



# Bowmanville Bee

## Newsletter Winter 2020

The Bowmanville neighborhood is bordered by Foster, Rosehill Cemetery, Ravenswood and Western.  
Visit our website at [www.bcochicago.org](http://www.bcochicago.org).

### Who's Who in the BCO

#### OFFICERS

Mona Yaeger  
[president@BCOChicago.org](mailto:president@BCOChicago.org)

Ann Scholhamer  
[VP@BCOChicago.org](mailto:VP@BCOChicago.org)

Beth Emperor  
[secy@BCOChicago.org](mailto:secy@BCOChicago.org)

Craig Hanenburg  
[treasurer@BCOChicago.org](mailto:treasurer@BCOChicago.org)

Mike Ferraro  
Joan Frausto-Majer

Ron Galant  
Amy Gawura  
Jeff Graves  
Sarah Johnson  
Barbara Kraetsch  
Michael Kraetsch

Julie Matthews  
Alex Schleider  
Ann Scholhamer  
Scott Smith  
Suzanne Tenney

#### COMMITTEES

Newsletter  
Tim Noworyta  
[news@bcochicago.org](mailto:news@bcochicago.org)

Gardening  
[gardening@bcochicago.org](mailto:gardening@bcochicago.org)

Events  
[Events@bcochicago.org](mailto:Events@bcochicago.org)

Membership  
[membership@bcochicago.org](mailto:membership@bcochicago.org)

Planning  
[planning@bcochicago.org](mailto:planning@bcochicago.org)

Communications  
[comm@bcochicago.org](mailto:comm@bcochicago.org)

GreenSpace  
[greenspace@bcochicago.org](mailto:greenspace@bcochicago.org)

Public Art  
[publicart@bcochicago.org](mailto:publicart@bcochicago.org)

Join us on  
Facebook  
[facebook.com/BCOChicago](https://facebook.com/BCOChicago)  
Instagram  
[instagram.com/bcochicago](https://instagram.com/bcochicago)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Thanks for a Really Great Year!

What a great 2019 Bowmanville had, with lots of fun activities, new families, and neighborhood events! The BCO Board was thrilled to see a lot more faces — including many new ones — at our events, our biannual Community meetings (hosted last year at Half Acre Beer Company and Spiteful Brewing) and our local businesses. Thanks to all of you for being such wonderful neighbors. I hope 2019 was great for all of you, too.

Here's a look back at some highlights of 2019 for both our organization and our community. I am honored to serve a group that has done and continues to do so much for Bowmanville.

#### Lots to Celebrate

In April we held our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Cleanup**, in which some 20 neighbors, led by Carlyn, came together to walk Bowmanville and pick up trash. From Foster to Bowmanville Ave and Western to Ravenswood, we covered as many areas as we could and cleaned them. We look forward to our **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cleanup** this Spring.

In June, our annual neighborhood **Street/Yard Sale** took place. It was outstanding, with over 100 homes participating. As always, there were great treasures to find on both sides of Damen. This year the BCO Board collected used books to donate to Open Books, a nonprofit that provides books to underserved communities.

July brought us one of our best-known events — the **Bowmanville Garden Walk**. We were delighted to see 11 new gardens, which brought to 26 the number of homes participating. We hope to see even more of you show off your beautiful yards in 2020.

Our **Summer Social** in August brought our event season to a spectacular ending. I think the kids talked about the waterslides for weeks! We outdid our selves this year with a HUGE waterslide, a concert by School of Rock students, goodies from Baobab BBQ, and a couple bands playing into the evening.

In addition, many neighbors came together last summer to help pour beer at **Andersonville's Midsommarfest** work the ticket table at **Ravenswood on Tap**, and help with the **Ravenswood Art Walk**. These efforts helped us raise money for the BCO scholarship fund and gardening build-out projects.

#### Business Is Good

A few new businesses opened in our community last year, and existing ones are doing well. Please support them and encourage others to locate in Bowmanville.

- On Western Avenue at Catalpa, **City Grange** opened its doors with plants and supplies for gardeners of all types, from veggie growers and flowerpot planters to landscaping items. LaManda and crew also helped with tips on getting ready for our **Garden Walk**, and she served as a judge for it.
- We continued to support **Sweet Virginia Kitchen** and welcomed **City Coffee** into neighborhood, both at Damen and Foster. **Baobab BBQ** at Foster and Oakley continued to offer our community yummy South African style bar-b-que, both for dining in and at our Summer Social. We are so glad to have this option so close by.
- **Leadway Tavern** at

