

WANT NEWS

West Andersonville Neighbors Together

DECEMBER
2008

W.A.N.T. or West Andersonville Neighbors Together is a not-for-profit organization committed to the betterment of the area and its people through community education, involvement of community members and development of community spirit.

VOL. XXV
NO. 4

W.A.N.T.'s boundaries are the N side of Foster, to the S side of Bryn Mawr, W side of Clark to the E side of the Union Pacific Railroad along Ravenswood.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

BRYN MAWR



Wine, Snow & Zoning

a.k.a. Winter General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, December 9 • 7:30

Ravenswood Pub

5455 Ravenswood

*Feel free to bring wine, cheese, cookies
or special treats to share.*

**Tonight we will have special
Guest Speaker Dave Hampton from
Urban Habitat Chicago**

We will be discussing how to make our
homes & neighborhood GREENER!

"Practical Community Sustainability"

Points covered: Building deconstruction
as an alternative to demolition

- Energy-efficient buildings & homes
- Roof gardens & stormwater control
- Urban gardens & composting

*Meet your neighbors
& hear the latest news!*

FOSTER

WANT has a NEW web page!

Check out our NEW web page for news & upcoming neighborhood and WANT events!

Go to www.westandersonville.org

If you would like to contact WANT for any reason you may e-mail us on the website or call the WANT LINE.

You are invited to please submit any noteworthy articles or information
that you would like to have included in our next newsletter to **Betsy Kane** <bakane@rcn.com>

W.A.N.T. LINE 312.409.0141

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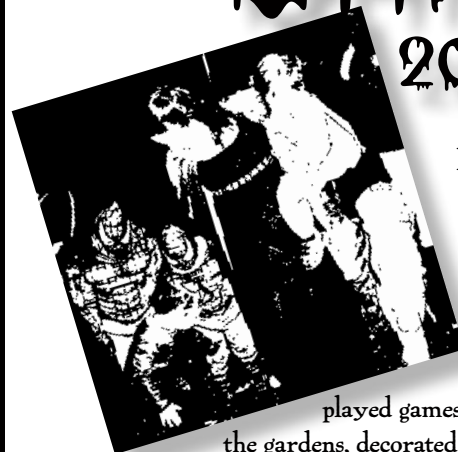
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GHOSTLY GARDEN 2008



Halloween came early this year to the West Andersonville Gardens, when the annual W.A.N.T. sponsored Ghostly Garden event was held on Saturday, October 25th. Nearly 150 children in costume played games as they followed the path through the gardens, decorated with hay bales, scarecrows, friendly ghosts and carved pumpkins. Power Rangers played boo-(basket)-ball and princesses played hopscotch. Firemen and bumble bees were golfing, while ladybugs enjoyed the spider ring toss. Batman said the lightening ball game was his favorite, but Robin preferred bowling. All were excited to get prizes, and thrilled by the treats. With record turnout, the Ghostly Garden has become an annual Halloween destination for families with small children in the neighborhood.

Besides all of our volunteers, we want to thank Trader Joe's, Gethsemane Garden Center, Target, Jewel-Osco, FedEx Kinko's, Dunkin Donuts (located at 6250 N. Clark) & Rogers Park Montessori School, whose generous support was very much appreciated.

A big thank you to all of you!
We owe our success to you!



A ROUND OF APPLAUSE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

None of this would have been possible without our many volunteers who helped out along the way - anywhere from carving pumpkins, to dressing up in costume and coordinating games, to helping decorate and clean up after the event.

