



# Gifford Park's Pride

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

September 1998

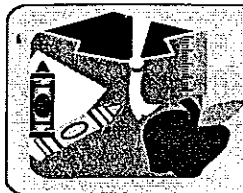
A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

## GPNA Welcomes College Students

We have a large number of university students living in the GPNA who are returning for another year of school. The goal of the GPNA is to improve the neighborhood and make it a better place for all the residents, and we would ask our new student neighbors to become a part of this effort.

The largest part of being a good neighbor is consideration for others. The GPNA has been working with the city and police to improve the appearance and safety of our neighborhood, and we would ask you to help us in this effort. First we would ask the students to be considerate in terms of noise, especially after 10:00 PM. Many families in our neighborhood have children or go to work early. Parties are another problem. Unfortunately, parties always seem to end up bigger and noisier than first planned, and the police have been more active in enforcing noise and underage drinking ordinances. Another difficult problem is parking. Our neighborhood has barely enough parking (like school), so you may not be able to always park directly in front of your residence. Please do not park on lawns, across sidewalks or on the wrong side of the street (facing traffic). Besides making the neighborhood look bad, all of these are parking violations. Also, do not litter and help us keep our neighborhood picked up. All of us pick up trash that we did not leave and we would ask that you would help us keep our neighborhood clean.

Finally, consider coming to one of our meetings and perhaps joining our association. A \$5.00 yearly membership will get this newsletter delivered to you every month, and you will meet your neighbors and many other wonderful people during our activities such as the neighborhood clean-up (we can always use more help). We welcome the students for the upcoming year, and we hope that you will help us continue to make the Gifford Park neighborhood a better place to live.



**Back  
to  
School**

**Please Drive Carefully!**

## Next Meeting

**Thursday, September 3  
7:00 P.M.**

**St. Joseph Hospital  
Dining Rooms A, B, and C**

**Guest Speaker:  
Judy Johns  
Omaha Police Department  
Community Resource Center**

## Historically Speaking...

### Joseph Garneau/Thomas Kilpatrick

In the February, 1998, issue of the **Gifford Park Pride**, I wrote about the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house at 3100 Cass. Records showed that the home had been originally built by Joseph Garneau, Jr. in 1883. Little information is available about him and his family except that he built the home after successfully expanding his family's St. Louis cracker company by bringing it to Omaha.

When Garneau came to Omaha he built the Joseph Garneau Cracker Company into one of the largest of its kind in the West. His home became the meeting place for three of Omaha's finer neighborhoods: Capitol Hill, Gold Coast, and Cathedral.

Eventually Garneau moved with the company to Chicago, and in 1903 Thomas Kilpatrick bought the house on Cass Street.

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**GPNA OFFICERS****PRESIDENT**

Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Chris Foster 342-6006

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Jean Peck 344-0722

**TREASURER**

Sandy Saner 341-8939

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS****ADVERTISING**

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**CLEAN-UP**

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**COMPLIANCE**

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**COURTESY**

Candy Bacome 344-3233

**GRAFFITI**

Maureen Galabro 345-7238

**HISTORIAN**

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**MEMBERSHIP**

Chris Foster 342-6006

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Sue Wilwerding 342-2795

**NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION**

Mike Bacome 344-3233

**PARK**

Mike Bacome 344-3233

**PARKING VIOLATIONS**

Terry Wilwerding 342-2795

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Anne &amp; Linda Chapman 348-0464

**TOOL LENDING**

Tom Rose 932-6191

**WATCH GROUP**

Mike Wilwerding 341-8224

**WEEDS & LITTER**

Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

**From the Desk of the President**

Well, here it is, September already. Where did the summer go?

