



Gifford Park's Pride

Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play
www.giffordparkomaha.org

May 2011

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Spring Cleanup This Month

The GPNA will be holding the annual spring clean-up on **Saturday May 21, 2011**, in the Gifford Park parking lot north of 34th and Davenport, from 9:00AM to 2:00 PM. We will have vouchers available for tree limbs and brush. We will be accepting appliances, although there will be a nominal charge for appliances containing Freon. We will also be accepting tires for a small charge, but they must be dismantled from the rims. We will also have information available about a refrigerator recycling program sponsored by OPPD. If you have a working refrigerator, 10-32 cu. foot capacity that you no longer need, OPPD will have the refrigerator removed, free of charge, and send you a \$35 rebate check.



GPNA Spring Cleanup
Saturday, May 21
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

GPNA Garage Sale May 28th

The Gifford Park Neighborhood Association will hold a neighborhood-wide **Garage Sale** at **33rd & California, Saturday, May 28th**, from **9 AM to 1 PM**. The GPNA will pay for an ad in the Omaha World-Herald to promote garage sales in the Gifford Park Neighborhood. **If you would like to donate usable garage sale items (no clothes or shoes please) to the GPNA, please call Neil 933-1960 or Chris 342-6006; we will sell items in the business district at 33rd & California on Saturday May 28, 9 AM to 1 PM**, with proceeds going to the GPNA and Community Garden. Also, we will be accepting garage sale items the week before at the **Spring Cleanup (May 21, 9 AM to 2 PM)** in Gifford Park. This is a great way to get rid of unused items and make some extra money for yourself or the GPNA and at **NO COST** to you!

Look Inside For Tennis Block Party Information!



Next General Meeting
Thursday, May 12

Tours Of The Community Bike Project With Matt Martin, CBPO Executive Director And The Sweet Thymes Permaculture Garden With Chris Combs

7 PM: Meet At The Community Bike Project, 525 N. 33rd St. For Start Of Tour Then To The Garden East Of The Shelterbelt Theater Refreshments Provided

Executive Meeting
Thursday, May 26
7 P.M. at the Larson's
3565 California St.

Operation Playground Working Toward Reaching Financial Goal

Currently, the total amount of funds raised for the Gifford Park playground renovation is over **\$22,044**. This includes private donations from Creighton community members and Gifford Park neighbors, The Noodles and Company fundraiser, various student fundraisers, over \$100 in loose-change donations at the GPNA Easter Egg Hunt, and the Peter Kiewit Foundation grant for \$10,000. The City of Omaha's final quote for us for the project (which was provided to me on Thursday, March 31), is about **\$53,600**. This means we still have to raise around **\$4,756**. We are currently awaiting a decision from The Hawks Foundation for a \$5,000 grant, but the timeline has not been determined, as the proposal was submitted

continued on page 3

2011

GPNA OFFICERS**PRESIDENT**

Luther Larson 330-3286

VICE PRESIDENT

Jill Westfall 213-3105

SECRETARY

Dana Carlton-Flint 346-4575

TREASURER

Diane Kaye 341-4146

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AT LARGE

Kevin Deese 216-9373

BUSINESS

Martin Janousek 558-4070

LANDLORD

Chris Foster 342-6006

GARDEN LIASON

Joy Doll 960-8138

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HISTORIAN

Eva Swanson 345-1707

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NEWSLETTER

Sue Wilwerding 342-2795

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Chris Foster 342-6006

PARK

Sandy & Roger Freeman 557-2914

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dana Carlton-Flint 346-4575

WEEDS & LITTER

Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

WELCOMING

Julie Kalkowski 342-2103

Greetings From The Garden

Gardening season is now getting underway! Our garden opening is May 7th – watch for pictures forthcoming. We have many plots filled but we still have some openings. If you are interested in a plot, please contact me so I can set you up at joyot@juno.com.

The Garden Board and volunteers have been working hard in the garden. The garden has been redesigned and I encourage you to visit us at 35th and Cass. Some updates include movement of hostas, lilies and the herb garden. We also received some fruit trees from **Nature Hills Nursery** that will be planted. Lots of exciting things are going on in the Gifford Park Community Garden!

