



Gifford Park's Pride

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

March 2017

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Great Neighborhood School Design is Under Way

By Adrian S. Petrescu

As everyone knows, during the last two months several meetings took place between the Educational Specification (EdSpec) Committee and the Omaha Public Schools representatives, the architect firm for the new neighborhood school, Jackson Jackson, and the project manager firm for the new school, Jacobs.

Everyone involved with the new school design presented at the community meeting that took place at Yates Community Center on February 9 along with the Gifford Park General Meeting. Representatives of OPS showed participating community members the progress achieved and the plan forward and everyone could ask questions and make suggestions.

Over the few meetings the neighborhood EdSpec Committee members worked on better defining and sharing our strengths as a neighborhood, the opportunities that are available to us all, the goals we have as a community and from our school's design and anticipated construction, as well as the challenges we face in meeting those goals. The OPS representatives who facilitated the meetings asked many questions, listened intently, and empathized with us along the way. Not only did they promise that the spirit of the neighborhood will be reflected in the school design and construction, but we could see and feel in everything OPS was telling us and in the way they took in our comments and suggestions their desire to truly learn how to best deliver on that promise.

EASTER EGG HUNT
Saturday April 15
more information on page 8

GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, May 11, 7:00 pm

SPRING CLEANUP
Saturday May 20
more information on page 8

We as a community started off with many desires and--why not--with many dreams. After all, the future of all of our children in the community is at stake. We made the case as strong as possible for the things we find important in the school, from as much surrounding green space and natural light as possible, to a teaching garden, a working teaching kitchen, an accessible "in the winter even during off-school time" indoor community play-space in addition to the outdoors play-space—also to be accessible during off-school hours. We insisted on hands on activities, on science, music, and arts facilities and programming in the school. We like technology but we insisted on appropriate use of technology—meaning without exaggeration and while traditional skills and resources are still taught to our children. We want them to still know how to read an actual book with real pages to turn. We started off wanting dual language programming and we learned why that will be difficult to achieve. We insisted on the multicultural and international orientation of the school to mirror the diversity

continued on page 6

2017 GPNA Officers

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Chris Foster, Landlord Rep

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Opportunities – Contacts

GPNA General Meetings

Marie Hélène André 402-769-9183

Community Bike Project

Adams Blowers

adam@communitybikeproject.org

Community Garden/Youth Garden

Chris Foster 402-290-8187

Adventure Playground

Chris Foster 402-290-8187

Teen Market Garden

Cynthia Shuck 402-556-2090

dalilabush@cox.net

Gifford Park Market

Martin Janousek 402-558-4070

Yates Community Center

Susan Mayberger 402-557-2431

susan.mayberger@ops.org

Youth Soccer

Eric Purcell 402-719-5108

Youth Tennis

Chris Foster 402-290-8187

Spring Cleanup

Luther Larson 402-616-9350

Editor's note: If you have news of interest to the Gifford Park Neighborhood, we encourage you to submit an article for the monthly newsletter. Editorials are subject to approval by the GPNA Executive Board. Please include your contact information. Articles may be submitted by email to gpnewseditor@gmail.com.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Film Streams at the Ruth Sokolof Theater

Chicken People (NR)

Tuesday, March 7, 7 pm

CHICKEN PEOPLE takes a charming and fascinating look at the colorful and hugely competitive world of champion show chicken breeders. A real-life BEST IN SHOW – but about chickens – the film follows the struggles and triumphs of both humans and their avian counterparts on the road to compete at the Ohio National Poultry Show, considered the Westminster of Chickens.

Presented with



Following the film will be a panel featuring local community experts in farming, city code, and animal husbandry including **Shannon Kyler Gennardo**, Community Garden Manager at City Sprouts; **Lisa Smith**, City Planner with the City of Omaha; **Kate Bodmann**, owner of Omaha Whole Living; and **Tracy Jones**, a local 4-H Club Leader. The panel will be moderated by **Taylor Jespersen**, current Farmer-in-Residence at Big Muddy Urban Farm.

More information, trailers & showtimes at filmstreams.org.

Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater • 1340 Mike Fahey St. • Facebook/Twitter: @filmstreams

Neighborhoods USA Conference Registration Opens

Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA), a national nonprofit organization committed to building and strengthening neighborhood organizations, has opened registration for its national conference taking place May 24-27 at the Downtown Hilton Omaha and the CenturyLink Center. The event is open to anyone interested in connecting with people who strive to improve neighborhoods and build stronger communities, and attendees do not have to be current members of NUSA.

Conference planners expect 800 attendees representing local and national neighborhood associations and community groups, so early registration is encouraged. Considerably reduced rates are available for students and Omaha residents who register on or before April 15: \$50 for local attendees and \$25 for students, compared to a non-local registration rate of \$200 per person. Late registration (after April 15) will be \$300 per person regardless of category. NUSA selected Omaha to serve as the host city for its annual national conference through a competitive process. The annual NUSA conference provides opportunities for informal networking and information-sharing along with a variety of interactive and educational workshops that relate to principles advocated by the organization from preserving local culture and history to working with governments, voluntary organizations, businesses and philanthropy to meet neighborhood needs for personal, social and economic development. Several dozen exhibitors will also be featured throughout the conference.

An awards ceremony will recognize achievements of neighborhoods across the nation from best neighborhood newsletter to the coveted Neighborhood of the Year Award. As part of Omaha's role as the 2017 host city, 18 local neighborhood associations will conduct Neighborhood Pride tours.

One of the event's keynote speakers will be Fred Kent, founder and president of Project for Public Spaces, a national nonprofit organization

dedicated to creating and sustaining public places that build communities. Fred Kent is a leading authority on revitalizing city spaces and one of the foremost thinkers in livability, smart growth and the future of the city.

Joseph Porcelli, the second keynote speaker, is a senior city strategist for Nextdoor, a free, private social network for neighborhoods and communities. His background includes serving as the nation's first Community Engagement Strategist for the Department of Homeland Security, and leading online operations and partnerships for the ServiceNation campaign which passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009.

To register or for more information on the NUSA 2017 national conference, visit www.intheneighborhood.org/2017-nusa-conference or www.oneomaha.org. NUSA 2017 is presented by Peter Kiewit Foundation, Lozier Corporation, Union Pacific, City of Omaha, Omaha by Design, One Omaha, Omaha Visitors and Convention Bureau and Vic Gutman & Associates.



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Celebrating Volunteers and it's time for ExhiBIKEtion

By Adam Blowers

On Sunday Feb 12th we held our annual Golden Spokes Volunteer appreciation party. This year we gave out seven awards to recognize some of the excellent people who volunteered their time at the bike shop this past year.

Golden Spokes (adult volunteers of the year)

Jacob Stacy has been volunteering at the shop since early 2016. Jacob is a kind and patient young man who is always happy to help others learn about their bikes. Jacob is a dedicated bicycle commuter and is very enthusiastic about all things bicycle. After nearly a year of dedicated volunteering it was decided that Jacob should be hired as the shop mechanic. Jacob will be around for awhile as he was also just recently awarded a full scholarship to Creighton. He's been an excellent addition to the shop.

David Davis is an enthusiastic volunteer who loves to help out during Youth Earn-a-Bike. David has volunteered during Youth Earn-a-Bike to help all of his friends earn bikes. David is always excited about trying something new on a bicycle and is currently obsessed with mountain biking.

Golden Wrenches (youth volunteers of the year)

Ian can probably be seen riding his awesome BMX bike nearly every day. Ian loves to see the city by bicycle and has a passion for riding to unique places where he takes excellent pictures. He also participated in the 2016 Build-a-Thon and is a trusted youth mechanic.

Elijah is usually on a skateboard, but he loves bikes too. Elijah is most excited to build unique bike projects or design a strange machine using bike parts. His creativity is always welcome at the shop.

