

# Ukrainian Village Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume 1 Number 3

December 2009

*UVNA wishes everyone a happy, healthy and blessed holiday season  
and New Year*

## **Ukrainian Village Neighborhood Assn. (UVNA)**

**Next meeting:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 6:30 PM  
Hoyne Avenue Wesleyan Church  
900 N. Hoyne Avenue.

**ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME**

### **From the last meeting:**

CDOT and OEMC are now recommending a signal at the Hoyne/Chicago Avenue intersection. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward, County and State are looking for funding sources. The system does not allow for a quick installation. In the meantime, the Aldermen are moving forward with the pedestrian island, which in no way, precludes or delays a signal.

## **13<sup>th</sup> Police District Area 1312 CAPS Beat Meeting NO MEETING IN DECEMBER**

Next meeting: **Tuesday, January 8, 2010 7:00 PM**  
St. Helen's School Cafeteria: 2347 W. Augusta Blvd.

## **February is Target Date for Blue Recycling Containers**

Paul Sajavic responded that the Ward Office staff is working hard to get the recycling containers for our neighborhood, but there are financial and logistical problems that the City has not yet resolved.

## **Toys for Tots Annual Parade**

Western Avenue will be closed to traffic Sunday, December 6, 2009 between the hours of 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM for the annual Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade.

## **St. Helen Catholic School Arts and Craft Fair Please Join Us! Arts and Craft Fair**

**December 6, 2009 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

All neighbors of St. Helen Catholic School are invited to attend. The Fair will feature games and crafts for children, pictures with Santa, delicious baked goods, and a silent auction.

**St. Helen Catholic School**

**2347 W. Augusta Blvd.**

**773-486-1055 [www.sthelenchicago.org](http://www.sthelenchicago.org)**

## **The 2010 Census - Counting Everyone Once and Only Once and In the Right Place**

The foundation of our American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. To achieve an accurate assessment of the number and

location of the people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years.

The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. 2010 Census data will directly affect how more than \$4 trillion is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years. For this funding allocation to be accomplished fairly and accurately, the goal of the decennial census is to count everybody, count them only once, and count them in the right place. The facts gathered in the census also help shape decisions for the rest of the decade about public health, neighborhood improvements, transportation, education, senior services and much more.

### **Reaching an Increasingly Diverse Population**

The goal of the 2010 Census is to count all residents living in the United States on April 1, 2010. The U.S. Census Bureau **does not ask about the legal status of respondents in any of its surveys and census programs.** To help ensure the nation's increasingly diverse population can answer the questionnaire accurately and completely, about 13 million bilingual Spanish/English forms will be mailed to housing units in neighborhoods identified as requiring high levels of Spanish assistance. Additionally, questionnaires in Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, Vietnamese and Russian, as well as language guides in 59 languages, will be available on request.

### **Recruiting Census Workers**

By 2010, there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States. Counting each person is one of the largest operations the federal government undertakes. For example, the Census Bureau will recruit nearly 3.8 million applicants for 2010 Census field operations. Of these applicants, the Census Bureau will hire about 1.4 million temporary employees. Some of these employees will be using GPS-equipped hand-held computers to update maps and ensure there is an accurate address list for the mailing of the census questionnaires.

### **10 Questions, 10 Minutes to Complete**

With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. It takes only about 10 minutes for the average household to complete. Questions about *how* we live as a nation, our

diversity, education, housing, jobs and more are now covered in the American Community Survey, which is conducted every year throughout the decade and replaces the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire. Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required by law. All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and all are strictly confidential. For more information, visit the Census Website at <http://www.census.gov/2010>.

Information from US Census 2010 Web site:  
<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>.

