



# The Grapevine

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE JEFFERSON PARK NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 2

February 2009

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## Next Meeting

The Jefferson Park Neighbor's Association meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, in the Fellowship Hall of the Jefferson Ave. Baptist Church. Park on the lower level off of Winburn Dr., and enter through the glass door. The next meeting is on February 17th. Meetings last 90 minutes on average.

## La Próxima Junta

La Asociación de Vecinos de Jefferson Park tiene reuniones cada tercer martes del mes en el salón de Fellowship de la Iglesia Bautista de Jefferson Ave. La reunión próxima será el martes, el 17 de febrero. Favor de estacionarse en el nivel bajo de la iglesia por Winburn Dr. Se puede entrar por las puertas de vidrio. Las reuniones se duran aproximadamente 90 minutos.



## Jefferson Park Website

Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors to check out the JPNA website.  
[www.jeffersonpark.org](http://www.jeffersonpark.org)

## A Tearful Farewell and Thank You for Being the Best Neighborhood Ever

Thank you – Jane Barrett February 5, 2009

Well, I've been hanging on and hanging in for a few years now. I've been hanging on tooth and nail to the best place and the best neighborhood ever – the Bella Luna Estate in Jefferson Park. Everyday when I walk my dogs in this peaceful, quiet, unassuming and unpretentious neighborhood, I feel like I'm in heaven. I love the huge oaks and magnolias. I love being able to see the beautiful skies arching above – sunrises, sunsets, new moons, full moons. I love the small, modest homes, many of them with lovely and lovingly tended gardens and landscapes. From TriCities High school, the sounds of the football games, especially the band music and the voice of the announcer, drift lazily, crisply in the cold autumn weather, to settle in my ears and heart. Laying in bed at night drifting off to sleep, the sounds of train whistles, lull me to sleep with a smile on my lips.

The other morning after a heavy night time rain, I stood gazing numbly out my front window. I still can't believe this is really happening. While I stood looking, the clouds broke and a sharp shock of sunlight beamed down making the raindrops clinging to the weeping hollies sparkle like jewels. The precious little doves that like to shuffle in bumper car circles around the flag stone patio were all there, nodding and shuffling and ducking for seed. Some of them made depressions in the pine straw mulch and nestled there. A cardinal family flew in from one direction and started snacking on the hollies' berries and a smart mouthed blue jay joined them. . . chickadees and nuthatches occupied each perch of the birdfeeders. The windchimes harmoniously symphonized. Is this not really heaven? My glum mood shifted with the realization that even though I have to move on, I've created beauty in this already beautiful neighborhood that I love.

Yes, It's time to recharge and reinvigorate our neighborhoods. But until there is a paradigm shift here in America and in Georgia that values and supports the gifts and efforts of their citizens above sheer, greedy, unencumbered capitalism, there are those of us whose work has disappeared and dried up. There are no other jobs available because so so so many of us are out of work. I know you've heard the numbers. We no longer have energy or vitality or sometimes even hope because we can't win for losing.

Without jobs we are losing everything we've invested in and worked so hard to build, feathering our humble nests thread by string by bit of fur by feather . . . now we have become untethered and unanchored. After all the contributions we've made to our neighborhoods, communities, friends and groups we are left grasping at straws. It's time to believe in community, friendship, love, individual contributions to society, creativity, caring . . . This is the best place I've ever lived and I wanted to stay here until they carried my quieted remains out in a pine box. Give thanks and gratitude to whatever Higher Power you believe in that you are fortunate enough to live in this urban Mayberry and fortunate enough to continue to live here. I predict that East Point will experience wonderful vitality, growth, mindfulness and energy in the upcoming future.

Please keep your eyes and hearts on my Bella Luna estate and make sure she doesn't fall into disrepair after I am gone and make sure she doesn't fall into the hands of a greedy and uncaring buyer that doesn't care about the evolving gardens and the peaceful green calm she provides as well as the heart space that is the house itself.

# Being Successful in Today's Job Market

Jennifer Brock

In today's economic climate, it is crucial that candidates prepare and position themselves to be successful in a job search.

