



March 2009

# TOPICS

## Around the Block

**Streetscaping has already begun!** Watch for signs that may limit, allow, and redirect you to park your cars on Bryn Mawr. Local business owners may open their parking lots at night for off-street parking if needed so let's make an effort to support all Bryn Mawr businesses during construction.

**Peterson School's construction** is just about over! So save the date for their upcoming event: **'We Are Grand [Opening]'** scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, 1pm to 4pm. The event will include a dedication ceremony and tours of their new GREEN addition. Expect light refreshments and music.

### HNPCA's March 17th meeting

**Gardening and Natural Lawn Care will be presented at our March 17th meeting by:**

- Paul Burchard, Gethsemane Garden Center, Gardening & Design for the Small Urban Garden
  - Steve Pincupsy, Safer Pest Control Project, Natural (Chemical Free) Lawn Care
- Come and get ready to spring ahead.

If you don't own enough land to farm, did you know there are **community garden plots in North Park Village**? At the end of the season last year they installed a new deer fence, so this could be a safe haven for you to grow some local food! Eric Thor, HNPCA member and President, North Park Village Garden Club, will also speak at our next meeting and tell us how to sign up to get a plot. The spring meeting for the Garden Club will be Sunday April 5, at 4pm at the North Park Village Nature Center.



**For one hour on March 28 from 8:30-9:30pm**, the City of Chicago, the Chicago Park District, area businesses and HNPCA residents will participate in Earth Hour. This global event draws attention to climate change by doing the simple act of safely turning out lights. [Click here](#) for more information about Earth Hour.

**FLIP THE SWITCH TO VOTE FOR EARTH HOUR!**

## MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

North Park Village Nature Center  
5801 N. Pulaski Road  
Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22  
10am - 3pm

Free—No registration is required.

Discover how sap is tapped from maple trees at the 28th annual Maple Syrup Festival. During the two-day festival visitors can enjoy music and storytelling throughout the day, try tapping a tree, watch the sap boil and sample real maple syrup. There will be guided nature walks to the "sugar bush" where visitors will learn more about the tapping process and enjoy maple tree tapping folklore. Pancakes with real maple syrup will be available for purchase along with hot beverages. Visitors may also peruse the farmer's market.

## HNPCA News

If you missed our February meeting, check out our website for non-toxic, chemical-free greener household cleaner recipes. Susan Casey and Judie Simpson lead a lively discussion, and our new Green Committee co-chair Mark Johnston raffled off *Queen of Clean* books to 3 lucky winners! Everyone made their own cleaning solution and took home a goody bag with the basics: Vinegar, baking soda, lemons and more. Fun was had by all. Thanks to the Chicago Dept. of Environment's Conservation Corps for funding the event. To make your own just follow this recipe for a great environmentally friendly all-purpose cleaner:

- Put in spray bottle: 1 teaspoon each of liquid soap, baking soda, lemon juice and/or vinegar to 1 quart of warm water.

We also got the lowdown on BLUE CART RECYCLING from Shelli Bruno, Chicago Department of Environment. Use those blue carts for almost anything besides food, bleach bottles, window glass, ceramics and #6 plastics! Place your yard waste next to your blue carts for collection from April—November. You do not need to bag sticks and twigs—just tie in a bundle. If you haven't received info or have any questions, send email to: [HNPCA@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HNPCA@sbcglobal.net).



**Arggggg maties....**Keep your eyes peeled for a new pirate ship! HNPCA is working with neighbors and Peterson Park managers to get a replacement for the playground pirate ship that was shipwrecked last fall.

## ☞ Neighborhood Events ☜

**Chicago Park District:** There is still plenty of time to register for spring sessions that run March 30 - June 7. Online registration goes to: Sunday, March 29!

