

## Devon Avenue shows its support for America



### Solidarity walk on Devon Avenue

by Jack Winans

My wife, Elaine and I joined the marchers assembled at a parking lot at the SE corner of Devon and Hoyne Sunday, Sep. 16. At 3 pm, behind a portable podium, 9th U.S. Congressional District Representative Jan Schakowsky welcomed a crowd as diverse as is the north side. Indians, Pakistanis, Russians, university students, condo and bungalow dwellers, Sikhs, Hindus, Moslems, Jains, Christians and Jews. Rep. Schakowsky welcomed the rank and file, the community leaders and organizations, the children and the senior citizens. At least 250 started the march, and hundreds more joined from stores and side streets

The parade went west on Devon a distance of a mile and a half to Sacramento, going through the Pakistani, Indian and Russian Jewish business sections. Almost every marcher carried an American flag or a sign. Every storefront the parade passed had at least one American flag and a homemade sign proclaiming peace, unity, support and love of America. The many phonetic spellings and fractured grammar prevalent in store windows demonstrated a passionate desire to do business in American English. As common as sugar and flour, 5 pound bags of chili powder, turmeric and coriander were displayed in store windows. The polite and peaceful but very spirited marchers overflowed the sidewalks into the street, chanting "USA" and "God Bless America."

Coming back, we stopped for a very welcome rest and had coffee and a dessert selected at a sweet shop that was interspersed among the many electronic, sari and phone card stores and gold and diamond merchants. We had cups of very sweet coffee and cookies selected from literally hundreds of colorful choices.

### Text of Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's speech

My friends, my neighbors, Americans, I thank you all for being here today; I knew you would be. This has been a tough time for all of us, and we stand here together, whether we have been born here as Americans or whether we have chosen this nation as our home. We are here as a community as we always have been when there is an outside cause to stand together and stand firm. And we are here on Devon Avenue, because Devon Avenue is really a symbol in our city and our region and in the world as a place where all different races and religions and national origins and the ways that we dress. We all live here and work here as neighbors and as friends, we shop together, we go to school together — this is our community. This is not a time for us to turn on one another; it is bad enough that we have to fear terrorists who would attack innocent civilians and our way of life. That it is totally unacceptable for us to have fear each other.

*(Applause)*

I wanted to just be with you and walk with you today; this is not a time for political speeches or for politics at all. We're here just to be together to embrace each other and to say no to bigotry and violence. I know that there are people ... *(Applause)* I know that there are people here that take their children to school, to go worship at a mosque, who are talking about taking off turbans and cutting hair and changing the way we look. This is America; this is the way we look! *(Cheers)* As a person of Jewish heritage, I know what discrimination can mean, that people have suffered that, and if we have learned anything then, it's that we will not allow that to happen to any other people, not in our country, not in our community. *(Applause)* I want to — here's the plan — I want to introduce some of the community leaders who are here. If I forget some, I want you to shout out who you are and whom you represent, clergy, etc., organizational leaders. Then I want to have a minute of silence here. I want to, if we can, sing "God Bless America" and then walk down the street. Now, we're on the sidewalk, so I'm thinking we're about three abreast is all we can really do. So I want to suggest that people look around and walk with someone they didn't come with today, someone that they may not have ever met before, so that we use this occasion to literally be arm in arm with someone else and unite as a total community. So let me just introduce some of the people who are here:

*(See Speech and more parade pictures page 2)*

## Speech

*(Introductions)*

### Area elected officials

State Senator Carol Ronen (D), 9<sup>th</sup> District  
49th Ward Alderman Joe Moore  
Judge Sandra Otaka

### Neighborhood representatives

Ann Kalayil, Indo-American Democratic Organization  
Sadru Noorani, Asian American Coalition  
Molla K. Anam, Bangladeshi Community  
William Yoshino, Japanese American Service Committee  
Jay Tcath, Jewish Community Relations Council  
Michael Kotzin, Jewish United Fund  
Tuyet Le, Asian American Institute  
Fred Tsao, Illinois Coalition on Immigrant and Refugee Rights  
Federation of Indian Associations (there are a couple of factions of this group)  
Rajan, Indo-American Center  
Javed Rathore, Pakistani community  
North Town Business Association  
24th Police District  
Sanjay Taylor, Apna Ghar  
Wahaj Ahmed, Islamic Center of Chicago and Rogers Park Interreligious Network  
Shiva Singh, Sikh community  
Josh, Parliament of World Religions  
India Development Society  
And other Indian and Pakistani community and development groups.

What I would like now is for us to have one minute of silence to pray, to reflect, to grieve, in your own way for one minute.

*(One minute of silence with some verbalized prayers)*

Now if we could — if you feel comfortable doing that, join hands and sing.

