

Bowmanville Bee

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



Summer 2008

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BCO Awarded GreenNet Grant

By Billy Kuczek

The BCO recently received a \$1,000 grant from GreenNet for use in its three community gardens. With last year's grant funding, we were able to install the council ring that sits on the west side of the Bowmanville Garden.

This year the funding will be used primarily for the sustainability of our gardens. The plan outlined in our grant included fertilizers, sprinklers, and watering timers. In addition, the grant includes some funding for signage and education. We plan to put BCO gardening information signs in each of our three gardens. Finally, we're planning our fight against road salt for the coming winter. This past winter was brutal on our gardens, particularly along Bowmanville Ave. The remains of winter, courtesy of the salt trucks, had to be raked off in areas along the street, and killed several new and old plants alike. This autumn the funding will help us purchase fabrics and stakes to create a salt fence along the curb to prepare for winter.

GreenNet is a coalition of non-profit organizations and public agencies committed to ensuring there is sustainable green space in the city of Chicago. GreenNet fears this is the last year that funding may be available to any of their Community Gardens throughout Chicagoland, so it is particularly important for us to plan wisely. This year they distributed approximately \$35,000 and received over 400 requests. We're very fortunate that we received the full amount available to a single garden. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Betty Redmond and Tom Kennedy for all their guidance and assistance during the grant writing process.

Regardless of funding, volunteers still make it happen in the gardens! We need your help, even if it's only for an hour. We meet the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month at 6:30 PM, and also on the 4th Saturday of each month beginning at 9:30 AM. Come when you can, leave when you must. Do you have a perennial to donate? Don't have a green thumb, but still would like to help? Contact the BCO Garden Committee – call Billy Kuczek at 773-551-0514 or email him at gardening@bcochicago.org.



The Bowmanville Garden Walk

10th Anniversary

Saturday July 12th

Viewing time is 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM

(More details on Page 3)



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Bowmanville Kids Network

By Colleen Conley

We're looking for parents to join or update their information in the Bowmanville Kids Network! We have a small but growing contact list of parents, kids, and babysitters in the area. The contact list helps us share information on parent/kid-friendly events and opportunities in the area, and is a great resource for babysitting. Parents can indicate if they are interested in swapping babysitting with each other, and there is a separate list of babysitters in the area. This system – our very own, free, close-to-home version of the Northside Parents' Network (npnparents.org) – is a fabulous resource, but we need your help updating it! **If you are a Bowmanville parent**, we would love to add or update your information in the network. Please email Colleen Conley (colleen.s.conley@gmail.com) the following information:



- Parent name(s) and address (include cross street)
- Contact information: email and phone number(s)
- Children's name(s) and birthdate(s)
- Note whether you would be interested in participating in a babysitting co-op/swap (signing up does not obligate you to anything)

If you are a Bowmanville babysitter, or if you know a babysitter in Bowmanville that you would like to refer or recommend, please email Colleen Conley (colleen.s.conley@gmail.com) with:

- Babysitter's name and age/birthdate
- Babysitter's address (include cross street)
- Contact information: email and phone number(s)
- Available times (in general)
- Reference(s) and contact info – preferably someone in Bowmanville for whom you have babysat
- Any other info (e.g., type of experience, languages spoken, CPR/First-Aid certified, etc.)

We will send an updated list out to all those in the network, and we hope to get each other actively involved in social events and babysitting opportunities. Thanks for your help.

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The Bowmanville Garden Walk Saturday July 12th!

Our Garden Walk this year will again bring together the many garden lovers and photographers in our community. Whether you have a green thumb or are just a beginner, all are welcome. Come on, share your gardens and your garden photos and let the community see more of the beauty of Bowmanville!

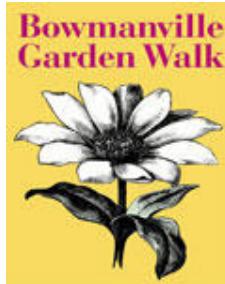


Photo contest winners are determined by visitors and neighbors voting for their favorite photo. We award ribbons and prizes for the garden contest based on a point system used in many state fairs. This system does not judge gardens against each other, because our many yards and gardens have incomparable features. Some gardens display interesting themes or designs, a mix of flowers and vegetables, and some have art, or welcoming sitting areas. Last year the mix of prize ribbons was 4 Blue (90-100 points), 4 Red (80-89), 2 White (70-79) and 1 Green (0-69). **Everyone is rewarded for their participation!** Enter your yard, garden, or deck and those great garden photos and make this 10th anniversary year truly special.

