

Says Who?

SEZ OUR PREZ!

Jeff Manuel

Dear Fellow Edgebrookians,

Wet? Cold? Well, yes. *But not forever.* By the time you read this people may even be complaining about the heat. In the meantime...

Both of our area's new aldermen have agreed to be in our Fourth of July Parade! **Democracy at Work: Every Vote Counts** is the theme of this year's festivities and, if you know anything about the two aldermanic campaigns, you'll understand the truth of the statement. We're definitely eager to work with Aldermen O'Connor (41st ward) and Arena (45th ward).

We're also busy with the Neighborhood Connection (see last story). The tulips around the Metra parking lot were beautiful this year. The Metra station itself is getting a platform facelift. And we're *still* working on safety issues in the area.

The **Fourth of July Parade and Picnic** is coming up. As always, decorated bikes, bands, prizes, games and traditional dogs and burgers will feature prominently in the festivities. All Edgebrook residents are encouraged to participate—making floats, entering antique cars, or even helping their neighbors and fellow ECA members actually run the day's events.

And, while I'm talking about community involvement, now would be a *terrific* time to send in your membership dues and donations to **YOUR ECA**. It's easy. Visit our website at <http://edgebrookcommunity.org> and pay online. Or, send your dues to: Edgebrook Community Association, PO Box 46591, Chicago, IL 60646.

One last thing—a special thank you to those residents and businesses helping to maintain our public areas. You know how much of a difference you can make. Edgebrook (“Mayberry in Urbo”), salutes you.

To volunteer to help or to enter the parade with something special, feel free to give me call at (773) 775-4065. Thanks. Have a great summer, everybody.

*Jeff Manuel—President
Edgebrook Community Association*

The Gardening Corner

by M.J. Garnier

Garden Walk

It seems spring this year came in like a lion and is going out like a fish...an arctic fish at that! But summer really is on the way. The bulbs have come and gone, the shrubs and trees have bloomed and perennial plants have burst from the ground. In spite of the rain and cold, our neighborhood gardens have been quite colorful this spring.

Seeing all that color started me thinking about how much fun it would be to have a garden walk next spring. I'm still working on the details, but 'interested homeowners with a garden to share in 2012 should give me a call at (773) 775-4065.

Volunteers Needed

The ECA has secured a grant from GreenCorp to continue beautifying our **Ginny Mose Triangle Garden**. GreenCorp will remove the grass and prepare the soil on June 17, 2011. The following day, Saturday, June 18th, will be a volunteer workday. Everyone is invited to help put native plants in the ground and spread woodchips on the triangle. Come to the Triangle at Lehigh, Devon and Caldwell at 10:00 AM with gloves and hand tools. Questions? Call (312) 406-3197. Hope to see you there!

Did you know?

Wet weather gives fungi such as powdery mildew and anthracnose the perfect opportunity to thrive in your garden. Mulch well to keep a barrier between the soil and the leaves. It will also help keep the soil moist during the dryer months.

Mary Jo Garnier is a master gardener and long-time ECA board member.

Parade & Picnic

July 4 • 11 AM

It's Unanimous: O'Connor & Arena are Grand Marshals



Here are the signs that summer has arrived in Edgebrook:

- Everyone leaving **Happy Foods** has a watermelon tucked under an arm.
- **The Chocolate Shop** is crowded with folks holding cones.
- **Mia Figlia** throws open their french doors and patrons enjoy *al fresco* dining.
- Streamers, flags and sparkling accessories are added to bicycles in preparation for the **ECA's Annual July 4th Parade and Picnic**.

In less than a month, Edgebrook will celebrate our nation's 235th birthday with a parade. We'll start at Edgebrook School and march to Wildwood Park. Everyone, and we mean *everyone*, is welcome to parade with us.

The Parade Route

Line up at 10:30 AM at Edgebrook School. Start marching at 11:00 AM. Go West on Hiawatha, South on Central, and West on Devon. Turn North onto Lehigh. End by strutting West on Hiawatha into Wildwood Park.

