



Gifford Park's Pride

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

June 2018

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

Gifford Park Neighborhood Market Off To A Great Start

by Alex O'Hanlon

The Gifford Park Neighborhood Market kicked off its 11th season on June 1st and as always food, family and friends were at the forefront as neighbors and vendors turned out in what is most likely record numbers. This year's market features long time vendors such as Big Muddy Urban Farm, Benson Bounty and Leafy Spaces. Amongst the many new vendors this year are long time market attendees, such as Mary Hanten, selling jams, jellies, produce and plants as Loess Roots Farms. Also new this year, the market is making use of the shaded area near the back of the lot where Big Open Hearts offers free massages and The Nature and Book Nook offers kids activities and vintage books. The Omaha Public Library kicked off its Storytime Series (every first Friday of the summer) and Ameen Wahba and Pat Temple Reilly provided a live music set. Market set up and take down were a breeze thanks to the new tents purchased (with a generous grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation's Omaha Neighborhood Grants



NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Thursday, August 9 // 6:30 PM
Yates Community Center
3260 Davenport Street

Presentation: TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Youth Garden
- Neighborhood Market
- Tennis Lessons
- Soccer Camp
- Full Cycle Supper

Event dates and details in articles of newsletter

Program). Market founder Martin Janousek was pleased with the turnout for the season opener, "Each year the market gets better, there are more familiar faces and more new ones, so it seems like a success to me." The Gifford Park Neighborhood Market is every Friday June 1st- Sept 28th from 5-8 PM.



2018 GPNA Officers

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Youth Soccer

Eric Purcell 402-719-5108

Youth Tennis

Chris Foster 402-290-8187

Spring Cleanup

Chris Foster 402-290-8187

Newsletter Editor

Brent Lubbert 402-213-9646

Grants for Neighborhood Projects Update

The neighborhood received the following grants to put toward bettering our neighborhood:

\$5,000 from Peter Kiewit Foundation’s Omaha Neighborhood Grants program to go toward improvements at the market. Some of these funds will be budget-relieving.

\$4,000 Mayor’s Grant for making critically-needed upgrades and investments in our youth programming including the gardening, soccer and tennis programs. Some of these funds will be budget-relieving.

\$900 from the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance to paint and install a few park benches throughout Gifford Park Neighborhood, kindly donated to us last year by our neighbors to the west in Dundee. We thank each funder for investing in Gifford Park neighborhood and look forward to spending these funds in ways that benefit our community!

Appreciation for Our Country

When I was a youngster growing up in Gifford Park over a half-century ago, it was a tradition for people to display the American Flag on national holidays. It was a means of showing patriotism and appreciation for our country, though not necessarily for our government. Personally I still try (with some lapses) to do that. I noticed on Memorial Day that ours was one of the few houses in the neighborhood that “showed the flag”. I understand that the current administration is controversial (to say the least). But I am reminded of a quote from a book, uttered by a Russian: “I love my country, but I distrust my government”. I love my country as well. Hopefully you do to. And perhaps you will consider “showing the flag” on upcoming holidays, like Flag Day (June 14) and especially Independence Day, July 4th.



The walls are going up on the new elementary school currently being built at 32nd and Burt St. Photo taken from the southeast corner of construction area in early June.

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 brent.lubbert@gmail.com.

From the President

by Eliza Perry

We are in the fullest of full swing summer activity! Like spring's onset, our busy season starts up with an explosion of color and excitement. I hear kids playing outside virtually every night, but in highest concentration during youth garden's Saturday morning programming through Adventure Playground open hours Saturday afternoon. The market finally reopened last Friday with a huge bang and tons of neighbors and friends to enjoy it. Soccer and tennis camps are starting up soon (see elsewhere in this edition for information on signing up your youths!) and it all makes me so very, very, very happy.

