Letter from the President
By Craig Hanenburg

Happy Holidays!

I hope everyone in Bowmanville has a wonderful Holiday season, and finds good fortune and comfort in their friends and family!

As the newly elected president of the BCO, I hope you, as members of the community, will share your ideas and concerns with me and any other BCO board members. We are serving you to keep Bowmanville the wonderful community that it is.

If you were able to attend the Halloween event on Oct 27, you know what a great turnout we experienced. A special thanks to the 45 volunteers who created a unique and fun event, and to Sue Sell and Elif Martinez, the co-chairs of the event. Their hard work and leadership made the event and the neighborhood shine! The games for all the children combined fun, mystery, creative skills and social enrichment for all. We had treats and snacks, and in addition to the many prizes awarded to children, eight adult residents won raffle prizes. We judged many wonderful costumes, and even Bowmanville pets showed off their Halloween disguises! Thanks to Liberty Bank, North Community Bank, Party City, Pauline’s Restaurant and Tom Kennedy for donations of supplies and prizes.

Did you know that in 2008 the BCO will be completing its 20th year of operation? On April 15, 1987 Judy Anderson, Cindy Burgin, Jose Garcia, Leonard Spade, and a small group of neighbors held the first meeting of a newly organized BCO. They planted and nurtured the ideas and core values that have grown and evolved over the years. We have become a highly respected north side Chicago neighborhood civic organization of which you, as a Bowmanville resident, can be proud. We have one of the finest community gardens in the area, and it has been awarded first place in Mayor Daley’s garden competition two times. Below is a picture of the most recent addition to the Bowmanville Community Garden - the council ring. It is made up of large stones where people can gather and sit for a while. This area is set aside for you to rest and talk with friends or just stop for a moment and enjoy the garden and local wildlife.

This next summer we will be hosting the 10th annual Bowmanville Garden Walk and on June 7, 2008 our 12th annual Bowmanville Street sale. Be sure to look for the details in upcoming Bee publications.

On the left border of this page you will find the names of all the BCO Board members and Committee heads. It is a great group and I feel lucky to have such a terrific team. They are supported by many neighborhood members and former board members, and always are looking for new people to help them. I would encourage you to get involved, it is a great way to gain new friends and make a difference in your neighborhood.
Winnemac Park Playground Unveiled

You may have seen the construction site at the Winnemac Park playground in the southwest corner of the park. The Friends of Winnemac Park worked hard over the past several years raising funds and planning this renovation along with the Chicago Park District. The new playground has a lot less concrete, several new trees, and two new play structures - one geared to toddlers and the other toward older children. A rubberized surface has been installed under the new swing set and new play structures. In addition, concrete seating has been constructed near the play structures for watchful caregivers. Another fun addition is a driving lane surrounding the concrete area for children to ride bikes or big wheels, great for putting some miles on the little one’s legs!

The Bowmanville Community Organization is proud to have supported this renovation project and encourage the children (and parents) of Bowmanville to enjoy this new area.

An official Winnemac Park reopening celebration will be scheduled sometime this spring. In the meantime, have fun!

Winter Clothing Drive

Now is the season for getting out your family’s winter clothes from last year and trying them on. Now if you’re like most people you have either outgrown some of these clothes or you just don’t like them anymore. What a perfect way to help someone less fortunate stay warm this winter!

Please bring your NEW or slightly worn winter items to a neighbor that has volunteered their home as a drop off for the Winter Clothing Drive. The drop-off location is at 5314 North Bell Avenue. There will be plastic bins on the front porch to receive your donations. All donations will be given to Christopher House.

Perfect donations are gloves, mittens, coats, scarves, hats, sweaters, pants, boots, socks, and even blankets. Cut off date for winter clothing donations is December 20th. You can also take your winter clothing donations or other donations to the main Christopher House headquarters at 2507 N. Greenview, Chicago, IL 60614-2084; phone (773) 472-1083, fax number (773) 472-5716. They are open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Christopher House is a five-site family resource center. Through child and youth development, teen parent support, literacy, counseling and emergency services, Christopher House provides a web of support to children and their families. This support produces results: happy, healthy school-successful kids, literate working parents, and stable, nurturing families. To find out more information about Christopher House go to: http://chouse.convio.net.

