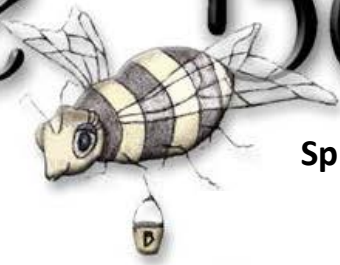


Bowmanville Bee



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

Spring 2016

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Great Things Going on in Bowmanville!

Dear Neighbors,

As many of you know, it often seems that there are only two seasons in our fair city: winter and construction. With winter behind us, there is a lot of new construction going on in our neighborhood, including several projects that the Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO) is undertaking in an effort to make our beautiful enclave even better. These include:

- Restoring the tunnel on Berwyn underneath the Metra tracks,
- Teaming with Rogers Park Montessori School (RPMS) to help beautify the area around the Balmoral Nursing Home, and
- Sprucing up our community gardens.

If you would like to volunteer for one of these projects — or have an idea for another one — please reach out to one of our committee leads (see page 2 for contact information) or to me at president@bcochicago.org.

If you have — or someone you know has — children age two to five, check out the new **Wilder Wonder Nature Play** program facilitated by Jen Stubbs, and augmented by the BCO, in our green space on Bowmanville Ave. at Bell. Sessions will be on Wednesday mornings from 10:00–11:30 a.m. (first round will be May 11 - June 15) with “a focus on inspiring children and their families to seek enjoyment utilizing the unique context of the green space.” If you’re interested, you can reach out to Jen at jen@wilderwonder.com for more details.

Mark Your Calendars for These BCO Festivities!

Spring in Bowmanville also brings preparation for our annual summer festivities. Among others, plan to attend our annual **Street Sale** on Saturday, June 4 (see article on page 4), and the **18th Annual BCO Garden Walk on Saturday, July 9** (see article on page 11). For more information and to sign up, please visit our website, bcochicago.org, which, incidentally, will also get a makeover in due time.

We have received a number of inquiries regarding the “For Sale” signs planted in our green spaces on Bowmanville Ave. and Ravenswood Ave. across from RPMS. If you’re interested, you will certainly want to read Russ Klettke’s article on page 8 for more context. If you have further queries, please reach out to our Planning and Development chair, Stew Weiss, at planning@bcochicago.org.

In addition to the events in Bowmanville proper, don’t forget to mark **Saturday, June 25**, on your calendars for the inaugural **Ravenswood On Tap** event hosted by Empirical Brewery outdoors on Ravenswood Ave. just south of Foster. Come meet and mingle with neighbors from Bowmanville and the greater Ravenswood community. We hope to see you there!

Happy Spring!

William Ferguson
BCO President

RAVENSWOOD ON TAP
JUNE 25
BE THERE!

BOWMANVILLE GARDEN WALK
JULY 9
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

BOWMANVILLE STREET SALE
JUNE 4
REGISTER NOW!

NATURE PLAY IN THE
BCO GREENSPACE
WEDNESDAYS 10-11:30AM



**Communications
Committee**
Stay Informed!

**Events
Committee**

**Gardening
Committee**

**Membership
Makes it Happen!**

**PLANNING
&
DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**



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 Joey Chiappetta 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.**

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 June 4**, followed by a **new Ravenswood on Tap craft beer festival on June 25**. **If you are ready to get involved in those let us know! We are also in need of one or two volunteers to organize this year's Bowmanville Summer Social in August.** We are always looking for new twists for annual events and new event ideas. We have a concept for an ongoing series of informal 'Bee Social' meet-ups to take place around the community to bring neighbors together. 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).

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 in October, but 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 continues 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 need help to get this committee back in action, if you could lead or organize next steps, please contact greenspace@bcochicago.org.**

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! We are now planning for a restoration of the painted interior in Spring 2016. Contact publicart@bcochicago.org to get involved or with new ideas.