*(Jan leads the singing of "God Bless America" with phrase prompts)*

The president of Pakistan's younger brother is here — Naveed Musharraf. We welcome him here. We are proud to have you walk with us, and we understand from the president of the United States that we will be receiving support from Pakistan, and that is greatly appreciated. Would you like to say something?

*(Naveed Musharraf)*

Those terrorists who have committed this crime, this dastardly crime, have committed terrorism not only against America but the entire world community, the entire manhood and we of all races — Muslims, Sikhs, Hindus, Christians — we should all condemn this, this act of terrorism, which no one can condone. And God bless America.

*(Applause)*

*(Jan leads the march down Devon Avenue.)*



**Pictures left to right, top to bottom:**  
Congressman Jan Schakowsky addresses 250 marchers assembled to promote interfaith, interracial solidarity for America; Federation of Indian Associations; pre-march crowd; marchers on Devon; storefront on Devon with many American flags.



## Flood meeting

48<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Mary Ann Smith sent an invitation to her north side constituents to attend a meeting with Chicago Sewer Commissioner John A. Roberson. In her invitation, Ms. Smith said, "If the color of your basement was the color of our headline in any of the last rainstorms, and you live in the 48<sup>th</sup> Ward, you belong at Alderman Smith's Community Meeting with the Dept. of Sewers." The invitation went to condo associations, block clubs, all local organizations and any concerned citizen who had recently contacted Ald. Smith's office with flooding problems.

So many people responded that the Sept. 20 meeting was moved to the Armory second-floor ballroom. Over 150 condo representatives, business owners and citizens of the 48<sup>th</sup> Ward were in attendance. Ald. Smith chaired the meeting, assisted by her chief of staff, Gregg Harris, and administrative aides Ann Felger and Ernie Constantino. Commissioner Roberson detailed his department's efforts in coping with the recent series of exceptional rainstorms. Edgewater had three four-inch downpours in one hour during the month of August.

The recent installation of "rain blockers" (a device that in effect reduces the storm-drain inlet from eight to three inches and increases the amount of water "temporarily" stored in the streets) has led local citizens to believe that they were the cause of an extraordinary amount of basement and first-floor flooding. Roberson stated that during the three rains of Aug. 2, Aug. 25 and Aug. 30-31, the sewer system was "surcharged"; that is, it was completely full and there was absolutely no place for the water to go. In response to the question, "Why don't they open the sluice gates earlier," he responded that the Water District, not he, had control

of the gates and they could not open them until the water had risen to the level where "back-flooding" was possible. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District opened the Wilmette sluice gate into Lake Michigan for the first time in three years to reduce flooding. The river flow was also reversed at the Chicago locks downtown. The 93 miles of the Deep Tunnel system went from empty to full in 70 minutes.

Roberson said this was the rain blockers' first major trial and information received from citizens and his staff would be studied to determine their effectiveness. Many citizens complained that the city's response to their emergency flooding calls to 311 were unanswered due to repeated busy signals and that when city workers did arrive, they claimed that "everything was normal."

Business owners and citizens were also distressed about the financial losses that they had experienced and wanted to know when they could repair the damage with an assurance that this type of flooding would not occur again soon. Roberson said that this type of unusual weather is occurring nationwide and could give no assurance. He also said that it would be financially impossible to construct separate sewer and storm water systems. Mayor Daley has resubmitted a request for federal relief after the first request was rejected.

Roberson, assisted by Ald. Smith's staff and three of his department officials, collected flood details and addresses. He pledged that a survey would be completed in 60 days. Ald. Smith asked that a report be forwarded to her office by January 2002 for dissemination to her constituents. Roberson also pledged that his staff would immediately work on scheduled street and drain-cover cleanings to alleviate this cause of street flooding.

Alderman Smith has been seeking out

## Beauty salon expands staff

by Jack Winans

Anna Ivleva, new owner of the Sheridan Hair & Body Studio in the Captain's Walk has enhanced her staff with two new, very experienced employees. Both new members of her staff are from former constituent republics of the former U.S.S.R. Raisa Barkaya is from Ukraine, and Gal Getharskaya is from Belorussia. Both countries became independent republics in 1991.

Raisa, a hairdresser, has been here just a few months, lives on Devon Avenue, and says she "loves" America. Although this is her first job in this country, she draws on 23 years of hairdressing experience in her homeland. Raisa is skilled and qualified in all hairdressing styles and specializes in modern styles, attested to by her own slightly tinted and spiked hairdo.



Gal, a manicurist who is also here a short time, has ten years of experience in Belorussia. She lives in Skokie and also says she "loves" America. A bout of psoriasis left my fingernails short, lumpy and very fragile. I experienced my first manicure in years under the tender care of Gal and was extremely pleased with the results. Gal is available for appointments five days a week at Anna's salon.



local, low-tech strategies to deal with an increasing pattern of heavy rainfall related to the worldwide changes in climate. One innovation the Alderman has gotten the Department of Environment to pilot in the 48th Ward is a permeable, soft-surface alley capable of absorbing four inches of rain per hour—a first in this country.