This year we will add the University of Illinois Extension "Ask a Master Gardener" table. They will be available to answer gardening questions and offer ideas related to our local climate conditions, and talk about the Master Gardener Program. At the end of the day we have the awards party with food, wine and prizes. Last year Victoria Sterling was the "people's choice" winner of the photo contest and Scott and Ernestine Galassini were honored with the "Best in Show" garden. Call Craig Hanenburg for more information, or to volunteer. 773-506-1696.

The BCO Ice Cream Social Sunday August 17th - 2 - 4 PM



Enjoy a nice cold ice cream cone and introduce yourself to the neighbors. All community residents are welcome!

Please call the BCO toll free line if you can help with this event, we need ice cream servers, game coordinators, and welcome-table assistants - 866-837-1006.

Calling All Condo Associations!

By Claire Shingler

The BCO would like to network at condo board meetings around the neighborhood. Let's get to know each other better so we can work together to build a better community. Sometimes it is hard for us to reach our neighbors in the condos with important information – we struggle to get the Bowmanville Bee into your lobbies for example. Let's find a way to communicate efficiently and work together. To schedule a BCO rep to speak (and listen!) at your next association meeting, please contact membership@bcochicago.org or 866-837-1006. We are happy to have someone attend.



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Biking Bowmanville ... and beyond!

By Russ Klettke

A cruise around town in a top-down convertible might be the traditional image of summer. But with rising gas prices, this could be the year to redefine that – with a two-wheeled bicycle instead.

Think about it. When you head to a store to buy an item or two that could fit in a backpack, is it really necessary to use a 2500-pound hulk of metal and rubber to get there and back? Instead of spending \$4.00+ a gallon on fossil fuels, wouldn't it be better to lose your own calories and get some sun along with it?



You might even try biking further distances, such as along the lakefront, to your place of work or a friend's house several miles away. Chicago is perennially cited by Bicycling magazine as among America's best bicycling-friendly cities, with no less than Mayor Daley as a major proponent. Because of that support by the city, we have designated bike routes and access to the CTA to transport bikes when circumstances call for it (during non-rush hours).

Here are some things to think about in gearing up for the bike season this year:

- **Get your bike serviced annually.** Your safety and overall biking pleasure work best when the bike is mechanically sound.
- **Get a helmet.** They really work, and come in a variety of styles. Among the biking crowd, a helmet says you know what you're doing.
- **Visit the city's website** which includes all bike-designated and bike-friendly routes. Key in www.cityofchicago.org, then search for Chicago Bike Program. It's a complete run down of rules, resources and events, all designed to get us up and out there peddling the beautiful streets and parks of Chicago.

As a three-season commuter to work downtown via bike, here are my own biking rules:

1. **Bike defensively by anticipating bad drivers.** If heavily-trafficked roads with bike lanes make you nervous, try using secondary streets. Note: you're not in a car so you have routing options not available to car drivers.
2. **Lock your bike in places with heavy pedestrian traffic.** Thieves are less likely to attempt stealing your bike in a public area. U-Locks that fit around the frame and at least one wheel work well.
3. **Dress appropriately for biking,** and carry clothes you can change into at your destination if necessary. Safety and comfort are your primary considerations, but once you get the style part down, there's almost no limit to where and when you can *make bicycling your first choice in transportation.*

Russ Klettke is a certified fitness trainer and author of "A Guy's Gotta Eat, the regular guy's guide to eating right" (Marlowe & Co. 2004). To bike downtown, he takes Damen to Lincoln, all the way south to Armitage, then east to the lakefront, all in about 30 minutes during rush hour; driving a car to the same place takes more like 45 minutes.



Chicago Vehicle Sticker Renewal

Alderman O'Connor will open his office for Chicago Vehicle Sticker purchase on July 10, 2008 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. His office is located at 5850 N. Lincoln Avenue.
www.aldermanoconnor.com



Vehicle stickers cost \$75.00 for a regular passenger car. For larger vehicles, the sticker will cost you \$120.00. The city will add a \$40.00 late fee to vehicle stickers purchased after July 16, 2008.