Bowmanville Biz Beat

- **Louie Dato**, former senior hair stylist at **Toujours Spa & Salon** (now closed), has joined **Salon 10** located at 5245 N Clark St, 2nd floor, as an independent contractor. Book your appointment with Louie at 773-728-4055. New clients receive **20% off!**
- Looking for a friendly, experienced and knowledgeable esthetician? Eme Haranth, LE, would like to welcome you to **Esthetics by Eme** at 5138 N. Clark St, 2nd floor. For appointments, call or text 773-679-9376.
- Farmers Market season is right around the corner, and this year our neighborhood is in on the action. The Greater Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce and Ravenswood Community Council are partnering with Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church to host a new weekly market at 4900 N Damen Ave! The **Ravenswood Farmers Market** will launch on Wednesday, May 25 (4:00 – 8:00 pm) and run through mid-September.
 - In addition to vendors like C & D Family Farms, Hi-Rise Bread Company, and Stamper Cheese Company, each week will feature several local artists and retailers, as well as a playground and activities table for the kids. Opening evening will also have tastings from a local craft brewery. Details at www.ravenswoodchicago.org/farmersmarket.
 - The market will have guest vendor spaces available each week for local artists, retailers, health and wellness providers and nonprofit organizations. Participation for artists is \$15 per market. There is no charge for local retailers or wellness providers who are GRCC members, or for area neighborhood-based nonprofit and community organizations. Contact gene@ravenswoodchicago.org for more information.
- Love to cook healthy delicious meals but short on time and ideas? For many Bowmanville customers, **Meez Meals** is the premier do-it-yourself meal kit. They deliver instructions and ingredients all prepped for you to create a delicious dinner. Check out their special offer just for the neighborhood! New clients use the code bowman30 at checkout at MeezMeals.com to enjoy a complimentary dinner for two! We love Meez and hope you do to!
- Local favorite **GreenSky** (5257 N Ashland) has been voted "Best Eco-Friendly Shop" in *Time Out Chicago*! AND they

won the 2016 Eco-Andersonville Award!!! Check out wonderful gifts and foodstuffs and help save the planet.

- Need that favorite skirt or suit jacket taken in because your New Year's Resolutions paid off? Have a child's coat with a broken zipper? Don't despair! Stop by **Maestro Tailors** at 5220 N. Damen and talk to Sargon. He has special deals for Bowmanville residents, and will treat your clothes as if they are his own!
- Did you know that **Galter LifeCenter** (5157 N. Francisco) not only offers a full medical fitness facility, personal training, and group exercise classes (*Bee* editor Tim Noworyta teaches yoga there), but also hosts a Master's Swim Team? This year the team placed 3rd in the State Tournament — up from 4th last year! Check out the LifeCenter's offerings at galterlifecenter.org and ask about their specials for new members.

Have business news to share? Contact us at ads@bcochicago.org.

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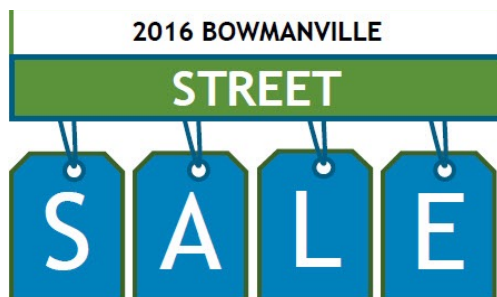
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Such a Deal! The BCO Street Sale is June 4



The annual Bowmanville Street Sale is almost here. So get ready for up to 100 simultaneous yard sales in our neighborhood on Saturday, June 4. Residents say the best part of the event is getting out and chatting with their neighbors, maybe buying lemonade from an enterprising child or — let's face it — having an opportunity to land a bargain or get rid of stuff!

The sale runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Bowmanville (Foster to Bowmanville and Ravenswood to Western). You can find everything from tools and jewelry to toys and fine art — all priced to sell. At previous sales, BCO VP and new street sale chair Laura Schmidt says

she purchased some gorgeous martini glasses, board games, and a beautiful Christmas garland. "But the purple, hooded rain coat I bought for just \$2 from a neighbor last year is my absolute favorite," Laura says. "Better yet, this neighbor donated the proceeds from her yard sale to a favorite charity."