At our last neighborhood meeting, we successfully approved our 2018 budget (finally!). We had well over quorum to accomplish this, which was heartening after two prior meetings with fewer than 15 members present. Big thanks to those who came out to Yates on a beautiful evening to renew their GPNA membership, hear about the new elementary school and other happenings in the neighborhood, and catch up on spring plantings with our friend Scott Farrington at Indian Creek.



On that note, I implore you to consider coming out to neighborhood meetings. These gatherings are where so much neighborhood magic happens: folks network and catch up on the latest issues affecting our home, and make plans to improve things together. My involvement in all of this started there and has since been some of the most fulfilling work I've been privileged to be a part of. Your neighborhood, this neighborhood, needs you. The more neighbors we engage in our small corner of the world, the higher our quality of life and the safer our neighborhood becomes. We need all different perspectives to add their voices so that no single income level, age, gender or race disproportionately determines our course. Upcoming or ongoing initiatives include (but are not limited to):

- Community composting collaboration between the market and Big Muddy Urban Farm (hoping to divert some of your waste from the landfill and need a place to add your food scraps? Get in touch with gpnmarket@gmail.com to find out how you can participate!)
- Traffic calming measures - are you frustrated with speeding traffic along the inner corridors in GP, 33rd St and California? Passionate about walkable neighborhoods? Email me to get involved as efforts gain momentum.
- Love soccer, love playing soccer, love kids? Be a Gifford Park Soccer coach! Email Eric Purcell to help out during the six-week camp starting Wednesday June 13
- Another way to get involved - and a MUCH needed one - is helping to plan one of our 30th anniversary events, namely our 33rd Friday Block Party and the annual holiday banquet. Please email me if you have ideas for either or would like to join the team!

There's genuinely so many more efforts that could use your help and insights. Hope to see you and have a conversation about your ideas one of these Friday nights at the market!

Spring Cleanup 2018 Highlights

Gifford Park neighborhood volunteers enjoyed good “cleanup weather” Saturday, May 12 for our annual Spring Cleanup. Again this year volunteers helped neighbors with hauling large items, and also cleaned alleys, streets and Gifford Park. Our metal recycler Eric McGhee was on hand again to help us with metal salvage. Cleanup traffic was not bad again this year, partly due to nearby neighborhood cleanups at Joslyn Castle and Bemis Park...and the neighborhood is a little cleaner each year! We filled trash compactors, recycled tires & metal, salvaged a few interesting items, and collected donations & GPNA memberships. Thanks to all of the volunteers: Bob & Virginia Hutton, Luther Larson, Asit & Alex Goswami, Eliza Perry, Paul Mileris, Terry Wilwerding, Jim Wilwerding, Jim Kyler, Chris Foster, and others. Special thanks to the City of Omaha and Keep Omaha Beautiful for sponsoring these vital neighborhood cleanups year after year!



Community Garden Update

Everyone is encouraged to check out the community garden including the new 6-week-old baby chicks located in their coop on the upper-north part of the garden, and bee hives behind the “garden house” (next to the community garden on the west). Also check out the Adventure Playground on the west part of the garden. Work nights continue each Wednesday 6 to 8pm through the growing season. During these times water and garden tools will be available for plot renters and anyone else interested in helping maintain the community garden – we always need weeding of the flower beds! It’s a good time to stop by the garden to see neighborhood friends or check out what’s growing. Contact Mike Caban (402-341-4722, caban3321@cox.net) for garden plot information, and Chris Foster (402-290-8187, foster3413@cox.net) for other questions. for sponsoring these vital neighborhood cleanups year after year!



