

GIFFORD PARK'S PRIDE

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

DECEMBER, 1991

Chairman:
Ron Yates
558-6027

Vice-Chairman:
John Lynch
345-9624

Treasurer:
Mike Caban
341-4722

**Recording
Secretary:**
Judi Caban
341-4722

**Corresponding
Secretary:**
Ruth Windorski
341-4695

**At Large Board
Member:**
Ed Hendershot
341-0475

**At Large Board
Member:**
Rick Liddick
345-2476

**At Large Board
Member:**
Barb Schroeder
342-0869

**At Large Board
Member:**
Leo Wilwerding
345-1433

NEXT MEETING:

HOLIDAY BANQUET*

DECEMBER 5

7 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
GLASSED-IN AREA OF CAFETERIA

FREE PARKING

GUEST: Subby Anzaldo

*Please note: Reservations required.

3rd Annual Holiday Decorating Contest by Kathy Rose, Social Activities Committee Chair

Again this year the GPNA is sponsoring a Holiday Decorating Contest for Association members only. Any member who is planning seasonal decorations for their house and/or yard is eligible to participate. Cash prizes will be awarded for first place (\$25.00), second place (\$15.00), and third place (\$10.00). Judges will be members of the Social Activities Committee.

If you wish to participate, please call me at 341-3955 or Judi Caban at 341-4722 by Friday, Dec. 20th. Judging for unlighted entries will take place during the day on Saturday, Dec. 21; lighted entries will be judged that evening between 7 and 9 p.m. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the January general GPNA meeting.

Inside this issue . . .

- Basketball court debate (page 3)
- Volunteers acknowledged (page 3)
- Crime reports down (page 3)
- An editorial on loyalty (page 4)
- Your tax dollars support "burglar's row" (page 4)


Treasurer's Report

By Mike Caban

Balance on 9/30/91	\$2,831.20
October Mini-affle	29.50
Memberships	163.00
Cleanup Donations & Salvage	106.68
Interest	<u>16.27</u>
Total Income	\$315.45
Dumpsters for Cleanup	263.58
Newsletter Printing	80.00
Pumpkins	50.00
Incorporation/Legal Fees	500.00
Watch Group Signs	106.50
Check Endorsement Stamp	<u>23.85</u>
Total Expenditures	\$1,023.93
Balance on 10/31/91	\$2,122.72

**TOM, KATHY,
KATY, AND
CHARLIE ROSE**

Send
**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**
To Our Friends
in the GPNA




Newsletter Report
by Brian Kokensparger

In a proposal at the November Executive Board meeting, Mike Caban, Budget and Finance Committee Chair, requested the GPNA to begin accepting advertisements for its newsletter. In the proposal he writes, "Even minimal success with this project would be financially beneficial to the Association, and if pursued actively, the advertising could make the newsletter self-supporting, freeing a large portion of the Association's assets for other uses."

The proposal was discussed and a motion to begin advertising immediately was passed; four advertisements are included in this month's newsletter. Should you like to place an ad, contact Mike Caban (341-4722). Deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month prior to the desired publication month. For example, if you want to place an ad in the January newsletter, you need to place your ad with Mike Caban on or before December 15th. There are several size options, from a \$5 personal ad to business ads a half page or more.

Please keep the articles and editorials coming in. This is your newsletter -- the only worthless article or editorial is the one left unwritten.



**HOLIDAY GREETINGS
TO ALL OF MY FRIENDS IN
THE GPNA
FROM CHUCK KILGORE**

**Don't Know What to Give Your Neighbors
for Christmas?**

**How about giving them the gift that gives all
year round* -- membership in the GPNA!**

**Clip the application below and contact
Ruth Windorski (341-4695) for more info.**

**GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

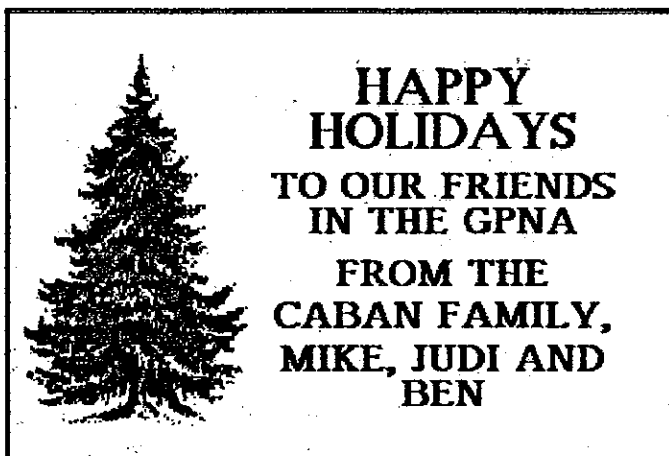
Phone _____ Date _____

ANNUAL DUES -- \$5 (Single), \$8 (Family), \$25 (Business/Institutional)
****Please note: All memberships expire June 1, 1992.**
 If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA
 Mail to GPNA: 3225 1/2 California St., Omaha, NE 68131

Crime Watch*by Ron Yates*

One year ago in October and November, I checked the record for crime statistics in our neighborhood for a thirty-day period. There were twenty-three reports in the record.

