 2018. After May 10, the BCO board will review all applications and decide which two students have earned their scholarships. The recipients will be announced by June 4, 2018.

How to Apply

To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must:

- Live in Bowmanville and/or attend Amundsen High School
- Have already been accepted by at least one post-secondary institution.
- Provide the names and email addresses of two references. One of them must be a staff member from your high school.

Submit written replies to the following items via email to secy@bcochicago.org, along with your name, home address and the name of the college(s) where you have been accepted:

- What has shaped your interest in your school choice and/or future profession? (Limit 100 words)
- Describe an obstacle that you have overcome in your life. How did it impact you, and what did you learn from the experience? (Limit 100 words)
- What have you learned about yourself during your four years of high school? (Limit 100 words)
- Describe any/all volunteer service you have been involved in (Limit 100 words)
- List two (maximum of three if there are many) goals you hope to accomplish during college and/or after graduating college (Limit 100 words).

If you have any questions about the BCO scholarship program, please contact secy@bcochicago.org.



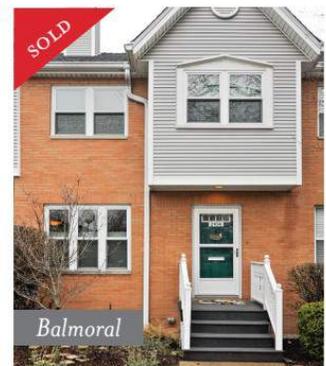
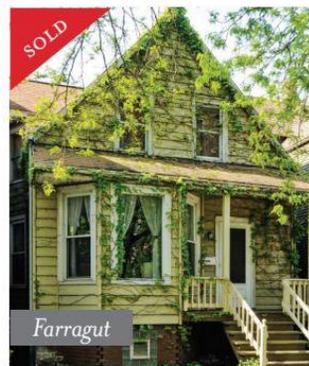
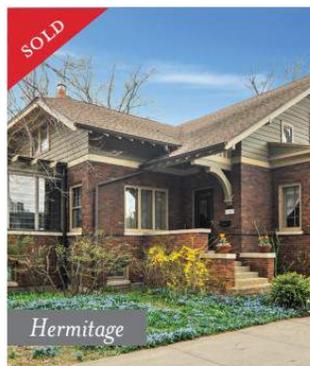
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Community News

Bowmanville -- Neighborhood of Lights

By Mike Kraetsch

Walking thru Bowmanville during the Christmas season and seeing all the streets lit up with holiday lights is a real pleasure, not only because the lights are so beautiful, but also because they give you a feeling of safety. The lights are cheery and make it easier to see where you're going and what's around you.

We could carry this feeling forward throughout the year if everyone kept their front porch light lite on all night. This is encouraged by the Chicago Police Department as a proven security measure, and it would cost a homeowner only about \$3.00 a year for an LED 60-watt-equivalent bulb.

If everyone did this, Bowmanville could be a trend-setter for the Chicago area and truly be the Neighborhood of Lights. Let's do it!



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Help Shape Our Neighborhood!

Join the BCO Planning & Development Committee

Things like zoning, new buildings, community improvements and local businesses affect our neighborhood and our lives in meaningful ways. The BCO Planning and Development Committee (P&D) is a standing committee that addresses such important matters as zoning and development, community maintenance and improvements, and business development in our increasingly popular neighborhood. The P&D committee is made up of both BCO Board members and Bowmanville residents. Any BCO resident is welcome to join the committee.

The P&D Committee meets quarterly and as needed as new development proposals arise. Stew Weiss starts his second year as chairman in 2018. **The Q1 meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22 at 7:00pm.** Want to get involved?

Please contact planning@bcochicago.org for meeting locations, additional information and/or a request to join the committee.

The 2018 agenda includes broad goals, such as creating a vision plan for Bowmanville's residential, commercial and industrial mix. This will entail wide-ranging discussions on P&D's future direction and focus.

The Committee doesn't take formal positions on development proposals that involve variances and rezonings, but rather works to collect information and serve as a facilitator of communication between developers and the community. For example, we review new development requests that come through the Alderman's office and make sure the community understands the proposed changes.

