



# MANOR NEWS

SPRING /  
SUMMER

2022

## EVENT CALENDAR

### Upcoming Events:

- **April 19:**  
Ravenswood Manor Easter Egg Hunt  
– 10:00-10:30 a.m.
- **April 19:**  
17th District (Police) CAPS (“CAPS”) Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- **April 26:**  
Ravenswood Manor Improvement Association (“RMIA”) Semi-Annual Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **May 4:**  
Horner Park Advisory Council (“HPAC”) Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **May 9:**  
RMIA Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **May 15:**  
Ravenswood Manor Garage Sale  
– 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **May 17:**  
CAPS Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- **May 20:**  
Concert in the Park – Fortunate Sons  
– 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)

(Continued on page 2)

## Re-Building The Ravenswood Manor Pillars Significant Progress — But Hurdles Remain

By: Matt McClintock and Rob Lott

More than a century ago, Ravenswood Manor’s original developers designed and erected brick and limestone pillars at “entrances” to the neighborhood. Pillars like this have been preserved in Ravenswood Gardens — for example, at Lawrence and Virginia, Rockwell and Wilson, and Rockwell and Eastwood.



Wooden pillars – need some paint!



“Limestone” ball in studio



Pillars being painted – amazing transformation!

## Join the RMIA Today

The RMIA is run exclusively by volunteers and can only organize neighborhood events (e.g., the Garden Walk, Garage Sale, etc.) and make neighborhood improvements (e.g., the new neighborhood signs) thanks to membership donations. We have big plans for 2022 and increased membership and fundraising are key to achieving our goals. Please consider joining — for as little as \$10 — and together, we can #BeautifyTheManor. Scan the QR Code below to join or donate:



The Ravenswood Manor pillars were unfortunately not kept up and eventually crumbled. Discerning observers might have noticed a limestone cap from an original post (with etched street names) lodged in the grass at the corner of Manor and Lawrence.

Over the years, the RMIA has discussed re-building the pillars. The project would represent a celebration of our neighborhood’s rich history and a renewed monument to welcome visitors and newcomers for generations to come. In addition, the pillars would bring a classic and cohesive look to the neighborhood, and most neighbors have responded with enthusiasm to the prospect of their reconstruction. Nevertheless, it would be a complex and costly undertaking, and prior efforts have stalled.

The RMIA board has taken significant steps to advance this goal this past year. Today, we believe we have the best opportunity in decades to re-build the pillars. Specifically, the board and individual members have:

- Obtained architectural sketches
- Allotted a small budget to building full-sized mock-ups (to test sightlines, locations, price out construction, and ultimately to place around the neighborhood for fundraising)

(Continued on page 4)

## About the RMIA

*Manor News* is published twice a year by the Ravenswood Manor Improvement Association. Established in 1914, the RMIA is a neighborhood association run entirely by volunteers. We hold monthly board of directors meetings, stage various social events and special projects, and maintain communication channels through our web site, e-mail alerts, and newsletter. Your annual RMIA membership helps to support all of this work. The RMIA Mission Statement is: "To promote the welfare of the community in respect to the maintenance and improvement of the physical appearance of the private and public property; the compliance with the laws as applicable to private and public property; the maintenance of facilities with respect to the safety, health, and welfare of its residents."

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## Summer and Spring Events, continued

- **June 1:** HPAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **June 4:** Horner Park Farmers' Market – every Saturday into October from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **June 10:** Concert in the Park – Hōkūle'a – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **June 11:** Neighborhood Re-Dedication of LaPointe Park – 2:00 p.m.
- **June 13:** RMIA Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **June 18:** Ravenswood Manor Bike Parade – 10:00 a.m. (Buffalo Park)
- **June 21:** CAPS Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **June 24:** Concert in the Park – Second Hand News – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **July 6:** HPAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **July 8:** Concert in the Park – The Waco Brothers – 7:00 p.m. (Horner Park)
- **July 19:** CAPS Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **July 22:** Concert in the Park – Pat Mallingier and Urban Soul – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **July 24:** Ravenswood Manor Garden Walk – 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- **July 24:** Concert in the Park – Narloch Piano Recital – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **August 3:** HPAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **August 5:** Concert in the Park – The Mary Jane Breakdown – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **August 16:** CAPS Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **August 19:** Concert in the Park – Le Ballet Petit Recital – 7:00 p.m. (Manor Park)
- **September 7:** HPAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **September 9:** Concert in the Park – Band TBD – 7:00 p.m. (Jacob Park)
- **September 12:** RMIA Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **September 20:** CAPS Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **October 5:** HPAC Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **October 10:** RMIA Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- **October 18:** CAPS Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