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back to the neighborhood all of the college students who live here. Certainly you are an important part of the neighborhood. And it is always nice to see more young people in the area. The Association appreciates the role that students have played in assisting us in our various activities and programs, and hope that you will continue to be involved. You are always invited to our meetings, which are held at St. Joseph Hospital the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Free refreshments are provided. You need not join the Association to attend, although you are welcome to join.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind the residents of the neighborhood, including the students, of a number of city ordinances. Automobiles must be registered and insured, must be parked on paved surfaces (no lawns), and may not be parked obstructing sidewalks. Music being played in a residence may not be so loud that it can be heard at the nearest adjoining residence. Music originating in automobiles or other mobile sources may not be so loud that the music can be heard more than 100 feet from the source. In general, houses west of 33 rd Street are zoned single-family residential, defined as having no more than three non-related persons living in each house. Please show respect and consideration for your neighbors by conforming to these ordinances.

I attended the open house at the newly renovated **Yates Academy**, and came away impressed and hopeful. I was impressed by the much-improved conditions of the building, and the dedication and resolve of the staff to provide a better education to the students there. I was also impressed that the curriculum includes increased social awareness in the students, respect for themselves, and respect for others. I am hopeful that this emphasis on respect and awareness will motivate the students to help improve our neighborhood. I expect that we will have ongoing communications with the faculty at Yates, and would like to see regular submissions from the faculty and students for publication in the newsletter. We will also work to support Yates with volunteers or in other ways as appropriate.

As many of you know, I tend to walk to and from work during temperate weather. When walking home, I have observed many students casually discarding candy and food wrappers, cans and other drink containers, and school papers, contributing to the litter problem we seem to have in some areas. I have upon occasion seen students involved in petty vandalism. If you have children attending Yates, I hope you will work with the school in nurturing in the students a respect for the neighborhood so as to minimize such occurrences.

A big thank-you to **Chris Foster**, **Kirk Peck**, and the all the other volunteers who have helped out with the tennis program. I attended a couple of the sessions and observed first-hand the beneficial effects of the program upon the children attending. Considering the minimal financial cost of the program,

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**TOOL  
LENDING  
HOTLINE**


**Tom 932-6191**  
**Mike 344-3233**  
**Chris 342-6006**  
**Ron 558-6027**

**Mowers - \$5**  
**Rent for most tools - \$3**



## From the Desk of the President

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the rewards are outstanding. We all appreciate the time and effort expended by the volunteers in support of the program. The **Parks and Recreation Department** is also to be commended, as they provided paint to recoat the backboard, restriped the courts, repaired the nets, and provided extra trash receptacles.

At the board meeting, we set the date for the fall cleanup for **Saturday, October 24**. Some of you may think it is too early to bring this up, but personally I always plan to clean out the basement/attic/garage prior to the cleanup so as to get rid of unneeded items and material, and generally find myself scrambling the morning of the cleanup to get all of the stuff together. I figure there might be someone out there who is better organized than I am, so you have been advised. As always, we will not be accepting brush or tree parts. The Association has received a grant to help defray the cost of the dumpsters.

I received a letter from the **Salvation Army** soliciting school clothing for children. Donations of clothing may be dropped off at the **Thrift Stores** at **2410 Center, 4814 S. 24, or 7266 N. 30**, or you may call **324-4135** for a pick-up.

We will have **Judy Johns** from the Omaha Police Department Community Resource Center at the September 3 meeting. I heard a great deal about the positive plans being implemented by the Community Resource Center at the Neighborhood Builders Seminar in February, and hope Judy will update us about these developments. I understand she will also be talking about problems typically found in neighborhoods and means of solving these problems. Please plan on attending.