TOOL LENDING HOTLINE
Call Chris 402-290-8187
Mowers - \$5
Rent for most tools - \$3

Gifford Park’s neighborhood bar for 80 Years

ESTD. 1937

CALIFORNIA BAR

OMAHA, NE

Craft Beer on Tap
Friday Night Karaoke
Beer Garden
KENO

Stop in and watch your Creighton University &
Nebraska games

510 North 33rd Street

www.calibaromaha.com

 Like us on
Facebook

Youth Garden Update

The first three weeks of our 15th annual Youth Garden (GPYG) program at the community garden at 35th & Cass Streets has seen a variety of challenging weather, so we are a bit behind, but activities have included children getting familiar with the garden, learning about seeds & plants and how to plan what to plant in their plots, and actually preparing the soil and planting their plots. The program is each Saturday morning from 10:00 to 11:30am through August 25th. Below you will find the remaining schedule. It's not too late, we still have space available. This free program teaches youth of all ages how to grow our vegetables, prepare, eat, and share our harvest with others. Many thanks to the parents and wonderful volunteers, especially Big Muddy Urban Farm, who make this program work! Please contact Chris Foster (402-290-8187 or foster3413@cox.net) if you have any questions about GPYG program.

2018 Schedule ~ all Saturdays 10–11:30 a.m.

June 9	Wildlife & Animal Care
June 16	Bugs & Worms
June 23	Pollinators
June 30	Sound of Music
July 7	Making Bread & Butter
July 14	Garden Movement
July 21	Art in the Garden
July 28	Tree Walk
August 4	Cooking Matters
August 11	Canning & Preservation
August 18	Tea
August 25	Pizza Garden Harvest PARTY! (Big Muddy Urban Farm)
	Rest of growing season - tend your plot



Adventure Playground Update

The 2018 season of Adventure Playground is moving forward with a few projects to enhance the space for kids and adults. With the help of Francisco Jimenez Crisostomo and FJC Builders, we built wood shelving for better material storage capacity, we created a "ladder" (notched out steps in an old telephone pole) to get to the zip line, we will stain & seal the tree house to better protect it, and we are in the process of building a large pergola to help with shade in the southwest corner. Then we will install a brick patio and firepit under the pergola – this will help us with movie nights, pot lucks, and doing other projects in this soon-to-be improved area.

As always, the tree house and playground area is open and free to use at any time. Volunteers and access to the materials in the shed are on Saturdays from 12-3pm. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact us at sfadventureplayground@gmail.com or on Facebook. Also, stay connected and attend our next movie night at Adventure Playground on Saturday June 23, the movie (a "family" movie) will play just before dusk. Pot Luck including roasting hot dogs and marshmallows starts at 7pm; movie begins at dusk.



YOUTH SUMMER TENNIS

FREE INSTRUCTION AND DOUBLES PLAY

*Sponsored by the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association, USTA Nebraska,
Omaha Tennis Association, and the City of Omaha*



WEDNESDAYS

June 6 - July 18

10 am - Noon: Ages 6-18

GIFFORD PARK TENNIS COURTS - 33rd & Cass

Rackets and balls provided

For more information, call Chris at 402-290-8187

-----GIFFORD PARK SUMMER TENNIS REGISTRATION FORM AND PERMISSION SLIP-----

Send to: **GPNA Summer Tennis Program, P.O. Box 31462, Omaha, NE 68131-0462**

Child's Name _____ Age _____ DOB _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ School _____

E-mail Address _____ @ _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Permission to Participate _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian Required

Tennis Block Party 2018 Highlights

We had great weather for our annual Tennis Block Party Wednesday May 16 in Gifford Park with over 50 youth participants and a dozen volunteers. Our young players learned the basic tennis skills along with rally courts, and we finished up with watermelon, cupcakes (made by the Stanley family!) and other snacks for everyone. 18-year-old Witney Stanley provided some great advice for the kids. Many thanks go to our dedicated tennis instructors and volunteers – Stanley girls (Dawn, Crystal, Justine, Witney), Jim Wilson, Buddy Hogan, Lou Harrison, Emily Hodges, Vince Emery, Laurie Bolte (and her nephew Tyler), Roger Freeman, Donnie Gildon, Paul Pellerito, Veronica Saavedra, Tyffaney Reichert, Kayleen Tran, Jan Franks, Brittney Rubek, Betty Slayden, the Gonzalez family (Paco & Maria, Fran, Alex), Jackie Foster, Chris Foster. Thanks to Ric & Jane Hines for supplying equipment and always great support. And a couple more special thanks: the Omaha Tennis Association, the Nebraska Tennis Association, and the City Parks & Recreation Department for their generous support over the years. We are offering youth the opportunity to continue on playing tennis each Wednesday (10:00am to Noon) June 6 – July 18 at Gifford Park. Anyone interested, please contact Chris at 402-290-8187 for a registration form, or you can show up at the Gifford Park tennis courts.