Source: Pictures and story by Jack Winans

# Community Calendar

by Rose Wandel



## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### **BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER**

#### *"The Birds"*

Sweetback Productions presents a play based on Alfred Hitchcock's classic suspense film.

Oct. 11 – Nov. 17, \$15

Thu., Fri. & Sat. 8 pm

In the "coach house"

#### **Flu shots**

\$15, or **FREE** with Medicare B

Oct. 16, 10 am – 1 pm

#### **Live at 6205**

Readings – women of Cuba and Somalia

Oct. 19, 7 pm **FREE**

#### **Aerobics class**

For seniors **FREE**

9-10 am, Tue./Thu. Thru Dec. 9

#### **Walking club**

\$5, 9-10 am, Wed./Fri.

6205 N. Sheridan Rd.

312-742-7871

### **EDGEWATER COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

#### **Home repair service**

For seniors – a condominium owners' workshop for minor repairs, also H-RAIL applications are being accepted for free repairs. Call Claire Tobin for date and location.

773-506-4015

1042 W. Bryn Mawr

773-334-5609

### **EDGEWATER PRESBYTERIAN**

#### **Heart-smart workshop**

**FREE** for women 65 and older.

12-week comprehensive health program

Wed. Nov. 28, Feb. 22

Call to pre-register

1020 W. Bryn Mawr

847-492-6806

### **EDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**CAPS 24<sup>th</sup> Dist. Beat #33SD**

Come meet our beat police.

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 7 pm

(1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of every month)

#### **Internet basics**

Learn mouse skills, www, e-mail

1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of month

1210 W. Elmdale

312-744-0718

### **HIGH SCHOOL REUNIONS**

#### **Sullivan class of 1981**

Sat. Nov. 24

847-657-3639

#### **Senn classes of Jan./Jun. 1953**

Looking for alumni for a 2003 reunion

847-657-3639

### **NORTH LAKESIDE**

#### **CULTURAL CENTER**

##### *"Cabaret!"*

Opening Oct. 4

##### *"All the World's a Stage"*

Play about an actor in

Shakespeare's time.

Opening Oct 12

##### *"Nuts"*

Opening Oct. 13, courtroom drama, murder trial

\$12 adults, \$10 members, Sen. Stu.

Call for all dates and times

6219 N. Sheridan Rd.

773-743-4477

### **SACRED HEART SCHOOL**

#### *"Congratulations"*

Special fall and winter events celebrating 125 years.

6224 N. Sheridan Rd.

773-262-4446

### **SWEDISH AMERICAN MUSEUM CENTER**

#### **Children's Museum of Immigration**

Hands-on museum of storytelling

and life of Swedish immigrant life in America, 100 year-old farmhouse recreated.

\$4 adults, \$3 stud./sen./children, \$10 families

5211 N. Clark St.

773-728-8111

### **WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER**

Adult day wellness programs for 60 and over. Gentle yoga, tai chi, music exercise, socializing, lunch and snacks. Transportation provided within boundary area.

1355 W Foster Ave.

773-271-9001

## THEATER/SHOWINGS

### **AMERICAN THEATER CO.**

#### *"A Lie of the Mind"*

Two desperate families search for order and meaning.

8 pm Thu./Fri., 5 pm Sat., 3 pm Sun.

1909 W. Byron

773-929-1031

### **BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER**

#### *"The Jackie Wilson Story"*

Story of a multi-faceted star who influenced Michael Jackson and Prince.

\$25, 8 pm Fri./Sat., 4 pm Sun.

4520 N. Beacon

773-769-4451

### **GREEN MILL**

#### **Open mike**

Guests and competition

\$5, Sun. 7-10 pm

4802 N. Broadway

773-878-5552

### **HEARTLAND STUDIO THEATRE**

#### **Showcase for poetry and spoken word**

\$2, Wed. 10 pm (register 9:30 pm)

7000 N. Glenwood

773-728-8111

### **KAN ZAMAN**

#### *"Read My Hips"*

Middle Eastern restaurant featuring belly dancing.

Last Sun. of month.

5204 N. Clark St.

773-506-0191

### **LIFELINE THEATRE**

#### *"The Return of the King"*

The last of the trilogy *"The Lord of the Rings"*

Oct. 10 – Dec. 9  
Call for time and price.

**KID'S THEATRE**  
*"Puss in Boots"*

1 & 3 pm Sat., 1 pm Sun.  
\$8 or pay-what-you-can at door.  
6912 N. Glenwood  
773-761-4477

**LOYOLA STUDIO THEATRE**

Loyola University  
773-508-3847  
Mullady Theatre  
*"Three Sisters"*

by Anton Chekhov – three sisters  
lament the passing of better times  
after the death of their father.  
Opening Oct. 5  
Call for dates and times.  
6525 N. Sheridan Rd.