What better way to clear out those storage spaces/shelves/closets you've been meaning to address, than by joining in a huge, well-attended Street Sale and getting CASH for the stuff? You'll be amazed by all that you have to sell — and by how excited others will be to buy it from you. It's very win-win.

To participate, you just need to 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 (normally the City requires each house to have an individual permit). To register, simply register on the BCO website: BCOchicago.org or fill out the paper application enclosed and send/deliver it to the address provided (2207 W. Farragut).

We make sure the BCO Street Sale is well-publicized, so the registration fee — just \$10 for BCO members and \$15 for non-members — helps with promotion costs. (You can join the BCO at any time to take advantage of the member discount). The sale will also be promoted on social media, including the [BCO Facebook page](#), which will feature frequent posts highlighting sale items and stories.

Street Sale Stories

We recently asked some neighbors: What was your favorite purchase (or item sold) at a BCO Street Sale? Here are a few of the responses. Keep an eye on the BCO Facebook page for more stories from the Street Sale in the next few weeks!

- I had a pair of the most beautiful, unique coffee mugs and, heartbreakingly, broke one. My daughter came home from the sale, with the EXACT mug, in perfect condition. I still have it. Though now I broke the other one!
- I sold an outdoor patio table for a neighbor who could not participate, and she was so thrilled she offered to give me half...which I happily declined. I love our 'hood!
- I purchased a wall decor item on Craigslist that didn't look as good in my home as I'd hoped it would. But I sold it at the Street Sale for a few dollars more than I paid for it.

See you at the Street Sale on June 4! For more information, visit www.BCOchicago.org or contact Laura in her purple hooded raincoat at 773-349-2268 or vp@bcochicago.org.

June 4 Street Sale to do's:
REGISTER! SELL! SHOP!



BCO helps bring new Craft Beer festival to Ravenswood!



June 25, 3-9pm

Join us on **Saturday, June 25**, for the inaugural **Ravenswood on Tap** craft beer festival in front of the Empirical Brewery on Ravenswood Avenue at 1801 W. Foster Avenue. This one-day outdoor event, which runs from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m., will feature beer and spirits from nine local breweries and distilleries, as well as food trucks, live music and local retailers.

The BCO is thrilled to partner with the Greater Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce (GRCC) and Empirical Brewery on this new addition to the local summer calendar. A portion of proceeds from Ravenswood on Tap will support the Ravenswood Community Council's greening and beautification projects, as well as the programming of our Bowmanville Community Organization.

For volunteer opportunities and more info, visit [BCO's Facebook page](#) or contact events@bcochicago.org.

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

www.GregHarris.org

BCO Spring Community Outreach Project



Birdhouse pieces painted by RPMS students for the Balmoral Nursing Home

This year BCO is partnering with the Rogers Park Montessori School (RPMS) to benefit the residents of the Balmoral Nursing Home located at 2050 W. Balmoral Avenue. A 'refresh' is planned to their outdoor patio space along Hoyne Avenue to provide an improved environment for residents, as well as for those of

us who pass by it on walks around the neighborhood.

We've whittled down many great ideas to a plan we think is achievable. RPMS is working on a gallery of painted birdhouses that will be installed as an art element to the south of the nursing home patio, outside the fence. In addition to art, the project includes new paint for their smoking shelter, new landscaping elements along the fence line and low front wall, and new cigarette disposal boxes installed at ground level inside the fence to encourage residents to properly dispose of (and possibly recycle) cigarette waste.

If you'd like to help cover costs, contribute a birdhouse to the art installation, or help with landscaping or painting, please contact Sabine Cummins or Claire Shingler at events@bcochicago.org. Only adults will work onsite at the nursing home for the installation piece, but there is plenty to do ahead of that for kids to help with too. Installation dates in May will be announced via the BCO Facebook Page and BCO email list. We hope to have this project completed by Memorial Day so the residents can better enjoy the space during their outdoor annual barbecue. Watch for improvements there soon!

