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## TREBES PARK UPDATE

Many thanks to those of you who came out to support our efforts to make capital improvements to Trebes Park. I am happy to tell you that we have made it to the next round of budget hearings, which will be on Thursday, September 22 at 6PM at Warren Park, 6601 North Western. Our voices were the ones that made the difference and helped us to get to this next level.

We will make a 2 minute budget presentation to the Park District but need the support of the whole school and community if we are to be successful. Of course, this is only the second step in a long process, but before we can begin a fundraising initiative, we have to get past this next phase successfully.

Remember - the more people from our school community that attend, the better chance we have. Please come out on the 22nd and bring your kids wearing a Mayer t-shirt if possible.

RSVP to [audraberg@yahoo.com](mailto:audraberg@yahoo.com), if you are able to attend, or with questions. Please help us get the word out and forward this to others in the community that can help support this initiative.

Thank you,  
*Audra Berg, FOM Trebes Park Representative*



## 9-30 MEET & MINGLE

Because parents deserve a night out too; because it's fantastic to meet other Mayer parents; because it's rewarding to be a part of the Friends of Mayer community: Join us for the fall Meet & Mingle with Mayer "Friend"raiser. This free-to-attend event promises fresh, fabulous fare (appetizers and desserts to boot), a cash bar, and a chance to chat with new and old friends. The Meet & Mingle with Mayer "Friend"raiser will take place on Friday, September 30th from 7 to 10 PM on the Urban Rooftop Oasis at Lakeshore Sport & Fitness (1320 West Fullerton). Parking is free, public transportation and taxis are very accessible too. On-site babysitting (and pizza dinner) is also available for \$20 a child from 6:30 to 9:30 PM, but reservations for this are required in advance. Bottom line: The Meet & Mingle with Mayer "Friend"raiser is one evening that you won't want to miss! RSVP now by emailing [fomevents@yahoo.com](mailto:fomevents@yahoo.com) or by calling Amy Zemnick at (773) 802-9816 to RSVP or ask questions about the event.



## GIRLS IN THE GAME

New FREE Fall Sports, Health, Leadership Programming for Girls in grades 3 - 5.

It's on Tuesdays - 2:45pm - 4:15pm for 10 weeks, starting September 27th.

Information will be sent home. Questions? Contact Sarah Liebman at [sarahliebman@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahliebman@hotmail.com) or (773) 562-3637.

## SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Submitted by JoANN LULLA

We welcome a new school year with a new version of Someone You Should Know!

In an effort to build a sense of community among all, every month we'll highlight a few faculty, staff and volunteers who help make this school such a special place.

Hope you enjoy getting to know the wonderful and dedicated faculty, staff and volunteers at Mayer Magnet.

### **Farah Denahan – Friends of Mayer Board President**

**My hometown:** Chicago, I grew up in the western suburbs and swore I would never move back. I'm an urbanite in its truest form.

**My college alma matter:** Loyola University of Chicago, but my degree is from Illinois Institute of Technology.

**I started at Mayer Magnet:** In the Fall of 2006. My twin daughters Nadine and Norah were little babies then, only 3 years old. They've grown up under the watchful eyes of some of the most amazing teachers in the world.

**What I enjoy most about Mayer Magnet is...** The incredible sense of community. I just love Mayer, in all its facets: the kids, the teachers and staff, my friends... it's just like a big hug whenever I'm here and that really is an incredible feeling to have. I feel so lucky to be a part of this school, and to have made the lifelong friendships that I have.

**My most memorable Mayer Magnet "moment" is ...** For me this is a complete no-brainer—the Walkathon!! I've had the privilege of being a part of the most magical day of the school year since we started the Walkathon 5 years ago... the joy that the kids have, the excitement that builds through the school in the days leading up, all the hard work that goes into this one special day... all of it. I try to savor every morsel. It takes an army to pull it all together and each year as I pause to look around at the hundreds of parents that took the day off work to share in the moment—I cry every time. I'm a complete softie... are you picking up on the trend here?

**I love it when I see students...** LOVING school. This is my daughters' 5th year at Mayer, and not once have they ever said that they did not want to go to school. To me that is very profound. I'm amazed at the focus these young children have; the fact that students throughout the Montessori classrooms actually look forward to 3 hours of straight work time is not an attribute any of us parents should take lightly. It's magical.

**During my free time I like to...** Well, there doesn't seem to be much free time these days but I love to spend time with my daughters and my husband, Neil, who just might be the funniest person I've ever known. If I haven't cried from laughing so hard on any given day, then it means that he left for work before I awoke and came home after I went to sleep. A pretty close second is fulfilling my shopping addiction and dinners out with my closest girlfriends. When I'm not doing any of the above, you can find me at home in my pajamas, curled up in my bed, watching TV.

**My favorite food is...** This is tough because I love to eat. A lot. And I'm a carnivore. Offer me a tender, quality, rare piece of meat, and I'll be your friend for life.

**My favorite restaurant is...** On any given night, you can find me at the Athenian Room on Webster and Halsted, where I've been going since I was 7 years old. Analise, the manager there has known me since I was the age my daughters are now. I love how I feel at home there, and my girls are continuing on the legacy. For a real treat, the perfect meal for me usually transpires at Joe's Seafood, Prime Steaks and Stone Crab, where I've been known to put on an eating exhibition which consists of our server observing me in complete bewilderment as I take down all of the following, in no particular order: stone crab claws, a salad of some sort covered in blue cheese, a filet cooked medium rare, and an entire dessert which I absolutely refuse to share with anyone. My husband often tells me this is why he loves me.