*...continued on page 3*

## BCO COMMUNITY MEETING!

**Thursday March 19**

**7:00 - 8:30 pm**

Beer, Fun, Friends, and all  
things Bowmanville

**Half Acre Brewery**  
**2050 W. Balmoral**  
**(parking and entrance**  
**on Rascher)**



**Communications  
Committee**  
Stay Informed!

**Events  
Committee**

**Gardening  
Committee**

**Membership  
Makes it Happen!**

**PLANNING  
&  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE**



**Public Art**

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 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](mailto:news@bcochicago.org). **If you are good with layout and would like to get involved, we could use an extra set of hands. Current layout is done using MAC's PAGES software OR Microsoft Publisher.**

**The Communications Committee** provides many ways for the BCO to connect to the community and for the community to make its voice heard through the BCO. These include our website, Facebook page, quarterly newsletter (the Bowmanville Bee), online and email eBlasts for timely or urgent announcements. We also manage our BCO hotline (773) 349-2268 and have joined twitter! Contact: [comm@bcochicago.org](mailto: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! Each year we continue our **Annual Street Sale in early June, Bowmanville Garden Walk in early July, and Summer Social Mid-August. If you can help let us know! We need help to make it happen.** We are always looking for new twists for annual events and new event ideas. Following our informal Bee Social concept, we also have a First Friday's happy hour series underway—check the calendar on the last page for information. **Contact** [events@bcochicago.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 Community Meeting is March 19, 2020 at Half Acre.** 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](mailto: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](mailto:planning@bcochicago.org).

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

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

## COMMUNITY NEWS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

...continued from page 1

Damen and Farragut changed hands this fall from Frank to Napoleon and Sallie. We had a First Friday happy hour there in November. The food is really good, and they have a great meeting/party room for hosting events.

### Growing and Doing Good

As much as our events are the heart of the community, so are our gardens and ability to give back. The Gateway Gardens grew to a total of 44 veggie plots, we held "Social Sundays" hang-outs during the growing season to help gardeners (and anyone interested in gardening) build community, and neighbors interested in completing the GreenSpace have come together to start working on that. The BCO gave out two \$500 scholarships to Amundsen High School seniors. One is planning to attend Loyola and the other UIC. This is the second year we helped our young neighbors make college a reality.

We also updated the BCO website, created a new logo, and designed a t-shirt to help identify Board members at events. And we continue to deliver welcome bags to new neighbors moving into our community.

As we move into 2020, the BCO Board looks forward to continuing to create community events, develop part-

nerships with local business and political leaders, keep you informed about the neighborhood, and grow our membership. As always, we are looking for people to volunteer to help with our Gateway Garden and GreenSpace projects, raise money for scholarships, and generally give a helping hand at our events. I hope you will consider joining us this year in doing that.

Like I always say, I hope to see you around the neighborhood.

Mona Yeager  
BCO President

## Bee Social At Bowmanville 1st Fridays!

(1st Friday of even numbered months)



Thanks to all who  
came to The Clad-  
dagh Ring Feb 7!

April 3-TBA

Join neighbors on a night out!

Check out  
[BCO on Facebook](#)  
[BCOChicago.com](http://BCOChicago.com)

**CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE A  
FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION!**

**\$150 OFF  
any project  
over \$1000**

**2017  
Angie's list  
SUPER SERVICE  
AWARD**  
Previous Awards  
2016 - 2010

**Carpet, Tile, Hardwood,  
Laminate and Vinyl Flooring  
Window Covers • Expert Installation**

**NATIONWIDE** Free Home or  
Office Estimates!  
**FLOOR & WINDOW**  
**COVERINGS** [Nfwchicago.com](http://Nfwchicago.com)  
[cjones@nfwchicago.com](mailto:cjones@nfwchicago.com)  
Ask for Charles  
773-935-8700

We Bring the Showroom to You®

**5202 N. DAMEN**

## ALL STAR CARPET CARE

847-420-4111

- Carpets dry in 2 hours with our Ultrasonic Steam Cleaning
- We clean rugs & furniture, also water damage work
- Free Estimates
- 1 area rug cleaned free with any furniture upholstery cleaning when you mention this ad!



**Appointments At Your Convenience  
Neighborhood Business!**



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Great Turnout for BCO Fall Meeting

Approximately 75 neighbors attended the BCO Fall 2019 Open Meeting on Thursday, October 17 at Spiteful Brewing on Balmoral. BCO President Mona Yaeger presented an audit report and provided a review of BCO activities and events during 2019. She also thanked the sponsors that helped make them happen, which includes the Roger's Park Montessori School, Half Acre Beer Company, North Edge Group, Dreamtown, JC Licht, Gethsemane Garden Center, City Grange Garden Center, Lincoln Square Printing, Calo Ristorante, and Baobab BBQ.

