

Malibu **East** Dialogue

September 2010

Your Communication and Information Resource



Karaoke Night at MECA *Sandy Chaet and Betty Mayian*

This was a first! With some trepidation the Social Committee planned to bring karaoke to MECA. Would it be a success? Would anyone come? And, if they did, would they join in and sing, or just sit and watch? As 7:30 pm came and went, there were only the committee members, sitting around and munching on snacks. Then, they came. A mix of people, young and old arrived. Just what the Social Committee wanted to get everyone in our building to participate in our events.

One of the Social Committee members, Helen Barbosa Aninag, owns a karaoke system and generously said we could use it for this night. She and Greg Christiansen, our MC, ran the event. Helen is a good singer and started the

night out by singing the first song. The way the Karaoke system knows what song to play is by entering a song number from a list of hundreds of songs. People who want to sing look up their favorite songs in the Karaoke book, then enter the number and their name on a slip of paper. Those papers are given to the MC, who calls out the singer's name and enters the song number. The lyrics come up on a screen and you begin singing by following along as the music and lyrics appear. At the end of the song, the system scores you!

We had some wonderful singers — and we had a few who got lost following the lyrics (Betty). But, the audience was wonderful, chiming in when they could, or clapping along with the music. We have to single out one wonderful person, Betty Graham (Bebbette), who kindly helped me through a couple of

songs. She has a great voice and sang in English, Spanish, and French. Her rendition of “La Vie en Rose” was exceptionally beautiful. One lady sang in Hebrew, and another sang an operatic aria. A group of young ladies sang several numbers together. So we even had “Thriller” on the program. Who knew we had all this talent right here?

When things slowed, Greg or Helen would do a number. This would stimulate some to find another song.

About 40 people attended at one time or another. Some came early, some late. Some left early, some late. It was difficult to keep count. It was too much fun watching everyone and trying to sing along with them. We believe this could turn out to be a regular event. The consensus was to do it again. Karaoke Night at Malibu East was a success.

Karaoke night at Malibu East draws talent



Community Calendar

By Betty Mayian

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

Saturday Book Club

11am 1st Sat. month
1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718
tinyurl.com/5155tl



EDGEWATER

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Fall Home Tour - Edgewater North area

Begins at Granville Ave. Methodist Church, 1307 Granville.

Sunday, Sep. 19, noon-4pm

Museum hours:

Saturdays noon-4pm, Sundays 1pm-5pm

5358 N. Ashland Ave.

773-506-4849

edgewaterhistory.org

FARMER'S MARKET

Edgewater Green Market

Thru Oct. 18

7am to 1pm Saturdays, rain or shine.

Broadway and Norwood

WHITE CRANE

WELLNESS CENTER

Adult day wellness programs for 60 and over.

Gentle yoga, tai chi, music exercise, lunch and snacks.

Transportation provided within boundary area.

1355 W. Foster Ave.

773-271-9001

whitecranewellness.org

THEATER/SHOWINGS

CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY

"Lovers" by Brian Friel

A younger and older couple struggle against societal disapproval.

Thru Oct. 3

1020 W. Bryn Mawr

773-293-3682

citylit.org

LIFELINE THEATRE

"Wuthering Heights" by Emily Bronte

An epic love story of Heathcliff and Cathy.

Thru Oct. 31

6912 N. Glenwood

773-761-4477

lifelinetheatre.com

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Candidates Night

Wednesday, Sep. 1

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Dialogue Committee meeting

Wednesday, Sep. 15

7:30pm — Community Room

Thursday afternoon

discussion group

Thursday, Sep. 16

(every 3rd Thurs. of month)

