



The Manor News

Ravenswood Manor Community Newsletter



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Independence Day Children's Parade

by Diane Black

Please join us in celebrating Ravenswood Manor's second annual 4th of July children's parade on **Saturday, July 2nd**. Neighborhood children are invited to participate by decorating bikes, scooters, wagons, etc... and joining in the parade. The festivities will begin at 11am at Buffalo Park (between Manor and California on Sunnyside) traveling north up California to Manor and then on to the north end of Manor Park, in front of Merle's Coffee Shop. Merle's will have a full grill menu available for lunch (at a 20% discount for adults and kids who participate in the parade) and free ice cream for the kids.

Interested in participating? Meet at Buffalo Park at 10:45am. Interested in watching? Grab a spot along the 4500 and 4600 block of Manor to cheer on our patriotic tots.

Interested in helping? Kathy Anderson and I will need some help setting up the parade route—making sure the alley's and streets are blocked off along the parade route and holding traffic as the parade crosses Wilson. If you're available to help, please leave a voicemail at 312-409-3213 or send an email to rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com. Thanks.



Manor Concert Series Eleventh Season starting June 12th

The Ravenswood Manor Park Summer Concert Series opens its eleventh exciting season of eight free concerts with two new acts, Blue Mother Tupelo (Delta Rock) and Nora O'Connor (Urban Honky Tonk) at 7pm on Sunday evening, June 12. Also new this year will be a special production of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, presented by the Ground UP Theatre Company on Saturday evening, June 25th and Sunday evening, June 26th at 5:30pm. The regular 7pm show on June 25th will follow, featuring Eric Noden and Joe Filisko (American Roots) and Nigel Mack and the Blues Attack. July will see shows on the 10th, 17th and 31st (see calendar for details).

On Sunday, August 7, the Seventh Annual Manor Bash is the season highlight, with acts starting at noon and running through 9pm that night. Once again, kid games and a raffle will be held. Two more shows round out the season, on August 21st (featuring the return of local favorites Tom and Chris Castle (Midwest Maritime Folk), and the Traditional Neighborhood Talent Show on August 28th (with special guest act Moztet).

Donations to the Manor Park Concert Series can be sent to the Horner Park Advisory Council c/o 4530 N. Mozart. Contributions go to paying the artists and supporting activities of HPAC. Donations are still being accepted. Please be generous in supporting your neighborhood with a tax-deductible contribution.



RMIA News Brief

Scam Artist Cashes In, In the Manor

Over the past few months, a “normal-looking” tall, blonde white man in his mid-30’s has been cashing in on the generosity of Manor Residents. Three women on the 4500 block of Sacramento have been scammed by him, and who knows how many more. He approaches a woman who is alone and says that he just moved in the neighborhood and got locked out of his apartment without his wallet or keys. He borrows a phone and pretends to call his girlfriend, who he says is a nurse at Lutheran General Hospital. He asks for \$15 so he can take Metra, a cab, etc. to get to the hospital and get the keys from the girlfriend. He says he will pay the money back, and of course does not. The police say he is not committing a crime, because he is simply asking for the money. Do not be fooled by his story—he is a scam artist and he needs to be stopped.

New at Merle’s

This summer the backyard garden patio will be open and will be available for special parties.

The hours will be expanding in a few weeks with a special dinner menu along with the outdoor “grill” menu. Watch for the posters announcing upcoming summer promotions and events

New Recycling Program

The City’s has started a new battery recycling program. Residents may take all common dry cell batteries to Chicago Public Libraries and Walgreens stores to be recycled. This includes alkaline and rechargeable batteries. Disassemble rechargeable tools and toys and remove the batteries from them. Look for the small plastic cylinder in the library of Sulzer Library and the bucket near the photo counter at Walgreens.

By recycling your used batteries, you will help keep toxic substances out of the waste stream and the battery components will be reclaimed for reuse.

Flower Basket Program

The RMIA is working on a test program this summer. If City approval is given we will have our first hanging flower baskets at our Southeast entrance at Manor and Montrose Ave. If all goes well we can add more beautiful flower baskets to more locations next year. There are job openings for a plant waterer. This could provide a little extra money during summer vacation. If interested please leave a voicemail at 312-409-3213 or send an email to rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com

Can You Canoe?

The RMIA is calling all residents for the 3rd annual canoe trip on the Chicago River. Last year we saw turtles, blue herons, ducks and geese.

This year we will be canoeing on Saturday morning, September 10. Save the date and plan to make it a great day. Please email canoe@ravenswoodmanor.com to reserve a spot.



Manor Business Study

The Business District Committee is studying the commercial space in and around the Manor with the goal of creating tangible recommendations for future growth. In addition to the established storefront businesses around the "L" station, the construction of condo buildings around the perimeter of the Manor will add new ground floor commercial space to the neighborhood. By creating some recommendations for growth the RMIA hopes that future business development in neighborhood can contribute to the quality of life in the Manor.

The study is looking at the Lawrence Avenue, the Montrose Avenue and the "L" station business areas. A list of existing business has

been compiled and research is being done by the Committee to identify potential new complements the neighborhood's strengths.