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There's a New Chamber in Town



Greetings, Neighbors! I'm Ross Outten, president of the Greater Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce (GRCC). We got started last year, after the Ravenswood Community Council (RCC) obtained a grant from the City of Chicago empowering us to form a new chamber. While RCC continues to operate across a larger footprint, our chamber focuses on the area from Clark west to Leavitt and Irving north to Berwyn and beyond.

As we've evolved to meet the needs of our growing community, we've increased our interaction with Bowmanville businesses and the BCO. Several of our members, such as Urban Pooch and Spiteful Brewing, have or will soon be expanding into your neighborhood, fostering even more opportunities for collaboration. Through these connections, we've

learned that our belief in creativity, sustainable living, and a vibrant, locally focused economy is shared by the residents and business owners of Bowmanville.

I see us all as one community that faces similar challenges and shares similar goals. Together, we have a unique opportunity to be collaborative from the start and to create an organization that strengthens and connects us all. So I'd like to encourage you to come to one of our events, sign up for our newsletter and follow us on social media.

As a young chamber, we're building out new programs and initiatives with input from our members. To those who'd like to help with that, we invite you to join the GRCC and begin taking advantage of your membership. To do that or to sign up for our newsletter, go to ravenswoodchicago.org and hover on the "Contact" tab.

In our first year, we launched a Women Leaders in Business group, held the inaugural Taste of Ravenswood, and brought three chambers together for a regional networking event that connected over 100 businesses. In 2016 we're introducing a new farmers market to Damen Avenue and partnering with BCO to debut Ravenswood On Tap, an outdoor celebration of our neighborhood's bustling brew scene. We continue to execute and evolve the Ravenswood Artwalk (RAW), which is celebrating its 15th year this September. These are just a handful of the things we do and only the tip of the iceberg in terms of what we're capable of.

We look forward to growing our relationship with you in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Ross Outten, President - Greater Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce

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Are Bowmanville's Green Spaces Up for Grabs?

Report from the BCO Planning & Development Committee

In recent months, two large "For Sale" signs have gone up in spaces that are considered valuable assets to our neighborhood for recreation and community gardening, sparking a lot of questions. What brought this about – and could we lose access to these important community assets?

To answer this, a bit of background is required. The privately owned parcels of land immediately adjacent to the Bowmanville Avenue Greenspace (between Leavitt and Bell) and on Ravenswood south of Balmoral Avenue between the railroad tracks and the Gateway Garden are indeed for sale. Although both parcels have been quietly on the market for a number of years, it appears that the owners are ramping up their marketing efforts to capitalize on increasing developer interest in Bowmanville.

There's no denying that private development of either of these parcels would have a negative impact on the community's access to open space. However, both properties are subject to development challenges and zoning restrictions, which may limit their appeal to developers. Nevertheless, the BCO's Planning & Development Committee is actively exploring options to preserve, and possibly expand, the community's use of these properties.



The 5346 Ravenswood parcel, adjacent to the Gateway Garden, is a skinny 28-foot wide strip of land that runs 265 feet south from Balmoral along the Metra retaining wall. This parcel is zoned RS-3 for single family residential development,

but due to the unique shape of the parcel any development there with houses would require numerous zoning variances and other approvals from the City.

The BCO maintains the Gateway Garden on the public right-of-way between this parcel and the Ravenswood roadway according to a special right-of-way privilege granted by the City in 2007. Unfortunately, this privilege would almost certainly be revoked if the 5346 Ravenswood parcel were to be developed, as the Gateway Garden sits on the private parcel's front parkway and blocks the sole means of access to Ravenswood.



On the other side of the neighborhood, the large parcel of land that extends from the north side of Bowmanville Avenue to Western Avenue (owned by SCI, the corporation that operates Rosehill Cemetery) continues to

be marketed. In recent years a large retailer and a charter high school each considered acquiring the 11+ acre parcel but neither development moved forward due to construction challenges and a long standing covenant that limits the uses permitted on the property. Contrary to popular belief, the greenspace parcel acquired by the BCO in 2010 is only comprised of the narrow, landscaped lot at the east end of the larger park-like area that many neighbors use for recreation. A portion of the 11+ acre parcel that fronts on Bowmanville Road could be redeveloped with single family homes.

