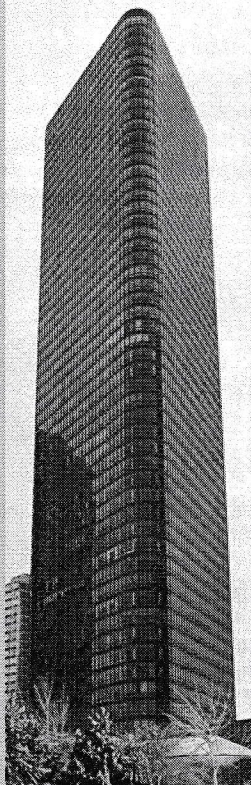


TOWER TALK @ PARK TOWER CONDOMINIUM

November 2007
December 2007
January 2008



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773-769-3250

Fax
773-769-0047

Doorman
773-769-3083

Garage
773-271-8859

Market
773-275-9130

Cleaners/Recv. Room
773-784-3353

Health Club
773-769-1513

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1-800-RINGRCN
Services
1-866-308-5556

WHAT'S GOING ON? New Developments

Park Tower's location is one of its greatest features. The lake, bike path, and Lincoln Park are in our back yard. This issue of Tower Talk shares information to help you explore other features of the Edgewater-Uptown neighborhood that makes Park Tower's location so attractive. The restaurants, theater, community art and history are a big part of what make this such a wonderful place to live. So many interesting things to see and do are just a few minute's walk from our front door. Enjoy!

ASCO NEWS

The ASCO meeting was held Tuesday, October 2 at 6301 N. Sheridan. It was an open meeting and all members of ASCO were invited. There were about 75 people who attended, including Alderman Joe Moore from the 49th Ward. The new proposed 45 story high building that will be erected in the parking lot of St. Andrew's Greek Church on the corner of Hollywood and Sheridan Road was discussed. Most of those in attendance were from "The Statesman", Edgewater Beach Apartment Coops, and 6301 N. Sheridan building. Their main objection was the quality of life for all who live south of Hollywood and the effect the new building will have on those who use Sheridan on the north end, as well. The first 8 floors of the proposed building will be a parking garage that will accommodate 600 cars with approximately 200 spaces made available to the community and those shopping on Bryn Mawr. The 9th floor will have an outdoor recreation area. It has not been decided if they will have a pool on this level. The proposed garage will be built 6 feet from the "Statesman". The "Statesman" (continued on page 2)

BLUEWATER

The new Bluewater 14-story development at 5440 N. Sheridan will consist of tower and town house living on the old motel site across from the 5445 N. Sheridan Condominium. This development will include three townhomes and five beach homes located on the first floor of the high-rise condominium building. Most of the building will be set back 30 feet from Sheridan Road to create a landscaped plaza adjacent to the side walk. The parking garage will be hidden from the street's view by the townhomes. A total of 160 units will offer spaces ranging from 542 to 3,300 square feet. Prices will start in the \$150s and exceeds \$1,000,000.

Developers have discovered the Edgewater Community. This is evident with the increasing number of showcasing of property in this area on the HGTV channel programming called "House Hunter and What Is My House Worth?". It seems they have discovered what we already know, Edgewater is a great community. It is full of diversity. You can eat around the globe and experience great ethnic foods within walking distance. What a delightful treat.

Park Tower has led the way by pioneering grand views, striking architectural design, and "full service" accommodations to home owners and residents. Even with all of the new developments, Park Tower stands above them all in our many amenities, breath-taking views, security (doormen and security guards), affordability, and its location near beaches, the park, boat harbors, theatres, and restaurants.

By: Betty Terry-Lundy

TOWER TALK @ PARK TOWER

A SPECIAL THANKS

Christina Epple came to Park Tower three and a half years ago when the Draper and Kramer Association was selected to manage our condominium. Over these years, Christina has played a significant role as Office Manager. She worked diligently with capital improvement projects, overseeing the daily operations of the building, staff development, and in maintaining budget and finances reports.

