



Gifford Park's Pride

Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play

December 1994

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

This Is Community Policing

The law enforcement mission always remains the same.

Community Policing is not a substitute for the law enforcement mission of apprehension and arrest, the investigation of crimes, responding to radio calls or pleas for help or anything else traditionally carried out by the police.

Community Policing is a state of mind which occurs when the officer realizes that he/she does have the power to change a situation or correct a problem by means other than arrest and goes about developing a plan to solve the problem. A plan that involves not only the officer but action on the part of those most affected by the problem, the citizens. *This is Community Policing.*

Once the officer realizes that through his/her direction or action a problem was solved through channels other than arrest, he/she is becoming a part of Community Policing. The problem may have been handled simply by the officer pointing out a few simple facts to the neighborhood citizens on how they themselves can correct the problem. *This is Community Policing.*

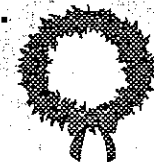
An arrest has been made and the guilty party is packed off to jail, the officer must ask himself/herself, "Does this solve the problem?" Or is it just another arrest in a long line of arrests for the same crime in the same place? If the latter is true, then arrest is not permanently solving the problem. One must look at why this problem exists in the first place and what can be done to stop the cause of the problem. *This is Community Policing.*

If the problem is more than the officer can handle alone, then he/she must go to the neighborhood and its citizens for help. *This is Community Policing.*

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Next Meeting

Thursday, December 1st
7:00 P.M.



Holiday Banquet
(Reservations Required)

St. Joseph's Hospital
Glassed-In Area of Cafeteria

FREE PARKING

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GPNA OFFICERS

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VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Foster 342-6006

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Barbara Remmen

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

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Marlene Wilwerding 345-1433

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BUDGET & FINANCE

OPEN

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HISTORIAN

Eva Swanson 345-1707

MEMBERSHIP

Kathy Rose 341-3955

NEWSLETTER

Chris Foster 342-6006

OFFICE

Kathy Rose 341-3955

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ron Yates 558-6027

WATCH GROUP

Ron Yates 558-6027

WEEDS & LITTER

Leo Wilwerding 345-1433



Community Policing

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Community Policing is not trading in their guns or uniforms for a clipboard and a sport coat with a slogan on it. They are trading in old mind-sets for new ones, ones that get the officer thinking and using the neighborhood resources and its citizens to share the responsibilities in accomplishing a specific goal. *This is Community Policing.*

The officer has to understand that he/she is not the only answer to a solution. The neighborhood also has a responsibility to be good citizens, get involved and be productive in solving solutions.

*Written by Sergeant Vern Rohrbach, Portland Police Dept.
Submitted by Ron Yates*

Master Plan To Be Discussed at January General Meeting

The GPNA's CDC Committee (Community Development Corp.) has been working toward developing a "master plan" for our neighborhood. CDC Committee Chair **Chuck Kilgore** will talk more about the progress of this plan at our January general meeting.

Record Secretary Position Filled

We are pleased to announce that **Barbara Remmen** has accepted the task of Recording Secretary for the GPNA. Barbara and her family have recently moved into the neighborhood and have been attending our general meetings. Welcome aboard Barbara!

Holiday Lighting Contest Date Set

The GPNA is sponsoring the 6th annual **Holiday Lighting Contest** for anyone in the Gifford Park Neighborhood. Cash prizes will be awarded for first place (\$25), second place (\$15), and third place (\$10). Judging will take place and prizes awarded the evening of **Thursday, December 15th, between 7 and 9 p.m.** Last year we had the most lighting displays the Gifford Park Neighborhood has had in years - see what you and your neighbors can do this year.

Season's Greetings



from the Gifford Park
Neighborhood Association

Businesses Get Into Holiday Spirit

Levoyn Nelson, owner of **Unique Antiques and Collectibles** may have started a annual tradition. He hired a friend, **Jerome Scott**, who lives in the Gifford Park neighborhood, to paint some holiday pictures on the store windows. Before you knew it, **J'N'J Grocery, California Pizza & Subs** and our own **GPNA Office** were decorated with images of the holiday season. The paintings really get our business district in the holiday spirit.

NEEDED: HELP WITH NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

The GPNA is looking for anyone, any age, interested in delivering newsletters in the Gifford Park Neighborhood.

Call 558-6027

Fall Cleanup Packs Neighborhood Trash Into One Dumpster



Our annual Fall "Mini" Neighborhood Cleanup was held on Saturday, October 29th in Gifford Park. Even with the Nebraska-Colo-rado football game on the same day we got a great effort out of all volun-teers. We started at 8 a.m. and fin-ished about 3 p.m. With the help of St. Joseph's Hospital we packed ev-erything into one dumpster. Twenty-one tires were collected. \$74 was raised through memberships, dona-tions, salvage and garage sale items. 105 Halloween pumpkins were given away to neighborhood children. Here are the highlights of the day's events:

Tom Rose, besides being the first one at the park, also brought a TV, so we didn't have to miss the game. GPNA President Ron Yates was, as always, a major part of the cleanup, before, during and after. Tom and Ron did some "wheeling and dealing" that netted the GPNA some extra money. Cynde Yates and Kathy Rose handled the membership table, admin-istrative duties and cooked hot dogs. Kathy had just been released from the hospital just prior to cleanup day - that's dedication! This enabled me to do what I do best - pack the dumpster. Ben Sweazy and Jim Wilwerding smashed furniture and helped pack the dumpster - this saved a lot of valu-

able dumpster space. Ed Hendershot again provided Halloween pumpkins, tools, table and chairs, grill, and even electricity. Jenny Foster painted signs which will be used for future cleanups. Terry Wilwerding hauled a load of trash near the end of the day to the Douglas County Landfill (near Elk City) because we ran out of space in our Gifford Park dumpster. Thanks for making the long trip Terry.

