



Gifford Park's Pride

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

March 1995

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Spring Cleanup Coming Soon

Have you looked around our neighborhood's streets and yards lately? How does your own yard or your neighbor's yard look? We all know during the winter, it's difficult to keep our yards picked up and we don't notice trash when it's covered by snow, but spring is just around the corner and our annual Spring Cleanup is a perfect opportunity to do something about it. Also, we may not have a Fall Cleanup this year so let's make the most of the Spring Cleanup. The exact date for the Spring Cleanup has not yet been set, but will be in April on a Saturday - rain or shine. Call the numbers listed below for more information.



Neighborhood Cleanup
Dumpsters in Gifford Park
All Forms of Recycling
Picnic in the Park
Membership Drive



Once again, the City of Omaha will be providing us with dumpsters in Gifford Park. The City will also operate several chipper sites for tree brush. Besides cleaning our own yards, we will have trucks and neighborhood volunteers combing the streets and cleaning up our neighborhood. The focus of the Spring Cleanup, is for everyone to clean up and beautify our neighborhoods-parks, streets, alleys, vacant lots, and help those that need help. For more information contact Chris Foster (342-6006) or Ron Yates (558-6027).

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Next Meeting

**Thursday, March 2nd
7:00 P.M.**

Guest Speakers:

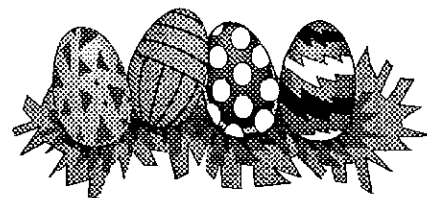
***Officers from the
Omaha Police Department***

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

FREE PARKING

Sixth Annual GPNA Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15th
9:30 a.m. (Sharp!)
at Gifford Park
Ages 12 years old & under



**Bring Your Easter Baskets
& Be Ready To Hunt!**


GPNA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Ron Yates 558-6027

VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Foster 342-6006

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Cynde Yates 558-6027

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Chris Foster 342-6006

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Candy Bacome 344-3233

HISTORIAN

Eva Swanson 345-1707

MEMBERSHIP

Kathy Rose 341-3955

NEWSLETTER

Chris Foster 342-6006

OFFICE

Kathy Rose 341-3955

PARK

Mike Bacome 344-3233

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ron Yates 558-6027

WATCH GROUP

Ron Yates 558-6027

WEEDS & LITTER

Leo Wilwerding 345-1433



Home Improvement Programs Available
Security National Bank Assisting In Programs



I would like to take this opportunity to update your Neighborhood Association on two special Home Improvement Programs that are available through Security National Bank. They are the Reinvestment Area Program and the 6% Energy Loan Program.

Security National Bank is one of only seven lenders participating in the City Omaha's Reinvestment Area Program (RAP). The RAP Program provides financial assistance to homeowners in specific areas to improve their homes at a lower cost of funds. The RAP Program uses Community Development Block Grant funds to reduce the size of the loan need to improve your home by providing a 40% subsidy. This means that if you intended to do \$10,000 of improvements, you would only need to borrow \$6,000; the City would provide a non-repayable grant for the remaining \$4,000.

Security National Bank also participates in the State of Nebraska's 6% Energy Savings Program. This program provides low cost funds for loans to make qualified energy saving improvements to your home or for the purchase of energy saving appliances.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss either of these programs or any of our services or products, please contact James Landen or Debbie Newkirk a call at 344-7300. I look forward to hearing from you.

Be A Shadow: OPS Offers Opportunity To Visit School



Do you wonder what goes on in today's school rooms? What the kids and teachers are really like? Then the Omaha Public Schools' (OPS) shadow a Teacher program could be just what you're looking for. OPS and the Omaha Education Association are seeking business and community members who would like to shadow a teacher. The purpose of the program is to afford you the chance to experience positive achievements of teachers and students in the classroom. You're invited to visit for one-half day in a school of your choice. Come and see what your opportunities are in the Volunteers Services Department, drop in and pick up your information packet The "Shadow a Teacher" visitation opportunity is only open for a limited time: January 18 thru March 31.



The GPNA appreciates the efforts of the Omaha Police Department in our neighborhood. We have seen your increasing presence on our streets and the positive effects that have occurred over the last several months from your actions. Keep up the good work.



Boy Scouting Vision

Mark LeFlore, Umoja District Executive, talked at last month's neighborhood meeting about Boy Scouting coming to Yates School this year. His vision of what the scouting program can do for boys is summed up in his words.

My Omaha Dream

I dream of a Scouting program in Omaha, a program that is full of fun and community activities.

I dream of hundreds of boys, scores of adult leaders and dozens of churches working together with a common goal... To make our community better.