Park Tower Condominium is a community within itself with 754 units. Managing such a large building is no small feat. Christina has worked with staff and owners to provide services where needed. We extend a special thanks to Christina for all she has done for the benefit of our building and Association. She has decided to take another position with Draper and Kramer to manage a new luxury condominium in the Gold Coast area. We wish her well as she moves forward in her new position.

INTERIM BUILDING MANAGER

Tim Patricio has been assigned to the Park Tower Condominium by Draper and Kramer as the Interim Building Manager to fill Christina's position. His preparation for building management began in college where he majored in Communication Arts and worked for a landlord-tenant counseling program. Tim comes to us by way of Lansing, Michigan with a total of 15 years of experience in some capacity of property management. He has provided services for Draper and Kramer in Chicago for 7 years where he was the Property Manager at Lake Point Tower and The Montgomery before coming to Park Tower. Tim looks forward to meeting Park Tower owners and residents. In sharing his thoughts about his new position, Tim stated, "I hope I can earn their trust and confidence and share a rewarding relationship with the Park Tower community."

ASCO NEWS continues

will face this brick wall until the 10th floor.

There was a discussion about making Sheridan Road a cul-de-sac at the Greek Church because most of us were concerned about making another bottle neck like North Sheridan Road. However, this will mean we will have to use Broadway to go north. Also, it will cause a greater traffic jam at Bryn Mawr where people leave the drive to go west. No vote was taken because ASCO wanted more information and feedback.

Other plans include a children's playground and dog park. Alderman Mary Ann Smith met with delegates from Park Tower, 5445, 5455, and Edgewater Beach Apartment Co-ops to discuss and choose a site for the children's playground in the Meadows behind our buildings. The playground will be similar to the one located at Berger Park which is very well attended and looks great. According to the Alderman, there will be a dog park next to the "Saddle and Cycle Club"; despite the fact only the 5455 association allows dogs in their building. Evidently, dog owners will come from west of Sheridan to use the doggie park.

By: Lorraine Meyers (PTCA ASCO Representative)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Board Meetings

December 10, 2007—7:00 p.m.
January 14, 2008—7:00 p.m.
February 11, 2007—7:00 a.m.

Please contact the office for Budget meeting dates and times.

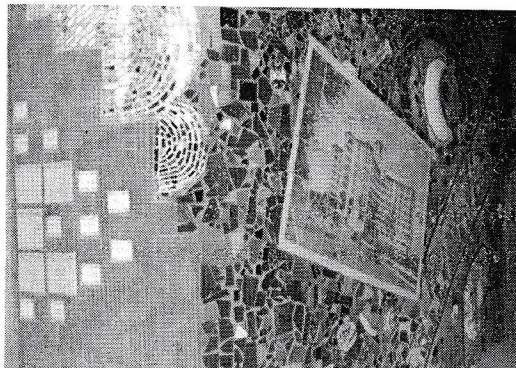
ASSESSMENT PAYMENTS

In response to homeowners' requests the Board has worked with Draper and Kramer to make assessment payments more convenient. PTCA monthly assessment payments can now be paid in the Management Office or left in the drop box in the lobby starting November 1, 2007, as well as, by mail or electronic withdrawals. Payments made in the office are due by the 5th of the month. Payments may also be made through your on-line banking service; however, these payments are not credited to your assessment account immediately. On-line payments can take up to 5 days to reach Draper and Kramer since your bank sends the payment through the U.S. mail service and not electronically. You can also arrange for automatic debit payments which will be deducted from your bank account on the 5th day of the month.