Senior citizens, 65 years of age or older, that have a valid Illinois drivers license are eligible to purchase a discounted vehicle sticker.

For more detailed information and to purchase online, please visit: www.chicityclerk.com/licenses/citystickers.html

CTA - A Bike Friendly Alternative

With no relief in sight from rising gasoline prices, did you know that you can take your bike on all CTA trains seven days a week, except for rush hours and a couple of holidays? You can also put your bike on the front of CTA buses that have bike carrying racks. For more information, call 888-YOUR-CTA or go to www.transitchicago.com.





By Liz Gabbard

Welcome to **Around the Corner!**

We feature any new or old restaurants, bars, bakeries, coffee/tea shops, or special eateries that are just **Around the Corner!** We hope this feature will lead you to new spots to enjoy a meal, a drink, or a special something to eat! The *Bee* is looking for someone that would like to take over writing **Around the Corner!** If you are interested then please contact us immediately!

Bobbie's Bar & Grill

5305 N. Damen Ave.

773-271-6488

Owner, Bobbie Nowicki, just celebrated the bar and grill's ten-year anniversary. **Bobbie's** is a well-known neighborhood bar and grill that is famous for hot corned beef and cold tuna, chicken, and egg salad sandwiches. Neighborhood customers plan their lunches around her daily specials which include meatloaf, beef stroganoff, and roast pork...just to name a few. **Bobbie's** offers daily domestic beer specials at \$2.50/bottle with all domestic bottles at \$2.50 all day every Sunday. Come by and visit this small friendly bar where customers can relax and enjoy a cold beer, a bite to eat, and chat with friendly bartenders.

Dorado Restaurant

2301 W. Foster Ave

773-561-3780

www.doradorerestaurant.com

Chef and owner, Luis Perez, opened **Dorado** just a few years ago and has added a little gem to our neighborhood. He combines his French culinary training and the love of his Mexican heritage to bring you a new and unique twist on Mexican and French cuisine. Every entree has a mixture of flavors that will send your taste buds flying. The fire-roasted duck gives their Dorado Nachos a smoky unique flavor that makes this a delectable appetizer. The food is ambrosial and the deserts are homemade.

Dorado's warm and knowledgeable staff will make you feel like family. With so many delicious choices to choose from

and specials offered daily, **Dorado** is sure not to disappoint even the hardest critic. Bring a date, friends or family and grab your favorite bottle because it's BYOB. Watch the chefs fire it up in the open kitchen. Groups/private parties are welcomed and carryout is also available. Reservations are recommended for weekends.

Edgewater Lounge

5600 N. Ashland

773 878-3343

A friendly neighborhood joint with great food and outstanding brews. **Edgewater Lounge** has something for everyone. For the micro brew enthusiast there is a varied and wonderful selection. The food is definitely far above standard "pub grub". Everything is homemade and delicious. The selection will suit any palate. Be sure to try the wonderful hamburgers, the amazing grilled ham and cheese, and the onion rings. (Other menu items include crab stuffed wontons, pico de gallo with warm black bean dip & tortilla chips, the best potato soup in Chicago, brisket, and an outstanding veggie burger). **Edgewater Lounge** has daily specials on both food and drink, such as the Thursday \$5 burger & fries, and a famous Friday fish fry. Listen to live music on Sunday afternoons and Tuesday nights. There's a great crowd mix, too, from families with strollers, to young professionals, older college students, and neighborhood regulars. Dogs are even welcome! The wonderful outdoor patio is the perfect place to enjoy a delicious lunch on the weekend or a crisp micro brew on a balmy summer evening.

K's Dugout

1930 W. Foster Ave.

773-561-2227

Looking for that perfect neighborhood bar? If so, **K's Dugout** is your new favorite, family-owned spot. Owner, Diana Kuhlman has operated **K's Dugout** for over 18 years. The perfect spot to watch sports on one of nine TV's or play darts or free pool in the back. They even have a few video game machines. Choose from over thirty beers or daily drink specials, or five-bottle beer buckets for \$12. Look for the painted-on name and

peppy shamrocks on the west side of the building...you're sure not to miss the giant, Old Style sign hanging above the corner entrance. Expect to find a wide range of people inside like police officers, firefighters, young couples, and middle-aged work buddies. There used to be a police station across the street, making this one of the favorite haunts for Chicago's finest. Even though the station is gone, officers still stop by quite often. **K's Dugout** hosts heartwarming and fabulous cookouts all day long every Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, and has a special meal on Veteran's Day.

