



**Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association** *est.2001*

## Newsletter for Fall 2024



Website



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X

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### **Meetings**

*You are all invited to JPNA meetings at 7pm Congregational Church of Jefferson Park, 5320 W. Giddings.*

*September 25, October 30, November 20.*

*Free parking is available at the Hoyne drive-up Bank, Milwaukee & Giddings. Refreshments will be served.*

### ***The Value of Small Businesses in Jefferson Park and Their Role in Growth***

*Submitted by Sol*

*Small businesses are the backbone of communities, playing a pivotal role in the economic and social development of neighborhoods. While large corporations often dominate headlines, it's the local bakeries, coffee shops, and independent retailers that create the distinct character and charm of a neighborhood. The value they bring extends far beyond their immediate storefronts, contributing significantly to the community's economy, culture, and sense of identity. The Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association strives to support small businesses.*

#### ***Economic Growth and Job Creation***

*Small businesses are vital drivers of economic growth at the local level. They create jobs within the community, offering employment opportunities to residents, which in turn helps to lower unemployment rates and improve the local economy. Unlike large corporations, which often outsource jobs or relocate operations, small businesses tend to hire locally, ensuring that money stays within the community. This "multiplier effect" means that dollars spent at a local business circulate through the local economy, supporting other businesses and services.*

*Additionally, small businesses often foster innovation and entrepreneurship. By providing unique goods and services tailored to local needs, they fill market gaps that larger businesses may overlook. This fosters competition and keeps the economy dynamic, while also encouraging further investment in the area.*

#### ***Community Identity and Social Fabric***

*Beyond economics, small businesses contribute to the social fabric and identity of a neighborhood. They reflect the personality and culture of the community they serve, offering spaces where people can gather, interact, and build relationships. These businesses often act as informal community centers, hosting events, supporting local causes, and creating a sense of belonging for residents.*

*Moreover, small businesses tend to be more attuned to the specific needs and preferences of their clientele. This results in personalized service and products that reflect the character of the neighborhood, making the community more attractive to residents and visitors alike.*

#### ***Sustainability and Long-Term Growth***

*Small businesses also promote sustainable growth. They are more likely to support local suppliers, engage in environmentally friendly practices, and invest in the long-term well-being of the neighborhood. As a result, they contribute to the resilience of the community, ensuring that economic and social benefits are shared widely and sustainably.*

*In conclusion, small businesses play an indispensable role in fostering both economic growth and a sense of community. By keeping money within the local economy, supporting job creation, and enhancing the unique culture of neighborhoods, they contribute to the long-term prosperity and vibrancy of the areas they serve.*



Cynthia Laris — Long time member of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association and Member of VASA Order of America passed away on June 7, 2024.

Those who knew Cynthia will miss her.



## 16TH DISTRICT

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

5151 N. MILWAUKEE AVE

312-742-4480 (Main Line)

312-742-4521 (Community Policing)



### ***Alley Safety Tips***

#### ***Secure your back door and gate:***

*You can discourage burglars by putting a lock on your back gate, ensuring that your back door has a deadbolt lock and making sure that your back fence, trees or shrubs do not obscure the view of your home.*

#### ***Secure your garage:***

*Make your garage safe by installing good lighting at the back and over any side entrances, and secure stored property with a strong lock. An automatic garage door opener makes coming home safer, light or motion sensitive lighting devices ensure that when you leave or come home, you won't be in the dark.*

#### ***Light your alley and back yard:***

*Make sure that all City installed lights are working and report bulbs that are out or other problems immediately. You can enhance security by adding lights to your garage, back fence and yard, and passages between your building or garage and those of your neighbors.*

#### ***Place your address in the back of your property:***

*You should have your address permanently marked on the back of your property-on the gate, the fence, or the garage.*

#### ***Don't use alleys as alternatives to streets:***

*You should not use alleys as shortcuts, especially when alone at night. Always use the heavily traveled streets and sidewalks.*

### **MB Insurance**

MB Insurance & Financial Services is your local resource for Health Insurance Plans. We are located at the corner of Higgins Ave and Mont Clare Ave just east of Harlem Ave.

Beata Bochenek, licensed insurance agent and agency owner, together with her team offers her knowledge, time and experience to guide individuals and small business employers through the complexity of the healthcare system and available coverage options. We

### **MB Insurance (cont)**

represent the leading insurance carriers like Aetna, Blue Cross, Cigna, Devoted, Humana, United Healthcare, Wellcare.

We are proud to serve our community since 2008. We take the time to listen to you and offer Health Plans, which fit your health needs and budget. If we earn your business, we owe you year-round service.

Are you turning 65 or preparing for retirement? We are here to help you calculate the cost of that transition and assist you with enrollment to Medicare Supplement Plan, Medicare Prescription Drug Plan / Part D or Medicare Advantage Plan / Part C.

Do not hesitate to contact us during the Medicare Annual Enrollment October 15th-December 7th

We will be available to you in person to provide free review of your benefits and offer you the best solution for 2025. See advertisement for contact information.

### **Gen-Ki Karate**

Gen-Ki Karate officially became part of Jefferson Park in 1972 with Jerry "Sensei" Weiss at helm in 1974. He first was located next to the Nadig Newspaper on Milwaukee Ave., just north of the Bus Terminal. He then moved to the south side of the Terminal until the buildings were torn down to make way for the Veteran's Square building. He then traveled North on Milwaukee to Skill Plaza and moved again to his present location at 5756 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Gladstone Park:

Sensei Weiss holds a 10th degree Black Belt which is the highest rank of Black Belt one can achieve. He also is now considered a Master or Professor. Over the years so many people both young and old have walked through his doors. Very often a parent or Grandparent will come in with their child or Grandchild remembering what a great experience they had and now want to share their experience with us as well.

Many of the students have gone on to great things in their life and attribute many of their successes to their time with him. At the same time many have come with special needs or challenges or things to overcome and we are also there to help. The martial arts can be physical at times, a great stress release, an opportunity to learn Self Defense or just a place to learn a new hobby. There are many programs offered for the young and old. Sensei Weiss suggests calling and ask questions about what they offer and what their goals might be. He can be reached at 773-774-8818.

JPNA Board Members: Colleen Murphy (President); William "Brian" Wardman (Vice-President/Newsletter Editor); Floyd Rueger (Secretary); Bruce Herr (Treasurer); Gwynne Carlson; Steve Neidenbach; Eva Skowronski; Peter Insley

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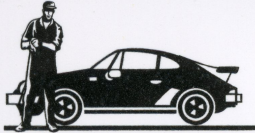


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