Full Cycle Supper Registration is Open

What could be better than a casual bike ride with excellent food and friends on a warm summer evening?

The Full Cycle Supper is a progressive four-course, farm fresh meal where bicyclists tour Big Muddy Urban Farm plots enjoying a unique course at each plot. The 4-mile ride will take place on Sunday, June 24th at 5 p.m. Kitchen Table, MJER Help, and more talented local chefs will prepare the courses, featuring ingredients grown where their course is served. The ride will start with the first course at Big Muddy's 33rd and California St. plot.

Register today at communitybikeproject.org. Funds raised from the Full Cycle Supper will go to support the neighborhood-based, community-building work of The Community Bike Project Omaha and Big Muddy Urban Farm. The Full Cycle Supper is limited to 30 riders. Riders are asked to bring their own well-adjusted bike and water bottle.



Toddlers, teenagers, tennis, true personal performance, parks and policy. Let's connect all dots! Now more than ever. Part II

by Adrian Petrescu

(Visit May's Newsletter for Part I of this article)

Our Omaha Public Schools Administration is located here in Gifford Park. We have the Refugee Empowerment Center in Gifford Park. We have the Yates Community Center in Gifford Park. We have Creighton University, a Jesuit school, neighboring Gifford Park, and facilitating initiatives here that help refugees.

As we pointed out before, this diverse culture here helped shape the teenager life of Alan J Heeger, the inventor of conductive plastic that will revolutionize life in 100 years. Omaha culture gave birth to Warren Buffett too, an icon of modern successful and quite community engaged capitalism.

As children we generally learn from our parents. We learn from our peers, meaning our neighbor children, and their parents. We are affected by the culture we grow up in. Often times though, parents also learn from children. Or better yet, parents learn because they are motivated by their children learning at the same time. Learning in school or out of school. Learning in life in general. Learning a behavior, learning to help, to give, to be nice to one another, to be friendly and to play sports competitively but fairly. Learning true values, that hard work pays off, and that a little bit of sweat and determination can help us achieve the hardest and farthest goals we set for ourselves.

Reading teaches us that. Tennis teaches us that. Planting a garden and seeing it grow teaches us that. Raising chickens teaches us that. Doing things together with others, and children and adults together as well, all teach us things. Many things. Together may be the key word here.

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When the Literacy Center closed, the first friends who Marie H el ene and I asked for help were Brent Lubbert and Chris Foster. They've been very helpful. We're still taking the pulse of the broader Omaha community. Everyone supports the mission of helping our neighbors everywhere get their GED, improve their English, and seek a better life for themselves and their families as well. Wait, what? That is what Gifford Park activities do already.

I don't play golf, except on the Wii. I know how important it is though, in business and law alike. It's hard for me but my feelings towards golf come from my childhood. In law practice there are only very few specific instances where you could refuse to a judge an assignment based on moral and ethical grounds. For example if you as an attorney are asked to defend a nazi sympathizer on freedom of speech grounds but a close relative of yours died in a concentration camp. For me golf is almost one of those. Golf for me as a teenager felt almost the same as Justice Clarence Thomas felt growing up in Savannah Georgia and being simply disallowed from public parks and other places based on the color of his skin. A terrible feeling for anyone to have to go through.