### Weekly and Monthly Events:

Horner Park Farmers' Market – every Saturday from June 4 through a date TBD in October from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

RMIA Board Meetings – 2nd Monday of the month (except for July and August) at 7:00 p.m.

Horner Park Advisory Council Meetings – 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

17th District (police) CAPS meetings – 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

More detail and a full list of events (often with sign-up links where applicable) can be found on the RMIA's website at [ravenswoodmanor.com/events/](http://ravenswoodmanor.com/events/) or by scanning the QR Code below:





# Manor Happenings

By: Matthew McClintock

Since the Fall / Winter edition of the Manor News — which featured the Garage Sale, Halloween / HalloWalk, New Neighborhood Signs, tree planting, and numerous other events — the entire neighborhood has — candidly — been largely hibernating. Between the cold weather and the Omnicron variant, it was a quiet winter in the Manor.

But the RMIA did get a great turnout for the Manor Park Holiday Lighting Ceremony, we are actively planning a host of events for spring and summer (see some of them in the event calendar section above), and there has been plenty of news in the neighborhood. Including sad news about the fires on both Montrose and Lawrence, and important news about re-districting and its potential impact on Ravenswood Manor.

## Manor Park Holiday Lighting Ceremony & Holiday Light Stroll Dec. 2021

In what promises to be an annual tradition, a huge turnout of neighbors and friends met at Manor Park for the holiday lighting ceremony. In addition to music and snacks and drinks — and of course, turning on the holiday lights — it was a great chance to get out of the house and socialize with neighbors, something that will hopefully be happening a lot more with the pandemic receding and temperatures rising. We hope you were not too terrified by the reindeer.



The RMIA also sponsored a Holiday Light Stroll — with an interactive map featuring some of the most amazing decorations from around the neighborhood. A big thanks to Mina Marien and others on the RMIA Social Committee for pulling these events together!

## Participatory Budgeting Funds for LaPointe Park Jan 2022

As part of the RMIA's #BeautifyTheManor initiative, the RMIA's applied for "participatory budgeting" funds for LaPointe Park — specifically for planting trees and shrubs to "screen" Lawrence Ave. and the Meeting Tomorrow Parking Lot. Funds were also sought for low plantings and boulders along the parking to "separate" the park from Manor Ave. (without impeding sight lines). We are happy to report that the RMIA was awarded \$5,000 for the "screening" portion of the project. The Parks Committee has been working this winter with the alderman's office and other organizations to turn the commitment into an even more verdant park! Since the request was only partially funded, donations are appreciated (scan the code below to donate):



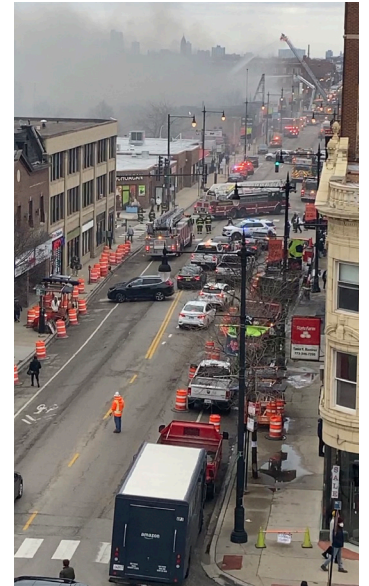
## The Montrose Avenue Fire Feb. 2022

Around 3:30 a.m. on February 21, a fire in an adjoining apartment building quickly spread to the Twisted Hippo brewery at 2925 W. Montrose Ave. Firefighters worked valiantly through the night, braving explosions and collapsing walls. However, by sunrise, the brewery and adjacent Ultimate Ninjas Gym were destroyed, and many neighbors were left without homes. Neighbors in Ravenswood Manor and elsewhere have set up scores of GoFundMe pages, and it has been heartening to see the support given to our neighbors and adjacent businesses.

