

## On the Horizon

Upcoming events at St. Robert Bellarmine School located at 6036 W. Eastwood, Chicago, Illinois 60630 773-725-5133. More info on all programs can be found at [www.srb-chicago.org](http://www.srb-chicago.org)

- **Registration is Open for the 2009-2010 School Year** for Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. St. Robert's serves children from age 2 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. **Spring Break** begins at 11:30 A.M. on Holy Thursday, April 9. Classes resume Monday, April 20.
- **St. Robert Bellarmine Parents' Association's St. Patrick's Day Dinner Saturday March 7 at 6pm** located at St. Robert Bellarmine's Kernaghan Hall (4646 N. Austin). The cost is \$22 per person, and includes A Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner & Entertainment Tickets. For contact Trina Elfert via the school office 773-725-5133. Tickets must be acquired in advance.
- **St. Joseph's at St. Robert's** will hold its annual St. Joseph's Sweet Table on Saturday, March 14th after the 5pm Mass, and after all Masses on Sunday, March 15th in the church hall.

Your ad here: [jpna@earthlink.net](mailto:jpna@earthlink.net) 847-902-2961 \$15/iss. for 1"x2" dist 1500

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*(nowadays, who doesn't?...)*

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 (773)427-7300 4368 N. Milwaukee (at Montrose)

### RECIPE BOOK -ADS

JPNA is putting together a recipe book as a fund raiser. Advertise with us!  
 You can either submit your recipe or Ad to [jpna@earthlink.net](mailto:jpna@earthlink.net) or Jefferson Park Neighborhood Assn, P.O. Box 30072, Chicago, IL 60630-0072.



**Portage Park Handyman Service**  
**Rich Escallier**  
 773.282.5857  
[portageparkhandyman.com](http://portageparkhandyman.com)

### i-coffee

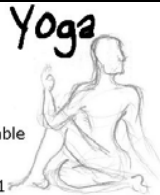
4945 N Milwaukee Ave  
 773- 777-7311

**coffee sandwiches pastries**  
 M-F 7:30 am-8:30pm  
 Sat 9am-8:30pm Sun 9am- 5pm  
 Thank you for the coffee!

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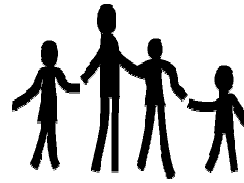


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# Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter for March & April 2009

### Contact Us:

Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 30072  
 Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072  
 773.282.3879

[jpna@earthlink.net](mailto:jpna@earthlink.net) [www.jpna.net](http://www.jpna.net)

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## Upcoming Events

### General meetings:

**March 25** Round table—Community Development. An in depth discussion of things going on in the area.

**April 29** TBD—pending the outcome of the March meeting.

**May 27 (Tentative)** George Sullivan of Eco Smart Building will be doing a presentation on "Solar and Wind Options in Chicago". Also on hand will be JPNA member Jeffrey Sommers, to potentially answer any questions relating to the use of solar on a residence (since he has panels installed on his home), and also the integration of these systems in new construction and renovation projects.

**June 24** TBA

Please check our web-site [www.jpna.net](http://www.jpna.net) for updates

### All general meetings Open to the public and are held at:

Jefferson Park Congregational Church 5320 W. Giddings  
 7 pm -- the last Wednesday of each month.  
 Refreshments will be provided & chance to win a door prize

### Other:

**CAPS Meetings for beat 1623** are the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7pm, at Jefferson Park Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee Ave.

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** General Election for 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District *Get out and Vote!*

### Current Officers:

Merril Miller, *President* Ed Irsch, *Treasurer*  
 Brian Wardman, *Vice President* Lotty Blumenthal *Secretary*

### Board Members:

Ron Ernst  
 Eva Skowronski

## *A Couple of Letters from ...*

*All Letters presented are letters to JPNA by individuals, who do not speak for it.*

Just a thought to call Jefferson Park a mosaic of U.S. Americans.

Calling the gathering of differences of people, beliefs, yearnings, hopes, and dreams a mosaic rather than a melting pot has been attributed to President Jimmy Carter.

In a mosaic, each tile retains its individuality but celebrates its commonality in the mosaic picture or design. In a mosaic of U.S. Americans, each person retains individuality (the ethnicity tile, if you will) but celebrates the commonality as a U.S. American (the American culture mosaic, if you will). During World War II, a blue star flag in a window meant someone in the family was serving in the Armed Forces - not the Latin-American Armed Forces, not the Polish-American Armed Forces, not the German-American Armed Forces, not the African-American Armed Forces, but the U.S. Armed Forces. That was Jefferson Park then, that is Jefferson Park as it should remain: free from an ethnic "tile" label but embracing our American culture "mosaic."

