

Share Your Heritage or Ask a Question

We are fortunate to live in a large community with an incredibly diverse set of backgrounds and cultures. We want to understand each other better. If you are willing to be interviewed about your heritage and culture, please let us know. Send an email to Tower_Talk@yahoo.com with the subject "Share Your Heritage". Tell us your name, unit number, and how best to contact you. We will profile one culture in each future issue. We will ask questions about your native culture's area and history, where in Chicago you go to find goods from that area, perhaps ask you to share an ethnic recipe with the building.

Do you have a question you've always wanted answered about the building? Policies, history, trivia? We'd like the opportunity to give you an answer. Simply send an email with the subject "Ask Park Tower" to Tower_Talk@yahoo.com; we will take one question each issue and find the massers for you, publishing them in the newsletter.

If you don't have handy email access, post your question in the suggestion box. Please add the heading "Ask Park Tower" so it gets to us.

Recycling Rules

We have reinstated our contract with Waste Management to handle our recycling, and thought it important to refresh everyone's memory on recycling guidelines:

All colors and kinds of glass can be recycled. Plastics #1 and #2 (look for the number within the rounded "recycling" triangle symbol on the plastic container) can be recycled by Waste Management. Aluminum cans are also recyclable, but no other metals. All of these materials can be mixed together.

Paper and cardboard can also be recycled, but held separately from the other materials. Kinds of paper include coated papers from brochures and flyers and magazines, manilla or colored folders (without any metal tabs), plain or window envelopes (with or without labels), post-it notes, and of course newspapers. Please do not attempt to recycle any kind of carbon paper, label backing, photographs, string, rope, or tissue. Also new envelopes made from Tyvek are not recyclable.

Please don't leave recyclable items near the garbage chute. Newspapers, cans, glass and plastic containers should be placed in the recycling bins located in the laundry room or in the garage on 1p and 2p.

And of course, please do not leave trash in the storage areas. Seal trash in plastic bags and toss the bags down the chute past the flap. Garbage left in the area not only is an eyesore, it smells bad and attracts pests.

The Tables Are Coming!

Our beautiful atrium mall is finally going to get some use! Our Board has approved the purchase of bistro tables to be placed under the skyligh Grab a deli sandwich or a gourmet cup of coffee at our Market, sit back and enjoy the view.

<u>A Familiar Face</u>



Sada Sada. While it's a name that's worthy of repeating, that's actually his full name!

Virtually everyone living or working at Park Tower knows who Sada is – but to many of us, he's so much more than a familiar face... he's family. Always in motion, he's never too busy to

offer a warm smile and an enthusiastic hello.

Born in Syria, Sada has been living in the U.S. since 1981. He began working at Park Tower in 1985, and work he does! In fact, over the twenty years that I've known him, my interview with Sada was the first time I've ever seen him sit down. While his duties include cleaning residential floors, outdoor maintenance and gardening, he's most proud of keeping our lobby looking spectacular. He says that he considers Park Tower *his building* - and that sentiment is reflected in the quality of his work.

Happily married with four children, Sada is blissfully 'off duty' at home, since his wife insists on doing all of the cleaning.

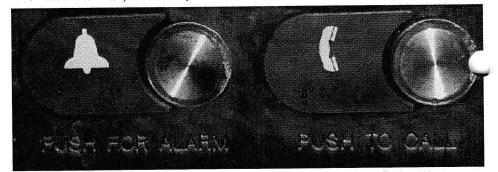
Many years ago I encountered Sada pacing back and forth in the lobby with a look of sheer panic on his face. He had just found \$1,000 cash – and he was frantically looking for the person who had dropped it. I remember his concern that it might be someone's rent money. Not surprising to anyone who knows him, Sada promptly turned the money over to security, much to the relief of the person who eventually claimed

it. That's our Sada!

Stuck in an Elevator?

This is a topic we do not want to have in our newsletter. No one wants to think about this topic. Our modernized cars should be functioning well. We hope no one will be entrapped in a malfunctioning car; however, we know that from time to time, people do get stuck in elevators.

So, what should you do if you're stuck in an elevator?



The new panels have two buttons to press and you should familiarize yourself with them. The right is a telephone button that will link you to Otis. Otis will notify our staff and coordinate Otis engineers to get you out as quickly as possible. Our contract with Otis stipulates that they will be on-site within 30 minutes. Otis has designated two engineers in the downtown area to work specifically with elevator issues at Park Tower.

The left button has a picture of a bell and rings an alarm within the shaft to alert others to the emergency. Hearing the alarm, Park Tower staff can locate you and will offer guidance and assistance from the nearest floor. Also remember that all elevator cars have cameras. The door staff will be watching to make sure you are ok.

