

Ranch Triangle Newsletter

September 2019

The goal of Ranch Triangle is to create a welcoming atmosphere that bolsters and promotes a feeling of security, safety and community for all residents of our neighborhood.



The next board meeting of the Ranch Triangle Community Association is Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. at Adams Park, 1919 N. Seminary

You are invited to attend the board meeting to learn about the issues concerning the Ranch Triangle community. All board meetings are held at Adams Park, 1919 N. Seminary. At the September meeting, Adam Labcon, co-owner of General Iron has been invited to provide details of General Iron's plans to close their operation along the North Branch of the Chicago River and their move to a new location.

Read our most recent letter sent to Mayor Lori Lightfoot about the [NORTH BRANCH Park Reserve](#)

file:///C:/Users/ermat/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/north-branch-preserve-June23ltrfml-3.pdf

General Iron and pollution concerns:

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/general-iron-installs-first-rto-in-the-midwest-to-control-metal-shredder-emissions-and-reaches-agreement-with-us-epa-resolving-alleged-violations-300906688.html>

Planters on Armitage and Halsted



For the third year in a row Ranch Triangle is sponsoring the beautification of Armitage Avenue and Halsted Street. Our sponsors contribute to beautify our neighborhood through Ranch Triangle's Planter Box Project. The planter boxes are planted with

seasonal plants and flowers to enliven the main streets of our neighborhood. To contribute to the program, contact David Lissner at www.dinechi@aol.com

Green Block Parties

The Maud Ave Block Party, held on August 4th on the 1900 block of Maud Ave, hosted their annual party with the goal of creating a zero waste event.

Activities included a space for kids to make arts + crafts from recyclables, and a “sustainability trivia” booth where prizes included bamboo toothbrushes. Composting bins for all food scraps were placed along the street as well as recycling bins.



Ivy Tzur, a Ranch Triangle resident for 6 years, managed the planning for the block party. “This year we wanted to be more thoughtful about what we purchased for the block party, and how we managed our waste. Our front doors are within a few feet so

the block party planning team encouraged neighbors to use their home goods instead of disposables. For example, bringing out pitchers of beverages for the kids, instead of juice boxes or drink pouches. We also used a part of the budget for compostable plates, cups, and cutlery for anyone who didn't want to use their dishes, instead of purchasing any single use plastic. Signage was placed on the compost and recycling bins to ensure folks knew how to dispose of all things. Most importantly, we wanted everyone to walk away from this event having had a great time while also doing good for our community.”



Block parties are a wonderful opportunity to gather your neighbors, and Ranch Triangle encourages all efforts to make community events eco-friendly. For more information about hosting a green block party or community event, please contact Ivy Tzur at ivytzur@gmail.com.

Park Programs at Adams Park



Registration for fall programs at Adams Park (1919 N. Seminary) is open, although the classes fill up quickly. Kids programs include Junior Detectives, Seasonal Sports, Fun and Games, Fitness and Moms, Pops and Tots. To register your child for after school programs, go online to register at www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or visit the park for more information. Programs start on September 10, 2019

We thank the park staff and park supervisor, Maureen Belling, for the wonderful summer activities that filled the park with kids energy and laughter. The water park was the place to be in the heat of July and August.

Other Park News

Bissell Plaza, located at 1900 N. Bissell, is a Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) public plaza. Local neighbors are developing a plan to rebuild Bissell Plaza to improve the public park space for to enhance its usability. Check with Alderman Michele Smith for details.

The Chicago Department of Transportation and their consultants have developed a plan for the **Dickens Greenway Project**. Earlier this year CDOT released the proposal to turn Dickens into a greenway, adding more greenery and a bike lane along Dickens. The goal is to make a safer pedestrian and bike friendly route through the neighborhood. A second public meeting was held on August 22nd. More info can be found at <https://chicagocompletestreets.org/neighborhood-greenways/>

Farmers Markets Open through October 26

The Lincoln Park Farmers Market, held in the parking lot to the west of Lincoln Park High School, at Armitage and Orchard, is open every Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. through October 26.



The Green City Market, held outdoors at the south end of Lincoln Park at North Clark and North Lincoln Avenue is open every Wednesday and Saturday through October 26th.

Halloween Street Party

Fremont Street neighbors celebrate Halloween in a big way with a street fest for kids and adults alike. Check out the fun on Halloween night on Fremont between Armitage and Willow.

Old Town School of Music

The Old Town School of Music hosts music classes for kids and adults. Also, the school presents a year-long schedule of fine concerts. For a complete schedule go to www.oldtownschool.org

The Old Town School of Music is hosting a community meeting on Thursday, September 5th, 6:30 p.m. CEO, staff and faculty will update the community on all the happenings of our neighborhood music center.

Community Protests General Iron's Permit Extension

Neighbors of Ranch Triangle and Lincoln Park recently held a protest march challenging the city's secret approval of a permit extension for General Iron until the end of 2022. The community questioned the legality of issuing the permit extension and called on the city to shut down General Iron until its operations are in compliance with city, state and federal environmental laws.

General Iron has been cited multiple times by the state for air, noise and water pollution. As a open-air, heavy metal crushing operation, General Iron daily releases particles of iron, lead, mercury zinc, cobalt, chromium into the air, onto the soil and into the Chicago River.

In the closing days of the previous administration, the city signed a contract extension with General Iron without notification to the community or to the 2nd Ward Alderman in whose ward General Iron is located.

News from 43rd Ward Alderman Michele Smith

Alderman Michele Smith hosts Ward Nights the first Monday of each month. Stop by her office between 5-7 p.m. and sign up to speak with her about issues concerning you in the ward.

The next Ward Night is set for Monday, September 9th (postponed because of Labor Day) from 5 to 7 p.m.

To get important updates on the 43rd Ward, go to the alderman's webpage and subscribe to her newsletter at www.ward43.org

You can also email a question or request at www.yourvoice@ward43.org

Other Contact Information

2nd Ward Alderman Brian Hopkins, 1400 N. Ashland, 312.643.2299,
www.aldermanhopkins.com

5th District Illinois State Senator, Patricia Van Pelt, 1016 W. Jackson,
312.888.9191, <http://senatorvanpelt.com/contact-us>

5th District Illinois State Representative,

U.S. Representative Mike Quigley, 3223 N. Sheffield, 773.267.5926
www.quigley.house.gov

18th District Police Department, Daniel O'Shea, Commander, 1160 N.
Larrabee, 312.742.5870,
<https://home.chicagopolice.org/community/districts/18th-district-near-north/>