



# Gifford Park's Pride

*Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play*  
[www.giffordparkomaha.org](http://www.giffordparkomaha.org)

July 2006

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

## National Night Out To Be Held Tuesday, August 1st

The 23rd "National Night Out" (NNO) has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 1st**. This unique crime/drug prevention event is sponsored by the **Omaha Police Department**, is part of **Citizen Corps**, and all are invited to be part of a nation-wide event. NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive, and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in the fight for a safer nation. The benefits the community derives from NNO extends well beyond the one night.

Last year's NNO campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide.

This will be the fifth year that the GPNA has participated in the National Night Out celebration. On Tuesday evening, August 1, 33rd Street will be blocked off from California to Cass for the event. EVERYONE is welcome to participate and have a good time. It's a great opportunity to get together and show your support for our neighborhood in a big way.

The GPNA plans to include many of the same activities as at last year's event - including food, refreshments, jazz, firetruck, face painting, moonwalk, water balloon toss, information booths (health, safety, neighborhood), and much more. Detailed information will be available when a flyer comes out later in July. For more information or if you would like to help, call **Cynthia 556-2090** or **Chris 342-6006**.

## Tennis Program Set For August

For the 13th consecutive year, the **GPNA Youth Tennis Program** will be held every **Wednesday** evening in **August (August 2,9,16,23,30)** at the tennis courts in **Gifford Park**. Instruction focuses on the fundamental strokes in tennis, such as the forehand, backhand, serves, and volleys. Look for more information in the August edition of the newsletter. Registration forms will be available at **J'N'J Grocery** and **California Tacos** later in July. For more information, or if you would like to help with any or all of the sessions, call **Chris Foster at 342-6006**.

## Reminder: No July Meeting!

**Next General Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 3**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Creighton University Med Center**

## Jambo To Perform July 19th In Gifford Park

Make plans to attend the second "Music in the Park" concert featuring **Jambo** (playing Tropical Sounds) coming to our neighborhood this summer. The GPNA wishes to thank the **City of Omaha**, **The Reader**, and the **Recording Industries Music Performance Fund** as administered by the **Omaha Musicians Association** for the great opportunity to host this event on **July 19** (the third date will be **August 16** featuring **Omaha Brassworks** playing classical music) - these are both on Wednesday nights from 7 - 8 p.m. in Gifford Park. We plan to have **FREE** ice cream treats and other refreshments on hand to add to the festivities. Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy the show! The GPNA thanks **The Lonny Lynn Orchestra** which performed dance music from the 30's and 40's on June 21 in Gifford Park, and **Roberts Dairy** who gave us a good deal on the ice cream treats. Thanks also to **Jan Franks, Zach Rubek, Tiffaney Slayden, Kayleen Slayden, Darryl Hutton** and **Ben Spahn** for helping out.