2:00pm — Community Room

MECA annual owners meeting

and board meeting

Tuesday, Sep. 21

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Budget Review meeting

Tuesday Sep. 28

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Flu shots

Thursday, Oct. 7

5:30–8pm — Windjammer Room

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

SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS

September 1

Israel Miraji Ascent of Prophet Muhammad: Islamic

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year: Orthodox Christian

First consecration of the Adi Granth: Sikh

September 2

Krishna Janmashtami: Hindu

September 5-6

Paryusana: Jain

September 6

Labor Day: federal holiday

September 8-10

Rosh Hashanah: Jewish

September 9

Eid-al-Fitr (Ramadan ends): Islamic

September 10-11

Eid-Al-Fitr: Islamic

September 11

Ganesa Chaturthi: Hindu

September 12

Enkutatash: Rastafarian

September 15 to October 15

National Hispanic Heritage Month

September 16

Independence Day: Mexico

September 16

Deaths of Guru Amar Das Sahib & Guru Ram Das Sodhi Sahib (Sikh)

September 16-17

Lailat-Ul-Quadr: Islamic

September 17

Yom Kippur: Jewish

September 19

San Gennaro Day: Italian-American

September 22

Autumnal Equinox: Japan

Sukkot: Jewish

September 23

Mabon & Ostara: Wiccan

Festival of the Shen of Wind: Taoist

Shuki-Korei-Sai: Shinto

September 27

Meskel: Rastafarian

September 28

Birthday of Confucius: Taoist

September 30

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah: Jewish

Article	page
Karaoke party	1-2
Community Calendar	3
September holidays	3
Board meeting	4
New residents	5
Management report	5
Flu shots	5
FOTP lakefront plans	9
Ghana trip	10
Fuzzy pets	10
Claypool	12

*Our condolences to the
family and friends of
Cass Buscher
MECA Director
and
Communications
Chairman*

MECA board meeting notes Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010

By Elaine Winans

Elaine@MalibuEast.org

Attendance: 8 board members, 2 management representatives and 10 residents

Not present: Leon LeRoy, Martina Molins, Richard Strauss.

Presiding: President Molins

OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) President Molins made a few comments on the loss of owner and director Cass Buscher.
- 2) Comments on the slow arrival of elevators early in the morning.
- 3) Will Buscher's committee appointments be reassigned? *No, as elections are next month.*
- 4) Discussion about stolen clothes from Laundry Room.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

1) Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves
\$2,618,933.95

Discussion of MECA accounts with an aim to gain more interest when lacking or minimal.

2) Delinquencies

\$160,780.56

Discussion on progress of past-due accounts and actions taken.

3) Real-estate tax abatement

Owners will be billed for a portion of the savings unless they are already receiving a more beneficial deduction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Rules and Regulations

2) Floor Representatives

Eleida Gomez

3) Security

Sandy Chaet

4) Social and Educational

Sandy Chaet

Flu shots coming. Karaoke party very successful.

(See pages 1&2.)

(Flu shots, see page 5.)

5) Commercial Property

Marcel Molins

Moved to closed session.

6) Architecture & Aesthetics

Daniel Denton



7) ASCO report

Sandy Chaet

Our 48th Ward Ald. Smith is not running for reelection. A community meeting will be held regarding the gun shots heard coming from Winthrop and Kenmore, as well as other concerns.

(ASCO presidents' meeting, page 9.)

8) Garage

Standard Parking report

Syed Haider, Mgr.

Claims

Pending: 1

Total: 1

Waiting lists

Single self-park: 0

(As of Aug. 19, 5 available)

Monthly parkers

Total: 443

Garage capacity

Total: 534

(Under capacity) 91

9) Public & Community Affairs

Sandy Chaet

10) Pets

Sandy Chaet

11) Parents

Marcia Fishman

12) Sports and Entertainment

Neil Warner

Four 20-amp outlets for our older treadmills will be installed in the auxiliary Fitness Room.

A portion of the old Hoist weight equipment will be relocated from the old Fitness Room to an unused space next to the women's sauna. The old Fitness Room will then be remodeled and converted into a Billiard Room, utilizing some of the paneling from the former Billiard Room.

13) Finance & Insurance

Dean Lerner

Budget meeting Sep. 7.

14) Long Range Plans & Special Projects

Leon LeRoy

15) Communications

Neil Warner

Dialogue has reduced its deficit to \$53.

16) Legal

17) Building Maintenance & Services

Eleida Gomez

Community Room redecorating is three-fourths finished. Will replace the carpet. One of the tables or both might have to be replaced.

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.

