Help Us Raise Funds for Garden Preservation & Expansion!

By Stew Weiss

If you pass by the corner of Balmoral and Ravenswood, you’ve probably noticed a large “FOR SALE” sign right next to the BCO community garden there. The owner of this long narrow parcel has put his land up for sale to be redeveloped into single family homes. (See area between the yellow line and the Metra retaining wall in the picture below.)

If this property is sold, more than 40 community members would lose access to the public land on which they garden, Rogers Park Montessori School would lose the teaching plot that serves as an outdoor classroom for the school’s nascent food gardening program, and the neighborhoods of Bowmanville, West Andersonville, and West Edgewater would lose much needed open space.

To preserve this area as a community resource, BCO has partnered with NeighborSpace, a nonprofit sponsor of over 100 community gardens in the Chicago area, to purchase the property. This would allow us to preserve the existing garden and expand it into a forum for urban agriculture and community building.

Our vision is to create spaces for year-round food growing, accessible gardening for the elderly and persons with disabilities, ecological education for kids and parents, and a quiet oasis in our dense urban environment. The result could be larger, more useful and more beautiful community area like that shown in the illustrations below.

The BCO Board is excited to announce that our offer on the property has been accepted on the condition that the community raise $50,000 by the end of the summer. The BCO Open Community Meeting on April 12 showed wide support for this project, and we are confident that with the help of neighbors like you, we can make our vision a reality.

(Continued on page 4)
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 Schollhamer 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! We are seeking a new volunteer to act as editor for the email eBlasts and people who can help keep our website current. If you have an interest in writing or editing we’d love the help. 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 up is our Annual Street Sale in early June and 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 7. 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 October 19th. 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 for 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 expansion of the vegetable gardens on Ravenswood Ave. Please contact greenspace@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. Contact publicart@bcochicago.org to get involved or with new ideas.

www.bcochicago.org
Bowmanville’s trees and gardens are in eye-popping bloom. It’s an incredibly lovely scene to walk up and down the streets of our neighborhood and see all the colors. If you haven’t already done so, I encourage you to also take a stroll through Rosehill cemetery during this time of the year. It’s absolutely breathtaking.

I ditched my car last month and have consequently been trekking and commuting via CTA and Metra all over the city. One thing this has allowed me to do is to look around a lot more. At this point, the main thing I’ve learned is that Bowmanville has as much lush greenery as any neighborhood in the city, and more than many. It’s great to live here.

Thanks for a great meeting!

A big thank you to Rogers Park Montessori School for hosting our biannual community meeting back in March! We also really appreciate the participation of so many of our neighbors. For those who were unable to attend, here’s a brief recap of the evening’s events:

Officer Shea from the Chicago Police Department spoke to the group about best practices in the neighborhood. Chiefly, he asked us to contact 911 if we have more than a second thought about something that seems suspect. If we don’t call, they can’t help. Also, regarding security in your own home, lights, lights, lights! The more lights, the less likely someone is to target you. "No Trespassing" signs are also strongly encouraged for areas like your garage or the side of your house. Be safe!

Then George Fairley from Hardware Crossfit, a Bowmanville business adjacent to Rogers Park Montessori School on Balmoral at Wolcott, spoke about the benefits of joining his gym. Crossfit is a fitness and conditioning system that I can personally say is spectacular. In addition to the amazing workouts, it’s also great fun with tons of camaraderie. I encourage you to stop by and get your free introductory training session with George.

We also had Heidi Bush from the Lincoln Square Friendship Center on Lawrence (at California) speak about how Bowmanville members can volunteer, serve and/or donate back to the greater Lincoln Square community. If you’re feeling jaded by the lack of movement at the federal, state, and city level, you can take matters into your own hands by going to the Center’s website, www.friendshipcenterchicago.org, and choosing how you want to help improve the neighborhood.