### Roadblock to Recovery

A recent report by the Woodstock Institute, a Chicago-based policy and advocacy non-profit that works in the area of community reinvestment and economic development in lower-income and minority communities, examines the impact of lender-owned properties in Chicago. One of the key ways the foreclosure crisis has manifested itself in the Chicago region has been the build-up of vacant, lender-owned properties. These properties, commonly known as Real Estate Owned (REO) typically begin when a borrower is 90 days or more late on a mortgage payment and ends when a court judgement against a borrower is reached, and the property goes to foreclosure auction. At auction, third parties have an opportunity to acquire the property by submitting a bid. If no third-party bids are successful, then the property reverts to lender ownership and becomes an REO.

It is not surprising that Woodstock Institute research has shown that between 2005 and 2008, the number of properties going to foreclosure in Chicago has increased by 338 percent. REO properties are of concern to communities since previous research by Woodstock Institute has shown foreclosures destabilize communities by leading to a decline in values of properties near foreclosures, increases neighborhood crime and represents a significant cost burden to municipalities.

As far as the West Town neighborhood and specifically the Ukrainian Village neighborhood are concerned, REOs appear to have had a minimal impact on the area as of the end of 2008. Statistics for 2009 are unavailable. 2000 census data shows West Town is approximately 40-45 percent Latino, 40-45 percent white and approximately 10-12 percent African American. In any case, the area certainly has a wide mixture of ethnic and racial groups. This is where its strength lies. The neighborhood has long had a reputation as a vibrant and stable area, with a strong and diverse economic base, historically good housing stock and good schools. The fact that the area has been able to grow and adapt to shifting demographic trends has helped to attract business and people who want to be part of a stable and diverse neighborhood. This is particularly important in these difficult economic times. Stable neighborhoods help keep property value steadily growing, keep crime to a minimum and continue to attract people and businesses that contribute to its growing vitality.

Jerry Miakush, Appraisal Officer/Appraisal Review  
MB Financial Bank

Referenced article: *Roadblock to Recovery*, Woodstock Institute, September 2009.

### FREE Course for Ukrainian-American Children

The Baptism of the Lord Church presents:

#### A New Ukrainian Children's Choir

Free Christmas Music Instruction

Learn: *Ave Maria. Silent Night, Holy Night. O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**Saturday, December 12 at 3PM**

Rehearsals at the Cenacle Conference Center  
513 West Fullerton Pkwy, Chicago, IL 60614

To enroll your child, contact:

[fathergenekoprowski@gmail.com](mailto:fathergenekoprowski@gmail.com)

A Ministry of the Patriarchate of Kiev and All Rus,  
UAOC-C. <http://www.soborna.org>

### Hoyne Avenue Wesleyan Church Christmas Program

The congregation, at 900 N. Hoyne Avenue, is sponsoring a Christmas program on Sunday, December 20th, for morning Worship, 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon. It will be a drama presentation of the Bethlehem Inn Keeper, who owned the stable where Jesus Christ was born, presented by our District Superintendent, Pastor Ray Barnwell.

### Having Problems with Municipal Services?

**Call 311 or contact your Alderman**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Ward: Alderman Manny Flores

2058 N. Western Avenue

Chicago, IL 60647

email: [ward01@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward01@cityofchicago.org)

Ward Office: 773-278-0101 Fax: 773-278-2511

#### 26<sup>th</sup> Ward: Alderman Roberto Maldonado

2434 West Division St.

Chicago, IL 60622

Email: [ward26@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward26@cityofchicago.org)

Ward Office: 773-395-0143 Fax: 773-395-0146

#### 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward: Alderman Scott Waguespack

2657 N. Clybourn Ave.

Chicago, IL 60614

email: [ward32@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward32@cityofchicago.org)

Ward Office: 773-248-1330 Fax: 773-248-1360

### HELP WANTED: Snow Shoveling

3-unit condo building is looking for reliable snow shoveling services (front and gangway sidewalks, front stairs & in front of garage doors) for the 2009-2010 winter season.

**Interested? Please contact Debbie at 773-235-2391.**

**Do you want to list an organization's event, exhibit or opening? Or are you looking to advertise in this newsletter?**

Please contact UVNA at [infouvna@gmail.com](mailto:infouvna@gmail.com)

**by December 15, 2009.**