Anita Healy, Jonathan Healy, Timmy Healy, Alexandra Healy,

Bill Coons, Suzanne Flemens, Ruth Kerzee, Paul Snagel, Adele Snagel, Luther Snagel, Dena Gordon, Michelle Platts, Viviane Pudil, Pete Wilson, Jordon Grauer, Joan Oberndorf, Maud Grauer, Carol Clennon, Jeff Clennon, Steve Simons,

Otto Ottens, Hank Ottens, Betsy Kane, Joe Rosa, Louise Rosa, Hugo Rosa, Claude Rosa, Pete Moore, Jen Moore, Max Raimi, Barbara Flood, Paul Raimi, Jillana Enteen, Alex Weheliye,

Marlena Weheliye, Aaliya Weheliye, Vadim Katznelson, Maya Katznelson, Chris Frumkin, Lydia Bueschel, Izzy Bueschel, Sofia Frumkin, Sandy McNabb, Georgia McNabb, Betsy Godwin, Tim McHugh, Cindy McHugh, Jack McHugh, Mark Beekman, Shalimar Beekman, Zach Beekman, Quinn Beekman, John Hogan,

Meg Hogan, Charlie Hogan, Peter Hogan, Matt Hogan, Rick Vondrasek, Michael Vondrasek, and Benjamin Vondrasek.

We truly appreciate your time and enthusiasm.

Bark, if you love Halloween!

Andersonville Souths doggie Halloween contest was a complete success and you can see how much fun all the doggies had!

One of the winners!
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November 1 - December 15
Non-perishable items needed such as pasta, cereal & rice
Community Appreciation Day
Saturday December 13 • 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Food • Caroling • Fun for all!
For more information call Julia or Sharon at 773.561.7051

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CHURCHES

St. Gregory the Great Church

5545 N. Paulina • 773.561.3546 • www.stgregory.net

Festival of Lessons, Lights & Carols

Sunday, December 21 • 7:00 PM

It's our 8th annual *Christmas Festival of Lessons, Lights and Carols*,
a holiday tradition at St. Gregory the Great Church. The music will
include Advent & Christmas carols along with solo and choral selections
from *Handel's Messiah*. The music will be presented by the St. Gregory the
Great Parish Choir and the St. Gregory Chamber Orchestra under the
direction of Patrick Godon, Director of Music. The Youth Choir under
the direction of Jennifer Sherrill will also be featured.

Admission is free but a free will offering will be taken.

Free parking is available in St. Gregory's courtyard parking lot which is
entered from W. Bryn Mawr through a "tunnel" between St. Gregory High School
& Passages Charter School. Parking is also available in the lot at Ashland &
Gregory across from St. Gregory's gym building.

For more information about the event, please call us at 773-561-3546.

Summerdale Community Church

1700 Farragut • 773.561.5755 • www.uccwebsites.net



STORY SUPPERS

Monday, Dec 1, 6-7:30, *Angels* • Monday, Dec 15, 6-7:30, *Shepherds*

At our story suppers, we take part of the Christmas story,
eat a simple supper together, play a game that helps us understand the
story and create a craft to take home to help us remember it.

Free, but reservations required.

Christmas Party for Seniors



Tuesday, December 9 • 12 noon-2 pm • *Free, but reservations required.*

Join other senior citizens in the neighborhood as they celebrate
Christmas with good food, great stories and some songs of the season.

Babysitting

Saturday, December 13 • 10 am - 3 pm

Drop your kids off with us! We'll entertain them, give them a simple
lunch, and you get a few hours kid-free to run errands. Or clean the
house. Or get that Christmas shopping done in Andersonville!
\$10 per child (ages 3 & up) for 3 hours of care.

Money raised will help us replace our roof. Reservations required.

A Traditional Candlelight Service of Readings & Carol

Wednesday, December 24 • 4-5 pm • *Everyone welcome!*

First Free Church

A New Place for Life in Andersonville

5255 N. Ashland • 773.561.7619 • www.firstfree.com

December 7th • Farmers Market • 12 pm

December 24th • Christmas Eve Service • 6 pm

Come explore Night Life at First Free Church!