### Hollywood Park Programs

Class/Ages	Ages	Cost	Days	Times
Drop in	6-10	\$21	M,W	3:30pm-5:30pm
Kids Fitness	4-5	Free	M,F	11:30am-12:30pm
Play Group	3 - 5	\$7	T,Th	1pm-2pm
Preschool	4 - 5	\$81	MWF	10am-11:30am
Preschool	3	\$43	T,Th	10am-11am
Pre Teen Club	11-12	\$6	F	4pm-5pm
Seas. Sports	6-8	\$6	T	4pm-5pm
Sports Club	6 - 8	Free	Th	3pm-6pm
Storytime	3 - 5	\$6	T,Th	11am-11:45am
Walking	18 +	Free	T, Th	1pm-2pm

### Peterson Park Programs

Class/Ages	Ages	Cost	Days	Times
Arts & Crafts	4-5	\$23	F	3:30pm-4:15pm
Chair Exercise	60+	\$11	M	11am-12pm
Cubs Care Rookie Baseball	4-5	Free	T	
Fitness Center	18+	\$45	M,T,Th,F: 9am-7pm,W: 9am-8pm,Sa: 9am-3pm	
Fun & Games	6-12	\$16	Sa	11am-12pm
MightyFitFamily	3-5	\$11	W	3:30pm-4:30pm
MightyFitKidz	6-12	\$11	Th	4:30pm-5:30pm
Moms, Pops & Tots	18mo - 36mo	\$29	W,10:15am-11:15am, Th,11am-12pm or F10-11am	
Play Group	3	\$29	W, F	11:30am-12:30pm
Preschool	4-5	\$62	MWF	1pm-2:30pm
Seas. Sports	6-12	\$6.	T	4:30pm-5:30pm
Sr Citizens Club	60+	Free	Th	1pm-2:30pm
Sports Club	6-12	Free	Th	4:30pm-5:30 pm
Yoga/Pilates	18+	\$29	W	5pm-6pm

**Our local libraries also offer lots to do...**

#### Albany Park Library 5150 N. Kimball Ave

Tween Book Club-Mon, Mar 9/Apr 6/May 4, 3:30pm  
 Adult Book Club-Mon, Mar 9, 6:30pm  
 Family Story Time - Sat, Mar 14, 2pm  
 Teen Book Discussion - Thu, Mar 19, 4pm  
 Evening w/ Eleanor Roosevelt - Wed, Mar 25, 6:30pm

#### Budlong Woods 5630 N. Lincoln Ave

Family Read Aloud - Mon, Mar 9, 7pm  
 Books & Babies Story Time  
 - Wed, Mar 11/Mar 18/Mar 25, 10am  
 Talking Books Group-Wed, Mar 11/Apr 15, 1:30pm  
 Money Mgt for Teens -Thu, Mar 12/Apr 23, 7pm  
 Teen Theatre Performance - Thu, Mar 19, 6-7pm  
 Teen Book Discussion - Thu, Mar 19/Apr 16, 7pm  
 Tween Book Club - Tue, Mar 24, 7pm  
 Misericordia Heartzingers Spring Choral Concert -  
 Thu, Mar 26, 7pm  
 Mike Offutt's Science Show - Wed, Apr 15, 6:30pm  
 Money Smart: Get Fiscally Fit! - Thu, Apr 23, 1pm

## ☞ Business Beat ☜

### Outdoor Cafe offers oodles of delights

Crystal Choi and her mother Eunice long loved visiting cafes all over Chicago. They've less time for that now since Crystal opened her own, the Outdoor Cafe, 3257 Bryn Mawr, in August 2008.

Owning a cafe was a "pipe dream," Crystal said. "For a long time I wanted to work at a cafe to learn the business, but suddenly this opportunity opened up." So the previous owner trained Crystal and Eunice for three weeks and after that, they were on their own.

"The first days were crazy busy learning and working," Crystal said. "I had lots to learn--the extensive menu, ordering supplies, dealing with vendors, paying bills, and cleaning up and busing tables," she said. She also remodeled extensively. Granite tiles replaced an indoor gravel path, couches were added and the seating increased. More than 10,000 pounds of floor, rocks and cement slabs were removed. "The new look is cozier, soothing, more like a living room," Crystal said. "More people want to sit down now."



Crystal and Eunice serve coffee, espresso, bubble tea, milkshakes, smoothies, banana splits, sorbets, five different cheesecakes and the house specialty, pat bing soo, a luscious treat of shaved ice, sweet condensed milk and a variety of fruits and fruit syrups elegantly served in a bowl.