Help us raise funds for Gateway Garden

On the note of giving back to the community, we shared at our March meeting the fabulous news about a potential acquisition of the parcel for sale along the BCO Gateway Garden on Ravenswood and Balmoral. I encourage you to read the article in this issue that talks more about this project. Stew Weiss and Jeff Graves of the BCO have done a tremendous job in giving us, as a community, the opportunity to acquire the garden space permanently, provided we raise the needed funds. We need your help, Bowmanville! We have a chance to make this space something that generations can enjoy. Let’s pull together and make this happen!

BCO events you won’t want to miss

Mark your calendars and plan to attend — and perhaps volunteer to help with — the BCO Street Sale on Saturday, June 3, the BCO Garden Walk on Saturday, July 8, the BCO Summer Social in August (TBD - follow the BCO Facebook and Twitter pages for updates), and First Fridays at different Bowmanville pubs on June 2, August 4 and later dates. Also, take part in Ravenswood on Tap June 24 and 25 and help raise funds for BCO. You’ll find articles with more on of these events in this issue.

It’s an honor to live among such terrific neighbors! I look forward to seeing you around the hood.

Best regards,

William Ferguson, BCO President

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.

www.bcochicago.org
Help Us Raise Funds for Garden Preservation & Expansion!

As of May 1st, we’ve already received $3,318 in donations! Here are some ways you can help:

- **Make a donation.** This is perhaps the simplest and most direct way to help. You can make an online donation via the PublicGood website, or make a check/cash donation via mail or drop-off to the BCO Treasurer. Details are on the BCO website.

- **Help us reach a $1000 matching goal In May!** A West Andersonville neighbor has generously offered a matching gift for individual donors. If you are considering a donation and can do it in May, the impact of your $5 will be doubled through a matching gift.

- **Spread the word.** Talk about the project with your neighbors, local businesses and potential donors and tell them how much you would appreciate their support. At minimum, ask them to read the article about the project in the DNAInfo newspaper.

- **Invite us to tell others about it.** If you prefer, we can come to you or an organization you belong to to discuss this project with your neighbors or group. If you have a chance for us to come speak, please let us know at planning@bcochicago.org.

- **Host a house party.** This was a fun way to bring neighbors together when we started the BCO GreenSpace campaign 7 years ago, and we’d like to bring it back for the Gateway Garden project. If you are willing to host an event or party in support of this project, let us know and we will support your efforts. Ideas we’ve seen work well: A chili cook-off, HamBingo at Hamburger Mary’s, a yard or garden party at a neighbor’s, a birthday bash. Do it on your own or pair up with a neighbor to host something. Just pick a theme and run with it. Email comm@bcochicago.org to let us know if you’re interested.

- **See a play at Victory Garden Theater.** Bowmanville neighbor, Arlene Malinowski, a talented playwright, actor, and storyteller, performs her one-woman play, *A Little Bit Not Normal*, at the Victory Gardens Theater April 29-June 2. The theater has generously offered to donate 25% of ticket sales purchased using the promo code, BOWMANVILLE, to support efforts to secure the Gateway Garden land. Tickets are a very reasonable $20. [Info and tickets here](http://www.bcochicago.org) or at...
Help Us Raise Funds for Garden Preservation & Expansion!

www.victorygarden.org. If you are going on a certain date, post that to our BCO Facebook page and invite neighbors to join you. It’s a great way to support two “gardens” at once!

• Help Staff the BCO Beer Tent at Midsommarfest on Friday, June 9. Every Midsommarfest, the Andersonville Chamber invites a few non-profit groups to help staff their beer tents as a way to earn money for local causes. This year BCO has been invited to staff the Catalpa Beer Tent on Friday night, with our non-profit dollars earned going to the Gateway Garden fund. If you can help pour and serve beer that night, please sign up by contacting comm@bcochicago.org. If we have enough interest, we will confirm and work out specific shift assignments. This effort alone can raise about $2,000 for our cause.

• Hold a Block Party Challenge. Help us raise funds for the Gateway project during your block party in a fun way, such as: A pie-throwing booth, hot dog sales, a donation jar or a collection campaign to ask neighbors for a block party contribution. We even heard about a neighbor offering a matching gift for funds raised by the block — what an awesome idea! We will spotlight your efforts on the BCO Facebook page and in the Bee. Email comm@bcochicago.org and us know how we can help you make it happen.