**NEO-FUTURIUM THEATRE**

*"Too Much Light Makes the Baby  
Go Blind"*

30 plays in 60 minutes  
11:30 pm Fri./Sat., 7 pm Sun.  
\$5 plus roll of a die.

**Hall of Presidents:**

Portraits of U.S. presidents by 42  
artists.

*"Missing Parks"*

Play exploring a black and white  
world.

Thu.–Sat. thru Oct. 13, \$12, \$8  
students  
5153 N. Ashland Ave.  
773-275-5255

**COFFEE & TEA EXCHANGE**

**Weekly spoken word & music  
showcase**

**FREE** Thu. 8 pm  
1100 W. Thorndale Ave.  
773-907-3500

**MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS**

**MECA board meeting**

Tuesday, Oct. 16  
7:30 pm — Windjammer Room

**Thursday afternoon  
discussion group**

Thursday, Oct. 18  
(every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of month)

2:00 pm — Community Room

**Dialogue Committee meeting**

Tuesday, Oct. 23  
7:30 pm — Community Room

Leave event and meeting notices at the  
desk for the Dialogue.

## Local services and support groups

*Assembled by Rose Wandel*

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** Every  
Thursday 8 pm at Northside Alano  
Club, 5555 N. Lincoln. For family and  
friends of alcoholics call Donna 847-  
673-2124 or the club at 773-334-9710.

**ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY  
ILL-GREATER CHICAGO** Informal  
support groups for families, for adult  
children with mentally ill parent, broth-  
ers, sisters, for a person suffering from  
schizophrenia, manic depression or de-  
pression. Free, call 312-563-0445.

**ALZHEIMER ASSN.** Support group  
meets third Saturday month 10:30 am,  
Methodist Home, 1415 W. Foster, 847-  
933-1000.

**CAROL FISHER CHAPTER OF  
THE CROHN'S AND COLITIS  
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA** Coli-  
tis support group and information.  
Every third Thursday, Lutheran General  
Hospital, 1775 Dempster, Park Ridge,  
room 1041A, 10th fl., 847-827-0404.

**CHILDREN REMEMBERED, INC.**  
Support, education and advocacy for  
families touched by divorce, adoption,  
foster care. First Tuesday of month 7-  
8:30 pm, Ravenswood Hospital, room  
3639, Special Care Pavilion, 4550 N.  
Winchester, 847-291-3572.

**ENGLISH AS A SECOND LAN-  
GUAGE** Classes Monday and Wednes-  
day 6 pm, Rogers Park Library, 6907 N.  
Clark St. Call Truman College Adult  
Ed. for details 773-907-4355.

**FREE DENTAL EXAMS AND  
CONSULTATIONS: SWEDISH  
COVENANT HOSPITAL DENTAL  
SERVICE** Monthly exams, X-rays not  
included. Anderson Pavilion, 2751 W.  
Winona, 773-989-1608.

**FRIENDS OF BATTERED  
WOMEN & THEIR CHILDREN**  
Several support groups. Come and talk  
to other women who have been in this  
situation, 800-603-HELP.

**GED CLASSES** Truman College  
Adult Education program, 9 am, Tues-  
day and Thursdays, Rogers Park Li-  
brary, 6907 N. Clark, 773-907-4355.

**HAYMARKET CENTER** For sub-  
stance and alcohol abusers. Callers will  
be put in touch with counselors 24  
hours a day, seven days a week, treat-  
ment programs, etc., 866-945-5786.

**HEARTLIGHT** Free support groups  
for families who have lost a child. All  
sessions held at Ravenswood Methodist  
Church, 4511 N. Hermitage. To register  
call Kristin James 773-880-4309. Cov-  
ers grandparents, parents, siblings.  
Meets on Thursdays, call for times.

**PARKINSON'S DISEASE PA-  
TIENTS WITH DEMENTIA** North-  
western University physicians conduct-  
ing experimental studies to assist any-  
one with Parkinson's suffering thinking  
and remembering problems. All quali-  
fied participants will receive free study-  
related physician visits and study medi-  
cation. Parking or public transportation  
reimbursement 312-695-6251.

**PARTNERS OF HOPE** Cancer sup-  
port group. First Tuesday of month,  
6:30-8 pm at Ravenswood Hospital,  
4550 N. Winchester. Free parking. Call  
Susan Moore 773-878-4300, ext. 1221,  
or Gail Brodkey, ext. 3488.

**THE AWAKENING CENTER** Free  
support group for women with eating  
disorder; Tuesday 7:15 pm and Sat.  
10:30 am, 3166 N. Lincoln, Suite 213,  
773-929-6262, ext. 1.

