



Gifford Park's Pride

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

October 2011

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Market Ends Its Season . . .

Summer has come to an end and so has this year's Neighborhood Market. Friday, September 30th, was the last night for the market and it was a time to celebrate. The evening was cool. We all had our sweat shirts on and the tables were full of produce, jellies and more. The ladies from the Minne Lusa neighborhood, who never missed a week all summer, treated everyone with free hot dogs and chips. It was their way of saying thank you to all the customers and friends they got to know this summer. But for those of us who know the ladies, we think it was more of a way to market their very popular homemade mustard. Creighton's School of Business could learn a little something from these ladies. It might be a class on "Marketing - The Minne Lusa Way."

With the smell of the grill, the cool evening air and plenty of laughter we ended our Neighborhood Market season. A big thank you goes out to all the customers, friends, and new faces that came down to the Business District this summer. We hope to see all of you and more next year. If you're interested let us know, we already have a booth reserved for next year....you guessed it the Ladies from Minne Lusa.

Thanks everyone and have a nice and relaxing fall season.

by Martin Janousek

**Next General Meeting
Thursday, October 13**

**Guest Speakers:
Consulting Team For
The Neighborhood Business
District Study**

**Topic:
Presentation Of
Preliminary Findings
(See Page 2 For Details)**

**7:00 PM
Creighton University
Medical Center
Morrison Seminar Room**

**Executive Meeting
Thursday, October 27
7 PM at the Larson's
3565 California St.**

. . . With Satisfied "Customers"

To the People of Gifford Park:

We want to thank you for inviting us to your Neighborhood Market. We have eaten at California Taco and enjoyed the wonderful Mediterranean restaurant "Marrakech". We had a beer or two at the friendly California Bar. We used the talents of the people at the Bicycle Shop.

We came as strangers and we left having made many new friends.

To those who haven't had a chance to come to the market, put it on your calendar for next year. It is a

gathering place for neighbors to meet neighbors. Plus you can purchase some wonderful produce, pies, jams, jewelry, flowers - the list goes on.

We hope to be invited back next year so we can renew old friendships and make new friends.

The Minne Lusa Ladies



2011

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Gifford Park Business District Development Topic Of October General Meeting

Three areas in Midtown - Park Avenue, Leavenworth District and Gifford Park, and one in South Omaha - Vinton Street, are all receiving special attention and planning as part of a neighborhood business district project that kicked off in July 2011. A team of consultants, led by **Lamp Rynearson & Associates, Inc.** was hired by **Destination Midtown**, the **South Omaha Development Project** and the **Metropolitan Area Planning Association** to analyze each neighborhood business district and create economic development plans that will catalyze redevelopment, investment and job creation.

A team made up of business district leaders from within each neighborhood and staff members from the **City of Omaha**, MAPA, the **Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership**, SODP and DM are working in collaboration with the consultants to gather and analyze data, conduct community outreach, provide ideas and create the plans.

Building on significant information and input from past studies, including neighborhood needs assessments, property inventorying exercises, community meetings and master plans, the NBD project's goal is to make the concepts and ideas a reality. To reach this end, developers, investors, entrepreneurs and city staff members have been and will be heavily involved in the planning.

There are several components of the project, including analysis of both past NBD studies and market conditions and opportunities, and evaluation of funding opportunities and community leadership structures for long-term implementation. The final component of the project is the starting point for change in each area and includes redevelopment strategies and implementation plans for each district. The consulting team will be presenting their preliminary analysis and findings and asking for neighborhood input at the GPNA October general meeting. Once the analysis and planning is finished for each area, DM and SODP will continue to work with business district leaders, city staff members and the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership to prioritize projects for each neighborhood, and together they will develop and implement a fundraising strategy to support the initiatives.

The following link is one summary of the project for the four districts - which maybe useful to include as well:

<http://www.destinationmidtown.org/xDocs/FactSheetFinal-English-Spanish.pdf>

FYI . . . OPD's Ban & Bar Policy

The Omaha Police Department will assist property owners in removing disruptive or criminal individuals from their property. In some circumstances, property owners have repeated problems with the same individuals. This interferes with the property owner's right to enjoy his or her property and/or conduct business on that property.

Using existing criminal trespass laws, the Police Department will make arrests in the event that trespassers return to the property. However, to prove trespass, it is sometimes necessary to issue a ban and bar notice to specific individuals. This proves that the individuals had notice that they could no longer return to the property, and provides documentation as to who witnessed the ban and bar being issued.

Documentation Process

We recommend that you use this ban and bar power sparingly, focusing on individuals who are repeat troublemakers. (In the Documentation Process, the words "property

continued on page 2

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).*

CBPO Update

School may be back in session, but we're still hopping at the Community Bike Project! Our Open Shop hours (Wed/Thurs 6-8pm and Saturday noon-4pm) will continue at least until the snow flies, so drop in anytime to see the Shop, lend a hand, or learn a bit about fixing up your own bike. If you haven't been in for a while, I think you'll be pleasantly surprised at all the various things we have going on at the Shop. For instance, did you know that you can reserve our upstairs conference room for your local club/meeting/get-together? There's room for 12, it's free of charge, and we have available computers and internet access. It's just one more way we're working to be a neighborhood resource.



Winter bike classes, organized through Metro Community College, start the first week of December, and you can sign up now through MCC's website or by calling them on the phone (402-457-5231). Check out the CBPO website for a list of all the classes we're offering:
www.communitybikeproject.org.

Omaha B-cycle continues to enjoy a lot of success in the Aksarben Village/UNO area, making bikes available to the public for recreation and transportation. We're working to expand the system downtown, and as part of that, it would be great to get one or a couple of stations in Gifford Park. Sound interesting? Let us and the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association know!