The Bryn Mawr Bricolage: A Creative Alternative

They came by foot, car, and even bicycle on August 11th for the dedication of Chicago's longest piece of public art—the Bricolage at the Bryn Mawr-Lake Shore Drive underpass. One of the cyclists, Jim McHale, president of Edgewater Chamber of Commerce, came to congratulate Judy Gall, Executive Director of Alternatives, Inc. The Alternatives' student artists worked all summer on the project under the supervision of Tracy Van Duinen as lead artist and Todd Osborne as Assistant Artist. This culmination of 18 months of planning with neighborhood residents and community groups resulted in a glittering 185-foot mural at the underpass. An immediately recognizable collage was the blown-up Edgewater Beach Hotel, rendered in broken mirrors and ceramics. Ed Uhlir, the executive director of Millennium Park, and 48th Ward Alderman Mary Ann Smith also filled out guests on this alternative to public space graffiti, so prevalent in cities today. Special thanks went to Tina Travlos-Nihlean, president of Edgewater Development Corporation and Bryn Mawr Task Force, as well as to other contributors. A fit monument to Edgewater neighborhood's rich and diverse history, plans are already underway to do the south wall of the underpass next year.

By: Marian Shaw



SMOKE DETECTORS

Now that the daylight saving time change has been made, it is a good time to change the battery in your smoke alarm(s). Just a reminder that the Park Tower Maintenance Department can check your alarm and/or install new batteries for you. Labor charges do not apply, and the charge for the new battery is only \$1. Please call the Management Office at (773) 769-3250 to arrange for this service.

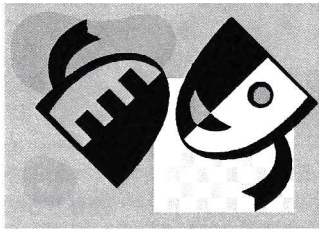
STOP THE DRIP FOR FREE!

Do you have an annoying drip or water running from a faucet that won't turn off completely? That's also wasting water and can create water deposits around your plumbing. Please call the Management Office at (773) 769-3250 to arrange for this service. Keep in mind that if you do not have standard building issued faucets, maintenance may not carry parts for your faucet.

CONCERNED???

Are you concerned about plans for building new high rise properties in our neighborhood? The proposed 45 story building on the St. Andrew parking lot site is currently on hold, but it may not stay that way. If you think we have enough high rises or if you would like to see more, write the Alderman Mary Ann Smith and let her know. There is a petition located at the doorman station opposing new development of high rises in our community.

Alderman Mary Ann Smith
5533 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60640



LET'S TALK NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE with Robert Pierce

Black Ensemble Theater

4520 N. Beacon
773 769-4451
<http://www.blackensembletheater.org>

SOUNDS SO GOOD, MAKES YOU WANNA
HOLLER (OLD SCHOOL VS. NU SKOOL)
Open run—Tickets \$40

The story of a singer whose '60s group almost hit the big time struggling to keep his eager son out of the business, told through songs by the Temptations, Aretha Franklin, Kanye West, Nelly and others.

Neo-Futurists

5153 N. Ashland Ave
773-275-5255
<http://www.neofuturists.org>
TOO MUCH LIGHT MAKES THE
BABY GO BLIND

Open run
Tickets \$6 to \$11 - determined by a roll of the dice!

Now in its nineteenth year, it is the longest-running show in Chicago today. It is an attempt to perform 30 plays in 60 minutes. The show runs Fridays and Saturdays at 11:30 and Sundays at 7. Seating is first-come, first-served, cash only at the door.

MR. FLUXUS

November 1 - December 8, 2007

An interactive exhibit/performance, where audiences enter to explore all 13 rooms of the Neo-Futurarium, and leave amazed, confused, and inspired.

Raven Theater

6157 N. Clark St.
773 338-2177

www.raventheatre.com
THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA
by Tennessee Williams
through December 8, 2007
Tickets: \$25 (students and seniors: \$20)

The Night of the Iguana is set in 1940 in Mexico, where an American widow endeavors to keep both her tropical hotel and her love life intact.

Sweat Girls at Raven Theater West Stage

6157 N Clark St.
773 868-4620

www.sweatgirls.org
Heat Wave by Steven Simoncic at Pegasus Players (www.pegasusplayers.org), on the campus of Truman College beginning February 21. It is a new play that examines the 1995 disaster that took 739 Chicagoans' lives. Also, Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* at City Lit Theater, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr, (www.citylit.org) beginning January 11.