## GPNA OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Cynthia Shuck 556-2090

### VICE PRESIDENT

Open

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Open

### TREASURER

Open

## SERVICES

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

Chris Foster 342-6006

### COMPLIANCE

Leo Wilwerding 345-1433

### HISTORIAN

Eva Swanson 345-1707

### KELLOM SCHOOL LIAISON

Jean Peck 344-0722

### MEMBERSHIP

Kate O'Brien 496-8419

### NEWSLETTER

Sue Wilwerding 342-2795

### NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Chris Foster 342-6006

### PARK

Roger Freeman 557-2914

### PARKING VIOLATIONS

Leo Wilwerding 345-1433

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chris Foster 342-6006

### TOOL LENDING

Chris Foster 342-6006

### WATCH GROUP

Terry Wilwerding 342-2795

### WEEDS & LITTER

Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

### WELCOMING

Vicki Frey 344-0757

## Bicycle Co-op Seeks Assistance

The **Omaha Bicycle Co-op** invites you to help in our community bicycle project. We are a group of bicycle enthusiasts that are organizing operations for an Omaha community bicycle co-op. The bicycle co-op consists of tools, bike stands, bike parts, and volunteers—all of which build our community. Few establishments are available where one may repair their bicycle or become outfitted with safe cycling knowledge, safety equipment, and a bicycle! We are dedicated to living out pillars of service, justice, community, simplicity, self responsibility to self and community. In accord with those values, we have undertaken our first community bicycle co-op. Through donations and our hard labor our co-op hopes to bring about a place of growth for our community. Our co-op plans to organize knowledgeable bicycle safety, pleasurable rides, repair workshops and a variety of other functions that will build and draw people together. Our co-op will not only be involving our immediate community, but all of Omaha.

As bicycle and community enthusiasts, our co-op hopes to bring enthusiasm, drive, hard work and a sense of belonging. Unfortunately, though, this bicycle repair co-op needs funds and supplies to operate so the co-op is asking you for support. Below is a wish list of items that would make this community bicycle co-op a success. If you think you can provide any of it, or would like further information, contact **Emerick Huber at (402)-991-4586 or (307)-262-4581**. Thank you so much for your time and we appreciate any help that you can give. We plan to open a shop in the area in the near future, and initially be open for business about 10 hours/week....stay tuned for more information.

### Wish List (new or used)

- money
- bicycle helmets, pads, reflectors, lights, baskets, water bottles (new please) and holders
- bicycles in any condition- bicycle tubes, tires, and wheels
- bicycle parts- bicycle tools: chain pullers, crank pullers, wheel truing stand
- general tools: hack saws, drills, hammers, vises, sockets, wrenches, screwdrivers...

\*We wish to gain non-profit status and are currently pursuing this action\*

### Contact Emerick Huber at the

### Omaha Bicycle Co-op

Ph: (402)-991-4586 or (307)-262-4581

Email: [omahabicyclecoop@yahoo.com](mailto:omahabicyclecoop@yahoo.com)

*Editor's note: If you have something that would be of interest to our neighborhood, we encourage you to submit an article for our monthly newsletter. Editorials must be approved by the GPNA Executive Board. Articles can be mailed to P.O. Box 31462 Omaha, NE 68131; please include your name and phone number. Contact Sue Wilwerding (342-2795) or Chris Foster (342-6006) for information regarding the newsletter.*

## Caught In The Act!

80% of Omahans surveyed said they would attend an activity-based event if given the opportunity\*

**Activate Omaha** was listening. Over the next 12 weeks Activate Omaha will be featuring neighborhood events and activities on its website ([www.activateomaha.org](http://www.activateomaha.org)) and in the **GO!** section of the **Omaha World-Herald**. Now they will be watching. If you're caught exercising by one of our spies you'll receive a gift and be recognized in a special ad at summer's end. So what are you waiting for? Get up, get out and get active!

Get Caught in the Act this weekend and volunteer to help garden and clean-up **Gifford Park July 8, 2006 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

\* Community Survey: margin of error 6%

**ANYPLACE. ANYTIME. ACTIVATEOMAHA.ORG**

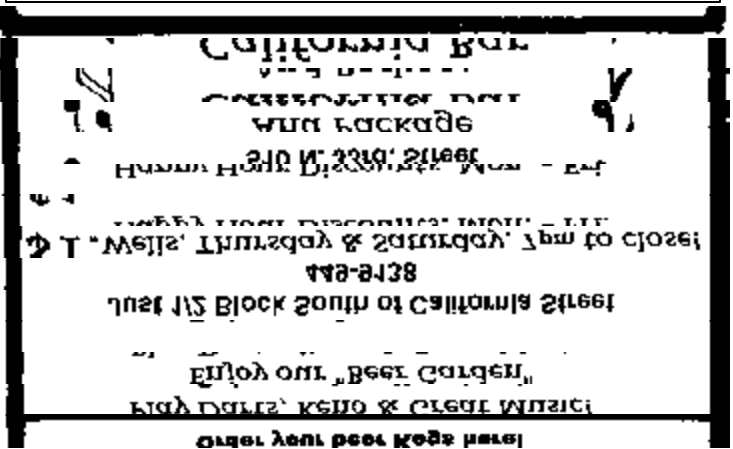
For more information, contact **Tammie Dodge: [Tammie@activataomaha.org](mailto:Tammie@activataomaha.org) or 402-934-5923.**

