



# Gifford Park's Pride

Gifford Park Neighborhood: A Great Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play  
[www.giffordparkomaha.org](http://www.giffordparkomaha.org)

October 2010

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

## Neighborhood Survey Responses To Be Revealed At Meeting

Neighbors have spoken and now it's time to hear what they've said. The **Gifford Park Survey Results** will be presented at a special meeting **October 20th at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at the **Creighton University Medical Center** (30th & California St.) in the **Morrison Seminar Room**. After a summer of collecting feedback, we will now have a chance to see what people in the neighborhood and outside the neighborhood have said about our Gifford Park community. These results will give us a direction for a future neighborhood master plan and provide information as simple as what programs the GPNA Board should take on in the coming years. We hope everyone can attend the meeting and bring your neighbor. We will have food that evening so please join us. Thanks to those who participated in this important project.

*by Chris Foster*

## Gifford Park is Omaha's "Greenest" Neighborhood

After coming in second two years in a row, Gifford Park has finally made it to the top. We are officially Omaha's "Greenest" Neighborhood. Thanks to **Cub Scout Pack 17 from Dundee School**, who labeled 40 additional sewers this summer, **Midtown Crossing** for offering many businesses that are accessible by walking, and our neighbors who continue to add rain barrels, compost, recycle and garden in our neighborhood, and to the **Mayor's Grant** for allowing Gifford Park to install 8 new bike racks. All of these items and more increased our "Greenness". Thank you **Green Omaha Coalition** for making this title possible.



**Next General Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 14**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Nousha Sabet**  
**HELP Adult Services**

**7:00 P.M.**  
**Creighton University**  
**Medical Center**  
**Morrison Seminar Room**

**Executive Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 28**  
**At the Flint's**

## 2011 Officers, Board Nominees Announced

The Nomination Committee will present the following slate of officers and board members for the GPNA in 2011. Voting will take place at the November general meeting. Please plan on attending; a quorum will be necessary for passage of this slate.

### OFFICERS

President: **Luther Larson**  
Vice President: **Jill Westfall**  
Secretary: **Dana Carlton-Flint**  
Treasurer: **Diane Kaye**

### BOARD

Garden Representative: **Diane Kaye**  
Landlord Representative: **Chris Foster**  
Business Representative: **Martin Janousek**  
Member at large: **Andy Mattews**  
Member at large: **Kevin Deese**

Thank you to all of the volunteers listed above for stepping forward to help our neighborhood grow!

*by Dana Carlton-Flint*

**GPNA OFFICERS****PRESIDENT**

Dana Carlton-Flint\* 346-4575

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Stuart Shell 216-1235

**SECRETARY**

Jill Westfall\* 213-3105

**TREASURER**

Jackie Foster\* 551-3629

**BOARD MEMBERS****AT LARGE:**

Chris Hupp\* 750-3119

**AT LARGE**

Justin Brown\* 932-5932

**AT LARGE**

Luther Larson\* 330-3286

**BUSINESS**

Martin Janousek\* 558-4070

**LANDLORD**

Chris Foster 342-6006

**GARDEN LIASON**

Diane Kaye 341-4146

**COMMITTEES****COMPLIANCE/PARKING****VIOLATIONS**

Leo Wilwerding 345-1433

**HISTORIAN**

Eva Swanson 345-1707

**HOLIDAY BANQUET**

Jean Peck 344-0722

**MEMBERSHIP**

Stuart Shell 216-1235

**NEWSLETTER**

Sue Wilwerding 342-2795

**NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION**

Chris Foster 342-6006

**PARK**

Sandy\* &amp; Roger Freeman 557-2914

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Dana Carlton-Flint 346-4575

**WEEDS & LITTER**

Jim Wilwerding 551-1344

**WELCOMING**

Julie Kalkowski\* 342-2103

\* denotes new officer, board, or committee member

**Editor's note:** If you have something that would be of interest to our neighborhood, we encourage you to submit an article for our monthly newsletter. Editorials must be approved by the GPNA Executive Board. Articles can be mailed to P.O. Box 31462 Omaha, NE 68131; please include your name and phone number. Contact Sue Wilwerding (342-2795) or Chris Foster (342-6006).