**YOU & YOUR AGING PARENT**  
Council of Jewish Elderly, 3003 W.  
Touhy, Tuesdays 7-8:30 pm. Call 773-  
508-1000.

**NEED OF AN IN-HOME CARE-  
GIVER** Council for Jewish Elderly  
provides advice on how to hire such a  
worker with their book: *"Someone  
Who Cares,"* \$9.95, 773-508-1000.

**MECA annual meeting  
rescheduled**

Tuesday, Oct. 16

7:30 pm

Windjammer Room

## Support your neighborhood businesses

### Neighborhood business listings

*Assembled by Betty Mayian*

#### Barber Shops

**Alex Barber Shop**  
1113 W. Bryn Mawr – 334-9324

**Devon Barber Shop**  
1418 W. Devon – 274-4013

**Esquire Barber Stylist**  
1511 W. Foster – 561-1157

**Father and Son Barber Shop**  
1122 W. Thorndale – 784-6845

**Ricardo's Barber Shop**  
1051 W. Granville – 381-9463

**Tony's Barber Shop**  
6261 N. Clark – 274-2949

#### Beauty Salons

**Beng's of Broadway**  
5406 N. Broadway – 784-7284

**Chez Nous Beauty Salon**  
5842 N. Broadway – 989-9063

**Elegance Beauty Salon**  
6230 N. Broadway – 465-5928

**Plush Hair Salon & Day Spa**  
5230 N. Sheridan – 769-9000

**Sheridan Hair & Body Studio**  
6033 N. Sheridan – 561-6595

**Supercuts**  
6451 N. Sheridan – 508-0585  
1129 W. Berwyn – 878-3700

**Touch of Class**  
5046 N. Sheridan – 989-9064

**Toujours Spa & Salon**  
5224 N. Clark – 784-7851

#### Butchers

**Bornhofen's Meat Market**  
6155 N. Broadway – 764-0714

**Europa Meat Market**  
1063 W. Granville – 338-6133

**Halal Grocers**  
1414 W. Devon – 761-7054

#### Caterers

**A-Scandinavian American**  
5247 N. Clark – 275-6100

**Andie's Catering**  
5253 N. Clark – 784-8616

**Conn's Café & Catering Inc.**  
1535 W. Devon – 262-2666

**Ellen's Delectable Delights**

973-1379  
**Rita's Catering**  
1319 W. Loyola – 262-3100

#### Cleaners

**Chicago's Discount Cleaner**  
6119 N. Broadway – 764-3343

**Dove East Cleaners**  
1132 W. Thorndale – 784-2464

**Greener Cleaners**  
5312 N. Broadway – 784-8429

**Malibu Cleaners & Tailors**  
6033 N. Sheridan – 784-9815

**Thorndale Cleaners & Tailors**  
1112 W. Thorndale – 334-0512

#### Deli's

**Elaine's Deluxe Deli**  
1117 W. Granville – 274-5020

**Erickson's Delicatessen & Fish Market**  
5250 N. Clark – 561-5634

**Malibu Convenience Store**  
6033 N. Sheridan – 769-5440

**Neighborhood Mart & Deli**  
6157 N. Sheridan – 973-1313

**Thorndale Deli**  
1106 W. Thorndale – 878-3840

**Wikstrom Scandinavian Gourmet Foods**  
5247 N. Clark – 878-0601

#### Dog groomers

**Bark Bark Club**  
1106 West Granville – 561-2156

#### Florists

**Anna Held – Edgewater Beach Flower Shop**  
5555 N. Sheridan – 561-1940

**Edgewater Flower, Card & Gift Co.**  
1050 W. Bryn Mawr – 275-1075

#### Hardware

**Clark-Devon True Value Hardware**  
6401 N. Clark – 764-3575

**Clarendon Electric & Hardware**  
6050 N. Broadway – 761-5532

**Marx ACE Hardware**  
5820 N. Clark – 561-3323

#### L Stations

**Berwyn Avenue**  
**Bryn Mawr**  
**Granville Avenue – 381-2218**  
**Thorndale**

#### Locksmiths

**A-AAA Accurate Lock Service**  
1742 W. Devon – 880-LOCK

**A-Around the Clock Locksmith**  
5549 N. Clark – 561-7766

**Collier's Lock Service**  
5634 N. Clark – 743-KEYS

#### Mailing Services

**A Professional Postal Service**  
6167 N. Broadway – 262-6151

**Mail Boxes Etc.**  
1400 W. Devon – 381-1400

**Postal Mart**  
5250 N. Broadway – 561-4600

#### Pharmacies

**Dominick's Pharmacy**  
6009 N. Broadway – 769-1259  
5235 N. Sheridan – 728-7230

**Granville Medical Pharmacy**  
1148 W. Granville – 274-5888

**Osco Drug**  
6150 N. Broadway – 274-9337  
5343 N. Broadway – 334-2083  
5516 N. Clark – 784-7348

**Thorndale Pharmacy**  
1104 W. Thorndale – 561-6660

**Walgreen Drug Stores**  
6125 N. Broadway – 764-8961  
5625 N. Ridge – 989-7546

#### Printers

**Allied Print & Copy**  
5546 N. Broadway – 334-5200

**Kustom Printing**  
1258 W. Devon – 743-1196

**Quicker Printers**  
6116 N. Broadway – 334-1919

#### Shoe Repair

**Carl's Shoe Service**  
1113 W. Granville – 743-4488

**Sam's Shoe Repair**  
1140 W. Thorndale – 769-2877

## Berger Park computer school expands

by Sue Nicotera  
Berger Park Supervisor

The First Bytes Computer program at Berger Park has expanded its classes and facilities. The computer program is funded and staffed by volunteers, and we presently have three Chicago Park District-certified volunteer teachers and two volunteer technicians.

Our computer volunteers provide Berger Park with free computer access and training to children enrolled in one of our camps or after-school programs. Free time for trial use of our computers and to watch computer training videos is available upon request and as time permits. Adult classes covering the Internet, MS Office applications and the Windows operating system are planned for the near future.