After all the explanation and exposition, it is still just a thought to call Jefferson Park a mosaic of U.S. Americans.

*Ed Irsch*

Dear Editor,

The Community Development Commission meeting of February 10th was confusing only for residents of Jeff Park. In the CDC advertised agenda (by law), the lots listed to be bought by them were listed as 5215, 5225, 5231 and 5305 W. Lawrence. Since 5225 is the bicycle shop, it brought people to the meeting. On the agenda, Jeff Park lots were supposed to be last, 8th, on the agenda. The first 2 areas on the agenda went off without a hitch. Both aldermen Periwinkle and Burnett had all correct lots listed, had held community meetings, had minutes from those meetings and community organization members present to testify as to the value, hopes and dreams for the developments to go on the sights which the CDC would be buying.

Then the strangeness started. James Kozonis and his lawyer entered the room. Then, a few minutes later Alderman Levar. The CDC members decided to go out of order: Instead of last or eighth, they called up the Jefferson Park lots or area next. Then the lot numbers that flashed on the screen were completely different from those listed on the agenda.

Some numbers not on the agenda were posted on their film Board, and some numbers which were listed on the [original] agenda, such as the [address for] Bike shop, were not listed [the screen]. Alderman Levar spoke saying that the Bike shops' numbers were an error, that he'd notified everyone and went to the Bike shop with a written affirmation that [ the bike shop] lot was not on the list.

Members of the JPNA current Board and some previous Board members spoke. Key testimony was given by Board member Ron Ernst and Ed Irsch, treasurer. They brought up that citizens were at a disadvantage because [they] did not have the paperwork to show what was being done. It sounded to us that even after purchase by the CDC that the previous owner, Kozonis, would still be able to select what was built on the lots and who could develop them. Such action would not be in keeping with local citizens who may want other types of development. For instance, I testified that I wanted a new, better, bigger library like

other communities since I always have to wait an hour for computer use at the library [which is] without a parking lot and with [fewer] floors and services [than] everywhere else. In fact, while writing this letter in the library, in response to a comment, a librarian said, "What we need is a new library!" In response to CDC members' questions, Levar admitted there had been no community meetings. Neither Zemenides, Kozonis' lawyer, nor lawyers from the City's Corporation Council could explain whether the current proposal would allow for a public building as a school or library, both sorely needed here, instead of more condos which are not needed at this time anywhere in the country. In such confusion, the CDC committee voted to continue the proposal until next month asking Levar to have community input and meetings.

Hopefully, such a meeting with President Miller as part will result in a document that assures all that after CDC purchase the previous owner will not have any control over what the people who live here want and need.\*\*

*C.M. Blumenthal*

\*\*Since this writing President Miller was asked to participate in a meeting, but the JPNA board has asked for a full community meeting to preserve transparency in the process, for the sake of the full neighborhood beyond JPNA members.

## **Area News**

### ***Attention all you vegans!***

Well, it's ok for you carnivores too. We need your expertise to continue the work of Seth Brecklin, fom Eagle Scout Troup 840 and to make the "Food for the Hungry" garden successful again for 2009.

As you know, all the produce and herbs grown there were donated to the Northwest Church of Christ Food Pantry [See Thank You below]

Hopefully, some of you gardeners will come forward and lend your 'green thumbs' to planting various vegetables & herbs. We can also use volunteers for mowing the grass, weeding and keeping the area neat. We also wish to continue receiving donations from various retailers/residents for the following:

Plants

Mulch & timber (for the beds)

Soil & peat moss

Tomato cages and water water water

The Eagle Scout Troup will still assist in getting the garden started, but want to turn upkeep & maintenance over to our new volunteers, so, please, contact me, Eva at 773.282.3879

*Eva Skowronski*

### **A Thank You to Volunteers:**

The clients at our food pantry were thrilled to receive fresh produce. It's been difficult for us to deliver good-quality fresh vegetables on a consistent basis, and the garden has been the perfect solution. Thanks to Seth and JPNA, we've been able to offer more balance and nutrition for the families who depend on our food pantry. The garden has also made it possible for us to offer a larger quantity of food than we'd normally be able to.

We and our clients are looking forward to another season of great produce from the community garden. Thanks to everyone involved.

Patrick Odum, Northwest Church of Christ, 4602 N. Kilbourn, 60630

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