I didn't grow up with golf. In Romania where I grew up tennis was it. Here in Gifford Park we have a tennis program for the young—anyone is welcome from four to eighteen—and a soccer program, and a community bike shop. These and other programs have been helping toddlers and teenagers to connect, and the latter work to get a bike of their own. That's motivation! Those programs are volunteer-based and they work. As a kid we often self organized, just like Boys Town helped teenagers for over a century organize much more formally here. We were riding our bikes to the park. There was a nice hill in the park. One that's very similar with a hill across east of 30th street here. Something similar to a mountain bike course. It was our park. Then one day the government came and closed our access. It fenced off part of the public park and made it into a golf course for foreigners only. How did that make me feel? I asked my parents. They had no viable explanation. None was offered by the government. There was no place where I could ask anything and get answers. It's how I learned to dislike golf back then... I feel for our students who got the door of the Center I was teaching in shut in their nose. Not a good feeling at all.

There's a hill here and now as well, namely Turner Park North... and, once again, our neighborhood's take is that the government took away the soccer field (hidden under the dirt hill) from the children of the neighborhood to just store their dirt in that hill, for over two decades now. I think the dots are connected. So let's connect them. The argument is that this democratic government here and now can get away with not answering our dirt hill-soccer field quest in much part because people are not sufficiently strong and comfortable with asking questions to get real answers and because we may be chilling intentionally the civic asking power of our teenager children in schools. Because standardized tests don't have the question "what do I do if I am not happy with the dirt hill I

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Coffee



With:

MARQUE SNOW

9:00 A.M. *Howlin' Hounds*
712 SOUTH 16TH St.

Dates: April 21// May 19 // June 16 // July 21

Toddlers, teenagers, tennis, true personal performance, parks and policy. Let's connect all dots! Now more than ever. Part II

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could've played soccer on but the government didn't let me?" Because all too often schools everywhere may only teach obedience to dogma (including in science—magister dixit) and not engagement, and not much self trust of the learners either. Because schools do not show enough the power of understanding the metaphor in “some would rob you with a gun, and some will rob you with a pen.” If all of these things were not true the Literacy Center would not have been all too necessary in the first place. Everyone would have graduated from high school, just as the OPS tag line says: “every student, every day, prepared for success.” Except everyone did not graduate. 44 thousand did not... That is a large number, considering that OPS has 52 thousand students at one given time, out of which 17 thousand are English Language Learners.

Yet, while schools may be hard and expensive to build and run, as we have learned, but we knew already, parks are never too expensive. And we have one already. Not using parks fully would be more expensive. Rumor has it that some 2,400 years ago a gentleman named Socrates was asking questions in the park followed by students and he was teaching the youth how to uncover the truth from under layers upon layers of leaves covering the essence, that he would teach them to peel away one by one through asking questions, and more questions, until getting to the core, which was the truth. We still call that the Socratic method. It happened originally in a park. It also so happens that Socrates was poisoned because leading the youth to know how to think was deemed dangerous by a potentate of the day, and said potentate, tells us Plato, made the city inhabitants vote against Socrates in a public (criminal trial) outcry as Socrates was deemed by the potentate to poison the youth... We should teach critical thinking again in the park, for whoever is interested. No questions asked. We wrote about travel here before. I told my students at the former Center to go visit Presidential Libraries, or just places of birth of Presidents. There are four within easy reach of here. President Harry Truman's in Independence, Missouri, President Herbert Hoover's in West Branch, Iowa, and President Dwight Eisenhower in Abilene, Kansas all have Presidential Libraries within 3-4 hours drive from here. My students generally answered they can't afford it. I would argue they cannot afford not to go. And we as society cannot afford that they don't go. So we will do something about it. We will bring some of the stories from the Libraries here to Gifford Park itself. But, most of all, though, President Gerald Ford was born here in Omaha, as we all know. His Library is in Ann Arbor Michigan, but the little Rose Garden that marks his place of birth is very useful nonetheless to get anyone started on a passion for the history of America if we don't have one already. To not let modern Socrates in our own selves to be followed in showing our own modern youth critical thinking—now that would be expensive and unaffordable.