Special recognition goes to Billy Dooley. He helped with the "cleanup of the cleanup"; that thankless job at the end of the day. He took care of the scrap metal and appliances that we had separated from the dumpsters for recycling. Billy also helped us with packing the dumpster. Good job Billy!

There were four volunteers who do not live in our neighborhood but put in a great effort: Charles Wipple and Jason Dethless broke-up furniture and helped me pack the dumpster. Jane Digiacomio and Billy Calloway picked up in Gifford Park. All four also cleaned up our business district around 33rd and California Street.

St. Joseph's Hospital contributed greatly to cleanup day: Mike Sandberg not only did hauling of trash and dumpster packing, he oper-ated a front-end loader to compact the

trash in the dumpster; this allowed us to use just *ONE DUMPSTER* for this year's cleanup. Jack Bowman and Pam Ward came by to include our cleanup in a video to be shown before the staff at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Our neighborhood cleanups would not be the same without the generous help of the following businesses and insti-tutions: J'N'J Grocery (Loren Johnson) - hot dogs and all the fix-ings, California Bar (Wayne & Peg Hill) pop and ice, California Pizza & Subs (Thomas Kelly) - pizza, 7-Eleven (Jim Golde) - coffee, char-coal, Ken Labs Trash (Ken & Marcia Labs, Jaime Johnson) - dumpster, Western Auto - tires, House Arrest (Lt. Stangel) - pro-vided volunteers, City of Omaha Park Maintenance (Jerry Flood, Ed Aldmeyer and staff) - dump passes, park usage, assistance.

A final note, as my wife Sallie and I were driving around the neighborhood the day before the cleanup looking for areas that might need "special atten-tion", we noticed how nice the Gifford Park neighborhood is looking. Much of the credit for this appearance goes to Leo Wilwerding, head of our Weeds & Litter Committee. Leo has done an outstanding job - a duty that takes a lot of time and effort.

Chris Foster

GPNA Lends Radios To Indian Hills South Neighborhood

The GPNA is lending the Watch Group's used ra-dio equipment to the Indian Hills South Neigh-borhood Association. Indian Hills South are starting a Neighborhood Patrol Group.



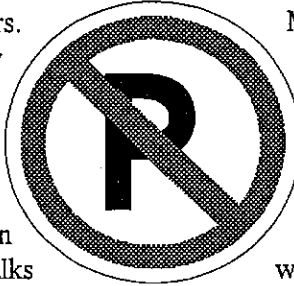
The GPNA thanks the Mayoral Candidates and St. Joseph's Hospital for last month's Mayoral Forum.

Editor's note: If you have something that would be of interest to the people of our neighborhood, we encour-age you to submit an article for our monthly newsletter, Gifford Park's Pride. Deadline for submitting articles and editorials is the third Thursday of each month. Edi-torials must be approved by the GPNA Executive Board. Articles can be left at the GPNA Office, please include your name and phone number. We will accept articles stored on IBM compatible disks. Contact Chris Foster at 342-6006 for information regarding the newsletter.

Cars And Parking Are A Problem In The Gifford Park Neighborhood

If you drive around the Gifford Park neighborhood on any day, you will see plenty of parking violations. In fact, this is probably the most violated of any of the city laws in our neighborhood.

When most of the houses in our area were built, some families did not even have a car, and some houses were built without a driveway or garage. Older houses days most families have at least two cars. property. A city ordinance states that only rental unit (another law also commonly vio- we now have a lot of people with a lot of



NO PARKING

were built in the era of true horsepower. These Many houses have been converted to rental three unrelated people or less can live in a lated in our neighborhood). In any case cars in an area not designed for them.

One common problem is parking across forces pedestrians and children to walk in kids from playing up and down the sidewalks ing is also illegal, as is driving over curbs to is also common (often seen on out of state cars, ous because traffic cannot be seen when parking or pulling out.

sidewalks. Besides being unsightly, it the street to get around. It also prevents without going into the street. Front yard park- park. Parking on the wrong side of the street is this legal in other places?). This is danger-

Parking between the sidewalk and street is also a problem. The city sometimes allows this area to be paved and then it can be leased back from the city for parking. A sign must be posted with a city sticker. It is definitely prohibited to park in non-paved areas between the sidewalk and street. The final problem is non licensed cars. No one cares if the family classic is parked in a garage, but vehicles within sight must be licensed. Besides detracting from the appearance of our neighborhood, junk cars are an invitation to vandalism.

Many think that parking violations are a sort of victimless crime, but in fact are unsightly, inconsiderate and can be dangerous. In the past, the neighborhood association has gotten good cooperation from the police when they have complained about a problem. So if a few parking tickets start appearing around our neighborhood, you read about it first in this newsletter.

Terry Wilwerding



GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Membership Application



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____
Referred by: _____ () New Member () Renewal

ANNUAL DUES -- \$5 (Single), \$8 (Family), \$25 (Business/Institutional)

****Please note: All new and newly-renewed memberships will expire June 1st.**

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA
Mail to GPNA: 532 North 33rd St., Omaha, NE 68131

The Gifford Park Neighborhood ... A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play!