



Says Who? SEZ OUR PREZ! *Jeff Manuel*

Hello, Edgebrookians.

This, the second Nadig-delivered newsletter, finds spring finally in the air and water still on the ground. It sure has been good weather for ducks. Among the events and news-worthy bits of the Edgebrook Community Association was certainly the Easter Egg Hunt on April 11. While a bit soggy, the weather was fine, everyone had a marvelous time, and Tom Misiewicz did a great job organizing it. We're working on getting some more dirt put down in the park to reduce the swamplands.

Plans are in place to repair the planter at Minnehaha and Devon, hit by a bus last winter, and, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, we are putting new plants in all over Edgebrook. Woodchips were donated by the city and distributed through the various flower beds along the Metra tracks, which, as you are well aware, are maintained exclusively by the ECA using your donations. (Thanks!) Landscaping is largely coordinated by Mary Jo Garnier, Chair of the Beautification Committee, and aided by the Garden Club, which is accepting members (call 773-775-4065). Garden Club membership is up a lot from last year, which means we can do more for the neighborhood.

Our new and improved website, www.edgebrookcommunity.org, is up and running and full of useful information, links, and more neighborhood news. And, lastly, our open to the public General Meeting on May 20 will feature a presentation by the University of Chicago's Civic Knowledge Project, featuring issues of greenspace, recycling and sustainability.

I nearly forgot the best thing! The Fourth of July Parade and Picnic! This year's theme is "Saturday in the Park – Edgebrook's Fourth of July." We will have TWO marching bands, another band at the park (local faves "Celtic Groundhogs"), antique cars, decorated bikes, food, games and lots of shiny, happy people. 11 AM, July 4.

We're working for EVERYONE in Edgebrook, so, if you haven't become a member, donated a "little extra" or volunteered for some of the work we're doing, feel free to step up and be counted on. THANK YOU.

*Jeff Manuel – President
Edgebrook Community Association*

May General Meeting Get a Smart Start on the Green Scene

Join your neighbors at the Edgebrook Library next Wednesday evening, May 20, when the ECA General Meeting will feature an engaging community workshop on protecting the urban environment, presented by the University of Chicago's Civic Knowledge Project.

Focusing on the topics of Increasing Green Space, Recycling and Sustainability, this innovative program goes beyond the familiar themes to highlight specific, practical steps we can take to reduce waste, expand our healthy food options, and preserve resources – all the while saving money.

If you and your family have never been to an ECA General Meeting, we encourage you to attend. Our program director, Carolyn Zafirris, does a great job of finding presentations that are informative and entertaining. Some people make a habit of coming just for the reliably tasty free refreshments. The fun begins at 7PM on the the second floor of the Edgebrook Library, 5331 West Devon.

The ECA needs you!
A 2009 yearly membership is only \$30.
Join online today at www.edgebrookcommunity.org

Paid advertisement provided by the ECA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ECA Special Events

July 4th Parade & Picnic

Saturday, July 4 at 11 AM
The parade begins at Edgebrook School (Central and Hiawatha) and ends at Wildwood Park with a Picnic to follow

Triangle Lighting Ceremony

Sunday, November 29 at 6 PM
Devon & Kinzua

Holiday Party

Saturday, December 5 at 10 AM
Edgebrook Community Church

ECA General Meetings (Library 7-9 PM)

Wednesday, May 20

A community workshop sponsored by the University of Chicago's Civic Knowledge Project will focus on Increasing Green Space, Recycling and Sustainability.

Wednesday, September 23

Program to be announced.

Wednesday, November 18

Program to be announced.

More info: <http://edgebrookcommunity.org>

Hip-Hopalooza: The Annual ECA Easter Egg Hunt

Gather a gaggle of sleepy ECA board members, a few hordes of happy kids, and hundreds of plastic eggs in Jeff Green (Choo-Choo) Park, and you've got a proven recipe for Easter eggscelence. This year's hunt went off without a hitch – well there was the matter of the Algonquin-Tahoma Lagoon, but hey, no snow this year!

Our special events expert, Tom Misiewicz, would like to thank the following folks for making it all possible:

The Chicago Park District Partnership Program

Edgebrook Area Merchants

- JoAnna Argionis
JoAnna's Cleaners & Tailors
- Marti Corcoran
Century 21 McMullen Realty

- Joanne Nusbaum
My Sister's Closet
- Ron Mondel
The Chocolate Shoppe
- Amanda Zahnle
Starbucks Coffee

Egg Filler Organizers

Stephanie Cantrell, Sydney Dospil-Julian, Jenny Novy, Maria Wilson, Marcy Mahoney and Julie Marske

Park Cleanup

Maria & Butch Bendery – *2nd Grade First Communion Service Project*

Special Guest Of Honor

Abby Hegberg

THANKS for making this year's ECA Easter Egg Hunt a success!

Tom Misiewicz and the ECA Board

The ECA Garden Club Meets...Today!

It's time to stop reading, put down this paper, and start weeding. The ECA Garden Club is gathering at the Edgebrook Triangle (Devon-Caldwell-Lehigh) from 10AM to Noon today (Saturday May 16). If it's raining, meet at 6754 North Ionia. Regular

Garden Club meetings will take place on the third Saturday morning of each month. During the long days of summer, some gardening may take place in the evening hours. For more information, call Mary Jo Garnier at 773-775-4065.

Round, Round, Get Around

You may have heard or read that the free parking lot at Central and Devon may be forced to close due to a shortfall in contributions. Here's the story: The monthly rent for the parking lot is paid by the Edgebrook Chamber of Commerce, which collects voluntary contributions from downtown merchants. The ECA is one of the monthly contributors, and the ECA board has made it clear to the Chamber of Commerce that we are increasing our contribution. If you share our belief that free parking downtown is important to our community, we

urge you to contact downtown merchants who do not support the parking lot fund and ask them to do so.

You may soon see a new traffic signal on Caldwell Avenue near the entrance to the Bunker Woods Forest Preserve. The ECA has supported the installation of the traffic light out of concern for neighborhood safety. With more pedestrians and bicyclists out and about, let's all make an extra effort to reduce our speed and drive safely this summer.

Your 2009 ECA Board

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jeff Manuel (<i>President</i>) | Mary Bunker | Jim Gillespie | Jody McDowell |
| Phil Loftus (<i>Vice-President</i>) | Jerry Butler | Ben Gruber | Tom Misiewicz |
| Nora Shea (<i>Secretary</i>) | Paul Engleman | Dennis Henley | Dan Trevino |
| Jim Quinn (<i>Treasurer</i>) | Linda Fox | Janet Kachoyanos | Tom Wolff |
| Petra M. Blix | Mary Jo Garnier | Joni Kurtenbach | Carolyn Zafirris |
| Michelle Brugioni | Jenny Gatesman | Julie Marske | |

We're your neighbors, we're your friends. Chances are you know at least one of us. You'll see us hobnobbing at Happy Foods or gabbing at Glad Cleaners. If you have a concern or an idea – and especially if you want to volunteer to help us make our community better – don't be shy about letting us know. Call us at 773-774-6161.