



THE HAMLIN PARK NEWS

“Your Gateway To The Community”

September 2007

BOW WOW BASH 2007 SPECIAL EDITION

Hamlin Park Neighbors is proud to announce its first ever **Bow Wow Bash**. There will be two contests: **Top Dog**, a goofy pet tricks contest, and **Hot Dog**, a costumes contest with the contestants forming a parade. The Bash will take place on **October 6**, on Hoyne between Barry and Wellington, 11am – 3pm. This one of a kind event is sure to entertain.

We wanted to create an event that was unlike anything else in the City, would draw neighbors and visitors and would appeal to everyone. It was through these ideas that the Bow Wow Bash was born. We couldn't be more excited. This is HPN's first foray into the popular street festival arena. There will be dogs of all sizes, shapes and talents. For those of you who are not members of Hamlin Park Neighbors, we welcome you to take the opportunity at the Bash to join our Association.

We are thrilled about our Emcee and Judges. **Pat Tomasulo**, Sportscaster extraordinaire at WGN-TV, will be our Emcee. He is definitely going to make the event unforgettable with his witty hosting skills. We are delighted that we will have as Judges, our newly elected Alderman, **Scott Waguespack**, who will be as fair to the contestants as he has been to his new constituency; Rep **John Fritchey**, who keeps doing battle for us Downstate and assures us his dog won't get preferential treatment, though he may need it; veteran Alderman **Manny Flores** who has tirelessly worked on behalf of the neighborhood; and **Elana Morgan**, owner of **Morgan's Dogs** and the Lead Presenting Sponsor of the Bow Wow Bash. Her professional canine acumen will no doubt give her a keen sense of who the best of the best are.

In addition to the contests, we will have an **Elvis** impersonator so pets and humans can get their pictures taken with the King. There will be yummy grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as pizza from **Bob & Jack's Catering**. Of course, soft drinks and water will be available. We will have fabulous T-shirts available commemorating the big day. There will be a modest suggested donation for entering the pooches. **Trophies** will be awarded to the winners and **ribbons** will be given for 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

Come join your neighbors and bring your family and friends to this unique event. Together we will celebrate the joy of man's best friend and our wonderful Hamlin Park neighborhood. So get your tails in gear and start working on those pet tricks and fitting your dogs for their costumes.

Details: Registration begins at 11:00am, judging starts at 12:00 noon. There will be registration and membership tables on both the Wellington and Barry ends of Hoyne. The judging and contests will take place at the Barry end of Hoyne. Please note: No Parking signs will be posted on this block of Hoyne for Saturday, October 6. Make sure your car is not parked on Hoyne from 8:00am on that Saturday as towing will be necessary.

See you in October,
Carol Sohl, Event Chair
carolsohlhpn@gmail.com



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CAPS REPORT

by **Thomas Barnard, Vice President**

Gangs, guns and building a safer community The **Beat 1913** Caps meeting focused on identifying and reporting criminal activity. Several residents of

Welbourne Row Condominiums were in attendance to voice their concerns about gunshots fired along Clybourn Avenue in August and several shots fired in the early morning hours of September 1. The residents are understandably concerned and want to know what's happening, what to look for and what to do.

What's happening?

There are still gangs around Lathrop Homes and Hamlin Park, primarily the Dueces and the Latin Kings. Both gangs have lost power, leaders and territory and it seems that the young wanna-be's are trying to take or keep their turf.

What to look for?

- Besides the obvious sound of gunfire, be aware of children being used as drug couriers from apartments to cars waiting outside.
- Be aware of people loitering in any area . Drug dealers will use discarded snack wrappers or soda cans to stash their drugs as they can be dropped and mix with other litter.
- Be aware of unusual activity like moving stolen property especially during nighttime hours

The residents of Wellborne Row reported that they had seen all of these occur and that they now know what to look for.

What should we do?

Call 911 anytime you see suspicious activity.

