

Welcome to New Members

Jane Mecklenberg
Zenaida Roman
Jan Seng
George & Laura Earle

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John Tomazin & Molly Stein
Timothy Pohner
Keiki Hinami

**Special Thanks to Mr. Lee and
Westwood Liquors at
Western & Eastwood for
continuous and generous
support of GRO**

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Coming up in August

Our State Representative, Ann Williams, will be speaking at the GRO August meeting. Representative Williams will give us a rundown on the “state of the state,” essentially explaining the stopgap budget that was passed and how it impacts state human services and the Chicago Public School System. The meeting will be held at Luther Memorial Church (Wilson & Campbell), Tuesday, August 2, at 7:30 p.m. Representative Williams will be speaking at 8:00 p.m. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear firsthand about the current budget impasse in Springfield and its potential resolution.

Coming up in September

A slate of officers for the October election will be presented at the September GRO meeting. To participate in the election you must be a GRO member; a membership form can be found in this newsletter.

SKUNK ALERT!

In the last couple of weeks, a number of our area residents have observed skunks roaming around in their back yards, in the alley, or elsewhere. I called Animal Care & Control at 312-747-1406 to find out how to handle this problem. When I called this number, a recorded message gave all kinds of options, along with calling 311 for City Services. After listening to all these options, I decided I should call Wildlife at the Bartlett Park District Nature Center at 847-608-3100. My patience paid off, as I reached a very nice lady. I told her that I was just looking for some guidelines on what to do when we encounter a skunk. This is what she told me:

1. Skunks are more afraid of us than we are of them;
2. They are not aggressive;
3. They won’t spray;
4. They don’t like loud noises;

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5. They usually sleep during the day; and
6. Skunk moms are very protective of their young.

After another hard rain along with scary lightning and thunder on Sunday night, I opened our front window facing the sidewalk. Guess what I smelled? Stinky Skunk! I shouldn't complain, because we didn't have any damage or lose our electricity. But we did have a very large tree branch from our neighbor's tree crash down on the street which allowed only one car to pass. Ironically, it was the exact branch which I reported to the City several years ago as possibly breaking down during a storm and hurting people or damaging parked vehicles. A City employee had come out, inspected the tree, and told me that the branch was perfectly healthy and that it posed no threat. I called 311, telling the Operator that I wanted to be sure that the large tree branch was reported. Again, I was fortunate to get a hold of a very efficient City

employee. She checked carefully and then told me that "NO, it has not been reported." Only about five minutes later I heard a loud noise outside and looked out the window.

A City employee was out there cutting the branch into smaller pieces and throwing them into a shredder. I made it a point to go out there and say, "Thank you" to the man. But the story doesn't end there ...

One of our neighbors across the street told me that the tree in front of his house has several large branches which are totally dried out. He had called 311 also and was informed that it would take about 120 days for them to be able to come out and cut down the dried branches.

We live, and we learn ...

Maria Bappert, GRO Public Safety Officer

GROnews is published by the Greater Rockwell Organization (GRO), a community group dedicated to making our neighborhood a safe and pleasant place in which to live. Tenants, homeowners, landlords, and business owners are welcome to join us in improving our community.

Officers

Tom Kosinski
 PresidentGreaterRockwell.org
 773-463-7608
 Shonagh Merits
 vp@GreaterRockwell.org
 312-208-3130
 Joetta King
 vp@GreaterRockwell.org
 773-307-1171
 Bea Tersch
 Secretary@GreaterRockwell.org
 773-561-0794
 Lucinda Dieker
 Treasurer@GreaterRockwell.org
 312-804-4042

GRO Board/Committee Chairs

Membership: Shonagh Merits (312-208-3130); Newsletter: Sara Spitz (773-275-7786); Public Safety: Maria Bappert(773-728-8127); Beautification: Bea Tersch (773-561-0794) (clean up and graffiti); Shonagh Merits (312-208-3130)(corner gardens) Urban Development: Abbey Botkin (773-989-6861) Special Events: Bill King/Josh Thalheimer (312-399-4751)Webmaster: Tom Kosinski (773-463-7608)

Newsletter drop points

Beans & Bagels, Rockwell & Leland
 Carol's Hair Care, 2556 W. Lawrence
 Brown Line Station at Rockwell

Address correspondence to:
 newsletter@greaterrockwell.org or
 GROnews, P.O. Box 25561
 Chicago IL 60625-0561

Newsletter staff

Production: Sara Spitz, Leigh Arber
 Distribution Manager: Bea Tersch
 Distributors: Maria Bappert, Allie Botkin, Michael Buckwalter, Mark Dawson, the Donnelly boys, Holly Gerberding, Kevin Goldsmith, Michael Goldstein, Bill King, Tom Kosinski, Nancy Kramer, Karen Peterson, Nina Sandlin, Eric Sinclair, Neenah Vittum, the Yoshida family
 GRO logo created by Randy Sweitzer

Printing by Printed Impressions
 4432 N. Kedzie, Chicago IL 60625
 773-604-8585

Webmaster: Tom Kosinski
 www.greaterrockwell.org

CORNER GARDEN CORNER

Enjoy looking at the corner gardens in the neighborhood? Here's your chance to get involved. GRO is looking for someone to chair the corner garden committee. Duties are light: make sure all corners have a gardener each year; maintain contact info for gardeners; write a few blurbs for the newsletter; provide a periodic report to the GRO Board.. Questions? Please contact vp@greaterrockwell.org or 312.208.3130 for more details.

August Calendar

- 1 Monday ,7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council, Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 2 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. GRO Meeting. Luther Memorial Church, Wilson & Campbell**
- 9 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council. Gross Park fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
- 20 Saturday, 2:00 8:00 p.m. GRO-sponsored Neighborhood Street Party. Leland Avenue between Rockwell and Campbell
- 20 & 21 Saturday & Sunday. Air & Water show at the lakefront

Need to contact your Alderman?

47th Ward
Ameya Pawar
773-868-4747

40th Ward
Patrick O'Connor
773-769-1140

GRO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: *your membership is valid for 1 year from your application date*

Name(s): _____

Home phone: _____

Address: _____

Cell phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/>	New Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual - \$20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family - \$30
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (≥ 65) - \$10
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Family - \$15
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustaining - \$50
<input type="checkbox"/>	I would be willing to participate on a GRO committee (please circle):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Business - \$25
<input type="checkbox"/>	fundraising; special events; membership;	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends of GRO (living outside GRO area) - \$20
<input type="checkbox"/>	newsletter; public safety; beautification; urban development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extra \$ for the Corner Gardens

I would like to see GRO address the following issue(s):

Checks should be made payable to GRO and mailed to P.O. Box 25561, Chicago IL 60625-0561.

*You may also pay via **Paypal**, or drop off your check at Ruff Haus Pets (4652 N. Rockwell Ave)*

Come meet your neighbors at the annual GRO Neighborhood Street Party



**Saturday, August 20
2:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
Leland Ave. between Rockwell and Campbell**

Please bring a dish to share (enough for 6): side dish, dessert, or???

Suggestion: If your last name begins with A-M bring a dessert; M-Z, a side dish

GRO will provide Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Fixin's

Games for the kids, live band, piñata, raffle prizes!

3:00 p.m. kids' games

4:00 p.m. musical guests Mulligan Stew

5:00 p.m. cool treats

6:00 p.m. take a whack at the PINATA

7:00 p.m. raffle

8:00 p.m. thanks and good night!

If you'd like to help with the neighborhood party, please contact Bill King at mrjoetta@me.com