Over Easy

4943 N. Damen Ave.

773-506-2605

A thirty-six seat local restaurant serving breakfast, brunch, and lunch with a twist. Come to **Over Easy** for innovative, beautifully-plated originals such as their "Sassy Eggs" with chorizo-potato hash, jalapenos, eggs, ancho ketchup, sour cream, and guacamole; "Banana Spiked French Toast" made with brioche French toast, sliced banana, banana cream, rum caramel sauce, and candied pecans; and an original Eggs Benedict that change every week, as well as other Sunday Brunch favorites. Owned and operated by executive chef Jon Cignarale, **Over Easy** is contemporary and "home-style," with something to offer everyone.

Ventrella's Caffe

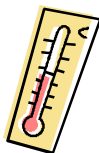
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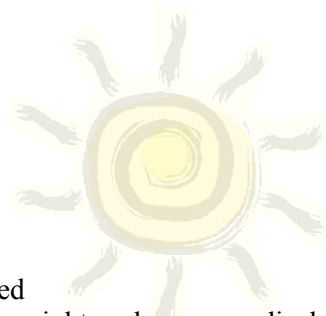
Voted Best Coffee Shop by "Time Out Chicago", **Ventrella's** has been described as the "hidden gem" of the neighborhood. Since opening in July of 2006, **Ventrella's** has been featured for its warmth, charm and excellent Italian specialties and coffee, by The Chicago Reader, The Chicago Tribune, The Chicago Sun-Times, WLS-TV and CLTV. Stop by for a delicious hand-made gelato, or cozy up to the wood-burning fireplace on a cool day.

Tips for Beating the Heat



Extreme heat and high humidity can be dangerous for anyone, but particularly the elderly, infants, and young children, persons with disabilities and people on medication for chronic health problems. Here are some common sense tips for handling the heat:

- Stay indoors and in air-conditioning as much as possible.
- Use blinds or shades to block sunlight coming through windows that receive morning or afternoon sun.
- Increase the amount of water and natural juices you drink regardless of your activity level; avoid beverages that contain alcohol, caffeine, and lots of sugar. [If you are under medical treatment that limits your fluid intake, check with your individual physician.]
- Avoid going out in the blazing heat, as much as possible.
- Minimize the use of electric lights and heat-generating appliances, like ovens.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting, clothing.
- Eat light, cool, easy-to-digest foods, such as fruit or salads.
- Check on family members, friends and neighbors.
- If you, or anyone you know, needs emergency medical attention, call 9-1-1.



Special Consideration for Pets

Any animal can suffer from the heat, particularly very young or very old animals, short nosed breeds of dogs (i.e., pugs, bulldogs, etc.), heavy coated cats and dogs, and pets who are overweight, or have a medical condition.

- Provide water and shelter from the sun at all times.
- Restrict activity during extreme heat.
- Never leave pets in parked vehicles. Even moderate heat rapidly increases and can kill a pet quickly.

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Rascher Zoning Request Still in Play

Much has transpired related to the zoning change for the property at 2015-2029 W. Rascher Avenue. We hope this update can answer questions regarding this matter. The business at this location is Rendered Services Inc., a towing company leasing the property from owner Dr. Spiros Stamelos.



The BCO held a Town Hall Meeting on March 27th to collect input from the community on this zoning change request. In attendance were the business owners and their attorney, the attorney for the property owner, a representative from Alderman O'Connor's office, and 49 Bowmanville residents. A lively discussion and Q&A was facilitated by Jeff Graves, the BCO Planning and Development chair. At the end of the meeting a poll was taken regarding the change. The poll identified 44 residents AGAINST the change, with 5 residents IN SUPPORT of the change. This feedback was passed on to Alderman O'Connor in a letter dated April 8th, including a summary of key points in opposition to the zoning change, such as:

- inappropriate zoning for the site, given the combination of industry and residences in the immediately surrounding area,
- expansion of this type of business exposes Bowmanville to community safety issues by introducing a criminal and transient clientele to the neighborhood,
- risk that the zoning change might create opportunities for even greater undesirable expansion of this business.

