



# Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

528 N. 32nd St., Omaha, NE 68131

341-4695



Member- Jim Windorski 341-4695

Vice Chairman- Chuck Kilgore 558-5000/341-2757

Secretary- Corky Grimes 345-3217

Treasurer- Ron Yates 558-6027

June 1990

## MEMBERS-ONLY MAILING

### YIPPIE-YI-O! IT'S RODEO TIME

GPNA is happy to welcome all area youth to the Gifford Park Bicycle Rodeo, to be held Saturday, June 9, in the Gifford Park Parking Lot, just North of 34th & Davenport. Sponsors of the rodeo are the Downtown, Mid-City, Miracle Hills, and Omaha Breakfast Optimist Clubs. Rodeo activities will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All rodeo participants will have access to bicycle safety inspections by experts from a local bike shop, and miscellaneous events of bicycle riding abilities and safety knowledge will award prizes and citations. See you there!

### BUSINESS DISTRICT STOREFRONT PAINT AND SPRUCE-UP DAY!!

Saturday, June 23, at 9:00 a.m., the Merchant's Committee will sponsor a Business District paint and spruce-up day. All who are interested in participating please call Chuck Kilgore at 341-2757.

### MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships are due on June 1 for the 1990-1991 year. This is the last newsletter you will receive if your membership is not renewed. Membership renewal is also important if you wish to vote at the June 7th meeting when elections of officers will take place. Mail your membership dues to Ruth Windorski, 528 N. 32nd St., Omaha, NE 68131. If paying by check, make check payable to Gifford Park Neighborhood Association. Thank you in advance for your support.

**NEXT MEETING**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 7:00 P.M.**

**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL**

**SEMINAR ROOM**

**FREE PARKING**

### COME SUPPORT THE NEIGHBORHOOD PONY LEAGUE TEAMS

The South Omaha Saints and Central Omaha PONY League are now using the ballfield at Gifford Park for some of their league games. The only day that the field isn't used for league play or practice is Sunday.

J-N-J Grocery and the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association have each sponsored a team in the Central Omaha PONY League. PONY stands for Protect Our Nations Youth.

The games to be played at Gifford Park by the two neighborhood sponsored teams are Saturday, June 2 at 9:00 a.m. when the J-N-J team plays and Saturday, June 9 at 9:00 a.m. when the Gifford Park team plays.

If you suspect drug activity in your neighborhood, please call the Narcotics Department at OPD (444-5681), in addition to 911.

## THE SHOW WAGON IS COMING

Gifford Park will be the site of one of the Show Wagon Regional finals this year. The date scheduled is Wednesday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m. If anyone wishes to enter the Show Wagon competition, contact Ruth Windorski for rules and registration forms. The deadline to enter is June 15.

Turn out on July 18 to enjoy an evening of music and dance in our neighborhood park. The east bank of the park is to be used for seating, so bring along your blankets. Mark your calendars now!

## SPECIAL MEETING CALLED ON REVISED BY-LAWS

A special meeting of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association has been called for the purpose of discussing the proposed revision of GPNA's by-laws. This meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., July 24, in St. Joseph's Seminar Room. This is a very important meeting, so if you have any interest in the by-laws, please plan to attend.

## COX CABLE NEIGHBORHOOD SALUTE

Cox Cable has asked our Chairman, Jim Windorski, to be a member of this year's Cox Cable Neighborhood Salute panel of judges. As last year's winner, Gifford Park is not eligible for this year's grand prize package. Cox Cable feels that as a leader of last year's winning group, Jim ranks as an "authority" in the area of what makes a neighborhood great! We wish all of this year's participants the best of luck!

## LETTER TO LANDLORDS, PROPERTY OWNERS, AND AGENTS

The following letter has been drafted by Ron Yates to be distributed to all landlords, property owners, and agents with property dealings within our neighborhood:

### LANDLORDS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND AGENTS:

*We want to help you increase the value of your property. As you know, the Gifford Park area is surrounded by several large employers, Mutual of Omaha, St. Joseph Hospital, Creighton University, and many smaller employers. Their employees need safe, affordable housing and we believe that Gifford Park, with your help, can provide it. Gifford Park has been working with the Police Department, Street Maintenance Department, Park Department, and other City departments to improve our area. However, there are some problem areas and most of them seem to be in rental property. We would suggest to you that if a tenant is a nuisance to the neighborhood, they are also a bother to the landlord. There is no need to arm wrestle for your rents and to rehabilitate your property every six months. Please let us know how we can help you help us help you.*

*Gifford Park Neighborhood Association*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance 4/25/90	\$2,276.71
Cash Returned - Marge Hawkins	6.91
Memberships (26)	78.00
Donations (Paul Mileris)	50.00
Donations (Drug Free Zone)	16.00
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	2,427.62
Central Omaha PONY League	
Sponsor Team	125.00
American Printing	
Newsletter/flyers	207.96
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Balance 5/28/90	\$2,094.66

Special thanks go to the following local businesses and corporations for their help in financing the City-Wide Spring Litter Cleanup this year:

Lozier Corp., Douglas County Bank & Trust Co., ConAgra, Mutual of Omaha, First National Bank, Norwest Bank, Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society, and First Bank

This year costs increased dramatically due to a 40% increase in the dumping fee and higher hauling costs. To ensure continuation of this worthwhile project, organizations like those above were asked to share expenses with the City of Omaha.

#### CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

##### Beautification

Dave Hawkins 345-6494

##### Membership

Ruth Windorski 341-4695

##### Merchants

Chuck Kilgore 558-5000 or 341-2757

##### Neighbor of the Month

Ron Yates 558-6027

##### Park Master Plan

Tom Rose 341-3955

##### Public Relations

John & Jackie Lynch 345-9624

##### Recycling

Mark Whitley 345-3858

##### Social Activity

Marge Hawkins 345-6494

Anyone wishing to become involved in one or more of these committees please call the chairperson for details. They all need help!

#### WELCOME SALVATION ARMY!

On July 10, 1990, Methodist Hospital Midtown facility at 3612 Cuming Street, will discontinue operation and transfer ownership of the facility to The Salvation Army. The availability of these facilities will allow The Salvation Army to centralize their divisional offices and several other services suited to the facility.

Currently, the medical services housed at the Methodist Midtown location are Eppley Treatment Center and Methodist Rehabilitation Services. Additionally, Lucas Hall, a housing and residential care facility for elderly, and the Lyle Apartments are located on the 5 acre campus. The Salvation Army plans to continue the Lucas Hall programs as they are currently provided. It was announced last December that Methodist Midtown would discontinue the operation of Eppley Treatment Center and that Lutheran Medical Center would add the service as a part of a plan to consolidate behavioral health services within a single organizational structure. The acute care portion of Methodist Rehabilitation Services will be moved to the main Methodist facility at 8303 Dodge Street, and the skilled nursing program portion will be eliminated completely.

GPNA Chairman Jim Windorski attended a luncheon Friday, May 25, hosted by The Salvation Army. Neighborhood Associations were invited to attend for an explanation of the services that will be offered when the move is complete. Neighborhood representatives were also asked for input as to the type of programs they would like to see put in place.

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**GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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

**ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PER PERSON - MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE JUNE 1, 1991**

Make checks payable to GPNA. Mail to Ruth Windorski: 528 N. 32nd St., Omaha, NE 68131

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A letter to the GPNA was received recently from Michael Loeffler, Legislative Aide to Senator John Lindsay, our district's representative to the State Legislature.

Mr. Loeffler indicated that Senator Lindsay would like to establish better communication links with neighborhood groups, and with that in mind, asked that the Senator's office in Lincoln be added to the GPNA mailing list for newsletters and other communications. These mailings would be kept on file for the Senator's reference.

The letter also stated that Mr. Loeffler should be contacted if Senator Lindsay's office could ever be of any help to the Association.

Senator Lindsay feels that neighborhood associations are an important link in the community. Through these groups he hopes to develop a two-way communication with his constituents. The following article is a copy of the first in a monthly series of legislative updates that Senator Lindsay is forwarding to all neighborhood groups as part of his contribution to this communicative process:

## *Legislative Report*

Senator John Lindsay

District No. 9

On April 9, the 1990 Legislature gaveled to a close. This session was marked by the issues of taxes, education, the judiciary and the environment. LB 1059, which mandates major changes in the way schools are financed, was the major work of the session. The bill aims for more equitable distribution of aid as well as aggregate property tax relief. This program will be financed through increases in the state sales and income taxes. One direct result for persons in the Omaha School District will be a 17% reduction in property taxes. With the lid on local government spending, LB 1059 affords the promise of long-term property tax relief.

Two measures will be put on the ballot for voter approval in November. Voters will be asked to approve a plan that would establish a Post-Secondary Coordinating Commission that would be responsible for the planning, budgeting and coordinating of Nebraska's universities and colleges. Voter approval will also be asked on the creation of a court of appeals to help the court system deal with a backlog of cases.

LB 163, passed over the Governor's veto, requires the state to develop a solid waste management plan. The bill also provides monies to localities for the development and implementation of community solid waste management plans.

In the coming months, I will further explain these proposals and look at the future plans of the Legislature. As always, I encourage you to contact me with your ideas or concerns.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
BARB SCHROEDER, CHAIR**

meeting of the Nominating Committee was held on April 19, 1990. Those attending were Ed Hendershot, Jerry Rieger, Barb Schroeder, Eugenia Stevens and Dave Hawkins.

The committee selected persons from the membership of the Association who were eligible for nomination to office.

Following are the persons who the Nominating Committee places into nomination for election to office of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association for the upcoming term:

Chairman: Jim Windorski  
Dave Hawkins

Vice Chairman: Chuck Kilgore  
Tom Rose

Secretary: Corky Grimes  
Ruth Windorski

Treasurer: Ron Yates  
Barb Schroeder

Additional nominations of qualified members for any office may be made from the floor at the general meeting of the Association to be held on Thursday, June 7, 1990.