*by Jim Wilwerding*

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

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



## Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law

**4913 Underwood Avenue**

**558-5000**

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

## Dundee Day Festival to Feature Artisan's Craft Fair

The Dundee Village area at 50th and Underwood Avenue will be the location of the **Dundee Day Festival** on **Saturday, September 19th**, from **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Activities for the whole family will be available, including a narrated historic tour of the Dundee area by trolley. Other highlights include a pancake breakfast, live music, clowns, jugglers, an antique bicycle display, and children's activities. In conjunction with the festival, the **Artisan's Craft Market** will sell items that are the products of Nebraska craftsmen labor. Nebraska made pottery, furniture, glass, jewelry, ceramics, self sculpture, woodcrafts, wreaths, folk art, metal crafts, wearable art, weavings, pillows, prints, quilts, paper crafts and unique foods will all be available. The Dundee Neighborhood Association, Dundee Business Association, and GROW Nebraska are sponsoring this event.

## Historically Speaking...Joseph Garneau/Thomas Kilpatrick

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Kilpatrick, together with his partners, Albin Koch, Robert Cornell and James Rish, had established a foothold in the business community by purchasing in 1870 a store founded the same year Omaha was founded—1854. They formed the Kilpatrick-Koch Dry Goods Company. In 1895 the company began selling dry goods and women's furnishings at wholesale and retail. The store's name became Thomas Kilpatrick and Company. It was located on Douglas Street. The front door was about in the middle of the block between 15th and 16th. Kilpatrick's expanded into men's furnishings through the Browning King store on the half block between Douglas and Farnam.

The Garneau/Kilpatrick house was the scene of many fancy parties. An 1896 account in the Bee News read: "A delightful dancing party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Kilpatrick in honor of their daughter Miss Florence. The rooms of the pleasant house were thrown open for dancing. The porch, furnished with rugs, divans, etc. made a pleasant moonlight retreat for the dancers."

A list of attendees includes many well-known Omaha names: Nash, Hamilton, Creighton, Morse, Kountze, Yates, Towle, Morsman, Millard, Boyd, Reed, Lyman, Lake, Mosier, and Young. These names are perpetuated in Omaha's history on schools, streets, churches and businesses.

The Kilpatrick family lived in the house until Thomas' death in 1916. The store continued under the Kilpatrick name until 1961 when it was sold to the Younkers Company.

*by Eva Swanson*

## California Tacos & More

*Homemade Mexican Food*

**342-0212**

33rd & California Street

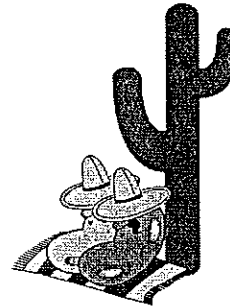
Dine In or Carry Out

***Open Every Day***

Mon - Thur: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sun: Noon - 8 p.m.



*California*  
**Tacos  
&  
More**

For City Services, Information, or  
Complaints

Call:

Mayor's Action

Office

**444-5555**

## City and State Vehicle Regulations

Vehicles parked on streets, alleys, and right-of ways must be currently licensed, in running condition, and legally parked. They must be moved at least every 48 hours. Non-emergency repairs may not be carried out on vehicles parked in the street. Vehicles over 4 tons (semi-tractors) may not be parked more than one hour.

Vehicles parked on private property must be licensed, in current running condition, and parked on a paved driveway or on a paved pad adjacent to the driveway. Gravel pads do not qualify as paved. Unlicensed vehicles must be stored in a garage or other building.

Except for vehicles registered in Kansas, Wyoming, and North Carolina, new residents moving into Nebraska must obtain Nebraska plates within 30 days. Nebraska residents moving into Omaha may retain their plates until they expire, but must pay the city wheel tax.

Qualified non-resident full-time students and military personnel are exempt from registering vehicles, but must register with the city if living in Omaha, and must display the required wheel-tax exemption sticker.

