

GREATER GOETHE NEWS

Greater Goethe Neighborhood Association / Serving Southeast Logan Square / Spring 2004

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GGNA 2004 MEETINGS

GGNA meets the last Tuesday of every other month at Goethe School, 2236 N. Rockwell, at 7pm.

The meeting dates for the remainder of 2004 are:

March 30

May 25

July 27

September 28

November 30

JOIN THE GREATER GOETHE EMAIL LIST-SERVE!

Stay up-to-date on what's going on in the neighborhood. To join the GGNA list-serve, just send an email to: [greatergoethe—subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:greatergoethe-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Letter from GGNA

Welcome to the first quarterly newsletter of Greater Goethe Neighborhood Association (GGNA).

What the heck is GGNA? GGNA is the newly formed 501(c)3 neighborhood association for Southeast Logan Square. Our borders stretch from approximately Western on the East, Logan on the North, California on the West, and Armitage on the South. We are a coalition of neighbors, businesses, and concerned citizens who care about our neighborhood and want to contribute. We very much hope you want to contribute too, and can't wait to hear from you.

Already, GGNA has had the opportunity to comment on critical zoning issues for the neighborhood and we're hoping to announce some positive change shortly. We've also created some communication materials, including a fabulous new website (www.ggna.org), a helpful neighborhood listserv (greatergoethe@yahoogroups.com), and now our quarterly newsletter.

We are helping make our neighborhood safer by assisting with CAPS and making sure the word gets out about crime and other safety issues. This newsletter will include the minutes from the monthly CAPS meetings (see page 3 for the March minutes). You can also access monthly CAPS meeting minutes on the GGNA website.

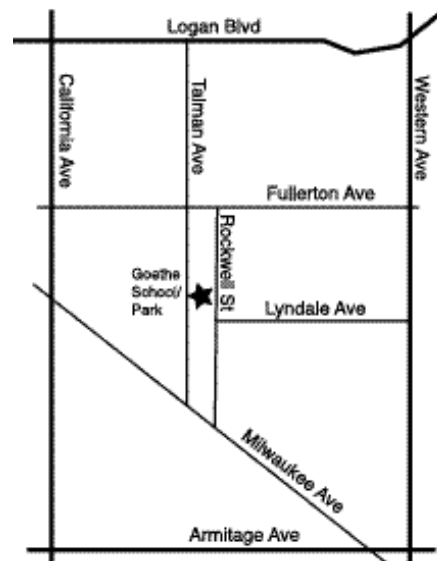
GGNA also holds regular Neighborhood Socials at the many wonderful eating establishments within our bounds. A big "thanks" to Bolzano's and Cocina Boricua for hosting our first two socials (more on Neighborhood Socials on page 5). Our next social is scheduled for April 27 at Cafeteria de Pancho, 2200 N. California, 6 pm.

Come the spring, we will focus our energies on our namesake park, Goethe Park. We want to make sure it is a safe place for people of all ages to enjoy at all times. We plan to hold a neighborhood potluck picnic or two at the park, organize an "Old Man's" basketball league and provide activities for kids, among other plans aimed at keeping our park for the people, not the gangs.

Please come join us, and share your ideas. We all walk, drive and/or bike around our neighborhood, and know the kind of things we would love to see happen. We need your help to throw block parties, clean up the trash, reduce crime, see our children safe, and see our elderly respected. This neighborhood association is a vehicle for making that happen. We hope to see you at our next monthly meeting.

Sincerely,

Your Friends and Neighbors at GGNA



GREATER GOETHE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Hector's Barbershop Fashion, Fades and Faith

by Johnny Elias

In each issue of Greater Goethe News we will feature a local business owner and/or resident. Our first featured business owner is Hector Nunez of Hector's Barbershop.

Under the salsa music beat, the clippers buzz, the scissors snap and the blades shave, at Hector's barbershop located at 2547 W. Fullerton Avenue. Here you will encounter an atmosphere of peace and friendship. Not only will your outward appearance be improved from the various types of hair styles Hector's barbers offer, but you will be feeling great on the inside as well.