In addition to studying the types of businesses that might be a good fit for the Manor, changes to the streetscape to promote an improved, pedestrian-friendly environment are being investigated. These might include landscape and parkway planting, decorative streetlights and paving, and storefront enhancement programs.

The Committee has solicited input from expert consultants in retail and transportation planning and hopes to have its first draft of recommendations ready for public comment by mid-summer 2005. Final recommendations would include public feedback and would be presented in the fall.



Advisory Council Changes Meeting Day and Time

The Horner Park Advisory Council Meetings are now held on the first Monday of the month at 7pm in Horner Park Field House. All neighbors are in-

vited to come out and get involved in enriching neighborhood activities like the Ravenswood Manor Concert Series and community gardens.

Free Yoga Class Ad
7.5 x 4



Education Update

Recently Melissa Patterson from the Ravenswood Manor education committee met with Mr. Tom Revello, the principal at Waters School. It was a productive and interesting meeting. We discussed the many new and ongoing initiatives at Waters, such as their environmental programs and their integrative approach to education (integrating academic learnings with cultural education, performing arts, etc.). In addition, we discussed ways to increase the

involvement in the school by Ravenswood Manor residents. If you are interested in becoming more involved with Waters or joining a committee dedicated to working with the school on initiatives please send an e-mail with your contact information to education@ravenswoodmanor.com.

If you are thinking about schools for your children and want to learn more about your options from other families who have also experienced the process, then you

will want to attend the Ravenswood Manor School Coffee this fall. More information regarding date and time for this event will follow in the coming months. However, if you would be willing to discuss your child's school at the Coffee, please send an e-mail, indicating your school, to education@ravenswoodmanor.com.

Neighborhood Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a passion for this neighborhood? Is there some neighborhood issue you always thought would be rewarding to work on?

The RMIA needs *new volunteers* and *board members* this fall. Board members attend our monthly board meeting on the 2nd Monday of every month (except for July and August) and also participate on a committee. If being a board member is more than you can commit to at this time, there is also a need for *enthusiastic volunteers* that focus on specific issues facing the neighborhood.

Several committees are looking for volunteers (social, education, and traffic) to brainstorm, discuss issues, and to plan and assist with events. Committee meetings are on an ad hoc basis.

I know that everyone waits impatiently for the latest from the Manor newsletter. In order to get the *newsletter distributed* in a timely fashion, we need several

more volunteers to play mail carrier. It's a 4 time a year job and doesn't take much time (though if you have eager young helpers, it can be a bit slower).

Speaking of the newsletter, we have a new neighbor who has taken over the set-up/layout of the newsletter. Thanks Rachel. The new format is great! What we need now is an *editor* to set our deadlines and review/edit articles that are submitted.

Our new board starts in the fall. If you're interested, call the RMIA voicemail 312-409-3213 or send an email to rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com and we'll contact you.

seattle sutton
single ad

new ad
single ad



CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy)

Meet the officers who patrol your beat. Work with your beat officers and your neighbors to determine the priority crime problems in our neighborhood.

Ravenswood Manor is served by 2 police beats.

Beat Meeting for Beat 1713

Covering residences north of Wilson Ave.
4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm
North Park University
Magnuson Campus Center, East Entrance
5000 N. Spaulding

Beat Meeting for Beat 1724

Covering residences south of Wilson Ave.
3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm
Horner Park Field House
2741 West Montrose Ave.

The RMIA needs one or two volunteers to attend the CAPS meetings. The volunteer(s) would need to attend their beat meeting and provide a brief summary of current issues to the board via email or voicemail.

Garden Walk Canceled

At the February 21, 2005 meeting, the Manor Garden Club (MGC) voted unanimously to cancel the 2005 Garden Walk. Several factors led to this decision. Declining attendance caused by competition from area events, including other garden walks (many held in conjunction with art and street fairs), and fewer MGC members volunteering for the Garden Walk Committee were the primary reasons.

The walk is not a fundraiser, and many of the active members of the garden club are not residents of the Ravenswood Manor, so it is difficult to justify the activity as an integral part of the Club's mission. In the past few years, MGC solicited contributions at the walk that covered only the costs of brochures, promotion, and sponsorship of one evening of the Summer Concert Series.

In the early years of the walk, committed garden club members maintained a significant portion of the featured gardens. It is far easier to organize and manage the walk when most of the gardeners who open their yards are involved in the planning and committed to the event. This has not been the case for the last several years. Club members will reevaluate the decision to cancel the walk in 2006.

Anyone interested in gardening, novice or expert, is invited to join Manor Garden Club. Manor residency is not a requirement. The Manor Garden Club meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Horner Park Field House. Information about the Club can also be found at www.manorgardenclub.org.

Summer Calendar

June 12	Summer Concert Series Begins
June 25 & 26	Shakespeare in Manor Park
July 2	Children's Independence Day Parade
August 28	Neighborhood Talent Show
September 10	Neighborhood Canoe the River

Jill Peet Sappanano
double ad
PRINTER HAS AD

Go get Your Smock
single ad

Guitar Lessons
single ad

Judy Hultzen
single ad

Lulu's
single ad

All in a day
single ad

Theta Healing
double ad

Kurt Grippert
single ad
PRINTER HAS AD