One of the best things about Chicago is its vast and varied theater scene. In fact, the League of Chicago Theatres lists over 190 member theaters and you may be surprised to find many are right in our neighborhood, just a short walk from Park Tower. Here is a guide to what is on stage in the Edgewater-Uptown neighborhood in the next several weeks. If you are entertaining visitors, want a convenient and affordable night on the town, or just want to support the local arts scene, here are some options to consider:

Annoyance Theater and Bar

4830 N. Broadway
773 561-4665
<http://www.annoyanceproductions.com/shows.html>

Thirteen different shows currently running, 2-3 each night of the week. Tickets \$2 (Cheap Beer Improv) to \$15; Improv, one-man shows, and musical comedy

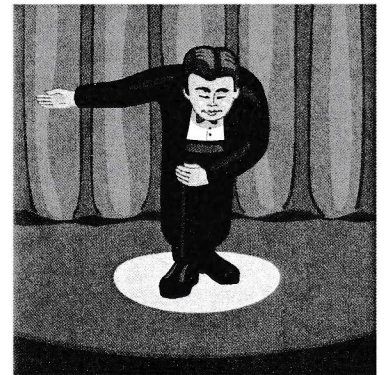
NEW PROPERTY SUPERVISOR

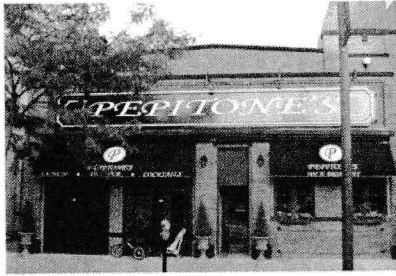
Steve Hanna is the new property supervisor at Park Tower. He has been with Draper and Kramer since 2001. Steve provided management services at the Sky Bridge Condominium before coming to Park Tower.



ADMIRAL SECURITY SERVICES, INC.

Park Tower has contracted with Admiral Security Services, Inc. to provide high quality services for our building and residents. Admiral has specialized in security services for luxury residential properties for 35 years. It is a 3rd generation family-owned and operated business that oversees security at over 45 current residential properties. In the coming months you will have opportunities to meet and speak with the new security guards when you see them throughout the building.



RESTAURANT REVIEW *By Vince DiFruscio*

There's a new restaurant in our area, Pepitone's, just north of Balmoral at 5437 N. Broadway. Owned by Joe Pepitone (no relation to the baseball great), this eatery specializes in American cuisine with strong Italian influences.

We'd made reservations a few days prior and were seated promptly upon arrival. There is a full bar at the entrance to the restaurant. It was quite busy with fans watching the final Cubs/D-backs game, so we opted for a table on their patio. Though al fresco dining is always nice, the area could stand to be softened with some greenery and was also compromised by the loud El trains running half a block away. The outdoor lighting never came on even though it was dark by the time we left.

We also opted for a few drinks. Their wine selections are basic but not outstanding. Among their specialty drinks, we can recommend the Liquid Ecstasy, a sweet mixture of rum, curaçao, pineapple and lemon juices. It was a sweet lemonade with a little kick at the back of the throat. The bread that arrived with our drinks was freshly baked, but formulaic.

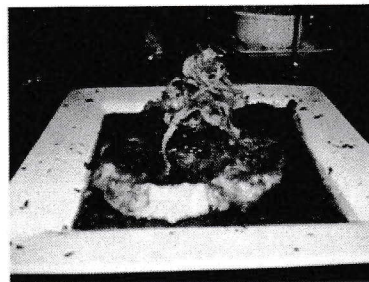
The meal started off with some exceptional appetizers. The crab cakes were outstanding, delicately spiced and beautifully presented. The mushroom caps were fresh and flavorful with cheese that had the taste and texture of homemade. And the French onion soup was slightly sweet, aromatic, and not overwhelmed by the cheese.

