

Join JPNA to get your newsletter mailed to you –Watch future editions of the newsletter for information on member discounts- including \$5/sp off our ads!

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

Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072

Portage Park Handyman Service
Rich Escallier
773.282.5857
 portageparkhandyman.com



i-coffee
 4945 N Milwaukee Ave
 773- 777-7311
coffee sandwiches pastries
 M-F 7:30 am-8:30pm
 Sat 9am-8:30pm Sun 9am- 5pm
 Thank you for the coffee!

Need real estate advice?
(nowadays, who doesn't?...)
Anna Klocek-your local Realtor
Remax Exclusive Properties
 773-775-0775

Hatha I/II
 focus on alignment, structure and education
 With therapeutic benefits
 Mon, Tues, Thurs 7pm
 \$10 drop in, packages available
Gladstone Chiropractic
 5316 N Milwaukee 773.774.1041



HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR
 GET **BOTH** YOUR COUPONS
 FOR DIGITAL CHANGEOVER AT
 www.DTV2009.gov or call 1-888-388-2009
 Share one or both for use by a Jefferson Park neighbor by leaving your extra coupons at the Jefferson Park Branch – Chicago Public Library (5363 W. Lawrence Ave.

RECIPIE BOOK
 JPNA is putting together a recipe book as a fund raiser. It is your chance to share with everyone a special recipe in your family. You can either submit your recipe to jpna@earthlink.net or Jefferson Park Neighborhood Assn, P.O. Box 30072, Chicago, IL 60630-0072. Do not forget your name and a little history behind the recipe.
Ads for within the book are welcome!

Your ad here:
jpna@earthlink.net 847-902-2961
 \$15/iss.for 1"x2" dist 1500



Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter for January & February 2009

<p>Contact Us: Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 30072 Chicago, Illinois 60630-0072 773.282.3879 jpna@earthlink.net www.jpna.net</p>	<p>Inside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter from the president page 2 • Home Equity Assurance Program page 2 • On the horizon page 3 • Recipe Book page 4
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Upcoming Events

General meetings:
January 28 A representative from Family and Children's Programs, Chicago Academy of Sciences', Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum will be out to talk about the various programs that they offer.
February 25 A representative from the Jefferson Park Post Office will be out to speak about Postal Issues, mailbox locations and any other concerns. Also, we will be collecting for the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park, food pantry during this meeting. Any canned goods/non perishable items are welcome.
March 25 Round table—Community Development. An in depth discussion of things going on in the area.

-- Please check our web-site for updates --

April 29 (Tentative) Jefferson Park, Park District presentation of local activities, etc.
May 27 (Tentative) George Sullivan of Eco Smart Building will be doing a presentation on "Solar and Wind Options in Chicago". Also on hand will be JPNA member Jeffrey Sommers, to potentially answer any questions relating to the use of solar on a residence (since he has panels installed on his home), and also the integration of these systems in new construction and renovation projects.

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 each month at 7pm, at Jefferson Park Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee Ave.

<p>Current Officers: Merril Miller, <i>President</i> Brian Wardman, <i>Vice President</i></p>	<p>Ed Irsch, <i>Treasurer</i> Lotty Blumenthal <i>Secretary</i></p>	<p>Board Members: Ron Ernst Eva Skowronski</p>
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A Letter from the President ...

Happy New Year Everyone!

In these turbulent times, it's important to remember little things, like simple greetings, helping out our neighbors or even just smiling. You never know what these little things can mean to people you encounter. When we're all so focused on our problems at hand, it's hard to remember that there're others that could use some help. Whether it's helping with shoveling a neighbor's snow, donating even just a little bit to a struggling homeless shelter, bringing some canned goods for the local food pantry at our February JPNA meeting, (see front cover) or sharing an extra DTV coupon (see info on back page), it feels good to help out and can make a world of difference for those we help.