I dream of Scouts in uniforms being lead by adults in uniforms, raking a senior citizens leaves, doing a street beautification project, planting a Scout garden and sharing our crops with the needy.

I dream about the boys whose graves are waiting for them., calling them too early because they were exposed to the wrong influences while they were waiting for the right influences to come along.

I dream of a time, not far from today when the crime rate in Omaha goes down for five straight years and the talk is decreasing prison space instead of adding prison space.

I dream of a time when parents worry less about drive by shooting's and more about which camp would be better for their son this summer.

I dream about a community that smiles when a proud grandmother says "my grandson's pack planted this tree."

I dream about Scouting's role in turning Omaha into a community of believers, Believers that know dreams can come true.

For more information about Boy Scouting, call Mark Leflore at 431-9272

PERSONAL ADS

GPNA members can purchase an ad 3 1/2" wide by 2 1/2" tall in the Gifford Park Pride for the low price of only \$5.00 per month! Place an ad to celebrate holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. or to advertise any personal sales (pets, garage/yard sales, etc.). Deadlines for personal ads are the 15th of the month prior to the desired month of publication. To order an ad or for more information, contact Ron Yates at 558-6027.

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.

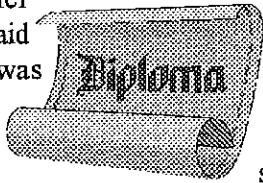
Serving the Gifford Park
Community since 1937
Wayne and Peggy Hill,
Proprietors



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.

Ann "Patches" Jernigan Is Neighbor of The Month

Ann "Patches" Jernigan has a message for any one, any age - it's never too late to get an education. "Patches", as most friends know her, is 69 years old and was born and raised in Emporia, Virginia. She started 1st grade at the age of 6 (as there was no Kindergarten then). School went through the 11th grade, which would have been the senior year then, but Patches was just a junior in 10th grade when she got married in 1941 during World War II and could not complete her high school diploma. She said it always "bugged" her that she was not able to get her diploma, especially since her sister and two brothers got theirs. Well one day she saw an ad on TV about a correspondence program to earn a high school diploma, not just a G.E.D. Patches started the program in April, 1994 at a cost of \$400. To complete her diploma the program required her to complete 16 required course credits and 5 elective course credits for a total of 21 credit by taking courses through the mail. Well Patches did it in flying colors with an 88% average and finishing up the last course in early October, 1994! She received her high school diploma the day after her 69th birthday, which was on October 23rd. Her framed diploma (with grades) is now proudly displayed in her home. She says her favorite courses were English, Spelling and History.



Speaking of history, Patches has seen more than a few ups and downs in the Gifford Park neighborhood. In 1955, she and her husband Carl came to Omaha and moved to the Hillside Court Apartments, Carl was in the Air Force. They later moved to 3519 Cuming Street Apt #2 and then eventually to 3523 Cuming Street in 1974. Carl passed away in 1979 but Patches still lives in their home on Cuming Street. She was a Girl scout leader for over 30 years and is well known in our neighborhood. Among the many achievements in her life, earning her high school diploma is one of the greatest. Patches, you are an inspiration to all of us, young and old.



CREIGHTON
UNIVERSITY

The GPNA gives a big thanks to Loretta Zuck and her staff in the Copy Center at Creighton University. They make copies of this newsletter each month, and usually on short notice.

Historically Speaking...

33rd and California in the 20's and 30's

The business area of 33rd and California was an important and busy place in the 1920's and 30's. Not that it isn't important today, but at that time neighborhood stores were essential because of lack of transportation and before the advent of large grocery stores, discount stores and shopping malls. 33rd street was the home of Borg's Garage, Bogard's Pharmacy, Al Wohlner Grocery, Nelson-Anderson Grocery, Eptein's Circle Theater, Miller's Bakery, Ideal Bakery, Piggly-Wiggly Grocery, Jack Doss's Cafe, Ted Janerus the Barber, Connie Wilson's California Beauty School, Dr. Curnyn the Dentist, a cleaner, an ice house, a filling station and more. In succeeding issues of Gifford Park's Pride I will try to spotlight a few of these enterprises. Please call me at 345-1707 if you have information about any of these stores.

Eva Swanson, GPNA Historian

Dog Owner Responsibilities Under City of Omaha Ordinances



By City Ordinance, no dog (even if licensed) is allowed to run or roam free on any yard or private property of others or on public places such as alleys, sidewalks and streets.

Every dog owner is completely responsible for keeping their dog confined to their own private property by a chain or similar method of enclosure.

No person shall let their dog bark, yelp, or howl in a loud, frequent or continuous manner. This type of interference with the peace and comfort of a neighborhood by a dog is specifically prohibited.

