

ravenswood manor community newsletter summer 2002



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Go! Café Offers Internet Access

As one of the fastest growing internet café's and specialty coffee retailers around, Go! has created a coffee experience that customers eagerly savor and enjoy.

Go's retail store/ cyber café is an oasis - with an inviting, comfortable atmosphere of warm colors and cozy furniture and an outdoor patio. Go's coffee combines the best of European café culture with great-tasting, high-quality specialty coffee beverages.

Go! offers custom-roasted, 100% Arabica, whole bean coffees, specialty coffee beverages, tea, juices, and other beverages. Plus, there is always

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RMIA Kicks Off Summer

From planting sod at Manor Park to planning the garage sale, the RMIA has been busy getting summer off to a good start. Read RMIA Board meeting highlights on page three.

New Crosswalks For Manor Avenue

Cobblestone accented crosswalks will add to the charm of our neighborhood streets. In addition to their aesthetic qualities, crosswalks remind drivers to slow down and watch for pedestrians. This summer, all intersections along Manor

Avenue will receive cobblestone imprints and coloring. Manor Avenue will be stripped and resurfaced to prepare the street for the imprints. Check them out on Marine Drive between Foster and Lawrence (see illustration on page four of this newsletter).

Speed Humps for Ravenswood Manor??

There are many Ravenswood Manor residents who are concerned with the speed that many cars travel through our neighborhood. Our challenge has been to find a method to make our streets safer in a way that satisfies our residents. Speed tables at intersections were presented as an option three years ago, but the Chicago Department of Transportation decided not to move forward with the tables partly due to the cost of installation.

One option that has been implemented successfully in the Lakewood/Balmoral neighborhood and on Sacramento Avenue south of Irving Park is the installation of a low, broad speed

hump in the middle of the block. The hump, which can be driven over comfortably up to 20 mph, encourages people to drive the posted speed limit and not race between stop signs. Generally speed humps used on residential streets are 12 feet long with a maximum height of three inches. Speed "humps" are different from speed "bumps" which are seen in many private parking lots.

The RMIA traffic committee is currently gathering information regarding speed humps and will share the information with the neighborhood this summer.

By Brian Basler

Manor Garden Walk is July 14

Plan now to get out and see some of Ravenswood Manor's finest gardens as the Manor Garden Club holds its annual Garden Walk on Sunday, July 14, from 2 until 6 p.m. Maps will be available from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. under the tent in Ravenswood Manor Park

The walk is free, but donations are accepted to offset the walk's expenses and help with neighborhood beautification.

With its riverfront location, the Manor offers some large, unique gardens. Others display remarkable diversity in a small area. All show the planning and pride that it takes to have a

successful garden.

Often the gardener will be available to answer questions. Beginning at 7 p.m., the club sponsors one of the Ravenswood Manor Park Summer Concert Series' performances as Bopology takes the stage. This well-known group provides wonderful big band and swing music.

The club does not meet in July and August so members can do what they enjoy most. Meetings will start up again on the third Monday of the month, beginning in September.

By Alan Mueller

The *Ravenswood Manor Community Newsletter* is published by the Ravenswood Manor Improvement Association (RMIA), a non-profit group of Ravenswood Manor residents formed to implement the will of its members. All those who live or do business in Ravenswood Manor are eligible to become board members. The Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Horner Park field house. Meetings are open to all members.

To join the RMIA, volunteer or make a suggestion, call the RMIA hotline at (312) 409-3213 or send us an e-mail at rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com

The Ravenswood-Lakeview Historical Association will conduct guided Sunday walks in Historic Graceland Cemetery at 1 p.m. on June 9, July 14 and September 15. A wealth of historical information as well as intriguing stories about the northsiders buried there will be shared. Call (312) 744-7616 for more information.

Ravenswood Manor Summer Concerts

All summer concerts are free, from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sundays (except ManorBash, which is noon to 9 p.m.). All events take place at Ravenswood Manor Park.

The annual concert series is sponsored by the Horner Park Advisory Council and the Chicago Park District.

June 16
Mambo All-Stars

June 30
Natural Bob Holdsworth and Friends/Thursday's Child

July 14
Bopology

July 28
Cooper/Nelson/Early
Taiko Drummers of the Midwest
Buddhist Temple

August 11
ManorBash 2002

August 18
Strong Voices (featuring Susan Urban)

August 25
Neighborhood Talent Show

Go! Café...

(Continued from page 1)

a great selection of tasty pastries, sweets and baked goods to be enjoyed. And now Go! proudly serves Chicago's best "samosa" (Indian pastry filled with potatoes, peas and spices).

An important part of the Go! coffee experience is our extensive outreach to the community. Go! contributes to schools, community groups and charities in the neighborhood. At Go!, coffee is our passion, but community is our commitment.

Go! is fast becoming a wireless Cyber Café with services such as high speed internet access, web designing, networking, printing, scanning, and copying.