Toys for Tots

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots Program

The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. Please bring your NEW and UNWRAPPED toy to a neighbor that has volunteered their home as a drop off for Toys for Tots. The Bowmanville drop-off location is at 2232 W. Berwyn. There will be plastic bins on the front porch for donations. Cut off date for toy donations is December 20th or you can take your new and unwrapped toys to: The Marine Corps Reserve Training Center located at 3034 West Foster Ave. Chicago IL. 60625. Telephone Number: (773)539-7393, E-mail: coordinator@chicagotoysfortots.org. To find out more information about Toys for Tots go to: http://www.toysfortots.org.
The childhood memories of Francis Philipp and Magdalene Philipp-Samec are filled with images and experiences that have now become part of the American social history of World War II. It all began for Francis, age 9, and Magdalene, age 11, while listening to a Sunday morning radio program. The radio program featured comics being read aloud to an eager young audience that would follow along, reading in their own newspaper. The station broke into its regular performance to announce that Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese military. The country went to war, and Americans joined the cause and sacrificed in many ways. One in three sailors passed through Great Lakes Naval Training Station before the war was over. Many city blocks had a flag posted at corner parkways, and glass cases attached to it featuring the names of those serving in the military. The base of the flag pole was a cement block emblazoned with a V for victory. Until recently, there was a “V Block” at the corner of Damen and Giddings, and many remain throughout the city.

Rations were set in place for food, clothing and gasoline, in order to provide adequate resources to the troops abroad. Undeveloped city blocks were plowed so people on the home front could plant Victory Vegetable Gardens to relieve food shortages. There were nine areas designated as Victory Gardens in the Bowmanville Community. Posts and string marked off plots for gardeners, and additional space could be acquired by gardeners who wanted to expand their plots. Produce was canned in Mason jars, or in other containers sealed with wax. There was a $50 to $100 fine for trespassing and destruction of a Victory Garden. “My garden was where the Balmoral Nursing Home now stands, and beneath it all remains a natural well. When rain was in short supply we used the well to water the garden. The Park District sponsored a Victory Garden Parade with a hand pulled float. It was really something to see. It was an artificial garden made out of crepe paper, with a fence surrounding it. We children followed carrying our rakes and shovels,” reminisces Francis.

“Ration books were issued for shoes, butter, meat, sugar, etc. I remember when we used our ration coupons for shoes. Due to the shortage of meat at the butcher shop one neighbor raised chickens in their garage. We saved kitchen grease and took it to Pfenning’s Meat Market and received cash in return.” The market was at the northwest corner of Damen and Berwyn, where Mueller’s Market stood until recently. A housing shortage drove some people to set up house in garages.

A neighborhood dry cleaner paid one-cent for every hanger returned. “It’s hard to believe there was a hanger shortage, because metals were collected and recycled for arms. When I was a few cents short to pay ten cents to see a movie, I would take wire hangers out of the closet and double up the clothes.”

“During school lunch period we would go out in the neighborhood and collect newspaper and metal and put it into a wagon and haul it back to school. It was stored in the class cloakroom until picked up by a salvage company. The money received for recycling was used to purchase books for the class library. There were times we returned late to class, but it was overlooked. Students also collected enough funds to purchase a jeep for the war effort. We would buy ten cent savings stamps and fill a booklet for $18.70, the selling price of a $25 war bond.” An army soldier drove our jeep onto the school grounds to show us what we had accomplished. We were really proud of that. One summer, army troops were housed in Amundsen High School. They were there because of a labor strike. Chicago was considered a good place to be stationed during the war because people went out of their way to welcome soldiers and sailors. Magdalene enjoyed dances sponsored by the USO, held in venues throughout the area, such as the Aragon Ballroom and Queen of Angels Parish Hall. “At 77 (sorry Maggie), she still loves to dance!” Francis quipped.

Providing the best for one's family was a challenging job. Francis and Magdalene remember Wanzer Milk on the table because, “Wanzer on milk, is like Sterling on silver.” “Our mother wanted to buy an electric refrigerator, but since new appliances were hard to get she had to be satisfied to keep her wooden icebox until the end of the war.” Machinery was so scarce, Magdalene remembers, one neighbor paid $400 just to obtain a used sewing machine.