No person owning or keeping a female dog in season shall house such a dog in a way which results in attracting other animals to linger about and cause a nuisance.

Any person that owns, keeps, or harbors any dog ... must purchase a license yearly. This does not apply to any dog under two (2) months of age.

Every dog required to be licensed must be vaccinated against rabies annually. Young dogs must be vaccinated within thirty (30) days after they reach two (2) months of age.

For complaints regarding barking dogs, sick/injured or stray animals, and animal bites, contact the Humane Society at 444-7800.

Free Tax Help Still Available From IRS

There are three more dates available for free tax help at the GPNA Office. The GPNA Office is located next to J'N'J Grocery, 33rd & California Street. Processing of basic tax returns and possibly electronic filing will be available on the dates listed below. Walk-in appointments are welcome, but priority will be given to those who call first to schedule an appointment. A big thanks to I.R.S. volunteers **Jackie Foster, Kathy McDonald and Jan Bostick** who helped 8 people (5 by electronic filing) on February 4th and 6 people (3 by electronic filing) on February 11th. They were able to electronically file these returns with the aid of a laptop computer. Free tax help will be available at the GPNA Office on the following Saturdays:

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

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

April, 15th, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

To schedule an appointment or to get more information about tax help, call 342-6006.



TOOL LENDING HOTLINE

Ed 341-0475 Chris 342-6006

Rent for most tools - \$3, mowers - \$5



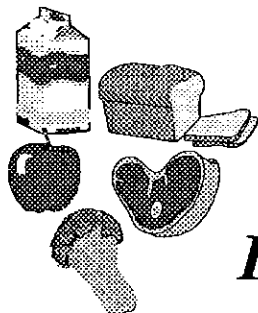
City of Omaha Maintenance Department Stays Busy



Jerry Flood, Superintendent of City Maintenance for Omaha, spoke at the February meeting and shared some interesting facts:

- There are 175 city parks occupying 9,000 acres.
- The Maintenance Department has 130 permanent employees.
- They handle mowing, trimming, repair, trash removal, mowing on private property (in event of weeds & litter violation).
- Received over 10,000 complaints last year for various problems and code violations.
- More services are now subcontracted to private companies.
- The annual budget is \$6.5 million.
- Average annual utility bills: electric - \$600 thousand, water - \$200 thousand, gas - \$150 thousand.

Jerry has worked for the City of Omaha for 23 years. He and his department have always treated the Gifford Park neighborhood very well. Thanks Jerry!

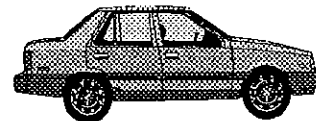


J'N'J GROCERY STORE

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

Neighborhood Observations

I often walk around the neighborhood, usually back and forth to my job at Creighton. I would like to tell you how I have increased my aerobic capacity, lost 100 pounds and turned my life around. but that would not be very true. In fact I walk mostly just because I like to be outside. Walking has a lot to recommend it. It is good fresh air low impact outdoor exercise, and it requires zero equipment (except feet and legs). Our neighborhood is well suited to walking as there are plenty of sidewalks. If you walk north or south it is fairly flat, and an east - west excursion will give you a little more workout on the hills. The sidewalks are in fairly good repair, although apparently not good enough for the joggers who still seem to prefer the streets. To me, snow clearing seems better than in the past although there are always a few regulars who would rather wait for spring than pick up a shovel. Another irritation is people who park their cars across the sidewalk. This really bothers me when I see the kids having to go into the street on their way back and forth from school, all because someone is too in-

considerate to pull into their driveway or park on the street. Overall though, walking in our neighborhood is quite pleasant.

Now that the days are getting longer and the weather is mild, you may decide to shut off the tube and pull on your sneakers. You can walk up to 38th and see how the members of the Joslyn Castle Neighborhood Association live. There is fine view from 38th and California and a few more steps west will take you to the Cathedral. A walk nearly anywhere in the neighborhood will reveal some interesting architecture. If you have kids, you can take them to the playground at Gifford Park or cross Cuming St. to the playground in Bemis Park. You could also take your tennis racket and visit the courts at Gifford or Duchesne. Instead of firing up the old thunderbomb for a minor shopping trip, your feet can even take you to one of our fine 33rd Street businesses. Finally, you can visit someone you haven't talked to for a while.

Perhaps we'll even meet.

By Terry Wilwerding

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

GPNA Membership A Good Deal For Everyone

A membership to the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association benefits everyone because you get out much more than you put in. Your membership helps pay for newsletters, neighborhood cleanups and beautification programs, youth activities, social activities, neighborhood watch equipment, tool lending and other worthwhile programs. Please join the GPNA today.



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!