

The Manor News

Ravenswood Manor Community Newsletter



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 Ravenswood Manor
 Improvement Association (RMIA)
 PO Box 25486
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 RMIA Hotline 312.409.3213
 Newsletter Online at
www.ravenswoodmanor.com

RMIA Semi-Annual Meeting April 19

Please join us at Horner Park fieldhouse for the semi-annual community meeting Wednesday April 19 at 7:30pm. **Featuring Mark Payne of the CTA Brown Line project** to answer questions about our station and what to expect during construction. We will also gather feedback and ideas on the current draft of the **Ravenswood Manor Business Development Plan**. Our meeting promises to be fast paced and informative.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 13
Plant Sale

May 21
Neighborhood Garage Sale

July 1
Kids' Independence Day Parade

Waters Elementary School

Exciting new initiatives are planned at Waters Elementary School

Infrastructure/Fundraising:
 The 2006 8th grade class is developing plans to remove the asphalt and make a campus park around the school. Through fundraising and donated services, the school hopes to make these improvements which will benefit the community in the following ways: create a beautiful community school, decrease the stress on public sewer systems during rain, and add a safer athletic area for children. Interior renovations include new hallway flooring, carpeting, and replacement of lighting fixtures. Chicago Public Schools has committed to matching any funds that are raised for these improvements. The cost of the Campus Park and interior renovations are estimated at \$400,000. To get the match from CPS, Waters is planning to raise \$200,000.

How can you help?

- ♦ Contribute a tax-deductible donation to Waters Today
- ♦ Provide contact information for the person who manages

charitable/community gifts at your company

- ♦ Donate goods/services to support the projects
- For more information go to www.watertoday.org, e-mail info@watertoday.org or call Christine Weldon at 773.368.7279.

Tuition-Based Preschool:
 Plans for a Tuition Based Preschool to start at Waters in Fall 2006 are moving forward now that all the slots are full. This preschool will be taught in dual language, encompassing both English and Spanish. In addition, the class will benefit from the outstanding arts and music programs currently being taught at Waters. If you are interested in this program, be sure to stop by the office at Waters to get your name on the already-started waiting list!

New Principal: As many of you have heard, Principal Revollo recently announced his retirement from Waters Elementary at the end of this school year. Mr. Revollo has served Waters for

(WATERS, continues on page 5)

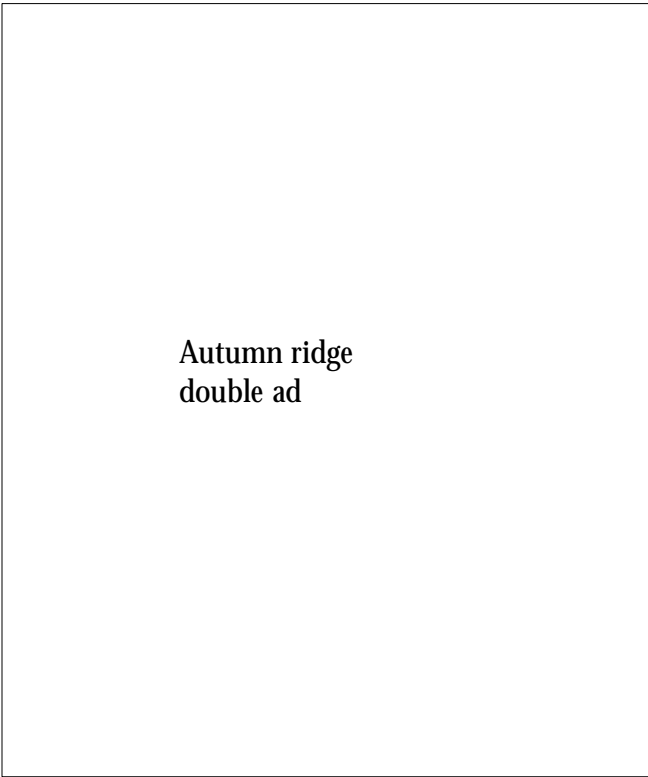


RMIA News Brief

Le Ballet Petit Production

Tchaikovsky's classical ballet "Swan Lake" will be presented by Le Ballet Petit on April 22nd and 23rd at the St. Scholastica Theater, 7416 N. Ridge Avenue at 2:00pm. Fifty dancers, who range in age from 7 to 76, will tell the tale of handsome Prince Siegfried, Odette, the beautiful and mysterious white swan he falls in love with, and Baron Von Rothbart, the evil sorcerer who plots to keep them apart forever.