A representative from 40<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Andre Vazquez's office provided a construction update on the work that was going on along Ravenswood, Summerdale and Balmoral Avenues. A representative from Congressman Michael Quigley's office was also present. We want to express our thanks to both offices for consistently showing support for the BCO by attending our social events and our bi-annual Open Meetings.

During the meeting, we also heard from our Committee

Chairpersons, who provided overviews of what their respective committees were doing. Presenting the reports were: Jeff Graves, Planning and Development Committee; Ann



Scholhamer, Communications/ Newsletter Committee; Co-Chairs Catherine McCullough and Stephanie Cisneros, Gardening Committee; Sarah Johnson, Events Committee, and Beth Emperor, Membership Committee.

Special thanks to Gourmet Mac and Cheese, who served food for purchase as they have at previous Open Meetings and to the staff at Spiteful Brewing who were such gracious hosts.

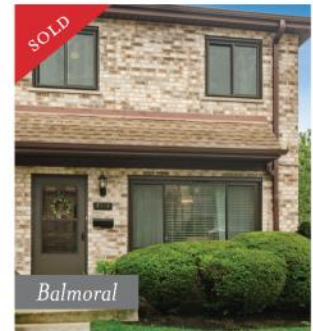
If you would like to become a member of the BCO, need to renew your dues or would like to volunteer with our various committees, please find us at [www.bcochicago.org](http://www.bcochicago.org).

**Our next Open Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19 at Half Acre, 2050 W. Balmoral.** Mark your calendars, stay tuned for meeting details, and plan to attend!



**Jeff Graves**  
sells **Bowmanville...**and beyond!  
[jeffgraves@atproperties.com](mailto:jeffgraves@atproperties.com)

 **northedgegroup.net**  
your **neighbor** | your **REALTOR®**



**CONTACT JEFF AND SEE WHAT HE CAN DO FOR YOU!**

cell 773.612.7203 // office 548 w webster

 **@properties**

Equal Housing Opportunity



## COMMUNITY NEWS



# NorthShore welcomes Swedish Covenant to the family.

**Swedish Covenant Health is now part of NorthShore University HealthSystem.**

Our combined teams of nationally recognized physician leaders, researchers and clinicians share an innovative spirit and unwavering mission to deliver the highest quality care to Chicago's North Side. Together, as part of our ongoing commitment to the communities we serve, we are expanding access to primary and specialty expertise. We are proud to provide exceptional healthcare, ensuring a stronger future for us all.

## Swedish Hospital

Part of **NorthShore**

**NorthShore**  
University HealthSystem

## Urban Pooch Champion Corner

### Canine Corner

Hi, my name is Napoleon. I'm a 10-year-old silver-and-black pug. My owners Mona and Greg rescued me three years ago in Nebraska and brought me home to Bowmanville. I live in a great condo with my older cat sister Sally (22 years old).

I love being a member of the Bowmanville community and love taking walks around the neighborhood each day. There are so many smells, squirrels, and rabbits to bark at and chase.

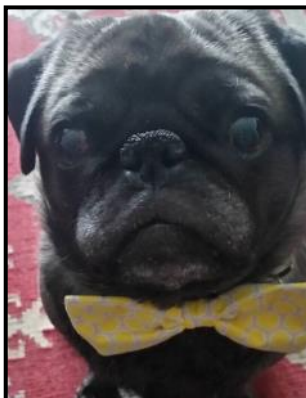
Pugs are great dogs to have. We are loyal, cuddle-worthy, and great companions. We are an ancient breed descended from the Chinese Lo-Chiang-Sze dog. Bred many centuries ago by the monks of Tibet, we have become the beloved pet of many royals and aristocrats, including Queen Victoria and Marie Antoinette, and a muse to artists, such as William Hogarth.

- We have some interesting characteristics too, which makes us a fun dog to have in a small space.
- We are stubborn — when you want us to sit, we stand.
- We want to be where you are at all times.
- We love to eat everything — popcorn, French fries, pizza, you name it.
- We snore when we sleep (just like a human), sneeze and play (sometimes).
- Our buggy eyes and short snout make our appearance loveable and ugly in a cute way.

My humans don't know much about my past, as I was found wondering the streets of Omaha and brought to the Omaha Humane Society. A lovely teen volunteer convinced her parents to adopt me, but low and behold I was not fitting into their family program. But one lucky 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Mona and Greg were visiting and fell in love with me. So, after being allowed to adopt me I was off to Chicago.

One of the great things I love about our community is the trees, meeting other dogs and their humans on our walks. I even like the snow as long as I have my red boots on.

My mom is the BCO President



and she signs off on the President letter with "see you around the neighborhood", well that often means that I'm there too. I love people, often I won't walk anymore unless you stop to pet me and show me some love. I'm great with kids, other dogs my size, and cats.