I wanted to let you all know that the Gifford Park Community Garden is for everyone! You do not have to be an experienced gardener to participate. Let me tell you a little story. When I first got involved with the garden a couple of years ago, I went to a work night and I was told to pull some weeds in one area. I started pulling what I thought were weeds and I was soon informed I had just pulled a bunch of bean plants! I was mortified and I was nervous to go back to the garden. But all the gardeners were so nice and quickly told me that they grow back quickly. I realized I am welcome here despite my lack of garden knowledge! So I want to tell all of you that you are welcome too! No matter your garden knowledge or lack of knowledge – we welcome everyone to participate. We can all learn together and form a valuable community.

Lastly, please join us for Garden Work Parties. Put these on your calendars! Not only do we work to make our Garden beautiful, but we have a lot of fun! During Garden Work Parties, gardeners will have access to the tool shed and the water. Access to these items will also be available on Saturday mornings from 10-11:30 am during the Children's Garden Program.

The Garden Work Parties for 2011 are:

- Wednesday May 4th
- Wednesday June 1st
- Wednesday July 6th
- Wednesday August 3rd
- Wednesday September 7th
- Wednesday October 5th

All work parties take place from 6-8 pm. Questions? Please contact your Gifford Park Community Garden Advisory Board Members:

Advisory Board

Mike Caban - Caban3321@cox.net

Joy Doll (Director/Plot Coordinator) –

joyot@juno.com

Bren Duval (Secretary) - bren.design@hotmail.com

Chris Foster (Land Owner) – foster3413@cox.net

Dana Freeman (Children's Garden) -

dana.freeman@gmail.com

Sue Freeman (Children's Garden) -

glenda.freeman65@gmail.com

Diane Kaye (Treasurer) - diandmax@aol.com



by Joy Doll

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).

From The President . . .

With spring definitely here, everyone is anxious to get out and enjoy the nice weather. Spring has also proven to be the busy season for GPNA. The Easter egg hunt was another great success thanks to all the volunteers and the wonderful donations of time and money. Thanks again for making the day for 400+ children from Gifford Park and the surrounding area. Other events being planned for May include the spring cleanup on May 21th, the Tennis Block Party kickoff on May 25th, and the Garage Sale on May 28th. Please volunteer to help at any or all of these events by calling me at **402-616-9350**. And not to forget the Garden; it will have its kickoff party on May 7th with the Children's Garden starting off the growing season on May 14th. Wow, that is a lot for a neighborhood association to do in a month.

But wait, there is more! To update you on some things happening behind the scenes: **Dana Carlton-Flint** continues to write grants that will help the neighborhood continue to fund all these programs while adding some new exciting things to the park. Planned 2011 park improvements partially or completely funded by grants will include the new playground equipment, new benches, doggie-do bag dispensers and trash cans. Thanks Dana for all the work you have put into securing these grants. The other behind the scenes effort is to change the tax status of the GPNA to a 501(c)3. This will position GPNA to allow donations to be tax deductible thus allowing GPNA to pursue additional grants and benefactors to expand programs that will benefit all in Gifford Park and the surrounding the community. During the last GPNA board meeting the members voted unanimously to pursue the 501(c)3 status working with the Creighton University Law Department as our legal counsel. Please volunteer (get involved) in all that is happening in your neighborhood. Call me at **402-616-9350** to volunteer.

by Luther Larson

EngageOmaha.com, is an online conversation sponsored by the City of Omaha. Be sure your voice is heard when our leaders prioritize their 2012 budgets. Current topics: Should the City continue providing neighborhoods an opportunity to host an Annual Spring Clean-Up event? How important is the graffiti removal van? Should Omaha start charging for weekly garbage pick-up or lower their 5 bag limit? How about charging for recycle bin collection? Should the City continue unlimited yard waste collection? These are only a few ideas from the Public Works forum. Other topics include Library, Planning, Parks, Police, Fire, Convention/Visitors Bureau and Administration. Be part of the solution and start engaging in Omaha's future - It's Easy!

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Playground . . .continued from page 1

independent of a typical grant cycle. This contribution would put us over the top! Other financial means are being discussed with Amber Miller of the Omaha Parks Foundation, a new 501(c)3 entity within Omaha Parks and Recreation.

Any donations towards the playground would be greatly appreciated! If anyone wants to donate to Operation Playground, please contact **Dana Carlton-Flint** (designwyim@yahoo.com) or **Maria Doyle** (mariadoyle@creighton.edu). Please make your donation soon! Checks can be made payable to **Operation Playground**.