Covert Operations Burglaries and Traffic

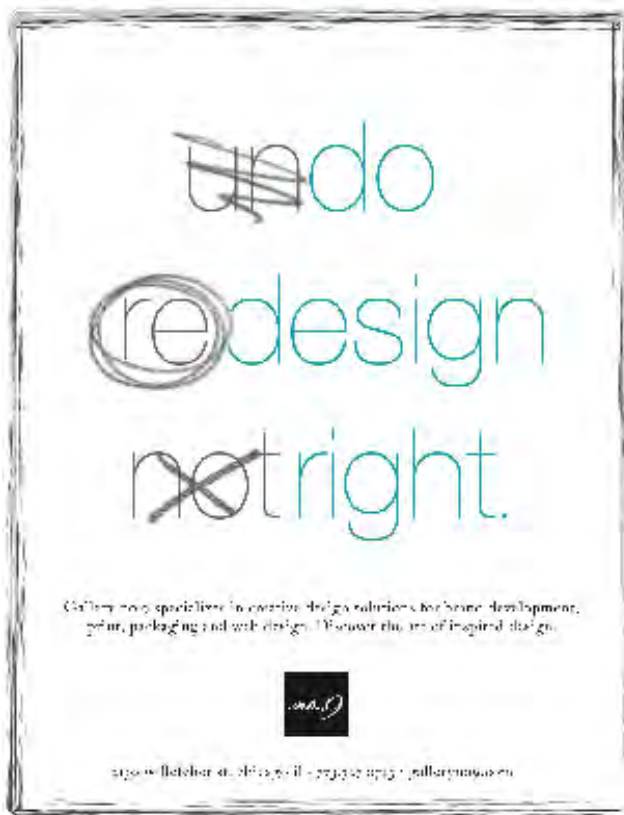
Lawlessness A covert officer was in attendance at the **Beat 1931** Caps meeting to explain some of the police activity in our community that you may never see. The

officer explained that his team was plain clothed, used unmarked cars and even wore disguises to blend into the community.

There have been several burglaries of residences, garages, construction sites in our neighborhood this summer. The police have stepped up their patrols in the area and several jobsites have resorted to guard dogs for security at night.

Please be alert and call the police regarding any suspicious behavior. Suspicious behavior could be cars circling the block, unknown persons coming to your door, trucks in alleys around job sites at night – anything that strikes you as out of place or unusual.

The big surprise at the Beat 1931 meeting was that no one complained about Cosmo’s. There had been neighborhood complaints for several months about Cosmo’s bar and the late night noise litter, loitering, etc. These complaints ultimately resulted in the owners being brought to court to explain their plan to address the recurring problems and try to maintain their liquor license. Apparently the owners have renamed Cosmo’s and presented a plan to the court to address the community’s concerns. We all look forward to the new



establishment being a good neighbor and benefit to the community.

Better to call 911 to check it out than to let a crime occur. Don’t make yourself a victim. Lock your doors on your house, garage and car.

YEAR IN REVIEW

by Adam Jaffe, President

The next meeting of Hamlin Park Neighbors will be our annual election. As a result, I want to take this column to reflect on the last year of Hamlin Park Neighbors.

On January 23, 2007, Hamlin Park Neighbors ("HPN") hosted a very successful debate for the three major candidates for Alderman in the 32nd Ward. To a packed house, the candidates told the attendees of their vision for the future of the Ward.

HPN reviewed more zoning projects than ever in the past due to an improved relationship and communication with our Aldermen. Our members thoughtfully considered a number of projects, supporting some and declining to support others. Two more projects will be presented at our next meeting on September 25. One of these proposals, for the Bulaw Welding site at Belmont and Western, has been revised based on the comments of Hamlin Park Neighbors. Without the improved relationship with the Aldermen, such a proposal would never have been re-proposed to the membership.

