



PICNIC-PICNIC-PICNIC

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

Here they are—all the promised details about our upcoming picnic. Reserve the weekend of July 11-12 for our picnic at Lookout Point in Fairmount Park—yes, both days just in case you will be one of the lucky volunteers who will help clean up the Park on Saturday if it is needed. Sunday will be the big day, from early morning to late afternoon, for set-up and take-down and everything in between (see below for more details).

The picnic committee has been working long and hard on pre-planning so that everything will be ready and go smoothly on picnic weekend. The members of the committee are:

Sharon Babbitt, Amy Dixon, Katie Fent, Shari Hansen, Carol Mattox, Cindi Ostronic, Bob Pashek, and Chelsea Sales. We thank them for their hard work up till now, and for the work that will be ongoing until this event is over.

Kyle Muschall has found a source for free tables and we will have plenty when added to the picnic tables

already furnished at the Park. He has also volunteered a large number of folding chairs but more are needed (see below). Bob Pashek and Bill Mann are building more of their ingenious food protectors so we can store our potluck dishes in ice and keep them fly-free. Donations of water and decorating elements are coming in weekly, if not daily. Shari and Mark Hansen just donated 17 dozen Rotella's hamburger buns. The barbeque pork for the "Sloppy Joes" has been ordered, and, in addition, we will offer several lbs. of fried chicken donated and prepared by Bill and Bob. As you can see, a lot has been accomplished so far.

We want the Park to look especially patriotic and have taken steps to see that this dream comes true. We have flags, bows, bunting, and tablecloths of Real Cloth (not the plastic variety). Each table will feature a vase of flowers to greet our guests. Vintage canning jars have been donated by Amy and Bob to be used for the vases, and Cindi will fill them with white daisies and greenery as only she can do. Wheel

barrows and tubs containing ice and bottled water will be scattered around to stave off the thirst that is bound to occur on a hot July day.

We are designing a unique Welcome sign to shout a hello to all our guests—nobody will be able to say they couldn't find us! In addition, signs showing the way to the Park will be placed on the surrounding streets to make sure nobody gets lost. We plan to install something spectacular behind the food tables, as well. The picnic flyer enclosed in this newsletter will also be e-mailed to the other Neighborhood Associations who have been invited and who, we hope, will turn out in large numbers. Written invitations will be sent to special guests, such as the mayor and others. Our resident graphic artist, Kyle, is furnishing his artistic expertise for this phase of the project.

The picnic will begin with a short welcoming speech by our president, Nate Watson, followed by a solo musical performance by Mallory

Continued On Pg.7

MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE

By Michelle Mutchler-Burns

407 Park Avenue

Baskets and Bake Sales

Fairmount Park Neighborhood folks,

I'm sure by now there isn't anyone who has "missed" the fact that we again have baskets on our power poles. Last month at this time, they were a work in progress, now; they are work: one of those few forms of "work" that I really enjoy. Dallas Johnson Greenhouses again provided the Wickham Neighborhood Association and the FPNA with a total of 50 baskets, 49 red and one pink. Wickham displays 15 baskets, one in every yard of the Wickham brick homes that is situated in on Stutsman, Grace and Carson

This year, we have mostly Zonal Geraniums. They are grown from cuttings, not seed, and tend to produce those beautiful blooms we are enjoying. The second batch, the 10 "fill-ins" that we purchased for that purpose are Ivy Geraniums and they are just starting to take off now, so please be patient with them. Cindy O. helped me add the time-release fertilizer and the coffee filters in the bottom of the baskets to try to hold in a bit more moisture before we put them up. The coffee filters were a suggestion from Fran B., last year. I'd say she was right, it is helping. There are four baskets up on Huntington with a plastic baggie in the bottom of the pot as well. I bought a few more hooks and added a couple of baskets on High School.

The watering machine, which cost around \$130.00, was purchased with treasury funds has been a huge time saver! It has cut the watering time down to an hour or less, however, I still need folks to adopt the basket closest to their home. If 2 or 3 want to collaborate, that is great. I especially need help with "dead heading" or removing the spent blooms. Feel free to water and fertilize, too. Contrary to popular belief, the recent rains have really not helped water the baskets. The water usually runs off the foliage and never makes it to the soil.