In light of these developments, the BCO continues to work with the City, Ald. O'Connor and organizations like Openlands and Neighborspace to preserve the community's existing open spaces and seeks to expand the community's access on these parcels and throughout the Bowmanville neighborhood.

The Planning & Development Committee welcomes input and participation from any member of the community on these and other issues. Contact Chair Stew Weiss (planning@bcochicago.org) for more information.

In the next Bee, we will provide an overview of the status of development and the diversity of housing in Bowmanville, the retail strip on Damen Avenue and the noteworthy quality of public and private schools in our area.

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Art Restoration — Bowmanville Style



A proud and distinctive feature of Bowmanville since 2011, the Berwyn mural in the pedestrian tunnel connecting the two sides of Ravenswood Avenue needs help after vandals repeatedly spray painted and damaged the captivating mural. The original design of this community driven public work of art took passersby through the four seasons, and resident Paula Palmentera is coordinating an effort to bring the piece back to its glory.

Paula is working in conjunction with Amundsen High School art teachers and students to map out a plan for repairing the damaged images. Still in the gestational phase, the group is analyzing costs, searching for necessary supplies and looking for interested parties to join in the effort. Please email news@bcochicago.org if you'd like to be involved in restoring the lovely artwork in the tunnel.

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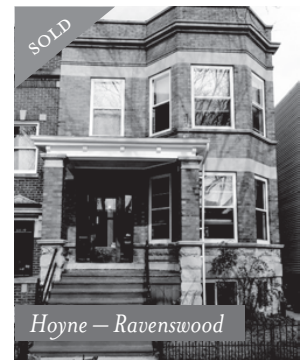
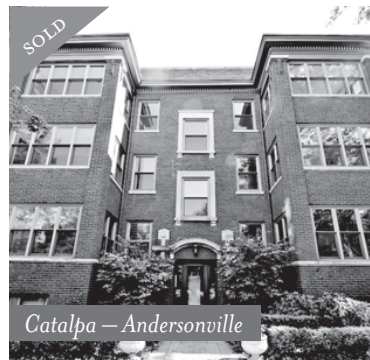
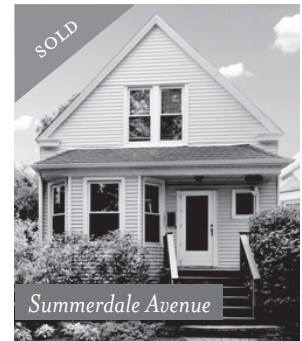


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New Source of Flowers for Bowmanville



This summer, Avium Flowers Company will open in the yard of Aquanaut Brewery at 5435 N. Wolcott Avenue. The flower farm will be the first of its kind in the city.

The three women founders are very pleased to have serendipitously landed in our neighborhood. Although they all call themselves Chicagoans, they come from different backgrounds and hadn't known each other except as potential business partners. But they are united in their love of flowers and driven by a common goal: To grow fresh and unique blooms for Chicagoans, in Chicago.

"Avium's primary focus this season will be its CSA fresh flower bucket," says Lindsey Claire McNeil, one of the founders. "Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to purchase seasonal goods directly from local farmers, usually in a weekly subscription format. The CSA model began with fruit and veggies and is now expanding to include meat, cheese and flowers.

"The CSA approach enables consumers to support both local growers and the environment. It reduces the waste and pollution associated with transporting food and flowers long distances. And it enables consumers to work directly with farmers and track the chemicals and growing methods used. So you know the flowers you get are organic."

Besides practicing sustainable and organic growing methods, Avium cuts flowers the morning of CSA pickups. This means that flowers are so fresh that preservatives are not necessary. Also, because of its location within the city, Avium can bypass the need for refrigerated delivery vehicles and the pollution that goes with them.