This may seem sappy, I'm sure, but when I took on this job my intent was to try to make our community a better place to live. There are so many ways that can be accomplished. I've tried to reach out to community leaders, to the media, and keep lines of communication open with other neighborhood groups such as ours. We have similar issues, needs and goals and it is in trying to work together that we are likely to accomplish the most in the grand scheme of things. But it's also good to look at the smaller picture, and remember that we're neighbors, and neighbors look out for one another.

--Merril Miller

Home Equity Assurance --

The Guaranteed Home Equity Assurance (GHEA) is a program that exists in areas within the Northwest and Southwest Neighborhoods of the City of Chicago. This is a program the voters decided to tax themselves to stabilize their home values.

Everyone in the Home Equity Assurance areas is eligible to be a part of the program. You can determine if you are part of the GHEA area by looking at your Real Estate Tax bill for the line item "NW HOME EQUITY ASSURANCE." If that line item exists on your property tax bill then your home is within the eligible area. Property owners are not automatically covered by Home Equity Assurance Program. In order to be part of the program a home owner would need to register with Northwest Home Equity Assurance Program. Registration includes filling out paper work and have a home appraisal less than 6 months old. If you do not have a home appraisal then the program offers home appraisals.

The GHEA guarantees a registered home owner the appraised values of their 1-6 unit property if it is sold after 5 years. If the owner sells the home at a value below the appraised values then a claim can be made to obtain the difference between the sale value and appraised value continued ->

of 5+ years ago. There are certain sale restrictions that need to be adhered to in order to submit a claim.

For additional information and registering into the Northwest Home Equity Assurance program you can either call (773)622-0700 or log onto their website at <http://nwhomeequity.org>.

--William Brian Wardman

For Detailed history of the Fight for Guaranteed Home Equity Assurance go to the following web site:

http://www.icefordemocracy.org/files/Standing_Tall.pdf

Additional FAQ's can be obtained from Northwest Home Equity Assurance Program website: <http://nwhomeequity.org/about-us.htm>

Area News

Frequently things happen that we'd like to alert our neighbors of in between newsletters, or in a more timely fashion. Examples include community meetings (such as zoning concerns), police alerts (such as criminal alerts) or changes to our meeting schedule. We also send out meeting reminders, and even the occasional job opportunity. To become part of our list please visit us at www.jpna.net or email us at jpna@earthlink.net. News that we receive from you will be shared, if appropriate.

On the Horizon

Upcoming events at St. Robert Bellarmine School located at 6036 W. Eastwood, Chicago, Illinois 60630 773-725-5133 www.srb-chicago.org

- "Tiny Tots" Program for Two-year Olds Winter Session Begins Jan. 15, 2009 The program will meet weekly on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. from January 15 to April 2, 2009. Children, accompanied by a parent or caregiver, will enjoy a range of activities led by Mrs. RoseAnn Loch, an experienced early childhood educator and parent. The program is open to the community at large; participants do not have to be members of St. Robert Bellarmine parish. The 12-week program cost is \$60. For more information or to register, call or visit their website.
- Open House-- Sunday, January 25, 2009 from 1pm-3pm. Visitors can tour the School's preschool through 8th grade classrooms; view displays of students' projects; learn about the Tiny Tots program for 2-year olds; meet teachers, parents and student ambassadors; and learn about programs and curriculum. The School is located at 6036 W. Eastwood in Chicago (at Austin). Other open house times can be found on the school's website.
- The St. Robert Bellarmine School Parents' Association will host its annual Casino Nights on Friday, February 6 and Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to Midnight in the Church Basement at 4646 N. Austin Ave., Chicago. Games include Blackjack, Poker, Texas Hold'em, Money Wheel, Roulette, and more. Gamers can win up to \$250. Charity rules apply. There is a \$3.00 entrance fee and you must be 21. Food and drinks will be available. Bring in this listing for \$1.00 off admission.

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5257 N. Central 773-685-4878