**Campaign For LOCAL Control Gains Momentum**

On October 2nd, nearly 60 people gathered in Memorial Park for a rally to kick off the **LOCAL** Campaign where neighbors, community groups and others are working to **Let Omaha Control its Alcohol Landscape**.

The campaign emerged from a growing frustration about the increasing number of problem alcohol outlets in Omaha, adding to the decline of our neighborhoods, reducing the economic viability of the community and contributing to the violence in our streets. The state system for monitoring liquor license business operations and responding to our community's needs is broken. The voices of residents are ignored while the economic interests of a powerful industry are protected.

But there is hope. Residents in neighborhoods across Omaha are determined to work with the Omaha City Council, city leaders, community groups, and their neighbors to pass a local zoning ordinance to remedy the problem. Further, the group will partner with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to craft a model land-use ordinance that will be used at a national level to assist other communities fighting similar issues.

Municipalities in Nebraska have the ability to regulate community standards with regard to liquor outlets by using land-use or zoning ordinances. Nebraska statute gives express direction to the state to consider local zoning ordinances when granting liquor licenses.

**WE ARE NOT ALONE**

In a move that supports the need for a local ordinance, the Planning Board voted for the inclusion of Environment Omaha's strategies to decrease alcohol accessibility in neighborhoods as part of the City's Master Plan. Further, Dr. Robert Muelleman, director of UNMC's emergency department, Omaha developer Jerry Reimer of Urban Village Development and Del Bomberger, CEO of the Stephen Center have all lent their support to the ordinance.

**WHAT WILL AN ORDINANCE LOOK LIKE?**

It will have conditions in place that align with our community standards. We may choose, for instance, to reinstate a distance restriction from churches to liquor outlets. The state just removed that restriction. We may want expectations that if a business tells the city and the neighbors that it intends to be a grocery store, that it not morph into a liquor store disguised as a grocery store by setting liquor-to-food ratios.

We would also look at implementing nuisance abatement standards to guarantee a safe environment for neighborhoods: appropriate lighting, noise and littering restrictions, for instance.

**YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED**

We need your help and input for the ordinance to be successful. Our goal is to have the ordinance before the City Council next spring. From now until the beginning of the year, we will hold meetings to craft the ordinance. If you or your organization/association would like to be involved, please send us a note at [thelocalcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:thelocalcampaign@gmail.com) or join our Facebook page at "The **LOCAL** Campaign" to receive important updates.

By phone, you can call **963-9047** (main number),

**Chris Foster (290-8187) or Margie Magnuson (554-0775).**

by Chris Foster



**Look What's Happening At A.V. Sorensen Community Center  
4808 Cass Street \* 444-5596**

**Facility Hours**

Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 – 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 8:30 – 12:00 p.m.

**Come in and check out our weight room!**  
Visit our web site at [www.cityofomaha.org/parks](http://www.cityofomaha.org/parks)

**Parent & Tots Gym Time**

Thursdays 10:30 am – Noon  
Ages 5 and under with parent.  
Contact us at 444-5596 for more information.

**Pilates & Yoga**

**Pilates – strengthen your core.**

Monday 2:15 pm  
Tuesday 6:30 pm  
Wednesday 2:00 pm  
Thursday 9:30 am  
Saturday 10:00 am

**Active Yoga – build a strong body**

Thursday 6:30 pm  
Saturday 8:30 am

**Senior Yoga**

Saturday 11:30 am

For more information call Cynthia at 391-5406.

**Adult Pick up Basketball**

Wednesdays 6:45 – 8:15 p.m.  
Drop-in fee of only \$3.00 per person

**Adult Tai Chi & Wellness**

Tues & Fri 11:00 am – Noon  
1x per week \$20.00/ 8 weeks  
2x per week \$35.00 / 8 weeks  
Contact Lucretia at 558-8299 for more information.

**Pre-Ballet**

Fridays 10:30 – 11:15 am Ages 3 - 5  
Pre-Ballet is a wonderful introduction to ballet with creative movement for 3 – 5 year olds. Call us at 551-4200 for more information.

