



# GIFFORD PARK'S PRIDE

*A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association*

**MAY, 1993**

## **NEXT MEETING:**

**THIS THURSDAY, MAY 6**

**7 p.m.**

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL -- DINING ROOMS A, B, AND C**

**GUEST: To Be Announced**

**FREE PARKING**

### **EASTER EGG HUNT AN IMPRESSIVE EVENT**

*by Cynde Yates*

We were delighted this year when the day of the Easter Egg Hunt in Gifford Park dawned a bright and beautiful sunny day. What a difference from last year! The workers went about scattering the eggs and candy across the park, attempting to hide the goodies from all the eager children. The fuzzy, white Easter Bunny was there, greeting the children and giving them candy. The younger children certainly enjoyed the Bunny.

The children were all very good while they patiently waited for the hunt to begin. The countdown began right on schedule... and the children were off... searching for all the hidden goodies. The number of children this year was particularly impressive — the most we have ever had — 164. We were delighted to have such a fantastic turnout. I was particularly impressed when I noticed several children sharing with others who were not quite as successful in finding eggs and candy.

The Easter Egg Hunt was sponsored by the GPNA with generous contributions from J'N'J and Albertson's grocery stores. The GPNA wishes to express thanks to the contributors. Their generosity makes programs such as the Easter Egg Hunt a benefit to our neighborhood and its residents. I would also like to express my appreciation to the volunteers who colored and hid the eggs. I always enjoy coordinating this sort of event. However, it would not be possible without the support of the many wonderful neighbors we have in the Gifford Park area.

### **May is "Renew Your Membership" Month!**

See page 2 for renewal/new membership form.

Remember: If you're not a member, you can't vote in the upcoming election  
at the June 3 General Meeting.

**Your GPNA Officers:**

**President:**

Ron Yates-558-6027

**Vice-President:**

John Lynch-345-9624

**Treasurer:**

Mike Caban-341-4722

**Recording Secretary:**

Judi Caban-341-4722

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Kathy Rose-341-3955

**Charles R. Kilgore Jr.  
Attorney At Law**

**4913 Underwood  
Avenue**

**558-5000**

**Personal Injury Law  
Workers' Compensation  
Injury**

**Auto Accidents**

**Insurance Claims**

**TOOL LENDING HOTLINE**

ED: 341-0475

JIM: 341-4695

CHRIS: 342-6006

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

*by Kathy Rose, Membership Chairman*

Now that you're finished writing those checks to the I.R.S., keep your checkbooks out and write one to the GPNA to renew or purchase your new membership.

If you care about your neighborhood and want to be a contribution to it and the GPNA, all we need is YOU!

What does the GPNA do? Stop by St. Joseph's Hospital the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., and meet everybody. Check it out for yourself and see what it's all about.

I, for one, am proud to be a resident of this neighborhood and an active member of this Association.

So, come and join me and the GPNA in making our neighborhood the place to live, work, learn, and play.

**GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES -- \$5 (Single), \$8 (Family), \$25 (Business/Institutional)**  
**\*\*Please note: All new and newly-renewed memberships will expire June 1, 1994.**

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA  
 Mail to GPNA: 3225 1/2 California St., Omaha, NE 68131

**GOALS SET FOR ART IN THE PARK**

*by Brian Kokensparger*

At the organization meeting of the Art in the Park committee, members Mike Caban, Kevin McEachern, Cynde Yates, John Lynch (in abstentia), and Brian Kokensparger set exciting goals for obtaining a work of sculpture in the park, possibly a fountain. The committee discussed several ideas that had come up from past discussions, the possible location of the sculpture within the park, several possible funding sources, and set a course of action for the next few months.

One of the primary objectives of the Art in the Park committee is to involve the entire neighborhood in the planning, conception, production, and installation of the artwork.

The committee is currently busy inviting area sculptors to submit slides of their work, taking photographs of the park from various angles, and approaching the City with the general idea.