In addition to CSA deliveries to three pick-up locations on Wednesdays, Avium plans to use a bicycle service to deliver all other bouquets. Avium's CSA flower buckets are available for six or 12 weeks, beginning June 15 and will be available for pickup at the yard on Wolcott, as well as at all three Chicago La Columbe Coffee Roaster locations, including the one near Bowmanville at Foster and Clark.

An educational resource, too!

Aside from providing the freshest blooms possible, the women of Avium strive to be a flower farming resource and environmental educators. The Avium garden is a meeting space where flower lovers can share information. Avium also plans to offer workshops and other events centered on environmental awareness.

Avium will launch its 2016 educational program on May 12 with a Vermicomposting workshop. Vermicomposting (with worms!) is the most effective way to compost in a small space, indoor or out. Avium Flowers plans to hold three more workshops this summer and to add more programming in the future.


Also coming up is the Spring Gathering and Seedling Sale, scheduled alongside the Bowmanville Street Sale on June 4, where Avium will sell seedlings for the host and nectar plants needed to sustain certain varieties of native butterflies. In addition, Avium's open workdays start in June! The company will open the garden gates to anyone needing to get out of the house and into a garden on first Wednesdays and third Saturdays throughout the summer. Please visit aviumflowers.com or email hello@aviumflowers.com for more information or to get involved. Thanks to Lindsey Claire McNeil for contributing to this article.



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Wow and be Wowed!

Join us for the 18th Annual Bowmanville Garden Walk

You'll be amazed by the beauty, creativity and variety of gardens in our neighborhood. You'll also get to meet the gardeners, enjoy refreshments and see for yourself why we call our community "Beautiful Bowmanville."

During the walk from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm on Saturday, July 9, participating gardeners will open their yards and welcome neighbors and visitors to view their gardens. Also, the walk will again feature corner parkway gardens at intersections throughout Bowmanville, as well as the three BCO community gardens.

In addition to great hospitality and a chance to talk gardening with those who are passionate about it, the day offers ways to learn more about gardening:



❖ Participating gardeners can opt to have their gardens reviewed by Master Gardeners from the University of Illinois Extension Program on such criteria as design, creative use of plants, and neighborhood enhancement, or to just consult with the pros for advice.

❖ There will be an Ask the Master Gardener table at the Welcome booth, where you can talk with Master Gardeners look at any cutting or photo you bring and help solve problems and plot your next steps.

The event will also feature the **10th Annual Garden Walk Amateur Photography Contest**. The winning photo is selected by visitors' votes, and the photographer receives a prize. Also, the photo will be featured in the next year's Garden Walk posters, signage and promotional materials. (*Landed* by Billy Kuczek, shown in the new poster, was the 2015 winner.) The contest is growing in popularity every year, so bring your camera along!

Plus, all participating gardeners, volunteers and judges, as well as BCO Board Members, come together in the evening for a Garden Party, hosted by Craig Hanenburg and Billy Kuczek, to celebrate gardening in Bowmanville.

Plan now to participate!

Whether you want to do the walk, show your garden, take photos or volunteer to help with the event, be sure to get it on your calendar. **The deadline to enter a garden is Monday, June 27, and the deadline for entering the photo contest is Monday, July 4.** For entry forms and more information, go to bcochicago.org.

Volunteers are needed for the Welcome table and other jobs. So if you're looking for a great way to meet your neighbors and contribute to the success of this increasingly popular event, contact the Gardening Committee, gardening@bcochicago.org.

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What's in Walking Distance?