I'd personally like to thank everyone for their support. It is so great to see people who are truly passionate about their community, and so supportive of students who want to help their surrounding community. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to this project.

by Maria Doyle

Thank You, Volunteers!

To all the neighborhood people who volunteer their time planting flowers, weeding, writing grants, watering, donating money, maintaining the gardens and then doing it all over again week after week so we can have a beautiful neighborhood for everyone to enjoy - THANK YOU!

I had the opportunity a few weeks ago to witness a resident help herself to our tulips in the Identity Garden. I learned that they would be better off with her instead of all of us (you) who actually did the work for everyone to enjoy. It's sad that a pretty room in one's home trumps the hard work of others for the selfish benefit of one.

Great cities also have great parks with cool people who respect the work of others. Maybe Gifford Park is too cool for some people.

by Martin Janousek

Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law

4913 Underwood Avenue

558-5000



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



The Gifford Park Community Garden Is Ready For SPRING!

Chris Foster has worked wonders and between Chris and I the garden front beds are weeded, pruned, fertilized, and mulched. The new additional space due to the movement of the fence has been “de-sodded”, and the ground has been worked so that hosta can be moved there. Chris gave the new space and grass its first cut last night, and the front established areas look great for the upcoming opening celebration.

Sue Freeman has put in quite a few hours this week getting the shed ready for the Children’s Garden Program. Dana and Sue have put out the schedule for this program, and sign-up for this will be at the Garden Opening this upcoming May 7th.

Our upcoming Wednesday work party (May 4th) could use all hands to assist in moving and planting. We still have much to move from both houses on either side of the garden. We also need design suggestions on where our new herb bed should go. Our herbs are waiting in pots patiently for their new home. Please forward your suggestions to **Joy Doll** our GP Garden Director so that this important task can be accomplished prior to our garden opening.

Unfortunately with the transition and our new wall project, we lost some of our shrubs. Time will tell if the ones that are showing life will continue to thrive, but I am hopeful.

The **Omaha Rose Society** donated 30 roses to me yesterday, so I am busy planning on a new installation for our park. The bed I established by our new Gifford Park sign by the baseball diamond wintered well, and I didn’t have any loss. We should have our first blooms shortly.

Sandy Freeman has done an outstanding job of tending to the Identity Garden. The tulips look wonderful this year, and all the perennials that were planted last year have pulled through. We should have quite a show there soon. We have been notified by **Destination Midtown/Midtown Alliance** that we will still receive some money this year for maintenance on this area, and look for some bright pretty annuals there soon. I spoke with Sandy this past week, and she has many ideas. Should you have some to share with Sandy, please get with her to let her know.

The composters that the garden received last year as part of the Mayor’s Grant have been assembled this spring thanks to our mechanically inclined volunteers, and all that is needed for them to start doing their job is to be placed in their new permanent home. I am hopeful that this can be accomplished by our Garden Opening so that our gardeners can start using them as they start planting their plots.

Mother’s Day weekend marks the start of the Garden Season. For our Zone (4), this marks the end of the frost possibility, and one can start planting all the bright pretty flowers that have been appearing at the big box stores for about 2 months now. Should you be “itching” to play in the dirt, one can always plant radishes, lettuce, spinach, kale, beets, and onions. These are considered cold crop items, and weather cold nights without a problem.

I hope all of you have a wonderful weekend, and have a chance to get out and enjoy.

by Diane Kaye

What's Up With The Neighborhood Survey?

If you remember, last summer we (**Gifford Park Neighborhood Association**) along with **Destination Midtown** conducted a summer-long survey. It was a time for us to gather opinions from both people who lived in the neighborhood and those who visited. Then in the fall, we presented the results at a well-attended neighborhood meeting.

Well, we haven't stopped. Over the last few weeks, Destination Midtown, the **South Omaha Development Project**, and the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) has sent out an RFP (Request For Proposal) which has gone out locally and nationally, requesting professional services from a firm to do a neighborhood analysis and strategy. Also, the scope of the work has expanded to include more than just our neighborhood. If you remember last year, while we were doing our survey, the **Leavenworth Business District** was conducting a similar survey. So now, this work conducted by the hired company will include other neighborhoods in a joint effort. Besides Gifford Park, it will include Park Avenue and Leavenworth Street, 24th Street and Leavenworth Street, and Vinton Street. The company that will be hired will help to assess current conditions, create strategies, implement plans, and identify funding mechanisms.