The cafe has board games, magazines, card games, WiFi, and a hookup for IPODs and MP3 players. "It's exhausting work but I'm having fun," Crystal said. "Talking with customers is my favorite part." Crystal's long-term vision is a "relaxing place, a neighborhood hangout for kids and families that opens earlier and rotates art work." She hopes more neighbors will frequent Bryn Mawr's late-night spots.

Outdoor Cafe hours: 1 pm to 12 midnight, Monday through Saturday, 2 pm to midnight Sunday.

## ***HNPCA Business Members***

Type of Business	Name	Address	Phone
Automotive	Petco Auto Parts	5522 N. Kedzie	773-588-7470
Automotive	Pete's Auto Clinic	3426 W. Bryn Mawr	773-463-4411
Automotive	Rick's Tire & Auto Service	5604 N. Jersey	773-539-6660
Clothing Service	Biltmore Cleaners	3216 W. Bryn Mawr	773-539-0426
Clothing Service	Davis Cleaners	3325 W. Bryn Mawr	773-267-4560
Clothing Service	Ji's Tailor	3255 W. Bryn Mawr	773-463-1801
Community	Ald. Margaret Laurino 39th Ward Office	4404 W. Lawrence	773-736-5594 <a href="mailto:ward39@cityofchicago.org">ward39@cityofchicago.org</a>
Community	Ald. Patrick O'Connor 40th Ward Office	5850 N. Lincoln	773-769-1140 <a href="mailto:ward40@cityofchicago.org">ward40@cityofchicago.org</a>
Community	Center for Seniors	5320 N. Kedzie	773-478-1245
Community	Chicago Korean American Chamber of Commerce	5601 N. Spaulding	773-583-1700
Food/Restaurant	Outdoor Cafe	3257 W. Bryn Mawr	773-539-6078 <a href="mailto:crystal@outdoor-cafe.com">crystal@outdoor-cafe.com</a>
Food/Restaurant	So Gong Dong Tofu House	3307 W. Bryn Mawr	773-539-8377
Food/Restaurant	Tre Kronor	3258 W. Foster Ave.	773-267-9888 <a href="mailto:trekronor1@aol.com">trekronor1@aol.com</a>
Food/Retail	7 – Eleven	5610 N. Kimball	773-539-1570
Food/Retail	Arcadia Food and Spirits	3201 W. Bryn Mawr	773-267-2401
Food/Retail	Bread Outlet	3350 W. Bryn Mawr	773-478-8440
Food/Retail	Bryn Mawr Fresh Market	3318 W. Bryn Mawr	773-279-8020
Gifts	Sweden Shop	3304 W. Foster	773-478-0327
Personal Services	Francine Kelley Yoga Instruction	5316 N. Christiana	773-539-5484 <a href="mailto:fran@teenieyogini.com">fran@teenieyogini.com</a>
Personal Services	Steel Springs Lloy B. Johnston Personal Training	5507 N. St. Louis	773-517-6930 <a href="mailto:lloy@steel-springs.com">lloy@steel-springs.com</a>
Personal Services	Yoga North Park	5507 N. Sawyer	773-583-4343 <a href="mailto:info@yoganorthpark.com">info@yoganorthpark.com</a>
Photography	Shin Studio	3223 W. Bryn Mawr	773-267-5467
Printing	Speed Ink Printing	3547 W. Peterson	773-539-9700 <a href="mailto:info@speedink.com">info@speedink.com</a>
Medical/Dental	Dr. Greg H. Tietzer, General Dentist	3318 W. Foster	773-463-8860
Medical/Dental	Oral Kare Dental Lab	3224 W. Bryn Mawr	773-588-0222
Real Estate	Gabel Marketing Suzanne M. Serra	5800 N. Spaulding	312-320-2121 <a href="mailto:sueserra@sbcglobal.net">sueserra@sbcglobal.net</a>
Real Estate	Susan Robbins KOENIG & STREY	5364 W. Devon	312-218-3685 <a href="mailto:srobbins@ksqmac.com">srobbins@ksqmac.com</a>
Real Estate	Anthony & Carmen Rodriguez COLDWELL BANKER	5404 W. Devon	773-457-2043 <a href="mailto:anthony.rodriquez@cbexchange.com">anthony.rodriquez@cbexchange.com</a>
Real Estate	Linda Heinen COLDWELL BANKER	3520 W. Thorndale	773-791-9999 <a href="mailto:llheinen@aol.com">llheinen@aol.com</a>
Real Estate	Nancy J Wilson BAIRD & WARNER	4040 N. Lincoln	773-583-7946