Windjammer Room redecorating not started due to scheduled parties. Will work around the parties. Planning to repair the chairs and replace the carpet.

18) Cable

Chris Chiodo

Still problems in some tiers. Some refunds have not been received.

19) Life Safety

Sandy Chaet

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Chris Chiodo

Items requiring

immediate board action

1) Proposal: New lobby & receiving room phone system

The current system is so old that vendors can't find replacement parts and can't update the system. This system will connect to our current security system. All we have to do is input the phone number into the computer system. It is very easy to use, and this is the new technology that many building are now using. Front desk and Receiving Room phones are outdated and cannot be upgraded or fixed. A new system would not only work on internal landline phones but could also contact owner's cell phone (where residents do not have a landline). Contract was awarded pending clarification of specified items.

2) Proposal: ACM Elevator full load speed governor city required safety test

This test is required by the city of Chicago every five years. The cost is \$5,500. ACM will conduct the test.

3) Proposal: Install new tennis court

I worked with Golf Construction to obtain three proposals. Golf informed me that there aren't too many companies that sell these kinds of surfaces.

Action Courts was awarded the contract subject to clarifications.

4) Life Safety

Dean Lerner

Schirmer Engineering was hired to

**'Town Crier'
announcements**
by Rodica Ilc



We welcome all new residents to our building, including:

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

do the job. Hughes contract had been canceled due to inaction.

**Items requiring
future board action**

1) Proposals: New fence on fourth floor deck

Fence surrounding the tennis court and separating our deck from Malibu.

Weldone got the contract at a cost of \$4,200.

Items not requiring board action

1) Satellite TV status

2) Façade ordinance repairs

Now on A & B tiers. Very minimal repairs and will be done soon if weather cooperates.
Water leaks 7M and 6M. A crack on the 9th floor was repaired and no further leaks were found.

3) Garage construction project

4) Laundry Room

Electrical improvement work will start Sept. 13. Laundry Room will not have to be closed during repairs.

5) Unit sales

None

6) MECA-owned units update

7M, 16M, 18D, 28E, 41K
7M will be ready for sale shortly. Progress is being made on 16M. Planning for an open house. Motion to lower the asking prices of 18D and 28E was defeated.

The meeting ended at 9:50pm and went into closed session.



What's happening around the building

by Chris Chiodo, MECA Manager

E-mail to: malibueast@awbworld.com

SPECIAL NOTICE Register your bike again.

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.

Please send remittance to:

Malibu East Condo Assoc.
% Sudler – 80
8401 Innovation Way
Chicago, IL 60682-8401

The management office will not accept assessment checks.

Pets in elevators: The service elevator shall be used to transport a pet to and from the unit. Passenger elevators may be used only when the service elevator is out of service. Residents shall assume full responsibility for personal injuries or property damage caused by pets owned by the residents or their guests.

Swimming pools: The swimming pool will remain open after September 6 until weather breaks or we run out of chemicals to maintain the pools properly. There are no lifeguards present during this time; swimming will be at your own risk. Please take any precautions necessary. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Hallway fines: I will be conducting a weekly walk-through of our hallways. In any case where I see more than usual damage to the carpet, walls, doors, etc., and the evidence is clear that it was caused by someone in your unit, you will be charged for any repairs and cleanup. Residents need to be more careful and show more respect for their home. Management and maintenance staff are doing their best to maintain these hallways. With your help, we will be able to enjoy it for a very long time. Remember, this is your home. Please help us maintain it.

Bike registration: We will be having a NEW bicycle registration. A letter will go out within the next thirty (30) days informing you to reregister your bicycles.

It is very important you come to the office once you receive the letter. New stickers will be issued that

must be attached to your bicycle, and a completed registration form must be returned. We will continue to allow registration until December 31, 2010. After that date, all unregistered bicycles will be removed from the Bike Room and placed in storage until the summer. If any bicycle remains unclaimed, it will be donated to charity.

Cable TV: If you have any digital reception or HD reception problems, contact USA Wireless at 847-831-4561. If your problem doesn't get resolved, please contact Chris in the management office. Any resident who has an HD connection and has not received the six (6) months credit, please contact USA Wireless. If you are having billing problems with DIRECTV regarding packages or promotions, I can't help on this matter. You must contact DIRECTV on your own.