One might ask, how's this all being paid for? Working with Destination Midtown, an arm of the **Omaha Chamber of Commerce**, money was already identified and saved over the years to hire professional services to do such projects as these. We're lucky to have such a great neighborhood of active and engaging residents so we were a natural for the Omaha Chamber of Commerce to partner with us.

Now over the next few weeks, Destination Midtown along with our neighborhood volunteers will be reviewing the proposals, selecting a professional firm, and starting the second wave of the process which started last summer. Please keep your eyes and ears open for more information as this develops over the next few months. I'm sure we will be having a few neighborhood meetings and having good attendance at these meetings will be important. Gifford Park is known as one of Omaha's best examples of a great urban neighborhood, so please stay engaged and attend any future meetings. It's an exciting time to be a Gifford Park resident!

by *Martin Janousek*

TOOL LENDING HOTLINE

Mowers - \$5
Rent for most tools - \$3
Chris 342-6006



FRESH *Every* WEEKEND

<i>Saturdays</i>	<i>Sundays</i>
THE OLD MARKET	AKSARBEN VILLAGE
MAY 7 <i>thru</i> OCT 15	MAY 8 <i>thru</i> OCT 16
8:00 AM – 12:30 PM	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

PRESENTED BY:

SPONSORED BY: SECURITY NATIONAL BANK, HYVEE, PHYSICIANS MUTUAL, THE READER, BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA AND AKSARBEN CINEMA

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LOCAL Campaign Update

The LOCAL Campaign is gearing up to finalize the zoning ordinance that will provide more opportunity to **Let Omaha Control its Alcohol Landscape**. As you may know, the campaign emerged from a growing frustration about the increasing number of problem alcohol outlets in Omaha, adding to the decline of our neighborhoods, reducing the economic viability of the community, and contributing to the violence in our streets.

We hope by summer to have the ordinance before the Omaha City Council. As we put the finishing touches on the document, we're asking for your help and input. Please see the "Resolution of Support" on page 9 of this newsletter, and if you agree simply send the signed resolution to the mailing address listed on the resolution. The LOCAL Campaign has been community-led from the beginning and we want to make certain anyone who has a desire to be involved has the opportunity. To contact the LOCAL Campaign, e-mail thelocalcampaign@gmail.com or join our Facebook page at "The LOCAL Campaign" to receive important updates.

by *Chris Foster*

See page 9 for the LOCAL Resolution of Support

Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law 4913 Underwood Avenue 558-5000



California Tacos & More

Homemade Mexican Food

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33rd & California Street
Dine In or Carry Out

Hours:

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



Still Time To Get Involved In Gifford Park Youth Garden

Gifford Park Youth Garden (GPYG) will soon kick off its eighth consecutive season growing young gardeners, but there's still plenty of time for you to get involved! We'll grow our own vegetables, prepare, eat, and share our harvest with others. Plus, we'll be creative with art, music, and poetry; explore our natural environment; and have fun while working together and getting our hands dirty. **Attached at the end of this newsletter you will find this summer's schedule and registration information.**

Our community garden is special in its commitment to children's gardening, and GPYG relies upon parents and community members each and every week to provide snacks, lead lessons, and simply share their time with participating young people. Please consider joining us **Saturday mornings from 10AM to 11:30AM beginning May 14th** and giving to this educational program. Send me an email (dana.freeman@gmail.com) if you have a gift or skill you would like to share with us. You are always welcome to stop by 35th & Cass Streets and see how much fun we're having, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

by Dana Freeman

PS. Thanks to **Chris & Sallie Foster**, photographers extraordinaire, for consistently documenting what's growing at Gifford Park Community Garden. Four of their pictures appear in *Mother Earth News: The Original Guide to Living Wisely* Apr.-May 2011 in "Building Community Food Security" by Mary Lou Shaw. We are proud that so many Omahans were selected as the face of this national movement toward community wellness.