“Our father took his sons my brothers to Grant Park to see a Japanese and German fighter plane that was shot down. Such presentations were done to give hope to the people and getting the people to support the war effort. On Lake Michigan we saw one of two aircraft carriers that was a converted Lakeside-Wheeler Passenger Ship. The ships were used to simulate real aircraft carriers, and train take-off and landings skills to flyers from Glenview Air Station.”

Look for part two of Francis' and Magdalene’s World War II memories in the next edition of The Bowmanville Bee.
Vandals Caught in Bowmanville

By Kelly Lewison

A big thank you to our neighbor, Rick, who confronted graffiti vandals in the act of defacing our garage. Rick chased the offenders and called 911. The 20th district police, with the help of Rick’s positive identification, had two teens in custody shortly thereafter.

Several other garages on Summerdale and Balmoral were damaged the same evening, Friday, November 2, 2007 around 9:00 PM. The incident was reported and papers were filled out requesting the assistance of the Graffiti Blasters and the graffiti has been removed.

Watch out for each other. Be alert - be safe - stay involved.

Bowmanville’s Very Own

Cindy Henkin of Summerdale appeared as the Quiltmaker in Premiere Theatre and Performances and Moving Dock Theatre’s production of The Quiltmaker’s Gift. The play runs from October 30 through December 16 at the Athenaeum.

Share the News

Do you have something that you would like to share - a birth, a death, a new neighbor, a neighbor moving out of the neighborhood, a new pet, a major accomplishment, or a special celebration of any sort. Let us know and we’ll publish it in the Bee.
Bowmanville Included in Blue Cart Recycling Program

The City of Chicago is launching the Blue Cart Recycling Program and Bowmanville has been included early in the program implementation.

Alderman O’Connor and officials from the Department of the Environment and the Department of Streets and Sanitation from the City of Chicago presented the program details at a meeting hosted at Trumbull School on Tuesday, November 13, 2007. In a nutshell, the program appears to be much more organized than the Blue Bag Recycling Program that was not well received and short lived.

Here’s how it works - Blue Carts were delivered to each home in Bowmanville the week of November 11th. (If you did not receive your Blue Cart, call 311 and request one.)

Recyclable materials including paper, cardboard, plastics, glass, tin, and aluminum are placed in the blue cart. These materials can be loose or bagged and there is no sorting needed. While you do not have to rinse containers before they are put in the cart, you could opt to do so. All items should be emptied before being placed in the cart.

Yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, weeds, etc) should be collected in paper or plastic bags and placed next to your garbage cart. The yard waste will be picked up by a separate truck from the garbage and recyclables. You should continue placing your garbage in your black garbage cart. Yard waste will be sent to a yard waste facility and composted. The items in the Blue Cart will be transported to a sorting center, processed and sold to manufacturers and recycled for future use. The city will receive payment by weight for the material delivered. These funds will help to cover the cost of the program.

Garbage will continue to be picked up every week. Your blue cart recycling will be collected every other week on the same day as your regular garbage pick-up. Yard waste should be bagged and placed next to your carts to be picked up every week on a seasonal basis April thru November. Initially there will be three separate trucks passing through the alley for each pickup. However, with time, a “single stream” pick-up system will be established decreasing the need for increased truck traffic in the alleys.

For more information on the Blue Cart Recycling Program, call 311 or visit www.bluecartschicago.org.

IN THE BLUE - RECYCLABLES

Glass jars and bottles*
Aluminum cans, foil and pie tins*
Tin and steel cans*
Cereal boxes, paper towel rolls, etc
Cardboard (flatten all boxes)
Plastic bottles and containers*
Junk mail
Magazines and catalogs
Telephone books
Paper bags
Office paper and file folders
Newspapers and advertisements

IN THE BLACK - GARBAGE

Food waste*
Styrofoam
Light bulbs
Window glass
Mirrors
Ceramics
Empty motor oil containers
Empty hazardous chemical containers
Plastic grocery bags*

BY THEIR SIDE - YARD WASTE

Grass clippings
Bundles of small sticks
Leaves
Small branches
Weeds and plants

*Empty all containers. Rinsing clean is not necessary. Consider composting your food waste at home or returning plastic bags to the store.

BY THEIR SIDE - YARD WASTE

*Consider composting your grass, leaves and sticks in a sunny location in your yard.

Batteries - Bring your used and rechargeable batteries to: Chicago Public Libraries, City Recycling Facilities or Walgreens Stores for safe disposal.
Winter Clothing Drive

Drop Off!
5314 North Bell Avenue
Now — December 20th
Do your part to help someone in need stay warm this winter!