**Adult Jazzercise**

M/T/W/F	9:15 - 10:15 a.m.
Child care available for the above class	
M/T/W/Th	5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
M/T	4:20 - 5:20 p.m.
Sat.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	4 – 5 p.m.
Contact Sally at 333-9844 to register	

**Duchesne  Academy**

OF THE SACRED HEART

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[www.duchesneacademy.org](http://www.duchesneacademy.org)

**GPNM Has Successful Season**

The Gifford Park Neighborhood Market has packed up for the season. If you didn't have a chance to stop down in business district on a Friday evening this summer you missed a good time. The market opened on July 9th and continued every Friday evening until October 1st. This was the longest running market we've had so far. The market took place in the empty lot where the old Circle Theatre once stood. This year we had a nice variety of vendors and gardeners selling. No one week was the same which made it fun. There were all types of tomatoes, cucumbers, water melons, basil, onions, pumpkins, butternut squash, flowers, all types of peppers, rhubarb, apples, and plums just to name a few. We had people selling t-shirts, jewelry, jams, and second-hand items. Our local Gifford Park Teen Market Gardeners were there in force and did a great job selling their product. If you didn't know, the Teen Market Garden is on the east side of town (neighborhood) on Cottage Grove not to be confused with the Youth Garden Program which still takes place at the Community Garden. These young entrepreneurs showed they have a bright future ahead of themselves.

It was great to see all the neighbors stop down to patronize the vendors and then stay awhile to socialize. I know all the vendors would like to thank you for your business and the GPNA Board and President **Dana Carlton-Flint** for supporting the market this year. Our plan is to have another Neighborhood Market next year. So if you would like to be part of it, look for announcements next spring. Have a great autumn and stay healthy!

*by Martin Janousek*



**TOOL  
LENDING  
HOTLINE**  
*Chris 342-6006*  
Mowers - \$5  
Rent for most tools - \$3



**For City Services,  
Information, or  
Complaints**  
**Call: Mayor's Action  
Office**  
**444-5555**

## Youth Garden: Summer 2010 - Third and Final Installment *by Dana Freeman*

Keep reading for the final Youth Garden goings-on from this summer since reports in last month's newsletter... For Week 10, we welcomed "Our Feathered Friends" and **Audubon Society of Omaha** member and educator **Eunice Levisay** on July 24th. Along with a book of recorded bird sounds, Mrs. Levisay shared her interest in, knowledge of, and passion for birding. Every family painted a birdhouse to take home that was made from garden-grown birdhouse gourds. We appreciate the efforts of **Don & Sue Freeman** in cleaning and preparing the gourds for decoration, as well as drilling appropriate bird-sized entrance holes. Thanks also to garden volunteer, **Sandy Kisling**, for bringing treats in a pinch. A final note of gratitude to Youth Garden friend **Sally Jacobs** who heard our plea for new bird feeders and responded with a generous donation. Our feeders were deteriorating from age, weather, and squirrel damage, and these new ones are both attractive and durable. They will allow youth gardeners to continue feeding and attract their feathered friends to the garden.

On July 31st, youth gardeners learned how we get "From Broomcorn to Brooms" for Week 11. While a professional broom hand-tyer was once again unable to join us, we did our best to achieve the same result. Children worked together to make a hand whisk (or duster) to take home made from garden-grown broomcorn. Thanks to **Stuart Shell** for showing us how to gather and sew these bundles into something useful. Simultaneously, **Chris Foster & Lee Shell** led our young gardeners in preparing a new bed for and planting thornless blackberry bushes received from a grant awarded Gifford Park Community Garden by Omaha's **Nature Hills Nursery**. Even though it was an extremely hot day, there was no complaining from the kids as they worked on this chore together. They will recall this effort especially next summer when these berries begin to ripen. Finally, thanks to garden mom, **Alyssa Stanley**, who generously brought snacks for the second time this summer.

Youth Garden joined our community's war on hunger and obesity on Week 12, August 7th, with "Operation Frontline." Operation Frontline is part of the national effort "Share Our Strength: No Kid Hungry". **Sarah Lewis** is the Omaha coordinator of this community-service program and was joined by her former partner, **Katee Upton**, to once again lead our hands-on cooking demonstration. Everyone helped to make a herbed vinaigrette and decorated a cruet to take home. We taste tested our recipe on a hand-tossed salad made from garden-fresh produce.