If you don't regularly subscribe to this national magazine, you can pick up a hard copy at area booksellers or view the article and accompanying image gallery online at www.motherearthnews.com/nature-community/community-food-security-zm0z11zsto.aspx

Business District Flower Pots

Our famous neighborhood flower pots are again ready to be planted. We have 13 flower pots that mark the boundaries of the neighborhood business district. Each year, money is raised to fill the pots with annuals and volunteers from the neighborhood do the planting after May 13th. Most of the flower pots are maintained by the businesses they are adjacent to or neighborhood volunteers who pick up the slack as summer progresses. Again this year, we will ask for everyone's help to keep a watchful eye on them. Over the years, we've had our share of "Flower-nappers" and "Pot -tippers" but in most cases if not all we've been able to catch the vandals. It seems Gifford Park has it's own version of the US Navy Seals. It's an elite group of gardening enthusiasts that carry clippers, shovels, and have dirt between the fingernails. Joking aside, all these flowers are planted and maintained for the enjoyment of the entire neighborhood, and a big thanks goes out to the following businesses who have given money so we can have a beautiful neighborhood:

Blueline Coffee

Robinson's Garage

California Taco

Gifford Park LLC

Cass Gas & Shop

Urban Village

If you're interested in donating to this year's business district flower pots, please send your check to the neighborhood post office box addressed to:

GPNA Flower Pots

P.O. Box 31462

Omaha, NE 68131

by Martin Janousek

**For City Services, Information, or
Complaints**

**Call: Mayor's Action Office:
444-5555**



CBPO Update

Spring has sprung, the grass is riz. I wonder how the Bike Project iz?



First off, let me say thanks to all our volunteers. The Shop has been buzzing during Open Shop, and we couldn't make that happen without all their generous support. Come down on Wed/Thurs night or Saturday afternoons and see. If you haven't pulled that old bike out of storage and taken a ride through the neighborhood on one of these warmer nights, bring it down and we'll help get you going!

As you go by our Shop, you might notice 3 new bike racks out by the street. Through one of the City's neighborhood grants, Gifford Park has installed a whole slew of new bike racks throughout the neighborhood. We've put the old one to good use, too, donating it to Westbrook Elementary, which didn't have any.

Heard of bike sharing? Check out www.bcycle.com to see it in action. CBPO is bringing bike sharing to Omaha this summer in cooperation with Live Well Omaha! We're starting in Midtown and hope you'll see bicycles riding through Gifford Park in the future. It's just another way we're helping to provide access to bicycles for everyone.

If you have a small group looking for meeting space in the neighborhood, we have one. We've renovated the 2nd floor of the Shop and would like to make it available. There's a conference table that will hold about 12, a small kitchen, and bathroom.

Finally, we're looking for a van, mini-bus, or truck for the Project. If you're looking to donate one or know someone who is, please let me know!

Ride Safely!
 Matt Martin
 Community Bike
 Project Omaha



Memorial Day
 Thanks to those
 who have served
 and protected
 our country

22nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Cool temperatures in the 50's but most importantly dry weather helped make our 22nd annual **GPNA Easter Egg Hunt** the most attended ever – around 450 neighborhood children participated on Saturday, April 23rd, in Gifford Park! This was the third year in a row we received from an anonymous dentist a wonderful donation of 300 dental care packages (each included toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss) - volunteers gave one package to each child just moments before the actual hunt. Volunteers, including the **PKA Fraternity**, picked up litter and raked portions of the park before putting out candy, treats and other prizes in the four age groups (0-4, 5-6, 7-9, 10-12) Thanks to **Roger & Sandy Freeman** for regularly picking up litter. As always, out of the thousands of pieces of candy, it took a matter of a few minutes for the kids to pick the park clean of goodies and prizes. There were many volunteers and donators who helped put forth extra effort – once again **Darryl Hutton** did a great job getting MANY donations from a variety of people and businesses; **Jan Franks**, her granddaughter **Brittany**, and **Robin Hansen** organized the candy. The Slayden family (**Betty, Tiffaney, Kayleen, & William**) filled plastic Easter eggs, and provided prizes as well. Special thanks to **Lois Baumhover** who donated many stuffed animals and other Easter items that were given out as prizes. **Senator Gwen Howard** and her daughter **Sarah** also donated cute stuffed animals and additional toothbrushes as special prizes. Many thanks to all those who donated time, money, candy, and other items to make this a special event: **Whelan Law Office, Kilgore Law Office, California Tacos & More, Lilly's California Bar, Robinson's Garage, Selena's Market, Ideal Hardware, Hy-Vee, No Frills, Bakers, Oriental Trading Company, Urban Village, Joe Sheppers, Four Aces, Mike Caban, Brian & Millie Smith, Bob & Virginia Hutton, Tyler White, Terry & Sue Wilwerding, Kirk & Jean Peck, Jim Wilwerding, Rod & Dana Carlton-Flint, Maria Doyle, Chris & Sallie Foster, Diane Kaye and James Nordaker. Jenny Foster-Waltemath** filled in for an injured **Candy Bacome** as this year's Easter Bunny and gave out treats to youngsters (thanks to **Sharon Olson** and the **Miller Park-Minnesota Neighborhood Association** for lending us the Easter Bunny costume). As always, it was great fun!