Gloves/Mittens
Coats
Scarves/Hats
Sweater/Pants
Boots/Socks
Blankets

Donations will be given to:

CHRISTOPHER HOUSE

Helping Families Thrive

Claddagh Ring Pub

Wishes all our patrons a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Private room available for Your holiday parties!

2306 West Foster
Just east of the Foster Firehouse
773-271-4794

Attention Ladies!

Curves

30-minute fitness and weight loss center for women.

Start the New Year right with Curves.
Ask about our special discounts.

5360 North Lincoln Avenue
(773) 769-1000
Hollywood Secrets Leaked to Locals

Building renovation occurs so frequently now that many have become immune to the construction sites around them. This would have been the case for the one-story brick building at 5646 N. Ravenswood Avenue had its secret not been leaked to locals.

The vacated, one-story brick building at 5646 N. Ravenswood Avenue appeared to be abandoned for several years and was in need of a face lift, in light of the new housing recently built down the street. This building will be cleaned up and converted into a sound and film video, and production studio for a major Hollywood film company. An unassuming sign announcing the Ravenswood Studio hangs on the door.

Building renovation will include adding a second floor, building out the interior, and painting the walls a neutral colors so that actors can be recorded and background replaced with prerecorded scenes. W.B. Olson, Inc., the construction company contracted to do the renovations, has been charged with making the building eco-friendly, including building in accordance with the Green Permit Program of Chicago.

Teenager Looking for Winter Work!

I can provide MANY helpful services at CHEAP prices!

- SNOW removal!
- Mail and newspaper pickup, pet feeding, plant watering, while you are on vacation or as needed.
- Small order grocery store run!

Please call me for any WINTER SERVICES you might need!

Thanks-Alex (on Bell Avenue)
773-615-0875

Hi neighbors,

I would just like to express my sincere Best Wishes and a Happy 2008 to the Bowmanville Community. This is the season to reflect and be glad for being surrounded by such great Neighbors.

As 2008 progresses, look for this ad in future Bees. I'll be providing you with interesting Bowmanville Real Estate updates and statistics.

Know someone who is thinking of buying or selling a home? Remember, I can help.

Jeff Graves
Your Bowmanville Realtor
**Bee Contributions**

**Welcome**

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

**Bee Counted - Advertise!**

- **Card-Sized $25**  
  3.5”W X 2”H  

- **Quarter Page $75**  
  3.5”W X 5”H

- **Half Page $150**  
  7.75W X 5”H

For further information, or to reserve space in the next issue of the Bowmanville Bee, please contact us at ads@bcochicago.org.

**Help Deliver the Bee!**

Volunteers are always needed and welcome! Please call Scott Galassini at (866) 837-1006.

**Need another Bee?**

You can find them at the following local businesses:  
- Curves  
- North Community Bank  
- Pauline’s Restaurant  
- Claddagh Ring

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**BCO Calendar of Events**

**BCO Board Meetings**, Third Thursday each month, 7:30 PM at Tempel Steel Training Room, 5448 N. Wolcott. **December’s Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13th.**

**Communication Committee Meetings**, first Thursday of each month.

**Planning and Development Committee Meetings**, last Monday of each month

**Garden Work Days - Bowmanville & Gateway Gardens**

Each month, April through October; 2nd Wednesday, 6:30 PM to dusk, and 4th Saturday, 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

For up to the minute details on BCO Meeting/Event locations, dates and times, be sure to check www.bcochicago.org, or call 1-866-837-1006.

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**Join the BCO**

Join or renew your membership today! Please return this form with your check for $12.00 to the Bowmanville Community Organization to: BCO, Attn. Elba Acevedo, 5391 N. Bowmanville Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60625. Questions? Call Elba at (866)837-1006 or email membership@bcochicago.org. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

| Name | __________________________________________ |
| Address | __________________________________________ |
| City | State | Zip |
| Phone | Fax |
| Email | __________________________________________ |

□ Renewal □ New Member Committee I’d serve on:____________________

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

1. How long have you lived in Bowmanville? _____________________________
2. Do you rent or own your home? _____________________________
3. How many people are in your household? _____________________________
4. What are their ages? _____________________________
5. What are your hobbies and interests? _____________________________