When new development proposals come in, the P&D Committee follows this process:

- Through communication within the community and from local officials (usually the Alderman's office), P&D reviews and monitors proposed developments within the BCO boundaries involving potential zoning or variance changes.
- P&D informs the BCO Board of Directors (BCO) of proposed developments requiring potential zoning and/or variance changes.
- Working with the BCO, P&D informs affected community members, including specifically those living in closest proximity of the proposed development
- P&D then compiles and shares community feedback with the BCO Board and local officials
- Depending on the complexity or controversial nature of the proposed development direct meetings with the Alderman may be scheduled to further convey the BCO's findings and input.

If you would like to help inform and shape YOUR community, Planning and Development is the committee for you. Hope to see some new faces in 2018!

Jeff Graves
BCO Resident since 2003



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Open Daily
M-SAT 7:00 am-2:00am
SUN 11 am-2:00am
On the NE corner of
Foster & Winchester

Community Outreach Idea? Let Us Know

We have formalized a process to encourage community members or groups with Bowmanville ties to suggest outreach projects that might be meaningful to Bowmanville residents and BCO. If you have a project idea you'd like BCO to consider, please fill out and submit a [BCO Community Outreach Support Request](#). Recent examples of things we have supported are the BCO Amundsen Arts Thank-You campaign and the Balmoral Nursing Home yard spruce-up.

State Representative Greg Harris - 13th District

1967 W. Montrose Ave. Chicago, IL 60613
Ph: 773/348-3434 Fax: 773/348-3475 Greg@gregharris.org



Thank you Bowmanville Community Organization for your service to our community!

www.GregHarris.org

Community News

Saluting our "Honor Flight" Veteran

By B. A. Church

On October 11, 2017, Bowmanville resident Francis "Franz" Philipp of the 2100 block of Summerdale Avenue had one of the best days of his life. Francis was a guest on an Illinois Honor Flight from Midway Airport to Washington D. C. He served in the Navy during the Korean War on the troop ship USS General J. C. Breckinridge at the ports of Incheon and Pusan in Korea. For his service, he achieved the rank of Yeoman 2nd Class and earned the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the China Service Medal and, from South Korea, the Ambassador for Peace Medal.

After arriving by limousine at Midway Airport at 4:00 a.m. to the sounds of the Andrews Sisters' and the Frankfort Brass Band, Honor Flight attendees were treated to a pre-flight breakfast. Each veteran was accompanied by a volunteer who would be with them throughout the day. On arriving at Dulles Airport in Washington D.C., the veterans were welcomed by a crowd that thanked them for their service. Luxury buses with a police escort then took the veterans on a drive by the Air Force Memorial to the World War II Memorial for a special ceremony of thanks with the United States Marine Honor Guard Drill Team. Afterwards, there was time to walk to the Korean War Memorial. The tour ended at the National Air and Space Museum's Udvar-Hazy Center to see the Enola Gay B-29 and the Space Shuttle Discovery.

Boarding home for Chicago, the veterans received a surprise "Mail Call" with letters from the Governor of Illinois, the Mayor of Chicago and all Chicago sports team Presidents, as well as many letters of thanks and gratitude from loved ones and supporters of the

Honor Flight. Each veteran received a copy of the book *Forgotten No More – The Korean War Veterans Memorial Story*. After landing at Midway Airport, the veterans were treated to a band playing patriotic music, a serenade by the Chicago Police bagpipers, and a Welcome Home Celebration by Navy personnel from the Great Lakes Naval Base, with a long line of Navy soldiers saluting the Honor Flight veterans.

There was also a handshake from the Illinois Governor and a warm greeting from Francis' family members, including two nieces and a nephew. Other well-wishers included my fellow DAR Chicago Chapter members and people lining the hallway at the airport to cheer Francis and his fellow veterans.



Francis was the star of the flight, dressed in his dapper wool Navy uniform (which still fits) adorned with his medals. He charmed all with his stories and wit. At the end of the day, he was in great demand, as all of the Navy personnel wanted a picture with him. Recently Francis received a photo album from Honor Flight Chicago commemorating his special day, a photo book from a Washington D.C. fan, and a photo book from his niece.

Honor Flight Chicago recognizes the bravery and patriotism of our senior war veterans with a special journey to Washington, D.C., which is a life-changing experience for many of them.

Since 2008, 6,198 WWII and 1,238 Korean War veterans have flown on 82 charter trips by Honor Flight Chicago. The Chicago Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution supports this effort by attending all Honor Flights from Midway Airport, and I was delighted to attend the celebration and honor my neighbor Francis on his Honor Flight, along with Francis' nieces, nephews, family members and so many other Chicagoans!



