From: SOAR
To: 400 Ohio Manager;
Subject: News Briefs for April 13, 2009
Date: Monday, April 13, 2009 6:34:34 PM

SOAR News Briefs

April 13, 2009

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Proposed Rooftop Heliport - Safety First!

SOAR's Campus Task Force's multi-year efforts to address the safety of the rooftop heliport proposed by Children's Memorial Hospital were recently featured in Skyline.

The proposed heliport has not been approved and Streeterville residents continue to be concerned about the safety of Children's proposal.

The debate over the safety of medical helicopter operations, however, goes far beyond Streeterville. Contributing reporter Ian Fullerton notes, "As the Streeterville debate over the heliport continues to heat up, the issue has gained national interest, sparked in part by a spike in last year's national emergency helicopter accident rates."

Read more in Where Copters Will Fly

What is the State of the 42nd Ward?

The recent SOAR-sponsored Town Hall with Alderman Reilly was a great success. If you were not able to attend, you can still check out the highlights featured in Skyline.

Reilly's State of the Ward

Provide Input on the Central Area Plan - Another Opportunity This Wednesday April 15th

Alderman Reilly recently sent the following to SOAR:

"It is my understanding the recent April 8th Central Area Action Plan (CAAP) meeting for SOAR/ Streeterville residents was scheduled on the first day of Passover, which prevented some of my constituents from participating. Certainly it was never my intention to deny any constituent the opportunity to review this important long-range planning document. To accommodate those who were obliged to observe that important religious holiday, I am extending an invitation to join us at the upcoming Gold Coast CAAP Presentation."

This Wednesday - April 15th
Ogden School
Main Auditorium
24 West Walton Place
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

"The Central Area Action Plan is a 'vision document' that represents the next step in the implementation of the economic development and land use goals set-out in the 2003 Central Area Plan (CAP) by prioritizing key urban design, transportation, open space and waterfront projects."

"Please join us on Wednesday, April 15th to take advantage of this opportunity to engage in a direct dialogue with representatives of the City of Chicago to gain a better understanding of the proposal and ask any questions you may have related to this proposal."

Lake Shore Park Spring Cleanup - This Saturday April 18th

Spring clean the park with SOAR's Garden Club. Come dressed for the weather to help rake leaves, clean out the flower beds, and pick up debris to help make the park sparkle. Gloves and equipment will be provided. Interested volunteers should gather at the park's fieldhouse at the corner of Chicago Avenue and Lake Shore Drive at 9:00 a.m. The cleanup usually lasts about 2 hours.

First Wednesdays in May & June

SOAR's First Wednesday program will be taking a spring break in May. There will be no First Wednesday program on May 6th.

SOAR is gearing up for our annual June event at Navy Pier. This special evening celebrates Streeterville residents and all those who volunteer their time and talents to help preserve, promote, and enhance the quality of life and community in our neighborhood. Watch this space for more details on the program in the coming weeks.

April Showers in the SOAR Office

Due to what originally appeared to be a plumbing glitch, the SOAR office recently experienced its own version of April showers. While the SOAR office has now reopened, the underlying water problem has yet to be resolved.

Member Services Manager Buff Sergent has been doing a stellar job keeping the office afloat and operational amidst the construction work taking place. If you are trying to get in touch with the office and find our response rate is a little slower than usual, please be patient. We should be back up to full speed shortly.

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Become a member of SOAR today to enjoy all of the benefits a membership in SOAR entails. Join Now

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