Flu Shots

By Sandy Chaet



The Social Committee has scheduled flu shots for Thursday, Oct. 7, 2010 from 5:30pm to 8pm in the Windjammer Room on the fourth floor. Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago (formerly American Lung Association) will again be providing the shots. We are scheduling it in early October since many residents have suggested this and the shot lasts for eight to nine months. The shot will be an all-in-one that includes H1N1 vaccine. The cost is \$28, same price as last year. ONLY cash or check will be accepted. If you are on Medicare, you MUST bring your card. There will be no charge for Medicare Part B participants. Medicare will be billed only if you have Part B. Participants with a Medicare HMO are self-pay.

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SPECIAL SEPTEMBER EVENTS

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at Edgewater Beach
A Senior Lifestyle Community

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ALL EVENTS ARE FREE! FOR MORE INFO & RESERVATIONS CALL 773-878-5333

FRIDAY
September 10th

1:00 p.m.

Dining for Wellness™: Focus on Arthritis sponsored by HHSI, Inc. and Harmony Healthcare and Rehab Center How do you improve your quality of life when you have arthritis? Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Kris Alden of Weiss Memorial Hospital joins us for a conversation on joint health. Learn how eating right, managing your stress level and your physical activities can minimize the symptoms of arthritis and help you enjoy life.

Enjoy a tasty treat of goat cheese crostini topped with cherry tomatoes and fresh basil.

WEDNESDAY
September 15th

1:00 p.m.

Urban History: The New Immigrants Historian and teacher Myra Loris dazzles us once again with the latest addition to her Chicago history series. This time we are taken back to the Chicago of the 1880's to 1920's. We will learn how the immigration of Polish, Italian and Eastern European Jews changed the face of the city and how women like Jane Addams made their mark on Chicago.

Taste the sweet life of Chicago with miniature Frango mint cheesecakes.

THURSDAY
September 16th

1:00 p.m.

IMPROVE-isation with Teri McEvoy This laugh-filled improvisational workshop consists of interactive games and exercises where creativity, quick thinking and social interaction are essential. It's aerobics for the brain (only you won't be sore in the morning). Live, laugh, learn... and then laugh some more!

Laughter is the best medicine and our food will keep you smiling. Give them both a try with our homemade granola and fruit kebobs. Make your reservations early as space is very limited for this event.

WEDNESDAY
September 22nd

11:00 a.m.

Zumba Gold Now is your chance to try out the fitness craze that is sweeping the country. Zumba is a non-traditional form of aerobics set to fun Latin rhythms such as salsa and meringue. The steps are easy to follow and the music will get you moving. Love working out with this new, simple and exciting fitness class!

Relax those muscles with a post-Zumba berry smoothie or join us for lunch.

THURSDAY
September 23rd

10:15 a.m.

Wii Fitness

Challenge our residents to a game of Wii Bowling. Our fitness instructors will show you how to enjoy the Wii Bowling video game. Using the Wii remote controller you will feel like you are at your favorite bowling alley. No experience necessary. Players at all skill levels can enjoy this game. Bowling shirts are optional, but encouraged!

After all the virtual excitement, settle in for a real treat and enjoy our Chef's healthy fresh yogurt berry parfait!

WEDNESDAY
September 29th

1:00 p.m.

Understanding Cholesterol with Custom Home Care, Inc.

September is National Cholesterol Awareness Month. So, join Custom Home Care Nurse, Maria Jaffe for a discussion about the relationship between cholesterol and heart disease, cholesterol numbers, and what effect those numbers have on the development of heart disease. Treatment of high cholesterol and how to lower your numbers through medication and a therapeutic lifestyle will be explored.

What's good for the heart is good for the whole body. Enjoy The Breakers' turkey spinach roll. Healthy food never tasted so good.