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**MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE - JIM WINDORSKI, MEMBER  
AT LARGE**

At the April 25th meeting of the Committee, the city-wide consensus was finalized, with the top concerns of all 12 planning districts and at large members being listed as follows:

1. Police - lack of visibility
2. Youth - gangs, drugs, alcohol and vandalism
3. Housing - code enforcement
4. City government - lack of efficiency

**5. Environment - recycling and pollution.**

The Committee will now meet with representatives of these departments to help identify solutions to our concerns.

At the May meeting of the Committee, held in the Mayor's office on May 24th, each member was given time to speak with the Mayor about their individual concerns. Members were asked by the Mayor to attend budget hearings and to report at the next meeting of the Committee. I chose the Public Safety hearing, which is scheduled for June 5th at 9:30 AM. (I received a letter on May 31st from Diane Zipay, Mayor's Aide, stating that we would not be allowed to attend these hearings, but that a special meeting would be held before the budget is presented to the City Council.)

The need for press coverage of the Committee's activities was discussed. At present, neighborhood newsletters are the only method of informing the public about what the Committee is doing.

The June meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, June 28th, at 7:00 PM.

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Gifford Park was the recent target of graffiti. The slide on the wooden play structure in the upper part of the park was painted on, as well as two of the large cottonwood trees there. Graffiti was also found on three areas of the park's sidewalk.

At a recent program on gangs and gang activity, given by the Yates PTA, we were informed that graffiti is the first sign of gang activity in a neighborhood. We were also told to photograph any further graffiti, as the police can sometimes identify the perpetrators by their "gang names".

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The graffiti in Gifford Park was removed or covered up by GPNA members as soon as it was noticed, sending a clear message to gang members that they are not welcome in our neighborhood. If you see graffiti anywhere in our neighborhood, please call Mike Caban right away at 341-4722. He will coordinate GPNA efforts to photograph and remove it.

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### GPNA HONORED

The Gifford Park Neighborhood Association was the recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation from the Yates PTA at a PTA meeting held on May 22nd. The honor was given in recognition of the GPNA's efforts to create and enhance a safe, pleasant and clean neighborhood environment for the children and families in our area. The certificate was accepted on behalf of the GPNA by Chuck Kilgore, Association Vice Chairman, who expressed the hope that cooperation between the two organizations will continue in the future.

Several GPNA members were also honored by the PTA. Jim Windorski received a Certificate of Appreciation, as did Loren Johnson. Both men were recognized for their continuing services to the children of our area. Ruth Windorski, a PTA volunteer for many years, was presented with an Honorary Nebraska PTA State Life Membership, the highest honor that a PTA Unit can bestow. This was given in appreciation of Ruth's outstanding services to Yates School and its students.

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### METRO RECYCLING GUIDE

The following companies and organizations accept materials for recycling. \* indicates companies that pay for the recycled items as indicated. Due to space limitations this is not a complete list. For more information on recycling, call the Omaha Public Works Dept./Quality Control

at 734-6060, or the Nebraska State Recycling Association at 1-800-248-7328.

### ALUMINUM CANS

\*CAN-PAC - 708 S. Saddle Creek Road

M-Sat. 9-4:30 - 556-4133

\*CAN-PAC - 2215 S. 26th

M-Sat 9-6 - 346-2488

\*C.A.R.E. - 45th & IZARD

M-F 8-4 - 444-6495

CREIGHTON PREP SCIENCE CLUB - 7400 Western Ave. (North Dock) Drop off anytime 393-7190

\*PEPSI COLA - 4603 S. 72nd

(J St. entrance) M-Sat. 9-2

331-5600

\*THREE-WAY RECYCLING/OMAHA PAPER STOCK

1401 Laird St. - M-F 8-3:45 Sat. 9-2

(Closed 1st Sat. of mth) - 453-9300

\*J-R-G RECYCLING - 3368 N. 88th Plz.

M-F 8-4 Sat. 8-12 - 572-0479

### GLASS

\* CAN-PAC - 2215 S. 26th

\*PEPSI COLA

CREIGHTON PREP SCIENCE CLUB

### NEWSPAPER

CAN-PAC - 2215 S. 26th

CREIGHTON PREP SCIENCE CLUB

### OTHER RECYCLABLE ITEMS

APPLIANCE RECYCLING CENTER - 1703 Nicholas

M-F 9-4:30 Sat. 9-1 - 573-1566

All appliances except TVs and hot water heaters

\*CAN-PAC - 2215 S. 26th

Scrap aluminum

CREIGHTON PREP SCIENCE CLUB

car batteries, motor oil, film, aluminum foil, tin/bi-metal cans

J-R-G RECYCLING

Cardboard

OMAHA PAPER STOCK

Cardboard

\*R.P.M. SALVAGE - 2820 Vinton St.

M-F 8-5:30 Sat. 9-1 - 346-4470

Used building materials

CRUMB RUBBER DEVELOPMENT 106 Cunningham Rd

Drop off anytime, call for directions 291-2754

Milk jugs, 1 and 2 liter pop bottles margarine and whipped topping tubs, six-pack rings, plastic grocery bags some clear squeezable bottles (# 7 stamped on bottom)

### SCRAP METAL

Check yellow pages for latest listings