## ☞ Neighborhood News ☜

Presidential Lecture Series presents: (Free)  
[Ana Castillo](#) Rescheduled to Wed, March 11, 8pm  
[Dolores Huerta](#) Thurs, April 23, 8pm

There are many spring 2009 Music and Dance Events at Northeastern...too numerous to mention. Recitals are free and all events are open to the general public. Check these out at:  
[www.neiu.edu/NEIU%20Events/NEIU\\_Events.html](http://www.neiu.edu/NEIU%20Events/NEIU_Events.html)

NEIU/EI Centro: Golden Eagle 5K Walk/Run  
Sunday, April 19, 9am. Call 773- 442-4131 for info.

### **Global Activism Expo 2009 Sat, April 25 noon-6pm**

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) will host the Global Activism Expo 2009, sponsored by WBEZ, Chicago Public Radio. Led by the NEIU Peace Connection Group, the University is dedicated to environmental balance and the global interconnectedness of all cultures. WBEZ's Worldview host, Jerome McDonnell is thrilled to present this remarkable celebration – complete with food, music and over 100 Chicago-area Global Activists, all featured on Worldview's *Global Activism Series*.

### **VOTE April 7th**

Three candidates are gearing up for April's special election for Illinois' 5th Congressional District seat. Cook County Commissioner Mike Quigley fended off 11 other candidates for the Democratic nomination. Rosanna Pulido secured the nomination for the Republicans. Matt Reichel is the Green Party's nominee.

**TOPICS** is distributed by mail and email. If you have news for TOPICS or if you wish to get on our email list, contact us at: [HNPCA@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HNPCA@sbcglobal.net). **Membership** is \$10/year per person (\$40 for businesses). Send your Name/Address/Phone/Email and check to: **Hollywood-North Park Community Association P.O. Box 59285, Chicago, IL 60659.**



**Next Meeting:  
Gardens and Lawns  
Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
7:30 pm**

Northside College Prep High School  
5501 N Kedzie  
Room 136

## ☞ Neighborhood News ☜

Support both our universities by attending this special event: Oratorio - Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem* performed by the combined choirs & orchestras of North Park and Northeastern Illinois University (At NEIU), 4/21, 7:30pm.

**North Park University** offers these music events and many other student recitals:

Symphony Orchestra, 3/20, 7:30pm  
Student Chamber Ensembles, 3/29, 2:30pm  
Chamber Opera, 4/3-4/4, 7:30pm & 4/5, 3pm  
Gospel Choir, 4/18, 7:30pm  
Concert Band, 4/19, 2:30pm  
Chamber Singers & Women's Chorale, 4/27, 7:30pm  
Jazz Ensemble, 5/3, 3pm

For more events and information call **773-244-5625** or go to:

[http://www.northpark.edu/home/index.cfm?NorthPark=MsicUGrad.Msic\\_UGradCalendar](http://www.northpark.edu/home/index.cfm?NorthPark=MsicUGrad.Msic_UGradCalendar)

**Donate Blood in Honor of Ralph Delgado**, a dedicated community volunteer for many 17th District Chicago Police programs. Ralph was severely injured defending his country in Iraq and is now facing a long rehabilitation period. Sponsored by 17th District Community Police Office.

Saturday, March 14, 10am - 2pm  
4650 N. Pulaski Road – Community Room

**Help Keep our Parks Clean** - There's a rumor that warmer weather will be here soon. We hope that means you will be out and about in the neighborhood and in our parks. Melting snow uncovers all sorts of unwanted items. Help instill a sense of pride by picking up litter on your property or in your path as you walk the neighborhood and enjoy the parks.