The good news is that this year during the same time frame, we experienced fifteen. The hot spots seem to be the northeast and southwest areas within the GPNA boundaries. It appears that Webster Street has had five thefts, which is very high for a small area east of 33rd Street. In total there has been one robbery, seven thefts, three burglaries, three DWI, and one shoplifting. Speak to your neighbors and form a Neighborhood Watch Group. Let's reduce this number even further next year.

**Basketball Court**

At our November 7th meeting, there was a motion to request that the Park Department remove the basketball court from Gifford Park. After a great deal of discussion and two motions, it was decided to reconsider the issue at our January, 1992 meeting. There are very strong feelings on both sides of the issue. You are encouraged to voice your opinion at the meeting scheduled for January 2, 1992.

City of Omaha Reinvestment Area Program (RAP) Seeks Participants

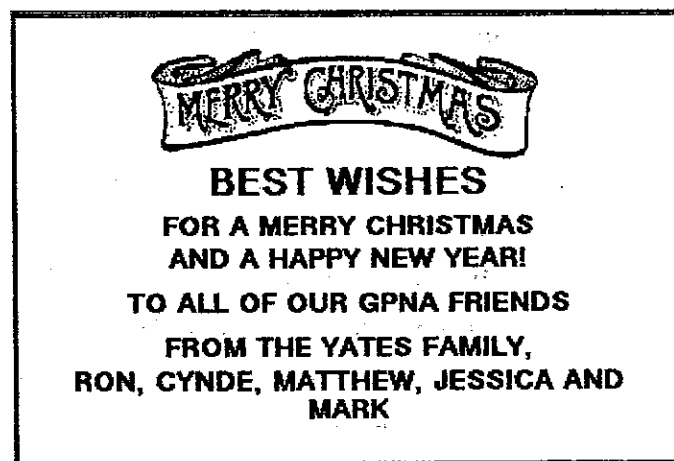
The City of Omaha can provide homeowners non-repayable grants that can reduce your home repair loan by 40%. For example, if you qualify to borrow \$15,000 from one of the several participating banks, the City of Omaha will provide you with a grant for \$6,000 which would be used to reduce the loan amount to \$9,000.

All of the Gifford Park neighborhood falls in the reinvestment area. You must fall below maximum income requirements and be able to qualify for a loan. For more information, call the City of Omaha Planning Department at 444-5153 or 444-5150.

Thanks to Volunteers — We Need More

Garage Sale - Great
 Clean Up - Wonderful
 Newsletter - Award Winning
 Weeds - Gone
 Litter - We will see
 Neighborhood Watch - Working
 Park - Alive
 Christmas Dinner - Fun
 Incorporation/CDC - Soon
 Christmas Sharing - Important

These things have not done themselves. There were one or more of you behind each and every event that has occurred. A sincere thank you to each and every person who has worked on GPNA efforts. We continue to need a chairman for Newsletter Delivery and Neighborhood Watch. All committees need help. Please volunteer. We also want to know what is concerning you. Please help us and allow us to help you.



EDITORIAL CORNER

Readers are welcome to submit their letters for the Editorial Corner to any Executive Board member prior to the Executive Board meeting held the third Thursday of every month. The Executive Board has final approval for all editorials appearing in this section. Full name and address must be included on all letters submitted. The views and opinions stated are not necessarily those of GPNA or the Executive Board.

Loyalty

by Mike Caban

LOYALTY: It is the glue that binds families, communities, and nations together. It is what heroes are made of, and what makes one friend worth more than an army of acquaintances. Without it we are but hostile, jealous creatures, suspicious of everyone and a liability to those around us.

It may be said that of all virtues, loyalty is second only to love, and in fact, is derivative of love. For it is not possible to be loyal if you do not love.

In this, the season of love, one can't help feeling a deep sense of gratitude for all the accomplishments attained, through the hard work and dedication of those loyal individuals who truly love the place, and the people of the Gifford Park Neighborhood.

It is inspiring to know that in today's sometimes cold hearted and selfish world, yesterday's sense of being a part of something greater than each of us has been rekindled, nourishing all of us with hope for a better and brighter tomorrow.

Your Tax Dollars at Work

by Ron Yates

Tax dollars were used to rehabilitate the properties at 521 and 523 N. 33rd Street and their physical appearance has greatly improved. Since this has been completed, most of the units are vacant. However, of those units currently occupied, at least some of the residents have questionable career goals (dope dealing, thievery, prostitution, and burglary). These addresses, along with the property just to the north, have been described by a police officer as "burglar's row."

The landlord, the City of Omaha, and Section 8 are being paid by our taxes to integrate our neighborhood with these "professionals." This project is not a success and those who care should be willing to meet with tenants, landlords, the City, Section 8 and other interested parties to improve the area. The police have been to those addresses many times and, with your help, can make things uncomfortable for those residents breaking the law. **Be vocal — call the police, mayor, city council, Section 8, and any other agency that has an interest or responsibility. Let's insist that these agencies perform their jobs — the one that we are paying them to do.**