by Chris Foster



Midtown Neighborhood Alliance And Fireworks

This year the **Midtown Neighborhood Alliance** was selected to be one of the non-profit organizations to have a fireworks stand in the city of Omaha. The money raised will be used to help continue the work the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance has been doing over the years and help implement new ideas for the neighborhoods it represents.

With this said, they need your help. Starting **June 24th through July 5th**, MNA will be staffing a fireworks stand at 78th and L Street from 8am until 11 pm for those 2 weeks. They are looking for volunteers to help work the booth. If you're interested, there will be training on such things as using a credit card machine to actually seeing what the various fireworks do. There is also an opportunity to work over night as a security guard with other volunteers to keep an eye on the merchandise. Now most people would consider this a perk just to be able to say they've worked at a fireworks stand and fill their personal "bucket list", but wait! After your shift, you will have the opportunity to purchase fireworks at a discount and have your own pyrotechnic extravaganza to rival any local show.

If you're interested in volunteering contact **Jim Farho 402-212-5571** or at jim.farho@continuumww.com

by *Martin Janousek*



Neighborhood Market
Friday Evenings
4 PM to 8 PM
Starting June 3rd
In The Empty Lot
Between KNJ Grocery
Store & The California Street Bar

Interested in Participating as a Vendor?
Call Martin Janousek
402-558-4070
for information

Membership Application

v2009.03.30

Gifford Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA)

The GPNA Membership Year runs from January 1 through December 31.

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

Today's Date:

Name (1): E-Mail (1):

Name (2): E-Mail (2):

Name (3): E-Mail (3):

Name (4): E-Mail (4):

Name (5): E-Mail (5):

Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Telephone:

Volunteer Opportunities! I am interested in helping out with...

Please indicate areas of interest:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup/Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Cleanup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Planting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Cleanup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Walks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Liaison | <input type="checkbox"/> Call Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Banquet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tool Lending | | | |

Mail check or money order with this completed Membership Application Form to:

Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 31462

Omaha, NE 68131-0462

For additional information about GPNA, please visit our website:

www.GiffordParkOmaha.org



RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
Alcohol Retail Outlet Ordinance

IN THE MATTER OF community support for establishing a local land-use (zoning) ordinance known as a Special Use Permit (SUP) and setting nuisance abatement standards to address the proliferation of alcohol outlets and substandard business practices in neighborhoods throughout the City of Omaha.

WHEREAS, the number of liquor licenses in Nebraska has increased substantially, a 31% increase since 1990, while the state's population has increased by nearly 16% during that same period of time;

WHEREAS, research indicates that alcohol outlet density is the single greatest predictor of violent crime in neighborhoods, greater than other social and economic factors; further, alcohol outlet density is associated with increased alcohol consumption, underage drinking, binge drinking, motor vehicle crashes, and hospitalizations among other health problems;

WHEREAS, research has also found that the proliferation of alcohol outlets is both a symptom of economic decline and a factor that worsens the decline;

WHEREAS, concentrations of both on- and off-sale alcohol establishments are associated with high levels of disorderly conduct, including nuisances, jeopardizing the quality of life for area residents;

WHEREAS, these nuisances include, but are not limited to, public inebriation, fights, driving under the influence of alcohol, public urination, littering, loitering, graffiti, noise, and vandalism;

WHEREAS, residents of Omaha have attempted to protect their neighborhoods from further disintegration by working within the state liquor licensing system only to have their concerns ignored;

WHEREAS, residents are not the only group feeling disenfranchised from the licensing process, the Omaha City Council has frequently seen its recommendations on liquor licensing issues overturned by the State and sees a need for more power to control the placement of liquor outlets;

WHEREAS, the City of Omaha has the authority to require businesses, including alcohol outlets to obtain use permits to comply with operational standards as conditions of the permit;

WHEREAS, the use permit will establish standards of operation for licensed alcohol establishments in order to promote successful business practices compatible with healthy economic growth, community safety and enhance the quality of life for the City of Omaha residents;

WHEREAS, imposing conditions and standards of operation in a use permit will assist the City in its efforts to mitigate nuisances and promote a healthier, more successful business environment;

THEREFORE, we/I support local efforts to establish a land-use, zoning ordinance to advocate for more local control of better business practices in our community. This policy will help struggling neighborhoods address the increased violence and crime that is often associated with growing alcohol outlet density and problem businesses while working also to create a healthy business community.