Learning community classes are free and provide an opportunity to
explore and experience spiritual growth. To sign up go to firstfree.com

W.A.N.T. Business Members

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Land Use & Zoning

For those new to the neighborhood and/or paying more attention to the development and construction in our area, here are the guidelines the Land Use & Zoning committee uses:

If the work being done:

- Changes the USE of land and/or buildings (i.e. from residential use to commercial use, or vice versa), and/or
- Increases in the SIZE of an existing building, and/or
- Is NEW construction

Call WANT at 312.409.0141 with the following info:

- Leave your name and phone number
- Exact address/location of the property
- A description of what the required permit says (it's legally required to be posted on the property)
- Describe the changes in use, size or if the construction is new.

This information will be forwarded to the Land Use & Zoning Committee for review. *Don't assume someone else has called it in!*

Please let us know so we can work together.

You can always call Alderman O'Connor's Ward office at 773.769.1140 - they need to hear from you, too.

Land Use & Zoning Committee Report

Phil Casagrande & Susana Darwin, co-chairs

Pedestrian Safety

The WANT Land Use & Zoning Committee is coordinating with the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce, Alderman O'Connor's office, and Alderman Smith's office to have better traffic control signals installed at Clark and Balmoral. The current configuration does not indicate on all four corners in all directions for pedestrians, creating serious hazards in a high foot-traffic area. We're told that improvements should take place in '09, but we encourage area residents to weigh in on the matter via fax or e-mail to the **40th Ward** (fax: 773.769.3804; ward40@cityofchicago.org) or the **Chamber** (fax: 773.728-6488; eshepard@andersonville.org).

The LUZ Committee recently agreed to lobby to have the pedestrian crosswalk at Ashland and Gregory moved from the south side of the intersection, where those on foot must cross a left-turn lane in addition to the rest of traffic, to the north side of the intersection. Pedestrians are safer crossing with the light at Bryn Mawr, but for those who don't have the time or inclination to go out of their way, this would seem to be a reasonable improvement.

Traffic control lights for the Ashland/Catalpa intersection are still slated, but it's up to the County now to perform the installation.

Ravenswood Repaved! The City resurfaced Ravenswood south of Balmoral earlier in the fall. *Enjoy the smooth ride, everyone.*

Not on Our Dumpster & Lightposts! Phone 311 to notify the City's Graffiti Busters operation of tagging. A recent call regarding graffiti around Catalpa & Paulina got a clean-up response in less than two days.

The Committee thanks the **Trowbridge Guitar Studio** for serving as the 41st precinct's polling place on November 4.

ORGANIZATIONS

Andersonville Chamber of Commerce

5356 N. Clark • 773.728.2995 • www.andersonville.org

NEW - Andersonville Holiday Gift Guide

www.andersonvillegiftguide.org

The stores in Andersonville offer thousands of unique gifts at every price point. Finding them has never been more convenient with the new online Andersonville Holiday Gift Guide. Featuring a wide array of gift ideas hand-picked by your favorite Andersonville merchants, the Andersonville Holiday Gift Guide will make it easier than ever to find the right gift. Still can't decide? You can also learn more about the gift certificates available from Andersonville shops, restaurants, and services! Clothing, toys, home décor and more. Gifts for under \$25 to splurges. Thousands of holiday gift ideas. Dozens of great shops and restaurants. One quaint urban setting. NO mall madness. And no reason to shop anywhere else!

Why get malled? Shop Andersonville!

Andersonville on Sale!

Friday, January 23 • 6-10 pm

Feeling a little cabin-feverish? Get out of the house and come to Andersonville! The shops and restaurants of Andersonville have joined forces to present the **2nd Annual Andersonville on Sale**, a one night only sale event that promises the best deals of the year. For 4 hours only, many of your favorite Andersonville stores and restaurants will be open late and offering discounts that are sure to be deeper than the snow drifts on distinctive gifts and delectable meals.

Andersonville Development Corp

5356 Clark, 2nd flr • 773.728.7552 • www.andersonvildevcorp.org

Looking for the perfect stocking stuffer?

This year, ADC will be selling **2009 eco-Andersonville Calendars** full of "**living green**" tips, beautiful photos of Andersonville & coupons from your favorite Andersonville businesses. Priced at \$15, the calendars will pay for themselves with the coupons! The calendar sheets sit in a CD jewel case which can be reused throughout the years. ***It is the perfect gift!*** To buy a calendar call 773.728.7552 or visit andersonvildevcorp.org.