The way Hector Nunez, the owner sees it, "Treat everyone who walks through my doors with love and respect." The haircut becomes a symptom of what is on the inside.

Hector credits his training came from two mentors, Frank Parisi and Joe Caccavella. The branch didn't fall too far from the tree; Joe Caccavella owns and operates Joe's barbershop 2 blocks east on Fullerton Avenue. Hector stated that "these mentors are true barbers that taught me that being a barber is 60% talent and 40% interaction with the customer."

When Hector opened shop over five years ago he envisioned a barbershop for everyone, but the younger male needed more attention that established barbers weren't offering. Several talented barbers at the shop offer fades, graphics and braids in addition to traditional styles. Hector says "there are people that come to his shop from different walks of life," and it's evident that he has good hairstyles to offer each and every one of them, including encouragement. Hector states that because of the atmosphere in the shop he has never had a bad incident.

Hector also envisions having a barber shop quartet in the near future. Music is near and dear to Hector Nunez. You see, the melody that you hear walking through the door may very well be Hector Nunez singing. Hector is an accomplished salsa vocalist & musician. Since 1964 he has toured internationally and recorded several LP's and CD's, most notably with one of Chicago's finest salsa band "Yambo." Over the last several years Hector has dedicated his life and his talents to his strong Christian faith. He has cut several contemporary Christian salsa CD's and he's currently working on his new release "La voz de mi Amigo" ("My friend's voice," Q Records).

Hector says, "I'm blessed to be a part of a diverse community with no color barriers. I enjoy and respect the neighbors and businesses throughout the whole community, and with the community's prayers and support I can grow old in this neighborhood, and have a young barber carry on the tradition."

Visit Hector's barbershop. Conservative or crazy, young and young at heart, there is a hairstyle for you along with a style of respect and courtesy that everyone deserves.

First Spring Cleaning for Greater Goethe

Everyone at GGNA had a great time cleaning up the neighborhood on Saturday, February 28th. Pedro Borrero (Director of Constituent Services for the 1st Ward, and proud resident of the 2200 block of Maplewood) organized about 15 people from GGNA and 10 more from River City Community Church (2135 N Maplewood) to get out and clean up the neighborhood.

Everyone knows that once the snow finally melts, a lot of the garbage that was formerly hidden, becomes entirely unhidden. Our hearty little band of volunteers cleaned all of Maplewood from Milwaukee to Fullerton, most of Rockwell in the same area, and all of the streets in-between. It turns out we picked a pretty good route to clean, because when Lucy Vito's Pizzeria saw us cleaning up the streets, they were so impressed, they sent some free pizza for the whole group.

On our way, we met many thankful neighbors (still in their bathrobes from Saturday morning) who wished they had known about the cleanup so they could have participated. Alas, it's not easy to let the whole neighborhood know about an event, but we're going to keep trying. Here's an event for you: The Citywide Clean and Green scheduled for Saturday, May 1. We will meet at Goethe Park at 9:00 am. Put it in your calendars now. It's surprisingly fun to get out there and clean up the neighborhood on a Saturday morning and getting to know the people who live on your block just a little bit better. We hope you can make it.

First Neighborhood Social a Rousing Success

One of the best (or sometimes the worst!) things about a neighborhood is your neighbors. We are very fortunate to have some good neighbors at GGNA and we wanted to have a chance to meet more GGNA residents. We thought the best way to do so would be to throw a little party at a local restaurant and invite all of our neighbors to come.

So on Thursday, November 20th, about 60 people got together at Bolzano's on Talman and Fullerton and had some delicious pizza. From babies to seniors, we had a diverse crowd who caught up with old friends and chatted with new. More than once, two people who had waived to each other across the street for 15 years, but never actually spoken to each other, got together and learned a little bit about each other.

When we know our neighbors, we are better able to talk to them and figure out the best way to live together in harmony. When we celebrate at a local restaurant, we are supporting our commercial streets and helping their bottom line. What could be a better combination—or a better excuse for a party!

