



Says Who?

SEZ OUR PREZ!

Jeff Manuel

Dear Fellow Edgebrookians,

Can it be possible that this year has gone by so fast? That the joy of over-abundant leaves, winter snow and the Holiday Season is...at our throats? Yes, it's all too true. But what a fine year it still is.

The ECA will continue to furnish supplemental snow plowing to our neighborhood (snow plow hot line—kudos or concerns—773-774-6161).

Have you seen the changes by the Metra Station? The ECA helped with landscaping and the Neighborhood Connection Project finished Phase I of the underpass project. If you haven't taken a look, you should—it does our neighborhood proud.

The new runway and take-off and departure plan at O'Hare increased air traffic over our neighborhood. FAiR (Fair Allocation in Runways) is leading a spirited opposition. You may have seen FAiR members on *Chicago Tonight* and other news programs.

In this newsletter, you'll be able to read about the ECA's forthcoming programming. These events are not funded by the City or a wealthy philanthropist. They happen because neighbors annually pledge \$30 to the ECA. Become a member today and help with everything there is to do in our neighborhood. Consider it a holiday gift to your neighbors. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Jeff Manuel—President, ECA



Those Awesome Melikin Puppets

The ECA is excited to announce the return of the Melikin Puppets. Join us Wednesday, December 4, 6 PM at the Edgebrook Library for a 10th anniversary performance of magical puppet theater. Young and old agree: the Melikins are an Edgebrook favorite.

The Gardening Corner

by M.J. Garnier & Petra Blix

Working with Eagles

Boy Scout **Jacob Jurhasz**, eager to complete his Eagle Scout project, reached out to the ECA. We met at the site of a garden destroyed by the Metra platform construction. We decided on a design and Jacob went to work—soliciting donations and providing muscle from **Troop 1919** members. The landscaping was completed in October and looks fantastic.

This project couldn't have been accomplished without the generous support of **Ace Hardware**, **Cook County Forest Preserve**, **Chicago Fire Department**, **Sticks and Stones Investments**, **Chicago OpenLands**, and the **City of Chicago**.

Our neighborhood also benefited when **Girl Scout Troops 20480 and 20091** (4th and 5th grade Edgebrook) did a terrific job of weeding at their school, readying it for winter.

The **Park Community Church** weeded and picked up trash at the Triangle and along the METRA corridor on October 5.

Church members have hosted community service events called "For One Chicago" for several years. It's an opportunity to volunteer in various Chicago neighborhoods and with not-for-profit organizations. The ECA extends warm thanks to **Erik & Katharine Hultquist**, **Chris Zonta**, **Amanda & Michael Gondhi**, **Janelle Van Pelt**, **Kevin & Elisa Bulmann**, **Audrey Rutzen**, **Dawn Urban**, **Mary Birkhauser** and **Brenton Smith**.

The ECA also thanks **Ivy's Hamburgers and Hot Dogs** for fostering community spirit by keeping our volunteers hydrated and fed.

Community groups have outdone themselves in sprucing up our neighborhood this fall. *Thank you so much!*

ECA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Special Events for our Neighborhood—Free & Open to the Public

Thursday, November 14 • 7:00 PM • Wildwood School

Taft High School's IB Program

On Thursday, November 14, the ECA will discuss Taft High School's innovations and what that means for your student and your neighborhood.

The City of Chicago's \$17 million in capital improvements at Taft H.S. is welcome news. The start of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program is just as newsworthy.

As a wall-to-wall IB school, Taft offers students an academically challenging program. Parents, worried that their children won't snag a coveted place in a selective-enrollment high school, now have a local option to con-

sider. For your accomplished and highly motivated children, think Taft.

Mary Cappitelli, Taft High School Principal, will advocate for Taft as the right choice for many teens. She'll answer your questions about your child's educational opportunities at Taft.

The ECA's General Meeting will be held at Wildwood School located at 6950 N. Hiawatha. The meeting is open to the public.

The proposed slate for the 2014 ECA board and officers will be presented for community vote at the start of the meeting.

Saturday, November 23 • 2:00 PM • Edgebrook Branch Library

Free Concert: The American Folk Song

The ECA is proud to sponsor **Mark Dvorak's** Edgebrook appearance. Mark will delve into the roots of American music with examples from African-American and British Isles tra-

ditions. His performance features songs, oral history and the music of American folk artists. *Don't miss out.* We invite music lovers of all ages to attend this concert.

Sunday, December 1 • 4:00 - 7:00 PM • Lehigh, Devon & Caldwell

Holiday Party & Lighting Ceremony

The ECA invites the community to a free holiday get-together, Sunday, December 1, in downtown Edgebrook.

Between 4 PM and 6 PM you, your family, and friends, will be able to:

- * **Whisper your wish list** to the REAL Santa at Sweetivo, 6324 N. Central.
- * **Create an heirloom ornament** at North Branch Arts, 5421 W. Devon.
- * **Stroll the Cookie Walk** and visit local businesses south of Devon and west of Central.

At 6 PM the Triangle will be lit with fairy lights (thanks to **Girl Scout Troop 21305**).

Join us between 6 PM and 7 PM as we carol and share refreshments, a bonfire, and good cheer with neighbors, surprise guests, elves and the REAL Santa. This family-friendly event tops off the Thanksgiving weekend and ushers in the holiday season.

Please RSVP at ecaholidayparty@gmail.com by Friday, November 22 to receive a voucher for a child's goodie bag.



Saturday, December 14 • 1:00 PM • Edgebrook Branch Library

Putting Voters Back in Charge

The ECA will present a General Meeting, Saturday December 14, 1 PM at the Edgebrook Library, 5331 W. Devon, to inform the neighborhood about **Yes for Independent Maps**.

The first step on the road to fundamental change in Illinois is to establish an independent process for drawing legislative maps.

Yes for Independent Maps seeks to place a redistricting ballot measure on the November 2014 ballot.

What are the pros and cons of this plan? Let's talk about it on the 14th.

Erin Shipley will introduce the group's plan and answer your questions.

Programming at the Edgebrook Branch Library

Conservation Heroes

The Edgebrook Branch Library, 5331 W. Devon, presents **Conservation Heroes Who Saved America's Forests**, Wednesday, November 13, at 6:30 PM. Illinois author **Christopher Johnson** will share his passion for America's forests and will explain:

- How America's forests were almost destroyed a century ago.

- Who the conservation heroes were who saved America's and Chicago's forests.
- How forests benefit us today.
- What challenges local and national forests face for the future.

This meeting is open to the public. Reservations are not required. Come and learn something new!

Your 2013 ECA Board: Jeff Manuel (President) • Jennifer Gatesman (Vice-President) • Greg Sabetta (Secretary) • Jim Quinn (Treasurer) • Petra M. Blix • Jackie Boland • Michelle Brugioni • Mary Bunker • Jac Charlier • Mary Jo Garnier • Jim Gillespie • Ben Gruber • Dennis Henley • Holly Johnson • Jan Kupiec • Julie Marske • Jody McDowell • Christine Rosenberg • Nora Shea • Matt Swain • Dan Trevino • Jan Wolff

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