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YOU'RE INVITED TO A
PICNIC
IN THE
PARK
Sunday July 12th. 2:00 p.m.
LOOKOUT POINT
Join us in celebrating Independence Day with our friends and neighbors
at the highest spot in the city.
We'll have volleyball, croquet and frisbees for entertainment
If we all bring our own special side dishes, salads and desserts, our picnic
will be a gourmet delight.
The F.P.N.A. will supply the meat, drinks and all the other necessities.

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

Did you forget about this? Well, that can't be your excuse now because here is your gentle reminder that trash clean-up will occur on Friday evening and Saturday morning, June 19-20. We will begin with a yard waste sweep. We'll be meeting at the entrance to Lookout Point at Fairmount Park at 6:30 p.m. Friday. Bring rakes, brooms and gloves; trash bags will be provided by Keep CB Beautiful. From there we will fan out down Huntington and Park, ending at Pierce, then turning back up Glen, to finally rendezvous at the pump house on Glen. Snacks may be waiting for us there. Our object is to clean the sidewalks to the streets, including the streets themselves, and this DOES NOT include large limbs and other tree trimming operations; this type of waste must be handled in some other way and doesn't fall into the scope of our project. When we meet at the pump house, we will then be told where to deposit this waste.

And there's more. On Saturday morning, all the Neighborhood Associations have been given a wonderful opportunity to dispose of other items of trash because the Neighborhood Center is providing a dumpster for this purpose for use by all the NAs. The dumpster will arrive at the vacant lot between 171 and 177 Glen about 8:30 a.m. and leave about 12:30 p.m. It will remain available to all of us with the acceptable types of trash items all morning. Someone will have to remain on the job at this site in order to help load the trash and to protect the dumpster from illegal dumping and vandalism. The following items CANNOT be placed into this dumpster: computers; monitors; televisions; large appliances; liquids; or yard waste. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to clean out your basements and garages and get rid of all the stuff that wasn't good enough for the recent garage sale!

NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNS

We're sorry to report that our request for a grant to make neighborhood signs has been turned down by Mutual of Omaha. They say they had so many requests for grants that they couldn't fund them all. After our initial disappointment, we realized that these signs would be too great an addition to our neighborhood and that we shouldn't give up on the idea. Therefore, we will continue to search for grant opportunities until we find one that fits. Expect to hear more about this project in the future.

NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

Ollie the Trolley is coming! Yes, Ollie will be seen on Glen and Park this Friday night during the June "Second Fridays" event. One of the new features associated with Second Fridays is a tour of one of the historic neighborhoods surrounding downtown, and it is our turn this month. Ollie will make three swings through the area, each time carrying passengers and a tour guide. If you look closely as the trolley speeds by, you may see a face or two that is familiar to you, because three of your Directors have volunteered to be tour guides this month. Our neighborhood, our tour, right?

**"Life is like
a bicycle...
to keep your
balance you
must keep
moving"**

**Albert
Einstein**

**"No matter
how much cats
fight...there
always seem
to be plenty
of kittens"**

**Abraham
Lincoln**

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 19-20th
F.P.N.A. Clean Up

July 12th
F.P.N.A Summer Picnic
at Lookout Point

National Review for F.P.N.A
Historical Places Designation

September 12th
F.P.N.A September Meeting

October 23rd
F.P.N.A October Meeting

GARAGE SALE 09

Article & Photos by Kyle Muschall

332 Glen Avenue

You couldn't have asked for a nicer day and by all accounts I think we had a smashing success for the F.P.N.A's first annual garage sale. I know everyone was up early setting out his or her wares in hopes of creating their own stimulus package.

As I made the rounds to all the locations everyone commented on how nice it was to see the streets so full of activity and people. They were amazed at what sold and didn't sell which is par for the course with these events.

In all the association took in \$863.59 in donations from the participants, which is a pretty darn good indication of how well people fared. The bake sale garnered an additional \$125.00, that is just amazing. While this more than covers the \$249.87 the association spent on advertising and signs rest assured that the money earned will be invested back into our neighborhood in the form of beautification projects and our summer independence day celebration picnic.

