



News from Belmont

Ready, Set... My Brown Line Station is Closed!

The CTA advertised the final station package in mid-August. According to CTA Construction General Manager, John Dalton, this means that either the Paulina or Southport station may close as early as November 30. A solid date will not be set until the contract has been awarded by the CTA Board of Directors in early October. There is a chance that the stations may not close until after the first of the year, but at this juncture, that seems unlikely.

Due to the uncertainty of the Brown Line closing schedule, a bit of positive light can be drawn on the fact that the completion of the renovations at Rockwell will be finished one month ahead of schedule. Not to mention, retailers in the Rockwell area and Alderman Gene Schuster have commented that the negative impact on businesses was less than expected. Nonetheless, the Chamber is committed to helping businesses in need.

In the meantime, be on the look out for special programs brought to you by the Chamber and SSA #27 as we work to mitigate business drop off during this difficult time. And of course, if you have any ideas regarding programming or would like to join our Brown Line Task Force, please don't hesitate to contact the chamber office.

Member Spotlight

Lakeview Pantry



"Food for today, hope for tomorrow" is the essence of Lakeview Pantry, an emergency food distribution center that serves approximately 1,500 people per month in the Lakeview community. Lakeview Pantry strives to eliminate hunger by providing food distribution at two sites, a home delivery program for the elderly and disabled, case management, and clothing distribution. Serving the community since 1970, Lakeview Pantry is dedicated to our mission of providing food to fill the basic need of hungry people, increasing the independence of our clients through self-help initiatives and other innovative programs, and raising awareness of poverty and its solutions.

Lakeview Pantry is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and an active member of the Lakeview community. We have been a member of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce for over seven years.

Lakeview Pantry is always happy to partner with local businesses and community organizations whether it is through volunteering, monetary donations, in-kind donations, or sponsorship. Please visit our website at www.lakeviewpantry.org for more information or contact Gary Garland at (773) 525-7718 or gary@lakeviewpantry.org.

Guaranteed Rate

Guaranteed Rate is the first consumer advocate mortgage company, providing consumers with a true comparison of mortgage rates and fees and offering low mortgage rates every day. The company has developed what is believed to be the most comprehensive search engine in the mortgage industry that searches and shops rates and fees from the leading lenders in the market. This means we can offer you the lowest rates and fees in the industry!

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Bethany Thompson,
Vice President of Mortgage Lending
(312) 375-0077
bethany.thompson@guaranteedrate.com

Fashion Focus Chicago 2006

In its second year, Fashion Focus Chicago will celebrate the city's growing fashion industry from September 20 through October 1.

A new addition to this year's 12 day event are boutique walks and shopping parties throughout some of Chicago's hottest neighborhoods, including Lakeview.

On Saturday, September 23rd, the Chamber is proud to present, in conjunction with Fashion Focus, Lakeview: The Fashionable Family. This one day shopping event will take place on Southport between Belmont and Byron from 11:00 am until 6:00 pm. The day's activities will include trunk shows, designer meet and greets, face painting for the kids, and a chance to win great raffle prizes which include outfitting for the family.

For more information, visit www.lakeviewchamber.com.

Events Calendar

September 06

Wired Wednesday
Hosted by **Total Balance Chiropractic & Law Offices of Joel Kessler**

Held at Saint Luke Church
1500 W. Belmont Ave.
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

September 09

Ribbon Cutting at Be By Baby
1654 W. Roscoe Ave.
10:00 a.m. – Noon

September 13

Chamber Night at Wrigley Field
5:30 p.m. Pre-Game at D'Agostino's Pizza
7:05 p.m. Cubs vs. Dodgers
\$50 for members,
\$65 non-members

September 23

Fashion Focus Event: Fashionable Families
On Southport,
from Belmont to Byron
11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

September 28

Brainery: Solving the People Puzzle
Mystic Celt
3443 N. Southport Ave.
\$20 per person, members only
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

October 11

Wired Wednesday Home Based Business Central Fedral Savings
1601 W. Belmont Ave.
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The View is a publication of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce and is co-sponsored by the City of Chicago's Department of Planning and Development.