Clay is a passionate BMXer and mountain biker and was a volunteer mechanic for nearly all Youth Earn-a-Bike Classes in the summer of

2016. Clay is patient and is always happy to help another with their bike.

Additionally we awarded a certificate for Board Member of the Year. Madison Haugland has invaluable experience working for a non profit. She is always eager to improve the Bike Project and help us expand our reach. Jeff Lintel received a Stoker of the Year award for his dedication to the shop. Jeff is a volunteer mechanic and Youth Earn-a-Bike instructor. He is a huge part of the shop and is currently beginning his custom frame building business.

ExhiBIKEtion March 24th at 6 - 9 pm.

It's our one night only bike themed art show. We're currently accepting artwork for the event. Everyone is welcome to participate!

Community Garden/Youth Garden/ Adventure Playground Update

This is the time of year folks start thinking about gardening. Soon we will start to plan for community garden projects and the youth garden program, as well as Adventure Playground. Stay tuned for more updates in our April newsletter as spring approaches. If you have any questions or are interested in becoming involved with the community garden, youth garden program or Adventure Playground, contact Chris Foster (402-290-8187 or foster3413@cox.net), or Mike Caban (402-341-4722 or caban3321@cox.net).

Remembering St. Cecilia's Housekeeper

Barbara Anderson, age 84, died February 17, 2017, at Bergan Mercy Hospital after a brief illness. She and her husband, Lyle (deceased), raised their four children near Gifford Park. Barb was the housekeeper at St. Cecilia's rectory for 35 years, from 1982 until she passed away. The current housekeeper will miss her wonderful sense of humor and her talent for removing stains from the church laundry.

Gifford Park Neighborhood Market Season Opens on May 26

By Eliza Perry

We are gearing up for our 2017 season at the Gifford Park Neighborhood Market! After our first of two pre-season vendor meetings, it looks like we will have an incredible variety of crafts, foods and producers to choose from - we hope the neighborhood will come out in full force to support our local makers and growers and musicians. Find all your grocery needs (except eggs!) at the market every Friday on the gravel lot south of 33rd and California St, 5-8pm, May 26-September 29.

If you are interested in being a sponsor of the market and want to get your name or business on the official poster, you still have time. Please contact gpnmarket@gmail.com

If you want to be a vendor or know of someone that could use this market as a way to start or test an idea, please contact us for more information at gpnmarket@gmail.com

We need volunteers to help us plan this year's Friday Night events (33rd Friday's Multi-cultural Event, Backyard Chicken Show, Last Market of the Season....and others we haven't thought of yet!) Please contact us at gpnmarket@gmail.com

Help us continue making the Gifford Park neighborhood one of the best places to live and where community comes first!



Neighborhood Market



2017 RESTORE OMAHA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Saturday, March 4, 2017 | 8 to 5 p.m.

Metropolitan Community College, Fort Omaha Campus
Institute for the Culinary Arts Building and the Mule Barn
32nd and Sorensen Parkway | Omaha, Nebraska

The historic Hotel Deco in downtown Omaha will offer rooms for \$129 for Restore Omaha attendees. To reserve contact Laurie Czyz Group at 402-991-4981 or lczyz@hoteldecoomaha.com.





Attention owners of older homes, neighborhood community leaders, realtors, developers and architects – Restore Omaha has something for you:

- **FRIDAY NIGHT:** Attend *Saving Places: A Preservation Celebration*, a night honoring preservation achievements in the Omaha/Council Bluffs metro. The event features drinks, heavy hoos doevres, a fast moving video awards ceremony along with desserts and coffee all inside the restored Art Deco Paxton building at 14th and Farnam Streets.
- **KEYNOTE BY THE NATIONAL TRUST'S TOM MAYES:** *Why Do Old Places Matter?* Mayes will share 14 reasons and give you the tools to advocate for saving older places in your community.
- **CHOOSE FROM 18 BREAKOUT SESSIONS:** Topics range from maintaining old windows, historic tile and the current restoration of M's Pub. CEUs offered for architects and realtors.
- **RESTORE JAM:** Share the before-and-after photos of your own restoration project.