## The Lawrence Avenue Fire March 22

In the afternoon on March 22, a fire erupted in the JoJo Discount Outlet Home Line on Lawrence Avenue. Luckily nobody was injured, but as with the Montrose Ave. fire, the building was destroyed, and plumes of smoke could be seen from Manor backyards (pictured — photo credits to Tom Melvin). Investigators were looking into connections, including to a separate Albany Park church fire, but the fires appeared unrelated at the time of print.

Please remember to check your smoke alarms!



## The Impact of Redistricting on Ravenswood Manor Ongoing

Since 1991 Ravenswood Manor has been part of the 33rd ward. As many of you know, the city is in the process of ward remapping with two proposed maps. The Coalition map shows Ravenswood Manor in the 47th ward and the Rules committee map has Ravenswood Manor split among the 33rd, 40th and 47th wards. Neither proposal has yet received enough support in the City Council to pass. You can find more details and links on the RMIA website.

The RMIA supports the neighborhood staying in one ward and not being divided among wards. We have communicated this to the alderman of all three wards. You can continue to follow the process on the City Clerk's website (see link on RMIA website). If neither map garners enough support the two maps will be up for a vote in June. If that occurs, we encourage you to vote for Ravenswood Manor to stay in one ward.



### Re-Building The Ravenswood Manor Pillars, continued

- Built the full-size mock-ups and painted them to look almost exactly like the finished product (utilizing the incredible talents of neighborhood mural artist Tom Melvin, coincidentally this issue's neighborhood Spotlight)
- Priced out construction with multiple contractors
- Talked to neighbors whose properties would be adjacent to the sites identified for the first phase of pillar construction with a universally supportive response
- Made initial contact with the alderman's office and other community groups concerning zoning and approvals

The first eight pillars would most likely include posts at both ends of Manor Avenue (the two primary "gateways" to the neighborhood) and then four matching pillars at a central intersection, representing the "center" or "crossroads" of the community.



Some of the team resting their backs. These are heavy.

The team working on the project is chasing down a few last issues and hoping to secure a funding commitment from the RMIA in the next several months. To be clear, the RMIA will not be able to fund this project on its own. Any future funding commitment from the RMIA would then be coupled with outreach to secure donations from neighbors, businesses, and other groups to fill in the funding gap.

If we can get enough momentum to install an initial wave of pillars as a neighborhood, it would be a "shovel-ready" and proven project. We would then be in good position to potentially try for "participatory budgeting" funds in later years to complete another project phase.

Expect to see more on this soon on social media and email – and perhaps at corners around the neighborhood in the form of the full scale mock-ups. This would be a massive and multigenerational project for the neighborhood, and has been quietly under way for over a year by a team of board members.

We could also use your help and input! If you are interested in helping or have ideas, please reach out. Key things that we could use now include:

Engineering help (for foundation design and city applications)

Construction connections (any way we can minimize cost will obviously help tremendously, and this is a great opportunity for neighborhood-wide exposure for the selected contractor).

Fundraising help (whether with respect to local fundraising, or if you know of other grant programs that might help).

Any and all ideas and participation are welcomed!

Email [pillars@ravenswoodmanor.com](mailto:pillars@ravenswoodmanor.com) to get involved.



Mock-ups at Montrose & Manor.



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Her heart and home both lie in the Ravenswood Manor area, where she's sold dozens of homes in just the last two years. **Scan the QR code** to hear what your neighbors say about working with Deb and her team.



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# COMPASS





# Spotlight: Thomas Melvin, Artist

By: Renata Jasinski Laszuk

Tom Melvin is a world-renowned artist and muralist who lives in Ravenswood Manor with his wife, Nancy. His public art is not only famous; it is often massive in scale. Tom designs and creates all manner of interior and exterior murals, and also takes on large-scale preservation and restoration projects (e.g., he is likely to be the first call when a renowned mural in a church dome is beginning to peel). Reading Tom's bio and seeing some of his incredible work has me excited to meet him.

