



Gifford Park's Pride

Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play

January 1995

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Learn About Community Policing At Next Meeting

Deputy Chief Steve Coufal and Sergeant Tom Zoucha will be guest speakers at our next general meeting to be held Thursday, January 5th, 7 P.M. at St. Joseph's Hospital. This is a great opportunity for everyone to learn and ask questions about Community Policing. Community Policing in Omaha is now being developed by an advisory board consisting of police officials and citizens of Omaha. Since guidelines are being created now and the fact that our neighborhood could be a leader in the Community Policing effort, everyone interested is encouraged to attend this meeting. The GPNA is off to a fast start, sending seven people through Citizen Patrol training (see article below).



Seven From GPNA Complete Citizen Patrol Training

Community Policing is being talked about more and more in our city. Community Policing is basically an environment where police and citizens of the neighborhood work together as partners to solve problems in the neighborhood. Citizen Patrol has become an important part of the overall concept of Community Policing. The Omaha Police Department recently has been providing Citizen Patrol training to various neighborhood and community organizations. **Harry Dirgo, Chris Foster, Kathy Rose, Tom Rose, Terry Wilwerding, Cynde Yates and Ron Yates** each completed eight hours of classroom training and two hours on a police ride along.

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Next Meeting

**Thursday, January 5th
7:00 P.M.**

Guest Speakers:

**Deputy Chief Steve Coufal
Sergeant Tom Zoucha**

**St. Joseph's Hospital
Dining Rooms A, B, & C**

FREE PARKING

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Subby Anzaldo Neighbor of the Year

Representatives of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association presented **Subby Anzaldo** with the 1994 Neighbor of the Year award at the Mayor's office on November 30th. The award, which is Gifford Park's highest honor, is usually presented at the Christmas Banquet, however, the Anzaldo's planned to be in California visiting a new grandchild at that time. It was decided that we would honor His Honor and video tape the presentation for viewing at the Banquet.

This award is given very serious consideration and only those who have made outstanding contributions receive it. Mr. Anzaldo has always been very responsive to GPNA requests and supportive of our efforts. The award was well deserved.

Special thanks to the following people who made this year's annual Holiday Banquet, provided by St. Joseph's Hospital, another memorable one: **Jack Bowman, Pam Ward, Cynde Yates, Kathy Rose, Loren Johnson, Jerry Pitt, Tom Bogard and Terry Wilwerding.**



SAINT JOSEPH HOSPITAL
AT CHELSEA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER



Holiday Lighting Contest Winners Picked

The Gifford Park Neighborhood had an excellent display of holiday lights again this season. The Holiday Lighting Contest committee had a difficult task of selecting a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for the displays. The judging was done the night of Thursday, December 15th. And the final results are...drum roll please...

1st Place (\$25) - The **McRobert's**, 3561 Cass St
2nd Place (\$15) - The **Smart's**, 803 North 35th St
3rd Place (\$10) - The **Caban's**, 3321 Davenport St

There were many other displays the judges found to be well worth mentioning:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 321 North 36th Ave | 3519 Davenport |
| 3420 California | S.E. Corner 31st & Cass |
| 3429 California | 3421 Burt |
| 3512 California | 3317 Cass |
| 312 North 37th | 3605 California |
| 3413 California | 3611 California |
| 3429 Webster | 3419 Burt |
| 3431 Webster | 3401 Burt |
| 3702 Cass | 621 North 36th |
| 3322 Webster | 3212 Cass |

Christmas Tree Recycling

Official Program - City of Omaha
Omaha Public Works, 1994-95

(The locations listed below are closest to Gifford Park)



AK-SAR-BEN
Suburban Rotary Club
69th & Mercy Road Entrance ONLY
1st Lot East of the Guard Station



SPRING LAKE PARK
Omaha South Rotary Club
13th & "J" Street in the ball diamond
parking lot

When: December 31, 1994 and January 7 & 8, 1995
10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

REMOVE Nails, Ornaments, Wires, Plastic Bags, Tree Stand; Do not bring wreaths made with wire.

The above items will damage the blades on the chippers that are used to grind up the trees.

There will be people at the sites to help you unload your tree on the above dates and times. If you drop your tree off at another time, PLEASE throw your tree up on the pile. This will leave room for other folks to be able to access the location.



FOR INFORMATION CALL: 444-4500

TREES OF CHRISTMAS PAST

- 1989, Over 12,500 Trees Were Recycled
- 1990, Over 16,500 Trees Were Recycled
- 1991, Over 31,000 Trees Were Recycled
- 1992, Over 38,000 Trees Were Recycled
- 1993, Over 39,000 Trees Were Recycled

Over 138,000 Trees Total

- Beneficially using chipped trees as a mulch in parks and as a ground cover on nature trails conserves resources and landfill space.
- 390 Tons times \$50 per Ton = \$19,500 cost savings.
- Last year an estimated 55% of the trees were collected at the drop-off locations.