Let’s Make It Happen!

Please help us spread the word about this exciting project and related fundraising needs. If you have any questions, comments, concerns — or great ideas about other ways to meet our funding goal — or you’d like to volunteer to help with this project, please email planning@bcochicago.org.

As Chair of the BCO Planning & Development Committee, I’d like to make a personal appeal for your support with this project. It’s another way to make Bowmanville an even more wonderful place to live. Let’s keep and expand BCO’s Gateway Garden!

Whether you’re currently considering a move, or it’s still some time down the road, now is the time to begin the process. Your first step is easy:

talk to me.

I'm your neighbor - a knowledgeable, experienced, and competent broker. One who knows the neighborhood, and has successfully helped people move in/out of the Chicago-area since 2007.

It’s never too early to plan ahead.

Marian Nixon
(773) 987-2910
nixon@atproperties.com
The annual Bowmanville Street Sale will be here very soon. And because the warm weather this year has prompted an early start to spring cleaning, many of us should be ready to take advantage of this great opportunity to sell what we don’t want or need anymore. As the saying goes, one person’s junk is another person’s treasure. So the sale is a win-win for buyers and sellers alike.

If you have not participated in the sale in past years, let this be the one you give it a go. You’ll have a great experience selling your items and getting to chat with your neighbors at the same time, mixing business with pleasure in the best sense.

**Shoppers**

This is the time to find bargains on needed items, as well as interesting treasures. The Sale runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm throughout Bowmanville (Foster to Bowmanville Avenue and Ravenswood to Western Avenue). The selection of items is quite diverse, as more than 80 households typically participate. There are always many items for babies, tots and older children, including clothes, equipment, toys and books. You’ll also find household items, objects d’art, clothes, tools, furniture, Christmas decorations – you name it, and chances are someone has it!

Plus, it’s fun to look at so many possibilities for re-purposing while getting exercise at the same time by walking this great neighborhood. It’s a great deal!

**Sellers**

This is the time to let go of those things that are adding clutter to your life. The Sale is well known, well publicized, and well attended. Because so many households participate, you will have many motivated buyers walking the neighborhood. The Sale is a great opportunity to get cash for the stuff that’s overflowing your storage spaces and closets. Plus you will have the freedom of mind and spirit that comes from de-cluttering. What a great deal!

To participate, please register with the BCO so your sale is covered under the special group permit granted by Alderman O’Connor to the BCO for this event, otherwise each household requires an individual permit. **To register, simply fill out the paper application and send/deliver it to Laura Schmidt at 2207 W. Farragut or register on the BCO website, BCOchicago.org.**

The fee is just $10 for members and $15 for non-members, which goes toward promotion costs. You can join the BCO at any time to take advantage of the member discount, plus you become a valuable part of our neighborhood organization. It’s a super deal!

Be sure to mention the Sale to friends, co-workers and neighbors so everyone knows about it. And look for signage in the neighborhood about it soon.

**Street Sale Successes**

The Street Sale has many success stories. Stories of sellers who’ve profited from releasing those much loved, but no longer useful, treasures like evening bags, and shoes that no longer fit. Stories of sellers finally letting go of those wedding gifts (you know the kind) or items that came from Nana’s house but were never unpacked and displayed. Stories of buyers finding a Disney princess kitchen set for the princess granddaughter. Stories of neighbors gifting items to each other and getting acquainted with families new to the neighborhood. Why not add your story to the hundreds of others by participating this year?

See you on the sidewalk June 3. For more info visit the BCO website (BCOchicago.org) or contact us at 773-349-2268.
There are few free museums in Chicago, but there is one just steps away for Bowmanville residents. It’s the Edgewater History Museum at 5358 N. Ashland (at Balmoral). The museum is open Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm — and admission is free.