We have a few upcoming events to keep your eye out for: an art mural dedication at the Shop in November, and then our Golden Spokes annual volunteer appreciation night, either in late November or early December. Check next month's newsletter and our website for details! It would be great to have all of our Gifford Park neighbors at one or both of these events.

Finally, please remember we are a small non-profit that relies entirely on community support to be able to do what we do. If you'd like to support us, we're always looking for specific items and charitable donations. You can find out more information on our website or feel free to give us a call. Thanks and I hope you have a great October!

Matt Martin
 402-957-2453
matt@communitybikeproject.org

Duchesne Academy

OF THE SACRED HEART

*Call today to schedule a visit in
the Academy or Preschool!*

3601 Burt Street • Omaha, NE 68131 • 402-558-3800
www.duchesneacademy.org



On September 21, a rain barrel building workshop was held in the Gifford Park Community Garden. The hands-on workshop was led by Luther Larson. Besides having a great time, the dozen or so participants were able to take their barrels home with them. The workshop was funded by the Mayor's Grant - thanks City of Omaha!

Ban & Bar . . . continued from page 2

owner" may also be read as "agent of the property owner" or "property manager.") If you wish to ban a person from your properties, the Police Department will assist you in the following ways:

The Police Department will stand by and keep the peace while you issue a ban and bar letter to a specific individual. If that person is trespassing on your property, the Police Department will assist you in identifying that person so that he or she can be banned.

The Police Department will arrest trespassers who return to your property. This can be accomplished either by direct physical arrest, or else the police officer will help you through the warrant process. *continued on page 4*

**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



**Community Garden Concludes
Another Successful Year**

Thanks to everyone who attended our final potluck dinner Sunday September 18 at the community garden. Despite cold & rainy weather most of the weekend the weather broke and turned very nice for the event. We had over 65 adults and kids sharing good food among friends and neighbors. Special thanks to our grilling guru **Neil Liberty**, the burgers and hot dogs hit the spot!

A big thanks to longtime GPNA members and volunteers **Richard White** and **Clarinda Karpov** for donating \$100 to the community garden. Richard and Clarinda volunteer their great talents at the community garden and youth garden program (music and the famous "green man"), the PKA Haunted House, newsletter distribution, Christmas caroling, and neighborhood planning.

As the garden season winds down we have scheduled a fall garden cleanup for Saturday, Oct 22, from 10am to 1pm at the community garden at 35th & Cass St. Everyone is invited to help as we plan to cleanup both family and youth plots, mulch flower beds, repair/paint picnic tables, organize tool sheds, and other tasks depending on volunteer's time. We ask plot owners to bring yard waste bags, but we will also have bags on hand if needed. Note for plot owners: if you clean out your plot before or after Oct. 22, please leave the yard waste bag in your plot and we'll put it out for yard waste pickup. Please have all plots cleaned out by **November 1st**. Call **Chris** at **402-290-8187** if you have any questions.

by Chris Foster

Ban & Bar . . . continued from page 3

The first part of the process is called the "Notice of Ban and Bar" which is a letter issued to the subjects by the property owner, advising them that they are to no longer enter specific property. The specific property is detailed in the letter so there is no doubt as to the location.

The second part of the process is called the "Report on the Issuance of Ban and Bar Letter". This part describes the circumstances under which the subject was banned. It states a specific criminal offense, who was present and witnessed the ban and bar (the officers and their serial numbers), who the owner was that issued the ban and bar (proving authority to issue a criminal trespass notice), and the date and time. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain copies of the ban and bar forms and to provide those copies to the Police Department if the trespasser should return at a later time.

Should the subjects return to the property from which they have been banned and barred, they can be arrested immediately on this property by a police officer. The officer would be responsible for preparing a crime report and for obtaining copies of the ban and bar letter, as well as the report on issuance of the ban and bar.

If the subject has left the property and the owner wishes to prosecute by obtaining a warrant, the officer will make a crime report and submit the same packet of supporting documentation to Data Review. It would then be the responsibility of the property owner to get a warrant for the offender.

If you have any further questions, please contact the **Crime Prevention Unit** at **402-444-5772** and ask to speak to a Business Watch Officer.

**For City Services, Information,
or Complaints
Call: Mayor's Action Office:
444-5555**





Celebrate Midtown Masquerade Party



Sat., Oct. 22, 2011
6-10 PM
Joslyn Castle
3902 Davenport St.

21 and over only
\$15 Tickets

- Costume contest
- Tarot card readers
- Silent auction
- Live entertainment
- Heavy hors d'oeuvres from Midtown Restaurants
- Cash bar

Support **ReTree Midtown** and other **Midtown Neighborhood Alliance** projects.
For tickets, visit www.midtownomaha.org or any of the following Hy-Vee locations: 50th & Center, Peony Park, and Council Bluffs.

PRESENTED BY:



MIDTOWN
NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE





17th Annual

Haunted House

When:

Friday, October 28th
 Ages 10 & under: 6 p.m.
 All ages: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where:
 PKA House
 3100 Chicago St.

hosted by:
 Pi Kappa Alpha (PKA) Creighton
 Fraternity
 Gifford Park Neighborhood Association



FREE!

All Neighborhood Children And
 Parents
 Are Welcome to Stop By For
 Refreshments
 And Trick-or-Treats!

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):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (1):	<input type="text"/>
Name (2):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (2):	<input type="text"/>
Name (3):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (3):	<input type="text"/>
Name (4):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (4):	<input type="text"/>
Name (5):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (5):	<input type="text"/>

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