

# RAVENSWOOD MANOR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER WINTER 2004



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## Get Fit at Galter Life Center

**A**t a recent RMIA Board meeting, a Manor resident reported that the Galter Life Center has discounted corporate membership available to RMIA members. To qualify for corporate membership we need eight new Galter members. Galter Life Center is a nearby fitness and wellness center that has a wide variety of quality programs. For more information on the Center, call 773-878-9936. If you are interested in the corporate membership discount, please e-mail us at [rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com](mailto:rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com) or leave a message on our hotline at 312-409-3213.

## Easter Egg Hunt is April 3, 9:30 a.m.

**T**he RMIA's third annual Easter egg hunt gives kids 10 and under a chance to hunt for eggs filled with fun surprises on the back patio of our neighborhood coffee shop, Merle's (*see article page three*). Sign up at the March 6 RMIA Winter Social or at Merle's after March 6.

## RMIA Winter Social is March 6

**J**oin us at the Horner Park field house (2741 West Montrose) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for our annual mini winter escape and chance to catch up with neighbors. Toys, balls and babysitters will be provided to give parents a chance to relax. This is a

potluck, so bring your favorite dish to share. And Manor pastry chefs, get ready: it's the third annual pie-baking contest (we'll have a vote for best tasting pie) and the second cake walk (cake donations welcome). We'll be raffling off lots of great prizes. So come one, come all!

## Speed Humps: Your Opinion Counts Join Discussion at RMIA Meeting, April 21

**A**fter years of discussions and planning we hope we've found a solution that encourages safer driving on our streets. Working with the Alderman's office and the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) speed humps were identified as an effective device to encourage slower speeds. Speed humps have been successful in reducing high speed traffic in other

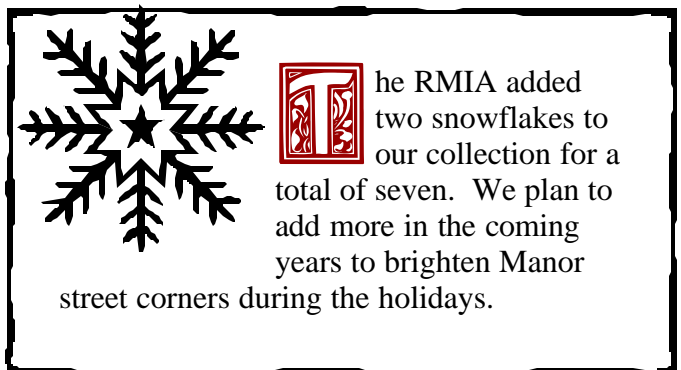
streets where speeding traffic was particularly problematic. Three new speed humps have been in place since November on California, Wilson and Manor avenues. The California speed hump as installed seems to be higher than typical and we have requested that CDOT evaluate it and lower it.

Now that we have experienced

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residential areas of the city.

As a trial, we requested three speed humps to be installed in the neighborhood to address specific



## ...Speed Humps: Your Opinion Counts

(Continued from page 1)

speed humps first hand, we want to know what Manor residents think of them. We have four questions we'd like you to comment on:

1. How effective are the speed humps at slowing traffic and creating a safer environment? (*Select one: very effective, somewhat effective, not effective at all*)
2. Are there other areas that would benefit from a speed hump? (*Be specific*)
3. Should we not install any more speed humps? If not, why not?
4. Should one or more of the

existing speed humps be removed? (*Be specific as to the area and explain why*)

Please feel free to e-mail us at [traffic@ravenswoodmanor.com](mailto:traffic@ravenswoodmanor.com) or leave your comments on our hotline at 312-409-3213.

If leaving your message on the hotline, please be as brief as possible. Please include your name and address so we may call you back with additional questions if necessary. One call per household please.

We will discuss the feedback at the RMIA semi-annual meeting on April 21 at the Horner Park field house at 7:30 p.m.