Trees will also be collected on curb side during the week of January 9th during normal trash pickup.

Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law

4913 Underwood Avenue

558-5000

Personal Injury Law
Worker's Compensation
Injury
Auto Accidents
Insurance Claims

California Bar & Pkg. 510 No. 33rd St.

Serving the Gifford Park
Community since 1937
Wayne and Peggy Hill,
Proprietors



Editor's note: If you have something that would be of interest to the people of our neighborhood, we encourage you to submit an article for our monthly newsletter, Gifford Park's Pride. Deadline for submitting articles and editorials is the third Thursday of each month. Editorials must be approved by the GPNA Executive Board. Articles can be left at the GPNA Office, please include your name and phone number. We will accept articles stored on IBM compatible disks. Contact Chris Foster at 342-6006 for information regarding the newsletter.



Where to Call With Neighborhood Problems or General Information

NEED
TO
KNOW

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|
| Abandoned/Junked Cars | Vehicle Imbound Lot | 444-5782 |
| Air Quality/Odor Control | Environmental Services | 444-6015/6016 |
| Animal Bites | Humane Society | 444-7800 |
| Barking Dogs, Sick/Injured or Stray Animals | Humane Society | 444-7800 |
| Broken or Obstructed Sidewalk | Sidewalk Division | 444-5266 |
| City Parks, Pools, Golf Courses or Recreation Center | Parks & Rec. Dept. | 444-5900 |
| Problems | | |
| City Services Information or Complaints | Mayor's Action Office | 444-5555 |
| City Sewer Stopped Up | Sewer Maintenance | 444-5332 |
| Community Services | United Way | 444-6666 |
| Companies or Businesses Needing Help with City | Marketing & Bus. Dev. | 444-5211 |
| Services or Information | | |
| County Information | | 444-7000 |
| Cox Cable TV Complaints | City Council | 444-5520 |
| Crime or Vandalism | Police Division | 444-5600 |
| Curb Repair, Chuckholes | Traffic Engineering | 444-4919 |
| Empty Buildings, Vacant Houses Deteriorated Garages, | Planning | 444-5371 |
| Occupied Dilapidated Houses | | |
| Federal Information Local Number | | 1-800-366-2998 |
| Garbage Not Picked Up | Solid Waste | 444-5238 |
| Gas Leaking, Waterline Breaks, or Fire Hydrants | M.U.D. | 554-7777 |
| Handicap Parking Stickers | County Clerk | 444-6080 |
| Hedges/Tree Limbs Blocking View of Traffic | Forestry Division | 444-5925 |
| Holes, Debris or Litter in the Street | Street Maintenance | 444-4919 |
| Homestead Exemption from Property Taxes | County Assessor | 444-7185 |
| Housing Discrimination, Civil Rights Violations | Human Relations | 444-5055 |
| Improperly Licensed Vehicles | Police Department or | 444-5888 |
| | Mayor's Action Office | 444-5555 |
| | Tourism Convention | 444-4660 |
| Major City Events or Attractions | Police Department | 444-5772 |
| Neighborhood Watch Program | Traffic Engineering | 444-5250 |
| "No Parking" or Other Signs | Captain's Aide Office | 444-5888 |
| Police Department Services Complaints | Register of Deeds | 444-7162/7163 |
| Property Ownership | Douglas County Health | 444-7481 |
| Rats, Raw Garbage, Open Refrigerator/Freezer in Yard | | 444-4500 |
| Recycling Hotline | | |
| Sick, Injured, Strays or Dead Animals | Humane Society | 444-7800 |
| Sign Ordinance Information | Permits & Inspections | 444-5363/5364 |
| State Ombudsman (Information) | | 1-800-742-7690 |
| Street Construction Problems or Complaints | Construction Engineer | 444-5220 |
| Street Lights Out or Electrical Wires Down | O.P.P.D. | 554-6773 |
| Street/Stop Sign Down or Missing | Traffic Maintenance | 444-5160 |
| Tenant/Landlord Discrimination Issues | Human Relations | 444-5055 |
| Tenant/Landlord Legal Issues | Legal Aid Society | 348-1060 |
| TDD | | 444-5034 |
| Trailers or Cars Parked on Front Lawns | Permits & Inspections | 444-5350 |
| Trees/Downed Limbs on City Right-of-Way | Traffic Engineering | 444-4919 |
| Unsafe or Dangerous Building | Code Enforcement | 444-5371 |
| Weeds Over 18", Yard Litter | Weeds & Litter | 444-5910 |
| Youth Intervention Unit (Gang Hotline) | | 444-6920 |
| Youth Volunteers | | 444-7741 |
| Zoning Enforcement | Permits & Inspections | 444-5364 |

Date Set For GPNA Open House

Free Tax Help Will Be Available From IRS

Mark your calendars for the 1995 GPNA Open House and get **FREE** tax help. The Open House will be held **Saturday, February 4th from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.** at the GPNA Office located next to J'N'J Grocery, 33rd & California Street. **Everyone is welcome!** Again this year an I.R.S. representative will provide free tax help for our neighborhood from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M. Processing of basic tax returns and possibly electronic filing will be available. Walk-in appointments are welcome, but priority will be given to those who call first to schedule an appointment. Representatives from the GPNA, neighborhood information, free tax help, and refreshments, will be available - so stop by.

