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MEMBERSHIP DUES - Please type or print

Name(s): _____

—

Address: _____

Home phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Dues - \$15.00 per person; seniors (age 55+) \$10 per person

I saw this ad at: _____

Make check payable to and mail check with this form to:

Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 30072

Portage Park Handyman Service
Rich Escallier
773.282.5857
portageparkhandyman.com

Chicago Hot Glass  **Benefit**
Bash
 Saturday, Sept. 13, 7pm -1 am
 Live glassblowing demos, music demos, & BBQ! \$20 donation
 1250 N. Central Park Ave

Pasta and Presents

Sunday, Nov, 16, 2008 11:30am-2pm

Irving Park Lutheran Church
 Gymnasium 3938 W. Belle Plaine

Enjoy a hearty meal, dessert & great company!

For info/tickets:

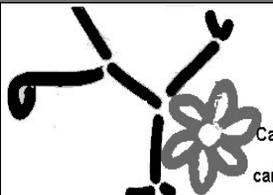
SeniorLink Alliance: 312-744-9022
 Adults \$7 (\$9 @ Door)
 Seniors/pre-teens \$5 (\$7 @ door)

Featuring a holiday bazaar & silent auction!

Hatha I/II
 focus on alignment, structure and education
 With therapeutic benefits
 Mon, Tues, Thurs 7pm \$10 drop

Yoga 

Gladstone Chiropractic
 5316 N Milwaukee
 773.774.1041

Cartwheel Gardens
 773.283.0268
cartwheelgardens@earthlink.net
 Thank you for your help!

Your ad here: jpna@earthlink.net 847-902-2961 \$15/iss. for 1"x2" dist

Needed: Concerned Neighbors for...

Petition drives, proofreading, web support, speaking/speaker solicitation...come to our meeting to find out more (see front cover)



Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter for **September & October 2008**

Contact Us:
 Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

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

jpna@earthlink.net www.jpna.net

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Upcoming Events

General meetings:

September 24 A representative will be out to talk about the Guaranteed Home Equity Assurance Program and answer any questions. This Chicago program helps stabilize neighborhoods by ensuring that participating homeowners get back the original investment in their home.

October 29 Open Forum: Publication & Communication of Zoning Changes. How to find out about what changes affect you.

November 19 *NOTE this is a change of schedule due to the Thanksgiving holiday.* Linda Mercado-Vazquez will be talking about city 311 services, highlighting some of the hundreds of things that fall into that system like various tax assistance/credit programs, department housing options and more.

There will be no December meeting this year and we will resume our meeting schedule on January 28th.

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 of each month at 7pm, at the Jefferson Park Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee Ave. upcoming: 9/17/07, 10/15/08 (possibly cancelled due to Halloween schedule—please check against Nadig press), 11/19/07 (we will try to have a runner from that meeting update us by the end of our JPNA meeting that night)

Current Officers: Merrill Miller, *President*
 Ed Irsch, *Treasurer*
 Lotty Blumenthal *Secretary*

Board Members:
 Ron Ernst
 Eva Skowronski

And How Does Your Garden Grow?

When you look at the southwest corner of Laramie/Ainslie (also Gunnison curve), you might think you're at a small local farm. Well, you are...it's the local Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Community vegetable garden.

So, you ask, what is this all about? And I am now going to tell you the rest of the story.

Our president, Merril Miller, had an idea to create a community garden on vacant public property. After checking on who owns this parcel, we received permission from the State of Illinois for the use of the land to maintain a vegetable garden for donation to a food pantry. Some starter plants were to be obtained from Green Corps Chicago. But here is the most difficult part, who would be our 'farmer'?

I contacted a neighbor connected with Cub Scout Pack #3963 who, in turn, found our miracle worker. His name is Seth Brecklin and belongs to Boy Scout Troop #840. Seth is in the process of earning his Eagle Scout badge and this project would be ideal for him.

He took charge (thank you, Seth) of everything. Seth organized a crew to help him with clearing a designated area of grass and weeds. He mapped out the particular vegetable beds and then planted the following: multiple varieties of tomatoes, green peppers, hot peppers, various greens, herbs, zucchini and squash. We asked & received permission from several surrounding neighbors to use their water. These neighbors would also come out and water the garden when Seth is out of town. Then the produce is being harvested by members of the Northwest Church of Christ food pantry.

Seth will continue working on this project through spring of 2009. Hopefully, this gives us enough time for other gardening volunteers to come forward & continue this worthwhile cause.

At this time, in addition to a big 'thank you' to Seth & his crew, we wish to offer our thanks to the following for their donations of goods or time given (donations obtained by Seth):

- Crafty Beaver Home Center, 3840 W. Montrose (mulch & timber)
- Farmers Market Garden Center, 4110 N. Elston (soil & peat moss)
- Keystone Ace Hardware 4050 W. Lawrence (tomato cages)
- Terry Boyke (tomato cages)

Other:

- The Rios family (water use & watering)
 - Mike Bezanson (cutting the grass)
 - Martin Flaherty (cleaning surrounding area)
 - Streets & Sanitation (speedy pick up of garden debris)
- So now, you know the rest of the story.

-Eva S.

WHEN A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE IS A DANGEROUS THING AND IS SHARED - Ed Irsch

There are three types of mayors (governors, Presidents) in this country - One who says that the buck (responsibility) stops here. Another says that the buck (irresistible) stops here. Another says that the no fault stops here (doesn't go beyond my office).

There are three types of citizens in this country -
 One who says that our mayor has made mistakes, but admits them; and all the city finances are an open book.
 Another says that as long as the snow is removed and the potholes are filled, our mayor is doing a good job; I don't care what happens to the rest of my tax dollars.
 Another says that our mayor is perfect; he is not to blame for anything that goes wrong.

There are three types of cities in this country -
 One is where the citizens are proud of their city and mayor.
 Another is where the mayor is proud in his popularity because he actually uses part of taxes for city services which benefit all citizens.
 Another is where the mayor is proud of **his** city because he feels he built it and runs it.

I have difficulty being proud of this city when -
 The city requests my state tax dollars to be spent for more school funding when I don't know how much in city taxes is being diverted by the TIF's.
 The city requests my federal tax dollars to be spent to host the Olympic Games (and to have my city tax dollars cover any shortfall) when many previous special projects were presented with low-balled cost estimates.

The city requests my federal tax dollars to be spent to expand O'Hare flight capacity when inadequacy of current baggage handling would also expand.
 The city has a maximum population density (zoning) ordinance for neighborhoods which can be up-zoned (increase density) parcel by parcel by one developer with the application of "there is little organized objection within 250-foot rule" but a request to down-zone (and sometimes maintain the current zoning) requires proof of 250 individual supporters.

Is it any wonder I find I am asking myself -
 Is this really a city with a no fault mayor who will not volunteer city tax spending information and has an apparent disdain for open decision making? Is this really a city where popularity is purchased with many small amounts of taxes in unfettered funds for the many while ten times that total of taxes is in unfettered funds for the one?
 Is this really a city unto itself - not governed by the rule of the republic in which we stand?

On the Horizon	Did you Know
Jefferson Park Historical Society in conjunction with the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia will present "The Mystery of Jefferson Park". A Presentation & Discussion of Who, Where, Why, did so many Germans from Russia Come to this area of Chicago from 1910 to 1914. Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008 – 2:00 PM (opens at 1:30) St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1025 W. Lake Street, Melrose Park, IL	You can now remit the following city-related payments at the 16 th district Police Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking/red light tickets • Water bills • Permits • Business taxes • Administrative notice of ordinance violations You can use cash, personal checks & credit cards. No money orders.

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