We all know that walking is the most natural of fitness activities. Bowmanville was recently described in Crain's Chicago Business as having "double agency" from our proximity to both Andersonville and Lincoln Square. Our neighborhood is recognized for being within walking distance of the shops and other attractions in those neighborhoods as well as our own. And of course we have many local events on tap right here in B'ville as well. So put one foot in front of the other to enjoy all the joys of the warmer months and lively communities. Here are just a few events coming up in neighboring communities that will add numbers to your Fitbits and step-counting apps:

Lincoln Square

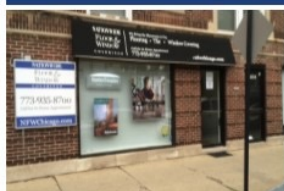
1. **Avant-garde artist Alexander Solotzew's "With Colors Around the World"**
DANK Haus (4740 N. Western Ave.) – April 30-May 26, daily 11 a.m.–3 p.m. and by appointment on weekends.
2. **Story time readings by staff**
Timeless Toys (4749 N. Lincoln Ave.) every Wednesday 11–11:30 a.m.
3. **Kids in the Square – exercise, face-painting and other kid-friendly events**
Gidding Plaza and along Lincoln Avenue, Saturday May 14, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
4. **May Fest Chicago – German food, drink and music and a crowd of thousands**
Lincoln Square, June 2 at 5 p.m. – June 5 at 10 p.m.

Andersonville

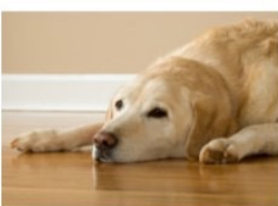
1. **Family Night – Crafts, activities and the opening of "Skål! Scandinavian Spirits"**
Swedish American Museum, 5211 N. Clark St., April 29, 4–7p.m. (exhibit runs through June 19)
2. **Farmers Market**
Berwyn between Clark and Ashland – Every Wednesday beginning May 11, 3–7 p.m.
3. **Wine Walk (\$35/person), 12 local businesses for tastings at each location**
Swedish American Museum on Clark (starting point) – Sunday May 15, 3 p.m.
4. **Midsommarfest Street Fair**
Clark Street from Foster to Catalpa, June 10, 5 p.m. – June 12, 10 p.m.

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Emotional Learning Recognized at Chappell School

Eliza Chappell Elementary School, Leavitt and Foster, has recently been certified as an **Exemplary Supportive School** by the Chicago Public School Office of Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)! A site visit and many criteria were considered in this determination, and Principal Joe Peila proudly points out that Chappell was recognized specifically for a "strong, multi-tiered system of support" for students, for an "excellent integration of social/emotional learning into daily practices" and for the "many positive and collaborative relationships" that exist between and among administration, faculty/staff and students.



The school will be recognized with a special badge on its 2016 school progress report card and at a district "SEL-ebration" to be held later this year. Congratulations are in order, and, as if that's not enough, EveryBlock reports that Chappell recently passed its city food inspection. All good news coming from Foster and Leavitt.

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Partnership with NEIU Helps Amundsen H.S. Succeed

When Anna Pavichevich took over as principal of Amundsen High School in July 2012, the school had been on probation for 11 years. Neighborhood families were choosing to fight traffic to attend high schools with better reputations. And many students who went to Amundsen were struggling with academics and attendance.

While Pavichevich knew what she was getting into, she didn't know she was about to benefit from Mayor Rahm Emanuel's challenge to the city's colleges to help improve Chicago's public high schools. Two miles west of Amundsen on Foster Avenue, Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) rose to the challenge. "Amundsen had a new principal [Pavichevich] coming in who had supported the College of Education when she was at her previous schools," says Maureen Gillette, dean of the NEIU College of Education. "I called Anna to see if she would be interested in working together."

The answer was a resounding yes, and by virtually every measure, the partnership has been a success. Amundsen was off probation within a year, and as of December 2015, enrollment and attendance are up, more students are on track to graduate on time, the number of high-achieving students has grown, standardized test scores have improved — preliminary numbers indicate that Amundsen students' ACT scores are up almost a point and a half in the past year alone — and daily attendance has surpassed 90 percent for the past three years in a row.

A Win-Win Relationship

NEIU's partnership with Amundsen began with three primary goals: increase the effectiveness of classroom instruction through professional development, support collaborative school management, and engage local community groups to ensure student success. Already, significant progress has been made in achieving those goals.