Signature: _____ **Representing:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **City Council Rep:** _____

Address: _____ **Zip:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ **Date:** _____



MISSOURI VALLEY
NEBRASKA



GIFFORD PARK TENNIS BLOCK PARTY

Sponsored by the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association, Nebraska Tennis Association,
Omaha Tennis Association, and the City of Omaha

GAMES
&
SNACKS



KIDS
Ages 5-19
WELCOME

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

6-7:30 PM

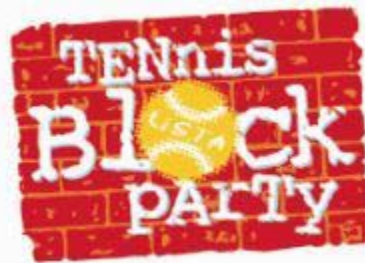
GIFFORD PARK TENNIS COURTS

33rd & Cass

(Rain date- Thursday, May 26 6-7:30 pm)

Join us for a FREE evening of TENNIS.

We have the rackets and balls.



**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE
SUMMER TENNIS PROGRAMS AT GIFFORD PARK**



2011 SCHEDULE

May 7 th	Kick-Off (11AM-1PM)
May 14 th	Under Construction
May 21 st	Get to Know Your Garden
May 28 th	Plant Your Plot
June 4 th	Tepees, Tunnels, & Trellises
June 11 th	Garden Art
June 18 th	P Is for Permaculture
June 25 th	The Reading Garden
July 2 nd	NO LESSON
July 9 th	Cooking Matters
July 16 th	Our Feathered Friends
July 23 rd	Hula Hoop It Up
July 30 th	The Sound of Music
August 6 th	Sharing Our Bounty
August 13 th	Trees Are Terrific Tour
August 20 th	Honeybee Day Field Trip
August 27 th	Garden Chefs
September 3 rd	Harvest PARTY!

The Gifford Park Youth Garden is a fun, educational program for youth of school age. Volunteers, parents, and children meet **Saturdays from 10:00 – 11:30AM** at Gifford Park Community Garden on 35th & Cass Streets.

Ways parents can get involved:

- Post this schedule of activities in your home
- Ask your child what they have been learning at the garden
- Accompany your child to any or all sessions
- Pick a date to bring snacks

To register, complete the attached sign-up sheet and bring to the Kick-Off Event on May 7th. You can reach Dana Freeman with any questions or suggestions at 402-850-9611 or dana.freeman@gmail.com



Youth Garden

SIGN-UP SHEET

Child's Name

School

Birthdate

Parent's Name

Address

Phone

Email

Child's T-shirt Size Youth S M L XL

Adult S M L XL

We would like to bring treats. yes no

My parent would like to
volunteer sometime. yes no

All school-age youth
are invited to participate in
this free program at the
Gifford Park Community Garden
on 35th & Cass Streets. We will
meet Saturdays from
10:00 to 11:30AM beginning
May 14th through September 3rd
to work, learn, & play
in the garden.

Waiver and Release of All Claims and Assumptions of Risk

Please read this form carefully and be aware that in signing up and participating in the Gifford Park Youth Community Garden program, you will be expressly assuming the risk and legal liability and waiving and releasing all claims for injuries, damages, or loss which you or your minor child/ward might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with and associated with this program.

I recognize and acknowledge that there are limited risks of physical injury to participants in this gardening/nature program, and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages, or loss, regardless of severity that my minor child/ward or I may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with this program. Further, I permit the taking of photos during Gifford Park Youth Community Garden activities for publication and use as the program deems.

I have read and fully understand the above important information, warning of risk, assumption of risk, and waiver and release of all claims.

Participant's Name (please print)

Guardian's Signature

Date