I will soon learn that there is more to Tom than just artistic talent. Tom and Nancy are amazing neighbors and long-time Manor residents who live in a classic bungalow on a tight-knit stretch of Leland. Neighbors have soup nights, connected backyards, buy communal eggs from the Melvins' garage, have regular backyard dinners and happy hours, and even vacation together. Moreover, the Melvins have made incredible contributions to the neighborhood over the years — everything from organizing dance events to helping to paint the Wilson Avenue Bridge murals. Just this year, Tom helped to build and paint the Ravenswood Manor pillar mock-ups to look almost exactly like the real thing (see article above). And almost every year since 1977, Tom has created Valentine woodblock prints for friends and family. There is no way to truly do justice to such prolific, kind, and creative neighbors.

I first meet Tom as he opens an otherwise nondescript glass door between two storefronts on Lawrence Avenue just west of Kedzie. He greets me warmly. I first notice his red wool felt hat — a “crusher” — and round tortoiseshell glasses. He's layered up (“It's cold in the studio today,” he explains) and has about a hundred keys on his keychain. Man, I think this guy LOOKS like an artist. He gestures to the impossibly long staircase up and chuckles, “It's all the way up.” I square my shoulders and soldier up. Once we are at the top of the stairs (it is better not to look backward), there is a labyrinth of halls and doors. Tom opens one, and we enter the Thomas Melvin Painting Studio.

Walking into the studio, the scope of his work is immediately apparent. At 3,000 square feet, this is no simple artist's garret. I don't know where to look first. The north-facing floor-to-ceiling windows let in marvelous light. On the 13 by 54-foot east wall hangs a canvas. It's the primary space for painting his larger-than-life murals. Rolled-up canvases are stored in rafters, volumes of books on art line a wall-turned-bookshelf. There are paintings and sculptures, and scaffolding everywhere. In the middle of it all lives Tom's desk, a vintage model, and a cozy green settee beside. He invites me to sit, and we talk about his extraordinary journey as an artist.

**Manor News:** This is a fantastic space.

**Tom Melvin:** Well, it is full of stuff from 32 years here. Since 1990. And it's taken on many different shapes in that time. A lot of the work was done on canvases. So that's why these big walls are here. I've had as many as ten people working here at once.



*Mississippi River Tales*



*The artist*

Following photos were reprinted with permission from [www.thomasmelvin.com](http://www.thomasmelvin.com)

**MN:** How did you come upon the space?

**TM:** Chicago Place (a vertical shopping center that stood at 600 North Michigan Ave.) was a really big project that really allowed me to have this spot. That allowed me to rent the place, pay crew, and everything. That was a major commission in 1990—two murals, each 23' wide by 42' high.

**MN:** How were those created?

**TM:** They were painted on canvas here at the studio and then applied individually on site. Each mural then was further enhanced by adding gilded and natural wood frames around different regions of the mural. It's gone now. It became lost art. If anybody knows the whereabouts of my mural, let me know.

**MN:** Why did you choose to set up your studio here?

**TM:** Nancy (his wife) had bought a house here in '85 in the Manor – I wanted to be close to home.

**MN:** So, how did you start?

**TM:** I grew up in the New York area, and I went to school in Vermont at Bennington College.

**MN:** Where you received a BA in Sculpture and Performance Art

**TM:** Right. And that's where I met Nancy. After that, I was a shop boy at a sign shop in New York for a time. I was the guy who had to clean the silk-screens or just travel around assisting the pros who could do their real fine work. But I learned a lot about the trade. Finally, I came to Chicago to be with Nancy. She was enrolled at the U of C, completing her degree in linguistics, and I came out to sort of cook dinners and hang out and help her out in the final crunch.

**MN:** And you ended up staying?

**TM:** Some good friends we were involved with in the dance world in Ben-

nington came to the city to do a workshop. They came to town to teach this new form of dance called Contact Improvisation. There was a group in town who wanted to take it up. We became very close to them, and they became sort of the basis of many friends here. And we ended up staying.

I found work in the theatrical scenery house in town called Thomas P. Fulham and Co. We called it "The Home of the Atmosphere Makers." Really, that was our jokey name for it. We got these jobs to set up parties and ballrooms in private homes — themed parties. And I painted the backdrops for them.