Thanks very much to Bolzanos for hosting the party and providing some awesome pizza! Thanks also to Fixture (2506 N. California; www.shopfixture.com) and Simone Angelia's Boutique (2500 N. California) for donating door prizes.

Cocina Boricua Hosts 2nd GGNA Neighborhood Social

Cocina Boricua, 2420 W. Fullerton, hosted GGNA's second Neighborhood Social on February 18th. Virginia and Patty of Cocina Boricua put on an incredible feast of Puerto Rican specialties. GGNA folks filled the restaurant and took advantage of the opportunity to meet and get to know each other, spurred on by the family style buffet and seating. This was one friendly, relaxing evening out!

The evening was capped off with three door prizes—one for the person whose birthday was the closest to the day of the social, one for the newest resident of the Greater Goethe area and one for the person who sat in the lucky chair(!). A big thanks to the businesses that donated door prizes: Genesis Artist and Drafting Supplies (2417 N. Western); Blockbuster Video (2247 N. Milwaukee); and, our Cocina Boricua hosts, who also generously donated a \$25 gift certificate for dinner at the restaurant.

Don't miss the fun and good food at the next GGNA Neighborhood Social on April 27 at Cafeteria de Pancho, 2200 N. California, 6pm. To RSVP call Carl at 773-489-6645.

Seeking Information on Senior Services and Opportunities in Logan Square

The GGNA News is in the process of researching services and social opportunities for senior citizens of Logan Square for a story in our next newsletter. If you would like to work on this project or have information on what is available for seniors in the area, please contact Michelle Taufmann at 773-489-6645 or michelle@taufmanngroup.com. Thanks!



GGNA

Greater Goethe Neighborhood Association

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Opinions expressed in this newsletter
are those of the editor and its
contributors and may nor may not
reflect the opinions of the GGNA
members or its board of directors.

Michelle Taufmann, Newsletter Editor
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GGNA Needs You!

GGNA needs volunteers to do all kinds of stuff! Right now we could use help with the following:

- Planning Neighborhood Socials
- Writing and taking photos for the Greater Goethe News
- Researching senior services and needs in the Logan Square area
- Passing out fliers about upcoming events (door-to-door)
- Spanish translations
- Leading and/or helping with beautification efforts for the Greater Goethe area (e.g., planting and maintaining curb gardens)

If you are interested in helping out with any of these projects, please contact Michelle Taufmann at 773-489-6645 or michelle@taufmanngroup.com

Beat 1431 CAPS Report

Each quarterly issue of the Greater Goethe News will include the minutes from the most recent Beat 1431 CAPS meeting (you can also access CAPS meeting minutes on the website, www.ggna.org). For those of you who may not know about CAPS ("Community Alternative Policing Strategy"), it is a program of the Chicago Police Department that is designed to reduce crime by creating stronger links between police and residents.

Beat 1431, with the same boundaries as GGNA (Western, California, Logan and Armitage), is patrolled by seven beat officers, including Sargent Giambrone, the Beat Team Leader. These officers meet monthly with residents, which is one of the main CAPS strategies for preventing and reducing crime.

Our local Beat 1431 CAPS meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm and take place at various locations within the beat area. Please attend the next meeting and take advantage of this opportunity to learn about crime and safety problems in the area and what you can do about it. The next CAPS meeting will be April 1, 2004 at the 14th District station, 2150 N. California at 7:00 pm. For future meeting location or other CAPS information or questions, call the Beat Facilitator, Jim Rhodes, at 773-486-6276.

CAPS officers encourage all residents to: 1) Post your address behind your house (e.g., on your garage) to help police and fire departments, 2) Keep your porch light on, and 3) Install motion detector lights on the side and rear of your house.

Thanks to the Greater Goethe CAPS representatives, Jon Wettersten and Sally Hamann for compiling these CAPS meeting minutes.