Remember how your vote counted in the past election? Well, your presence at the ECA's parade and picnic is equally important.

Take a gander at the parade specifics.

- Two Grand Marshals: Aldermen **Mary O'Connor** (41st Ward) and **John Arena** (45th Ward).
- Two marching bands!
- A zillion flashy floats, a bazillion kids on decorated bikes and oodles of dogs in costumes.

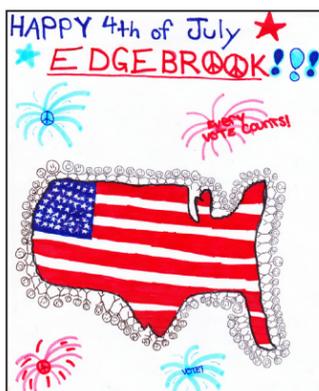
But wait, there's more.

When the parade reaches Wildwood Park, we'll switch gears and have a good old fashioned picnic with:

- hot dogs, hamburgers and brats
- soft drinks and ice cold water
- ice cream and cotton candy
- games with prizes
- an outdoor concert by guitar and bass group **Hot Club Thing**
- the strolling barbershop quartet **Take Note**

The fun starts at 11:00 AM. Parade lineup at Edgebrook School is at 10:30 AM.

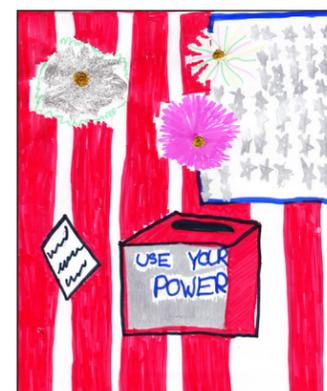
The votes have been counted and we have a winner!



First Place



Second Place



Third Place

Over 400 entries from area schools for the **2011 July 4th Poster Contest** were judged this year. Edgebrook and Wildwood schools each won classroom participation awards. Individual student prizes are listed below.

First place went to **Virginia Connolly**, a St. Mary of the Woods 5th grader. Virginia cleverly combined the contest's theme with a reminder of Edgebrook's 4th of July celebration.

Dianne Nacionaies, a 5th grader at Edgebrook school, received second place. Dianne's artfully rendered voting booth and “your vote is your voice” slogan impressed judges.

Also from Edgebrook school, 3rd grader

Margie Weisling took third place. Judges particularly liked her ballot box with the bold message, “Use Your Power.”

Six students received Honorable Mentions: **Victor Alvarez**, Grade 5; **Xander Domecq**, Grade 3; **Sarah Bergendahl**, Grade 3; **Marina Kelly**, Grade 3; **Jeffin Biju**, Grade 5, all from Edgebrook School; and **Molly Macintosh**, Grade 5, from St. Mary of the Woods.

The theme of this year's contest, **Democracy at Work: Every Vote Counts**, was inspired by recent Chicago elections.

Go to <http://edgebrookcommunity.org> for full-color versions of the posters.

Neighborhood Connection Project — Phase Two Coming

Plans for the Metra underpass renovation project were presented to the leadership of the Edgebrook Community Association, the North Edgebrook Community Association, the Wildwood Community Association and the Edgebrook Historical Society by the Neighborhood Connection Project Team at a special organization meeting. Three themes (Nature/Green, Modern, and Edgebrook Historical), created by neighborhood artists, were unveiled. This completed Phase One of the Neighborhood Connection Project.

Phase Two of the project will begin after the four neighborhood groups have voted to greenlight the work of the Team.

The ECA continues to press the city to make the necessary repairs to the dangerous and unsightly underpass.

Volunteers are still needed...artists, architects, builders, and anybody with the energy to beautify our wonderful neighborhood. Contact Jac Charlier at (773) 266-1420 or jac.charlier@gmail.com.