

# PARK HERALD

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## ... demand swells in neighborhood

...gh March of last year, ...ding to Cassel. ...s all over — we've seen a ...increase in East Hyde Park as ...e brought the Algonquin ...rtments, 1606 E. Hyde Park ...veard] and Windermere ...se, 1642 E. 56th St.] to the ...et," Cassel said. "In this kind ...arket Hyde Park remains very ...tive."  
...is Miller, a Hyde Parker and a ...g agent for Chicago Apartment ...rs in the neighborhood, said he ...ng more young people looking ...ve to Hyde Park because of its ...tion options and proximity to ...town.

"Being a Hyde Park native, I've never really thought of Hyde Park as a recreation center, but it's something that appeals to them," Miller said.  
Appointments to view Hyde Park apartments between January and March are up 88 percent, according to figures provided by Chicago Apartment Finders. Lease signings are holding steady for company, though Web site visitors searching for Hyde Park recently spiked.  
"Hyde Park is becoming a neighborhood of choice in competition with Lincoln Park," Miller said.

Stuart Handler, CEO of TLC management, said applications are up for the company's eight Hyde Park buildings, though the number of people inquiring about renting apartments has dipped slightly, he said.  
Handler said Hyde Park's rental market is growing and TLC should be expanding with it.  
"I'm optimistic, otherwise we wouldn't have made the investment we did in Hyde Park," Handler said. "We feel it's a good market if you do it right."  
Some smaller rental agencies are getting pinched as the big players expand to meet demand.

"This is the first time in five years we've had any vacancies at all in the winter," Randall Pavelock, president of Hunter Properties, which manages 63 units on South Blackstone Avenue.  
Pavelock described a "shadow market" of condos turned rental because of the soured housing market. "Now all of a sudden, rental is competing against new construction," he said. "It's like someone built a lot of rental property accidentally."  
"It was a rough winter but hopefully spring will be better," Pavelock said.  
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...Ehiremen as she and other toddlers with their caretakers ...n a Baby Ph.D. Childcare Network class at the Hyde Park ...Information about Baby Ph.D. activity workshops for children ...calling 773-256-0955.  
Marc Monaghan

## Geography wiz kid Akiba student headed to state competition

By DASCHELL M. PHILLIPS  
Staff Writer

Hyde Parker Josephine Gendler, an 8th grader at Akiba-Schechter, has qualified for the state level competition of the National Geographic Bee that will be held in Chicago on April 8.  
The National Geographic Bee, an educational program of the National Geographic Society, is a nationwide geography competition for U.S. schools with any grades 4th through 8th. According to its Web site, the contest is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject and increase public awareness about geography.  
Gendler, who beat out the 5th

through 8th graders at the school competition and placed in the top 100 on the Bee's qualifying test, said she's excited and pretty confident that she will do well because she spends a great deal of her time studying geography.  
Although she says she's pretty good at geography and loves to study maps and globes, Gendler says she has intensified her studies for the competition. Her family has also played a big role in her preparation.  
"We have a book at the dinner table and we torture her with quiz questions," quipped Annette Gendler, Josephine Gendler's mother.  
Annette Gendler said that Josephine and her brothers, Jeremy, a 7th grader, and Johnathan, a 4th grader, love geography and when Josephine

## ... census sets up shop in Hyde Park

DASCHELL M. PHILLIPS  
Writer

...representatives from the U.S. ...us Complete Count ...mittee have come to Hyde ...to recruit for census jobs and ...ge residents to complete their

complete and return their 2000 census forms, causing them to lose millions of dollars and programs, businesses and services.  
In order to receive as many completed census forms as they can, the bureau sets up sites

"We are always looking for testing sites," Watkins said. "We do move around a lot but we have people to steer those who are interested to our new locations."  
Watkins said his team is making steady progress in the neighborhood.

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