## Flower Pots Attractive Addition To Business District

Have you noticed the new flower pots in the 33rd & California Street business district? If you haven't, take a few minutes to walk through the area and check them out. This is a cooperative effort between the business owners and the GPNA to take a couple small steps toward beautification in the area. This effort actually started last year when GPNA member **Jay Genoa** helped us get 4 large flower pots donated through **Mulhall's Nursery**. Then this year, Mulhall's Nursery gave us a great deal on 4 more pots and donated plant material. The business owners funded the cost of flower pots and more flowers. We also received funding from the Mayor's grant. So on May 10, **Indian Creek Nursery** supplied a truck and good dirt and filled all eight pots. That same evening volunteers planted sweet potato plants, coleus, petunias, zinnias, vinca, marigolds, and canna (for height in the middle). Weeding and watering will be done by employees of several local businesses. We thank the following people and businesses for contributing: **Brad Bogard (California Tacos), Loren Johnson (J'N'J Grocery), Lilly Estes (California Bar), Dale Robinson (Robinson's Garage), Gifford Park LLC, Glen Burns (DragonFire Café), Melrose Apartments, Jim O'Brien, Chuck Kilgore, and Shelterbelt/SNAP! Theater.**



*The GPNA sends a big thank you to **First National Bank** for donating and planting a tree in Gifford Park (near the tennis courts) and picking up litter in the park. The donation was part of the final celebration of a leadership program the group participated in this year. About 25 volunteers helped out with the tree planting. We also gave the volunteers a quick tour of the Community Garden. They had the great privilege of meeting our own "Park Caretaker" **Roger Freeman** at the end. Thanks also to **Darryl Hutton** for watering the tree during our dry spell in June.*



## SNAP! Season Update

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>August 24-September 17, 2006</b>             | <b>March 8-April 1, 2007</b>                               |
| Harold & Maude by Colin Higgins                 | I Am My Own Wife by Doug Wright                            |
| Directed by Todd Brooks                         | Directed by Kevin Lawler                                   |
|   | Featuring Nick Zadina                                      |
| <b>November 16-December 10, 2006</b>            | <b>May 31-June 24, 2007</b>                                |
| When Pigs Fly by Howard Crabtree & Mark Waldrop | Doubt (subject to rights approval) by John Patrick Shanley |
| Music by Dick Gallagher                         | Directed by Michelle Phillips                              |
| Directed by Roxanne Wach                        |  |

## Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law

4913 Underwood Avenue  
**558-5000**

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





Have you noticed the new "Identity Garden" in Gifford Park near 33rd & Cass Street? GPNA volunteers **Cynthia Shuck, John Barna, Darryl Hutton** and **Chris Foster** planted and mulched the new 15 ft diameter flower garden, which has a nice cobblestone border. There is an iron sign installed in the middle which will soon say "Gifford Park" on it. The sign is planned to have lights also. The garden material and sign was donated by **Destination Midtown** for the purpose of "identifying" the 11 neighborhoods within the Destination Midtown boundary with a common link – the identity gardens. Many thanks also to **Bob** and **Darryl Hutton** for installing a hydrant meter so volunteers can now water the identity garden and potentially other plantings nearby.