And, plenty of opportunities to visit with vendors, local craftsmen and other attendees to **GATHER IDEAS, CONTACTS AND SOLUTIONS.**

For more information and to register visit WWW.RESTOREOMAHA.ORG

MAJOR SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:
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AIA Omaha and Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture AO*, Hotel Deco, Field Day Development, Morrissey Engineering, PEN Architect, Okdenhuis Contracting, R. Mechanical and Renaissance Roofing

Spend the day gathering ideas, solutions and inspiration to restore and preserve older properties.







Great Neighborhood School Design is Under Way

Continued from page 1

and multicultural nature of our neighborhood. We insisted that we want an overall feel for the school that would provide continuity between the neighborhood and the school and will make the school really feel like a second home to our children. As the neighborhood is welcoming we want the school to feel and to be welcoming and equally rewarding to its very diverse group of students coming from everywhere in the world, in the nation and in walks of life that their upbringing brought them here from. We want the school to be attractive to everyone just as we feel that the neighborhood is attractive to everyone.

We want the home school attendance boundary to include those neighborhoods that are close to Gifford Park Neighborhood and whose children we feel belong in the school simply naturally, just as they often participate in the activities in our neighborhood.

Our message was heard loud and clear. The OPS representatives were extremely kind and took their time to offer guided tours of two more recently build schools, Liberty Elementary and Gateway Elementary. We asked countless questions and got great answers from the principals and teachers who are in the schools every day. We took in what we liked and what we saw needing improvement in each of the two schools, and what could inspire us for the design of our neighborhood school. We did our homework and provided structured input on all of our expectations in the school, and even model architectural design suggestions—and I mean Martin Janousek in particular here--whether for indoor spaces, look and feel or for outdoor design and green space amenities. We were offered in turn design models as ideation alternatives to choose from for all the specialized places and spaces in the school and we got the chance to select our preferences on each of the dedicated specific spaces or portions of design. We went through the OPS guidelines for room sizes and space allocations and we expressed our preferences and selected space allocations based on space functionalities and specific needs.

The process now continues after the plenary meetings. OPS staff together with Jackson Jackson Architects and Jacobs project manager produced a draft Educational Specification document that will be submitted for approval to the OPS board. We are providing comments and suggestions to this draft and we neighborhood representatives will speak in the public hearing that the OPS board will hold at the meeting considering the document for approval. We will support and make once again some of the points underlined herein that we feel need re-emphasized. Only half jokingly, we even decided that we should impose a “local neighborhood rule” for the construction of the school: no extra parking spaces. In fact we are considering asking that if any parking space is allowed with the school, at least three new trees need to be planted. We take quite serious the fact that Gifford Park Neighborhood is one of the most green and most walk-able neighborhoods in Omaha and in Nebraska. The space allocated to the new school is little, and we would much prefer green space and a working teaching garden for the children to parking. We are confident that some sharing of parking can be achieved with the adjacent OPS TAC building. After approval, the next steps will be participation in smaller scale detailed design choices meetings with the architects as they progress in their work on the designs. We plan to participate actively further in these meetings, to continue to influence the designs.

We continue to welcome input from everyone as we continue to represent everyone in the joint effort with OPS to build the neighborhood’s soul into our new school.

Cait Caughey and Shane Strong helped with reporting for this article.

Peace Flags

By Clarinda and Richard White

Gifford Park is the most multicultural and diverse neighborhood in Omaha, and we welcome immigrants and refugees from all over the world. In harmony with that spirit, and to celebrate it, last summer we began to fly Tibetan peace flags. And into the winter, these brightly fluttering flags give color and life to the leafless trees.