HPN has overhauled the Newsletter as well. The quarterly newsletter contains more articles and information of note to the residents of Hamlin Park, We are now distributing the newsletter to every house within the boundaries of Hamlin Park Neighbors as a service to the community. In order to provide a more substantial newsletter to all of our residents, Hamlin Park Neighbors began accepting advertising within this newsletter. We hope you like the changes.

HPN has also reached out to the larger community by increasing its participation with the Lake View Citizens’ Council. By associating itself with Lake View Citizens’ Council, Hamlin Park Neighbors is learning from our neighboring communities and helping out whenever we can on the issues that concern all of the residents on Chicago’s North side.

HPN has reached out to local businesses in order to forge a partnership. We believe that a successful partnership with local businesses will provide our group and each of us individually with many benefits. It is important that we support these locally owned shops so that these businesses can become permanent fixtures in our community. We aim to help these businesses succeed so that they may support Hamlin Park Neighbors and provide each of us with shopping opportunities that do not require cars or even public transportation.

Finally, HPN has undertaken one of its most challenging projects to date, the Bow Wow Bash. The Bow Wow Bash will be held October 6 on Hoyne between Wellington and Barry. This event is intended to be a fun opportunity to meet your neighbors while getting involved in some fun dog related contests. We will have raffles, dog contests, food available for purchase, and representation from many great businesses who are supporting this event. The Bow Wow Bash may highlight dogs, but it is organized as a membership event for the entire community. We invite you all to come, have some fun with your neighbors and support HPN.

It has been a very successful year, attributable to the hard work of the HPN officers and members of the Board. Special thanks go out to Tom Barnard who has served the past two years as HPN's Vice President and Zoning guru. Corey Berman has been a committed and resourceful Secretary and Treasurer, and I can't say enough about his hard work. Thanks also to Board Member Jeremy Goldblatt and Bow Wow Bash Chairperson and LVCC Rep. Carol Sohl.

As I mentioned, HPN will have possibly two zoning presentations at the next general meeting (September 25 at 7:30pm) along with elections for every office except President (about to begin year two of a two year term). Please email me if you would like to serve in any capacity as an officer or member of the Board of Directors of HPN at adamjaffe@hpnc.org. I am looking forward to another year of great gains for the group with another great group of volunteers. I hope to see you at the Bow Wow Bash. Please enjoy this special edition of the newsletter and support our sponsors.

Adam Jaffe, President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 25, 2007	HPN Annual Meeting
October 6, 2007	Bow Wow Bash 2007
October 9, 2007	HPN Board Meeting
October 23, 2007	HPN Regular Meeting
November 1, 2007	Beat 1931 CAPS Meeting
November 6, 2007	Beat 1913 CAPS Meeting
November 13, 2007	HPN Board Meeting
November 27, 2007	HPN Regular Meeting

Hamlin Park Neighbors Regular Meetings (4th Tuesday of each month) and Board Meetings (2nd Tuesday of each month) are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Hamlin Park Field House at Damen and Wellington. Beat 1931 CAPS meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Hamlin Park Field House. Beat 1913 CAPS meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of the Good News.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Lincoln Park Commission created Hamlin Park in 1910. Although the park commission had been established in 1869 to improve and manage Lincoln Park, in the early 1900s administrators began creating new parks and playgrounds in congested neighborhoods within their jurisdiction. In 1908, residents of the area around Damen and Belmont Avenues petitioned the commission for a new park in their neighborhood. Later in 1909, the Lincoln Park Commission acquired the eight-acre park site.

Dwight H. Perkins of the firm Perkins, Fellows, and Hamilton designed the Hamlin Park fieldhouse. In addition to the Hamlin Park fieldhouse, Perkins designed the Daily News Fresh Air Sanitarium (now Theater on the Lake), Seward Park's fieldhouse, and Stanton Park's original fieldhouse. The Hamlin Park fieldhouse had men's and women's gymnasiums, locker and changing rooms, an assembly hall, club rooms, a lunch room, a branch of the Chicago Public Library, and an outdoor swimming pool. In the 1930s, architect Clarence Hatzfeld made alterations to the building.