Since the BCO Town Hall Meeting, and at the request of Alderman O'Connor, this zoning issue was deferred from the April and May Zoning Commission agenda. No date has been set for the issue to be taken up by the commission.

Alderman O'Connor is aware of ongoing opposition to this zoning change within the Bowmanville community. He has received a petition opposing the change with

approximately 80 signatures (as of April 28th). That petition is being circulated by Bowmanville resident John Rene Lastre (jrlastre@gmail.com) and will be certified and filed with the city. The BCO leadership discussed the various issues in detail with Alderman O'Connor face to face on April 28th.

In the meantime, towing contracts for RSI have expanded to include the local Jewel, Thybony, and Walgreens among others, as evidenced by the RSI towing signs on those properties directing car owners to the Rascher facility for retrieval. Also, Fox-32 ran a news expose about RSI on May 5th, profiling them as a business that may not be operating above board on many fronts. Through dialogue with the BCO, Alderman O'Connor is aware of both of these developments.


Some residents have expressed concern that RSI is not operating within its current M2-1 zoning. Current zoning limits the number of cars in the open lot to employee cars only – with RSI indicating they would have up to 8 employees. The BCO has been working with the 20th district community policing liaison to monitor the situation. The police have been asked to report any violations they observe. This will help make a record of any zoning violations for future action. The police do not enforce zoning, but can aid our effort by documenting what they see.

Until this issue is resolved, it is important that Bowmanville residents continue to make their opinions known to the Alderman. Consider the petition, watch the property and tow trucks, report suspicious activity, and contact Alderman O'Connor to tell him your concerns.

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BCO Yard Sale - A Great Success!

The Events Committee of the Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO), under the leadership of Leavett Wofford and Barbara Wolke, worked hard to prepare for the Annual BCO Yard Sale. This year, nearly one hundred community residents participated.



Alex, on Bell Ave., waits for his first big sale

This community-wide event is the most popular event sponsored by the BCO and includes all Bowmanville residents, whether you are a member of the organization or not. "We are very impressed with the energy of the BCO to organize such a wonderful event that includes everyone in Bowmanville", says Richard Martin who recently moved into Bowmanville from the Wrigleyville area.

Planning for the BCO Yard Sale begins early in the year and involves all members of the BCO Events Committee, as well as the BCO Board. Applications, advertising, street cleaning, city permits, and signage all have to be carefully orchestrated through the appropriate venues. Preparation of the BCO Yard Sale map is a last-minute task, and very important to the hundreds of bargain hunters that come to our community looking for that perfect something.



Brother and sisters display their purchases

Summer Fun To Do List

Are you and your family looking for something fun to do this summer? Check out these websites for more information:

Neighborhood Festivals

Summer in the city wouldn't be the same without the neighborhood and ethnic festivals all season long. Get out and enjoy. www.chicagoneighborhoodfestivals.us

Millennium Park FREE Events

If you haven't taken advantage of visiting Millennium Park, put it on your To Do list for this summer. Don't miss seeing this beautiful park and hearing the wonderful music under the stars. Without a doubt, it beats Ravinia for atmosphere and beauty!

www.millenniumpark.org

Garfield Conservatory

Take a trip down to the Garfield Conservatory. If you haven't been down there for a while, you'll be pleasantly surprised. www.garfield-conservatory.org

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The BCO Leadership Meets with Alderman O'Connor

The BCO President and Vice President recently held the 2nd in their series of ongoing meetings with Alderman O'Connor to discuss issues pertinent to Bowmanville. They met on Monday April 28th and topics included; tree trimming, sidewalk repair, gardens, zoning, and outreach. Below find a few highlights from the meeting:



- Activity on Rosehill Cemetery property along Bowmanville Avenue: We queried Alderman O'Connor on this as many residents have observed surveyors and real estate agents walking the property. He indicated that he has no specific information on their plan at this stage and expects any activity will follow its current zoning. His recollection was that the property along Bowmanville Avenue is zoned for single family residential and he does not anticipate any change to that. He did say that some of the activity may be happening due to a stalemate on the proposed Nature Preserve. He has recently given the cemetery owners a last chance to come to agreement on the deal. He indicated the federal government can no longer hold the money earmarked for the preserve indefinitely, and will return the money to other uses in the near term, if a deal cannot be reached. There is currently a court case between the cemetery owners and the City of Chicago, which has claimed the property by eminent domain.
- Tempel Steel to stay in Bowmanville: Alderman O'Connor told us the city has been in discussions with Tempel Steel as they evaluate their plans for plant consolidations. All signs are positive that they will consolidate into the Bowmanville location. This is good news for our tax base and local employment opportunities. It also means that more employees will be relocating to this site. It does not appear that Tempel Steel will exceed their previous high of 800 employees, thus their infrastructure may not change. Timing for this was not clear.

Please continue to send agenda items for these meetings to vp@bcochicago.org. Resident input has been very useful. The next meeting is anticipated to be in July. Look for details via an eBee or email. Also, please don't hesitate to engage Alderman O'Connor directly on issues of concern to you. He can represent us most effectively when he knows what is on our minds. Contact him at ward40@cityofchicago.org or 773-769-1140.

Looking for your neighborhood realtor?

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Bowmanville Rocks...and Rolls

By Cindy Burgin

"Hey, did you feel the earthquake?" Yes, that was the question-of-the-day on Friday, April 18th. Many Bowmanville residents were awakened by tremors caused by an earthquake centered in West Salem, Illinois, a small town located approximately 280 miles south of Chicago and a bit west of East St. Louis, Illinois. This quake measured 5.2 on the Richter Scale, occurred at 4:36 AM., and could be felt across several states. According to geologists, a massive rock formation seven miles below West Salem moved just an inch or so to cause this quake and a half-dozen, or so, associated



after shocks. Earthquakes are caused by an abrupt release of stored energy within the earth's crust. These sudden quakes occur when stresses build up to the breaking point and cause rock formations beneath the surface of the earth to shift in areas defined by geologists as fault zones.

The southern tip of Illinois resides within the New Madrid Fault System, which is the active fault responsible for this most recent earthquake. The New Madrid Fault System includes Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. According to internet sources, some geologists define a smaller area within the New Madrid Fault System as the Wabash Valley Zone, which resides in southern Illinois and Indiana. Regardless of proximity, this quake was undeniably evident to many in our community.

The New Madrid Fault System averages more than 200 measurable events per year (1.0 or more on the Richter scale), about 20 per month. Every 18 months or so the fault releases a shock of 4.0 or more. The Great New Madrid earthquake of 1811-1812 consisted of a series of over 2000 shocks in five months, five of which were 8.0 or more in magnitude. Eighteen of these quakes rang church bells in states outside of Illinois. It was the largest burst of seismic energy east of the Rocky Mountains in the history of the United States and was several times larger than the San Francisco quake of 1906, which resulted in massive destruction and loss of life.

Earthquakes in the central and eastern United States affect a much larger area than quakes of similar magnitude in the western United States. For example, the San Francisco quake of 1906 (magnitude 7.8) was felt 350 miles away in the middle of Nevada, whereas the New Madrid quake of 1811 (magnitude 8.0) was strong enough to ring church bells in Boston, 1,000 miles away. The difference in geology east and west of the Rocky Mountains is responsible for this strong contrast.

One Bowmanville resident inquired about the need to purchase earthquake insurance to protect their aged Bowmanville home. Another resident described his recent quake experience by saying, "I woke up to my bed shaking...and not in a good way."

Local School Council Election Update

By Heidi Kafka

The changes that are taking place at one of our neighborhood elementary schools are very exciting! I am about to start my third two year term as a community representative on the Chappell Local School Council (LSC). I was re-elected in the election held on April 17th. The LSC is the management team in a Chicago Public School. They are responsible for hiring principals, renewing principal contracts, formulating a school improvement plan and developing the school budget each year. Each LSC consists of a principal, two teachers, six parents, and two community representatives. In high schools, the LSC Boards also include a student representative.