Le Ballet Petit is a not-for-profit dance school which has been run by volunteers in Ravenswood Manor since 1954. Reserved seating tickets are \$8.00. For group sales and all other information, please call 773.463.3385.



Autumn ridge
double ad

Earth Day, 2006

Horner, Manor Gardens Clean Ups scheduled

The Horner Park Advisory Council is organizing another work day to prepare our neighborhood gardens for spring.

There will be a clean up of Ravenswood Manor Park on Earth Day, Saturday April 22 from 9am - noon. We will pick up litter, mulch trees, and prepare the garden for spring. All neighbors are encouraged to come out and give a little something back to our neighborhood that morning.

Bring a rake, shovel or wheel barrow.

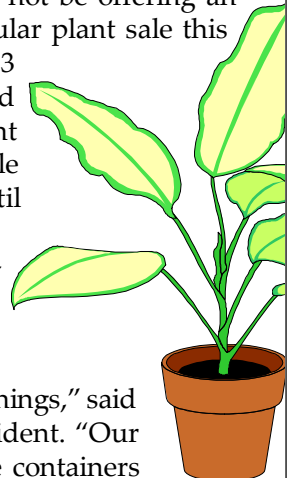
Plant Sale Scheduled For May 13

The Manor Garden Club will not be offering an advance order phase of the popular plant sale this year. However, Saturday, May 13 will see Buffalo Park transformed into a spring garden lover's delight when the club presents its plant sale starting at 10:00am and going 'til sellout.

This year's offerings will include perennials, ferns, annuals in flats and pots, herbs, heirloom tomatoes and hanging baskets.

"We're going to try a few new things," said Susan O'Connell, the club's president. "Our members will put together some containers on the spot for sale and we'll have a Garden Market table. Members will donate books, tools, pots and possibly garden furniture for sale. We're looking forward to seeing our friends and neighbors and helping them choose great plants for their gardens."

Anyone interested in volunteering for this event can reach Susan at 773.463.8166.





CTA Brown Line Renovation

The goal of the Brown Line expansion project is to make stations accessible to people with disabilities and increase passenger capacity. The Francisco historic station house will be restored and platforms will be extended to accommodate eight-car trains. An ADA accessible ramp will be added at the Francisco street-level station.

The Kedzie and Rockwell stations will be closed for the next six months as they are undergoing renovation. When the Kedzie and Rockwell stations reopen, then the Francisco and Kimball stations will close for up to six months beginning in late summer or early fall.

CTA will hold community meetings regarding the station closures and construction. To sign up for an email notification of any upcoming CTA community meeting,



go to www.rmia.org and click subscribe for email newsletter.

The RMIA is working with the North River Commission to keep the CTA informed of the needs of the community during this project. For the latest news visit www.northrivercommission.org or visit the CTA website at www.ctabrownline.com.

Seattle sutton
single ad

Winter Social 2006

About 170 neighbors gathered for RMIA's recent Winter Social. The event was held March 4 at Horner Park fieldhouse, included food catered by Merle's and an annual raffle sponsored by John Byrne of Baird & Warner and CeCe Kuhlmann of Koenig & Strey.

Congratulations to our raffle winners: Harmeen Ahnja, Richard Black, Miller Bransfield, Hannah Fitter, the Lowenthal family, David Mark, Devon Patterson, the Putrim family, Dave Schlensker, the Schober family, Mary Sheffield, Lisa Valentin, and the Weishuber family. Dante

Ammons, Jenny Bodentstein and Owen Hall were the lucky winners of the kids' raffle.

