



# Park Tower News

February / March 1996

## MANAGEMENT UPDATES

**GARAGE REPAIRS:** The garage repairs have now been completed. The final cost of these repairs was \$189,000. This work should hold us for the next seven years. We appreciate the cooperation and understanding that all of our residents showed us during this construction period and would like to give special thanks to Steve Sasseti, Garage Manager, and to his staff for their hard work and endurance during those trying days.

**CURTAIN WALL REPAIRS:** The curtain wall repairs to the southwest side of the building (tiers 12 through 3) have now been completed. Repairs to the east flat have already begun (tiers 2 through 5). Residents of tiers being worked on are reminded to keep their blinds drawn so they will not be caught in an embarrassing situation.

Overall, the curtain wall repairs have been successful. Remember that not all water infiltration through the windows is being addressed. Water infiltration through the operable window and the water infiltration due to condensation are problems that have not been solved. It is important for any resident to call the office when water infiltration is experienced. Building personnel along with the foreman from Cupples Products will need to go into your unit and several units above you to determine the source of the water. So far it has been our experience that most of the water infiltration in areas already repaired has been due to residents not closing their

windows securely. You must hold onto both ends of the window and pull it hard into place in order to create the proper seal. If you are unable to lock your window in the closed position, there is a good indication that your window is not properly closed. If you are unable to close your window properly, contact the office and we will send a maintenance man to assist you.

To those of you who use a humidifier: do not set the humidifier too high. Ice formation on your window is an indication that you need to dial down.

**PAINTING:** The racquetball lounge and the mall ceiling are scheduled to be painted starting January 22, 1996. The racquetball courts will be closed during the painting.

## SKYLIGHT AND POOL WALKWAY REPAIRS:

The Gustitus group has been retained as the consultant for the repairs to the skylight and pool walkway. Delph Gustitus, formerly with Wiss, Jenny, Elstner, Associates, Inc., is a licensed architect in Illinois. He holds a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering, a Master of Architecture degree, and a Master's degree in Business Administration, all from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Gustitus Group is a newly formed architectural and consulting firm started by Delph Gustitus. The firm's business is building renovation and repair

with expertise in water leakage investigation and repair, window and curtain wall repair and replacement, and masonry and building maintenance.

Repairs to the skylight and walkway are due to begin in the spring.

% INCREASE: Recent figures show that the percent of owner-occupied units at Park Tower has now increased to 65%.

FY96: The new fiscal year begins March 1, 1996 and ends February 28, 1997. The new budget will be mailed to owners at the end of January and assessment coupons will be mailed mid-February, 1996. The Board is considering a 5% increase in assessments and a \$5 per month increase in parking fees along with increases in late fees and move-in costs. The budget will be finalized at the January 23 meeting and will be adopted at the February 27 meeting. Please make a point of attending.

EMPLOYEE NEWS: Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Sada K. Sada on the birth of their son, Tony Sada. Tony was born on December 30, 1995 and is the first son for the Sada family. Tony weighed in at 7 lb., 5 oz., and joins his two sisters, Ornina and Narmina.

Get well wishes to Kathy Kupka who underwent surgery on January 13 at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. Kathy is doing well and is eager to come back to work.

#### UNDER OUR ROOF: COMMITTEE REPORTS

GARAGE COMMITTEE: The Garage Committee met on October 16. A financial report was presented. Although revenues from the garage increased, the cost of repairs left net profit at a level lower than budgeted expectation. Final figures will appear on the

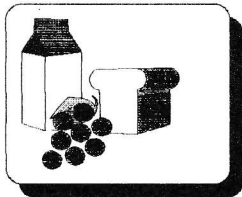
Audit Report in April. A reduction in income of approximately \$12,000 was estimated for the year due to construction (due to the loss of some permanent parkers, the unavailability of the garage to transient parkers, and the necessity of hiring additional hikers during the construction period). Construction matters were discussed, including accidental damage to several cars (taken care of by insurance). The Waiting List at present shows about 25 owners and 30 renters waiting for parking spaces, with owners receiving priority. Maintenance of fire extinguishers was discussed. Requests for equipment, including amber lights and a small computer, were presented. Weekend staffing was discussed.