**Be Focused** - Before you begin applying for new positions take the time to create a solid plan of action. Inventory the type of position that interests you; include the scope of responsibilities, a desirable compensation range and geographical areas that you will be targeting. Also define the size of company that you are interested in, as well as industry, reporting structure and other factors that are important to you. These steps will keep you focused and help you effectively find your target.

**Be Prepared** - Research companies that you are interested in and keep track of the roles that you have applied for. As a candidate, you want to feel valued throughout the process – so does the hiring company! Being able to effectively speak on the position for which you

have applied and how you can be an asset to the organization will set you apart.

**Network! Network! Network!** - Hiring managers are focusing on the success of their day-to-day operations, leaving very little time to scour job boards and dig through piles of resumes. The best way to get their attention? Research the networking groups most specific to your career interests, and then make frequent appearances. This not only shows your desire for professional development, but also allows removes the pressure of a formal interview.

**Build your Brand** - Being successful is one thing, being memorable is another. To stand out, volunteer to sit on industry specific boards to increase your visibility. Write articles for professional publications or speak at local networking events. Keep an active profile on sites like LinkedIn, Spoke, and ZoomInfo; be sure to include your professional affiliations, awards, previous work history and educational background.

## The Grapevine

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The Jefferson Park Neighbors Association (JPNA) is a certified 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of social activities and community awareness.

Jefferson Park is defined as the neighborhood of over 1,100 rental and privately-owned residences bordered by the Atlanta City Line to the north, Cleveland Avenue to the south, Sylvan Road to the east, and Main Street to the west. We are not a political or religious organization. Donations made to the JPNA are tax-deductible and should be directed to the Treasurer.

We accept digital advertisements at the following rates:

\$10 -1/8 page    \$20...1/2 page  
\$30 -1/4 page    \$40 -whole page  
Contact Jen Kostuch for more info.  
jpnatreasurer@gmail.com

Advertising payments are not tax-deductible

The Grapevine welcomes unsolicited, politically neutral manuscripts, though we cannot guarantee their publication. All submissions are due the last day of the month before publication, to be sent to the editor's email address.

# Anti-Chaining Ordinance

Marcia May, Owner  
Urban Pet Supply [www.urbanpetsupply.com](http://www.urbanpetsupply.com)

Why support the Fulton County Anti-Chaining Ordinance (recently passed in East Point)

I have worked with domestic pets and studied animal behavior for over ten years. I want to address the statement that I often hear that both disturbs and disheartens me...“They are just dogs”.

Following the attacks on the Twin Towers on September 11th, it was JUST DOGS that searched the ruins and found the remains of victims, and brought closure for their families. Without those dogs the victims would have never been recovered.

It is JUST DOGS that tunnel through avalanches to save people who would otherwise be buried forever in the snow.

It is JUST DOGS that leap out of helicopters into oceans to drag drowning people to safety.

It is JUST DOGS that lead their blind owners into the world, which they would not be able to manage without help.

It is JUST DOGS that alert an Epileptic that a seizure is eminent.

Recently on the news I heard the story of an elderly man who collapsed outside his home in freezing temperatures and was not found until eight hours later. He attributed his survival to his Labrador

that lay huddled by his side to protect him from the cold.

It was JUST A DOG that escaped her owners' murderer and walked into a Kroger, which put the community on high alert and led to the arrest of Meredith Emerson's killer in North Georgia.

Yet day after day, minute after minute, these noble beings, capable of so much, are escorted, by their owners, to a ten-foot tether that they will live and die on.

Dog's are physical and psychological beings. If they are contained to a small space and deprived of the basic physical and mental exercise that all

living creatures need to survive, bad things will happen.

Just as humans who are deprived of space and interaction can feel the affects mentally, so do dogs. It is these dogs that break their chains and can cause havoc, injury and even death. A dog that is not taught and led is not responsible for his actions. The owners are at fault. We chose to domesticate dogs; we must take responsibility for their evolution.

At my store I have people who come in looking for stronger restraints because their dog keeps breaking their collars and chains. I am amazed that dogs do this, or this is new to me. In their desire to be free of their chains, they break them.

