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Membership Dues - \$15.00 per person; seniors (age 55+) \$10 per person 2 year \$25.00 per person; seniors (age 55+) \$15 per person
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Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 30072
Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072
What committees would you be interested in working?
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# 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

# **Mongoose Towing**

## Flatbed Towing

From 7am – 9pm 773-282-1234



# Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter for

**FALL 2011** 

#### 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:**

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

December 28 - 4th Annual Holiday Toast at Gale Street Inn

**January 25** – General Forum- Drop in speakers. Catching up with things going on in the area.

**February 29** – (tentative) Presentation on spring gardening with Horticulturalist Rachel DeCorvo.

March 28 - (tentative) Presentation on Canoeing

**April 25** – General Forum- Drop in speakers. Catching up with things going on in the area.

May 30 - TBA

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

TIF Zoning Task Group – if interested send us a note at JPNA@eathlink.net

Farmers Market Task Group – to volunteer for next year's market, send us a note at JPNA@eathlink.net or call 847.902.2961

Current Officers: Merril Miller, President Ed Irsch, Treasurer

Brian Wardman, Vice President Lotty Blumenthal Secretary

Board Members: Robert Bank \* Mike Bezanson \* Judy Skotzko

Eva Skowronski \* Monica Prus Sykora

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

#### Bike 45

It was at the Farmers' Market Sunday, Oct 9 when Alderman Arena gathered his flock at 9

Oh what a gorgeous day it was for a ride As we took to the streets side by side

Wearing our helmets and other bike gear Travelling North on Milwaukee to the woods so near

There were 60 of us, plus a dog, young and old Crossing Devon/Caldwell/Central, oh so board (we walked)

As the sun continued to blaze above our head Some of our extra clothing had to be shed

When we head back home through the streets of the Glen Many of us were wondering the obvious "when"?

Yes, when Mr. Alderman, and this is no Jive-Can you sponsor another bike ride for Ward 45?

Thank you, we loved it!
(Also thank you to our Leaders)
-Eva Skoronski

What you missed at the recent meetings....

Drop in guests: Congressman Mike Quigley, Alderman John Arena.

#### Do you know in the Classroom?

Would you let your dentist operate on your knee? Would you let your orthopedic doctor defend you in Court? How about an engineer operating on your foot? How about a foot doctor doing a tooth implant? They are all smart people with college degrees.

As strange as it seems, almost no one checks to see if a child has the correctly trained and certified teacher. Yet, although high school teachers are specialists who are certified in a particular subject, which according to State and Federal Guidelines, they are highly qualified to teach, they usually know nothing about early childhood education which is equally important.

Teachers are granted a certificate based on their training, knowledge and tests for a specific area of teaching by the State where they teaching. A high school teacher in Illinois should have an "09" Certificate and can teach classroom where there are departmental classes from grades 6 to 12 only in the area for which they are certified such as Math, English, Music, Art, Science, Psychology, Social Studies. Yet few high school teachers know how to administer or read a DIBELS test for early learners. Early Childhood teachers must have an "04" Certificate and can only teach from pre-school to 3rd grade. Special Education teachers, School Nurses, Social Workers, Counselors, Psychologists, and Administrators, and Bi Lingual Teachers must all have the correct certificate. A regular Elementary Certificate is an "03" which is for those teaching K-8, but only in a self-contained classroom. If grades 6-8 have departmental classes, teachers must have a State Endorsement for that subject which they are teaching. State laws state that all public schools must have and hire Certified Continued ->

teachers for 100% of their classes. Charter schools do not. 20% to 30% of teachers in Charter schools do not have to be certified. Administrators in Charter schools also do not have to be certified. Back in the 1950's, there was a scandal because so many (politically connected?) staff were not properly certified, some even without a college degree, that CPS was in danger of losing its accreditation. But they instituted exams and a new

#### The Perpetuating Purpose

Superintendent instead.

For a long time I have looked at the JPNA purpose: "Neighbors helping neighbors define and participate in a self-vitalizing community" solely from the standpoint as a member of an organization. It made sense as a board member to help define what the neighborhood should be destination for the masses or comfort for the residents) and be confident that participation would follow - if there is agreement on the definition.

But then I walked around the neighborhood and found a non-competitive spirit in the way the front of houses are maintained; neat flower beds and bushes, lawns kept trimmed, a variety of lawn ornaments from realistic animals to whimsical characters. Owners "doing what they do" and appreciating what others are doing. Perhaps unknowingly each in a unique way is participating in a self-vitalizing community without competing for "the best of ..." recognition.

It's quite a wake-up call to be shown that the purpose of JPNA is accomplished in a two-way street: the community is defined for self-vitalizing participation AND self-vitalizing participation defines the community. Either way, neighbors are helping neighbors.

#### On the Horizon

The Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a free doughnut and free small fries for children age 12 and under Oct. 29, 30 and 31. A newsprint coupon must be presented at Dunkin' Donuts, 4867 N. Milwaukee Ave., and McDonald's, 4946 N. Milwaukee Ave., on these days. The coupons are available in the Oct 12 and 19 editions of Nadig Newspapers' Northwest Side Press. The coupons also may be printed in the Oct 26 edition.

November 1<sup>st</sup> Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group Irish Heritage Center 4626 N Knox 10 am FREE Please contact Joe Ferguson to RSVP or to ask for more information. (773) 800-0319

Park Advisory Council for Roberts Square formation public meeting on Nov. 2nd at 6:30 pm in the Jefferson Park Fieldhouse.

Registration for Winter classes begins online Monday November 28th at www.chicagoparkdistrict.com and in-person registration begins Saturday December 3rd at 9:00am for all Chicago Park District programs.

The Jefferson Park Citywide Symphony Orchestra will be performing on Sunday, December 11th at 3:00pm in the auditorium. This is a free family friendly event.

#### Upcoming Events at the Copernicus Foundation:

Polish Beer Tasting! SAMPLE A VARIETY OF IMPORTED POLISH BEERS \$15 in advance - \$17 at the door.

\$5 designed driver or non-beer-drinker Food, wine and mixed drinks available for purchase

Copernicus and Cultural Center 5216 W. Lawrence Ave,60630 all patrons must be 21 or over Tickets: \$15 - \$17

11.05.11 Muscle Expo 12.04.11 "Transinfinity Orchestra" 11.18.11 Gift Theater Gala 12.09/10.11 "Latin Dance Revue"

11.27.11 "World of Dance Tour"

12.11.11 "Copernicus Christmas Show" for kids
12.17.11 "the entertainment project" = Theater for kids

For more information on these, please call 1-773-777-8898 or see www.copernicusfdn.org/

#### 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

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

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

Printing provided by **Z-Print** 5257 N. Central 773-685-4878

Lotty Blumenthal