DECORATING COMMITTEE: The Decorating Committee met on October 19. The purpose of this meeting was to outline possible projects for Fiscal Year 1996 and develop requests for funding to be considered in the FY96 Budget. The following areas of concern were discussed: 1) Sundeck: Landscaping proposals were tabled several years ago due to lack of funds. The Committee requested that this project be reactivated and funds set aside. 2) Lobby elevators: the Committee requested that funds be set aside for the purpose of replacing existing carpeting in the elevators and the space in front of the elevators with some attractive non-slip resilient flooring as the carpeting has not worn well and has require constant cleaning. 3) Lobby: issues of artwork and plants in the lobby were discussed and plans were made to obtain bids. 4) Mall: the darkness of the mall was addressed and ways of enhancing lighting were discussed. 5) General artwork: a proposal was made to bring together owners on each floor to select (and pay for) artwork to be placed on the walls opposite 01 units.

HEALTH CLUB COMMITTEE: The Health Club Committee met on October 19. The

following issues were discussed: 1) Members' requests for greater consistency in the temperature of the pool water. 2) The possibility of installing lap lane lines. 3) The policy of admitting members to exercise rooms earlier than 6 AM. 4) Requests for additional equipment and for adjuncts to existing equipment. 5) Members' requests for higher temperatures in the saunas. 6) The status of projected repairs to the racquetball courts. 7) Acquisition of new equipment and maintenance of existing equipment.

Note: Watch the bulletin boards for announcements of further committee meetings. All owners are welcome at any of these meetings. Your input is needed.



### NEW MANAGEMENT AT EDGEWATER MARKET

As you may have noticed, our own Edgewater Market has been under new management since November 17. The friendly new managers are Sam and Joe, and they have been making many exciting new changes.

While the new liquor license is still pending, the store's product line has been doubled and many more items are now available for sale. Name brands (Dole, Hunt, Del Monte) are now offered along with house brands (Parade). Aisles have been reconfigured to permit one entire additional new lane of products, and shelves are full to bursting.

Since the market's hours have been extended to include the early morning---the store now

opens at 6:30 AM on Monday through Saturday---the new coffee bar is popular with Park Tower residents dashing off to work. They can grab a fresh doughnut to go with their coffee, too. The deli counter is offering two homemade soups and chili every day as well as rotisserie chickens, freshly made sandwiches, and many salads. Produce is wrapped and looks fresh. Meat and chicken are now dated and are re-stocked fresh twice weekly.

Popular conveniences of Edgewater Market, such as the Xerox machine, the magazine counter, and the sale of lottery tickets, have been continued by the new management, and they have added new ones: a candy department, an Uptown National Bank cash machine, a postage stamp machine, and a gift wrap department. Edgewater Market will deliver to your apartment with a minimum \$15 order. New store hours are 6:30 AM-9:30 PM Monday through Saturday and 8-8 on Sunday.

Special sales will be advertised in the store, but the new management would like to say "hello" to Newsletter readers by offering a sale on milk: 1/2 gallon of regular, 2%, or skim milk, regularly \$1.85, will be \$1.55, and a gallon of 2% milk, regularly \$2.49, will be \$1.99.



### TALKING TRASH

Park Tower's rules regarding trash disposal are based on very important considerations of hygiene and safety. For the good of our community, please review the rules here:

1) Kitchen garbage must be securely fastened into plastic bags and sent all the way down the trash chute. WHY? Because food garbage that is dumped loose, is left incompletely stuffed into the chute, is spilled, or is left in the areaway, MAY ATTRACT BUGS AND RODENTS. It also smells. If you accidentally drop some garbage on the floor under the chute, please clean it up. Do you really want to live in a building where people getting off the elevator are greeted by a floor full of raw garbage?

2) Large trash items (such as boxes when you've just moved in or have bought something that came in a big cardboard box) are to be broken down (mashed flat) and carried down to the dumpster behind the building. That means, carried down by YOU: this is not the building staff's job, in spite of popular belief to the contrary (only handicapped persons and senior citizens are provided with this service, as a courtesy). WHY? Because leaving items in the service area is in violation of the fire laws. On one recent day, a new move-in had piled empty boxes all the way to the ceiling on both sides of both service elevators. Picture, if you will, the scene if a fire should break out in an areaway thus congested with trash, since that areaway might be a necessary route for firefighters. IF YOU WANT TO THROW AN ITEM AWAY AND IT WON'T FIT DOWN THE CHUTE, CARRY IT OUT TO THE DUMPSTER. Things you should NEVER leave in the service areaway include boxes, furniture, mattresses and box-springs, luggage, old clothes, magazines, and newspapers.