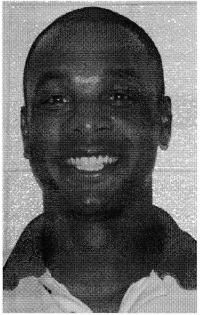
There is no city code mandating procedures for elevator entrapments. In the past, there have been instances when our engineers were able to get passengers out of elevators. However, Otis does not want our staff to open elevator doors; unfortunate, tragic accidents could occur. Because Park Tower staff does not have the expertise or training, our staff will no longer attempt to release entrapped passengers. However, Park Tower staff will remain in contact with you until you are released by Otis engineers.

If at any point you feel the situation has escalated to an emergency and you need immediate release, tell Otis or Park Tower staff. In an emergency the fire department will come ASAP, but their rescue approach is destructive to elevators and can lead to time consuming and costly repairs.

We hope no one needs to make use of this information.

A New Face: Meet Derwin Williams

You may have noticed that we have a new garage manager! Derwin has worked for Standard Parking for twelve years, managing garages in both residential and commercial buildings. He plans to make 'customer service' his top priority and encourages residents to contact him with any questions or concerns that they may have.



Having just returned from Iraq after serving thirteen months, he's understandably happy to be back home with his wife and four children.

If you have a moment, stop by and introduce yourself – and give a salute to one our unsung heroes.

From time to time we all hear noises that go bump in the night ... and they're usually from a neighbor's unit. To ensure that you're not disturbing your neighbors at night (or early in the morning), please be aware of the following:

Grand Slamming: When you allow the door to your unit to slam shut, the sound can really travel. If your door is difficult to close without force – or if it slams shut when you release it – please contact the management office.

Shady Behavior: Who would have thought that opening and closing your shades or blinds could be a rousing experience for your neighbors? A gentle hand keeps the noise down.

Window Pain: Who hasn't heard a window slam shut or screech open just as you're about to fall asleep? Many of us have windows that are difficult to operate. If your windows don't open and close easily, please contact the management office.

The Party's Over: When guests are leaving late at night, please don't take the party to the elevators. Loud talk in the hallways travels far and can be inconsiderate to your neighbors.

Talking Trash: Throwing garbage down the chute after 9:00 p.m. or before 7:00 a.m. is not only against the rules, it may disturb neighbors living near the service area.

The Sound of (Your) Music: Moving your television or stereo speakers away from the wall can really help to prevent the sound from traveling to adjacent units. Watch the volume and bass, too!

Alderman Mary Ann Smith is forming an advisory group to help plan for the new playground that will be relocated in the park south of Bryn Mawr. Interested residents, particularly parents with young children, should call Tom Samuels at the Alderman's Office (773-784-5277) to work on plar for this project.

Neighborhood News

Broadway is the next street to have a makeover. The sidewalk will be power washed this summer and new black planters made from recycled glass will be placed on the corners. The old planters will be moved to the front of the Armory. All the planters will be filled with seasonal plantings in an effort to make the street a more desirable place to browse and shop.

Security cameras are being placed at the "El" stops at Berwyn, Bryn Mawr, Thorndale and Granville. This should improve security in the areas.

The 48-unit condo building at 5430 N Sheridan will begin soon. The motel across the street has been sold and plans for the site will be presented soon to the community.

Zengeler Cleaners buildings at 5427 N Broadway are almost completely renovated. When completed the Village complex will have 24 condo units, commercial space and perhaps a theater in the rear.

On Bryn Mawr, a Flourish Bakery and Café as well as a salon and spa will occupy the space where the Foot Locker was located. Nookies still has not received an OK from the EPA. The dry cleaners previously located there did a great job of contaminating the area.

Developers are still trying to acquire the property at Foster and Sheridan but hopefully Dominick's will be included in the plan.

The Admiral plans a major expansion to include independent living, assisted living and skilled care, while the Methodist Home at Foster and nwood will move the nursing home elsewhere and rebuild with housing for active seniors.

PARK TOWER MARKET

Although our Market is already terrific, proprietors Jeremy and Larry are always looking for new ideas and welcome your feedback. While they recognize that they can't always compete with Jewel or Dominick's when it comes to price, they can and *do* offer a standard of service and convenience that the 'big guys' don't. For example:

Besides offering *free delivery*, did you know that Park Tower Market welcomes your phone orders? If you're home sick, or just don't feel like shopping, place your order by phone and have it delivered - *at no extra charge – and there's no minimum order size or price required*! Park Tower Market has a full service **Meat Market**. Unlike **Jewel and Dominick's**, they carry only choice and prime meats. If you want a special cut, need a smaller portion, or want to order something that the Market doesn't normally stock, Jeremy and Larry welcome your special requests.

Park Tower Market offers **full service catering**. In addition to fresh, beautifully prepared Deli Trays, you can order an entire dinner party including flowers for your table - delivered fresh to your door! Don't feel like cooking? **Try a hot meal to go!** The Market offers a selection of hot foods, **freshly prepared on the premises**. Feeling lazy? Order your dinner by phone! **Room service** comes to Park Tower! Having a last minute cocktail party? Our Market offers a wide selection of **Wines and Spirits** – which can be delivered to your door at no extra charge!