I was also just beginning my own business, but I still worked for other people. I worked for Evergreene Painting Studios off and on through the years



*Randolf and Wabash Parking Mural*

on projects. We painted all of Richard Haas' Murals here in town with Evergreene. His architectural illusions of grand scale were some of the biggest in the world at the time. I worked on almost all of those projects here in Chicago and then some DC.

**MN:** Would you say that he influenced your big mural work?

**TM:** Well, he certainly opened the door to my learning how to work large. He was a professor of mine in college. I worked on all his mural projects in Homewood, Illinois. I executed those for him with my crew. We still talk often.

**MN:** Let's talk more about your mural work.

**TM:** Well, yeah, the work has taken me all around the country. Those were fun times.

**MN:** How did that work?

**TM:** More often than not, those commissions were for a company named General Growth Properties, who developed shopping malls, of all things.



*Fulton East Mural*

The owners took a liking to our work. They wanted to put these public amenities into the building, something that had to do with the region where the mural was situated — Tucson wanted something about the history or environments of Tucson, Arizona, or Jacksonville, Florida wanted something about it, etc.

I had a lot of fun researching all of that and getting to know areas. Even before I did the mural, I often went and checked out the place, did a little research and then I'd come back with a lot of possibilities and put it together. I'd conceive of and design the art, and my crew and I would paint that here on canvas. We'd fill these walls with canvasses.

Then we either drive them there or ship them via air freight to the site. My crew and I would take them and paste them up on the wall. They go up like wall covering, and it's been rather permanent.

**MN:** Do you ever visit them?

**TM:** Many of them are being taken down these days or getting painted

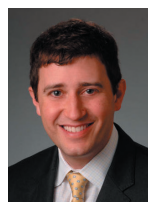
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over. Times of change, you know? What a shame. This is what happens. But I'm moving on to other things right, you know. So that's good.

**MN:** Can people see some of your murals in Chicago?

**TM:** I like the thing I did down at Fulton market just last fall. But that one you won't be able to see unless you look at the website. It's called Fulton East. It begins at the fourth floor and goes up to the eighth, opposite the windows of the building. It was really made for the pleasure of the tenants who would rent the space. There's another painting opposite, that's at street level, and that's visible at the entrance. It's just between Fulton and Lake Street on Peoria,

Just last month, I took down a big mural in the Peggy Notebaert Museum. And now that it's up in the rafters up there, and in pieces,

And there's a parking garage down at Randolph and Wabash. This one is still there. They are at the elevators. They wanted to do something with a department store theme. And so we designated areas on each floor one to represent sporting goods, one as books, stationery, one as jewelry, one to ladies and entertainment.

**MN:** Can you tell me a little about your life in Ravenswood Manor?

**TM:** We've got a great little community of friends on our block (at Manor and Leland). Our kids, Leif and May, grew up with all the kids on that block and remain friends. We all vacation together. We have great block parties; we have a great time. Every Columbus Day weekend for years, a considerably larger group of Manor neighbors, 20 families or more, would take over every cabin in White Pines State Park. Management changed, so now we go somewhere else.

**MN:** Wow, so no one would even know if I slipped in.

**TM:** (laughing) No. Maybe there'd be one extra room for you.

**MN:** Tell me about the signature hat.

**TM:** Well, I've been wearing a red hat since my wedding day. Nancy and I were married on Valentine's Day in 1979. I was gifted a red hat in the same style by a dear old friend, and I put it on, and I've been wearing them ever since.

**MN:** I notice the hat has become a logo on your website.

**TM:** Yes, it's also on my business cards. That and a cup of coffee are my logos.

You can learn more about Tom see examples of his work on his website: <https://www.thomasmelvin.com>

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# How Neighborhood Things Work: Paleta Carts

By Renata Jasinski Laszruk

The jingling bells of ice cream-laden pushcarts are among the most classic summer sounds in Chicago. You've undoubtedly seen paleta carts in one of the Manor's many parks and there is a reason we are rarely deprived: Paeteria Reina de Sabores (the "Queen of Flavors") rents pushcarts and makes some of the city's tastiest paletas right here at 3015 W Lawrence, just west of Sacramento.

Although colorful carts and delicious ice cream are mainstays of summer in the neighborhood, we rarely think much about how paleta carts work. To save you from thinking too much this summer, we try to answer your most pressing questions here.