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CLOSED MONDAY

Lakefront

By Jack Winans

In early August, ASCO (Association of Sheridan Condo/Co-op Owners) held a meeting in our Windjammer Room chaired by ASCO President Sheli Lulkin. Attending this special meeting were the presidents of ASCO condos, who were invited to bring an additional guest from their board or their ASCO representative. ASCO determined that the FOTP "Friends of the Parks) was moving forward with its "Last Four Miles" agenda and it was time to bring the association presidents up to date.

The FOTP's agenda is to add four miles to the lakefront park system, two on the south and two on the north (Hollywood Ave. to Evanston). This would be accomplished by accessing former steelworks land on the south and by landfill on the north. This would be in celebration of Daniel Burnham's vision for Chicago.

Illinois legislation, SB 3778 and SB3779 is aimed at acquiring lakefront land for the Chicago Park District from the former South Side steelworks. Also in a



Alternate proposal Ardmore to Berger

possibly unrelated move, Mayor Daley is seeking \$98 million for infrastructure for a commercial and residential parcel of this land.

Illinois Chief Geologist Mike Chrzastowski gave a presentation on lakefront problems. He stated that due to north suburban lakefront owners' and community actions to preserve their beaches, the normal sand drift from the north has stopped while drift away from Osterman Beach is continuing. This area is losing sand faster than it can be replaced by nature. The apparent increase in our beaches' size is due to the dropping of lake levels through evaporation, changes in rainfall, usage and the dredging of the St. Clair River. Chrzastowski claimed that the Last Four Miles plan could provide engineer-designed protected beaches.

Paul Boyd, FOTP director, claimed that ultimately the North Side's two-mile section project was not a question if whether the project will go forward, but how it will go forward. He also claimed that there is not, nor has there ever been, plans to extend Lake Shore Drive further north.

Boyd also claimed that additional lake-shore access would increase the property value of ASCO association owners. He also stated that the cost of the North Side project would be only \$40 million to \$80 million. He also said that condominium input would be sought for suggesting plans for the access to offshore parks and buffer zones that would be created.

Another source claims that Boyd's estimate is too low and the construction work would disturb our area for years and bring more traffic to our area.

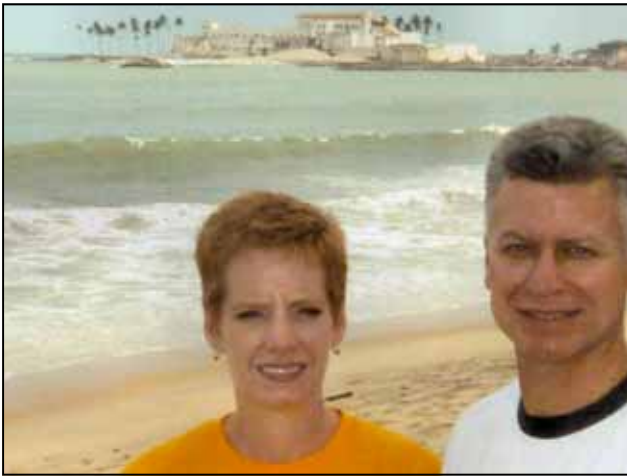
After the speakers' presentations the attendees asked questions and expressed their concerns. Future follow-ups on the subject will be planned after a survey is taken as opinions varied widely.

Life-changing trip to Ghana

By Kim O'Neal



Terry and Beth Ruppe recently took a trip to the West African country of Ghana with their church, The First United Methodist Church of Evanston. This is the second time the church has done this trip, but Beth and Terry's first experience with this specific trip. The Ruppes learned of the trip through a church bulletin posting. They discussed it and decided this was something they wanted to do. Seventeen members of their church went on the trip, including 12 adults and five college students. "It was a good mix of ages," Terry stated.



Beth and Terry Ruppe with the Cape Coast slave castle in the background

The Ruppes traveled to a small mountaintop village called Aburi, which is about 20 miles outside of the Ghanaian capital of Accra. They were there for 10 days to build a dormitory for a youth training center that teaches small business skills and holds youth conferences. The training center had been abandoned until it was renovated several years ago with help from their church. The Ruppes' church group helped finance the construction, and 27 local tradesmen came from all over Ghana, taking two weeks of unpaid time to help build the training center dorms. The training center has been growing and needed more dormitory space for the trainees. A local Ghanaian pastor helped coordinate this effort with the Ruppes' local pastor to have the American church group support the efforts of the local people.

