



# Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

Newsletter for Spring 2019

PO. Box 30072  
Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072  
773-282-3879  
EMAIL: [jpna@jpna.net](mailto:jpna@jpna.net)



Website



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## General Meetings:

Last Wednesday of Month @ 7pm, Congregational Church of Jefferson Park, 5320 West Giddings. All are welcome. Anyone can attend.

March 27: Nelly Benitez & David Schwab, representatives from City of Chicago 311 non-emergency system will talk about modernization, give highlights of changes & how to submit City requests.

April 24: William Delgado, Chgo. Dist. Area Manager of Customer Relations, & Musette Henley, USPS, Customer Relations Coordinator will discuss some of the postal issues in our area and how they will be solved.

May 29: Newly elected Alderman of the 45th Ward, Jim Gardiner will discuss his vision for Jefferson Park, how to work together with all groups and residents, encourage community input, provide transparency, and allow time for questions and answers. Congratulations, Mr. Jim Gardiner!

## **Congratulations, Newly Elected James “Jim” Gardiner of the 45th Ward**

*The Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association would like to congratulate Jim Gardiner on his victory for 45th Ward Alderman. We were pleased the many times Jim came to our meetings to talk to members and non-members. We look forward to working with Alderman Gardiner in all areas that concern our Ward.*

## **Congratulations, Re-Elect Alderman Napolitano of the 41st Ward**

*We would also like to congratulate Alderman Napolitano on his re-election as Alderman of the 41st Ward. We look forward to continue working with the Alderman.*

## **Gerrymandering, an Evil in Illinois**

By William Brian Wardman

*Gerrymandering is the manipulation of districts' lines to benefit a politician or a political party. The individual or particular party takes control of the process to draw these district lines. And, therefore, they can choose which voters to have in their districts. For decades, this practice has been used to limit the voting power of minorities in the State of Illinois.*

*During the last election cycle, 105 Democrats and Republicans in the House elected to put mapmaking to an independent commission and not political leaders. This NEVER made it to a vote. In a ploy, Michael Madigan, Leader of the House, and Illinois Senate Leader John Cullerton pushed through a different version of mapmaking legislation which essentially did not change anything.*

(Cont. Page 3)

## **Sgt. Alvarez Says,**

LOCK YOUR WINDOWS AND DOORS ON YOUR HOUSE, CAR, GARAGE, ALL THE TIME, EVERY TIME

*Thieves are targeting cars in our area. Interest is in your tires, catalytic converters and anything of value left in plain view. It is always best to park in well-lighted areas, keep valuables out of sight, and ensure that your doors are locked. Never leave your keys in your car when you are pumping gas or warming your vehicle. It is illegal to leave your unattended vehicle running per Chicago Municipal Code 9-40-80. Be careful on ice and snow.*

*Please help us combat crime! For more information, contact the 16th District Community Policing Office at 312-742-4521. Follow us at twitter: @ChicagoCAPS16*

*If you suspect any crime, call 911. For more information, call the CAPS staff and Sgt. Alvarez at 312-742-4521.*

## **Help Stop the construction of 16 floor Sky-scraper at Lipps and Ainslie**

Donate for Lawsuit by sending check Payable to Ron Ernst, PO. Box 30072, Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072 or GoFundMe at <https://www.gofundme.com/2017ch12986-lawsuit-fund>

## **REMEMBER TO VOTE in Run-off**

### **Mayor and Treasurer**

Election time is coming Tuesday April 2, 2019.

First day of early voting: March 18, 2019

Last day of early voting: April 1, 2019

Last day mail ballots received: April 2, 2019

Early Voting in JP: 16th District Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee 312 742-4521

## **Neighborhood Business You Should Know**

### **Farlap and Associates**

*Never Pay A Percentage to fight your Cook County property taxes! Here are Three TIPS for fighting property taxes. 1. You can appeal up to four times per year, each and every year. If you're using an attorney, he probably only helps you every 3 years and this can cost you quite a bit. 2. Description errors like UNFINISHED BASEMENT do NOT matter. FINISHED BASEMENTS are NEVER included in figuring valuations for tax purposes. 3. Chicago homes had new property tax values issued in 2018 that will hit the tax bill for the first time JULY 2019. It's going to be very painful for most. To estimate your July tax bill, please go to our VIDEOS page [www.AppealUnfairPropertyTax.com](http://www.AppealUnfairPropertyTax.com) We are a family business with over 22 years of experience. We have had Thousands of customers and are rated five stars everywhere! If you need help or just information, please call us at 773-409-4405.*

## **Oh, no, not another Advertisement!**

By Eva M.S.

*Well, I am sure you have noticed the various business ads in our Newsletters. There are several reasons for the use of these. Here are just a few: The businesses want all of us to know where they are located; what they do, sell, or provide; and then encourage us to visit them. And, for the JPNA, their ads help pay for the printing of our Newsletters. So, What is the moral of this write-up? Any business which advertises with us, gets the opportunity to meet JPNA members who patronize their establishments. So, please give our advertisers 'The Business' and tell them were you saw their ad. We Thank both You and Our Advertisers. (We plan to introduce one of these businesses at each of our upcoming meetings).*

## Gerrymandering, an Evil in Illinois (continued from Page 1)

*The current redistricting process allows party leaders to determine their own district lines, which is a conflict of interest that undermines the integrity of our elections. This control of district lines is clearly an unethical practice because:*

- Work is done behind closed doors, mapping districts and choosing who will be in or who can be weakened to possibly getting elected.*
- The drawn boundaries maximize the interests of those in power by securing their seats.*

*We need to have a Voting Referendum to change the Illinois Constitution to allow citizens to be on an independent commission and members would be chosen by the Illinois Supreme Court. Candidates for the independent commission cannot be connected to any party leaders, must have high ethical standards, and cannot have a financial interest in the drawing of the boundaries.*

*We need to become involved in getting an Independent Commission on mapping of district lines on the ballot and change the Illinois Constitution. As Vice-President of the JPNA, we are asking our members to add to our platform a statement "We support Legislation that will end Gerrymandering."*

## Join JPNA Today

Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association has been in existence since the year 2001.

The JPNA is made up of neighbors, like yourself. Send to PO Box listed on page 1.

Membership:        1 year \$15.00 per person, seniors (age 50+) \$10.00 per person.  
                             2 year \$25.00 per person, seniors (age 50+) \$15.00 per person.

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**Special Sunday Market Fannie's Cafe 5044  
W. Montrose Ave., Chgo.  
Sunday, March 31, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Last 2 Winter Sunday Markets at Copernicus  
Center Annex 5214 W. Lawrence Ave.  
Sunday, April 7 & May 5. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

Summer Newsletter Deadline May 31, 2019 [jpna@jpna.net](mailto:jpna@jpna.net)



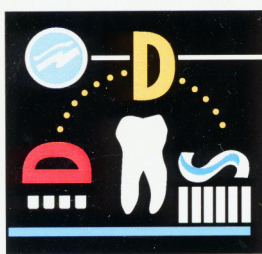
# Support Our Local Businesses. Mention this AD.



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## JPNA Board Members

Colleen Murphy (President); William "Brian" Wardman (Vice-President/Newsletter Editor); Ed Irsch (Treasurer); Peter Insley (Secretary); Libby Baroneian; Lotty Blumenthal; Ron Ernst; Steve Neidenbach; Eva Skowronski; Siufofoga Tufele