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The View is designed and produced by Sandbox Studio, located at 1608 W. Cornelia Ave. To view additional work completed by Sandbox, visit them at www.sandboxstudio.net or give them a call at (773) 525-9258.

THE

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THE VIEW

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
LAKEVIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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NEWS FROM BELMONT

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1609 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 60657

2006 Board of Directors and Officers

President Kris Halliwell Lakeview Funeral Home	Directors Rev. David Abrahamson Church of St. Luke	President Mark Knight State Bank of Countryside
Vice President Patricia Craig Craig & Associates Architects	Ben Castonovo Central Federal Savings	Michele Kunze Signs Now
Treasurer David Knea Kenesco Computing	Jill Gabbert Byrne, Byrne & Company	Chris Sears Coldwell Banker
Secretary Bryan Dohman Paychex	Thomas Graefen Monarch's Heaven	Dan Spain Standard Bank & Trust Co.
	Chris Irwin Sussex & Rellly Commercial	Noreen Vaid Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
		Kevin Vaughan Mystic Celt

New Members

1. Anne Van Wart
Mary Kay Beauty Consultant
Anne Van Wart
3313 N. Lakewood Ave.
(773) 562-6617 (cell)

7. La Gondola
Italian Restaurant
Andrew & Christi McGuire
2914 N. Ashland Ave.
(773) 248-4433

*** 2. Coldwell Banker**
Joe Moylan
1840 N. Clark Street
(312) 933-1613

8. Monroestar, Inc.
Vinay Mullick
3626 N. Ashland Ave., #1
(773) 562-6887

3. Farmers Insurance
James R. Taylor
3047 N. Lincoln Ave, Ste 400
(773) 321-1531

9. Que Syrah
Jennifer L. Koch
3726 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-8888

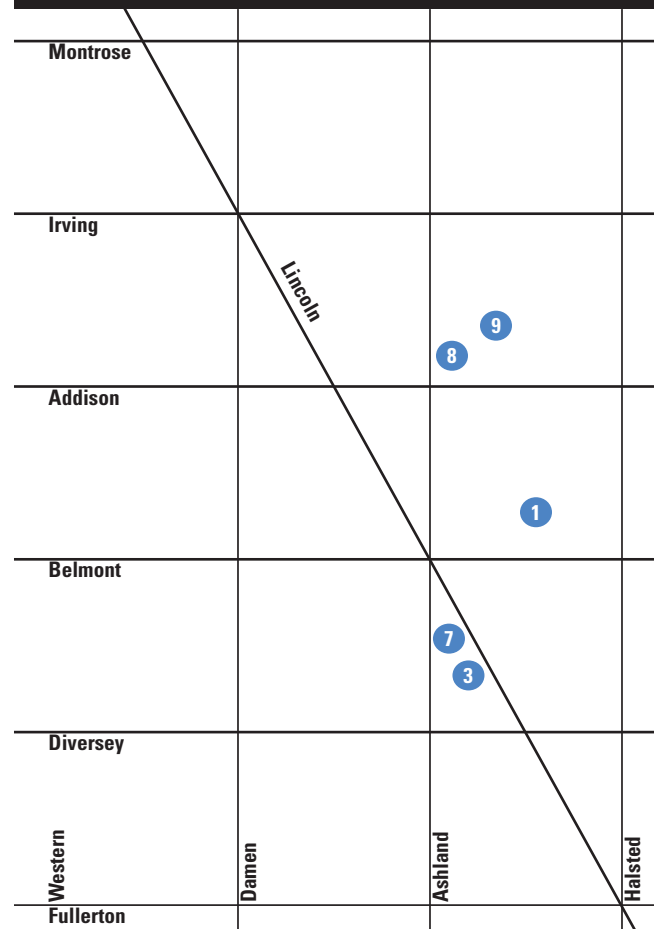
*** 4. Fifth Third Bank**
Katie Broe
3601 N. Broadway
(773) 327-0088

