

Edgewater-MECA neighbors show big hearts

National Day of Service

By Tracy Poyser

Nearly 250 Edgewater volunteers of all ages, school kids to grandparents, answered then-President-Elect-Barack Obama's call to honor Martin Luther King Jr. by participating in a National Day of Service to benefit the neediest residents of our community on January 19. They helped process donations for Care for Real, clean and paint the men's homeless shelter at Epworth Church on Kenmore, and sort clothing and clean and paint at Cornerstone Community Church. 48th Ward Ald. Mary Ann Smith, state Sen. Heather Steans, and state Rep. Harry Osterman hosted the event at the 5533 N. Broadway office.



I'm happy to say that MECA neighbors didn't stand idly by. Some of us got together to collect food, clothing and household goods via a last-minute laundry room appeal and drove them over to the collection point, and, as the volunteer photo journalist for the day, I think I saw familiar faces at the work locations. It's pretty amazing what can be done in just one day with a bit of elbow grease and lots of enthusiasm.

Our work for the community needn't stop here. There's a lot more work to do to repair and paint the Epworth Church homeless shelter, and with the poor economy, more and more people will need Care for Real's and other local agencies' services to aid their families.

Contact Jen Walling, chief of staff for state Sen. Heather Steans, at 773-769-1717 or e-mail jen@heathersteans.com for future action calls. Let's continue to show that we Sheridan Road east-siders are a vital part of Edgewater, and not just people who gaze out over the lake!



Volunteers clean, paint and write letters requesting donations to help with the homeless and needy families.

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MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans



Building report

Chris Chiodo

MECA board meeting Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009

Attendance: 9 board members, 2 management representatives and 14 residents
Not present: Cass Buscher, Eleida Gomez, Avany Penaherrera

OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Concern with the elevators. Not leveling and getting old. *The board is aware of the problems and will keep in proper running order, with future upgrades anticipated. At this time, replacement would be too expensive.*
- 2) Local neighborhood gang tagging is on the increase. Ald. Smith has been contacted.
- 3) Resident with handout to board with suggestions and comments. *Discussion followed concerning procedures, management control and reporting of maintenance issues by residents.*
- 4) Glad that the fitness room is being moved and enlarged, but would like to see more new equipment. *The Sports Committee has plans to improve the selection and age of equipment.*
- 5) When will the racquetball court be ready for use? *Quicker than we thought, as the floor needs only to be refinished, not replaced. And we will repair the walls and ceiling as needed.*
- 6) Will we be upgrading to HD capability? *The TV Committee is working on this option for residents who want it.*
- 7) We need to encourage our neighbors to shovel the snow from the corners across the street to enable our residents to get to the bus stop. *Management will talk to their management.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

- 1) **Financial statement**
Balance on hand, cash and reserves
\$2,733,602.35
- 2) **Delinquencies**

Please keep in mind that the meeting notes are not the official record of the MECA Board of Directors meetings. The official minutes are generally approved at the following meeting and may be viewed or copied in the management office.

\$86,727.45

Nine units in foreclosure and 30 units in arrears.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Rules and Regulations**
Thanks to Neil Warner from the board for proofreading the rules.
- 2) **Floor Representatives**
The board requests that residents pack newspapers in paper bags for the bulk room.
- 3) **Long Range Planning**
Our front entrance could be updated with an automatic door system.
- 4) **Communications**
We have set July as a target for selecting a new TV contract.
- 5) **Life Safety**
We anticipate having to install a speaker system in the near future.

MANAGEMENT REPORT Items requiring immediate board action

- 1) **Directors & officers liability insurance**
Traveler's policy renewed.
- 2) **Klein and Hoffman report**
Investigated water infiltration through the sliding glass doors in the B tier.
- 3) **Exercise Room**
Plans developed by the Sports Committee for the upgrade were distributed to the board. Meeting set for 9am, Feb. 7.
- 4) **Inventory**
Ideas on setting up a perpetual inventory of office and maintenance supplies.
- 5) **Heat problems**
Community Room, lobby, management office, Captain's Walk. These problem areas are being worked on.
- 6) **Fourth floor repairs**
Proposal from Golf Construction to repair some slabs and masonry was

Assessments: Assessments are due by the first of each month. A late charge will be assessed for any delinquent account on the close of business on the 15th of each month.

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The management office will not accept assessment checks.

Parking garage repairs: A work progress board has been set up outside the management office. We are on schedule and have not run into any problems that would lengthen the project.

Unit doors: I have been conducting hallway inspections of unit doors. If I see a door needing repair or replacement, I will notify the unit owner that management shall make such repair or replacement, and that the unit owner shall be charged for same, pursuant to IIC of the Rules and Regulations.