I still don't play much golf but I play tennis. I haven't played tennis in a while so I would stay away from it for now. During the tennis program, I however gladly share with anyone some of my passions. My passion for travel, and my passion for the history of the U.S., as learned from travel and not only, my lifelong passion for wildlife, for wildlife viewing & photography, as also learned from travel and visiting



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Toddlers, teenagers, tennis, true personal performance, parks and policy. Let's connect all dots! Now more than ever. Part II

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Presidential Libraries and other relevant museums and National Parks. I would consider helping to get more people globally to buy binoculars & cameras with telephoto lenses, or even underwater equipment, & to grow a wave of people spending time respecting wildlife. In the hope that everyone has access there in National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks, or in places of historic and natural importance to us. Let's start with a new program, one for us adults, while the children are playing tennis. I don't know what to call it, but it will be free. It will allow the asking of questions and trying to find the best answers we can come up

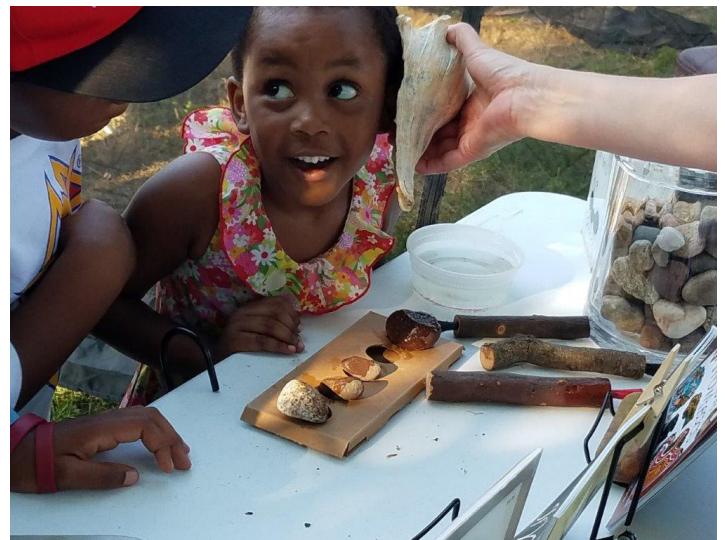
with together. We can call it "With Honesty about True America." Or, ... about Truth, America. Or, ... about Travel, America. Anything goes, like this: Teaching, Terrible, Terrific, Tennis, Toddlers, Teenagers, Thinking critically, fundamental Texts, Terra, Talking to police, history and Traditions, Television, Tobacco, Model T, hunTing (I know, that's a stretch, but we need hunTing too, just as we need conservaTion to be able to hunT), T Rex and chicken, Terrorism, Territory, Tremendous, or even Transcendental... All it has to have is a T in, so it can fit in the "WhaT, America?!" nickname. Come and ask questions and we will try together to find the answers. We adults also deserve a program that is free and allows us to get together and, if we don't play tennis, just chat where the Speakers Corner shall be in Gifford Park.

With Honesty About True America

Conversations anytime there's tennis or soccer

(Refer to Adrian Petrescu article for details on WhaT, America)

Let's fuel curiosity and Tomorrow we may all know a little more that humankind already knew.



Gifford Park Free Soccer Camp

For: Youth (3 to 11 years old)

Dates: June 13, 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25

Where: Gifford Park (33rd & Cass St.)

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

The Gifford Park Neighborhood Association is offering a FREE summer soccer camp and will provide goals, balls and instructors. Parents and others are welcome to help.

To be enrolled, YOU MUST complete the form shown below and return it to Eric Purcell 3152 Chicago St, Omaha, NE 68131. **Special prize for those who attend every session and demonstrate good sportsmanship.** There is limited space available so please be on time. Call (402) 719-5108 for more information.