All proceeds benefit ADC, a non-profit organization that fosters sustainable community and economic development in the Andersonville commercial district. ADC works to ensure that Andersonville's business district is a model of: physical excellence & character, social & cultural diversity, environmental responsibility, and economic stability.

INTO THE WOODS

February 20 – March 29 • Klasen Hall, 1609 W. Gregory

Presented by Quest Theater Ensemble

Book by James Lapine – Lyrics & Music by Stephen Sondheim

When a baker & his wife learn they've been cursed with childlessness by the Witch next door, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell, swindling, lying to and stealing from Cinderella, Little Red, Rapunzel and Jack (& the beanstalk).

Everyone's wish is granted but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them with disastrous results. What begins as a lively irreverent fantasy becomes a moving lesson about community responsibility and the stories we tell our children.

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December 3 • January 7 • February 4

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ENJOY THE HOLIDAY'S IN ANDERSONVILLE!



Andersonville Lights up for the Season!

On November 16th businesses in Andersonville placed a single electric candle in their windows as a way to show our holiday spirit.

The lights will remain in our windows until December 24 when your last minute shopping will be over.

galleria's 1 Year Anniversary Celebration!

Saturday, November 29 • open til 10 pm • 5247 Clark

Help us celebrate with wine, appetizers, treats, chocolate & toffee samplings (from Chocolate Gourmet & Terry's Toffee) and live Holiday entertainment. As you can imagine, many of our merchants will be hosting specials and participating in Andersonville's many holiday events.



Tulmarknad

From 10 am Saturday, Dec. 6 til 5 pm & Sunday Dec. 7 til 4 pm

At The Swedish American Museum • 5211 Clark • 773.728.8111

The Museum's annual Christmas Bazaar. Traditional Scandinavian & modern handicrafts. Visit the Children's Museum for crafts, games, and a special visit from Santa. Entertainment for the whole family, kaffestuga, St. Lucia processions, and folk dancers. Admission \$2 per person.

Over the past few years all of Andersonville has gotten in on the act featuring FREE entertainment, sales, refreshments and more to entice shoppers and provide a festive backdrop to holiday shopping.



St. Lucia Festival of Lights

Saturday, Dec 13 • 4:45 pm • Swedish American Museum, 5211 Clark

The festival of St. Lucia is a Sicilian tradition adopted by the Swedes, a celebration of lights prevailing over the darkest time of the year. Join us for the annual candlelit, carol-filled procession down Clark Street.

Afterwards, the Museum hosts more singing, family entertainment and treats. The procession is free; admission to the museum is \$1 or a canned food item to benefit the homeless. There will also be a special St. Lucia service at 7 pm at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1650 Foster.



BLUE NATIVITY

November 21 – January 1 • Klasen Hall, 1609 W. Gregory

Presented by Quest Theater Ensemble

Blue Nativity tells the true story of Christmas and the birth of Christ with beautiful large-scale puppetry and live music.

"The Greatest Story ever told" guaranteed to dazzle all ages!

For Booking Info call 312.458.0895

or info@questensemble.org

Please join us on New Year's Day

4 pm at St. Gregory the Great Church • 5545 N. Paulina

for a special performance of *Blue Nativity*.

Afterwards, mingle with the cast at a special reception while enjoying food & live music!



Late Night Andersonville

Friday, Dec. 5 • 6-10pm

Andersonville stays up late for the Late Night Andersonville festival!

Do you start your shopping early?

Then join us for first picks on the BEST deals in town!



Late-er Night Andersonville

Thursday, Dec. 18 • 6-10pm

Are you a procrastinator when it comes to holiday shopping?

Then join us for our **2nd night** of

Late Night Andersonville, just a little "late-er" than usual.