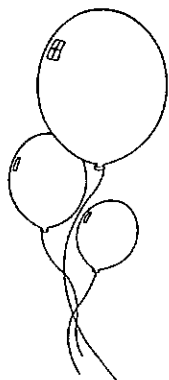
# Children's World Learning Centers

Newest Location

## 126 North 35th Street

Children's World Offers:

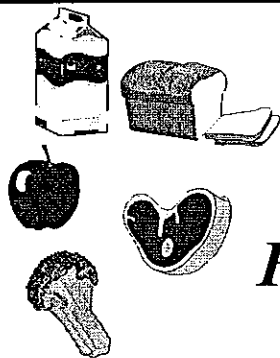
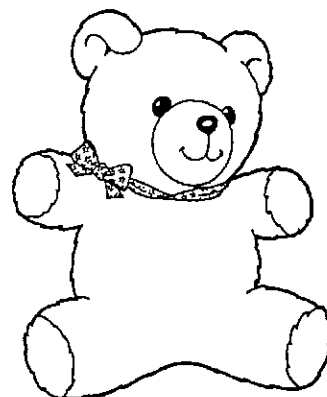
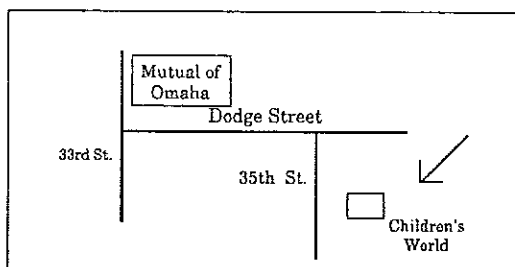
- \* Quality childcare for children ages 6 weeks thru 12 yrs.
  - \* Developmentally appropriate activities
  - \* Safe, state approved transportation
  - \* USDA approved food program to include meals and snacks
- Spaces are limited, so enroll now!



Drop in for a visit or call

### 346-9368

for an appointment.



## 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

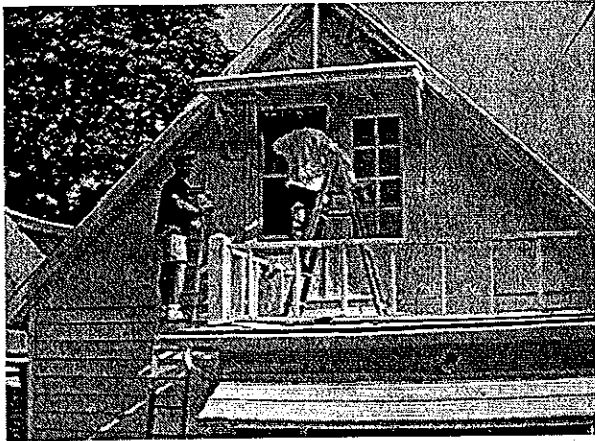
7:00 AM - 11:00 PM Friday thru Saturday

8:00 AM - 10:00 PM Sunday

## Paint-A-Thon Project Helps Gifford Park Resident

A Gifford Park neighborhood home received a new coat of paint courtesy of volunteers and corporate sponsors involved in the **Brush-Up Nebraska Paint - A - Thon**. This was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the project, which is a major volunteer effort to paint the homes of low-income senior citizens and permanently disabled homeowners at any age. Exterior house painting is often impossible for elderly and disabled people to do themselves, or hire done at a price they can afford. Paint-A-Thon helps people continue living independently in their own home by painting their homes at no cost. Employees from many companies throughout the city donate their time and effort to this worthwhile community service project. To date, volunteers have painted over 1,000 homes in the Omaha area.

**Bertha Jones**, who lives near 30<sup>th</sup> and Webster, applied for the program but didn't think she would be accepted. She was delighted to learn that her home had been chosen as one of the 105 houses that would be painted during this year's event. On Saturday morning, August 15<sup>th</sup>, a crew of volunteers from **Mutual of Omaha** showed up at her house to begin work. Team Leader **Crystal Vacura** organized her crew of volunteers representing the Mutual of Omaha Information Services, Life and Annuity, Data & Database Services Departments, and the Mutual Jaycees. Paint was provided by **Diamond Vogel Paints**, one of the 12 corporate sponsors. The crew not only painted all the trim on her house, but did the picnic table and picket fence as well. "They did such a beautiful job on the house," Bertha exclaimed, "and they were very friendly." She added, "I just want people to know what a wonderful job they did." The Gifford Park Neighborhood Association thanks all of the Paint-A-Thon volunteers for doing their part to help individuals in the community and to improve our neighborhoods as well.