So, that's my story — what's your pet's story? I'd love to hear it. Just send it to [news@BCOchicago.org](mailto:news@BCOchicago.org) and we'll try to fit it into a future issue. If you don't have a pet but are interested in getting a dog or cat, check out the many rescue places in Chicago.

Ok, I guess I will see you around the neighborhood with my humans. May 2020 be a great year for you and your pets!



If you would like to have your dog, cat, bird or other pet featured in our next "Pet Profile," please submit a short article (500 words or less) about your pet and yourself, including some things you like most about Bowmanville and two or three pictures of you and your pet, to [news@bcochicago.org](mailto:news@bcochicago.org) by January 19, 2020.

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



## WEST RIDGE NATURE PRESERVE

# FITNESS GOAL #1: *COME IN*

The road to good health starts at **Galter LifeCenter** with friendly people, convenient location, and a uniquely holistic approach to fitness. All you have to do is take the first step.

**Stop by.**

**Your first visit is on us.**

GalterLifeCenter.org/tour  
773-530-1985.



**Galter  
LifeCenter**



# Spiteful Brewing

**SUPPORT LOCAL, DRINK LOCAL.**

OFFERING 16 BEERS ON DRAFT  
KID AND DOG FRIENDLY

— OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK —

MON - THURS 4PM - 10PM

FRI 1PM - 12AM

SAT 12PM - 12AM

SUN 12PM - 10PM

2024 W. BALMORAL AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60625

SPITEFULBREWING.COM

PROUDLY BREWED IN  
CHICAGO



COMMITTED TO SERVING  
ILLINOIS

## Meet Your Neighbors

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I never understood the curse, “may you live in interesting times” in quite the way I understand it today. I feel like I have whiplash from trying to keep up with all the head-spinning news. And while it would be irresponsible to tune it out, there are also stories closer to home I’d like to focus my attention on.

Bowmanville is a very interesting and dynamic community. We have scholars, activists, artists, musicians, teachers, entrepreneurs, professionals, and other people of all types and stripes from many different places. Some have been in the neighborhood for decades, others have come here recently. Let’s shine a light on one another so we can better learn what a vibrant community we are a part of.

To this end, beginning with the next issue of the *Bee*, we plan to publish a series of neighbor profiles, each of which will highlight an individual in our community. Please write in to [news@bcochicago.org](mailto:news@bcochicago.org) to suggest a person to be interviewed, with a brief explanation of why you think this person would be great to profile. **We’d appreciate getting your suggestions by mid-March, to allow us to complete an interview and article in time for the Spring issue, scheduled for May.**

So that you know who I am, let me tell you a little about myself. My name is Liz Gershfeld and I live on the 2300 block of Farragut with my husband, Jere-

**Know someone amazing? Someone with an interesting hobby or occupation? Perhaps there is a person in Bowmanville you greatly admire.**

Please write in to [news@bcochicago.org](mailto:news@bcochicago.org) to suggest a person to be interviewed, with a brief explanation of why you think this person would be great to profile, so we can all get to know them!



my, my sons Levi (16) and Oscar (14), and our dog Louis. We've been a part of the Bowmanville community since February 2014.

I grew up in Detroit when Coleman Young was mayor and it had the distinction of 15,000 abandoned buildings littering its vast expanse. While the national news paints a less than nuanced version of the reality of Chicago, Detroit at that time suffered from a more universal stigma. It's a very different city from Chicago, and those were different times, but I grew up in a neighborhood similar in ways to Bowmanville. Rosedale Park was a walkable neighborhood with an active neighborhood association. It had a community house, a theater group (The Park Players) and even a hand-delivered newsletter called "The Tattler." Plus, as is the case with Bowmanville, belonging to a diverse community filled with human intersections created many opportunities for friendship and collaboration.

I look forward to finding out more about you and others in Bowmanville. Please send in your suggestions for neighbors to profile, as well as your ideas for other types of articles to have in the *Bee*.

Thanks — and think Spring!

Liz Miller-Gershfeld



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Saucy Winter Beans**

By Liz Miller-Gershfeld

I'm writing this on a snowy January day, with the holidays behind us and much of winter yet to go. Friends and family who live in warmer climates often ask how we manage winters, how we keep ourselves happy and engaged. I wonder about that myself as I look out at a row of snow-topped garages, listening to my dog bark at a squirrel running along a telephone wire in the alley. I hear kids outside laughing and the long, short-short scraping noises of sidewalks being shoveled.

But while the natural world seems to have entered a time of monochromatic hibernation, there is a palette that reveals itself only in the winter. We all find joy in the occasional cardinal, crystal blue skies and breaks from cold temperatures. And just as those things are more special in these months, I feel we greet each other more warmly when we run into one another outside.