3) Newspapers are to be placed in the recycling bin in the 1P garage, but only newspapers. You can dispose of magazines in the dumpster or put them on the laundry bookshelves to share with others. WHY?

Because a city ordinance requires us to recycle newspapers.

4) Plastic items (milk jugs, detergent bottles) may go in the plastics recycling bin in the 1P garage or the recycling collection cans in the laundry. WHY? Because a city ordinance requires us to recycle plastics.

5) The following is a list of items which may be left in Park Tower corridors: nothing. Zero. Zip. WHY? Because if you leave ANYTHING outside your door in the corridor, you will be in violation of city fire laws. This means you don't put out a welcome mat, furniture, boxes, shopping or laundry cart, baby carriage or stroller, wheelchair, or delivered items. If you have drinking water delivered when you are not at home, you can be fined by the Association if you allow the delivery person to leave your water in the corridor (you can arrange with the Management Office for Security to accompany the delivery person into your apartment to leave the water).

A final note on trash: often there is a misunderstanding about the responsibilities of building employees. Everywhere, one hears the comment, "They're paid to do this---it's their job." Well, actually, "it" isn't their job at all. Cleaning up the coffee grounds we've spilled on the floor under the garbage chute is NOT their job. Carrying our pizza boxes, old clothes, and discarded chairs to the dumpster is NOT their job. Cleaning up the mess on the floor when our date has had too much to drink and has thrown up in the elevator is NOT their job. When a building employee does that extra bit of cleanup---and most of them do---he or she is setting us an example of civil behavior, responsibility, and good grace. Let us follow their example and clean up after ourselves. Park Tower is our home. Let's keep it nice.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*Pastor Vito Viglione, a Park Tower resident, wishes to announce the publication of his paper "New Insights into the Doctrine of Salvation." This study, representing five years of Biblical research focused on the Book of Romans of the New Testament, appears in the Journal of Pauline Dispensationalism Vol. 7. No. 27, December 1995. Reprints may be obtained free of charge by calling Pastor Viglione at 312-728-9501.

### \*\*\*AESTHETIC PLASTIC SURGERY:

From Northwestern University Medical School and Northwestern Memorial Hospital: The Chief Resident of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery offers aesthetic surgical procedures for facial and body enhancement at substantially reduced fees. Procedures include facial surgery, nasal surgery, cosmetic breast surgery, eyelid rejuvenation, and body contouring. Surgical procedures are performed by the Chief Resident in Plastic Surgery under the supervision of the Division of Plastic Surgery, members of which are certified by the American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Call 312-908-6022 to arrange for a consultation.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

\*\*\*A very special show is about to open at the Chicago Historical Society. From February 12, 1996 through February 13, 1997, this museum will be host to "The Last, Best Hope of Earth: Abraham Lincoln and the Promise of America." This show will assemble a collection of over 200 rare pieces of Lincolnia, some seldom or never exhibited before. There will be nearly 100 original

letters as well as personal possessions, photographs, furniture, political broadsides, and other memorabilia. Hours will be 9:30 to 4:00 Monday through Friday, 9:30-4:30 Saturdays, and 12-5 Sundays. A special admission fee of \$4 for adults and \$2 for children (with a maximum family cap of \$15) will be charged for the Lincoln show. This is in addition to the regular suggested admission donation of \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and seniors, and \$1 for children. The 151 Sheridan bus stops nearby and the 136 Broadway bus stops right in front. The Chicago Historical Society is located on the northeast corner of Clark and North Avenue, at 1601 N. Clark. For more information, call 642-4600.

\*\*\*Did you know that the #10 bus will take you directly to the Museum of Science and Industry? During the winter season it runs weekends only, and you can take this bus from any of the stops along State Street between Jackson and Washington. For more information call the CTA at 312-664-7200.

\*\*\*The days may be numbered for Skate on State, with so much talk about developing its Block 37 (State to Dearborn, Randolph to Washington), so skate while you can. This very large free ice-skating rink is easily accessible from Park Tower by the 151 or 147 bus or by the EL. Hours are 9 AM-7:15 PM daily. Admission is free. Skate rental costs \$3 for an adult or \$2 for a child. There is a McDonald's for warm-up hot chocolate. Note: Skate on State can be rented for private parties from 8-11:45 PM. The rental fee of \$300 weeknights, \$400 weekends includes McDonald's being open. Think of this for your social, school, or church group, as a group of 60 would pay only \$5 each for nearly four hours of private evening ice skating, and, just think, your very own McDonald's. The 151 passes Skate on State and runs all night.

