



Midway Manor Vibes™

Jan/Feb/Mar 2010 Edition

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the Jan/Feb/Mar 2010 edition of "The Vibes".

The New Year ushers in the new officers of the MMCA:

Richard Wilburn, President
Dolly Spade, Vice President
Tom Schweyer, Treasurer
Karen Ali, Recording Secretary
(...open...), Corresponding Secretary

If you are interested in the Corresponding Secretary position please contact Richard at 610-435-2678 or email mmca.pres@gmail.com.

We are grateful to former officers Laura Vito (President), Christine Hill (Vice President), and RoseAnn Posch (Corresponding Secretary) for their dedicated service.



Monthly Meeting Dates for 2010

MMCA general meetings are held the first (non-holiday) Monday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Faith Fellowship Church located at the corner of Ulster and Pennsylvania Sts.

January 4	February 1
March 1	April 5
May 3	June 7
July 5	August 2
September 13	October 4
November 1	December 6

Welcome Wagon

Do you have new neighbors on your block? While you were out walking, have you seen a moving van in front of a house? If you have, please let the welcoming committee know. We would like to give these new neighbors a bag containing pamphlets about Allentown, recycling, and other helpful information. Please call me with the address of the new residents.

Ruth O'Connell
610-432-5022

Articles for the next Vibes can be submitted to ritaandtom@gmail.com by Mar 5th and are subject to approval and editing.

2010 MMCA MEMBERSHIP

Our 2010 MMCA membership campaign is underway. The annual fee per is \$15.00 per household, \$10.00 for **senior (60 and over)** households. The association objective is to provide a pleasant and safe environment in which to live. It is composed of neighbors helping and caring for neighbors. MMCA also works hard help the children and youth of Midway Manor to be actively involved in healthy sports activities in the spring, summer and fall. Many holiday activities are also planned for our community. Join and be a part of helping to keep Midway Manor the best neighborhood in Allentown!

This year we plan to bring back our biddy and knee-high baseball teams. To help defray the cost of uniforms we would gladly accept donations with your membership fees. Just add the amount to your check.

Mail or drop off your check payable to the Midway Manor Community Association) to:

Sandy Wilburn
1039 N. Van Buren St.
Allentown, PA 18109

An envelope is attached to the vibes for your convenience.



MMCA on the Net

The Vibes can be found on the City of Allentown's web site, in the neighborhood groups section at:

<http://www.allentownpa.gov/Community/NeighborhoodGroups/tabid/195/Default.aspx>

Additionally, we've created a Facebook group. While you do have to register (for free) with Facebook to join the online group, you can register as an anonymous user. Once you've registered at www.facebook.com, search the groups for Midway Manor Community Association. We're posting events, pictures and discussions at the group site.

If you need someone to help walk you through signing up and/or finding the group, contact Laura Vito at 610-776-8934

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ruth O'Connell for her home being selected for the *Property of Merit People's Choice Award*. It is so fitting that her hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed.



A Ghoulishly Good Time

Despite the poor weather, little goblins filled the church for games, goodies, and costume judging at this year's MMCA Halloween party. Thanks go out to the church for their goodie donations and hosting, to our costume judges and all the volunteers.

On a Personal Note...

Having a baby? Birthday? Anniversary? Graduation? Contact Tom Schweyer at ritaandtom@gmail.com and we will announce your special event in the Vibes.

2009 Citizen of the Year

There are many dedicated volunteers who make the MMCA so successful. Among those individuals, one stood out in that he is involved in every aspect of the association – from his portrayal of Max the Mustang, our team mascot and the Easter Bunny, to helping with events, the snack shed, cleaning up the park and enrolling other teenagers to help out.

Congratulations go out to Collin Vito, our 2009 MMCA Citizen of the Year.



Friends of the Midway Manor

The board wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their contributions to the association:

- City of Allentown for printing the Vibes
- Dale & Gladys Wiles for donating advertisement printing
- The Allentown Police for speaking at our monthly meetings
- Faith Fellowship Church for the use of their basement and all the donations and volunteering they've provided the MMCA
- The Kiwanis for their donation to our children's activities
- All the MMCA Volunteers who make our events & sports program so successful

Haunted Houses & Christmas Cheer

Once again, the MMCA board had their work cut out for them in selecting the winners of the Halloween decoration and Christmas decoration contests. For both holidays, our neighborhood was all decked out and it was difficult choosing just a few. Congratulations to the winners!