* not on map

*** 5. Heil, Heil, Smart & Golee**
Timothy Snowden
P.O. Box 1663
(847) 866-7400

*** 6. infoUSA**
Mark Scholl
600 W. Fulton Ave., Suite 101
(312) 589-8707

LAKEVIEW AREA MAP





Voices of the View

Business Importance in Lakeview



by **Kris Hallowell**
President

As a life-long resident of Lakeview and Lincoln Park, and a business owner in Lakeview for over thirty years, I understand and very much appreciate how a diverse, involved community can elevate the quality of life for everyone. A strong residential and business community, working together, sustains and promotes the business environment while continually strengthening the investment to live in Lakeview.

Over the past thirty years, the Lakeview neighborhood has weathered many changes, and while some have been positive and others have not, it is the continual working relationship between residents and businesses that will keep Lakeview changing for the better over the next thirty years.

During the 1980's, after the closing of Wieboldts Department Store, there was an avalanche of store closings, creating

an onslaught of vacant commercial storefronts and a subsequent decline in property value. A few businesses managed to survive, but most did not. During my eldest son's preschool years, I had to walk him to school past the prostitutes and drug dealers that had become commonplace in Lakeview. There were numerous fires set throughout Lakeview and East Lakeview, including one in my home. Unfortunately, Lakeview had become an undesirable place to live and work. After the fire at my home, my husband and I, (who is also a life-long resident), opted to stay and rebuild. Investing in the cost to rebuild was a risky decision, and we were advised by many residents and a surviving business owner against this decision. Fortunately, rebuilding and reinvesting in Lakeview was the right decision.

Over the past two decades, the residents and businesses have supported each other in the underlining commitment to rebuild Lakeview back to great neigh-

borhood it once was. This mutual support and working relationship between the two has transformed Lakeview into one of the most desirable and enjoyable areas of the city. And in a city the size of Chicago, this is no small accomplishment. This working relationship between resident and business can never stop. There will always be specific issues that need extra attention and patience, but traffic congestion, noise, and other irritations that come with living in a city, are all part of this ebb and flow. Many of these disagreements simply come with the territory, but ultimately, we all choose to live and work here for a reason.

Lakeview is an exciting, thriving neighborhood situated perfectly in the heart of the city we all love. All of us, residents and business owners alike, have much to gain from the support of all that is Lakeview.

Planning for the Future



by **Heather Way**
Executive Director

Gas prices continue to rise, property taxes are through the roof, and the Brown Line closures are just around the corner. So what does this mean to the Lakeview small business owner? It's time to take stock and chart a course for success. I think it is safe to say that many small business owners and entrepreneurs would rather have a root canal. The next question is, where to start? A good starting point is reviewing

your business plan. No business plan? Don't fret. There are plenty of resources out there to assist you, including the United States SBA, the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center, and the Chicago Women's Business Development Center. Evaluate your marketing plan. Does it have performance measures? Every marketing program should be measurable to gauge success. Evaluate your finances. Don't just check to see how much money is in the bank, but review your profit and loss statements as often as possible.

How else can you tell how much money you need to bring in the door to stay afloat? Set goals for your business and be proactive. There is no shame in planning for a rainy day!

And last but not least, remember one resource that is right under your nose, the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce. Not only do we have a broad network of organizations that assist small business, but we're in business for your business. If we can't help you directly, I guarantee we know someone who can.