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BCO Supports Gardening at Chappell School

BCO Supports Gardening at Chappell School

The Bowmanville Community Organization last month awarded a \$1,000 grant to [Chappell Elementary School](#)'s gardening program, which educates students about planting seeds, caring for plants, harvesting produce and other aspects of gardening. It also helps them learn about science and ecology and become good stewards of the environment.



BCO President Mona Yeager presents the donation check to the Friends of Chappell Garden Committee. From Left to right: Michelle Keller, Friends of Chappell Garden Committee; Joesph Peila, Chappell Principal; Julie Goek of Gardeneers, and Mona Yeager.

"We are so grateful for the grant," said Michelle Keller, chairwoman of the Friends of Chappell garden committee. "Friends of Chappell needs community partnerships like the BCO to keep our neighborhood school thriving."

The gardening program, now in its third year at Chappell, is run by the Chicago nonprofit, Gardeneers. Educators from Gardeneers partner with Chappell's 2nd and 3rd grade teachers to supplement their classroom science curriculum. They bring hands-on learning to students, who plant seeds, investigate insects, study soil, care for the environment and taste a variety of produce from kale to kol-rabi.

"The school garden initiative has been a wonderful addition to our school," said Joseph Peila, principal of Chappell. "The vegetables and other flowering plants have notably beautified our learning environment, including the second-floor atrium garden and the garden just outside our kindergarten rooms. The program has also supplemented what students learn

in the classroom about plants, nutrition and the environment."

In the past year, the program's sustainability came under threat after CPS cut schools' budget districtwide, so Chappell parents and the surrounding community stepped up to help preserve the program. In November, the FOC garden committee launched a crowdfunding campaign to help with the program's costs, and raised more than \$5,000 in one week – double the committee's goal. Swedish Covenant Hospital alone chipped in \$500.

"We were thrilled by the community's outpouring of support," Keller said. "We doubled our original fundraising goal in one week, but high-quality garden programming is expensive to fund, especially with the constant school budget cuts."

The Bowmanville community recognizes the critical role that neighborhood schools play in making the community vibrant, and its \$1,000 grant will help to ensure the sustainability of the garden program. While CPS funding remains a challenge, parents and neighbors continue to work to ensure that the school will have the resources it needs to provide a great education.

Continued...

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BCO Supports Gardening at Chappell School

...continued

"Students have had the hands-on experience of planting and harvesting, of trying new foods and of working together," Peila said. "But the garden has also brought our parents and community together around a valued goal."

This January, BCO board member Ann Scholhamer presented a check for the gardening grant to Peila, the Friends of Chappell Garden Committee and the Gardeneers.

"I love the garden because I get a chance to get out of the classroom and outdoors to see plants," said Siena Hostetler, 7, a second grader at Chappell. "My favorite thing to do in the garden is to study the garden and pick fruits and vegetables. I love to see little insects and animals running around the garden. It leaves me in a good mood for the rest of the day because I know I got a chance to be outdoors."

Our schools thrive with the support of the community. You can visit www.friendsofchappell.org to learn more how to get involved or to make a tax-deductible donation.

You can also Like the Friends of Chappell Facebook page or reach out to them via info@friendsofchappell.org.



Chappell Tours: Interested in learning more about your local public school? Below are the Chappell School Tour Dates! Please call to register at [\(773\) 534-2390](tel:7735342390).

- Feb 6, 9:30am
- March 5, 4:30pm
- April 2, 9:30am
- May 7, 9:30am
- May 21, 9:30am

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Enjoy the Arts at St. Gregory's!

By Amy Alznauer

As the newest artist-in-residence at St. Gregory the Great parish (5545 N. Paulina) and a proud resident of Bowmanville, I want to let you all know about the wonderful (and often free) arts offerings hosted by the church. Here's a look at some of the artists and upcoming events.

Patrick Godon, the music director at St. Gregory's, is currently principal pianist for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Last year the *Chicago Classical Review* described his piano playing as helping to "cover [the orchestra] in glory." Instead of having to trek downtown and pay a hefty price for tickets, you can listen to Patrick and **The International Chamber Artists** for



Last year I did my first workshop and was shocked that a person like me with no visual arts experience could produce such a beautiful piece. This intense artistic experience draws people from all faiths and backgrounds. Joseph also hosts a free, open-to-the-public icon show (usually in September) to showcase his newest pieces.