Peace flags flying in high places are an inspiring sight throughout the Himalayas, in Tibet, India, Bhutan, Nepal, and elsewhere. While there are similar customs in other cultures, probably the best known are those associated with that part of the world. Peace flags are traditionally blue, white, red, yellow and green, representing the natural elements: sky and space (blue); air and cloud (white); fire (red); water (green); and earth (yellow). They are inscribed with wishes for compassion, healing, wisdom, protection, and peace, and also with images. The earliest peace flag image was the Lungta, or Wind Horse, who flies through the sky bearing and scattering good fortune and peace to all below; the flapping sound made by the flags in the wind was said to be the sound of the Wind Horse's hooves! It is indeed said that the wind blowing the flags carries and scatters the good wishes throughout the universe and to everyone. That's the wonderful thing about peace flags—that the good wishes they contain and scatter on the winds are meant for all beings, for everyone, inclusively—with an understanding that we are all one. As the ink on the flags fades over time, it shows that the good wishes are being distributed! The peace flags themselves are still called "Wind Horse," because they carry their good wishes on the wind. And the phrase "Wind Horse" is also used for our life force or chi, so that on days when you can't get out of bed, you might say, "My Wind Horse is weak," and on days when you feel hearty and ready for anything, you could say, "My Wind Horse is strong!" So Wind Horse is also the vital energy we share and the air we all breathe.

We love the message brought by the Wind Horse—of compassion, love, understanding, and respect for all beings, and for one another. Because this message is so needed at this time, we plan to put up more peace flags soon, in the hope that, flying on the winds, the welcoming message of good will can reach and touch all people.

Peace flags are a lovely custom, which we've always wanted to adopt, and we encourage you to consider making it your own. The sight of colorful peace flags fluttering on the breeze always lifts your spirits, too, and brings a feeling of happiness and inspiration. (And it's meant to; like the sound of wind chimes, the sight of peace flags is meant to remind you to be mindful of the moment, and to take a moment to feel gratitude, and to wish everyone well, in your heart.) If you would like to adopt the custom, you can purchase traditional Tibetan flags on-line; or you can design and make you own! (It's also a great project to share with children.) Find some cloth you like, and write something from your own tradition, an affirmation, or a line of poetry; draw/paint/sew a picture; or write even a single word that you would like to spread throughout the world: for example, "Love," "Peace," "Healing," "Compassion," "Welcome," "Gratitude," "Kindness," or "Grow," which is particularly good for a garden! Hang the flags outdoors, from the eaves of houses, between trees, anywhere the winds can catch them, and enjoy hearing the clattering hooves of the Wind Horse, carrying your good wishes to your neighbors, to all our neighbors, throughout our community, and throughout the world—to all people, and to plants and animals, too! Enjoy your peace flags, and may your Wind Horse be strong!



28th Annual Gifford Park Neighborhood - EASTER EGG HUNT

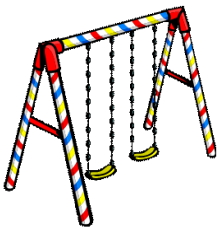


Where: Gifford Park

When: **Saturday, April 15**
Noon (Rain or Shine!)

Who: Children Ages 12 & Under

Bring Your Easter Baskets!



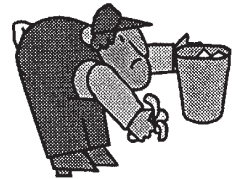
*****Volunteers needed to help pickup litter in Gifford Park at 10:00am to Noon**

*****Join us for snacks & refreshments immediately after the Easter Egg Hunt at the Gifford Park Playground (35th & Davenport) for 5 year Operation Playground Celebration! Everyone Welcome!**

SPRING CLEANUP - Saturday, May 20, 9am to 2pm



Neighborhood & Park Cleanup Trash Compactors in Gifford Park Membership & Donation Drive



- * Neighborhood volunteers will monitor the dumpsters (NO commercial hauling!)
- * Items **ACCEPTED**: furniture, bulky items, appliances, metal
- * Items **NOT ACCEPTED**: yardwaste, rocks, concrete, paint, hazardous & toxic material
- * **Toxic materials** (paint, oil, pesticides, chemicals) can be taken to the *Under the Sink* facility near 120th & I Streets
- * **Tree brush** vouchers will be available
- * **Tires** may be dropped off for **FREE** at Walnut Hill Elementary School (4370 Hamilton St)
- * **Tires** will be accepted at Gifford Park site at \$1 each
- * **Appliances** containing freon (refrigerators, A.C.) will be accepted at Gifford Park site at \$10 each
- * Gifford Park Neighborhood Association members will get highest priority for hauling items
- * If you can help with our neighborhood cleanup or if you need help hauling, please call:

Luther 402-330-3286 Chris 402-290-8187 Eric 402-719-5108

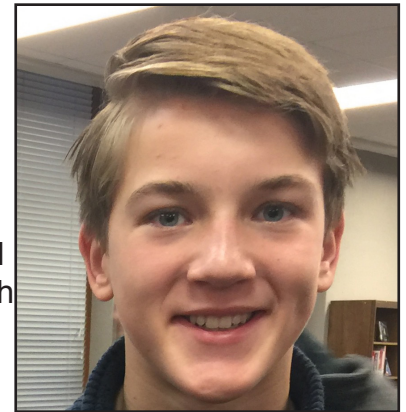
Membership Drive: Gifford Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) annual membership dues are only: **\$10 for Single, \$15 for Family, \$25 for Business**. Your membership helps support **neighborhood cleanups, newsletters, youth activities, watch group equipment, tool lending** and many other worthwhile programs. The Spring Cleanup is a great time to join! You can also find our membership form on our GPNA website: www.giffordparkomaha.org

Get to Know Board Members

Tyler Magnuson - Hi, I am a new board member for the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association. I grew up, 'up the hill' in the Joslyn Castle Neighborhood and many of you may know my mom Margie from community events and organizing over the past decades. The first place I moved to after high school was the Spirit of Peace Community down on 32nd and Webster. During that time I became friends with Emerick Huber and helped him and Darryl Hutton during the summer of 2007 in rehabbing the community bike shop. In 2008 we hosted a summer program called Summer of Solutions and got connected with groups working on community based solutions to climate change. I also served on the board of the bike shop and help bring Food Not Bombs, a group that practices mutual aid by up-cycling discarded food, to Gifford Park. After college I moved back to Omaha and helped start Big Muddy Urban Farm with a group of friends. I reconnected with Chris Foster and Martin Janousek and we were able to convert the vacant lot on 32nd and California into the current home garden for Big Muddy. Now I am back in Omaha after 5 years farming in Lincoln and Iowa. I currently live on 34th in California and have loved being back in my 'hood. Small things; like trips to Selena's for paletas (popsicles), the ding from the KNJ Grocery door, and pick-up soccer games in the park, and quiet moments in the secret permaculture garden, remind me how much I love the vibrant diversity of this neighborhood.



Curtis Flint - I was born in Gifford Park and have lived on the corner of 35th & Davenport St for 15 years. I am currently a freshman at Central High School in and Eagle Scout with Troop 42. I enjoy playing baseball, hammock camping, and playing video games. When I was younger I enjoyed the children's garden and now I hope to expand the educational element in our neighborhood through my Eagle Scout project of monarch butterfly habitats and helping to get our neighborhood designated as a neighborhood arboretum. Thank you Gifford park for allowing me to continue to give back to my neighborhood!



Community, Chaos, and Conflict Transformation

You're Invited!

Community, Chaos and Conflict Transformation

When: March 25 8:30am-3:00pm

Where: TBD

Cost: \$15 (includes snacks)

Register & Information: eric@thresholdscommunity.org, Eric Purcell - 402-719-5108

Most people believe that community is a good thing and long for authentic, life-giving relationships. But what do you do when tensions flare? How do you navigate disagreements and competing perspectives? How do you deal with unmet expectations and poor communication?

Drawing from leading conflict transformations experts as well as years of experience in intentional community, this one day learning lab offers a model for deepening relationships, walking through conflict, identifying communication challenges and exposing common myths of community. Participants will be inspired to deepen relationships in community, come away with a realistic view of community and what it takes to grow it, and be filled with hope to persevere!

REGISTER TODAY

FOR THE 42ND ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOODS,
USA CONFERENCE



May 24 – 27, 2017

Downtown Hilton Omaha
& CenturyLink Center in Omaha, NE

Register today and join hundreds of people who are passionate about improving neighborhoods and building stronger communities. Gather together to share information with one another, attend and actively participate in educational workshops, tour neighborhoods and recognize achievements of neighborhoods across the nation.

