



Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

528 N 32nd St., Omaha, NE 68131
341-4695



Chairman-Jim Windorski 341-4695

Vice Chairman-Chuck Kilgore 558-5000/341-2757

Secretary-Corky Grimes 345-3217

Treasurer-Ron Yates 558-6027

August 1990

MEMBERS-ONLY MAILING

2ND ANNUAL GPNA GARAGE SALE

GPNA MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE

Friday, Aug. 3, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

GENERAL SALE

Saturday & Sunday, Aug. 4 & 5,
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

33rd & California Streets (The
old Bogard's Drugstore)

We really need your help on this folks!
We need your donations on any type of
garage sale item - clothing, tools, books,
toys, household items, furniture,
appliances, knick-knacks, or what have
you. We will have a limited consignment
arrangement available for members wishing
to sell items valued at \$20.00 or more.

We also need your donations of volunteer
time to work at the garage sale. An hour
or two (or more) of your time spent
working at the sale would be an easy and
productive way of contributing to your
neighborhood association!

For more information, to donate items, or
to volunteer to work, please contact Ruth
Windorski at 341-4695 or Judi Caban, 341-
4722.

GPNA Garage Sale Committee
Ruth Windorski, Chair

A HEARTY GPNA THANKS TO P.J.
COOPERWOOD FOR PROVIDING
COMPLIMENTARY HELIUM BALLOONS TO ALL
THE KIDS ATTENDING THE SHOW WAGON
PRESENTATION HELD AT GIFFORD PARK ON
JULY 18TH. THE BALLOONS ADDED THE
PERFECT TOUCH TO MAKE IT A WONDERFUL
EVENT. THANKS P.J.!

NEXT MEETING

OPEN DISCUSSION OF

CREIGHTON UNIV. PARKING LOT

30TH-32ND/BURT ST.-WEBSTER ST.

AUGUST 2, 7:00 P.M.

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

SEMINAR ROOM

A WALKING NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Would any person or persons, male or
female, young or old, like to try a walk
through the neighborhood?

Time - anytime (24 hours)

Place - any place (Gifford Park area)

Why - any reason not to!

Call for your reservation now!

We need about 20 people who care about the
Gifford Park Neighborhood and want to
learn what happens in our neighborhood at
all hours of the day and night. We need
to let our presence as a group be felt.
This may just make us all more aware of
the activities taking place our area.
Remember, if you have any doubts about
your safety, there is safety in numbers!!

THIS WALK IS TO OBSERVE ONLY!!

If interested call Jim Windorski 341-4695.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 1990

National Night Out 1990 will take place Tuesday, August 7. This year's theme is "Neighborhood Support for Youth." Next to our families, the neighborhood is one of the biggest influences and resources in our lives.

Since the neighborhood is really an extension of our families, National Night Out 1990 recognizes it and calls upon it to play a vital role in the support of Omaha's young people. Young people need the kind of caring and sharing the neighborhood can provide. Neighbors can assist young people as they strive to take advantage of educational, occupational and recreational opportunities. Start planning neighborhood activities now for this year's night out!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance 6/25/90	\$1,982.97
62 Memberships	186.00
Drug Free Donations	39.00
Interest earned	<u>21.86</u>
	2,229.83

American Printing Co.	<u>167.11</u>
Balance 7/23/90	2,062.72

LAWN TIP (Douglas County Extension Office)

Mow bluegrass regularly at a height of 2.5 to 3 inches in July and August. This shades the crown of the grass plant during the hottest weather. In late August you can reduce mowing height to 2 inches.

To report graffiti call the

CITY GRAFFITI LINE

444-5281

HOUSES AVAILABLE FOR RELOCATION:

Creighton University has purchased several residential dwellings on Webster and Burt Streets between 30th and 32nd Streets, which may be suitable for relocation to vacant lots within or outside of the Gifford Park neighborhood. The terms are negotiable with Creighton. No partial salvage would be allowed; in other words, the entire house must be moved intact from the property for the purpose of relocating and reusing the house as a residence. All other Creighton University requirements regarding removal and site condition would have to be complied with. Interested parties should contact Jim Willet, Creighton University, 280-3073.