A recent donation of computers by individuals and by the "Computers For Schools" organization allows us to assign a computer to each child. All of our computers are networked and have fast DSL Internet access.

Call for information on classes, free time, our after-school program and the Kid's Computer Club.

C.P.D. Berger Park  
First Bytes Computer School  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 6205 N. Sheridan Rd.  
(NE corner of Sheridan & Granville)  
Berger Park: 312-742-7871  
First Bytes: 773-761-5792



## What's happening around the building

by Vito Senese  
MECA Association Manager



The tragic events of Sept. 11 have been on the minds of everyone in our community as well as in our country. Your building staff has been maintaining its high quality of service for the building through these trying times. The pool is closed for the season, and the staff is preparing the building for winter.

The Annual Owners Meeting, canceled due to attack on the World Trade Center, has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 7:30 pm in the Windjammer Room. New notices and proxies have been mailed out to all unit owners. Please contact the management office if you have not received your annual meeting information by Oct. 10.

The exterior fascia and balcony project is moving along, and residents can check the chart in the lobby, next to the ramp door, for an update of progress on their tier. The east side of the building is in the cement-pouring phase, and the south side of the building is also in the cement-pouring phase. Residents with questions concerning the project are encouraged to call the management office.

The 2002 budget meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 pm in the Windjammer Room. Unit owners are encouraged to attend so they can understand the reasons for the increase in the 2002 assessments.

The laundry room is scheduled to be closed for five days, Monday, Nov. 12, through Friday, Nov. 16. The laundry room will be remodeled, and all-new equipment will be installed. Please make plans to do your laundry either before Nov. 12 or after Nov. 16.

## Dance classes

by Betty Mayian

Six free dance classes are being held in the Windjammer Room on Mondays, 7:30 to 9pm. 19 residents attended the first class on September 24. There were some that had attended the previous classes given by Lawrence Bercini, but most were new. The class was split between East Coast Swing (Jitterbug) and Salsa. Lawrence actually gave homework of steps to practice during the week. Quick small steps and the ability to take a 180-degree spin on one foot are important to these fast dances.

After running through a few steps with one partner, the call to change partners was given and all the ladies moved clockwise to the next available male. Each student wore a nametag and was encouraged to introduce themselves to their new partner. Pretty soon there were cries of "Boy are we good!" And they were!

The next classes will be held October 1, 15, 22, 19 and Nov. 5. Lawrence Bercini, 1998 World Amateur Dance Champion and our neighbor, is instructing these two fast and fun partner dances. East Coast Swing is a bouncy energetic swing dance, and Salsa is a hot Latin dance. The MECA Social Committee is hosting this event and encourages residents to attend. No dance experience is necessary and you don't need a partner to attend. Just dress comfortably and wear leather-soled shoes. Everyone attending the classes will be required to sign a waiver before the classes start.

## The Secret Garden Cafe

Berger Park  
6219 N. Sheridan  
773/381-5623

by *Betty Mayian*

If ever a restaurant deserved a second review only four months later, it is this one. The owner, Lisa Jordan, is one hard-working lady. She has dreams and goals for her cafe that are making big changes to this lakeside spot. We wondered how an outdoor eatery would survive over our Chicago winters. At first there were only about five tables inside and that wouldn't bring in enough diners to make ends meet. So Lisa began her plans to enclose the patio adjacent to the cafe, putting in large picture windows for the inclement times and screens for when we all want to sit outdoors and eat al fresco. By the time this review is in print, the structure may be completed. This will make a very unusual and attractive dining experience for our area. As Lisa learns the ropes of restaurant ownership, she alters the hours, the menu and the staff to meet requirements and satisfy her customers.

