



## Says Who? SEZ OUR PREZ! Jeff Manuel

Dear Fellow Edgebrookians,

Well, it is a beautiful Spring, *somewhere*, but in late March, as I write, cold grey sky looms over a blackened crust of dying snow and our hope for Spring seems eternal. On a lighter note, please welcome the ECA Board of Directors' newest members: **Jeff Singer, Laura Guenther, Tom Misiewicz, and Bruce Martin** – great additions to a healthy roster.

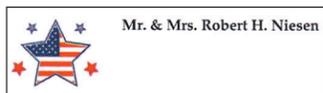
You are undoubtedly aware of the great job we did with snowplowing, many times clearing the streets before City trucks arrived (your membership dollars at work).

We're already planning landscaping improvements and repairs after the ravages of winter (and will be asking for volunteers). The **Easter Egg Hunt** on April 19th is in the works, the **Third Garden Walk** is scheduled for June 22, and the banner event of Edgebrook society, the **Fourth of July Parade, Picnic & Concert** is just a few months away.

Our next general ECA meeting, open to the public, will let you meet the area's Aldermen on April 10 at the Volunteer Resource Center.

Please remember that *your neighborhood organization* is made stronger by **YOU**. Join us today and help us to do even more.

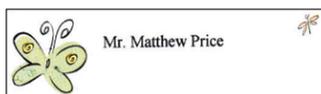
Jeff Manuel—President, ECA



The DeVita Family



**Stars & Stripes. Cats & Dogs. Boats & Cars. Nature.** Our members' personalities are on full display in their choice of return address labels that we see on their membership renewals. *It's not too late to join.* Go to [edgebrookcommunity.org](http://edgebrookcommunity.org) to join online. Or send us an email at [talk2eca@gmail.com](mailto:talk2eca@gmail.com) and we'll forward you a membership package.



### The Gardening Corner

by Petra M. Blix

### Think Spring and Gardening



It has been a rugged winter but the Beautification Committee is looking forward to returning to our community gardens at the Triangle (Devon, Central & Lehigh) and the Metra corridor along Lehigh. Have you noticed that we've planted many native and butterfly friendly plants over the past few years? We were very excited to see milkweed beetles on our beautiful orange butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) this past fall.

The ECA purchased many of these plants from the **Midewin Alliance Native Plant Sale and Fundraiser**. This year's event is on Saturday, May 24 from 10 AM to 3 PM. For more information visit <https://sites.google.com/site/midewinalliance>.

The **Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie** was established in 1996 on the former Joliet Arsenal. Its 19,000 acres are well worth a visit to hike, bike or bird watch.

Interested in the plant sale or need more information? Call me at 773-415-2272 for directions. I'll be going to the plant sale and car poolers are welcome.

## ECA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Special Events for the Neighborhood

Thursday, April 10 • 7:00 PM • Volunteer Resource Center

### State of the Wards...How Healthy Is Edgebrook?

One is in her initial aldermanic term. The other has been on the job for nearly 20 years. One has the largest of the 50 wards which includes O'Hare airport. The other fills in for Mayor Emanuel when he is absent from the Council Floor. Walk along Devon between Cicero and Milwaukee, and you can have one foot in **Alderman O'Connor's** turf, and another in **Alderman Laurino's**. Both aldermen are community ombudsmen with a \$1.3 million discretionary budget for capital infrastructure projects. They've been busy since the last elec-

tion, and they're here, in Edgebrook, to deliver the **State of the Wards**.

#### Q&A with Aldermen Laurino & O'Connor

This is your chance to meet with your alderman and to ask questions and voice concerns.

Join us Thursday, April 10 at 7 PM at the Bieszcza Volunteer Resource Center, 6100 N. Central Ave., on the west side of Central Avenue.

Submit your questions to [talk2eca@gmail.com](mailto:talk2eca@gmail.com) and we'll help you get the answers.

Saturday, April 19 • 10:00 AM • Jeff Green "Choo Choo" Park

### Easter Egg Hunt & Eagle Scout Project

A gazillion eggs waiting to reveal their secret treasures. A bazillion kids pressing the starting line, eager to join the treasure hunt. **Jeff Manuel** in a pastel sports coat counting down the time until the frenzy begins. You've guessed it. It's the **ECA's Annual Easter Egg Hunt** where weeks of preparation culminate in ten fast and furious minutes of egg gathering.