Terry and Beth stated this was a life-changing experience. They worked all day next to the Ghanaians, and when the day of work was done, they sat and reflected about the day together. There were no electric tools, just five hammers, one local steel-bending specialist, a few wire cutters, several bowls for passing concrete, and a couple of saws. Drinking water had to be bought in bags or bottles because the water is not safe to drink. Locals also have to buy bags of water. If residents don't have money to buy water, they do drink the local water, which is a serious health risk. Unclean drinking water is a major problem in many African countries.

Beth and Terry stated that the people were so nice, so friendly and welcoming, and not guarded but genuinely interested in why they were there and who they are. "This was not a tourist spot, so the people were very curious." Terry and Beth have done service trips like this before in the United States and wanted to do another. The trip made them realize how much we take for granted. Terry stated now that they are home, they try to view others more openly, they stop and talk to people on the street, and offer a helping hand. Beth stated that they have changed their spending habits because of this experience which gave them a stronger understanding of the world as a community, "It really opened our eyes and gave us a different view and experience of the world."

They did take some time to see some sites, including the markets, a rain forest, and Cape Coast slave castle, where thousands of slaves were held for three months at a time in terrible conditions. Beth and Terry reflected on this experience with other members of the group and said this reflection was very emotional.

They enjoyed their life-changing experience overall and welcome anyone to ask them about the trip and how to get involved.



Fuzzy pets

By Beth Robinson



If you walked past the corner of Broadway and Thorndale on a Wednesday evening this summer, you may have noticed a gathering of dogs on leashes and animal enthusiasts at the Furry Friends Summerfest. Running from June 9 through the middle of August, the weekly event brought information for pet owners to the street. Two sponsors, Rep. Harry Osterman and Friends of Chicago Animal Care and Control, joined partners Fetch! and the Bark Bark Club to draw out neighborhood residents to meet each other, share their interest in pets and enjoy a fun community activity.

On one of the last evenings of the fest several pedestrians stopped by the booths to chat with representatives from various animal-focused businesses and organizations and to pick up free brochures, buttons and a gift bag with goodies a dog would appreciate.

The Chicago Canine Rescue brought two tiny dogs in search of new homes smartly dressed for the occasion in appropriately sized "Adopt me" outfits. One of the dogs, a Chihuahua that recently gave birth to a litter of four, lay comfortably curled in her handler's lap. Other tables featured artists who specialized in animal subjects, businesses catering to pet owners and animal welfare organizations.

Attendance was light on this particular night, but many people and their pets attended earlier in the summer to participate in activities, including contests, a costume party and a pet talent show.

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An independent candidate

By Betty Mayian
Cook County race



Claypool speaks to ASCO residents

This Monday evening, Aug. 23, the 6301 N. Sheridan Road building invited the residents of all ASCO buildings to meet candidate Forrest Claypool in its hospitality room. About 40 people came to hear him speak. Joyce Shanahan, who is running for alderman of the 49th Ward, introduced Claypool.

It was interesting to see how other Sheridan Road condos do things like this. They even supplied the refreshments for the group who attended. The room faces the lake, and the view is spectacular — with a full moon to help the political speech go down better.

Claypool has always run as a Democrat, but to run for Cook County assessor, he has to run as an independent. An independent has to have 25,000 signatures on the petition to get on the ballot. His bal-



Forrest Claypool

lots were totaled at 90,000. He is running against Democrat Joe Berrios.

Claypool, a graduate of the University of Illinois Law School, was editor-in-chief of the Law Review and Mayor Daley's chief of staff during his first term.

Claypool said that this year there is the perfect storm of voter outrage, "Voters finally have had enough." Carol Marin said that this race for Cook County assessor is the most important one in 2010. Claypool urged people to look at his Web site, www.forrestclaypool.com, or his opponent's at www.joeberrios.com.

There were some questions from the audience, but the best response he gave was to say he would look into the discrepancy between condo and single-family taxation.

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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.

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