Hamlin Park honors Hannibal Hamlin (1809-1891), President Abraham Lincoln's vice-president.

CHICAGOWEEN CELEBRATES DOWNTOWN SAFETY

Dust off your Harry Potter costume and head out to Daley Plaza. Throughout the city, "boo-tification" takes place and most especially in the **Haunted Village**, located at **Pumpkin (Daley) Plaza, October 12-31, 2007**. This is a great, safe place for families to visit around Halloween.

Opening night, (**October 12**) kicks-off at 5 p.m. with two performances from Midnight Circus. The Haunted Village continues through Halloween with hours of Monday through Wednesday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note: Extended hours for **Wednesday, October 31** from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is FREE.

Daley Plaza (Washington and Dearborn Streets), hosts the Haunted Village and is transformed into Pumpkin Plaza, with pumpkin decorating, spooky storytellers and more to thrill and chill. Each day there are performances from the high flying aerial entertainers, Midnight Circus: 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Thursday through Sunday includes evening shows scheduled at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Kids can join in the on the fun by marching in costume as part of **The State Street Halloween Happening Parade on Saturday, October 20**. The parade steps off at noon at the corner of State and Randolph streets. Following the parade, kids can enjoy trick-or-treating, a performance by Midnight Circus and a costume contest-all at Pumpkin (Daley) Plaza.

The **Haunted 'L'** runs **October 18-20 and 25-27** on Thursday and Friday evenings at 7 p.m., 7:25 p.m., 7:50 p.m., 8:15 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 11:40 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 12:30 p.m., 12:55 p.m., 1:20 p.m. **Tickets are free and available on a first come, first served basis the day of the show only at the Visitor's Center inside the Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St.**

There is a 4 ticket maximum per person. Tickets are available on Thursdays and Fridays beginning at 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. on Saturdays. The Haunted 'L' is presented in conjunction with the Chicago Office of Tourism.

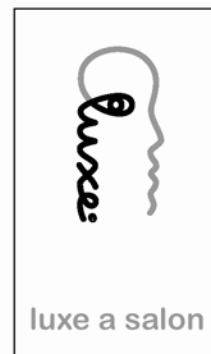
Meow woof woof, meow
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Aroue arf, meow mew
woof woof, mew mew!

(We speak their language.)

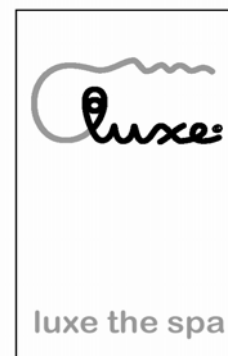


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WHEN IS A PERMIT NEEDED?

A permit is needed in order to do any of the following:

- 1 Add dormers or bay windows
- 2 Add a garage or breezeway
- 3 Build amusement devices
- 4 Build fences over 5' in height
- 5 Build a garage
- 6 Build, enclose, replace or heat a porch
- 7 Change from single family to multiple family
- 8 Complete modernization or conversion
- 9 Construct or alter any billboard
- 10 Construct or alter any plumbing systems
- 11 Erect or alter canopies or marquees
- 12 Erect a chimney
- 13 Erect or alter a fire escape
- 14 Erect tanks or metal structures above any roof
- 15 Finish off rooms in attic or basement
- 16 Install a boiler
- 17 Install revolving doors or a driveway
- 18 Install, alter or use any electrical equipment other than changing a light bulb or fuses
- 19 Installation, replacement or extension of warm air furnaces in all building types
- 20 Install temporary platforms for public assembly units
- 21 Install illuminated roof signs
- 22 Install tanks for flammable liquids
- 23 Make structural changes resulting in larger building area
- 24 Replace, recoat or recover a roof
- 25 Replace siding with masonry veneer or face brick, or replace existing masonry
- 26 Shore, raise underpin or move a building
- 27 Build mechanical, supply or exhaust ventilation systems
- 28 Construct, alter or add to ventilation facilities, including store front alterations, interiors and alterations to existing windows, skylights, transoms and other auxiliary openings used for natural light and ventilation
- 29 Wreck any building

If you have any questions regarding permits or construction, contact the City's Department of Construction and Permits (DCAP) at 311.