For Week 13 on August 14th, Youth Garden embarked on a "Fontenelle Forest Field Trip" with our friends from **City Sprouts**. Thirty-three children and nine adults hopped on a big yellow bus for the journey down to Bellevue to explore miles of trails. Everyone enjoyed a sack lunch together and was awarded a gummy buggy prize for completing the insect-focused scavenger hunt. Thanks to **Vickie Gregorio** for helping schedule the co-field trip and her school teaching husband **Vince** and City Sprouts Co-Director **Jeanie Dickes** for helping to chaperone the group. We appreciate adult participation from Gifford Park as well, including **Dana & Sue Freeman, Rod Flint, Chris & Sallie Foster, Stuart Shell**, and **Tiare Weak**. Thanks to **Dana & Sue** for preparing the tasty lunch ahead of time and **Sally Jacobs** for generously providing everyone with reusable water bottles to take home.

On August 17th, Gifford Park Community Garden, Youth Garden, and Teen Market Garden welcomed 30 participants of "Food! Glorious Food! Faculty Community Orientation" co-hosted by **College of Saint Mary Service-Learning Program** and **Nebraska Methodist College Center for Health Partnerships** to the garden. Faculty and staff from metro Omaha universities who shared in this day-long immersion program explored how food that most Omahans eat is produced and distributed. Thanks to **Summer & Marcus Anderson, Chris Foster, Dana Freeman**, and **Julian & Tiare Weak** for contributing their Gifford Park experiences despite the wet weather and **Jennifer Reed-Bouley** and **Kristin Mattson** for recognizing that our participation was worthwhile.

For Week 14 on August 21st, Youth Garden collaborated with representatives from three local food pantries to "Share Our Bounty." We harvested fresh produce from our communal spaces and packaged it in baskets for distribution to **Food Bank for the Heartland, Salvation Army Lied Renaissance Center**, and **Together, Inc.** Our harvest included lots of tomatoes and peppers, green beans, edamame, potatoes, eggplant, tomatillos, okra, flowers, and fresh herbs. We appreciate the efforts of many people in making this event successful. Thanks to Midtown neighbor & Director of Community Development at Greater Omaha Chamber **Jamie Grayson-Berglund & Baby Sam** for joining us, **Mike Caban** for leading the charge to make herb bundles, **Chris Foster** for getting the food where it needed to go, and **Stuart Shell** for directing the day's activities, as well as **Sue Freeman** and other gardeners for sharing their surplus with us so we could pass it along. Numerous individuals donated baskets for our use, including volunteer **Mary Bamesberger**, neighbors **Justin Brown Family, Dana & Sue Freeman, Dustyn Fullerton**, and

*continued on page 5*



## Youth Garden . . . *continued from page 4*

community gardener **Jane Wilson**. We are also thankful for the presence of representatives from the food pantries who shared in this process from plant to plate, including President and CEO of Food Bank for the Heartland **Susan Ogborn**, Volunteer & Special Event Coordinator for Salvation Army **Michele Shearer**, and Program Director for Together, Inc. **Jessica Jones**. Finally, thanks to Youth Garden mom **Shelley Anderson** for bringing a snack to share.

We celebrated the conclusion of another successful summer of working, learning, and playing together on August 28th with a “Harvest Party and Sorbet Social” and Week 15. We whipped up another batch of seed bombs, continued working on our bathtub mosaic art project, and generally had fun in the garden. Many families brought snacks to share, and we made a fresh fruit sorbet from scratch. Thanks to **Don & Sue Freeman** for bringing their electric ice cream machine; we couldn’t have done it without you. We also welcomed new volunteer **Natasha Fields** who represents UNO Beta Alpha Psi and look forward to furthering our connection with this group.

