

September 2009

# TOPICS

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Hollywood-North Park Community Association

## Around our parks

**Ahoy maties**...The newly formed Peterson Park Advisory Council's "Friends of Peterson Park" subcommittee has been busy raising funds to add to the \$46,000 grants secured with the help of (thank you very much) Alderman Laurino and



Representative D'Amico to replace the pirate ship.

Every additional dollar raised will be matched by the Chicago Park District with 33 cents. So if \$1000 is raised that is an additional \$330! Donate today and help Friends of Peterson park reach it's goal — beautiful new playground equipment! (And maybe

even a new bench or two for the old folks!) They held a fundraiser on August 29 at the Hollywood Bar. Hope you attended and won a great raffle or silent auction prize, If you missed it there is still plenty of time to donate. You can send a check made out to "Friends of Peterson Park" to HNPCA at P.O. Box 59285, Chicago, IL 60659 or donate online—>

<http://www.friendsofpetersonpark.org/>

Friends of Peterson Park has been active for months. HNPCA recognizes the hard work of Ben Palmer, Chair and all the members: Ann Marie Brunger; Janita Tucker; Lisa Ziems; Jewel Klein, Jeanne Marie Olsen, Kiala Moore, Sue Casey, Afifa Ahmed, Laura Donaghy, Mary Peer, Lloy B Johnston, and Judie Simpson.

The Peterson Park Advisory Council has also started a dialogue with the park and area managers to make sure that this year's Trails of Terror event leaves less of a negative environmental impact on the park. In the past, green space has been destroyed and replaced with mud and straw that remain throughout the year. We also want to be sure that preparation and clean up is done in a safer manner.

THANKS to Park District's Dan Reamer and Kiala Moore for their cooperation and for fixing the broken, now flowing again water fountain.!!!

## HNPCA News

### HNPCA's September 15 meeting

"A Real Estate Review of Our Neighborhood" by Hollywood-North Park specialists, Carmen and Anthony Rodriguez, brokers, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. This presentation will a look at the real estate market in our neighborhood, how it has been impacted by the economic crisis, and what we can expect going forward.

The meeting takes place at Northside College Prep High School, 5501 N Kedzie. All are invited. Light snacks will be provided.

Stay informed by coming to a meeting and joining HNPCA's email list at [HNPCA@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HNPCA@sbcglobal.net).

**WHAT IS GEOCACHING???** It's good old treasure hunting with a GPS device instead of a map. Over 850,000 "caches" are scattered all over the world! Inspired by Chicago Wilderness's "Leave No Child Inside" initiative, the HNPCA Green Committee purchased four GPS units and is organizing an afternoon of fun in North Park Village and Peterson Park on Sunday, Oct 4 from 1-4pm. **Space is limited!** Kids and families hurry and sign up. **Please RSVP by sending an email to [greeningnorthpark@gmail.com](mailto:greeningnorthpark@gmail.com).** The GPS units will be available for check-out after the event so families can plan their own geocaching fun. For more information on geocaching visit [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).

The Green Committee is also contemplating showing an environmentally themed documentary series featuring one movie in November, January and March. Send any suggestions to [hnpca@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hnpca@sbcglobal.net)

Messages from Alderman Laurino:

**FLOODING?** The city doesn't do your cleanup or drain maintenance but they do track problems. If there is a recurrent, major problem **THAT IS REPORTED** and is the city's responsibility, they will get involved! Always report basement flooding to 311.

**The first day of school for our local Chicago Public Schools is Tuesday, Sept 8.**

Please be sure that any students in your house get the year off to a great start by going to school on the first day.

**SCHOOL DAYS COOL DAYS**

## ☞ Business Beat ☜



### French pastry chef opens new café on Foster Avenue

*Beijo de Chocolat*  
3334 W. Foster Avenue

– By Eileen Figel (Guest Reporter)

After two decades in journalism, Laura Case was ready for a change of career. “I wanted to do something to make people smile, so I went back to school to become a French pastry chef,” she explained. Last month, Laura and her partner, Krunch Kretschmar, opened *Beijo de Chocolat*, a café at 3334 W. Foster, just east of Kimball.

*Beijo de Chocolat* offers an assortment of unique chocolates, toffees, cakes and other pastries. My favorite chocolates include the matcha tea truffle, toasted sesame and ginger toffee, and white chocolate mint truffles. On another visit I also enjoyed the vanilla pear muffin and a cup of cocoa. In addition to the chocolates and pastries which she creates on-site, Laura also takes orders for custom cakes—including her own dairy-free recipes.

“We love being right across from North Park University,” she explained. “The faculty and staff have been great, and some of the summer students have already started hanging out here.” As



Krunch Kretschmar & Laura Case in *Beijo de Chocolat*.

a community resident, I love the fact that North Park and Albany Park offer so many different cafés, restaurants, shops and services. *Beijo de Chocolat* is a great addition and I hope you will stop by and give it a try.

## ☞ Neighborhood Events ☜

HNPCA Geocaching for Beginners! Sunday, October 4 from 1-4 pm. Meet at the picnic tables outside the North Park Village Nature Center. **Please RSVP by sending an email to [green-ingnorthpark@gmail.com](mailto:green-ingnorthpark@gmail.com) space is limited!**

Chicago Wilderness is a regional alliance of 247 organizations dedicated to “protecting nature and enriching life.” Why not volunteer for their annual day of service Saturday morning, September 26, at various locations. [www.chicagowilderness.org](http://www.chicagowilderness.org)

Please join the all new Friends of Albany Park Library. They meet at the library at 6pm the first Monday of the month just before the book group meets at 6:30pm. (The September meeting is on the 14th because of Labor Day). The groups current project is brightening and adding family friendly furniture to the Children’s Area. If you have ideas or suggestions, or would like to join them please contact Lloy Johnston [lloy@steel-springs.com](mailto:lloy@steel-springs.com) so that they can send you updates.