The current exhibit commemorates the 100th anniversary of the opening in 1916 of the nationally famous Edgewater Beach Hotel, which stood at 5301 - 5355 N. Sheridan Road (roughly Berwyn to Balmoral). As the early postcard here shows, the hotel was quite the place. According to Wikipedia, “During its lifetime, the hotel served many famous guests including Marilyn Monroe, Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Charlie Chaplin, Bette Davis, Lena Horne, Tallulah Bankhead, and Nat King Cole, and U.S. Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower. The hotel was known for hosting big bands such as those of Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Xavier Cugat, and Wayne King, which were also broadcast on the hotel’s own radio station, a precursor to WGN with the call letters WEBH.” The hotel closed in 1967 and was demolished shortly afterwards.

The Edgewater Historical Society, which operates the museum, has many photos of the Edgewater Beach Hotel and objects from it. The museum also has a lot of photos and information about local history. The Society’s website is EdgewaterHistory.org. Among other things, you’ll find helpful information on the site about how to research the history of your home. Both the museum and its website are worth a visit.
Editor’s note: If you have children in Chappell Elementary School, Amundsen High School or other Chicago Public School — or are simply concerned about the quality of education in our city — you should know about the 20 for 20 Campaign. Following is what Leslie Kniskern, Family and Community Engagement Manager for Chicago Public Schools in Network 2 (which includes Bowmanville) would like to share about it.

For years, the State of Illinois has perpetuated a separate and unequal education funding system that racially discriminates against the largely minority and low-income students in CPS. Ninety percent of CPS students are children of color and even though they make up 20 percent of the state’s enrollment, CPS students only receive 15 percent of the state’s total funding.

As the third largest school district in the country and the largest in the State of Illinois, CPS has nearly 400,000 students that are being shortchanged. This funding gap adds up to $500 million a year in money that could be coming to Chicago students, and is further complicated by Governor Rauner’s December 2016 veto of $215 million that is provided to every other district in the state.

The harsh reality is that CPS cannot run the school system that the children of Chicago deserve with unequal funds. So in early 2017, the Chicago Board of Education and five CPS families sued the governor and the state of Illinois to end the State’s discriminatory funding practices against Chicago students.

As community members, we have watched and waited for Springfield to take action and fix the broken statewide system of school funding that penalizes Chicago’s minority children, but each year the discrimination in state funding for CPS gets worse. We can’t wait any longer. To protect the remarkable academic gains of Chicago’s schoolchildren, and ensure they have the same opportunities and the same potential for a bright future as every other Illinois child, we must act now.

CPS is on the brink of having to make cuts that affect learning, which is the last thing we want to see happen, so we encourage you to join the join the fight. Visit www.cps.edu/equality to learn how and let’s band together as a community to demand that Springfield take action and fund our children fairly, and fund them fairly now.

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Next Friends Of Amundsen meeting
Tuesday May 9th, 7:30pm
Enter the Main/center door on Damen
All are welcome to join!

Friends of Chappell Board Meetings
First Sunday of each month.
Meetings are open and all are welcome!
Contact at friendsofchappell@gmail.com

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www.bcochicago.org
Amundsen Women Stand Strong Together!

By Natasha Bucio, Senior at Amundsen High School

March was National Women’s History Month, which has been held annually since 1911 to celebrate women’s accomplishments, strengths and contributions to society. We continue to celebrate women beyond March, especially those who make a difference in our lives. So let’s give the women in our lives special thanks for being who they are, and shine a light on some of the amazing women at Amundsen High School (AHS).

Amundsen has more than 50 wonderful female staff members. AHS students took part in a survey asking which staff members have inspired them. Here are a few they named.

MEET JENNY NGUYEN

“As women, we have to try 10 times harder to prove ourselves, but in reality the only person we need to prove ourselves to is ourselves. We are our own biggest critic, so it’s important to take good care of ourselves before we worry about other people.” — Jenny Nguyen

Ms. Nguyen is an English teacher here at AHS, as well as an AHS alumnus. She knows how to interact with the students and make learning fun. She also has strong connections with students. Many AHS seniors love her fun personality and weird literature puns! For example, here’s one we heard recently: “When I was little I didn’t play with shadows, I played with Plato.”