Calvin will plan, prepare, setup, host, and clean-up this year's Easter Egg Hunt activities which take place Saturday April 19 at the Jeff Green "Choo Choo" Park, located at the intersection of Kinzua, Algonquin and Tahoma.

The ECA is pleased to sponsor **Calvin Rosenburgh**, a Chicago Council Troop 1919 (St. Mary of Woods) member who is organizing this year's event as part of his Eagle Scout service project.

The Easter Egg Hunt opens at 10 AM, rain or shine. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to distribute prizes for the lucky children who discover the golden eggs. For children ages 10 and under. *Please bring your basket.*

Sunday, June 22 • 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM • North Branch Arts Garden

### Save the Date! Edgebrook Garden Walk 2014

The Edgebrook Community Association, in partnership with North Branch Arts, has set the date for this year's Garden Walk – Sunday, June 22 (*rain date: Sunday, June 29*) from 11 AM – 4 PM. Register on the day of the event at the North Branch Arts Garden, 6431 N. Kinzua. A \$10 donation is requested with discounts available for seniors and ECA

members. Children under 12 attend for free.

New this year will be a "pre-owned art" sale. Please join us and spend the day exploring beautiful Edgebrook, historic Old Edgebrook, and Wildwood!

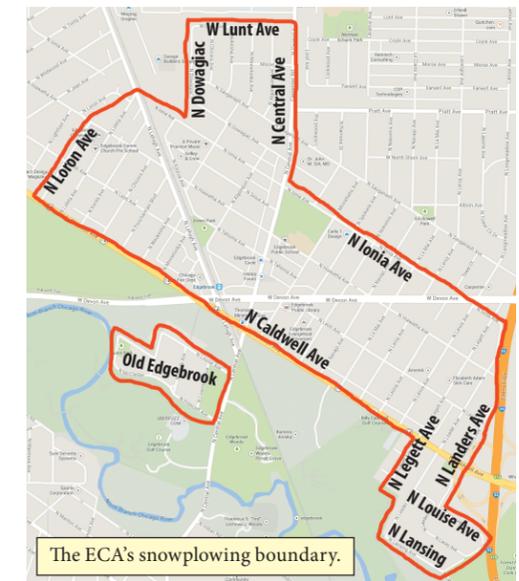
Visit the ECA's website ([edgebrookcommunity.org](http://edgebrookcommunity.org)) for the whole blooming story.

### When Push Comes to Shovel...

Chicago welcomed Spring with a measurable snowfall. We hope this is the last we'll see this season because we've already sent out the snowplow **nine** times. Our driver covers **nineteen miles** up and down the side streets, easing the passage by clearing the center of the lane. The ECA's frugal money management and the willingness of our neighbors to pitch in by making annual membership pledges ensured that we did not have to suspend snow removal efforts like other community groups.

ments, meetings on interesting and entertaining topics, the Garden Walk, the Holiday Party, and, dare we say it, *even more* snowplowing.

If you have not pledged your 2014 annual membership to the ECA, won't you do so now? Visit our web page at [edgebrookcommunity.org](http://edgebrookcommunity.org) and make your pledge online. Or, mail your check to **ECA Membership, PO Box 46591, Chicago, IL 60646**. Membership is still only \$30 and it allows us to continue to deliver benefits to the neighborhood. Here's a sampling of what's in store for you, your family and friends: The July 4th Parade, Picnic & Concert, neighborhood improve-



#### Your 2014 ECA Board

Jeff Manuel (President) • Jac Charlier (Vice-President) • Greg Sabetta (Secretary) • Jim Quinn (Treasurer)  
Petra M. Blix • Jackie Boland • Michelle Brugioni • Mary Bunker • Mary Jo Garnier • Jim Gillespie • Ben Gruber • Laura Guenther • Dennis Henley  
Jan Kupiec • Bruce Martin • Jody McDowell • Tom Misiewicz • Christine Rosenberg • Nora Shea • Jeff Singer • Matt Swain • Dan Trevino • Jan Wolff

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