Luggage and grocery carts: Please make sure you return carts immediately after use. If the staff has to retrieve the cart because of your failure to return it, you will be charged a return fee.

approved. As soon as weather permits, this work will be done.

- 7) **Racquetball ceiling and wall repair**
Proposal for repairs approved.

Items requiring future board action

- 1) **Captain's Walk carpet**
Specifications to be sent out for bids.
- 2) **Lobby electric door opener**
A sliding or folding door would work in this area.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **Façade ordinance repairs**
Drops will be started in April.
- 2) **Garage construction project**
On schedule.
- 3) **1) Unit sales**
18M \$162,000 pending

The meeting ended at 10:45 pm and went into closed session.

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Community Calendar

by Betty Mayian

THEATER/SHOWINGS

AMERICAN THEATER CO.

"True West"

Sam Shepard's most produced play about two dysfunctional brothers.

8pm Feb. 1,5,7,13,15,19,21,27

3pm Feb. 8,14,22,28

"topdog/underdog"

Suzan-Lori Parks' Pulitzer Prize-winner about two brothers.

8pm Feb. 6,8,12,14,20,22,26,28

3pm Feb. 1,7,15,21

1909 W. Byron

773-929-1031

atcweb.org

LIFELINE THEATRE

"Mariette in Ecstasy"

A nun experiences what may be a divine encounter, challenging the other sisters' faith.

Previews begin Feb. 13, \$20

Opens Feb. 23, closes Apr. 5, \$30.

7:30pm Fr, 4 & 8pm Sa, 4pm Su

(Group, student & senior discounts)

6912 N. Glenwood Ave.

773-761-4477

lifelinetheatre.com

LOYOLA MAINSTAGE THEATRE

"Mnemonic"

The quest for connections in the midst of a fragmented world.

Kathleen Mullady Theatre

7:30pm Feb. 13-14, 20-21, \$6-15

2pm Feb. 15, 22, \$6-15

1125 W. Loyola

773-508-3847

luc.edu/theatre

MORSE THEATRE

Musical groups and solos on a selection of dates this month. See their website or call for info. Super Bowl and Valentine's Day events.

1328 W. Morse Ave.

773-654-5100

<http://www.themorse.com/cms/>

NEO-FUTURARIUM THEATRE

"Beer"

10-year-old Boon sneaks into a brewery. The brewery comes alive with puppetry, song and stories. The story of the land of beer.



Th-Sa Feb. 5 thru Mar. 7, \$13 or less

5153 N. Ashland Ave.

773-275-5255

neofuturists.org

PROFILES THEATRE

"Great Falls"

A two-character drama

summing up a lifetime of regrets.

Thru Mar. 1, \$25-30

8pm Th-Sa, 7pm Su

4147 N. Broadway

773-549-1815

profilestheatre.org

RAVEN THEATRE

"Misamerica"

Feb. 5 thru Mar. 27, \$20-25

3pm Su, 8pm Th-Sa

In the near-future Mideast, a corporation is ready to tackle the next big market. Misamerica takes an unapologetic look at our country's policies and priorities.

6157 N. Clark

773-338-2177

raventheatre.com

REDTWIST THEATRE

"The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?"

A comedy/tragedy. Director Michael Colucci takes the leading role.

Feb. 26 thru Mar. 29

8pm Th-Sa, 3pm Su

1044 Bryn Mawr

Chicago, IL 60660

773-728-7529

redtwist.org

VICTORY GARDENS THEATER

Main stage at the Biograph

"Living Green"

A modern-day homage to *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Feb. 6 thru Mar. 1, \$39-48

3pm Su, 10:30am & 7:30pm We

7:30pm Th/Fr, 3 & 7:30pm Sa

2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

773-871-3000

victorygardens.org

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Thursday afternoon

Thursday, Feb. 12

2:00pm — Community Room

Dialogue Committee meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 18

7:30pm — Community Room

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 24

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

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

February holidays

National Black History Month

February 1

Super Bowl

February 2

Christian: Candlemas

Wiccan: Imbolc

Groundhog Day

February 3

Shinto: Rissun (Setsubun)