**Most people don't know that...** I'm a homebody. I go to bed at 8pm but I wake up at 5am so I can work out before the rest of my house awakes. I also love Lionel Richie. Madly. Which leads me to the real reason I believe my husband married me: I'm actually an 80-year-old trapped in a 30-something-year-old's body.



**Farah Denahan**

## SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW (CONTINUED)

### Katie Konieczny – *Principal*

**My hometown:** Always Wisconsin! Go Green Bay Packers!

**My college alma matter:** the University of Dayton for undergrad and Northwestern for my Masters Degree.

**I started at Mayer Magnet in:** 2006!

**What I enjoy most about Mayer Magnet are...** the STUDENTS!

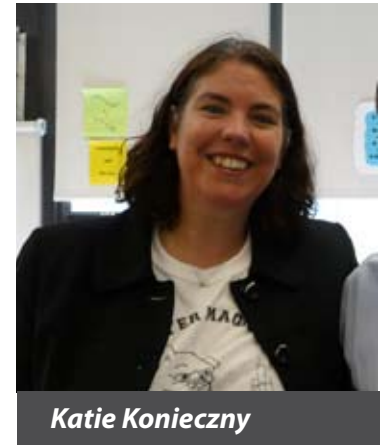
**My most memorable Mayer Magnet “moment” is...** (there are so many) but a recent one was watching all the the Oscar Mayer faculty and staff watch the new school video. Everyone beamed with pride. Our students and faculty were the stars!

**I love it when I see students...** taking care of one another.

**During my free time ...** I LOVE to spend time with my two sons Connor and Liam.

**My favorite food...** is pizza.

**Most people don’t know that I can...** tap dance.



*Katie Konieczny*

### Ms. Lauren Widaman – *Elementary 1*

**My hometown:** Indianapolis, Indiana.

**My college alma matter:** Indiana University for undergrad, DePaul University for grad.

**I started at Mayer Magnet :** As a temporary assistant in 2010 and as an Elementary I teacher in 2011!

**What I enjoy most about Mayer Magnet is...** The wonderful students that I get to see each and every day, and the overall positive atmosphere of the school.

**My most memorable Mayer Magnet “moment” is ...** Walkathon.

**I love it when I see students...** Working hard at something they are truly interested in or inspired by.

**During my free time I like to...** Spend time with my family and friends, read, go to the beach, watch movies, and travel.

**My favorite food is...** Thai food.



*Lauren Widaman*

## FRIENDS OF MAYER EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

If you have an email address, please consider joining the Friends of Mayer email distribution list.

Periodic emails are sent regarding news and information about the school, including Friends of Mayer meeting notes, meeting reminders and volunteer opportunities. If you are not on the list, please email Maureen Riordan at [friendsofmayer@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofmayer@yahoo.com) to be included. Thanks!

## FRIENDS OF MAYER MEETING

The next Friends of Mayer meeting will be held **Wednesday, October 12** at 6:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Library. All are invited! Please mark your calendars with our meeting schedule through the end of the year. All meetings will be held at 6:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Library.

**Tuesday, November 15**

**Wednesday, December 14**

## EXCITING FALL ROOKIE RUGBY OPPORTUNITIES



- Safe, non-contact!
- Constant motion!
- Everyone plays and wins!
- Builds great skills for other sports!
- Most importantly, fun!
- \$5 clinics every 3rd Sunday of the month at Revere Park - see [www.ChicagoWapitiRFC.com](http://www.ChicagoWapitiRFC.com)
- 8 week after school program starting Sep 15th at Menomonee Club - see [www.menomoneeclub.org](http://www.menomoneeclub.org)

## FREE MONEY FOR OSCAR MAYER

Shop at Target? Who doesn't? Do you use a Target Red Card? Did you know that my using a Target Red Card you can earn free money for Oscar Mayer! It's as easy as 1,2,3! Here's how:

- 1) At the Target checkout, tell the cashier you want to sign up for a Target debit or credit card. (Your card will come in the mail in 5 – 7 days).
- 2) Go to [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Oscar Mayer, and the next time you use your Target card, 1% of your purchase will go to Oscar Mayer.
- 3) Email Pam at [tzakis23@msn.com](mailto:tzakis23@msn.com) to be entered in the raffle to win a \$50 Target gift card! Drawing to be held at the Meet and Mingle with Mayer "Friend"raiser (September 30, 2011 at Lakeshore Sport and Fitness).

There are other easy ways to earn free money for our school.

- eScrip – register your Dominick's Fresh values card at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
- Office Depot – just mention Oscar Mayer at checkout
- Red Balloon – just mention Oscar Mayer at checkout
- Box Tops 4 Education – [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) – sign up for Mayer Elementary 60614

If you have questions or need help with any of these give back programs, please contact Pam Tzakis at [tzakis23@msn.com](mailto:tzakis23@msn.com) or call (773) 230-1451.

## MAYER COMMUNITY NETWORK

The Mayer Community Network is an informal network for parents to discuss and share information. This yahoo group is not a school sponsored site, it's as informal as a playground chat! Recommendations for extra-curricular activities, questions regarding all things kid related and other fun topics are open to discussion. If you wish to become a member, simply send a note to [friendsofmayer@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofmayer@yahoo.com) or search for "Mayer Community Network" on the yahoo groups page.

### IMPORTANT DATES!

NO SCHOOL (STAFF DEVELOPMENT)	SEPT. 23
LSC MEETING	SEPT. 27
PICTURE DAY	SEPT. 28
MEET & MINGLE	SEPT. 30
NO SCHOOL (COLUMBUS DAY)	OCT. 10
FOM MEETING	OCT. 12