Halloween:

Most Unique: 1226 N. Van Buren

Scariest: 1151 N. Van Buren

Best Overall: 1903 E Highland

Christmas:

Best Overall: 945 VanBuren

Griswold Award: 1903 E Highland

Norman Rockwell Award: 1309 Ulster

Neighborhood Patrol

The Midway Manor Security Patrol has been made aware of recent robberies in Midway Manor. Homes have been burglarized while the occupants were away. To protect yourself and your possessions we recommend the use of deadbolt locks, even when you're at home. Other safety recommendations include promptly reporting suspicious activity to the police (**NON EMERGENCY CALL 610-437-7751/EMERGENCY CALL 911**), notifying neighbors when going away, and leaving exterior lights on overnight. When going on vacation notify the MMCA Security Patrol by filling out a **REQUEST FOR SURVEILLANCE** form (attached to the vibes). With everyone on the alert we will force the criminals to look elsewhere.

When calling police provide the dispatcher with a detailed description of the person or persons and description and license plate number of the vehicle. (If you have a checkmate number you do not have to provide your name just your checkmate number. If you do not have a checkmate number, contact me for an application.) Make a note of the activity, time and date called, and the dispatcher's number, and provide me with the details. I track and follow up on all reports.

Also, we are looking for residents to help patrol during early morning, daytime, and evening hours. If you are able to help, please contact Ernie at 610-434-5494 or atiyeh12@aol.com

Please keep the manor safe--get involved!

UPDATE: Sign up for Operation ID to further protect your property. See flyer in this edition of the Vibes which explains the program.

Children's Christmas Party

Santa had his lap full at this year's Christmas party since there were so many Manor kids who made the "nice" list. Following games, crafts, pizza donated by Faith Fellowship Church, a visit with Santa, a couple elves, and Max the Red-nosed Reinhorse, children and their families headed outside to sing carols at the church's Christmas tree lighting ceremony.



John **YURCONIC** *Agonc*



CHRISTY WARGO
Personal Insurance Sales

5910 Hamilton Boulevard • Allentown, PA 18106
610-770-6600, ext. 148 • 800-398-4478 • Fax: 610-770-6610
cwargo@yurconic.com • www.yurconic.com



OPERATION IDENTIFICATION (ID)

WHAT IS OPERATION ID?.....Operation ID is when residents mark property that can be easily stolen if someone breaks into your home.

HOW DO I MARK MY PROPERTY?.....MMCA has purchased two electronic engravers that you can use to mark your drivers license number on your property.

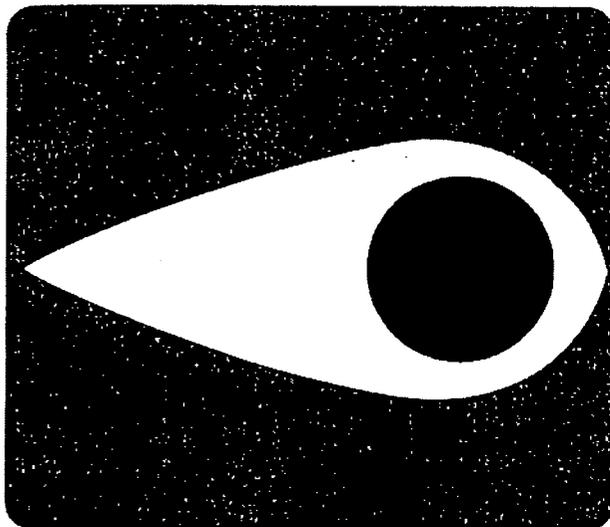
WHAT PROPERTY DO I MARK?.....Anything that can be carried out of your home or garage.

HOW WILL THIS HELP ME?.....You will receive two Operation ID stickers for your front and rear doors (SEE EXAMPLE BELOW) alerting everyone that your property has been marked. Someone looking to break into your home will see the sticker and think twice before attempting to enter.