*A fresh coat of paint is applied by two of the Mutual of Omaha Paint-A-Thon volunteers. Some crew members came earlier in the week to do preparation work on the house.*



*Jeff Ryan works on the trim of Bertha Jones' house. Volunteers were treated to a picnic lunch that afternoon.*

## Lending Program to Include People

The GPNA wants to add "people" lending to its tool lending program. We would like to help connect people who are interested in being hired to do yardwork, lawnmowing, snow shoveling, etc. with people who need these services. This is a pilot program the GPNA is initiating, and the quality and integrity of the program will be monitored. Call 342-6006 to add your name to the list of workers or those who need this type of work done.



## **NEEDED:** HELP WITH NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

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

**Call 344-3233**

## Highlights From 1998 Gifford Park Tennis Program

**Final Session Rained Out  
Rescheduled for Wednesday,  
September 2, 6 p.m.**

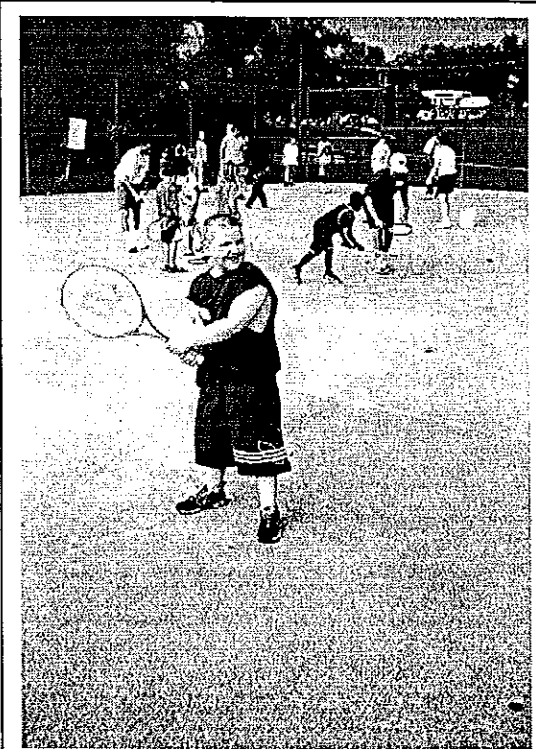
The fifth annual Gifford Park Tennis Program still has one more session due to the rain on the August 26th session. There will be lots of prizes to be given away during our final session **Wednesday, September 2 at 6 p.m. in Gifford Park.** We will also give out annual Sportsmanship Award trophies to one boy and one girl. There will be special prizes given to those kids who have attended all sessions. Kids ages 6 to 15 are welcome to attend. Racquets and balls are provided. To be enrolled, you must complete a registration form and bring to the tennis lesson (forms available at J'N'J Grocery, California Tacos and at the tennis lesson on Wednesday, September 2 in Gifford Park).

This year we have averaged thirty-five kids for the first three lessons. This free program would not be possible without our great volunteer staff of instructors and helpers. Many thanks to Brock Bilby, Chris & Sallie Foster, Willie & Jackie Foster, Jenny Foster, Roger Freeman, Ron Frey, Gordon Gilberson, Ed Hubbs, Brian Kokensparger, Dodie Lincoln, John Lynch, Kirk Peck, Dante Simone, Dan Southard, H.C. Taylor, Jim & Kathleen Wilwerding. Again this year special thanks to Betty Slayden for helping to organize the event and handling check-in each week. The GPNA wishes to thank the following businesses for donating prizes: California Tacos, J'N'J Grocery, Albertson's, Centre Court, Kiewit Construction Company, City of Omaha, and the Omaha Tennis Association.