Ms. Nguyen has been working at Amundsen for five years as an English teacher. What inspires her most about working with students is when students get involved and get focused on school and their work. Aside from teaching Ms. Nguyen is a CAS coordinator, serves on the Honor Council, and keeps the scorebook for the Amundsen Lady Vikings Basketball Team. She is very involved with her students in the classroom and on the court!

AHS Students on Ms. Nguyen:

“I like how Ms. Nguyen knows how to communicate with her students. She makes me think and get involved in the discussions we have in class.” — Jazmine, senior

“She genuinely cares for students, not just academically.” — Carla, senior

MEET BROOKE BRACKETT

“Never rely on anyone else as your source of happiness, and remember that ‘playing small’ does not allow you to serve the world at your highest potential!” — Brooke

Mrs. Brackett is a counselor at Amundsen High School. She was my counselor from freshman to junior year. I had transferred from Taft to Amundsen, and she made the change super comfortable and easy. She gives great advice to students and knows how to welcome everyone.

Mrs. Brackett has been working at AHS for six years and interned here for a year before that. Besides being an amazing counselor, she’s also the dance team’s coach! She participated with AHS students in The Polar Peace March service learning project and the annual Women Everywhere Court tours event. I was lucky enough to take part in those projects. They were great experiences and I hope there will be many more fun projects like these for the next graduating classes. Keep it up Mrs. Brackett!

AHS Students on Mrs. Brackett:

“She has a great personality, and the way she wants to help everyone with their problems inspires me to help people too.” — Hira, junior

MEET GLADYS SOLAK

“I love to be around the kids, we all have a good connection. We also have mutual respect for one another.” — Gladys Solak

Mrs. Solak is one of Amundsen’s security guards. She has been working at our school for about 12 years and says that there never is a dull day here. The students respect her and have good conversations during lunch. I would know because Mrs. Solak has given me a lot of advice my senior year. Thank you Mrs. Solak!

AHS Students on Ms. Solak:

“She’s a good woman overall. She just has a golden heart in my eyes, and I look at her like my second mom.” - Milagros, senior

“Mrs. Solak’s so sweet, and she tries to enforce discipline in a really positive way!” - Jasson, senior

“When I have problems, Mrs. Solak is there to help. She supports me on my work telling me I can do better.” - Malik, freshman

Editor’s note: Thanks to Nicole Moylan, English and Journalism teacher at AHS, for asking one of her students to submit an article to the Bee for publication. By running this article, we hope to encourage Natasha and other members of the Amundsen Publishing Crew to keep up their good work, and to showcase www.bcochicago.org
Happenings in B-Ville

Welcome, Remy!

Proud parents Jenny Ringblom and Steven Pazik, and happy brothers Kai and Quinn, welcomed a baby boy, Remy, to their family on February 18. The family moved to Bowmanville in fall 2012 and reside on the 5300 block of Leavitt at Summerdale. Watch for them gardening in the Bowmanville community gardens and playing at the Greenspace this summer!

The BCO had a surprise guest at our April monthly board meeting. Congressman Mike Quigley stopped in and spent an hour with us around a neighbor’s dining room table. He shared his concerns and ideas about the challenges facing our nation.

He told us we are putting our energy exactly where it is needed – in local community engagement. He wants to see more people join their community organizations and supporting local schools. More folks learning about and being engaged in the operation of our government from the most local to the highest levels. He cares deeply about his constituents and our causes.

He was really excited to learn about our Gateway Garden Preservation & Expansion campaign and offered his support. We know we’ll see him again!

Send photos and news to news@bcochicago.org
Join us for the 19th Annual Bowmanville Garden Walk on Saturday, July 8 — the Saturday after the Fourth of July. You’ll be delighted by the beauty, creativity and variety of gardens in our neighborhood! You’ll also be introduced to neighborhood gardeners, enjoy refreshments and see why the Bowmanville Garden Walk has been acclaimed as one of the best in Chicago.