Highlights of the 2017 Neighborhoods, USA Conference:

- **Pre-Conference Activities**
- **Keynote Speakers**
 - o **Fred Kent**, *Founder and President of Project for Public Spaces*
Read more about him [HERE](#).
 - o **Joseph Porcelli**, *Senior City Strategist for Nextdoor*
Read more about him [HERE](#).
- **Over 56 local and national workshops in eight tracks**
(including Neighborhood Initiatives, Creative Inclusion, Emerging Leaders, etc.)
- **Over 20 Neighborhood Pride Tours**
- **Over 30 local and national exhibitors**



For more **INFORMATION** and to **REGISTER** visit www.oneomaha.org.

SNAP! Productions Opens Detroit '67

By Todd Brooks

Mention Detroit in 1967, and you automatically conjure images of burning storefronts and police in riot gear. These scenes create a provocative backdrop for *Detroit '67*, a new drama about race and family that's set in a west-side basement speakeasy during the city's disastrous July 1967 riot. Written by Dominique Morisseau and directed by Noah Diaz, *Detroit '67* makes its regional premiere on March 9 and runs thru April 2, 2017.

Winner of the Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama Inspired by American History and described as "A poetic play of fire-fueled dreams and frustrated love that is set against a backdrop of historic social unrest in Motown."— *Star Tribune*, *Detroit '67* effectively captures a community coming to grips with its history and its future.

The THURSDAY, MARCH 9th performance will be a TAG Night Out preview show which will benefit the Theatre Arts Guild Scholarship Fund. The ASL Interpreted Performance will be SATURDAY, MARCH 11th and is made possible due to generous community support and donations made through the Omaha Gives! Campaign.

Book now for Dominique Morisseau's engaging drama *Detroit '67* which will run from March 9– April 2, 2017 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 6:00 pm on Sundays. The Sunday, April 2nd show will start at 2:00 pm. The theater opens a half hour before curtain time. Reservations must be made on-line at the SNAP! Productions website: www.snapproductions.com. Tickets are \$20.00 for Adults; \$15.00 for Students, TAG and Seniors. We are continuing our "Throwback Thursday" pricing of \$12.00 tickets for all Thursday shows.

Clothing Swap Fundraiser Held at Yates

By Susan Mayberger

Yates was the location of a "Clothing Swap" held on Saturday, February 25th. This event was organized by Susan Sanchez and the proceeds from the event raised over \$1,000 for refugees in Omaha. The unsold clothing was donated to refugee families that attend Yates.

Susan, Scott Wolfe, the Yates Head Custodian, and other volunteers worked together to set up a mini store in the newly painted Yates gym. Shoppers were able to try on the donated clothing and purchase the "just right" garments for themselves or others. This was a wonderful event that shows how caring the Omaha community is.



Yates Community Center: A Place for Activities and Meetings

Yates Community Center located at 3260 Davenport Street is available to the Gifford Park Neighborhood to use for meetings and other activities. There is a gym and 8 classrooms available. Yates has hosted a variety of classes, community meetings, events, celebrations, basketball, and other activities. If anyone in the Gifford Park Neighborhood is interested in using the space they can contact Susan Mayberger, Building Administrator, at 402-557-2431 or susan.mayberger@ops.org to request a building permit. The building is open weekdays until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for activities.



Gifford Park Neighborhood Association
 PO Box 31462
 Omaha, NE 68131



**Gifford Park Neighborhood Association
 Membership Application**

The GPNA membership year runs from January 1 to December 31.

Type of membership: ___ Single (\$10) ___ Family (\$15) ___ Business (\$25)
 Today's Date: _____

Business Name (if applicable): _____

Business Phone (if applicable): _____

Name (1): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Name (2): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Name (3): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Name (4): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Name (5): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Volunteer Opportunities! I'm interested in helping with...

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Call committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Banquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup/Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Tool Lending |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Memberships | <input type="checkbox"/> School Liason | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Planting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Market | <input type="checkbox"/> School Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Walks | <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | |

Return completed form along with check or money order to:
 Gifford Park Neighborhood Association, PO Box 31462, Omaha, NE 68131.