Surviving a Chicago winter is a bit of a Zen pursuit, a lifelong practice that feels more successful some days than others and provides an opportunity to develop good habits and shed bad ones. (I can't quit the chocolate chips stashed in the back of the cabinet.) While some days feel like yet another one in a series marked by gray skies, dirty snow, slush-ruined shoes, late trains and round robins of family colds, there's a coziness available only at this time and for having endured a certain discomfort. There are some things we can fully enjoy only when it's winter.

In keeping with the "simple pleasures" mode of winter, one of the things I reliably find myself drawn to this time of year is making soups and stews. I know the internet is glutted with recipes that include chicken or meat, so I thought I would share a meatless recipe you might enjoy that I call Saucy Winter Beans.

**What You'll Need**

- 2 cans of white beans or cannellini beans, rinsed (or 1 pound cooked from dried)
- 1 T tomato paste
- 2 t crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 leeks, cleaned and sliced into half moons
- 4 cloves of garlic minced
- 1 14.5-ounce can of diced tomatoes
- 1 bunch of Lacinato kale, center ribs removed, washed and sliced into ribbons
- 3 T olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 t dried oregano
- Fresh basil or parsley (or both) minced
- \*¼ cup nutritional yeast

**What to Do**

- 1) Sauté leeks in olive oil in a dutch oven over medium heat until they begin to soften.
  - 2) Add red pepper flakes, garlic, oregano and tomato paste and stir for about 5 minutes.
  - 3) Add beans and diced tomatoes and two cups of water.
  - 4) Stir and bring to a low boil.
  - 5) Cover and simmer for about 25 minutes.
  - 6) Remove lid, stir and add the kale and nutritional yeast.
  - 7) About 10 minutes later top with fresh herbs and serve. Salt and pepper to taste.
- Enjoy — and feel warm and cozy in the heart of winter!

## Playscape and New Plantings Planned for Bowmanville's Community GreenSpace

Last November, 12 members of the Bowmanville community gathered to discuss possible next steps in the development of the beloved community GreenSpace. Located at the west end of the Bowmanville Community Garden, on Bowmanville Avenue between Leavitt and Bell streets, it is a popular destination for residents of all ages. The GreenSpace is a peaceful open space where everyone can go to breathe deeply, romp and play, and socialize with family, friends and neighbors.

After a six-year hiatus, the ad hoc GreenSpace Committee has re-convened to complete the plans for the community's interactive, natural playscape. These features are being addressed:

- **Plant climbing roses for the trellis** that frames the pergola (in honor of the Rocks Family, longtime Bowmanville residents whose home once stood on the site)
- **Fully develop the Stump Stomp area**, with new logs properly installed
- **Complete the Rock Walk**, replacing the tiny rocks at the base and installing boulders for storytime sitting and play
- **Replant the rain gardens**
- **Add more trees**
- **Create signage**, including a Welcome sign and interpretive signs that identify the greenspace areas, plantings and wildlife that can be found there
- **Implement a long-term maintenance plan**

### Members of the Greenspace Ad Hoc Committee include:

Betty Redmond, Chair

Craig Hanenburg, Vice Chair

Anne Boyle, Wendy Fairchild, Jeff Graves, Ellen Jurczak, Tom Kennedy, Jim Kriegsmann, Jenny Ringblom, Stew Weiss, Leavett Wofford, Mona Yaeger

**We're looking for volunteers and would love to include your energy and talents to make Bowmanville a greener place to live! If you would like to lend a hand or be placed on the email list announcing our meetings, please contact:**

[greenspace@bcochicago.org](mailto:greenspace@bcochicago.org)



### The Genesis of Our Community Greenspace

After the 2007 Ice Cream Social (which was held on the Rosehill Cemetery property adjacent to the Rocks' home), BCO volunteers became galvanized by the idea of obtaining space which would be permanently available to the community. Acquisition of property was spearheaded by the BCO Greenspace Committee, which formed in 2008 to investigate acquiring additional park land. It was discovered that the City of Chicago's Park District considered Bowmanville an underserved community in terms of open public park land. In 2008, the Rocks' home was put on the market, and acquiring a property quickly came within reach.

Ideas for the space were gathered through community-based surveys and charettes that provided public forums for discussion. Community consensus was reached

...continued



## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Truly a Team Effort

and development of plans for a passive park began. Fundraising began immediately after, with a goal to be completed by 2012.

The committee generated financial support for the purchase and development of the property through appeals to the city, environmental organizations and the community. The property was eventually purchased in the summer of 2010, with the generous support of former Mayor Rahm Emanuel, former Alderman Patrick O'Connor, Congressman Mike Quigley, Illinois State Representative Greg Harris, the City of Chicago's Department of Planning and Zoning and Department of Community Development, Friends of the Parks, NeighborSpace, Openlands and Bowmanville residents.