Caught in the Act



1 Jennifer Fortney of Cascade Communications, Rev. Abrahamson of Saint Luke Church and Debbie Weinstein of Core Performance Coaching strike a pose for the camera during July's Wired Wednesday hosted by Barnes & Thornburg, LLP and held at Flora. 2 Gretchen Staubly of Flora and Krystyna Mazur of Krys of Europe Skin Care share a conversation during the Chamber's monthly networking event. 3 Grant Peters of Barnes & Thornburg, LLP regales the crowd with his positive impressions of the neighborhood during July's Wired

Wednesday. 4 Rev. Abrahamson of Saint Luke Church celebrates the 7th Annual Martini Tasting benefiting the Lakeview Chamber Charities with his two comrades at Cooper's on Belmont. 5 Donna Hachiya and David Knea of Kenesco Computing, Anthony Nichols of Central Federal Savings and Andrea Geller of Sudler Sotheby's International Realty sample the libations during the Lakeview Chamber Charities Martini Tasting event. 6 Rob Otwell of Lincoln Park Financial, Kris Hallowell of the Lakeview Funeral Home and Christian R.

Ollier of Sean L. Robertson & Associates P.C. take time to network during August's Wired Wednesday at Harris Lakeview. 7 Heather Way of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce and Larry Passo of Harris Lakeview celebrate Harris Lakeview's second anniversary in the neighborhood at August's Wired Wednesday. 8 Please help the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce congratulate National City Mortgage on their ribbon cutting at their new office at 3740 N. Lincoln Avenue.



What's the Buzz?

Welcome Rick!

The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce is happy to welcome Rick Cummings to the Chamber staff as of August 1st. Rick is the new Director of Special Projects and Events. Rick's primary functions will be adminis-

tering the programs for SSA #27 and overseeing select Chamber events. Most recently with Visit Illinois, Rick brings five years of non-profit experience to the Chamber. Rick, who has called Chicago home for the past 10 years, resides in

Lakeview and is a certified scuba diver. You can reach him via email at rcummings@lakeviewchamber.com or via telephone in the Chamber office.

Martinis For A Good Cause

Ever need a good excuse to have a martini? July 20th gave plenty of folks just the excuse they needed at the 7th Annual Reverend Abrahamson's Martini Tasting. This annual event benefits the Lakeview Chamber Charities, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization which functions as the giving arm of the Chamber. In the

past five years, the Chamber Charities have raised tens of thousands of dollars through a variety of fundraisers. Past beneficiaries include the Lakeview Pantry, Lakeview YMCA Teen Center, Counseling Center of Lakeview, and a host of other local groups. Recently raised funds will be allocated before the end of the year. If you

are interested, grant applications are available by contacting Heather Way in the Chamber office.

We would especially like to thank Craig, Mandy, and the entire staff at Coopers for hosting such a great event!

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Lakeview Local

Lakeview SSA #27 Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2006
Church of St. Luke
1500 W. Belmont Ave., 7:00 p.m.

Sheil Park Neighbors

Tuesday, September 12, 2006
Mystic Celt
3443 N. Southport Ave., 7:00 p.m.

South Lakeview Neighbors Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2006
St. Alphonsus Church Basement
1429 W. Wellington Ave., 7:00 p.m.

Southport Neighbors Association Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2006
St. Alphonsus Church Basement
1429 W. Wellington Ave., 7:00 p.m.

West Lakeview Neighbors Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2006
Paulina/Melrose Public Library
1659 W. Melrose Ave., 7:00 p.m.

32nd Ward

Alderman Ted Matlak
(773) 384-3011
www.tedmatlak.com

44th Ward

Alderman Tom Tunney
(773) 525-6034
www.44thward.org

47th Ward

Alderman Gene Schulter
(773) 384-8400
www.ward47.com

City of Chicago

www.cityofchicago.com

Burning Building? Call 911
Burning Question? Call 311

The new Lakeview Area street map and resource guide has hit the street. If you would like copies for your office or business, please contact the Chamber at (773) 472-7171 or via email at info@lakeviewchamber.com. Thank you!

If you do not receive the Chamber email blasts, please contact the Chamber at (773) 472-7171 or info@lakeviewchamber.com, so that we may add you to our distribution list. Our emails often contain important and pertinent information. Thank you!