Youth Garden recognized some of its extraordinary volunteers with thank you gifts, including faithful bird food provider, weekly bird feeder leader, and all-around birding enthusiast **Mike Caban**; husband & wife duo, garden photographers, and water bearers **Chris & Sallie Foster**; garden grandma and program co-director **Sue Freeman**; Duchesne student and reliable program volunteer **Frankie Hamburger**; Duchesne graduate and Locavore club founder **Monica Meeks** who headed off to Washington University in St. Louis this fall; and father & son duo and patient and positive role models **Lee & Stuart Shell**. Photo collage keepsakes went home to remind everyone through the fall and winter of this summer’s fun. Thanks to **Chris & Sallie** for the hundreds of fantastic pictures from which we were able to choose and **Stuart Shell** for arranging the compilation. Finally, we appreciate all of the poem memorization prize providers, including **Mike Caban**, Midtown neighbor **Laurie Smith Camp**, parent **Dana Carlton-Flint**, GPCG Assistant Director **Joy Doll**, **Chris & Sallie Foster**, **Sue & Dana Freeman**, **Sally Jacobs**, **Lee Shell**, and parent **Tiare Weak**. Our kids are truly learning and reciting many odes to nature.

On September 16th, **Gifford Park Neighborhood Association, Community Garden, & Youth Garden** joined **Community Bike Project**, and many Omaha organizations at Kellom Elementary School’s Open House, Family Nature Night, and Health Wellness Fair. This free event welcomed children and their families to explore organizations that help make our community safer and healthier for everyone. **Chris Foster** put up our amazing picture displays, and we provided fresh produce to sample from our garden’s communal spaces, plus there were family-friendly activities, health & wellness information, recipes, attendance incentives, and prizes and giveaways for everyone. Thanks to **Principal Eric Nelson** for inviting us to attend this successful community outreach that helped highlight agencies that make Omaha a safe and healthy place for everyone to live, work, learn, and play.

This summer, more than 50 young gardeners were registered for Gifford Park Youth Garden. Nearly 38% attend **Kellom Elementary**, and 28% are homeschooled. Other schools represented were Belle Ryan, Swanson, Beals, Crestridge, Montessori, Central Park, Rockbrook, and St. Cecilia’s. Our program has a big impact, and we wouldn’t have such a positive effect on nearly as many children without the help of our teen volunteers, adult mentors, and community sponsors. Some not mentioned already this summer include new Youth Garden grandma **Vicki Adams**; Youth Garden founder and mother of three **Kate Bodmann**; Gifford Park Market vendors **Martin Janousek** and **Chris Combs**, proprietor of Sweet Thymes Farm; former Youth Garden participant **Max Kaye**; community gardeners and parents **Mary & Neil Liberty**; our area **Lowe’s** home improvement store; former GPCG neighbor, founder, and Youth Garden parent **Annemarie Shibata**; Teen Market Garden director **Cynthia Shuck** and her young vendors from Fruit Fly Farm, aka **Julian Weak**, The Pepper People, aka **Elena Carlson & Emma Farrand**, and Persephone & Co., aka Ana **Carlson & Maureen Farrand**; and our neighborhood **Westlake Ace Hardware**.

We look to more fun and learning in summer 2011 and hope you are able to join us. We leave you with this verse entitled “The Cream of the Crop” that captures our Gifford Park spirit:

The cream of the crop, the best of the best  
That is what is gathered in this fruitful harvest.

Grown with pride and many hands  
The cream of the crop  
comes from these fine lands!



## Confessions Of A Compulsive Gardener

September was “National Addiction Recovery Month”, and with this in mind I am compelled to admit that I might have a problem with compulsive gardening.

This problem emerged very early in my life. I believe that I inherited this tendency from my Grandfather, who had a meticulously groomed rose garden that took up his entire backyard in Chicago. He had roses arranged geometrically around stones that formed paths and patterns.....any of you been in my yard lately???? He had a small patch of green grass in his front yard, but his back yard was filled with glorious lilies, roses, and blooming bushes. It may be that some of us are genetically predisposed to gardening addiction by having relatives that were farmers or gardeners (in the same way that those with a history of alcoholism in their families are more likely to be problem drinkers). My ancestors must have been farmers/gardeners back in the day when ancient man gave up their hunting/gathering lifestyle to become agrarians.

While some have a hobby of occasionally growing plants, I lean toward this activity being an all-consuming preoccupation with things green and growing. I find myself almost powerless over plants and without intervention from my loving spouse and child my life would be unmanageable as a result of my obsession. Gardening really strikes me at the core of my being and becomes the focus of all my attention. Gardening consumes nearly all of my energy, and involves my complete mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual capacities.