A talented core of volunteers brought plans for the new space to life – building softly sloped berms (made from 58,000 LBS of soil!!!) that children now play on each day; planting trees that will one day provide shade for visitors, along with grasses and two rain gardens that address the area's environmental issues; designing a community gathering space with a pergola framed by climbing roses



and durable benches; planning an interactive playscape to include a stump stomp and rock walk for development of large motor skills in youngsters, storytime and resting, while engaged in a natural setting.

By Spring of 2013, installation of the GreenSpace was mostly in place. With your help, we can finish the plan and further transform this special plot of land into a thriving and sustainable "neighborhood backyard."



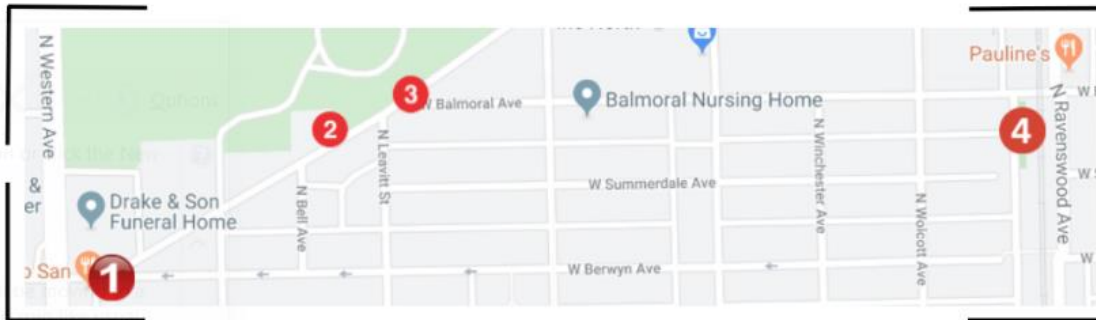
## Green Doesn't Just Happen

Did you know that Bowmanville has four green space areas? As the image and numbers below show, we have two areas that house our veggie plots, a beautiful pathway along Bowmanville Ave at Leavitt, and the GreenSpace on Bowmanville Ave at Bell Street. We also have a small bump-out area at the entrance into our community at Berwyn Ave near Western that's beautified with flowers and other plants.

These spaces make our community unique — green spaces are not common in most Chicago neighborhoods. Plus, our green spaces are managed by the BCO and the wonderful neighbors who over the years have stepped up to help maintain them. This enables us to make sure these spaces serve the community.

But having these amenities means that keeping them in good condition is up to us. These spaces take many hands and hours to keep green, weeded, and enjoyable for all to share. This is where neighbors like you come in.

As we move into 2020, the BCO is seeking volunteers who are interested in gardening, teaching, and helping to manage and maintain our green spaces. If you are interested in volunteering for the Garden Committee please send an email to [gardening@bcochicago.org](mailto:gardening@bcochicago.org). Our green spaces — and everyone in Bowmanville — would greatly appreciate that.



## BCO Community Gardens

### SUMMARY

#### Bowmanville Community Gardens

- 1 Westgate Garden
- 2 GreenSpace
- 3 Bowmanville Community Garden
- 4 Gateway Garden

4

Locations

53

Veggie  
Garden Plots

75+

Gardeners

35

Volunteer  
Dates

4

Garden  
Committee  
Meetings

???

Future Volunteer  
Opportunities



[gardening@bcochicago.org](mailto:gardening@bcochicago.org)

powered by  
PIKTOCHART

[www.bcochicago.org](http://www.bcochicago.org)



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Help Us Help Newcomers Get Through the Winter!