TREE MAINTENANCE WILL HELP REDUCE FUTURE STORM DAMAGE

by Jeremy Goldblatt

The high winds that accompanied the recent storms took a toll on the Hamlin Park neighborhood. Houses and parked cars were damaged and many were without power for over 24 hours. Much of this damage was caused by fallen trees and branches. Now that the lights are back on, and most of the debris has been picked up, the question arises: how do we minimize the impact and damage caused by future storms? At least part of the answer lies with better tree maintenance.

If you notice a tree in the community with dead, dying or cracked branches, please call your Alderman or the City’s non emergency number, 3-1-1, and ask to have these branches removed. Note: Be specific with your request. In the past, the City has been known to be overly aggressive when pruning trees.

If the whole tree appears to be dead, please contact your Alderman or the City via 3-1-1. The Chicago Bureau of Forestry coordinates the removal of trees in the public ways that are dead or damaged, removing approximately 7,000 trees a year. Dead trees are not only unattractive and potentially dangerous, but they could contain diseases that could infect and kill other trees in the neighborhood. Please note, if you believe a dead or damaged tree constitutes an imminent danger, call 9-1-1 to have the tree removed immediately.

Finally, please have the City replace removed trees. Trees are an important part of our community. As Mayor Richard Daley explained, "trees soften the edges of life in a large urban setting. They add beauty to the environment, help cleanse the air, increase property values and provide shade that can lower energy costs on hot days." Chicago property owners who want a new tree planted on their parkways should call City Hall to register for this free City service.

OPEN YOUR EYES: WILDLIFE ABOUNDS

by Sonja R. Johnson

Have you noticed the wildlife in the Hamlin Park neighborhood lately? No, not the kind of wild life you may be thinking of. I’m talking about the wide variety of animals that also call our neighborhood home. Of course, we have our share of squirrels and an ever increasing number of rabbits that can be seen on the lawn at dusk, and we get our usual robins, sparrows, wrens and the occasional cardinal at the bird feeder, but over the past few years, we’ve had more interesting animal experiences.

We’ve been treated to the sight of a family of robins building their nest in the tree right outside our living room window. The baby robins keep all of us entertained, especially the cats, and we miss the baby birds after they’ve grown old enough to leave the nest. Dog walks have included sightings of a raccoon on the rooftop of a now demolished cottage on Hoyne and of a skunk walking by the railroad tracks. If you get out early in the morning, you might catch a glimpse of a coyote going home with its catch in its mouth. One our neighbors reported that he saw a fox trotting down the middle of the street during an early morning walk.

Lately, we have had a nightly visit from a black and white cat who likes to come up to our front porch and look through the side windows at our pets. The dogs have no interest, oddly enough, but our cats are fascinated. The cat’s nightly visits bring out the hidden guard cat in our male cat – intermittent growling followed by the apparently obligatory rolling around on his back and pawing at the windows.

Finally, we certainly have a great number of dogs in the neighborhood from the huge Mastiffs that the Mastiff Rescue group brought to the recent Guinness and Oyster Fest on Roscoe to the cute little dogs walking through the rain in their overcoats. Unfortunately, we find that we know the names of many more of the dogs we meet on our walks than the names of the dog owners. We hope to meet more dog owners and their pets at the upcoming Bow Wow Bash. Pet or no pet, we hope you’ll be there as well to meet your neighbors!



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