Our entrees were equally impressive. We'd ordered two Italian dishes, spaghetti with Marinara sauce and vodka pasta, as well as two more American dishes, stuffed pork chops and mile-high meat loaf. The two pasta dishes both had tomato-based sauces that were subtly spiced with garlic and peppers, but the pasta was a little too soft for the diners' tastes. The chops

were stuffed with cran-raisins, apples, and bacon, providing a sweet and smoky flavor; the meatloaf was also lightly smoked, covered with lightly fried onion straws, and placed over a bed of softly mashed potatoes. We also indulged with a couple of side orders: vegetable confetti (steamed mixed vegetables which were tasty but not amazing) and macaroni and cheese (in which the pasta was a little under-done and the white-cheddar cheese was a little lacking).

For desert we split two selections, neither of which impressed us. The cannoli were small, heavy, and a little soggy. We also tried the chocolate crème brûlée which we found full-flavored but rubbery.

(continued on page 5)



NOVEMBER 28, 2007

Edgewater Chamber of Commerce will host its Annual Holiday Mixer at Pepitone Restaurant located at 5437 N. Broadway. There will be a silent auction and music will be provided by Steven Solomon. Tickets are \$50.00.

Call 773-561-6000.

Andersonville The 'Town' in the City

"Oh, John Anderson, my "Jo, John!" So goes the poem by Scotsman Robert Burns. Andersonville was named for a John Anderson, and the Swedish language has been described as "rich and creamy," resembling Scottish. Actually a good deal of Gaelic and its sister, Celtic, do include Swedish and Danish, since in the 9th century, the Vikings (the word means "Pirate") raided -then settled down to stay in Ireland and Scotland.

Andersonville, however, was named for, and not by John Anderson, a farmer, landholder, and highway commissioner who in the 1840s acquired land south and west of the sites of Clark and Foster - near a cherry orchard. The name also may have come from a little brick schoolhouse at Foster (formerly "North 59th Street") and Clark (formerly "Greenbay Road"), built in 1855 and known as Andersonville School, and replaced in 1908 by the present Lyman Trumbull grammar school at Foster and Ashland. Neither Andersonville Edgewater was a separate town but actually part of Lakeview Township, incorporated into Chicago in 1889. As home builders and real estate developers moved in, "Andersonville" boundaries crept out to Foster on the south and Devon on the north, and East Andersonville, from Clark east to Glenwood (1400) and West Andersonville from Ashland (1600) to Ravenswood (1800). The Uptown-Clark Business Association made it official in 1964—Andersonville—and changed its own name to Andersonville Chamber of Commerce. The neighborhood today comprises the 40th, 47th, and 48th Wards.

Why the Swedish?

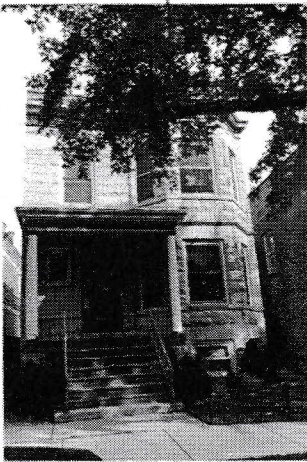
After the Chicago Fire of 1871 destroyed much of the city, wooden structures were prohibited by the city. Swedish immigrants who had come to Chicago in mid-19th century often found stone or brick housing too costly. They moved north from their Chicago Avenue community; a Swedish journalist wrote in 1872 that he picked up a lot in Lakeview for \$400, and there was a great influx in the 1890's and 1900's. I helped to show several -preserved homes from the turn of the century at Andersonville's annual home tour last September 16. Swedes who were talented at carpentry and stone

(continued on page 5)

RESTAURANT REVIEW continued

The service was outstanding. Our glasses were always kept full. Our server not only came by midway into the main course to make sure we were happy, but had also come by shortly after the entrées were served to make sure we were happy with the flavor. He had some minor issues with understanding the menu (he didn't know that Boca burgers could be substituted in their burger dishes to satisfy vegans and also had assumed the vegetable confetti was served as part of the pork chop dish), but since the restaurant had only been open 4 nights when we arrived, such unawareness was understandable. It is worth noting that once he'd realized we hadn't received the vegetable dish, he came by to serve it to us free of charge.