HOW WILL THIS HELP THE POLICE?.....Example: Let's say the police catch someone breaking into a property and get a search warrant for their home and garage. During the search they find property that has been "ID'd". Using the license number they can locate the owner of the property and charge the person with burglary. Your property will be returned to you.

HOW DO I GET AN ENGRAVER?.....
Contact Ernie Atiyeh by e-mail at atiyeh12@aol.com. Provide your name, address, and home phone number. Engravers will be given out on a first come first serve basis. Ernie will call you when to pick up your engraver. A \$25.00 deposit will be needed and returned when you return the engraver. You will be given a receipt for your deposit with the date you picked it up. Engraver must be returned within three day's or you forfeit your deposit.

WARNING



OPERATION I.D.

All items of value on these premises have been marked
for ready identification by Law Enforcement Agencies
ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPT.

Social Security Column

SPOUSES CAN APPLY ONLINE, TOO

By Liz Foster
Social Security Branch Manager in the South Philadelphia Field Office

You probably already know that when it comes time to apply for retirement, you can do it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. But did you know that spouses can apply online, too?

That's right. If you are a spouse applying for benefits based on your husband's or wife's record, you can do it online from the convenience of your own home. It's so easy!

Wonder whether you may qualify to apply for spouse's benefits? If you are a spouse who has not worked or who has worked for very low wages, you could be entitled to a benefit equal to as much as one-half of your retired spouse's full benefit. Even if you are divorced, you may be eligible for benefits based on the employment record of your former spouse.

To get benefits on your spouse's record, you must be at least age 62 or have a qualifying child in your care — a child who is under age 16 or who receives Social Security disability benefits.

The amount of your spousal benefit depends on your age at retirement. If you begin receiving benefits before full retirement age, your benefits will be permanently reduced in most cases.

You also may be eligible for a retirement benefit based on your own earnings. If that benefit is higher than the spousal benefit, Social Security would pay you the higher benefit. We compare which of the two benefits would be more beneficial to you, and discuss the options you have.

If you have reached your full retirement age and are eligible for a spouse's benefit as well as your own retirement benefit, you may choose to receive the spouse's benefits only in order to continue accruing delayed retirement credits on your own Social Security record. You may then file for benefits at a later date and receive a higher monthly benefit based on the effect of delayed retirement credits.

Remember that if you are a spouse who is taking care of a minor child (16 or under) or a child who is disabled and gets Social Security benefits on your or your spouse's record, you can receive a benefit, regardless of your retirement age.

Read more about Social Security Retirement Benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10035.html.

Ready to apply for benefits right now? You can do it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline.

ADVERTISING IN THE MIDWAY MANOR VIBES

The Midway Manor Vibes is the neighborhood newsletter published quarterly by the Midway Manor Community Association in the months of January, April, July, and October. The newsletter is delivered to all households located within Midway Manor, an area bordered by Union Boulevard, Sherman Street, Columbia Street, and Club Avenue, and to members who reside outside the area.

Rates:

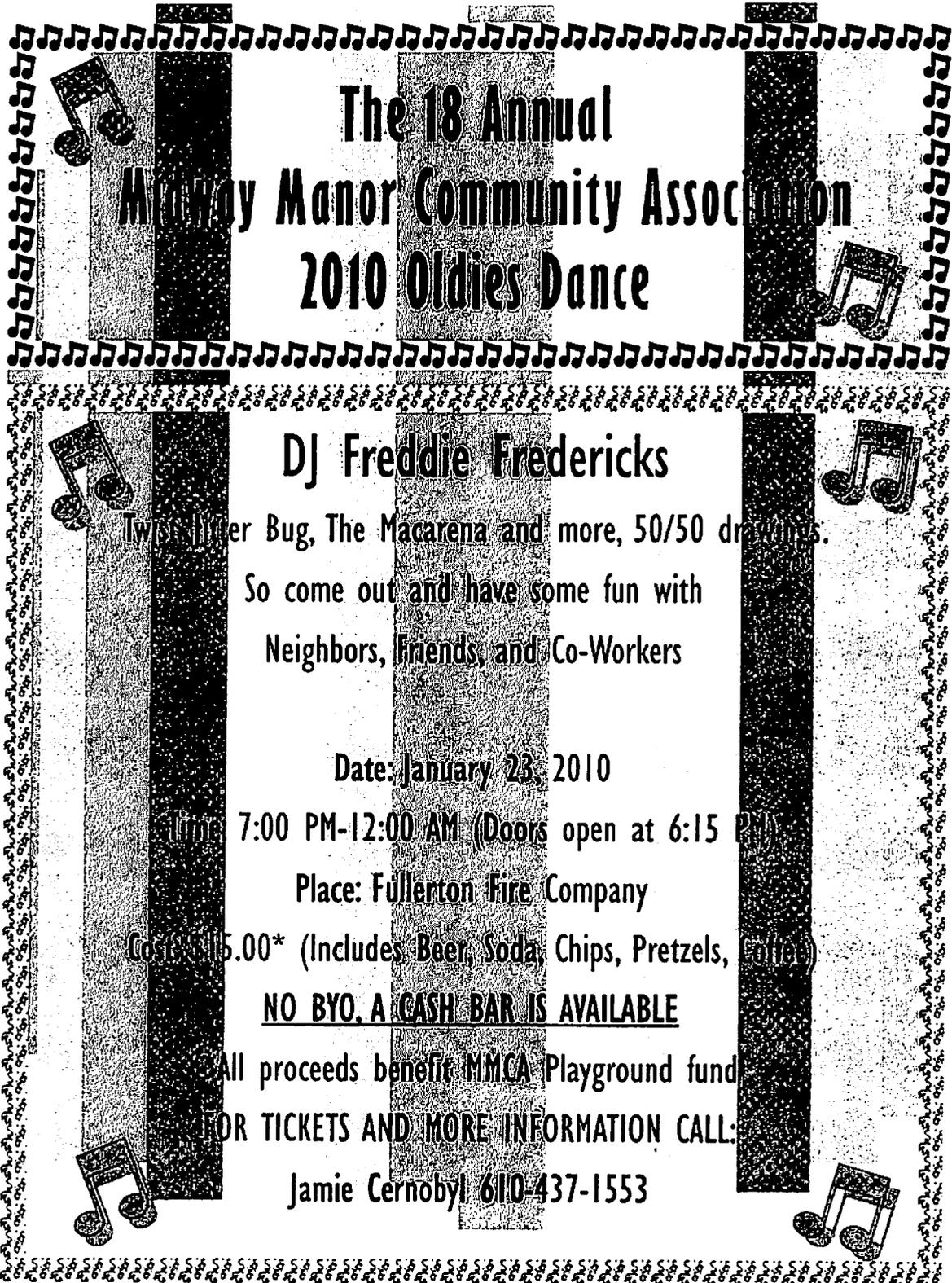
- Business card \$15 per issue or \$50 for 4 issues
- Half page \$20 per issue or \$75 for 4 issues
- Full page* \$30 per issue or \$100 for 4 issues

*advertiser provides copies (600)

Send payment (checks only) and ad to Tom Schweyer at 1903 E. Fairmont St., Allentown, PA 18109. Please make checks payable to the **MIDWAY MANOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**. Full page ad copies (600) should be delivered to the above address.

For further information call Tom Schweyer at 610-439-0550 (after 4 PM) or send email to ritaandtom@gmail.com.





**The 18 Annual
Midway Manor Community Association
2010 Oldies Dance**

DJ Freddie Fredericks

Twist, Jitter Bug, The Macarena and more, 50/50 drawings.

So come out and have some fun with
Neighbors, Friends, and Co-Workers

Date: January 23, 2010

Time: 7:00 PM-12:00 AM (Doors open at 6:15 PM)

Place: Fullerton Fire Company

Cost: \$15.00* (Includes Beer, Soda, Chips, Pretzels, Coffee)

NO BYO, A CASH BAR IS AVAILABLE

All proceeds benefit MMCA Playground fund
FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Jamie Cernoby | 610-437-1553