The event will include 20 or more viewing locations and be open from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, rain or shine. Welcome tables will be on the BCO GreenSpace at Bowmanville and Bell and at the Gateway Garden on Ravenswood and Balmoral. At the welcome table on Bowmanville Avenue, you’ll be able to talk with University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners about your garden interests. Participating residents who show their gardens can opt to have their gardens reviewed by Master Gardeners and receive an award ribbon or to just have a consultation for advice and suggestions. All participating gardeners, photographers, advertisers, volunteers and master gardeners, as well as BCO Board members, come together after the event for a Garden Awards celebration to thank everyone and review the day in pictures.

The day also features the 11th Annual Garden Walk Amateur Photography Contest! Every year a winning photo is selected by visitors’ votes, and the photographer receives a prize. The photo is then featured in the posters, promotional materials, and signage for the next annual Garden Walk. Every year the photo contest grows in popularity, and you are encouraged to enter any of your photos that have a local garden theme.

Who knows, you may already have a great scene captured on your cell phone that could be our next Garden Walk poster. Our 2017 poster photo “Quite a Summer Morning” was taken by Anita Beckner, using her iPhone 6.

Plan now to Participate
The deadline to enter your garden or a garden photo is Monday June 26. You can use the form inserted into this issue of the Bee publication or the online form at www.bcochicago.org

Volunteers are needed now for preparations and on July 8 for the welcome tables and other jobs. So if you’re looking for a great way to meet your neighbors and contribute to the success of this popular Chicago event, email the events committee, events@bcochicago.org or call BCO at 773-349-2268.

We’ll look forward to seeing you at the BCO Garden Walk!
Here’s some news and information about local business you might like to know. Please consider patronizing them to help keep them and Bowmanville vibrant and prosperous!

- **The Claddagh Ring Pub** is excited to introduce **The ViBE**, a new neighborhood lounge located in the pub’s back room at 2306 W. Foster. The ViBE showcases local performers and artists, with an open mic and jam on Friday nights, Saturday night special events, and private parties (no room rental charges!). For details, see the [Claddagh Ring Pub Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/claddaghringpub).  
- **Spring into a clean home with All Star Carpet Care.** Mention the Bowmanville Community Organization and receive 15% off upholstery cleaning through 8/19/17. Want to refresh those carpets? One rug cleaned free with any upholstery cleaning order. Call Rick 847-420-4111.  
- **Tamales? Thai? Brunch?** Sharpen your cooking skills and check out the latest must-have kitchen gadgets at **The Wooden Spoon**, 5047 N. Clark. Whether you’re throwing a gourmet party or looking for time-saving ways to prepare family dinners, there’s something for every palate and skill level. For more information, go to [www.woodenspoonchicago.com](http://www.woodenspoonchicago.com).  
- **Do you have “nice weather” injuries from gardening, jogging, softball, cleaning the garage or the like? Call Chiropractic for Life** at 773-878-8933 for chiropractic, massage and craniosacral treatments at 5138 N. Clark St. Their 10-day Clear Change Detox Kit, regularly $119.50, is currently on sale for $89.62. Details at [www.chiropracticforlifechicago.com](http://www.chiropracticforlifechicago.com).  
- **Redstone Builders**, a consistent Angie’s List Super Service Award Recipient, is celebrating 25 years of serving Chicago’s Northside, including many remodeling and repair projects in Bowmanville and the surrounding area. Call Howard at 773-478-2500 for a free estimate.  
- **Great savings and promotions on newly launched custom window coverings and flooring are now available at Nationwide Floors and Window Coverings**, 5202 N. Damen. Offerings include Spring 2017 launch products from Hunter Douglas, Mohawk Carpets, and New Generation Water Proof Flooring from Shaw Floors. Call Charles 773-935-8700 for details.  
- **Galter LifeCenter**, 5157 N. Francisco, is proud to have been recognized once again as Chicago’s only Certified Medical Fitness Center, following a rigorous assessment by the Medical Fitness Association. Galter LifeCenter offers a wide range of wellness and fitness classes, training, two pools, kids programs, and tons of exercise equipment. Details at [www.galterlifecenter.org](http://www.galterlifecenter.org).
The BCO partnership with GRCC is a valued conduit for businesses in Bowmanville to have access to support of a local Chamber of Commerce.
Hi. My name is Pam Berman, and I’m blind. I live in Bowmanville on Summerdale and am celebrating one year of partnership with my second guide dog, Chowder. It has been a challenging transition from my retired guide, but I can honestly say that we are fully bonded now and I couldn’t be happier.

