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JEFFERSON PARK Neighborhood Association



Newsletter for fall 2013

Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 30072 Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072 773-282-3879 jpna@jpna.net www.jpna.net





Upcoming Events

General meetings:

October 30 - Environmental Law and Policy Center

November 20 - Mariano's Fresh Market "Helpful Hints for Thanksgiving" and Andi VanderKolk, Alderman Arena's Office "How to organize a Block Party" (Note date change due to Thanksgiving holiday)

December 18 – JPNA holiday gathering – see website for details (also another date change due to Christmas holiday)

All general meetings are free and open to the public and are held at the Jefferson Park Congregational Church, 5320 W. Giddings, in the basement auditorium at 7 pm on the last Wednesday of each month. Refreshments are provided as well as a chance to win a door prize.

CAPS Meetings, Beat 1623

Wednesday, October 23, 7:00 p.m.

Portage Park, 4100 N. Long (alternate location)

November - NO beat meeting this month

December - TBA - see CPD website for latest info

Volunteers needed!

Farmers Market Task Group - if interested, contact Merril at

merrillvnnmiller@zoho.com

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@jpna.net

Current Officers: Merril Miller, President Ed Irsch, Treasurer

Brian Wardman, Vice-President

Mike Bezanson, Secretary

Board Members: Lotty Blumenthal, Judy Skotzko, Eva Skowronski

All letters presented here are by individuals, who do not speak for the JPNA.

Dear JPNA Members:

One of the problems of our Neighborhood is that residents know that there is less crime in it than in most other neighborhoods. Residents become complacent and do not recognize what may be suspicious signs that they should report to the police. So, even more crime could be prevented if residents were still wary and reported suspicious behavior. And residents, you, should report anything that may be not quite right. You are charged a fee on your phone bill for calling 911 every month; so, use it. Lieutenant Garrido at our last meeting emphasized that you are not bothering them when you call. He felt that there are not enough calls in our area which is why what crime we have is often not prevented or curtailed.

Yes, you take precautions against burglaries by making sure all is locked, see that there is lighting in surrounding areas, using metal bars, locks, leaving a radio on when not home, not allowing strangers into your home, and using only initials and last names on mailboxes; but, no matter how cautious if a strange car has someone sitting in it on your street for a long time, say over 30 minutes, perhaps you should call 911 and let the policeman with the gun ask them why they are there. Perhaps, they are casing your street for a break in. Perhaps, they are planning a mugging.

If you do see someone doing something potentially wrong, look for a good description to give to the police when calling 911. What are they wearing? How tall is the person or persons? What color is their hair if visible? What makes that person different in appearance? What colors are their clothes? How tall is the suspicious person? Is the person fat or thin? Was the person sitting in a car for a long time where children play?

So to make our neighborhood safer, call 911. Give dates and times and location as accurately as possible. You do not need an exact address, just an approximate location as the corner of Hoyne and Lemoyne or the middle of the 5300 block of Lawrence. Let the people who are trained to investigate, the police, do so. Call 911.

C.M. Blumenthal, JPNA Board.

Lydia Home Association "Provide a Student a Work Study Opportunity"

LYDIA Urban Academy is currently in need of business owners and managers willing to make a direct impact in the life of a student by hosting them for a work study placement, or by sponsoring their placement with another community organization. The LYDIA Urban Academy work study program allows employers to help disadvantaged high school students pay for their education through meaningful employment or sponsorship, while at the same time retaining reliable entry-level help for their company. This is a unique opportunity to invest in a young person who is striving to succeed in life. The student will work 4 hours per week, after school. Instead of paying the student, the employer will make a tax-deductible contribution towards the student's tuition. For more information, please contact Karen Anderson at 773-653-2266 or at kanderson@lydiahome.org.

FRINGE FESTIVAL ENTERTAINERS

I was fortunate enough to house two of the entertainers of this wonderful event. Nicole Collins and Gian Smith stayed with me for 5 nights. They were part of the "Hip Hop is Alive, the Play" performance, held at the Spilled Milk Stage, 5320 W. Giddings (right where we hold our meetings, except on the third floor where the temperature was somewhat extremely warm). The group is part of the DaVida Chanel Production out of New Orleans. Nicole is an actress and is presently in the HBO series Treme, in its fourth season. So is Gian Smith, and he writes and performs his own poetry. They both have been part of this particular fringe festival for two years. They loved being in Chicago and felt that our neighborhood was very receptive to their performances. Nicole and Gian were excellent guests and I would not hesitate to house them again. I wish them well.

ON THE HORIZON

FARMERS MARKET AT JEFFERSON PARK: Have you visited our Farmers Market at their new location right here in front of the field house at Jefferson Park lately? If not, we really would like you to come out so we can continue this outdoor event. The vendors love to see more of you walking around and buying their produce. The last dates are: October 13, with Rachel DeCorvo helping us with our semi-annual plant swap; and, possibly, Chicago Animal Care & Control with their brood; October 27, the Jefferson Memorial Advisory Council is joining the last Farmers Market with hayrides, pumpkin painting, and a costume parade. Please come out and enjoy this 'fall festival' and the produce at the Farmers Market. If you want to reserve a pumpkin to paint, please pre-register at www.jmpac.org.

The JPNA Cookbook, 2nd edition, is now available! Members \$4, non-members \$5, download the form from our website: www.jpna.net.

Join JPNA today!	
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Membership dues:	1 year: \$15 per person; seniors (age 55+) \$10 per person
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