For 4 hours only, stores & restaurants will be offering **BIG discounts** on distinctive gifts and delectable after-hours meals, plus complimentary **refreshments**. The streets will be filled with **free entertainment**, including a great chance to get your picture taken with Santa!

Join Andersonville Development Corporation for its

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And give the gift that keeps on giving...recycling!

Friday, Dec 5th & Thursday, Dec 18th • 6 -10 pm

at Art & Soul, 5347 Clark, 2nd floor – during Andersonville Late Nights

Don't wait until the last minute to do your wrapping! Join ADC in wrapping gifts with colorful & crafty reusable paper. ADC will provide all the materials. This is a FREE event but donations will be accepted.

Andersonville Holiday Gift Guide

www.andersonvillegiftguide.org

Find the perfect gift for everyone on
your list – right here in the 'hood!
Great gift ideas, from stocking
stuffers to splurges.

Why get mailed? Shop Andersonville!



Painted Light Photography & Framing Gallery

at 1742 W. Balmoral, encourages you to SHOP LOCAL!!

You can't just love us—you have to spend your holiday dollars in our stores for us to survive. To encourage this, come into Painted Light with other neighborhood stores' bags and receive **10% off** Root candles, Enterprising Kitchen soaps & ready-made picture frames. *Through January!*



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MUSEUMS

Swedish American Museum

5211 N. Clark • 773.728.8111 • www.samac.org

Breakfast with Tomten

Saturday, December 13 • 9:00 am

A Swedish pancake breakfast with traditional crafts, dancing around the Christmas tree, and a special visit from Tomten. Cost: \$10 members, \$15 non-members, children under 2 free. Pre-paid reservations are required. Please call the Museum at 773.728-8111 for information & reservations.

Julmiddag Swedish Family Christmas

Sunday, December 21 • 4 pm

A traditional Swedish Smörgåsbord with all the entertainment. Tomten (Santa) will be attending to give julklappar (presents) to all the children. Special invitations will be mailed. Pre-paid reservations are required. Please call the Museum at 773.728-8111 for information & reservations.

Children's Museum of Immigration

Tues - Fri, 1 pm - 4 pm • Sat & Sun, 11 am - 4 pm

The Children's Museum of Immigration is an interactive, hands-on museum for children ages 3-12. Travel back in time 100 years to a farm in rural Sweden. Sail the seas on a Viking vessel. These are just a few of the fun and educational activities that await you as part of this ongoing exhibit.

School programs and tours available by calling 773.728.8111, x 28.

Admission is included with general museum admission.

Swedish Cinema Evenings

Join the Junior Board for screenings of modern, critically acclaimed Swedish films. For more information on what movies are to be featured, please visit the Junior Board Web site, film.chicagoswedes.org.

Hejsan - After School Program

Thursday, December 4 & 18 • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

The after-school program is designed for children ages 5 to 10. Younger children are welcome under supervision of adult. This program is free but reservations are required. Please call the Museum at 773.728.8111.

Nordic Family Researchers With Marilynn Jeglum

Saturday, December 13 • 10 am - noon

Meet monthly for genealogy classes at the Swedish American Museum.

Today's topic: **Julbord and Scandinavian Christmas Traditions.**

The Nordic Family Research Center is open for individual research Wednesdays from noon - 3:30 pm. For information call 773.728.8111 and leave message for Marilynn Jeglum, or e-mail: chgojeg@rcn.com.

Edgewater Historical Society

5838 N. Ashland • 773.506.4849 • www.edgewaterhistory.org

Speaker Scott Demel, from the Field Museum.

Saturday, Jan 24 - 10 am • Edgewater Public Library, 1210 Elmdale

He will speak about the archeological aspects of the north side: shipwrecks, Indian trails, the proposed dig for the Warren Park area, etc.

The program is free, but donations are always welcome.

The Edgewater Historical Society's Annual Meeting

March 21 • 10 am • Edgewater Public Library at 1210 W. Elmdale

The theme will be to honor Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday.

For information, call 773.506.4849.

What's Hot, New & Cool in Andersonville!