Meeting Minutes

March 4th, 2004

Officers Present: PO Muniz of Community Policing, SGT Giambrone, PO Retamozo, PO Trempe, PO Singh

SECTION 1 (bounded by Milwaukee, Armitage and California)

- 1) The 2000 block of Bingham including: 2058, 2062, 2101, 2108, 2133 were reported for drug sales and gang activity.
- 2) Drug activity under the Attrill "L" tracks was reported.
- 3) Drug activity was also reported at 2064 Stave
- 4) A known drug offender J.J. Morgan was seen in a green Ford Taurus selling drugs in the Bubbleland parking lot.
- 5) 2025 N. California continues to be a sanctuary for homeless people, prostitutes and junkies.

ACTION: Officers to target activity on 2000 block of Bingham, Stave and 2025 N. California.

SECTION 2 (bounded by Milwaukee, Rockwell, Maplewood and Western)

- 1) Recent Ludacris concert at the Congress Theater generated a major problem with parking violations, under age drinking and littering in our neighborhood. This appears to be an ongoing problem with large concerts and must be dealt with. Business owners were present to complain about the large crowds of concertgoers who abused their restrooms while waiting for the doors to open at the Congress.

ACTION: Sgt Giambrone to discuss resources for policing events at the Congress Theater with Commander Avila of the 14th District and possibly organize a meeting with the 1st Ward Alderman's office and community.

SECTION 3 (bounded by Lyndale, Fullerton, Western and Rockwell)

1) Monday, 2/16 at 6:30pm a resident was mugged at gunpoint on Campbell near Medill. No arrests have been made at this time.

2) Apartment building at Rockwell and Lyndale had its front door windows broken over a weekend at around 4am.

3) Property at 2334 N. Campbell was reported to need bush trimming since the overgrown bushes are being used by criminals to hide behind.

ACTION: This is at least the 3rd robbery/mugging in this section. The ATM on Western appears to be attracting criminals. Police officers need to target this area and especially the ATM on Western.

SECTION 4 (bounded by Rockwell, California, Lyndale and Fullerton)

1) Tuesday, 2/24 Latin Lover tag on property at Belden and Talman.

2) Saturday, 2/28 3:30am and 4:15am 6-7 Hispanic males in a dark blue Buick and black Chevy Blazer, drinking and blasting music at Belden and Talman in Goethe School parking.

3) Red "Latin Lovers" tagging on wood fence of loft building at corner of Washtenaw and Medill; approximately 5'x6' area still has not been removed despite numerous calls into 311.

4) Officers did not have any new information on August murder on Talman.

ACTION: Police to monitor gang activity in this area. Weekend evenings seem to draw increased activity on Talman side of Goethe diagonal parking.

SECTION 5 (bounded by Fullerton, Logan, California and Rockwell)

1) Two individuals were involved in an attempt to be lured into a gray car at the Fullerton and Washtenaw bus stop.

2) Parking violations continue to be a problem in this area.

ACTION: Police and residents on alert for recent attempts of child abduction.

SECTION 6 (bounded by Fullerton, Logan, Rockwell and Western)

1) Gang members are loitering at the corner of Campbell and Artesian during late afternoon and evening hours.

2) 3-5 calls were made to the Police to handle gang fights and gun possessions around the Aspyrah school on Western near Fullerton. The Spanish Lords seem to target this area.

3) "CSU" tagging was very heavy over February all along Fullerton Avenue from Western to California.

4) A resident's house was egged Monday, 3/1 at 1:30am by gang members.

5) During the weekend of 2/28, 4 cars had their tires slashed on Friday night/Saturday early morning on the curve where Logan Blvd turns into Artesian.

6) A teacher and several students from Aspyrah reported that they have received threats from gang members trying to control Holstein Park. The Police have offered support to the school and are willing to accompany students to Holstein Park so they can participate in athletic activity.

7) No progress has been reported on the Derek Tate, Jr. murder on June 6 at Fullerton and Artesian.

8) No progress has been reported on the September 9th shooting at 4pm on Fullerton and Artesian. Even though there was an eyewitness and pictures of a gang member holding a gun, police say that no one can be convicted with that evidence.