Registration/Permission Form - Mail to the address listed above or bring this form (completely filled out) with you to the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association summer soccer camp.

Youth's Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Name _____
 Street: _____ Street: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ City, State, Zip _____
 Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 School: _____ Email: _____

As the parent or legal guardian of the child named above, I hereby give my full consent and approval for my child to participate as a member of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association Youth Program. I understand that there are certain risks of injury inherent in the practice and play of this sport, as well as related activities incidental to my child's participation, and I am willing to assume these risks on behalf of my child. I hereby certify that my child is fully capable of participating in this sport and that my child is healthy and has no physical or mental disabilities or infirmities that would restrict full participation in these activities, except as listed below.

I hereby waive, release and hold harmless the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association Youth Program, and the City of Omaha, Nebraska, its Officers, coaches, sponsors, supervisors and representatives for any injury that may be suffered by my child in the normal course of participation in this sport and the activities incidental thereto, whether the result of negligence or any other cause. Further- more, I give consent to any necessary medical treatment in case of emergency. I permit the taking of photos during Gifford Park Neighborhood Association Youth Program activities for publication and use as the program deems.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Mexican Teachers Work at Yates in Migrant Education Program

The Omaha Public Schools' Migrant Education Program has hosted teachers from Mexico since 1999. The program is part of the Bi-National Program that tries to encourage cultural and educational exchange between the US and Mexico. This summer, there are three teachers in Omaha and two of them – Carlos Caballero and Alma Alvarez are working with our Pre-K students at Yates. The third teacher, Adrianna Riveros, is working at Monroe and making home visits to migrant families.

There are 32 students participating in the Yates June Pre-K program. They are all students who are part of the Migrant Education Program and are learning English and developing the skills to be successful in kindergarten. The classes are even planning to visit the community garden as part of their learning experience. Having teachers from Mexico only adds to the overall experience for the students.

Carlos and Alma are both middle school teachers from Mexico. They were selected for the program through a rigorous testing and application process. They are representing the state of Hidalgo (a state northeast of Mexico City). They are working with students in the ESL program at Central in the morning and then report to Yates in the afternoon. They are providing language development support to our Pre-K

students as well as teaching them about Mexican culture and handicrafts. Janelle Nissen, Yates Migrant Pre-K teacher, says that "It's wonderful that Carlos and Alma can share their culture with all of our students and especially with our Spanish-speaking students." Katie McDermott, another Pre-K teacher at Yates said, "We are learning about how they teach in Mexico. It is awesome."

The teachers from Mexico will also be part of the 2018 World Refugee Day at Joslyn Art Museum on Saturday, June 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. They will be teaching Mexican handicrafts from 11:30 – 1:00 at the museum. Gifford Park Neighbors are welcome to visit them either at Yates in the afternoon or to stop by their table at Joslyn on June 16. The teachers return to Mexico on June 30th.



Yates Summer Migrant Pre-K Staff (left to right): Eh Htoo, Janelle Nissen, Carlos Caballeros, Alma Alvarez, Katie McDermott and Duka Gurung

Cutting Weeds and Grass

Seems like at this time of year the weeds start taking over. While the vast majority of properties in our neighborhood are well maintained, there are always some who don't seem to mow as often as they should. And our many alleys often seem to get overgrown with volunteer vegetation.

The Omaha City Ordinance reads, in part:

It shall be the duty... to cut and clear such lot or ground, together with one-half of the streets and alleys abutting thereon, of all weeds, grass, and worthless vegetation which have reached a height of 12 inches or more. Such weeds, grass and worthless vegetation shall be cut as close to the ground level as possible and shall be maintained so that at any time the same does not extend 12 inches or more above the ground. Please note that properties that abut an alley are required to trim vegetation along the alley. Your cooperation is much appreciated.



Photos From Around the Neighborhood



Photos From Around the Neighborhood





Gifford Park Neighborhood Association
 PO Box 31462
 Omaha, NE 68131

Place
 Stamp
 Here

**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.