The traditional kids' cakewalk was hosted by Susan and Lily Siegert with sweet donations of cakes and cupcakes from neighborhood bakers, Alexis Frankfort and her associates at Kitchen Chicago and Jeff Scoughton of Merle's.

Among the activities were fun projects such as creative paper bag hat making led by Diane Sutliff of Go Get Your Smock!, and imaginative face painting under the direction of Phoebe Sutliff and friends. We are also grateful for the

hospitality of the Horner Park staff. We appreciate being able to use the facility again this year.

RMIA is grateful to all the many volunteers including Tracey Lowenthal and Mary Sheffield for greeting at the welcome table and to Richard and Maryann Brandon for delivering the leftover food to a shelter for needy people. Thanks to all of the neighbors and friends who helped with setup and helped make the RMIA Winter Social a great event.



Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 21, 2006, 10am-4pm

Rain or shine, this is your chance to take advantage of an event that attracts hundreds of bargain hunters to Ravenswood Manor. The RMIA handles the permits, advertising and signage. All you need to do is register.

Sign-up by sending your name, address, phone and e-mail address to garagesale@ravenswoodmanor.com or use the form in this newsletter and mail in your registration. Then set out your wares in an attractive fashion on the 21st. It's that simple. Not interested in selling? Many Manor residents have picked up treasures of their own. So whether you're selling or shopping, the garage sale is lots of fun for all.

All participants will receive garage sale tips, a sign, and the required garage sale permit in a packet of materials that will be dropped off at their home several days prior to the sale. Monetary donations to offset the cost of advertising and promoting the sale are appreciated. If you'd like to contribute, please send a check payable to RMIA Garage Sale, P.O. Box 25486, Chicago, IL 60625. Good luck at this year's Garage Sale!

Twelfth Season of Free Concerts

Ravenswood Manor Park

The Horner Park Advisory Council and the Chicago Park District will again produce several Sunday evenings of free concerts under the Pergola in Manor Park. This marks the 12th season of this wonderful Manor Tradition, which kicks off June 12 at 7pm with a new act, the Mike and Amy Finders Band. A full schedule of all nine performance dates, including the 8th annual ManorBash — to be held Sunday August 6 — will be published in our next edition of the RMIA News. RMIA is a major sponsor of the Ravenswood Manor Park Concert Series.

Donations are being accepted for this 12th season. Support for the concert series comes from households in the Manor and businesses wanting to advertise. A suggested family donation starts at \$20, and is tax-deductible. Donations of any amount, payable to the Horner Park Advisory Council may be sent to: The Ravenswood Manor Park Summer Concert Series, 4530 N. Mozart Street, Chicago, Illinois 60625.

Inquiries on advertising and sponsorship can also be found there, or contact John O'Connell at JOC159@sbcglobal.net, or check out the Horner Park website, www.hornerpark.org.



2006 RAVENSWOOD MANOR GARAGE SALE REGISTRATION

(Registration Deadline — May 11)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ UNIT # _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

I wish to make a contribution of \$ _____
to RMIA for garage sale expenses.

Please mail your registration to:
RMIA Garage Sale, P.O. Box 25486, Chicago, IL 60625

Merles
double ad



New Summer Arts Programs In Your Own Neighborhood!

Go Get Your Smock! School of Art at 4636 N. Francisco will be continuing their successful summer arts programs this year and adding new classes for older artists. This year artists ages 10 and older are invited to join the Polymer Clay Workshops, making beads, bowls, vases, candles and picture frames. The 3-day session starts July 5, and will also have Saturday classes beginning on June 24.

In the multi-media programs for kids, artists will learn about watercolor, tempera, crayon, collage, bookmaking and more. Sessions for kids ages 6 to 8 run the weeks of June 19 and July 10. Sessions for artists 9 and older will be held the weeks of June 26 and July 17.

Also new this year is a Knitted/Felted Tote Workshop, beginning on Wednesday, June 21. They are offering projects on three skill levels, so all knitters will be challenged and inspired. Visit www.dragonflyhandbags.net to get an idea of the glorious handbag you can make!