VACATION TIME?

PROTECT YOUR HOME!

Vacations are wonderful, but usually everyone is ready to come home! Make sure your home is in the same condition as you left it, by remembering to follow a few simple rules:

1. Stop newspaper and mail delivery - or have someone responsible for picking up each day's deliveries.
2. Have someone mow your lawn (or shovel your walk in the winter).
3. Purchase a light timer.
4. Make sure all windows and doors are locked.
5. One of the best defenses a citizen has is to organize a Neighborhood Watch group in their area. To learn about Neighborhood Watch, an Organizer's Meeting is held the third Monday of a month at 7:00 p.m. at Police Headquarters, 505 S. 15th St.

EDITORIAL PAGE

The Editorial Page is a new feature of the GPNA Newsletter. Readers are welcome to submit their letters 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 on this page. 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.

I am concerned about a certain type of activity that has been taking place in Gifford Park. Specifically, I refer to the practice by some organizations of using the park as a place to "recruit" children for various programs. While there may be others using this technique, the groups that I am aware of are religious in nature.

I am opposed to this type of behavior for the following reasons:

1. While these organizations may have the best intentions, not all people who approach our children do. As parents, one of our major concerns is our children's safety. Children are repeatedly warned by parents, educators, and police about the dangers involved in being approached by "strangers". All too frequent news stories about child abuse, molestation, and abduction definitely lead us to believe that these warnings are valid. Representatives of organizations who approach children in the park or other public places, no matter how innocent their motivation, are enticing children to disregard rules that may someday be vital to their safety. Ironically, the fact that these people do NOT harm the children is in itself harmful, in that it conditions children to associate strangers approaching them in the park with safe and even fun activities. Again because of adverse conditioning, the use of the park is especially unsuitable for this type of recruitment or "ministry", since it is a documented fact that child molesters often frequent parks and playgrounds in search of their next victims.

2. This practice is being used to teach children specific religious beliefs and doctrines without the consent and knowledge of their parents. Many parents, myself for one, are strongly opposed to their children being exposed to and/or indoctrinated in religious beliefs that are not their own. There are proper times and places for religious training, and most parents want to be able to choose these for their children. Certainly we do not expect this to take place when we allow them to go to a public park to play.

I am writing this article with a dual purpose, the first being to alert neighborhood parents that this type of activity is taking place in our park, and secondly to ask the people who are involved in conducting these programs to please stop. If, as I believe, you have the well-being of our children and community at heart, there must surely be a way to plan your activities in a safer and more responsible manner.

Judi Caban

LEGISLATIVE REPORT - SENATOR JOHN LINDSAY - DISTRICT NO. 9

Two items from this past session were of particular importance to the residents of the Ninth District. These were the state acquisition of Joslyn Castle and the protection and maintenance of services for the elderly.

Joslyn Castle lies in the heart of the District. It formerly housed the offices of the Omaha Public Schools. When OPS announced plans to move their offices to the newly renovated Tech High, speculation began as to the future of the Castle and its grounds. In order to preserve the historical integrity of the neighborhood and to retain the public access of the Castle, I worked with Sen. Ashford on a plan to allow the state to acquire the Castle and adapt it for public use. A year and a half of planning culminated with the passage of LB 164. Under the bill, \$50,000 was appropriated to purchase the Castle and to provide for its management under the auspices of the State Historical Society. Future funds for the operation of the Castle will be solely from the private sector and should require no further government expenditure. This legislation was critical to preserve the Castle and its effect on the neighborhood.

The Ninth District contains one of the highest proportions of senior citizens in its population in the state. That is why I was concerned and disappointed when Gov. Orr vetoed funding from the mainline budget directed toward services for the elderly. For the seniors in my district this would have meant sharply curtailing services such as the Meals-on-Wheels program, in-home servicing, and other support services. Providing for the needs of the elderly is one of my top concerns in the Legislature, which is why I worked for and voted in favor of overriding the Governor's veto and restoring the needed funds into the budget.