**Want to Advertise in  
the Gifford Park  
Pride?**

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**For information contact:  
Mike Caban  
422-4343 - weekdays  
341-4722 - evenings**

**California Bar & Pkg.  
510 N. 33rd. Street**

Serving the Gifford Park  
Community since 1937

Wayne & Peggy Hill,  
Proprietors





**J-N-J**

**GROCERY**

**STORE**



**Fresh Meats - Fresh Produce**

**Friendly Service**

**3301 California Street - 422-1058**

**WE DELIVER!**

**8 AM-10:00 PM - Monday Through Saturday**

**8 AM-9 PM - Sunday**

**SPRING CLEANUP REPORT**by *Chris Foster*

The Gifford Park cleanup crew is gettin' pretty good at packing dumpsters, hauling trash, recycling, controlling traffic, and even making money for the G.P.N.A. With temperatures in the 60's, the cleanup crew worked together under ideal working conditions for our annual Spring Cleanup Day, held Saturday, April 10th.

After the cleanup was all said and done, it added up to these impressive totals:

- . Packed 11 20 cu. yd. dumpsters
- . Filled 8 city dump trucks
- . Recycled 30 appliances
- . Recycled 5 refrigerators
- . Recycled 32 tires
- . Collected \$110 from recycled metal and batteries
- . Collected \$23 for garage sale items
- . Collected \$263 for donations
- . Collected \$117 for GPNA memberships
- . Passed out many dump passes and chipper passes to keep most tree brush out of the dumpsters.

The cleanup crew was made up of neighborhood volunteers as always, and I hope I didn't leave out too many names, because all volunteers should feel proud of their efforts.

Ron Yates — "Everything"  
 Cynde Yates — cook, monitor  
 Bob Hutton — dumpster packer  
 Judi Caban — cleanup "accountant," flyers  
 Tom Rose — traffic control  
 Kathy Rose — membership, flyers  
 Leo and Marlene Wilwerding — monitor, flyers  
 Terry Wilwerding — hauler  
 Jean Peck — dumpster monitor  
 Mike Bacome — truck, hauler  
 John Reuss — monitor, salvage  
 Diane Reuss — monitor, flyers  
 Ed Hendershot — hauler, bathroom, tools, flyers  
 Angie Conley — monitor  
 Vonda McEachern — monitor  
 John Lynch and Family — cook, monitor, flyers  
 Russ Hamm — car for salvage  
 Jim and Ruth Windorski — flyers  
 Ross Windorski — hauler  
 Lloyd Canfield — hauler  
 David Beck — hauler, setup  
 Sallie Foster — flyers  
 Sharon Meyer and Scouts — street cleanup  
 Roger and Sandy Freeman — hauler, flyers  
 John and Juan DeLeon — truck, hauler  
 C.J. Cullinan — street cleanup  
 Jerome Borton — hauler

Brian and Karen Kokensparger — flyers  
 Jeanette Martin — cook, flyers  
 Terri Allen — hauler  
 Melvin Borland — hauler  
 James Alcom — hauler  
 Don Foley — hauler  
 Dave Funk — dumpster monitor  
 Also: Phil Buhett, Jon Vegas,  
 Ray Henery, Bud Frank



**Come One,  
Come All!**

To the  
**Yates  
School  
Spring  
Carnival!**

**Saturday, May 15th**

**Noon to 3:00 p.m.**

**At Yates School,**

**3260 Davenport  
Street**

**(Rain or Shine)**

**Food! - Games!**

**Prizes!**

**Fun for All Ages!**

**A Neighborhood Tradition for  
Over 50 Years!**

**Everyone is Welcome!**

**Proceeds benefit the students  
of Yates School through the  
Yates PTA.**

## CLEANUP REPORT (CONTINUED)

## Business and Community Organizations:

J'N'J Grocery (Loren Johnson) — hot dogs, buns  
 California Bar (Wayne and Peg Hill) — pop, ice  
 7-Eleven (Jim Golde) — charcoal, coffee  
 Kiewit (Larry Jackson, Don Hamre, Joe Brumbaugh,  
 Jim Taylor) — flatbed truck, safety fence  
 B.F.I. — dumpsters  
 Tracy's Trucking (Tracy and Debra) — appliances  
 St. Joseph Hospital (Jack Bowman) — truck  
 House Arrest (Lt. Stangel)  
 Omaha Police Dept. (Bob Fidoni, Sgt. Zoucha)  
 -- cleared parking lot  
 Subby Anzaldo — Horse Patrol  
 St. Anthony House — truck, haulers  
 Keep Omaha Beautiful (Cindy Smilley)  
 — organization  
 City of Omaha Parks, Forestry Division (Jerry and  
 Jackie Flood) — organization

A few individuals deserve special attention. Jerry Flood and his staff with the City of Omaha for their outstanding organization of the entire city-wide Spring Cleanup — they are vital to the success of the cleanup. Judi Caban took on our membership and donation table and handled accounting duties and kept our trucks and volunteers with addresses of neighbors needing trash pickup. Tom Rose did another terrific job directing traffic, keeping this a smooth and safe operation. Ron Yates, GPNA President, was involved with everything from start to finish. No one has put forth more of an effort with our neighborhood cleanups than Ron has.