Last year the Chappell LSC hired a new principal to replace the retiring principal, Dr. Bruce Allman. Mr. Joseph Peila signed a 4-year contract and started as the new principal in June of 2007. Mr. Peila has been effective in increasing enrollment, which positively impacts the funds available to the school. He has aggressively searched for new and rigorous programs for students. When hiring new staff, he has found highly qualified candidates and strongly supports teacher excellence. He is an effective and personable leader who has a clear vision for excellence at Chappell.

Chappell is a great asset to our neighborhood. I encourage all community members, especially parents, to visit Chappell to meet Mr. Peila and see the wonderful Chappell teachers in action. Call 773-534-2390 to schedule a tour. I am happy to offer my insights as well, just email me at heidi@redheidi.com. LSC meetings are open to the public and take place the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00 PM. I hope to see you there!



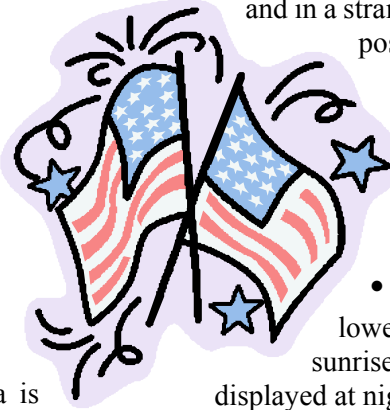
The Land of the Free

The U.S. Flag is one of the most important symbols of our nation, and represents American history. The thirteen stripes represent the 13 original colonies. The stars represent the individual states admitted to the union. Today there are 50 stars, representing the 50 states. Hawaii was the last state admitted - August 21, 1959. Illinois was admitted on December 3, 1818 when the U.S. Flag only had 21 stars.

The color of the flag has symbolism, as well. Red stands for hardiness and valor; white represents purity and innocence, and blue symbolizes vigilance, perseverance, and justice. School children learn about our flag early in their education and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag each day.

The flag of the United States of America is displayed in many settings, but it is especially visible during national holidays. We thought it appropriate to share some of the rules of flag etiquette as a reminder of how to respect the symbol of our free country:

- When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting from a window, balcony, or a building, the union (blue) should be at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff.



- When the flag is displayed on the same flagpole with another flag - of a state, community, society or scout unit, the U.S. Flag must always be at the top.
- When the flag is displayed over a street, it should be hung vertically, with the stars to the north or east.
- When the flag is flown with flags of states, communities, or societies on separate flag poles which are the same height and in a straight line, the U.S. Flag is always placed in the position of honor - to its own right.
 - The other flags may be smaller, but none may be larger.
 - No other flag should ever be placed above it.
 - The U.S. Flag is always the first flag raised and the last to be lowered.
- The flag should be raised briskly and lowered ceremoniously and displayed between sunrise and sunset. It should be illuminated if displayed at night.
- On Memorial Day, the flag is displayed at half staff until noon and at full staff from noon to sunset.

Note: Most American Legion Posts regularly conduct a dignified flag burning ceremony, often on Flag Day, June 14th. If you are in need of retiring your flag, there is a receptacle at the Sultzer Library where you may place flags that are no longer fit to use.

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Story Time for Local Kids

Bowmanville now has a local story time right within our friendly confines. Let Them Eat Chocolate (5306 N. Damen Avenue) hosts a free story time for little ones on alternating Saturdays at 11:00 AM. The current storyteller is Emma Caywood, a talented drama teacher who uses puppets and is quite animated. Stop in with your little ones to catch the next one and meet other neighborhood kids. Upcoming dates include June 21, July 12 & 19, August 2. See you there!



Don't Miss the Membership Train!

By Alexa Reimer Dunn

The 2008 BCO Membership Drive is rolling! We have had lots of exciting activity, and we hope you've had a chance to be a part of it. The drive was launched with an event packed April Open Meeting. We had a record attendance of 93 people, including many kids. This event was well received by the community and we are thankful for the *many* volunteers who made it happen. Sponsors who helped us included: Rogers Park Montessori who graciously opened the doors of their beautiful school to our community; DeBites Delicious Edibles who cooked and served up an amazing meal of pastas, salad, drinks, and treats; and Peter Buttita who entertained our kids with lively music. One highlight of the evening was a talk by Dzana Huseni from Care for Real. Care for Real is the local food pantry recipient of the Membership Food Drive that ran from April 17 through June 7. They reminded us that their organization actually supports 150 families who reside right here in Bowmanville – all the more reason to support them actively! Another highlight was the launch of the BCO Kids Rewards program – 16 kids joined the program and received as a first project a sunflower kit: instructions and peat pots to germinate sunflowers to plant somewhere in our neighborhood. This is one way the kids are doing their part to beautify Bowmanville!