Our total bill for four diners was \$125.00. It was a reasonable price to pay for ample portions of good to great food coupled with exceptional service. You can find more details about this restaurant, including their full menu, at www.pepitones.com.



1466 W. Summerdale

REMINDERS

- ◆ Lock Outs \$30.00
- ◆ Late Assessment Fee \$50.00
- ◆ Late Garage Fee \$30.00

Andersonville - The 'Town' in the City continued



masonry helped construct Rosehill Cemetery during the 1860s on Ravenswood Avenue. The great tree planter Pehrs Peterson, for whom Peterson Avenue is named, also provided employment.

If you look down, steel rails and bricks are hidden under the pavement at Clark Street, relic of the Clark Street trolley car, begun around 1890 as a horse car shuttle and electrified in 1906 to run north to Devon and south to 111th Street. Chicago and Northwestern Railroad originally ran on ground level with stops at Summerdale and Rosehill; so did the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroads.

Andersonville today is both a lively residential and business district in Chicago's "attic." A core center is the Swedish-American Museum Association of Chicago, founded by the late Kurt Mathiasson, owner of Svea Restaurant. Immigrant hopes and dreams - from rosemaled chests to passports - were moved from a stuffy 1,000 square foot building at 5248 N. Clark street to the old Lind Hardware building at 5211 N. Clark, 24 times as much space. King Carl Gustaf XVI and Queen Sylvia of Sweden attended the 1988 grand re-opening. Today the Museum includes folk art exhibits, a library, an immigration wall, and Nordic Family Research Center which assists on researching family history before that trip to the *hemland* to look up relatives still around. There are also language classes; Swedish is alive and well in at least a few churches, not to mention fraternal associations like VASA, Nordic Dancers and the 151-year-old International Organization of Good Templars.

These lodges are no longer in Andersonville itself, but do have a big hand in Midsommar Festival, Morton Gos day (featuring a capering Sven, the Christmas Goose), Julmarknad (a handicraft Fair in December at SAMAC) and Lucia Day. The last-named is co-hosted by SAMAC and the 115-year-old Ebenezer Lutheran Church, known as the Swedish Lutheran Cathedral. Each December 13—when Arctic skies are black—a young lady with a crown of flaming candles comes down the church aisle with her "court" and sings how "Sankta Lucia" - originally Sicilian - gave up her eyes rather than marry a pagan nobleman. People snack on her star cookies, Lucia buns, and at SAMAC, glogg, and a bit of smorgasbord. The oldest daughter also serves her family breakfast in bed—with candles on her head.

"Smorgasbord," by the way, is a combination of "smorgas" (sandwich) and "bord" (table). The "bord" has been a staple of Wikstrom's Gourmet Foods and delicatessen. The real thing begins with fish, then goes through tiny meatballs, and ends with rice pudding and lingonberries (if it is holiday season). Although owner Ingvar Wikstrom (caterer also to King Carl Gustav) just retired, his daughter intends to keep up the business at 5217 N. Clark.

It is not all Swedish today. Reza's Restaurant, Andies, and Taste of Lebanon provide Middle East hospitality; Calo, La Donna, and Leonardo's are Italian. Two Japanese, Thai and a Korean restaurants also form a counterpart to Ann Sathers Restaurant; Mrs. Sathers, the bygone Swedish founder and owner, was famous for her carrot cake and other home cooking in the 1950s. Other family businesses have passed on - two Swedish bakeries where the baking was done in back. North Side Bank has stayed on from the beginning, however. Some of us may remember Gloria Swanson ("Sunset Boulevard") who was born in Lakeview. Essanay Studios (Spoor and Anderson) - on Argyle a little east of Foster—was not Swedish ("Anderson's" real name was Aronson), but Swanson made her start here, along with Charlie Chaplin, Francis X. Bushman, Wallace Beery, and other silent movie stars.