February 4

USA: Lincoln's Birthday

Rosa Parks birth anniversary

February 5

Mexico: Constitution Day

February 8

Buddhist: Parinirvana - Nirvana day

February 9

Jewish: Tu B'Shevat

February 11

Christian: Our Lady of Lourdes

Japan: National Foundation Day

February 12

NAACP founded

February 14

Secular: Valentine's Day

Race Relations Day

February 15

Daytona 500

February 16

President's Day

February 17

League of United Latin Citizens (LULAC) founded

February 20-24

Brazil: Carnival

February 22

Washington's Birthday

February 23

Hindu: Mahashivratri

February 24

Christian: Shrove Tuesday

February 24

USA: Mardi Gras

Mexico Flag Day

February 25

Christian: Ash Wednesday

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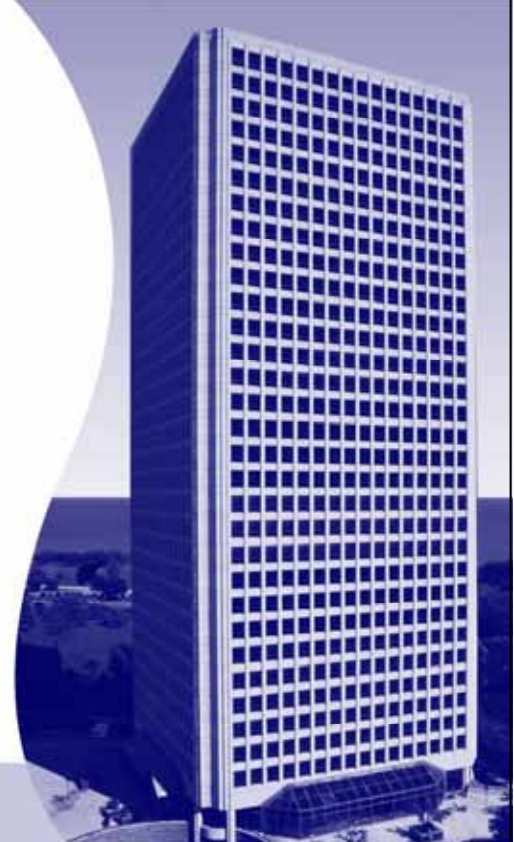
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Sheridan Road

Part 3: Through Evanston By Jack Winans

In Evanston, Sheridan Road begins to the east of Calvary Cemetery and winds within a few blocks of the lake in an area lined with mansions, elegant lakefront homes and an expansive lakeside park and boat-house. It then runs through Northwestern University, the second of four colleges on Sheridan.



Calvary

With entrances on the west off Chicago Ave. (Clark Street) and on the east off

Sheridan Road, Calvary Catholic Cemetery is the last resting place for one Illinois governor, Edward F. Dunne (1913-17); five Chicago mayors; two senators, including the infamous Lorimar, and other notables such as the powerful and corrupt 1st Ward Ald. "Hinky Dinky" Kenna; Col. James Mulligan, a Civil War Irish Brigade commander; and White Sox owner Charles Comiskey.



Northwestern

This non-sectarian private research university was founded by Methodists in 1851 and named for the Northwest Territory it would serve. Northwestern has a rather testy relationship with Evanston due to its founding charter, which granted the school a permanent exemp-

tion from paying property taxes. Attempts have been made to revise the campus wards to reduce students' voting power. Law, medicine and management schools are located in the Streeterville extension campus.



Grosse Pointe Lighthouse

Located just north of the campus, this National Historic Landmark at 2601 N. Sheridan Road was built in 1873, electrified in 1923, automated in 1935 and replaced by offshore buoys in 1941. In 1946, it was relit as a private navigation aid after ownership was transferred to Evanston in 1945. It serves as an educational museum and a wildflower exhibit.

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The Geek Corner

By Jack Winans

Whether your Internet access provider is AWB or a DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) company such as AT&T, your telephone landline is the carrier, and occasionally your browser and your e-mail will not respond — nada.

First: Always try the below fix before calling the help line (outsourced to a country where English is spoken, barely) — because the technician is going to tell you to do it anyway, before he'll suggest something else. This will work nine times out of 10.

Shut down the computer — reboot, re-sync, recycle, whatever you want to call it — it means just turning something off or unplugging it and then turning it back on again, giving it a chance to reset itself, find its wits, whatever it needs to sort out its sometimes scrambled electronic brains. It happens! After turning off all three for a minute — the computer, modem and router (if you have one), turn them back on in this order, 1. modem, 2.



router, 3. computer, giving all time to start flashing their lights and getting up to speed before turning on the next one.

Not sure which is which?

Computer — that's the box that your mouse, monitor and keyboard plug into.

Modem — that's the box that is hooked up to the cable outlet or telephone line.

Router — If you have a wireless system it's the one with an antenna that connects to your computer.

Still don't have Internet or e-mail, sorry, time to call your local tech whiz or Bangalore Brad.

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

Letters to the MECA *Dialogue* Committee are encouraged. Its staff reserves the right to edit those letters which it sees fit to print and to print only those with constructive content.

Letters to the *Dialogue* Committee may be left at the management office.

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