Next up was the New Neighbor Social. This event was co-sponsored with Let Them Eat Chocolate who opened their doors for the BCO and welcomed more than 50 neighbors in to their new Damen Avenue store to nosh on treats and network with the neighbors. Many thanks to their hospitality and to the volunteers who made this event happen.

A door-to-door campaign has also been underway with quite a positive response. Thank you for being welcoming when we stop by to chat. Most importantly – thank you for supporting us and joining or renewing your membership with the BCO. If you have not done so yet – don't miss out. Go to our website (www.bcochicago.org), download the membership form and send in your \$12! It's the best bargain around and worth \$1 a month. We need your support to keep things moving forward. Check our calendar for more great events coming this summer. All aboard! Don't miss the membership train. Membership makes it happen!

BCO Kids in Action

By Liz Gabbard

The BCO Kids Rewards program is off to a good start. With 21 kids joining since the April Open Meeting, we have a good group to get involved in local activities. Ages of the kids range the full gamut – from wee ones on up to high school age. So far we have had the BCO Kids help with setup and execution of the April Open Meeting, out on the street delivering flyers for the street sale and garden walk, doing pick-up and delivery of donated food from the Membership Food Drive, taking on Bee delivery routes, and planting sunflowers to beautify their own little piece of Bowmanville. As you can see there will be a broad range of activities to get your kids involved. We need your help to continue the momentum of this program. We need a few parent volunteers to help coordinate these activities, and we also need more kids! Please volunteer a few hours a month to get our kids active – this will help build a foundation for service throughout their lives. It is fun and rewarding to see the results of this program. Don't miss the fun. Contact membership@bcochicago.org to get involved. Membership makes it happen!



The BCO is looking for volunteers to help with membership outreach, events, planning, bookkeeping, development, gardening, the newsletter, etc. If you're interested, or just want to find out more, please contact any of the officers or committee chairs listed in this edition of the Bee.

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Bowmanville Mourns Loss of Long-time Resident

Respected friend and resident of Bowmanville, Thomas A. Griffin, age 80, passed away on March 27, 2008.

Tom and his wife, Anne, moved to Bowmanville in the late '70's, after having lived on La Salle Street in the Old Town area for years. They purchased an old, burned-out frame home on the 2300 block of Berwyn Avenue that had been slated for demolition and rebuilt it.



Tom worked as a building inspector for the City of Chicago for 34 years, ran for alderman of the 43rd ward in 1967, and was an animal rights activist and cat lover. "Everyday was a pleasure with Tom. He was a great man and we will miss him" say Cornelius O'Sullivan and Lynn Reiels, Tom's good friends and recent caregivers.

A memorial service was held at Drake and Son on Saturday, April 5th and a reception celebrating his life immediately followed.

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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

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For further information, or to reserve space in the next issue of the Bowmanville Bee, please contact Betty Redmond at 866-837-1006 or 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
- Fireside Restaurant
- Let Them Eat Chocolate

BCO Bowmanville
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www.bcochicago.org

866-837-1006

BCO Calendar of Events

BCO Board Meetings, Third Thursday each month, 7:15 PM at Tempel Steel Training Room, 5448 N. Wolcott.

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.

10th Annual Garden Walk, Saturday, July 12, 2008 - 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

BCO Ice Cream Social, Sunday, August 17, 2008 - 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. in the "green space" on Bowmanville at Bell - watch for more detailed information.

BCO Halloween Event, details to be announced.

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.



Join the BCO

\$12

Join or renew your membership today! Please return this form with your check for \$12.00 Payable to the Bowmanville Community Organization to BCO Membership, 5361 N. Bowmanville Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60625. Questions? Call 866-837-1006 or email membership@bcochicago.org. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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☐ 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. What year did you move to 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? _____