- Brian Basler

## RMIA Education Committee Hosts its Third School Coffee to Educate Parents

The RMIA Education Committee held its third school coffee in November 2003 as part of our ongoing effort to bring education information to the community. The schools represented by neighborhood parents were Burley, Hawthorne, Inter-American, LaSalle, Thorpe, North Park Elementary, Chicago Waldorf, Pilgrim Lutheran and Queen of Angels. Parents provided information on their school. All information is available on our web site ([ravenswoodmanor.com](http://ravenswoodmanor.com)) or upon request ([education@rmia.com](mailto:education@rmia.com) or 312-409-3213). Parents shared what they liked and disliked about

their schools. We were also fortunate to welcome long-time Manor resident Ed Peacock, who was a teacher and principal at Chicago public schools for many years. He gave his perspective on schools as one component of a child's overall education and stressed the importance of social development in whatever educational environment or style of teaching we choose.

The Education Committee will continue to offer resources and develop forums in which parents

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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](mailto:rmiaboard@ravenswoodmanor.com)

## Apartment For Rent by Day or Week

Have family who come to visit and no place to put them? Own a small business and need a place for clients to stay? Look no further. Manor residents who moved to Iowa but decided to keep their Manor apartment for when they need a taste of big city life are making it available for rent to Manor residents by the day, weekend or week. It's a furnished three-bedroom apartment and costs \$100 the first night, \$75 each additional night. Heat, electric and local telephone calls included. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted. Interested in learning more? Contact Katie Hill at (800) 628-8809.

## ...RMIA School Coffee

*(Continued from page 2)*

can meet and share information on schools and education. As part of the school coffees, we are incorporating the information into a database of sorts from the perspective of fellow Manor residents, and will add information to our website on additional schools as they are discussed at future school coffees.

The information covers topics including length of school day, diversity, a review of the curriculum, application process overview, availability of before and after school programs, sense of community, and likes/dislikes of parents.

Look for a date and location for the next school coffee in the next RMIA newsletter or on the RMIA website.

- Hollis Russinoff

## Go! Is Gone Welcome Merle's

**N**ew name, new (some say better) coffee and a fresh food selection. Under new management, Go! Coffee is now Merle's Coffee Shoppe. Ricky, who ran the Go! for two years, left to pursue his website business, [www.RUinit.com](http://www.RUinit.com). So if you haven't been to Merle's, stop by and give it a try.

## Thank You from CAPS Beat 1724

**T**here has been a tremendous response to a flyer from CAPS (Chicago Alternate Policing Strategy) Beat 1724 regarding the availability of light-reflective house numbers for garages. These numbers will help emergency vehicles locate homes when help is needed. The numbers will be applied in Spring 2004 by CAPS members, the police and other volunteers. CAPS develops partnerships

between the community, police and other city agencies to address safety concerns and other issues. Beat 1724 extends from the Chicago River to the east side of Kimball, and the north side of Irving Park Road to the south side of Wilson. Beat 1724 meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Horner Park field house. Stop by, meet the police officers who service our area, and present any concerns you may have.

## Manor Garden Club To Deliver 2004 Plant Sale Flyers in February

**M**anor Garden Club will be distributing its 2004 plant sale flyers soon to Ravenswood Manor residents.

"Late winter is when gardeners get antsy about planning their gardens," said MGC president Anne Rozmin. "We'll be offering lots of the hottest new plants and old favorites. Members spend many hours reviewing plant catalogs to find the items we think will be popular."

Flyers will be distributed in February. The deadline for returning them is the March 15 meeting where committee members will present this year's choices and answer your plant sale questions.

"There are many big jobs and small jobs involved with the

plant sale," Rozmin said. "Volunteer and get a 20% discount on your order."

MGC meetings are the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Horner Park field house, 2741 W. Montrose Avenue. The agenda includes a book raffle, refreshments and often a speaker such as a gardening magazine editor or a landscape architect.

For more information or to volunteer to help support the plant sale, please call 773-588-5675 or visit the garden club's web site, [www.manorgardenclub.com](http://www.manorgardenclub.com).

- Alan Mueller

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