This summer the waitstaff consisted of a number of lovely and charming Irish lasses who were spending their summers and before returning to Ireland for their studies. They all want to return to Chicago next summer. It was a real treat to talk to them. You never think about rushing your meal here. Enjoy the views and the waitstaff. Read a book. Bring your laptop and finish your work in pleasant surroundings. Going to The Secret Garden Cafe is like relaxing in your own garden (if you had one). Meet your friends here; we do.

Recently Lisa hired a new chef, Michael DeBerry, who has had 10 year's background as a bakery chef and also worked in many famous kitchens, including Tomboy, Tru and the Swissotel. He cooks with a slight, but only slight, Caribbean influence. He is so enthusiastic and absolutely loves what he does. You will find him coming out of the kitchen and asking patrons for their opinions to make sure of their satisfaction and future business. Lisa does the same.



Chef Michael DeBerry

We ate breakfast there. The food was very good. New pricing for breakfast (anytime) is \$4.25 and includes French toast, pancakes, biscuits and gravy (all with a slice of bacon), or eggs with a slice of toast. Chef Michael said he will make any style eggs to order; just ask and he will try to accommodate. The bacon was good and crisp. Toast fine. Glass bottles of orange or grapefruit juice. Coffee good, but \$1.95 is too pricey for me, unless you plan on sitting there all day (they keep pouring as long as you want more — hence the price.)

I previously talked about the standard menu appetizers, salads and sandwiches for lunches or dinners. There are many fine



Secret Garden winter enclosure under construction.

items still on the menu and a few more designed for winter appetites, including French onion soup and steak chili. Hummus with pita is a welcome addition.

The differences that the new chef has brought are in the way he seasons his foods and that he puts his own unique qualities to the daily "specials." We tried several of them the other evening, and each of us raved about our own and tasted the others. There was a salmon over noodles that had our "hamburgers only" friend eating every last bite on his plate. Tilapia was available either baked in a lemon butter sauce or "blackened" New Orleans style on angel hair pasta with crisped and seasoned breads, definitely tasty and worth trying. My dish was breast of chicken pieces in a creamy Parmesan sauce with red peppers over rotini. My husband and I both really enjoyed it. We topped our dinners with desserts (even though we didn't think we had room). The lemon cheesecake was soooooo good that it is number one for me. Ara had chocolate mousse cake, and we had no complaints from that cholic. Mocha pecan pie was the other order, and it was excellent as well.

Call for hours and availability of dining to prevent being disappointed since they also cater to special parties. Usual hours are 10 am to 9 pm, seven days a week. Special winter events and prices are in place. Adding to the incentives for their patrons to try is the new enclosed and heated patio, a 15% student/teacher discount with college ID, Monday night football and Wednesday night "at the movies."

## Emergency information

By *Ila Chaiken*

It is always uncomfortable for us to think about emergency situations such as getting sick enough to have to be hospitalized, or a fire or even being locked out of our apartment. We recognize these situations may happen, and some people have not taken steps to get the assistance they may need from relatives, friends or their personal physician. MECA recognizes our opportunity to be of help. We are keeping your emergency information in a secure location in the office, to be available to our manager or his representative in case of an emergency. We encourage you to take advantage of the service by contacting the office for a form.

## Annual 'Meet the Candidates' forum

### Suggestions from the Dialogue Committee

Our August 'Meet the Candidates' meeting was attended by even fewer residents than last year. Unfortunately, three of the eight candidates were also no-shows. Perhaps it's apathy, busy schedules or maybe it's just an attitude of, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Whatever the reason, the format of the evening certainly contributed to what I consider a "failure to communicate." Several owners came to me with complaints and suggestions for change:

- The lighting in the Windjammer Room is too dark.
- The "party-mix-it-up" format matched friends with friends with little "real" mixing.
- Owners did most of the talking and candidates the listening.

In these circumstances, it was difficult to draw out each candidate's qualifications, concerns and agenda. Suggestions for next year's forum:

The board needs to set up official guidelines for any group or committee that sponsors "Candidates Night." These suggestions are from the Dialogue Committee and other interested owners:

1. Hold the forum in the Community Room or move it to the lobby for more exposure and better lighting.
2. Give each candidate an opportunity to speak to the entire audience.
3. Give residents an opportunity to submit written questions.
4. Have candidates respond to written questions submitted in advance to the committee.

Set up rules such as:

1. The candidates are expected to attend and arrive early to form a receiving line.
2. Individual candidate speeches.
3. One question per unit owner.
4. Time limit on answers.
5. Questions selected at random.
6. Candidates allowed rebuttals.
7. Candidates allowed to pass out campaigning material.