The Edgewater Historical Society at 5358 N. Ashland, formed in 1987 by historians at Edgewater Community Council, has helped to revitalize Andersonville as well as to keep memories alive. They'll gladly accept the old fluted horn gramophone, as well as, the Greta Garbo doll and hang-up telephone; at one time, only two households in Chicago had telephones! They are working to keep vintage homes as "community jewels," safe from the wrecker's ball. The community motto also is "The Buck Stops Here - buy from the neighborhood businesses!" In October the EHS and the Plein Air Painters of Chicago celebrated Andersonville arts weekend with an exhibit of original paintings of the Edgewater Community. Plein Air was sponsored by Palette and Chisel Fine Arts Academy in Chicago.

By Marian Shaw



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Newsletter Volunteers: Vince DiFruscio, Mike Magliane,
Bob Pierce, Marian Shaw, and Betty Terry-Lundy

Thinking about buying or selling your home?

I am an expert
in our neighborhood,
Park Tower,
and our current market.

Tim Houseman

Park Tower Resident
312.264.1280

thouseman@PruPref.com



Prudential Preferred Properties

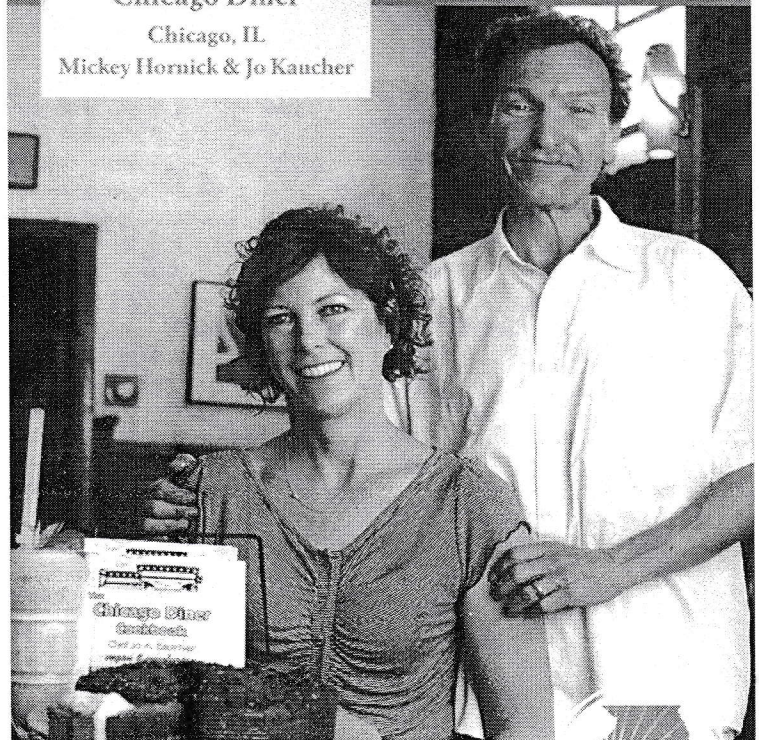
Rock Chicagoland.



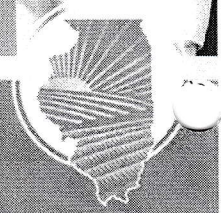
Chicago Diner

Chicago, IL

Mickey Hornick & Jo Kaucher



The Chicago Diner is proud to be "meat free since '82." Focusing on healthy living, Mickey and Jo's award-winning restaurant is a Chicago institution. The Diner offers their specialty: vegan-baked goods to Whole Foods Market, including muffins, breads and health bars made with plant-based proteins, natural ingredients and organic whole grains.



"We became a fixture in the neighborhood because of our chef's tasty talents, hard work...