But it would be misleading to attribute Amundsen's improvements solely to the partnership with Northeastern, or to say that Amundsen is the only beneficiary in the relationship. While Amundsen has gained a partner institution that commits faculty and financial resources to its success, Northeastern in return receives opportunities for its faculty members to get hands-on interaction in an urban high school, preferred placement for its student teachers and a golden opportunity to fulfill the University's stated value to be an active and engaged member of the community.



Anna Pavichevich of Amundsen with Tim Duggan of NEIU

There is no sign that this partnership built on respect and mutual admiration will slow down any time soon. "Parents in the neighborhood are starting to say, 'Yeah we do want to send our children to Amundsen,'" says Tim Duggan, associate professor of Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies and the NEIU faculty member in residence at Amundsen. "There is a buzz about the school now."

Pavichevich feels it too: "We are going to be a school that reflects the values and expectations of our community. The people in this community want to be able to send their children to the best colleges and universities. This partnership with Northeastern Illinois University has helped make Amundsen a competitive option."

But don't take their word for it! Attend the upcoming GROWCommunity Parent-to-Parent Panel and Reception to learn about 2 outstanding neighborhood high schools and why they're top choices right now. You'll meet fellow parents who are sending their children to Amundsen and Lake View High Schools. Learn how their families chose these schools and hear firsthand about their current experiences as Amundsen Vikings and Lake View Wildcats.

This article was drawn from the post, "Amundsen High School Principal," on Alderman Pat O'Connor's website, www.aldermanoconnor.com.

Attend the GROWCommunity Parent-to-Parent Panel and Reception

Who: ALL PARENTS of elementary-school children

When: Saturday, May 21, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Big Bricks, 3832 N. Lincoln Ave. (Upstairs party room)

This is a free event. Appetizers and soft drinks will be served; cash bar.

Please RSVP at <http://bit.ly/GROWParentRSVP> if you plan to attend.

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Bowmanville Bee - Spring 2016

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ads@bcochicago.org or (773) 466-4206

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Areas where I can help out in the coming year:

- Event Planning: ☐ Street Sale ☐ Garden Walk ☐ Summer Social ☐ Fall Event (TBD)
- ☐ Membership outreach ☐ Gardening ☐ Finance
- ☐ GreenSpace initiatives ☐ Planning and Development ☐ Bee delivery
- ☐ 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 or multi-unit building? ☐ House ☐ Multi-unit (>2 units)

How many adults (18-65) are in your household? ____ How many seniors (over 65) are in your household? ____

How many children (under 18) are in your household? ____

What type of new BCO programming would interest you? _____

Comments or feedback? _____

BCO Calendar of Events

(Committee contacts listed on page 1; check website for schedule updates)



May 11	Gardening Evening Gateway Garden	6:00 PM
May 21	GrowCommunity Amundsen Parent to Parent Forum	2pm at Big Bricks
Jun 4	Bowmanville Street Sale	9:00 AM
Jun 7	Gardening Evening WestGate Garden	6:00 PM
Jun 8	CAPS Meeting@ St. Gregory's Church /Gym	7:00 PM
Jun 16	BCO Board Meeting	
Jun 25	Ravenswood On Tap Craft Beer Festival (Empirical Brewery)	3:00- 9:00 PM
Jun 25	Gardening Day for ANNUAL Garden Walk	9:30 AM
Jun 26	Special Gardening Day for ANNUAL Garden Walk	1:00 PM
Jul 3	Summer Bee Deadline (Aug release)	
Jul 6	Gardening Evening Gateway Garden	6:00 PM
Jul 9	Bowmanville Garden Walk	9:00 AM
Jul 21	BCO Board Meeting	7:00 PM
Jul 23	Gardening Day Bowmanville & GreenSpace	9:30 AM
Aug 11	Gardening Evening Gateway Garden	6:00 PM
Aug 10	CAPS Meeting Beat 2012@ St. Gregory's Church /Gym	7:00 PM
Aug 18	BCO Board Meeting	7:00 PM
Aug 21	BCO Summer Social	12:00 Noon
Oct 20	BCO Annual Membership Meeting & Election	7:00 PM

CHECK OUT THE BCO WEBSITE! www.bcochicago.org