

On the Horizon

Thorp Spring Childrens' Concert/Fundraiser for the school. Funkadesi Kids' Concert, Saturday, May 7; doors open at 1 PM; show starts at 2 PM Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. Adults: \$15; Children 3-14 yrs \$10
The Polish Museum of America is sponsoring an innovative fundraiser--collecting unwanted military memorabilia. One of the drop off points is Jefferson Park's Copernicus Foundation, 5216 W. Lawrence, on May 21, 10 AM--2 PM.

The Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce is working with the **Northwest Chicago Historical Society** to place the Milwaukee-Lawrence shopping district on the National Register of Historic Places. Placement on the list will hopefully bring some increased notoriety to the area and provide some tax credits to those commercial building owners who rehab their properties. The chamber is asking that if you have any old photographs of some of the existing commercial structures on Milwaukee or Lawrence, or noteworthy documents or other information, to contact Brian Nadig at 773-286-6100 or send an e-mail to nadignewspapers@aol.com.

Needed: Concerned Neighbors for....

Petition drives, community projects, gardening, outreach research, monthly meetings, proofreading, web help etc.

Show how much your care about your neighborhood & get involved!
www.jpna.net

35 Family Garage Sale

June 3rd, 4th, & 5th

Gunnison, Ainslie, Strong, Argyle Alleys
 from 5000 West to 5200 West
Also see ad in Nadig

PERSONAL DATA ENTRY Get organized in 2011!

Address books, video lists, book collections, CD collections
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Contact Judy Skotzko at
personaldataentry@hotmail.com

If you would like to advertise with us...
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Will return call within 24 hours
 \$25 per hour

Merril is now teaching at:

Farlow's Playroom

4222 N. Milwaukee, 60641
www.Merril.net
 847-902-2961

Yoga classes 8pm Tuesdays

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Malgorzata Sypien, M.D.

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www.familydoctorchicago.com

Mongoose Towing

Flatbed Towing

From 7am - 9pm
 773-282-1234



Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter for

Spring 2011

Contact Us:

Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

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

jpna@earthlink.net www.jpna.net

Inside:

- Political Campaign Deficit Tax *page 2*
- More on the Chicagoland Natural Gas Savings Program *page 3*
- On the Horizon *page 4*

Upcoming Events

General meetings:

May 25 - Dobra Belinski cooks! Learn new recipes.

June 29 - Aldermanic Town Hall - come out and meet our new alderman, John Arena. Please mark this special date to be able to meet with the alderman as he gets plans in place and is seeking further input.

July 27 - General Forum- Drop in speakers. Catching up with things going on in the area.

August 31 - Lake Clairmont Press presentation on Chicago Zoning

September 28 - Annual Elections & CUBs presentation

October 26 - Lake Clairmont Press presentation on Chicago Hauntings**

November 30 - General Forum- Drop in speakers. Catching up with things going on in the area. ****pending confirmation**

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

Education Task Group - if interested contact Lotty at: BCarlotty@yahoo.com or 773-736-1702

NEW! * JEFFERSON PARK FARMERS MARKET * NEW!
 June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24 August 14 & 28 September 11 & 25 October 9
 10-2 Sundays Copernicus Parking Lot, 5216 West Lawrence
Thanks to everyone that's helped in this effort!

Current Officers: Merrill Miller, President Ed Irsch, Treasurer
 Brian Wardman, Vice President Lotty Blumenthal Secretary

Board Members: Eva Skowronski * Mike Bezanson * Judy Skotzko * Robert Bank

What I like about JPNA

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

No one person in JPNA - not a board member or an officer (including the president) - speaks for the entire organization. However, with the open forums held for association members at JPNA regular meetings, members seem open to express their opinions on a variety of "hot button" topics. The opinions are probably more candid in this "family" setting than in a more formal community input meeting.

When a project or development is in the planning stage - before it is ready for community input - selected Board members have been asked to offer opinions of probable reactions from the community. These meetings could be considered "back room conferences" when the emphasis is on "selected" board members which could exclude the most knowledgeable JPNA members; they could be considered an honest attempt to avoid a truly unacceptable development plan; they could be considered a pacifier to the community; they could be considered THE meeting with the community to satisfy City Council (Zoning or Development) Committee guidelines.