For more information or for parents wishing to pursue further tennis instruction, call 342-6006 for upcoming fall and winter lessons. Thanks to all the kids and parents who participated.



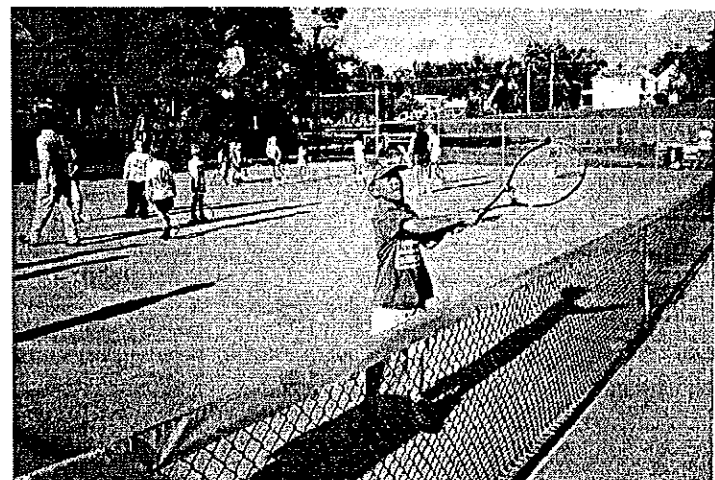
*Instructor Chris Foster takes a break from teaching.*



*Jacob Slayden gets ready to hit a forehand.*



*On the left, Eric Chan, 13, learns how to hit a serve from Roger Freeman.*



*Ian Nguyen hits a backhand volley over the net. An average of 35 kids have participated for each of the first three lessons.*

## What's Happening in the Neighborhood ...

**Jo Kubik**, principal of **Yates Accelerated Learning Academy**, reports that the school year has gotten off to a good start, with students that are ready to learn and an enthusiastic staff. She announced that an Open House would be held in conjunction with the first Parent Conference on **Thursday, September 24**. A kick-off for the PTA's September fund-raising activity was held on Friday, August 28th.

The GPNA would like to thank **Ken Blackston** from the **Nebraska Humane Society** for speaking at the August general meeting and providing us with some important information concerning animals in the city. Ken explained that the agency is always in need of used towels. If you have any to donate, please call the Humane Society, 8801 Fort St., at 444-7800.

The **Pi Kappa Alpha** fraternity is planning to hold its annual Halloween Haunted House again this year. Watch the newsletter for further information.

It's nice to see that the graffiti has been removed from the building at the corner of 33rd and California. The GPNA thanks the party responsible for its removal. If you see any graffiti, please call **Maureen Calabro** at 345-7238 or the **Mayor's Action Office** at 444-5555.

If you want to start your fall cleaning project, keep in mind that the GPNA's annual Fall Clean-Up has been scheduled for **Saturday, October 24th**. Watch for details about the clean-up in the October newsletter.

The Neighborhood Watch Group provides a valuable service to the area by monitoring unlawful activity in the neighborhood. If you would like to volunteer, or would like more information concerning the watch group, call **Terry Wilwerding** at 342-2795.



### GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

532 N. 33rd Street, Omaha, NE 68131

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please print clearly)



Membership year: \_\_\_\_\_ (Membership year runs from June 1 through May 31)

Type of membership: Single (\$5) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$8) \_\_\_\_\_ Business (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of business \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First)

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)

In case of an emergency notify: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone No.)

May this information be included in the GPNA Neighborhood Directory? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Notice!

If you have **NOT** renewed your 1998-1999 GPNA membership, you will **NOT** receive the next mail-around newsletter. The mail-around newsletter is mailed to current GPNA members in February, April, June, August, October, and December. The cost is minimal - **\$8** for a family, **\$5** for an individual, and **\$25** for a business membership. Don't delay - send in your GPNA membership renewal today!