\*\*\*WINTERBREAK CHICAGO 1996 will be held from February 9-20. A wide variety of events will take place at several venues including Skate on State, Navy Pier, the DePaul University Music Mart, the Harold Washington Library, and the Old Town School of Folk Music. Most events are free and include ice skating exhibitions, a wedding on the ice, several blues performances, a basketball tournament, a speed-skating competition, a 5K run, a Mardi Gras, cultural tours with free trolley rides, a Meet the Blackhawks night, and more. For very detailed recorded messages about all of this call the Mayor's Hot Line for Special Events, 312-744-3370. You can also pick up a Winterbreak Passport at the Chicago Cultural Center, the Water Tower Tourism Center, or Navy Pier's Illinois Marketplace. This passport will give you special discounts (including for hotel and for Southwest Airlines, in case you have guests coming in for winter season fun).

\*\*\*SUMMER DATES are set in case you want to make any plans long in advance. Call the Mayor's Special Events Hotline, 744-3370, for 1997 dates for the Blues, Jazz, Gospel, and Country Music Festivals as well as for Taste of Chicago and the Air and Water Show.



FOR VALENTINE'S DAY:  
FROM 1856 TO 1996,  
WITH LOVE

In this season of St. Valentine's Day, you may be wondering just how to approach the object

of your affection. Well, you need worry no more, because help is at hand. Always bearing your needs in mind, the Newsletter has located an excellent source of advice for would-be suitors, a book called Inquire Within, or, 3,700 Facts for the People. By the way, this book was published in 1856. Along with advice on every possible subject from A (Apple Fritters, How to Make) to Z (Zinc, Poisoning By), Inquire Within provides us with many suggestions for advancing our love lives. In the social context of 140 years ago, this advice-to-the-love-hungry is designed for those situations in which a man is seeking a wife, but can perhaps be modified for other situations that may arise in today's world.

Naturally, the first thing to do if a man wishes to attract a mate is to make sure he will be seen as presentable and attractive. In this regard, the book is most specific: "Do not affect singularity of dress by using what must be caused the ruffian style...Never scratch your head, pick your teeth, clean your nails, or, worse than all, pick your nose in company; all of these things are disgusting. Spit as little as possible, and never upon the floor...Always take off your hat when handing a lady into her carriage...When going into the company of ladies, beware of spirits, onions, and tobacco...Avoid taking liberties with other men, as I have known a duel to arise from a slap upon the back."

Once you have mastered these rules of good behavior, possibly you will be invited to an "evening entertainment." If this is a dance, "Always appear in full dress...Always wear yellow kid gloves while dancing...Pay respectful attention to elderly persons present." But then pretty soon you will see a lady whose appearance pleases you and you wish to see her home, so you should say, "Miss Ellen, make me happy by selecting me for your cavalier." (She might answer, "I am obliged to you, Sir, but first I must consult my friends.")

Eventually, if things go well, the day may come when you have "met a lady at social parties, danced with her at balls, accompanied her to and from church, and may desire to commence a formal courtship. What will you do? Why, taking some good opportunity, you, say, 'Miss Wilson, since I became acquainted with you, I have been every day more pleased with your society. Will you permit me to visit you on Sunday evenings?'" (This means things are getting serious.)

We are told that in response "The lady will blush, no doubt---she may tremble a little, but if your proposition is acceptable to her, she may say, "I am grateful for your good opinion, Sir, and shall be happy to see you." Or, if she does not wish the relationship to go further, she may reply, "Sir, while I am sensible of your kindness, I cannot consent to a private interview."

Assuming that matters follow along, sooner or later the subject of marriage may be broached. Here is how that is accomplished: "The lover talks of the beauty of the scenery and the harmony of nature and then exclaims, 'Ah, Julia, how happy would existence prove if I had always such a companion!' If the lady then "sighs and leans more fondly on the arm that tremblingly supports her," the man may take this as a good sign and proceed to an actual proposal of marriage, saying, "Take pity on a forlorn bachelor and put me out of my misery!" Alternate lines are suggested, such as "Have you any objection to changing your name? No? Then, how would mine suit you?"

One thing leads to another and pretty soon the happy pair will get married. Detailed instructions are provided for the conduct of the wedding ceremony and reception and you may be sure that this information is modern and up-to-date---no old-fashioned stuff here: "The chamber frolics, in which the whole company

visits the bride and groom after they are in bed, which was done some years ago, are now almost universally dispensed with." So there you are, well and truly married, and just remember where you got the useful advice that brought you such bliss. Be assured, we at the Newsletter have your interests at heart and will never let you down. Happy Valentine's Day.