Urban Worm Girl

312.399.4725 • www.urbanwormgirl.com

Worms Ate My Garbage!

In September, I had the opportunity to contribute to the beautiful West Andersonville Gardens. A bucket of my worm compost castings has been added to the soil around the newest plants at Summerdale & Ravenswood. Using my kitchen scraps to revitalize the soil in my own neighborhood feels great. The efforts I am making to recycle my kitchen waste and feed it to my composting worms seem so small and yet so important. The cycle of life continues and I am a part of it as well as a part of my local community and the community of the earth.

My home composting began after a visit to California where I learned about the amazing process of vermiculture (composting with worms). Though I was aware of the important role worms play in aerating our soil, I was not aware of their amazing skills as "composters".

Seeing them at work in a bin kept in my friends home fascinated me. Clean, easy to maintain and virtually odorless! Well the earthy smell of the castings actually smelled great! Upon my return, I searched for the right bin to begin my composting here in my Andersonville apartment.

I had always assumed that I could not compost in the city.

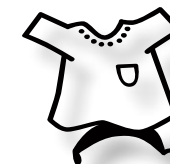
Little did I know that there were methods other than the traditional backyard tumbler that work great in urban settings.

Working together with the worms shows us the interconnectedness of all beings. What we often consider trash is a meal for the worms. While reducing our waste, we return much needed nutrients to the earth in their castings. Using less plastic bags minimizes landfill. Being mindful of the worms diet, we may even become aware of our own dietary choices. We see that chemicals used in some inks, and pesticides on produce may be harmful to us as well as to the worms. Our growing awareness is essential for the health of the earth and future generations. "Worms Ate my Garbage" and keep eating and eating! Do worms eat your garbage?

To find out more about how to start composting with worms

visit www.urbanwormgirl.com.

Stephanie Davies is a member of Local First Chicago and owner of Urban Worm Girl.



The T-Shirt Deli

1482 W. Berwyn • 773.561.7410 • www.tshirtdeli.com
12-7 Tues-Fri • 12-6 Sat • 12-5 Sun

Ninel Pompsuhko wanted to find a way for Chicagoans to customize shirts, baby hats, underwear, and dog tees - but wanted to make giving a gift just as fun as receiving it. The Deli selected homegrown American Apparel brand shirts, and stocks "as many font choices and colors as cheeses in a New York deli" - in short, a t-shirt store with a whole new flavor. The deli's logo - made fresh daily - refers to how easy the process of customizing a T shirt can be: pick a shirt, customize it, and your shirt is made fresh while you wait. The T-Shirt Deli, which also features an online store, has been picked as a "best one of a kind shop" by Frommer's Guide to Chicago. *Stop by see why!*

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• Board Member Contacts •

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Secretary, Elyn Rosen - RosenE@staff.abanet.org

Treasurer, Jordan Grauer - jordanjoan@sbcglobal.net

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

This newsletter was designed & produced by Betsy Kane <bakane@rcn.com>

ADVERTISE IN WANTNEWS

Ads in WANTNews are sold in 5ths of a column.

1/5 column = \$35 • 2/5 = \$70 • 3/5 = \$105

10% reduction is available for full year rental.

The NewsLetter is printed quarterly, 2,000 copy distribution throughout Clark Street & West Andersonville

Contact Betsy Kane: 773.878.2723 or bakane@rcn.com

I'm joining W.A.N.T.

mail to: W.A.N.T., c/o Jordan Grauer, Treasurer, 5544 N. Paulina, Chicago, IL 60640

Please make checks out to "W.A.N.T." & indicate in memo "Membership 2009"

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Business/Org. - \$40 • Friend* (Same cost. Check category.)

New Memberships expire December 31, 2009

*(Note: "Friend" designates members from outside of W.A.N.T.'s boundaries. "Friends" receive the same benefits as members, are welcome at all general meetings, but are non-voting members of W.A.N.T.)

Questions? Call the W.A.N.T. Line: 312.409.0141