The "dangers" or disadvantages might not outweigh the advantage of the opportunity to explain - quietly to a few people rather than raucously in a larger, public gathering - that the existing zoning regulations have helped make Jefferson Park the advantageous neighborhood that it is. What I like about JPNA is that we are trying the quiet approach - not arbitrarily saying that it won't work.

Stay tuned to JPNA and bring your opinions on a variety of "hot button" topics discussed (sometimes like in all "families" we fight rather than discuss) at JPNA meetings. Stay tuned to find out if the voices (not one majority-rules voice) of the residents will be heard.

Ed Irsch, JPNA member (also JPNA treasurer - and, in the interest of full disclosure - I have been to some special meetings.)

Watch our email list for more update on community meetings <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jpna>

Open Letter to our new Alderman:

Congratulations to our newly elected Alderman, John Arena. We are happy to have you aboard & hope to have a good relationship with your office.

You and/or your staff are welcome to attend any of our monthly meetings, and we look forward to your participation in our June meeting.

Of note to members:

One change to the JPNA Constitution was approved during our March Meeting. It is that changes to our constitution may be made and any time in the year provided that they are brought up at one regular meeting and approved for vote, and then voted on at the next subsequent regular meeting without other changes. Changes would require that the vote be pushed to the next month. As a reminder, voting eligible members must be paid in full for 2 months prior to any vote.

There is always good news and bad news.

The article was the easy part. Now comes the hard part.

Pre-community meeting. I was aware of one resident's concern, but did not mention it even though I feel it has validity. (I forgot!) It has to do with the view from the residential side of the tracks. I do not remember any artist conception from that perspective. I feel it would involve a sketch of the height of the railroad tracks with a building the height at code behind it. Another sketch would show the railroad tracks with the proposed height (perhaps with a train to remind people that the building might act as a sound board and increase the noise level away from Milwaukee Ave). I feel this is a valid point to be made by a neighborhood association trying to speak for all residents.

Name recognition. I feel the fact that JPNA has been receiving mentions in the "Press" (the not-free press) has been giving us name exposure and perhaps name recognition. I feel our name on a pen (hardly room for our purpose per constitution or motto) is not effective; I feel distributing OUR freebies at a venue that we are touting as focusing on the candidates (where they, no doubt, will be distributing freebies) is too obviously self-serving rather than community serving. I just thought of an alternative (could be discussed by the board after the debate is completed): A pocket calendar (plastic) cover.

Expenditures authorization. I feel a general authorization by the association or a more detailed (more line items) budget approved by the board is not the authority for any board member (including the president) to spend anything they want for any line item they want. Even when the board authorizes an individual board member a limited amount for a vaguely defined project, all expenditure should be related "directly" to the project

I have just come up with an "acronym" that suits my snail-paced (from snail-mail) attitude for spending money of an organization: CPA and PS which translates to Consider (all [many] possibilities), Plan (what would be needed for several ideas), Authorize (decide on the best one or the prioritized sequence); the PS comes out to be [and accomplish it with] Prudent Spending. My opinion of the e-mail paced attitude for spending money of an organization is: CPA and ATM which translates to Confer, Package, Authorize (and it can only be accomplished if you) Access The Maximum (it has been authorized already, why not spend it).

Now I am ventina.

Ed Irsch

Dear Fellow Neighbors & friends

We want to know what issues or problems you would like us to be involved with.

Please write, email or call us with anything.

Lotty Blumenthal

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Z-Print

5257 N. Central 773-685-4878

To join our list -send an email to: jpna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Remember member discounts at these area businesses:

Delightful Pastries, (773) 545-7215, 10% Disc. On \$10 or over

Krakus Homemade Sausage, (773) 736-3524 10% Disc. On \$10 or over

J's Vitamins (773) 763-1917 10% On \$10 or over

Nadig Press (773) 286-6100, \$5 off on Any Garage Sale or Used Car ad

Today's Hair (773) 545-9160, \$2 off Haircut

Theresa II (773) 283-0184, 15% Disc. On \$10 or over

Valbona's Beauty Salon (773) 545-0206, 10% on service \$10 or over