I heard more than one person comment that they all ready have out their pricing labels for next year's go round.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Nate Watson

126 Park Avenue

I wanted to give you an update regarding the Downtown Neighborhood Alliance (DNA). A lot of wonderful things are happening in our vicinity, and a fair amount of the credit for such successes is due to your efforts and example.

A fifth neighborhood association (NA) has joined the DNA. Bayliss West Neighborhood Association (BWNA), organized by our good friend, Wayne Andersen, is off and running. BWNA is located in the general area of 6th, 7th, and 8th Streets, to the west of Bayliss Park. Please take the time to welcome those folks into the fold when you see them!

The FPNA Board has given its approval to Bylaws for the DNA. As of last Monday night's meeting, all existing NAs in the DNA have now given their consent. Therefore, the DNA is now not only organized as a non-profit entity with the State of Iowa, but it now has operating rules. The DNA Board, for which Amy Dixon (of Huntington Avenue) is our Special Representative, now will choose the four officers for the DNA; the president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. It is expected that the officers will be in place by the time of the Independence Day Picnic, on July 12th. By the way, it would appear that approximately 250 people will be at the Picnic, so I wouldn't miss the event of the summer!

Some folks have asked what the purpose of the DNA is. First of all, it is not taking over the individual NAs. It is kind of like a "United Nations" for the various NAs around downtown Council Bluffs. Each NA is still its own independent "country," but for big things and issues that cross boundaries, the DNA is a means by which we can all work together. This sort of organization is called an "alliance," and we have researched the concept as it is utilized across the country, including right here in the metro area.

An example of a cross-boundary effort, going on at present, is an effort to change the street signage across the DNA. We are partnering with our friends at the City in this effort, to coordinate with their plans for improvement of the signage in the commercial areas directly adjacent to our neighborhood. I want to single out for particular praise Mayor Hanafan, as well as Don Gross, Greg Reeder, and Larry Foster, for their continued support of our efforts and partnership.

The DNA also has the benefit of three UNO graduate students, who are putting together a draft strategic plan for the DNA at this time. I have met with them on a number of occasions. I have put them in touch with various and several people in the area in the hopes that we will receive the benefit of an independent assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the current state of the organization, as well as best practices and suggestions for going forward.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please stop by. This time of year, look for me to be amongst the flowerbeds that have consumed my lawn.

Music in the Park

Produced by the Bluffs Arts Council,
C.B. Parks & Recreation Department
Presented by Iowa West Foundation,
Music Performance Trust Fund, &
Ameristar Casino

All concerts and movies held at
Bayliss Park.

6:30—8:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights

June 17

Syncopated Swing
Standards

June 24

Novak & Haas
Jazz & Pop

July 1

Lenny 4
Variety

July 9

Heidi Joy
Vocal Variety

July 15

Luigi Waites
Jazz

July 22

Neal Davis Band
Smooth Jazz

July 29

Confidentials
Party Music

August 5

E-String Band
Classic Rock

August 12

Pattie Dee Plus 3
Piano Favorites

August 19

USAF Raptor
Rock & Pop

August 26

Adams & Cooley
Vocal Standards



Black Squirrel Arts Summer Day Camps

with an emphasis on the arts

8:30 am to 4:30 pm daily

\$150 per week
or **\$135 per week**
for Bluffs Arts Council members

Session One: Monday-Friday July 6-10
ages 7-9: "Circles, Symbols, and Squares, Oh My!" and "Rhythm of Life"
ages 10-12: "Culinary for Kids" and "Clay Creations"
REGISTRATION DEADLINE for Session One: JUNE 26TH

Session Two: Monday-Friday July 13-17
ages 7-9: "Broadway Brushstrokes" and "Rock with the Arts: Puppetry, Ventriloquism, and Storytelling"
ages 10-12: "The History We Live In" and "The Many Colors of Mexican Folk Arts"
REGISTRATION DEADLINE for Session Two: JULY 3RD

Find More Information And Register Online At
www.bluffsarts.org
or Call Us at 712-328-4992 to Register by Phone
brought to you by the
Bluffs Arts Council