RMIA May Meeting Highlights

Brian Basler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. **Mike Reardon** from the North River Commission was a guest at the meeting (see story on page four). **Treasurer's Report:** An invoice for \$1,500 was presented for payment to cover the cost of the new sod in Manor Park. Nic Acciari and Pat Straky continue to work hard on getting the sod off to a good start. **Special Events:** Susan Siegert reported on the final plans for the Garage Sale scheduled for May 19. **Zoning:** Gary Smith reported on the possibility of a new development on the northwest corner of Montrose and Richmond. He is working with Alderman Mell's office to get more information from the developer. He also updated the Board of the potential replacement of a house in Ravenswood Manor. Also discussed was a request from a resident to clarify the restrictions for building close to the Chicago River. **Housing:** Mary Pendergast reported on the presentation made by a representative of the Chicago Historical Commission at the RMIA Semi-Annual Meeting (see story page 4). **Education:** Hollis Russinof reported on the recent LSC election at Waters School including the fact that Aaron Schwartz and Eva Moon were elected as community representatives. It was also noted the Waters School Play will be held on June 9, 2002, at the Old Town School of Music. Ms. Russinof reported on the coordination of efforts with other community organizations to promote school improvements throughout the area. **Horner Park Advisory:** Alan Mueller passed on a letter thanking the RMIA for the contribution to the Summer Concert Series in Manor Park. **Traffic:** Brian Basler reported (see story on page one). **Website Development:** Scott Wheeler reported on additional improvements on the Site including the meeting minutes of other community organizations (check out RavenwoodManor.com). **Parks and Streets:** Nic Acciari reported on plans to replace trees, the proposed Piers to be placed on streets leading into Ravenswood Manor and other plans. **Membership:** Tim McCarthy reported on the continue efforts to examine 501C status for our organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12PM.

NEXT BOARD MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2002, AT THE HORNER PARK FIELD HOUSE.

Waters Performs Musical "Grease"

Waters Fine and Performing Arts School's 6th, 7th and 8th graders will rock and roll to the timeless musical "Grease" on Thursday, June 6th, Friday, June 7th, and Sunday, June 9th, at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

Thursday and Friday Performances are at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday's performance begins at 3 p.m. These performances are open to the community and donations will be accepted at the door. For more information, please call Waters School at (773) 534-5090. Come watch these magnificent performers!

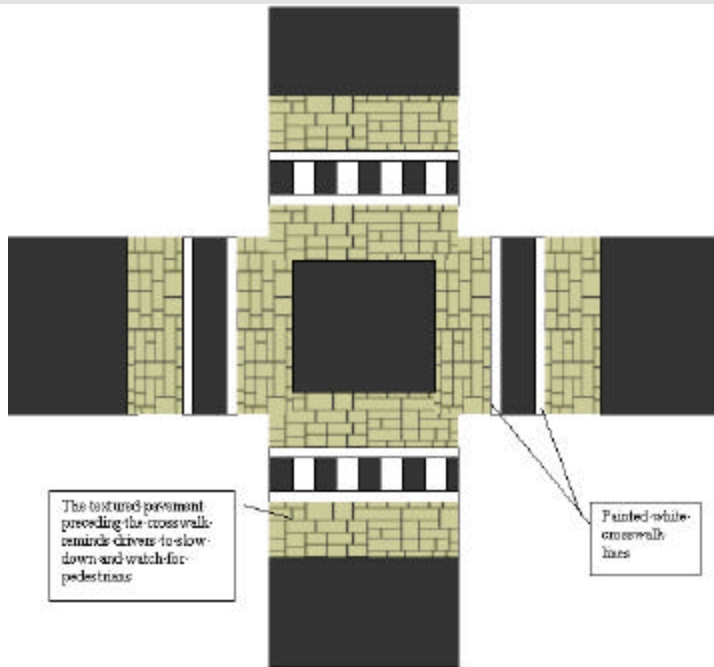
LSC Update

Thanks to everyone who voted in the Waters Elementary Local School Council (LSC) elections on May 1. Manor resident Aaron Schwartz and Ravenswood Gardens resident Eva Moon were elected to the 2002 LSC Board as community representatives.

The new LSC begins its term July 1. All LSC meetings are open to the public. Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month. The next three scheduled meetings will be on June 10, July 8 and September 9.



Manor Avenue Crosswalks



This summer, all intersections along Manor Avenue will receive cobblestone imprints and coloring as illustrated in graphic above. Check them out at Marine Drive between Foster and Lawrence.

Historic Landmark Protection Discussed at Semi-Annual Meeting

Brian Goeken, Deputy Commissioner of the Chicago Landmarks Commission, spoke at the semi-annual RMIA meeting held in April. He presented general information about the pros, cons and procedures involved should a neighborhood decide to seek landmark protection.