The greatest fear I have is Pagophobia, which is the fear of ice or frost. This time of year is so hard for me. Knowing that the days that I get to “play in the dirt” are numbered really does strike fear into my heart. Also, having the days shorten so my time is limited to edge, mulch, prune, and tend make me restless and uneasy. The prevailing thought whirls around in my head....what will I do with my time???

My addictive behavior started simply enough. After eating grapefruit as a small child, I saved the seeds and started them. My Mother still has the “tree”, which bears fruit each year. She threatens to leave this tender citrus out each year as it has gotten HUGE, but I prune this aged plant as well as haul this in each season for her into her plant room. My gardening addiction really grabbed ahold of me with a savage grip as soon as I purchased my home in Gifford Park. Now any trip to the store that sells plants results in a cart-bursting over-indulgence in potted greenery and garden supplies.

Many, who know me, know that I love to grow things, but I hate to mow and rake. To enhance my passion and also to avoid unpleasant tasks, I decided to fill my entire property with flowerbeds, roses, and flowering bushes with only narrow stone walkways between the plantings.

## Charles R. Kilgore Jr. Attorney At Law 4913 Underwood Avenue



**558-5000**



At first, I left a mere strip of existing grass in my park-way, but soon this was replaced by stone and commercial planters.

I vary from my grandfather and mother who preferred an orderly, planned landscape. I chose the “Cottage Garden” look, which is uncontrolled chaos as I believe that I must possess at least one of everything that can possibly grow in our climate (Zone 4 by the way).

A few years back when I happened to be in a big box hardware store early one evening, the lure of the Garden Center sign drew me like a “moth to the flame”. I found myself touring down the aisles of plants, shrubs, and trees. Each of the plants beckoned beguilingly to me. I was already several decades into my gardening habit. Due to finances my craving for more and more plants necessitated that I resort to buying only the cheapest, close-out, bargain plants. I had long since known of the “special area” - that area in the back of the big box hardware store garden center where they have.....the “Discount Plants”. These orphans are distressed, often soggy or entirely dry, and clinging to the last shreds of life. Usually there is hand written price on them, and normally they are banded together with a group price of \$5.00/\$10.00 for a flat. I am not above working with the current manager of the season to work them down in price if I “take them all”! After only a brief time, most store managers ask for my telephone number so that they may call me when they are going to have something. I do end up “taking them all”, and have satisfied fellow plant fanatics to fulfill the gardening needs of local community gardens, schools, and to make new flower beds in parks for those who had no funds for plants.

The year, 2010, I have enticed a big box hardware store to donate over \$5,000 worth of plant material to City Sprouts as well as approximately \$700 to Gifford Park Community Garden.

Apparently, there is no hope for my recovery. I have taken a natural tendency and developed this into a high art, and I have accepted that I will be a plantaholic for my lifetime. I wish to let all of you know that I am completely content with this diagnosis.

To determine if you have this condition, there are warning signs that you may be a gardening addict. They are:

*continued on page 7*

## What's Happening In the Neighborhood . . .

**Brian & Millie Smith** hosted a House Concert Wednesday evening, October 6th, for **Michelle Lewis** (Millie's friend from Boston) at their home at 36th & California. About 25 folks attended the event, many of whom were Gifford Park neighbors. There was great live music from intro group **Sara Bray, Eric Goodell, & Ben Lueders** (from Omaha) and then the featured Ms. Lewis (new EP "Broken" - check out her website at [www.michellelewismusic.com](http://www.michellelewismusic.com)) who is currently on her fall tour. Everyone enjoyed this unique event; it would be great to have more neighborhood house concert events like this - thanks Brian & Millie!

Sorry to report past Ford Birthsite Neighborhood Association (FBNA) President **Jan Quinley** and her husband **Dave** are leaving Omaha and heading to Phoenix. Jan volunteered tirelessly to support important issues in her neighborhood as well as other neighborhoods like Gifford Park. Her volunteer work included prostitution legislation, public safety, historic preservation, Midtown Neighborhood Alliance, Alcohol Impact Coalition, LOCAL Control Campaign, Restore Omaha Conference & Tour, and particularly her leadership with FBNA. We will miss you, Jan, for your great work and spirit to help neighborhoods like ours be better places to live. Good Luck to you and Dave!