Quest Theater Ensemble has for over 15 years delighted audiences with their oversized puppetry and musical shows. They perform all over the city but primarily in what they call The Blue Theater, hosted by the church at 1609 W. Gregory St. Stay tuned for upcoming performances, which are always free, open to the public and just a few blocks away. Find out more at: <http://questensemble.org/index.php>.

Amy Alznauer, writer-in-residence. I've launched a series called The Acoustic Chapel which features singer-songwriters, poets, storytellers, and other authors. Coming soon on February 23 at 7:00 pm (in the beautiful upper chapel of the church), I will host *Tales of Longing and Loss*, featuring the folk-singing harp and guitar duo, The Stapletons, as well as readings from award-winning essayist, Jessica Mesman, and myself. This event is free and open to the public, and immediately after it, Joseph Malham will host a reception in his artist loft next to the church. I'm also organizing writing workshops (an Ira Progoff one just took place on January 26 and 27) so stay tuned for more. Contact me at amyalz@gmail.com for updates or further information.

Finally, I must put in a plug for **John Moulder**, who until recently was one of our priests. I hope to bring him back for my Acoustic Chapel Series because he is also one of the preeminent jazz guitarists in the city, playing regularly at the Green Mill, Uncommon Ground and Andy's downtown. John organizes the annual Chi-Town Jazz Fest every year

(chitownjazzfestival.org) and is an absolute joy to hear. Find out about his upcoming performances at www.johnmoulder.com.

To stay abreast of these offerings, as well as art tours of the church and open sketch/photography days, see the parish bulletin or calendar via the links on the first page of www.stgregory.net.

Most of these free or low-cost community events are geared to people of all faiths, orientations and backgrounds. I hope to see you at one of them!

free at St. Gregory's almost every month. Coming on Sunday, February 25 at 4:00 pm is their concert PSYCHE, featuring Keith Buncke, principal bassoonist of the CSO, and on Sunday, April 15 at 4:00 pm is PART•Y, celebrating 100 years of Bernstein. For a full list of concerts go to www.icamusic.org.

Joseph Malham, an iconographer, works in the beautiful artist loft of the parish center next to the church and conducts at least two icon painting workshops a year, one for adults and one for children, priced to cover materials only. The next workshop will take place this February or March.



(Learn more at www.stgregorystudium.com.)

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Areas where I can help out in the coming year:

- Event Planning Street Sale Garden Walk Summer Social
- Other Festivals Bee Social Other Events
- Finance Gardening Bee Delivery
- Membership Outreach Planning & Development Greenspace Initiatives
- Public Art Initiatives Communications (Newsletters, website, email, Facebook)

Please take a moment to answer the questions below. Your answers will help us focus our efforts on your behalf.

What year did you move to Bowmanville? _____

Do you live in a: House /2 Flat Multi-Unit >2 Units

In your household, please tell us **how many** residents are:

Adults (18-65) # _____ Seniors (over 65) # _____ Children (Under 18) # _____

What types of new BCO programming would interest you?

Comment or Feedback:

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Have a story to tell, a horn to toot about a good neighbor we should know about, or an article to contribute? Submissions from all ages are welcome. Please contact us at

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BCO Calendar of Events

Committee updates on page 2, check website for schedule updates

| | | | |
|--------|--|---------|--|
| Feb 14 | CAPS Meeting @ St. Gregory's Church/Gym | 7 PM | 1609 W Gregory (basement) |
| Feb 24 | Winter Prune Up Day Gateway & Bowmanville | 9:30 AM | Location: All gardens |
| Mar 1 | Vegetable Plot Application Due | | Gardening@bcochicago.org |
| Mar 15 | BCO Spring Community Meeting | 7 PM | Location: TBD |
| Mar 24 | Bowmanville Garden & GreenSpace Cleanup Day | 9:30 AM | Bowmanville & GreenSpace Gardens |
| Apr 6 | Membership Committee – 1 st Friday | 5P-8P | Location: Claddagh Ring |
| Apr 11 | CAPS Meeting @ St. Gregory's Church/Gym | 7 PM | 1609 W Gregory (basement) |
| Apr 21 | Bowmanville Garden & GreenSpace Spring Cleanup | 9:30 AM | Bowmanville Gardens until 3:30 PM |