Landmark protection ensures the integrity, character and heritage of a neighborhood and keeps values stable through the prevention of tear downs and changes or additions not in keeping with the design of the buildings. There is a required review on changes made to designated structures for the street view. This includes windows, siding and additions. Only the proposed change is reviewed on houses that have had other alterations. A tax freeze for those who qualify and a permit fee waiver are additional benefits of the protected status. Some requirements for a neighborhood to be considered for review and chosen by the Commission are: inclusion in the Commission's Historic Resource Survey, neighborhood support and aldermanic support.

By Mary Pendergast

Who is the NRC?

The North River Commission (NRC) is a membership organization uniting more than 100 civic organizations, businesses and institutions to improve the North River area that encompasses the communities from Addison to Devon, and between Cicero and the North Branch of the Chicago River.

For 40 years, NRC has led efforts to support civic involvement, encourage participation, and welcome a mix of cultures, incomes and lifestyles to build a healthy community. NRC's guiding principle is that people who live, work and do business in the community have the right to participate in the decisions that affect them and have the responsibility to work together for the common good.

From the beginning, the RMIA has been a member of the North River Commission. Together the RMIA and the North River Commission continue to collaborate on important issues facing our communities.

NRC members have worked to protect and maintain the area's quality of life and build community by advocating for decent, affordable housing, quality education, open spaces, new jobs, and neighborhood business. At the 17th Biennial Community Congress in May, delegates from the NRC's member organizations upheld this tradition ratifying five resolutions in the areas of Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Education, Parks, and Crime and Safety that will guide NRC's work for the next two years. For more information on the NRC call (773) 478-0202 or send an email to northriver@northrivercommission.com.

Free Days

Here's a list for 2002 of days when some of Chicago's major museums/zoos do not charge admission:

- Peggy Nodebaert Nature Museum - Tuesday and all summer weekdays (May 28 - July 10)
- Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum - Monday and Tuesday, Jan. - Feb.; Monday and Tuesday, Sept. - Dec.
- Art Institute - Tuesday
- Brookfield Zoo - Tuesday and Thursday in Jan., Feb., March, Oct., Nov., and Dec.
- Chicago Children's Museum - Thursday 5 - 8 p.m.
- DuSable Museum of African American History - Sunday
- Field Museum of Natural History - Monday and Tuesday, Jan. - Feb.; Monday and Tuesday, Sept. - Dec.
- Historical Society - Monday
- Lincoln Park Zoo - free everyday
- Museum of Contemporary Art - Tuesday
- Museum of Science and Industry - Monday and Tuesday, January 21- February 28; first Monday and Tuesday in June (June 3 & 4); Monday and Tuesday, August 19 - - December 17
- The Shedd - Monday and Tuesday, Jan. - Feb.; Monday and Tuesday, Sept. - Dec. (actually it's not free, just half price)
- Terra Museum - Tuesday, Thursday and the first Sunday of each month

By Suzanne Legoff

Safety Zone....Garage Alert

Residential garages are frequent targets for burglars, especially during the warmer weather. Here are some tips for deterring garage break-ins:

The number one deterrent to break-ins is good lighting. Sensor lighting not only discourages intruders but it alerts the homeowner of motion, and is energy efficient. Ground level windows and doors that are protected from view are especially vulnerable and should be well lit.

If you have a remote garage door opener, re-program the original store code. This will make your system less generic and less responsive to anyone who might use another remote to try and open your door. If you are going away for an extended period of time, you may want to unplug the system for added protection.

Report the serial numbers of the more expensive items that you store in your garage to the police (311). If those items are ever stolen, having the serial numbers on record may help recover the item, and may help in identifying the thief. If you have a garage sale, or if your

large door is often open, try to keep the more expensive items concealed so they aren't inviting break-ins.

Neighbors are a great security system. Working together as a community to fight crime is extremely effective. Keep an eye on each other's property and report to each other any suspicious activities. Knowing who lives on your block will also make it easier to identify any strangers who might be hanging around. Posting your street address on the alley exposure of your garage can aid police in catching offenders and also in reporting crimes; the police can give their exact location over the radio, and citizens can report the exact location if they observe a break-in.

By Nancy Campbell

Retail Space Available

Manor Grocery space – recently renovated – 1600 sq. ft \$1200 per month. Call 847-673-4966 or 773-486-6035
4664 Manor Ave – Restaurant space for lease – full kitchen – ready to go. 773-784-9200
4668 Manor Ave – contact Millie Burks 773-394-4450 or 773-710-5594

Local Numbers to Know

Police Emergency**911**
City Services**311**
Police Non-Emergency
.....**311**

Chicago Police 17th District
Station**(312) 744-8346**
Alderman Richard
Mell**(773) 478-8040**

RMIA Hotline
.....**(312) 409-3213**
Recycling Resource
Center**(773) 821-1351**