Congratulations to longtime GPNA member **Roy White** who recently completed his 60th marathon when he finished the Omaha Marathon a few weeks ago. Roy, his wife Deanna, and their three kids (Tyler, Matthew, and Nicole), live near 33rd & Webster and participate in many of our neighborhood events. Congratulations, Roy - that's a lot of miles logged on those legs!

Congratulations to our GPNA newsletter editor **Sue Wilwerding** for hitting a hole-in-one at Johnny Goodman Golf Course on a cold and drizzly September 10th at the 105-yard par 3 hole # 13. Yes, Sue has other talents besides being the editor of the best (yes, we are biased!) neighborhood newsletter. Way to go, Sue!

Just a reminder - there is no longer a fall neighborhood cleanup. Save your items for the spring cleanup.

The **Gifford Park Community Garden** (GPCG) at 35th & Cass will be going through a redesign in the next few weeks. Some site regrading and a new rear retaining wall (replacing the old failing wall) will add additional garden space on the west side of the garden. Note: Much of the garden will be closed during the redesign. Since this will be a construction site, we appreciate everyone's patience and look forward to the additional gardening space!

## California Tacos & More

*Homemade Mexican Food*

**342-0212**

**33rd & California Street**  
**Dine In or Carry Out**

**Hours:**

**Monday - Saturday: 11a.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**Closed Sunday**



## Gardener . . . *continued from page 6*

1. There is no need for me to bathe. I'll only be dirty again in a few hours.
2. You hide empty plant pots where your friends and family won't see them so that they won't find out how much you are spending on plants and how often you are buying them.
3. You can't restrain yourself from pulling a weed, no matter where it happens to be.
4. You avoid anyone who doesn't share your love of gardening and plants. You remain mostly silent if a friendly discussion doesn't include talk about plants.
5. You seek out other gardening addicts because they are the only people that seem to understand you.
6. You scour the nurseries for exotic plants just so you can brag about growing them, while also grabbing any plant that comes your way, even if you already have plenty of them.
7. You justify pinching and pilfering cuttings from plants that don't belong to you by saying your propagation efforts are in the best interest of the plants.
8. You have masses of plants in nursery pots waiting to be planted, but still bring home more plants that you may not have room in your yard to plant.
9. You can't imagine going on any trip or vacation that doesn't include visiting some gardens.
10. Your vehicle seems to involuntarily turn into the parking lot of plant nurseries and garden centers, regardless of how much you resist with white knuckles gripping the steering wheel. (My husband is firmly convinced that I never resist at all!)

*by Diane Kaye*



*16th Annual*

**HauntedHouse**

When:

Friday, October 29th  
 Ages 10 & under: 6 p.m.  
 All ages: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where:  
 PKA House  
 3100 Chicago St.

*hosted by:*  
 Pi Kappa Alpha (PKA) Creighton  
 Fraternity  
 Gifford Park Neighborhood Association



**FREE!**

All Neighborhood Children And  
 Parents  
 Are Welcome to Stop By For  
 Refreshments  
 And Trick-or-Treats!

**Membership Application**

v2009.03.30

Gifford Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA)

*The GPNA Membership Year runs from January 1 through December 31.*

Type of Membership:  Single (\$10.00)  Family (\$15.00)  Business (\$25.00)

Today's Date:

Name (1):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (1):	<input type="text"/>
Name (2):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (2):	<input type="text"/>
Name (3):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (3):	<input type="text"/>
Name (4):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (4):	<input type="text"/>
Name (5):	<input type="text"/>	E-Mail (5):	<input type="text"/>

Address:

City:  State:  Zip Code:

Telephone:

**Volunteer Opportunities! I am interested in helping out with...**

Please indicate areas of interest:

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup/Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership             | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain       | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Garden     | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Cleanup     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities      | <input type="checkbox"/> History             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Planting    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Cleanup       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch Group         | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Walks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Liaison         | <input type="checkbox"/> Call Committee      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Program   | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Banquet    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tool Lending           |  |   |   |

Mail check or money order with this completed Membership Application Form to:

**Gifford Park Neighborhood Association**  
 P.O. Box 31462  
 Omaha, NE 68131-0462



For additional information about GPNA, please visit our website:

[www.GiffordParkOmaha.org](http://www.GiffordParkOmaha.org)