## The Queen of Flavors

Paletas are Mexican popsicles, but better than mass-produced popsicles. All paletas sold at Paeteria Reina de Sabores are made on site. Josue Siu and his wife Maria bought the shop from Maria's uncle in 2010, but the paeteria has been around since 1999.



Real pieces of mango in the mango-chili paletas

Josue and Maria looked at the recipes. They decided to cut down on the sugar (natural cane sugar) and increase the fruit content. "We use cane sugar only," says Siu. "It really makes a difference in the taste. It's just old school."

On a recent weekend, the crew at Paeteria Reina de Sabores was getting ready for the new season by stocking their freezers. The paletas come in 23 flavors — both milk and ice. For this first batch, they will make about 300 of each flavor. Because Siu doesn't use preservatives or additives in the paletas, they have a shorter shelf life. That means more production. They make paletas in the back of the shop every weekend during the summer. They can make 25,000 paletas per week at the season's peak, depending on the popularity of flavors. Their best-selling flavors are coconut and rice (milk-based) and lime and watermelon (water-based).



Bike and push carts ready to be filled

If you haven't been, the Paeteria Reina de Sabores is worth a stop. Its walls are lined with freezers filled with paletas and specialty ice cream bars. And this is no small selection. You'll find almost any frozen treat you can imagine — push-ups, ice cream sandwiches, cones, and frozen candy bars. They are all available for purchase in the shop.

Filling the rest of the space is the Queen's fleet of carts — they have around 25 in regular use (mostly pushcarts and some bike carts), and more in storage. These are outfitted with dry ice containers to keep the treats frosty cold, even during the hottest Chicago summer days.

The Queen's primary business model is renting carts and selling ice cream through independent contractors. Many have been with the shop for years. Each morning, usually between 9 and 10 a.m., paletos (the men and women who work the carts) arrive to start their day. They fill their cart with the products they believe they can sell. If you're new to the business, Josue might limit your inventory until you prove you can handle the product correctly. Otherwise, it's the seller's preference to decide what products might sell best since product prices range from standard water paletas to milk paletas to the "specialty" third-party ice cream bars.

## Driver Economics

After the shop notes the paleta's inventory, the contractors then push (or ride or even train) their carts to favorable locations (such as pools and parks and the lakefront) and sell the items at a price they set. Most return their carts at 5 or 6 p.m, but the shop closes at 10 p.m. in the summer, so they can return carts well into the evening. When they return, they give back the items they didn't sell (as long as the product is in pristine condition) and pay the shop price for the items sold. Since the paleta sets the street sales price for the ice cream, anything over the shop price is profit.

River Park, Horner Park, and the lakefront are lucrative territories. Can anyone sell? "We have a permit," Josue explains. "We belong to the Lake-



front-Park District Ice Cream Vendor Program. We get a permit every year from the Park District to sell.”

And what about territories? If I were to get a cart and go to River Park to sell, but a cart is already there...

Just don't go in,” says Josue, laughing. “I can't tell you where to sell because you're a private business, but most likely, you might get ticketed, especially if you're first starting. My guy is already there, so I'd say stay on the outskirts, sell in the neighborhoods. Then, once you've been with me for a year or two, we can talk about getting you to the park or the lakefront.”



*Lime paletas are always a customer favorite!*

### Neighborhood Notes

Remember that you don't have to be a vendor to get your hands on a paleta. Anyone can walk in and buy paletas and ice cream bars from Reina de Sabores' freezers. They are more than happy to help when you have a sudden ice cream craving and don't see a cart nearby.

Moreover, neighbors are welcome to rent their own paleta carts for block parties and birthdays (and many of us have). Josue developed a cart rental plan. It's \$140 for 100 paletas — any mix of milk and water-based — your choice (and you can customize with other treats as well). They put dry ice in the cart, and it is yours for 24 hours. For that fee, you pick up and return the cart. Reina de Sabores rents out carts to 20-30 block parties every year. For an extra \$75, Josue or one of his crew will happily deliver and pick up the paleta cart.