9) Carlos Machis, owner of Huckleberries, at 2514 W. Fullerton, was arrested for possession of guns and drugs in early 2003.

The next court date is scheduled for April 12th. Residents, please attend this court date if you can, call the 14th district station for more details!

ACTION: Officers need to control gang activity in this section.

Beat Watch Reports

Midnight

N/A

Days

Bingham and 2025 N. California receiving daily attention

Recurring Problem Areas for Beat 1431

1) 2062 Bingham, and the 2000 block in general, continues to have serious, recurring drug and gang criminal activity.

2) 2025 N. California

3) Muggings in section 3

4) Gang activity

General Announcements

1) The police impersonators were apprehended this month.

2) Please be on the alert for child abductions in our area. If you see any such activity call 911 immediately. (An offender made an attempt to lure a 14-year old girl into his van on February 20, 2004. He is a Black male, 30-40 years old, with a slim build, dark brown eyes, black hair and a light complexion. He drove a newer, dark blue van with silver pinstripes and tinted windows).

3) The 14th district will be having an open house on March 27, 2004 from 10am to 2pm. For more information contact the 14th District Community Policing Office at 312-744-1261.

Disclaimer

Beat 1431 CAPS volunteers prepared these meeting minutes to the best of their ability.

From Alderman Flores

Dear GGNA,

On behalf of the 1st Ward, I would like to thank you for being involved in your neighborhood association and community. We are working hard in the 1st Ward to provide timely and quality city services, pertinent public policy, and resourceful programs and initiatives. To learn more about what the 1st Ward office can do for you, visit us on Ward Night (Monday nights from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Ward Office), check out our website and subscribe to our email alerts at www.flores1stward.com, or watch "1st Ward Chronicles with Alderman Manny Flores" on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month on CAN TV21. I truly look forward to working with your group and the Greater Goethe area, as you are the experts with what your block and neighborhood needs to thrive in the 1st Ward and the City of Chicago. If we can provide a city service, answer a question, address a concern, or offer assistance, please call me at 773-278-0101 or stop by the office at 2137 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

Sincerely,

Manny Flores

Alderman, 1st Ward

2137 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Chicago, IL 60647

773-278-0101

www.flores1stward.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April GGNA Neighborhood Social

Tuesday, April 27

Meet your neighbors! Eat good food!

Join us at Cafeteria de Pancho, 2200 N. California, 6pm

RSVP: 773-489-6645

Mayor Daley's "Clean and Green"

City-Wide Neighborhood Clean Up

Saturday, May 1

Join us for spring cleaning in the neighborhood! We will meet at Goethe Park at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 1. Tools and supplies will be provided (and maybe something yummy to eat). No need to RSVP, just show up at Goethe Park!

CAPS Meeting

Thursday, April 1, 2150 N. California, 7 pm

GGNA Meetings

And don't forget, GGNA meetings are held the last Tuesday of every other month at Goethe School, 2236 N. Rockwell at 7 pm. The next dates are:

March 30

May 25

July 27

September 28

November 30

So What Can We Say About Our Neighborhood?

We thought it would be helpful if we could all learn what Greater Goethe is like. Each newsletter, we're going to tell you a little more about the neighborhood. For this newsletter, we're going to see what the 2000 Census can tell us.

Our neighborhood is home to over 7,000 people:

- 4,500 are Hispanic/Latino, including:
 - 2,500 Mexicans
 - 1,200 Puerto Ricans
- 2,000 are white
- 300 are Black
- 160 are Asian

1,700 of us are under 19, while 48 of us are 85+

40% of us never graduated from high school, while 27% of us have at least a bachelors degree

Of the 2,800 households, 1,000 of them are people living by themselves, while 89 households have at least 7 people in them

25% of our households don't have a car, 44% have one vehicle

In total, our neighborhood spends an amazing \$91 million a year on retail goods!

We hope you enjoyed those statistics and hope you enjoy reading more stories about Greater Goethe in upcoming issues.