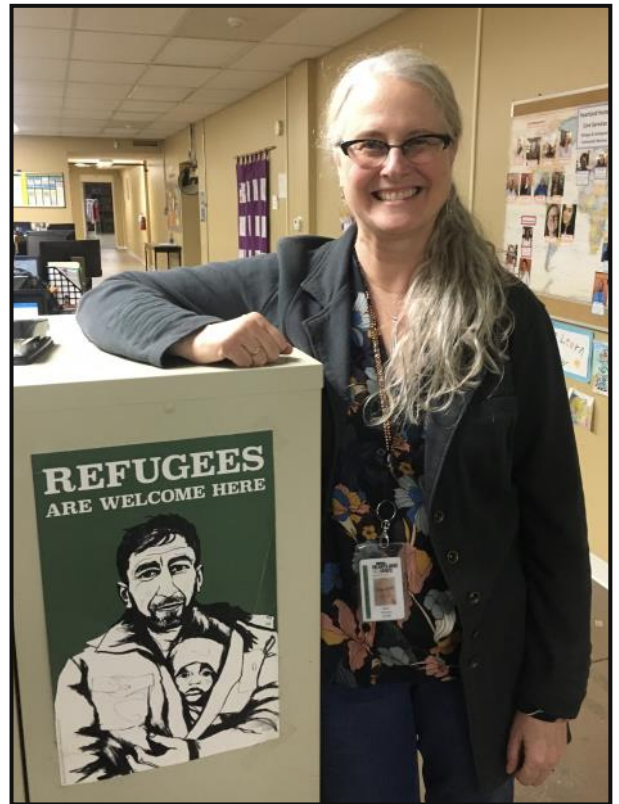
There are a lot of struggles for newcomers to Chicago, as you can imagine. Winter is a big one. So right now, we at the [Heartland Alliance](http://www.heartlandalliance.org) are asking for donations of (new or gently used) winter clothes for youth, particularly those of middle school or high school age. February is the coldest month of the year, and our kids need to *layer up*!

I know this because I work for the Alliance's Refugee and Immigrant Community Services at Ravenswood and Montrose. My name is Mary Jude Ramirez, and my family and I have lived on the 2100 block of Berwyn since 1998. (I am grateful for having such an easy commute to my office.) We consist of grandma (me), grandpa, our daughter, son-in-law, and four gorgeous grandchildren, as well as an old cat and a turtle.

It's a busy family life, but I also work full-time with newly-arrived refugees and immigrants, helping families resettle in Chicago and learn English.

Your donation of winter clothes would help a lot with that. You can bring your donations directly to Heartland at 4419 N. Ravenswood, or leave them at my house at 2126 W. Berwyn. And thank you!!

For more information about our program visit [www.heartlandalliance.org/refugee-and-immigrant-community-services](http://www.heartlandalliance.org/refugee-and-immigrant-community-services).



## KNOW NO LIMITS

**Our Montessori-trained educators know there are no limits to what your child can achieve.**

Our philosophy, community, and environment are all designed to nurture, inspire and allow your child to reach their highest potential, both as a student and as a global citizen.

*We invite you to schedule a tour to experience our community and classrooms firsthand.*

**1800 W. Balmoral | 773.271.1700 | [info@rpms.org](mailto:info@rpms.org)**



**Currently accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year.**

**Serving students 2-14**

## Winter To-Do list in Bowmanville!

- 1) **Vegetable Plot Application** online NOW! DUE DATE Sunday March 1st
- 2) **BCO Community Meeting** March 19th at Half Acre - 7—8:30pm RSVP
- 3) **BCO First Friday**—April 3rd!
- 4) **CAPS Meeting** Feb 4th and April 1st @ St. Gregory's Church/Gym 7pm. Check in with the Beat Officers for Bowmanville, get safety tips, and learn about any issues in our neighborhood.
- 5) **Spring Clean-Up:** April 25th 10am at the Greenspace on Bowmanville and Bell. Doughnuts and coffee and garbage bags will be provided. Please bring your own gloves. All ages welcome!
- 6) Spruce up those gardens in March to get ready for the **Garden Walk!**
- 7) Start cleaning out closets to be ready for **Bowmanville Street Sale** June 6th!

### THE LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY J DEFFET

Trucking Accidents/Car Accidents  
No appointment necessary

DO YOU HAVE A  
LEGAL QUESTION?

**CALL ME. (773)627-4719**



### BCO COMMUNITY MEETING!

**Thursday March 19**

**7:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Half Acre Brewery  
2050 W. Balmoral  
(parking and entrance on Rascher)**

### Bee Social

#### At Bowmanville 1st Fridays!

(1st Friday of even numbered months)



Thanks to all  
who came to  
The Claddagh  
Ring Feb 7!

**April 3-TBA**

Join neighbors on a night out!

Check out

[BCO on Facebook](#)  
[BCOChicago.com](http://BCOChicago.com)

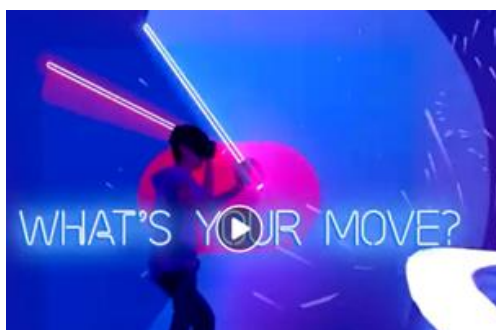


## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Feeling Bored? Try this!