Gifford Park's pride shined bright this cleanup day. Great job!

*Editor's Note: A huge thank you is also directed to Chris Foster, whose expertise and good-natured leadership demonstrates to us that the GPNA is not only getting older, it's getting better.*

# CALIFORNIA PIZZA & SUBS

3235 CALIFORNIA STREET

OPEN DAILY 11 AM - 9 PM

**1/2 OFF ON ANY  
SANDWICH**

Expires May 31, 1993

**\$1 OFF ANY MEDIUM OR  
\$2 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA**

Expires May 31, 1993



**EDITORIAL CORNER**

*Readers are welcome to submit their letters for the Editorial Corner 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 in this section. 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.*

**CLINTONS "BAILED OUT"**

by Judi Caban

My respect for Bill Clinton was tarnished when he and Mrs. Clinton announced that they were sending their daughter Chelsea to private school. One of the reasons that I voted for Clinton was that he supported public education not only in speeches, but in practice — Chelsea was attending a public school in Little Rock. So when I heard that she was to be enrolled in a \$10,000-a-year private institution for children of the Washington elite, I was somewhat disenchanted.

My husband and I have a 9 year old son, Ben, and although we are willing to make the sacrifices required for us to send him to private school, we choose to send him to our neighborhood public school, where the student body is a combination of just about all races and cultures found in our city. This diversity in the backgrounds of the students is as important to us as the quality of the curriculum and the faculty, and this school meets our criteria on all counts. But even though the ethnic mix has remained constant in our school, there has been a decline in the number of children from middle-class homes. Many of the parents in our area who can afford to send their kids to private school have chosen to abandon the system. Like the First Family, these parents, some of whom are friends of ours, claim they must leave the public schools in order to do what's best for their children; they say they are unwilling to sacrifice their kids for the good of the community. When asked to explain what that means, they maintain that private schools are safer or that the quality of education is better.

I disagree. First of all, there have never been any incidents at Ben's school that make me anxious about his safety. What's more, I am not convinced that the education at private schools is necessarily superior. Ben is getting a fine education at his school. I do however, agree with my friends when they say that parents must do what is best for their children — and that is precisely why we send Ben to public school. We believe a good education includes life lessons not measurable by standardized tests.

Ben is learning from children who haven't had the advantages he's had. He's friendly with kids who, because they were born into circumstances unlike his, see the world in a different light. It's a cliché, I know, but Ben can learn a lot about the real

world at our school, about what's right and what's wrong with our society, and about how complex these matters can sometimes be.

I am sure that Chelsea will learn about poverty and racism, history books now include many examples. But no curriculum can effectively replace the understanding and appreciation of each other's differences that Ben and his friends are learning every day.

Maybe the Clintons think the Washington schools are truly dangerous or that the education there is unacceptably inferior. I don't know if that's true, but if it is, who better than the President's daughter to shed light on the problems that initiate change? Imagine how different the public schools in Washington might be today if the kids of Al Gore, Jesse Jackson, and Lamar Alexander had attended them instead of private schools.

What if all of our elected representatives, power brokers or community leaders were required to send their kids to public schools? Instead of wringing their hands about the state of public education or making empty speeches about how they support it, what if they just enrolled their kids in these schools, attended the PTA meetings, headed up fund raisers, worked with the teachers and principals, and spoke out loudly and often at school board meetings? With that kind of pressure from powerful parents, ALL of our schools would become excellent — maybe even good enough for the President's daughter!

In order to do what's truly best for our own kids, we must realize that the social and economic fates of ALL children are bound together. This country's future depends on EVERY child receiving a first-rate education. But that will never happen when the wealthier, better-educated parents — those who can most easily influence the classroom, school district, and state and federal legislation — bail out.

It would be nice if America's social problems were solved before the Chelseas and the Bens of this world start running the show, but I know that they and their classmates will face many of the same issues we struggle with today. And unless ALL children grow up to understand the complex problems of our society better than their parents do, they will be in no better position to solve them.