For the neighborhood knitters who enjoy turning yarn into things of beauty, you are invited to join Stitchin' Sundays. This is for all ranges of abilities. First sessions will be meeting on Sunday afternoons at Go Get Your Smock!

Visit the school web page at www.gogetyoursmock.org to download a summer arts program brochure, or stop by the studio. Spaces for all classes are limited, so don't wait to make your space reservation!

Amos Coffman
double ad

(WATERS, continued from page 1)

fourteen years, bringing many outstanding programs into the school, including fine arts and ecology. His replacement was recently announced and there is much excitement about the new principal. Ms. Titia Kipp, the previous Assistant Principal and key player in the implementation of the fine arts program at Waters, was named as the new principal. We look forward to our continued work with her next year.

Open House: A kindergarten Open House was held Saturday, March 25th. The event was a great success. The new Principal was introduced and informational sessions were offered regarding Water's integrated curriculum approach and the dual language kindergarten planned for next year. By the end of the event, applications had been submitted by attendees for both preschool and kindergarten. The event also included a free art classes by Abrakadoodle, an art program that will be offered after school and during the summer at Waters. For more information go to www.watertoday.org.

LSC Elections: The primary responsibilities of the Local School Council are: select the school's principal and renew the principal's contract; approve the School Improvement Plan for Advancing Academic Achievement; approve the school's budget for the school year.

For the upcoming April election, Waters Elementary has eight non-teacher spaces open for a two year term commitment starting in July 2006. Six spots are open for parents of students currently enrolled, and two spots are open for community members who do not have children enrolled. Candidate speeches will be open to all who live in the community at Waters on April 17th at 6pm. All residents are eligible to vote at the LSC elections at Waters School on April 19th.

Kitchen chicago
single ad

Peet
double ad

Zozo
single ad

Judy hultzen
single ad

All in a day
single ad

Lulu's
single ad

Bloom 1/3 page
single ad

Business District Development Plan for Ravenswood Manor

What is it?

The Development Plan is the result of a volunteer committee of the RMIA that spent last year examining the development that is taking place on Lawrence and Montrose Avenues. These developments often include a retail component, so examination strategies for Manor residents to have an impact on the types of retail establishments that will inhabit those spaces. The committee also examined the commercial area surrounding the Francisco station, with the goal of enhancing the aesthetic quality of the area and fostering sustainable businesses, while preserving the area's tranquil nature.

Why does the RMIA feel this is worthwhile?

Ravenswood Manor has a history of taking an active interest in the quality of our homes, parks, streets and community. Over the years, the hard work of our neighborhood organizations and volunteers have kept Ravenswood Manor a strong, vibrant community. As new retail space is being developed along Lawrence and Montrose Avenues, we feel it is important for Manor residents to have an impact on the type of businesses that are in and adjoin our neighborhood. We would rather be proactive than merely react to the developers and the market forces. Creating written goals enables us to engage various parties into a collective discussion.

Where can I see the plan?

- ✓ Download from www.rmia.org
- ✓ Get it e-mailed by sending an e-mail request to businessdistrict@ravenswoodmanor.com
- ✓ Write in questions to RMIA P.O. Box 25486, Chicago, IL 60625
- ✓ Attend the RMIA Semi-Annual Meeting April 19, 7:30pm at Horner Park

Will the plan recommendations be implemented soon?

At this point, the plan is simply the first draft of ideas and is a starting point for collective discussion. Strong ideas will be kept and weaker ideas will be dropped from the plan. There is nothing currently scheduled or funded.

I want to voice my support or concern over a certain aspect of the plan.

What can I do?

- ✓ Attend committee meetings held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30am at Kitchen Chicago.
- ✓ E-mail to businessdistrict@ravenswoodmanor.com
- ✓ Write to the RMIA – send to RMIA, PO Box 25486, Chicago, IL 60625
- ✓ Attend the RMIA Semi-Annual Meeting April 19 7:30pm at Horner Park

This newsletter insert is from the Development Plan Committee of the RMIA Board.