The Independence Park Farmer’s Market, located at 3945 N Springfield Avenue will be held on Sundays, September 13 and 27, 9am-1pm.

The 2009-2010 Northeastern Illinois University (<http://culturalevents.neiu.edu>) concert season is upon us and has an exciting roster of performers. Call NEIU Box Office: 773-442-4636, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave, for tickets/info.

#### Jewel Box Concert Series

- Biava Quartet - Friday September 11, 8pm performing Schubert, Barber and Mendelssohn.
- Chesapeake Chamber Music Festival Ensemble – Friday October 16, 8pm performing Mozart, Cohen, Clarke, Bach and Bruch.

#### The Presidential Lecture Series

- Dr. Vladimiro Mujica and Dr. Luis Nuñez – Thursday September 10, 8pm, NEIU Recital Hall (free). Subject: Societal Impact of Nanotechnology
- Frances Moore Lappé - Thursday October 1, 8pm NEIU Recital Hall (free). Author of sixteen books, from *Diet for a Small Planet* in 1971 to *Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity, and Courage* in a World Gone Mad in 2007, Lappé was chosen by *Gourmet* magazine as one of “25 People Who Changed Food in America.” In 2008 she was the James Beard Foundation’s Humanitarian of the Year.

#### Just for Fun

- NEIU Annual Talent Show, Thursday, September 24, 7pm NEIU Auditorium (free) .

## **Shop Local: HNPCA Business Members**

<b>Type of Business</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Automotive	CAR FiX Auto Center	3555 W. Foster	773-279-9914
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	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	Primerica Financial Services	3360 W Peterson	773-271-7277
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 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	A. & C. 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 Events ☜

**Chicago Park District** – Registration for after-school programs and all other fall programs is in full swing. You can still sign up for the [Senior Games](#) (Sept 1-20) at various parks across the city, or Family Camping at Gompers Park, (Sept 12-13). Some other events:

- [County Fair](#) at Garfield Park Conservatory (Saturday Sept 19, 11am)
- At North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 N Pulaski (312-744-5472 or click [North Park Village](#) for more info):
  - Autumn Migration Bird Walks, 8am, Saturdays, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26
  - The Late Great Nocturnal Night (Friday, Sept 25, 4-8pm)
  - The Legend of Sleepy Hollow theater hikes (Saturday and Sunday, Sept 26-27, 1-4pm).
  - The annual Harvest Fest and Farmer's Market (Oct 10-11 weekend, 10am-3pm). Enjoy delicious food, live music, story-telling and more.

**The Star Reading Program** features 2004 Olympic mountain biker Alexandra Yeung who will read to children at the Budlong Woods library, 5630 N Lincoln on Monday, Sept 21, 7pm. The Star Reading Program brings Olympic and Paralympic athletes to various Chicago Public Libraries to read and talk with children about their Olympic experiences. This series of programs allows children to learn the core values of Chicago 2016 - Hope, Respect, Harmony, Friendship, Excellence, and Celebration.

**It's time to RE-SEED your lawn** and cover with COMPOST—forget chemicals and synthetic fertilizers. Rake your leaves into your garden to compost and protect plants. Keep the fall allergens in check—on the ground, not blown up in the air....

**Don't use (or allow the use of) leaf blowers!!**

**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:  
Tuesday, September 15,  
2009  
7:30pm**

Northside College Prep High  
School  
5501 N Kedzie

## ☞ Neighborhood News ☜

Welcome home Charlotte Rapoport! It's been a sorry state of the minutes since you've been gone...a sentence fragment here, a half thought there...WE NEED YOU. Sharpen your pencil and please get yourself back to our meetings.

HNPCA welcomes a new business:

Children's Palace Day Care Center  
3243 W Bryn Mawr, (773) 588-5575

Congrats to our local Junior Judo Champs Mark and Diana Okamura. With the encouragement of their father Henry, a Sensai (teacher) and accomplished black belt, these kids are **nationally** ranked. Recently Mark and Diana both finished first in a national competition in San Francisco. Mark went on to compete twice in Florida. Diana and Mark's brother William was unable to compete this summer due to a shoulder injury he received in March. Mark is now a freshman at Mather High School; William and Diana attend Peterson Elementary. It's no surprise the Okamura's are hoping for a Chicago 2016 Olympics.

Hollywood-North Park Community Association now has a Facebook page thanks to Chris Newman, and Susan Casey is working to finalize our new website. Also check out North Park Neighbors on Facebook for neighborhood news.

Try this on for size: Donate your old winter coat or buy a new one and donate it to World Relief Chicago, a local group that helps new immigrants with housing, education and healthcare needs. World Relief Chicago has asked for our help with their winter coat drive. Refugees need CLEAN coats, gloves, boots, hats, WARM clothing, twin and full size blankets. Please drop off donations at World Relief Chicago, 3507 W Lawrence, 9-5 (Mon.-Thurs.) or 9-12 (Fri.) 773-583-9191