Soon, ice cream will be one of the sweetest ways to beat the Chicago heat. So if you grab for a paleta this summer, look for the crown — you'll know you're about to enjoy a real Paleteria Reina de Sabores paleta, and that you'll be supporting a great neighborhood business. And please do take care of your local paletos — they work very hard.

**You can watch the ABC 7 Chicago video about  
Paleteria Reina de Sabores here:**

**<http://abc7chicago.com/food/summer-means-paletas-along-chicagos-lakefront/154577/>**

**Reina De Sabores  
3015 W Lawrence Ave.  
773-744-2474**

## Ravenswood Manor Neighbors Earn Driehaus Awards

*By Mina Marien*

Since its inception in 2005, The Driehaus Bungalow Awards have been given by the Chicago Bungalow Association (CBA) with support from the Driehaus Foundation to bungalow homeowners for excellence in seven categories of home renovation, restoration, and improvement. Both winners and honorable mentions receive prize money between \$250-\$1000, along with bronze plaques and recognition at an award ceremony and on the CBA website. As a neighborhood with many historic bungalows, Ravenswood Manor has seen its fair share of Driehaus Award winners over the years with at least nine neighbors claiming awards.

In 2021, two projects were awarded honorable mentions — one for exterior rehab and one for interior rehab. Barbara and Larry of the 2800 block of Eastwood earned their award for the way they transformed their aging, enclosed back porch into a beautiful multipurpose space with room for storage and outdoor enjoyment. They reused many of the original components such as the windows, soffits, and beams while opening up an area to sit outside and, as Larry says, “watch the plants grow...like a retreat.” Rachel and Brian of the 4500 block of Richmond renovated their dated,



### CHICAGO BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

closed-off kitchen while incorporating previously-hidden features such as a vintage tiled wall and milk chute, which they repurposed as a cookbook shelf. Both of these projects highlight the homeowners' successes in transforming parts of their historic houses into beautiful, functional spaces that incorporate original features of their homes.

The Driehaus Awards are not only for extensive construction renovations. Categories also exist for small projects, window restoration, landscape design, and green projects. In 2020, Caty and Michael of the 4400 block of Francisco took first place in the latter category when they added energy-conscious solar panels on their bungalow's roof. They can now track their energy production from an app on their phones, and during some warm, sunny months, they even get a refund back from ComEd. With their prize money, Michael and Caty were able to improve their backyard by adding a planter and composting tumbler. Both were very involved in the project and have since served as mentors for other neighbors interested in going solar.

It's been ten years since Lisa and Damon renovated their kitchen on the 2800 block of Wilson, winning them a first-place Driehaus Award in the interior rehabilitation category. They combined their small kitchen with

an outdoor porch to create an airy, light-filled space with a breakfast bar that opens into the dining room. The dark wood cabinets bring out the dark tones on the restored windows and the oak floors. It's been so long now that Lisa barely remembers her old kitchen but recalls the process being easy and everyone from the Bungalow Association being extremely nice. Lorin and Rick of the 2900 block of Leland similarly enjoyed the process when they went through it in 2017, coming away with an honor-



able mention in exterior rehabilitation. Lorin recalls being impressed by the judges' love and deep knowledge of Chicago bungalows. After speaking to the judges though, she learned that preservation in their eyes is not limited to incorporating or restoring original features of the home. Any improvements that keep people living in and loving their historic bungalows could be considered for a prize. For Lorin, like many others in Ravenswood Manor and across Chicago, caring for her vintage home is truly a "labor of love."

If reading about your neighbors has you excited to submit your own projects, you're in luck! Nominations for 2022 are open on the CBA website and will close on October 25, 2022. Projects can be submitted up to five years after completion. Finalists will be notified in early November, 2022. To apply, learn more, view before and after photos of winning projects, and watch video interviews with recent winners, visit [chicagobungalow.org/driehaus-awards](http://chicagobungalow.org/driehaus-awards). And while you're there, check out the Bungalow Garden Contest, which is also sponsored by the CBA and will open in early summer. Who knows, maybe your bungalow project or garden will be next to earn one of these exciting awards for 2022.

Join us...