Going to the movies is one way to get out of the house and overcome the winter blahs. But what's even better than that? Going to [Redline VR](http://www.redlinevr.com) at 4700 N. Ravenswood Ave. This newly opened enterprise, owned by Bowmanville resident Aaron Sawyer, who lives at Winchester and Balmoral, offers some of the top virtual reality experiences in Chicago. Check out their website [www.redlinevr.com](http://www.redlinevr.com) to see all the fun things you can do at Redline.

"I know that kids need to move, and VR games like Beat Saber, a virtual reality mash-up of Guitar Hero and Lightsabers, can really work up a sweat," says Aaron. "From boxing games and escape rooms to dancing competitions and bar fights, we have VR experiences for kids, families and adults. Multiplayer boxing is one that kids



especially like playing with parents. I've seen many kids take great delight in knocking their dads' characters to the mat.

"Table tennis and Job Simulator are also good fun for families, while Google Earth presents an opportunity to revisit places the family has gone together in the past. VR is so much more exciting and active than movies, it's just what the doctor ordered for the cold and gray of winter."

Redline VR features a full bar with local brews, attentive staff, and curated events for the whole family. **And if you mention you saw this article in the Bowmanville Bee, you'll get a 20% neighborhood discount on your first VR experiences at Redline VR.** So get up from your couch or recliner and try this exciting new form of entertainment.

**apc allied print & copy**  
DESIGN • PRINT • SIGNS

**ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS**

**773.334.5200**

5640 N. Broadway,  
Chicago, IL 60660  
Fax: 773.334.5757  
info@alliedprintandcopy.com  
www.alliedprintandcopy.com

- BUSINESS CARDS
- FLYERS • BROCHURES
- POSTERS • MENUS
- MONTHLY MAGAZINES
- NEWSLETTERS
- BOOKLETS
- LARGE FORMAT SIGNAGE
- MAILING SERVICES & MUCH MORE
- COLOR PRINTS
- FAXES
- SCANNING
- BINDERY
- GRAPHIC DESIGNS

**1000 BUSINESS CARDS \$49**  
Full Color, 2 Sides, 16pt Cardstock

**1000 POST CARDS \$109**  
6x4  
Full Color, 2 Sides, 16pt Cardstock

**1000 FLYERS 8½x11 \$169**  
Full Color, 2 Sides, 100 lb. Gloss Text

**1000 BROCHURES OR MENUS \$179**  
Full Color, 2 Sides, 8½x11, with folding

**1000 DOOR HANGERS \$189**  
4x11 Full Color, 2 sided, cover stock

**Banner \$98**  
4ft.6ft  
Full Color One Side on Vinyl Material

**PRINT SPECIALS**

## State Representative Greg Harris - 13th District

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



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

[www.GregHarris.org](http://www.GregHarris.org)

# BOWMANVILLE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

## —MEMBERSHIP FORM—

**JOIN THE BCO OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

**Now you can join or renew ONLINE at [www.bcochicago.org](http://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](mailto: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:

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning         | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Sale  | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Walk            | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Social |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Festivals        | <input type="checkbox"/> Bee Social   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Events           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bee Delivery           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Outreach    | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning & Development                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenspace Initiatives |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Initiatives | <input type="checkbox"/> 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### Articles for the Bee are Always Welcome

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

### Bee Counted-Advertise! Sizes and rates per issue:

**Business Card**  
3.75" x 2" \$25  
**Quarter Page**  
3.75" x 4.25" \$75  
**Half Page**  
7.25" x 4.75" \$150

5% discounts for 4x/year advertisers.  
For further information or to reserve space in the next issue of the Bowmanville Bee, please contact [ads@bcochicago.org](mailto:ads@bcochicago.org)

### Help deliver the Bee!

Volunteers are always needed and welcome!  
Please Contact (773) 349-2268 or email [comm@bcochicago.org](mailto:comm@bcochicago.org)

### Need another Bee?

You can find them at the following local businesses:

- Byline Bank
- The Book Cellar
- Speedline
- Pauline's
- Norwood Car Wash
- City Coffee
- Claddagh Ring

### BCO 2020 Calendar of Events

Committee updates on page 2, check website for schedule updates

Mar 1	<a href="#">Vegetable Plot Applications Cutoff Date</a>	Mar 21	9:30a-3:30p All Day Gardening Day-All Gardens
Mar 15	<a href="#">Vegetable Plot Notifications sent</a>	Apr 1	7-8p CAPS Meeting @ St. Gregory's Church/Gym
Mar 19	7-8:30p BCO Fall Meeting @ Half Acre 2050 W Balmoral	Apr 3	5-8pm First Friday. Location TBA
		Apr 25	10am Earth Day Clean Up Greenspace Bring your own gloves!

**CHECK OUT THE BCO WEBSITE! [www.bcochicago.org](http://www.bcochicago.org)**