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**OPEN TUESDAY THRU SUNDAY**

**SERVING BREAKFAST AND SANDWICHES**

**SOFT SERVE ICE CREAM TREATS**

**10:30 AM - 8:30PM**

**RECEIVE 10% OFF WITH THIS AD**

## GPNA Community Garden and Youth Program in Full Swing

The Gifford Park Community Garden at 35th & Cass Street is in full swing despite below normal rainfall lately. We have 28 family plots taken with a few more available for anyone interested (there is a small yearly rental fee mainly to help pay for water). We also have our Youth Garden program that is led by **Kate Bodmann**. There are 55 individual plots, one for each youth participating in the program, which runs from 9 to 11 a.m. every Saturday morning during the growing season, with each week providing a hands-on learning experience. Please call **Kate 496-8419** regarding the Youth program – there is still time to sign-up and it's FREE! We certainly welcome anyone wishing to volunteer; it's a lot of fun. For more information on the community garden project, call **Chris 342-6006, Kate 496-8419** or **Cynthia 556-2090**.

## California Tacos & More

*Homemade Mexican Food*

**342-0212**

33rd & California Street

Dine In or Carry Out

Hours:

Monday - Saturday: 11a.m. - 8 p.m.

Closed Sunday

*California* Tacos & More



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**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**

## What's Happening In The Neighborhood . . .

**Sun Dawgs** activities are in full swing this summer. Supervisors **Stephanie Schaeffer, Lavell Jackson** and **Aersenio Richardson** are heading up the Gifford Park site this year. Please consider stopping down at the Sun Dawg shack any weekday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help with activities. Special thanks go to **Tom Lebeda** (Parks & Recreation Supervisor) for always paying close attention to our Gifford Park site. The GPNA wishes to thank the **City of Omaha** and other private donors who helped keep the Sun Dawgs program and for making it possible for Gifford Park to be a full-time site; this means a lot to our neighborhood.

The GPNA sends its condolences to **Jack Sutton's** family. Jack's father passed away in June. Jack works at the California Bar.

The GPNA also sends its sincere sympathy to **Larry and Jane Whelan** and their family. Larry's father **Dennis**, a well-known private investigator in the Midlands, died in late June.

The **Omaha Public Library** and the **Cosmopolitan-UNMC College of Nursing Mobile Nursing Center** will offer free Mobile Health Care Clinics, for ages 19 and up. The free clinics include blood pressure and blood sugar tests, and colon cancer test kits. Total cholesterol readings (including HDL) will be available for \$10. The dates and times of the sites closest to the Gifford Park area are: **Willa Cather Branch (1905 South 44th St.), Tuesday, July 18th, from 5 to 7 P.M., Benson Branch (2918 North 60th St.), Thursday, July 20th, from 5 to 7 P.M., and A.V. Sorensen Branch (4808 Cass St.), Thursday, July 27, from 5 to 7 P.M.**

**Restore Omaha**, a conference, exhibition and tour, is planning another great event **November 3-5, 2006**, at the University Of Nebraska at Omaha's campus and other Omaha sites. Volunteers are needed to help identify topics and speakers, to recruit exhibitors experienced in preservation and restoration work, to help organize a tour of homes and to help promote and market the event. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees or just have suggestions for the 2006 conference contact **Kristine Gerber**, conference director, at **614-0056** or [eventive.marketing@cox.net](mailto:eventive.marketing@cox.net). Mark your calendars! More information will be coming soon on Restore Omaha.



Gifford Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA)

P.O. Box 91462, Omaha, NE 68131-0462



### Membership Application

\*Note: The GPNA membership year runs from June 1 through May 31

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:  Single (\$10.00)  Family (\$15.00)  Business (\$25.00)

If Business, Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** I am interested in helping out with... (Circle interests)

- |                   |                     |                  |                    |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Chairperson       | Newsletter Delivery | Community Garden | Easter Egg Hunt    |
| Membership        | Book Club           | Youth Garden     | Boiling Cleanup    |
| Social Activities | History             | Tree Planting    | Tall Cleanup       |
| School Liaison    | Wash Group          | Youth Activities | Neighborhood Walks |
| Tool Lending      | Ball Committee      | Lawn Program     | Holiday Banquet    |

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Information, or  
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Call: Mayor's Action  
Office  
444-5555**



**TOOL  
LENDING  
HOTLINE**  
*Chris 342-6006*

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