When we’re out and about I often meet people with questions or concerns about guide dogs or blindness — some who ask, some who try to stay hidden, thinking I won’t know they’re lurking. Here are some tips for interacting with Chowder and me or someone else who is blind.

**Let Guide Dogs Do Their Job**
Guide dogs are responsible for leading someone who cannot see. The dog should never be distracted from that duty. Our safety depends on my dog’s alertness and concentration. Please, please, keep your pets on leashes and contained around a guide dog. Distraction by another dog can be very unsettling and dangerous for both of us. Here are some other things to know about them.

(Continued on page 13)
How to Treat Guide Dogs — and Their Owners

(Continued from page 12)

- It’s not all work and no play for a guide dog. When they are not in harness, they are treated in much the same way as pets. However, a guide dog is a working dog first and then a pet. It is important that the dog not become solicitous. There is never a need for my guide to socialize with your pets. Chowder has lots of toys, two canine siblings, and a friend named Sam to play with when the time is right.

- Guide dogs cannot read traffic signals, even though they are responsible for helping their handlers safely cross a street. Calling out to a guide dog or intentionally obstructing its path can be dangerous for the team as it could break the dog’s concentration on its work.

- Access laws in the U.S. and Canada, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, permit guide dogs to accompany their handlers anywhere the general public is allowed, including taxis and buses, restaurants, theaters, stores, schools, hotels, apartment and office buildings. Guide dogs are trained to stand, sit, or lie quietly in public places when not leading.

Blind people are much like you
Treat a person who is blind the same as you would anyone else. We do the same things as you do, but may use different techniques.

- Speak in a normal tone of voice. Blindness doesn’t equal hearing loss.

- Talk directly to a person who is blind, not to our companions. Loss of sight is not loss of intellect.

- When you see us around, identify yourself; when exiting, be sure to mention that you are leaving. Address me by name so I know you are speaking to me and tell us yours. (It’s very difficult to memorize everyone’s voice!)

Living life without eyesight can be extremely stressful, and guiding a blind person through life can be equally stressful at times. My goal is to live my life with pride, dignity, independence and lots of laughter. Chowder is a big help to me in doing that.

If you have any questions that I haven’t addressed please feel free to reach out to me. I am always happy to answer any questions. My email is PamelaCberman@gmail.com, or you can go to www.guidedogs.com
BOWMANVILLE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

JOIN THE BCO OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Now you can join or renew ONLINE at www.bcochicago.org!

Or return this form with your check to:
Bowmanville Community Org Treasurer c/o Craig Hanenburg
5361 N. Bowmanville Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625

MEMBERSHIP: $20 ANNUALLY

Questions? Call (773) 349-2268 or email membership@bcochicago.org

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Name(s): ________________________________

Home Address: ____________________________________________

City: _____________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Phone: ___________________ Cell: ___________________

Email(s): ___________________________________________

Areas where I can help out in the coming year:

☐ Event Planning ☐ Street Sale ☐ Other Festivals ☐ Garden Walk ☐ Planning & Development ☐ Other Events

☐ Finance ☐ Gardening ☐ Bee Social ☐ Bee Delivery ☐ Greenspace Initiatives

☐ Membership Outreach ☐ Bee Social ☐ Planning & Development ☐ 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:

CHECK OUT THE BCO WEBSITE! www.bcochicago.org