



GIFFORD PARK'S PRIDE

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

NOVEMBER, 1991

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Member:**
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345-1433

NEXT MEETING:

NOVEMBER 7

7 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL --

GLASSED-IN AREA OF CAFETERIA

****FREE PARKING****

GUEST: SENATOR JOHN LINDSAY

Third Annual GPNA Christmas Banquet

Sponsored by: St. Joseph Hospital

Date: December 5, 1991

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph Hospital
(Glassed-in Area by Cafeteria)

Please RSVP by November 25, 1991, to:
Kathy Rose (341-3955) or Judi Caban (341-4722)

*Members only.

As this banquet will benefit GPNA's "Holiday Sharing Project,"
a food item or donation is all you need
for an evening of dining pleasure and fun with your neighbors.

Inside this issue . . .

- Watch Group Schedule (page 2)
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The Neighborhood of Yesteryear by Leo Wilwerding

We were talking the other day about what 33rd and California used to be like. Memories that surfaced follow.

1. The corner was a lively shopping and service center. In those days of many people not owning cars, shopping necessarily was done close to home.

2. On 33rd Street, starting from Cass north on the west side, there were at one time or another a grocery store, upholstery shop, delicatessen, tavern, bakery, theatre, barber shop, and a variety store.

3. On the east side of 33rd Street, starting at Cass, was a filling station, ice house, several homes, the Capitol Beauty School, garage, butcher shop, and drug store.

4. A grocery store on California Street east of 33rd was wrapped around the drug store and connected to the butcher shop on 33rd. It was the Wohlner store, which later moved to 52nd and Leavenworth and is there today. A shoe shop and the Master Pastry shop were east of the grocery. Delightful smells issued from the bakery.

5. The north side of California Street east of 33rd at one time or another contained the Nelson Anderson Grocery Store, beauty shop, shoe repair shop, and barber shop.

6. The Wohlner Grocery store in the days prior to electrical refrigeration delivered groceries by horse cart daily to the people in the neighborhood.

7. The Circle Theatre on the west side of 33rd was heavily patronized by children and adults. Saturday afternoon matinees were very noisy and for children only with serials like "The Perils of Pauline" and "The Adventures of Tom Mix" being shown along with regular features.

8. Metropolitan Utilities supplied ice to some 40 ice houses throughout our city. One of these ice houses for retail sale of ice was on the east side of 33rd, north of Cass, until about 1944.

10. The Cohen family ran a marvelous Variety Store on the west side of 33rd. If they didn't have what you wanted, they ordered it!

11. It was a big deal for the neighborhood when the Hinky Dinky grocery store moved into the southwest corner of 33rd and California in the late 30's.

12. California Street west of 33rd was not paved (according to the ex-resident Joe Lightfoot) until about 1905. Until then, it was dirt and a big hump existed between 33rd and 34th Streets. This can be seen by the height of the lots on both sides of the Street today. The hill was cut down and a brick paving installed.

13. A creek ran from 36th Street east on the north side of California and crossed under a wooden bridge west of 34th. It then flowed south into Gifford Park where it formed a lake. Mr. Lightfoot said that as a boy he swam in and ice skated on this lake. A glance at the lay of the land readily shows how a lake was natural in the park.

14. A streetcar running on a single pair of tracks first ran to 33rd and California from the east. It ran just west of 33rd, then backed around the corner onto 33rd to the north to turn around for the return trip. Later the line was extended to 33rd and Parker. Buses replaced the streetcars in the 30's.

15. The Bogard Drug Store had a full-fledged soda fountain which was a favorite gathering place for students. The chrome stools were full after school with Tech High and Cathedral kids ordering phosphates, sundaes, and sodas.

It is interesting to look back. It is even more important to look back. It is even more important to look ahead and all try to make our neighborhood an even better place in which to live.

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.

No editorial submissions this month.