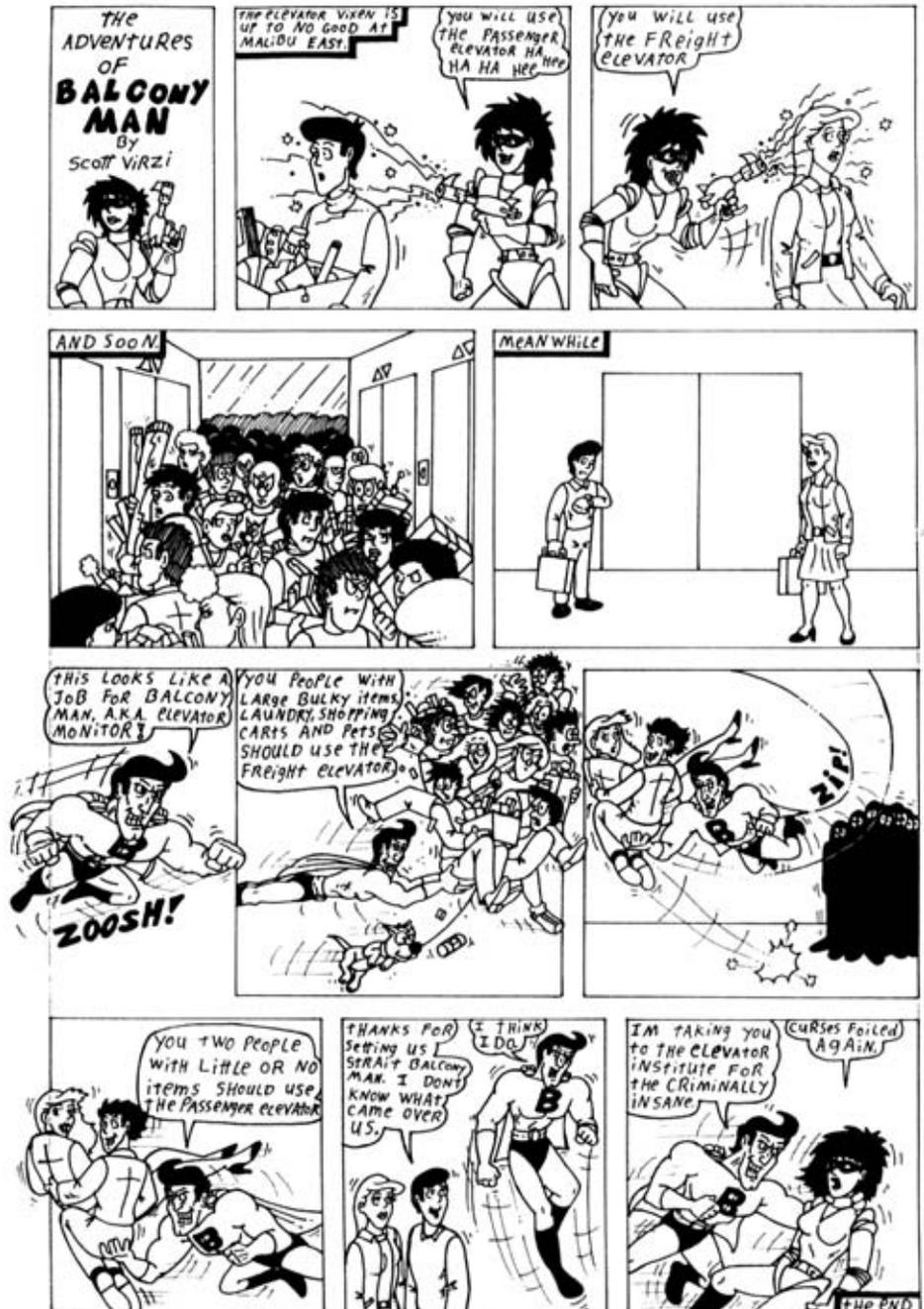
## 'Town Crier' announcements by Betty Mayian



We welcome these new residents:

If you have information concerning talented or famous MECA residents, please contact the Dialogue.

## Balcony Man by Scott Virzi



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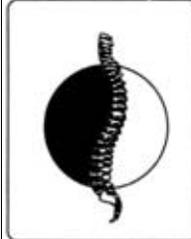
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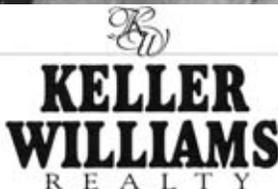
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The Malibu East Condominium Association Dialogue is published by resident volunteers to promote communication among owners, residents, Board of Directors, management and staff of the Malibu East Condominium, 6033 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660.

Articles and opinions by the MECA Dialogue staff and contributors are presented as their personal views and do not necessarily represent the views of the association or its Board of Directors and management.

Letters to the MECA Dialogue Committee are encouraged. Please be as brief as possible. The MECA Dialogue staff reserves the right to edit letters to fit available space and to print only those with constructive content. Letters to the committee may be left at the management office.



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