I own a 60 lb Pit Bull, in his six years of life; he has never broken a collar or the tether that I hook him to in my front yard only while doing yard work. That is because I give him the physical and mental exercise that he needs. All that he has left to give is love.

It is chains that not only make a dogs life miserable, but chains and lack of guidance that cause dogs to be angry and aggressive. If we unchain them and provide them with fencing, we will cut down on the children and adults that are injured and killed.



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## Jefferson Park Tour of Homes Committee Needed

The 2009 Jefferson Park Tour of Homes and Gardens are seeking an individual or individuals to Chair this year's event. This is the largest fundraiser for JPNA all year long and provides funding for events such as the Block Party, Lottie Maynard, and various other JPNA events. The responsibility of the committee is to obtain homes, sponsors, volunteers, and other related materials as needed for the tour. The Tour of Homes usually takes place in May but that has never been set in stone so maybe it's time to switch things up a little.

So if you are interested please contact Randy Nash at [randytnash@bellsouth.net](mailto:randytnash@bellsouth.net) for more information.

# Put your Ad in the Grapevine

Contact the JPNA treasurer at:  
[jpnatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:jpnatreasurer@gmail.com)

# Put your story in the Grapevine

Contact the JPNA editor at:  
[jpnagrapevineeditor@gmail.com](mailto:jpnagrapevineeditor@gmail.com)

DOG  
EVOL  
DOGS

### Happy President's Day

*"No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States."*

George Washington, in his 1st Inaugural address.

*"Don't pray that God's on our side, pray that we're on His side."*

Abraham Lincoln at the beginning of the Civil War

## LOVE PEOPLE

Jefferson Avenue Baptist Church  
Bible Study @ 9:10 AM – Sunday Services – Worship @ 10:30 AM & 6 PM  
(404) 767-0582 [jeffersonchurch@att.net](mailto:jeffersonchurch@att.net)

Councilperson Lance Rhodes  
1257 Spencer Ave.  
Lrhodes@eastpointcity.org  
404-234-5022

Together we make a difference.....

Neighbors, February could be a good month for Jefferson Park. The Sylvan Road line painting is scheduled to be completed and Brookdale Park is scheduled to start the project to renovate the infrastructure problems that have caused the park to be closed. Of course, there could always be delays due to weather or other unexpected challenges.

**Under the Golden Dome**

Following are two bills presently being considered by our state legislators. The first one will help East Point in identifying property owners of vacant property more quickly. Presently it can take several months to track down property owners if the property changes ownership several times in a short period of time or due to guidelines for foreclosures. The proposal will require registration of the property within 30 days with the clerk of superior court. This will assist our Code Enforcement with identifying owners of vacant property that are in violation of our city codes. The second one will assist East Point in our attempt to control the theft of metal.

**Pending in the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee.**

SB 57 includes a provision supported by GMA which requires the purchaser of foreclosed property to file the deed under power with the clerk of superior court within 30 days. Failure to record in a timely manner would result in a late filing penalty of \$500 for a filing within 60 days, \$2,000 for a filing between 60 and 90 days, and \$10,000 for filing later than 90 days. The prompt filing of the deed under power will make it easier for local governments determine who owns the property and hold the owner responsible for code violations.

This bill also addresses subprime loans by prohibiting prepayment

penalties and compensating mortgage brokers based on the terms of a subprime loan. SB 57 also allows tenants with a valid lease who reside in a property under foreclosure to remain for 60 days by paying the rent for that period into the registry of the court.

**Assigned to the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities.**

This bill provides that metal recyclers will undertake a number of measures to insure that those selling metal to them are not doing so illegally. The bill requires recyclers to take date and time stamped photographs of purchased metal property, and requires that those bringing materials certify in writing that they have the right to sell such material. The bill also requires recyclers to take fingerprints and make a photocopy of the identification of anyone delivering metals for recycling and to send transaction reports to the county sheriff ever five days. The bill also provides that recyclers shall not be authorized to receive city manhole covers and prevents recyclers from paying cash for copper. Finally, the bill restores home rule authority to cities to regulate in this area as well as to issue and revoke licenses.



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