Free tax help will be available at the GPNA Office on the following Saturdays:

February 4th, 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

February 11th, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

April 1st, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

April 8th, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

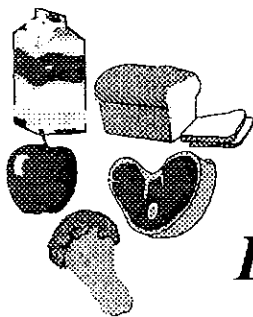
To schedule an appointment or to get more information about either the tax help or the GPNA Open House, call 342-6006.

Scouting Will Come To Yates

Boy Scouts in the Yates Elementary School Community will no longer be a rare sighting. Scouting will be introduced in 1995 to introduce neighborhood boys to the joys of Scouting, citizenship and community activities. Mark LeFlore, Umoja District Executive says, "Boys that are exposed to positive adult leadership and social responsibility makes better citizens - Scouting opens the door to healthy community involvement for families."

Enrolled boys will be eligible to attend summer camp this summer and enjoy horseback riding in the spring. If you live in the Yates community and would like to enroll your son, nephew or neighbor; or if you are an adult that would enjoy providing positive adult leadership to a troop - contact Mark LeFlore at 341-2086 for more information. Many leader positions are available with several different job-descriptions.

Let's make Yates Elementary the best community troop in town!

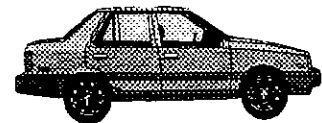


J'N'J GROCERY STORE

Fresh Meats -- Fresh Produce
Friendly Service

3301 California Street -- 422-1058

WE DELIVER!



7:00 AM - 10:00 PM Monday thru Thursday

7:00 AM - 11:00 PM Friday thru Saturday

8:00 AM - 10:00 PM Sunday

Citizen Patrol Training - continued from page 1

The training and information is very beneficial and will add to the GPNA Watch Group's experience for observing and handling various situations that might be encountered during our patrolling. Some of the major points discussed were:

- Most important functions involving Citizen Patrol: **Observe and Report.**
- There are three parts to a police report:
 - Synopsis - tells reader what the report is about (narrative), who, what, where, when, how, why.
 - Body - comprehensive narrative, all details, chronological order.
 - Conclusion - draws the incident to a close.
- Statements are important, not opinions.
- Observation skills very important:
 - When giving description, start with the top (head) and describe down (to the feet).
 - Descriptions should be brief but accurate, minor details are important.
 - Carry a notepad to write down information.
- Problem: fear and indecision from citizens cause a delay in reporting a crime. A recent statistic found that out of 1000 calls for service, only 29 were crimes in progress.
- When calling 911, identify yourself, give location, describe the incident.
- It is very important to learn to be a good witness:
 - Always tell the truth and stick with it.
 - Listen carefully to questions asked of you and give a thoughtful, considered answer.
 - Answer directly and simply then stop - do not volunteer information not actually asked for.
 - Be polite always.
 - Give positive, definite answers - avoid saying "I think" or "I believe".
 - Above all, do not lose your temper. Testifying can be tiring, so try to overcome fatigue.
- The relationship between police and citizens takes time to grow, be willing to compromise.

The GPNA wishes to thank the **Omaha Police Department** and **911** for their training and insight involving this program. The above is just some of the information we gathered. There will be more opportunities for Citizen Patrol training, if your interested in participating, call **Ron Yates** at **558-6027**.

NOTICE

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
ADVERTISE IN THE
GIFFORD PARK PRIDE?
If so, Call:
558-6027

NEEDED:
**HELP WITH NEWSLETTER
DISTRIBUTION**

The GPNA is looking for anyone, any
age, interested in delivering newsletters
in the Gifford Park Neighborhood.
Call 558-6027

**Master Plan To Be
Discussed at January
General Meeting**

The GPNA's CDC Committee (Community Development Corp.) has been working toward developing a "master plan" for our neighborhood. CDC Committee Chair **Chuck Kilgore** will talk more about the progress of this plan at our next general meeting, Thursday, January 5th, at St. Joseph's Hospital.



GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Membership Application



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

Referred by: _____ () New Member () Renewal

ANNUAL DUES -- \$5 (Single), \$8 (Family), \$25 (Business/Institutional)

****Please note: All new and newly-renewed memberships will expire June 1st.**

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA
Mail to GPNA: 532 North 33rd St., Omaha, NE 68131

The Gifford Park Neighborhood ... A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play!