### REZA'S

It seems impossible that any Park Tower resident would not already know about Reza's, but, just in case, let's talk about Reza's, the grand-daddy of all our neighborhood Middle-Eastern restaurants.

Reza's (and it's understood here that we're talking about the original Reza's, which is our near neighbor) is located at 5255 N. Clark at the corner of Berwyn. Reza's is a huge, rambling, multi-story wonder that seems able to pack in magical numbers of the people who flock there looking for huge delicious meals at bargain prices. The interior is sort of loft-like with a lot of exposed wood and brick. In the summertime, French windows along the street are opened, creating almost a sidewalk cafe. In the wintertime on a weekend evening the door opens every few seconds to admit gusts of icy air and wave after wave of hungry hordes. This is not a hushed and reverent kind of restaurant---more like a jolly one.

The menu is very long and very reasonable. The main thing is grills, which are wonderfully done over charcoal, but first everybody who orders dinner automatically gets the house soup. (Young men plow their way through the crowd holding broad trays of soup high over their heads and everybody gets some.) And the soup is lovely---thick and hearty, redolent with tomato, lentils, mint, and

parsley. On a cold night, Reza's hot soup is like the answer to a prayer.

But plenty of other appetizers are available, the kind of appetizers that make you consider forgetting the entree. In this Persian house, the entire cast of Middle-Eastern appetizers is present and accounted for: hummos, baba ghannouj, tabbouli, stuffed grape leaves, and dozens more, and all combinations thereof. Soup and appetizers are served with baskets of warm pita bread and platters of cheese and raw vegetables.

Then, the entrees. All forty-one of them. Anything that can be grilled, is. Kabobs of chicken breast, lamb chops, shrimp and/or scallops, pieces of filet mignon, shaped ground beef or lamb seasoned with amazing spices. Every possible combination is offered. All of these come with enormous heaps of the best rice you ever ate, either plain or with dill, and grilled vegetables. There are also grilled whole fish---salmon, whitefish, catfish---and various fish combinations grilled on skewers. A Persian specialty is Fessenjan, Rock Cornish game hen cooked in a sweet-and-sour pomegranate sauce with finely crushed walnuts. There are also char-broiled quail.

Try the Persian stews, all of which are almost too delicious to describe, mixtures of beef, eggplant, tomato, yellow lentils, lime juice---but to list the ingredients is to recall from some long-ago course the concept of "nonsummativity"---that the sum amounts to an entity which is more than the aggregation of its parts.

There is a wide selection of vegetarian dishes including both appetizers and entrees, the latter including some of the mouth-watering stews as well as a vegetarian stuffed green pepper or grape leaves dish and several combinations. Again, everything comes with more rice than you have ever seen before in your life..

Salad possibilities include several combinations of greens, cucumber, tomato green pepper, feta cheese, and so on, as well as torshi, Persian mixed pickles, which are made in-house.

By the time dessert comes you may not be very interested in it, but the waiter will bring a tray about three feet wide and loaded with such Middle-Eastern pastries as baklava (you know this one) and zoulbia (which you may not, but it is a crisp pastry sweetened with a honey syrup), not to mention cream puffs. If you prefer to Buy American they also have raspberry chocolate cheesecake and pecan torte. You can wash it all down with a few quarts of strong Persian tea or coffee.

After such a meal you will already be feeling pretty good, but when you get the check you may burst into tears of joy because Reza's prices are very, very low. The entire meal including soup, pita bread, raw relishes, main course, rice, and grilled vegetables can cost as little as \$7. Most are around \$8 or \$9, and if you go for something really fancy you might pay \$12 or \$13, but usually a gargantuan meal for two will give you change from a \$20 bill, and you will take a doggie bag home.

More delights: Reza's cheery new expanded section (where Baskin-Robbins used to be on the corner of Berwyn) has an open kitchen. Reza's also offers lunchtime specials with even lower prices and complimentary dessert and hot tea (a great big potful). As for hours, Reza's seems always to be open: 11 AM-12 midnight, 7 days a week. Two other Reza's are now open, one at 432 W. Ontario and the other at Presidential Towers. Reza's delivers: call 561-1898 or 561-9896. But go there in person, and you'll go back again and again.