...and take \$5 off your first appointment

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North Park Church Cooperative Preschool is a play-based preschool that offers authentic experiences for children to learn about themselves, their peers and their world! NPCCP programming runs September-May and offers three classes:

- **Young 3's Class-** Tuesday/Thursday 9:00am-11:15am  
Students must turn 3-years-old between September 2nd and December 31st
- **Preschool 3's Class-** Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00am-11:15am  
Students must be 3-years-old by September 1st
- **Preschool 4's Class-** Monday-Thursday 12:30pm-3:15pm  
Students must be 4-years-old by September 1st

For more information, please email the Preschool Director and visit our Preschool Webpage:

Email: [preschool@npcovenant.org](mailto:preschool@npcovenant.org)

Webpage: <http://www.npcovenant.org/npccp/>



# Interesting Manor Historical Figures

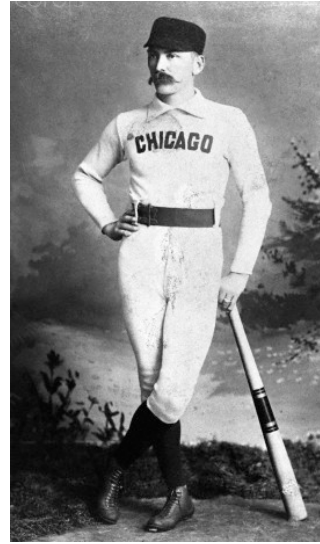
By Jim Peters

A periodic feature of Manor News is covering interesting historical figures who lived in Ravenswood Manor. We are hoping for a new profile for the upcoming newsletter. In the meantime, you can find back issues of the Manor News that include these amazing articles on the RMIA's website (scan the QR code below and then scroll down to explore back issues):



## Spring 2016:

"Marian Wrobel: Policewoman." Wrobel (1918-2006) resided at 2910 W. Eastwood Ave. and 4430 N. Manor Ave.

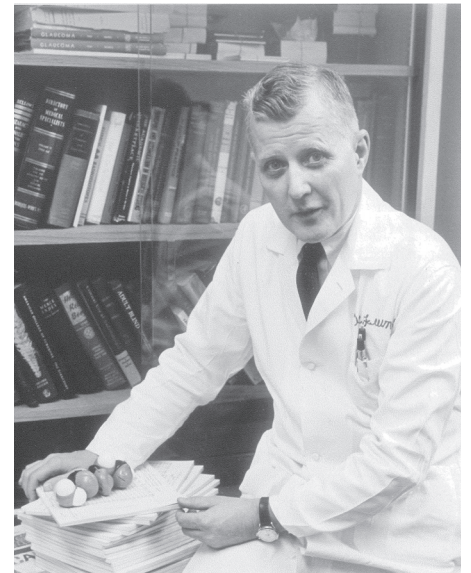


## Fall 2016:

"Fred Pfeffer: 19th Century Ball Player." Pfeffer (1860-1932) resided at 2928 W. Wilson Ave.

## Winter 2016:

"Frank Newell: Eye Specialist." Newell (1916-98) resided at 4500 N. Mozart Ave.



## Summer 2016:

"Michael J. Ahern: Capone's Attorney." Ahern (1887-1943) resided at 4536 N. Mozart Ave.



## Summer 2017:

"Harlem Globetrotters." Saperstein (1902-66) resided at 2948 W. Eastwood Ave.

**Fall 2017:**

"Lela Mueller and Bess Recoschewitz: Candy Makers." Mueller (1879-1973) resided at 4445 N. Francisco Ave.

**Spring 2018:**

"Oberlin Carter: Figure in Military Scandal." Carter (1856-1944) resided at 2945-47 W. Wilson Ave.

**Spring 2019:**

"June Bacon and Fred Popp: Beauty and the Banker." Bacon resided at 2814 W. Sunnyside Ave. (the house was demolished in 1995).

**Spring/Summer 2020:**

"Arthur and Kittie LaPointe: Aviator, Dancer, Community Leaders." Arthur (1902-85) and Kittie (1915-2013) resided at 2940 W. Eastwood Ave.

**Sidenote:**

For those that listen to the John Byrne oral history interview (also on the RMIA website), Mr. Byrne tells a funny anecdote about the son of former Manor resident and Harlem Globetrotter Abe Saperstein (one of the neighbors who is chronicled above).





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