CONGRATULATIONS



After a 34 year engagement, Bill Mann and Bob Pashek married on June 5th, 2009. We wish them continued happiness and prosperity in their life together

MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE

By Michelle Mutchler-Burns
Continued From Pg.2

407 Glen Avenue

How to have a bake sale with your garage sale- FPNA style

1. Talk about it half-heartedly when discussing the garage sale.
2. Talk about it with 3 neighbors a week before the garage sale, i.e... "Do you still want to?"
3. Send out an email 6 days before the sale asking if others want to participate.
4. Decide it's a "go" because 2 more have said "yes".
5. Arrange for a table, display case, volunteers, etc.
6. Set up on Saturday morning with the help of our friend Wayne from Bayliss West.
7. Sell, sell, and sell.
8. **Enjoy a \$125.00 profit!**

Yes, that's correct; we made just over \$125.00, at a bake sale!

We had one young man taking orders over his cell phone. He walked away with more than \$8.00 worth of baked goodies. Of course who could forget the "Slice of Paradise cheesecake"? That was the name we gave to Bill's amazing creation. Rum flavoring and pecans. A few commented that it was the "best cheesecake" they had ever eaten. Thanks to everyone who participated, baked, no-baked, sold, bought and volunteered. You made it a tremendous success!



NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH
9AM TO 12PM
EMPTY LOT ON 175 GLEN AVE
(EAST SIDE OF GLEN, BETWEEN 171 & 177 GLEN AVE)
*Please bring discard items to the above location during set times

Items listed below are prohibited:

- appliances
- commercial electronics
- all liquids hazardous or not
- oil filters
- tires
- lead acid batteries
- asbestos containing items
- yard waste and tree debris
- no dead animals, manure or stable matter

*Event sponsored by the Downtown Neighborhood Alliance

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Continued From Pg.1

Huggins on the flute. She has selected the National Anthem, America the Beautiful, and Yankee Doodle for our enjoyment. Games will be provided for those with the energy and desire to play them after pigging out on the gourmet food, which we expect to arrive from all the NAs, including our own. Two volleyball nets and a couple of croquet sets will be available, as well as Frisbees for the younger set. All these activities will be placed far enough away from the picnic area so that neither we nor our food will be in any danger from flying objects.

NOW FOR THE IMPORTANT STUFF

We are hoping that much of the costs of the party will be absorbed by donations from our always generous members. In addition to bringing all those potluck specialties we are counting on, we need the following:

- White cloth tablecloths;
- 3 large containers for drinks;
- 250 bottles of drinking water (24-pack from Menard's \$3.50, as an example);
- Folding chairs, as many as we can round up (we already have about 50);
- Large insulated picnic containers to hold ice and cold water for drink mixes. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to label all donated equipment with your names; otherwise, take-down will be a nightmare!!

Moving on to the real nitty gritty—the volunteers. We need a bunch. Here is a breakdown of the jobs we anticipate will require your help:

SATURDAY:

- A run through the Park to make sure the park and the restrooms are clean.
- Mow grass if necessary.

SUNDAY:

- **EARLY ARRIVAL-** (in the morning)
 - Set up the tables, chairs, food protectors, and containers for water, garbage cans, and all decorations.
 - Someone to stay there from the time we're finished until guests begin arriving to prevent vandalism and theft.
- **DURING PICNIC HOURS-**
 - People to man the sign-in table and all the food tables;
 - Someone to make sure the drink containers are always full; replace tableware, ice and water as needed; empty garbage cans; set up games; meet and greet;
 - And keep order among the younger set.
- **AFTER PICNIC-**
 - massive take down and sorting;
 - dispose of full garbage bags;
 - help to return donated items to their owners; take down decorations;
 - Clean up.

After reading all this, if you wish to volunteer, please let anyone on the picnic committee know NOW. If you prefer a certain job, please say so. Otherwise, we will make assignments as needed. Good planning and lots of help will make our picnic one of the premier events of the summer!

We hope that picnics will continue to be an annual event under the umbrella of the Downtown Neighborhood Alliance (DNA) and that, in the future, when other NAs take their turns at hosting, this event will just get better and better.

THE Fairmount Press

The Newspaper of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association

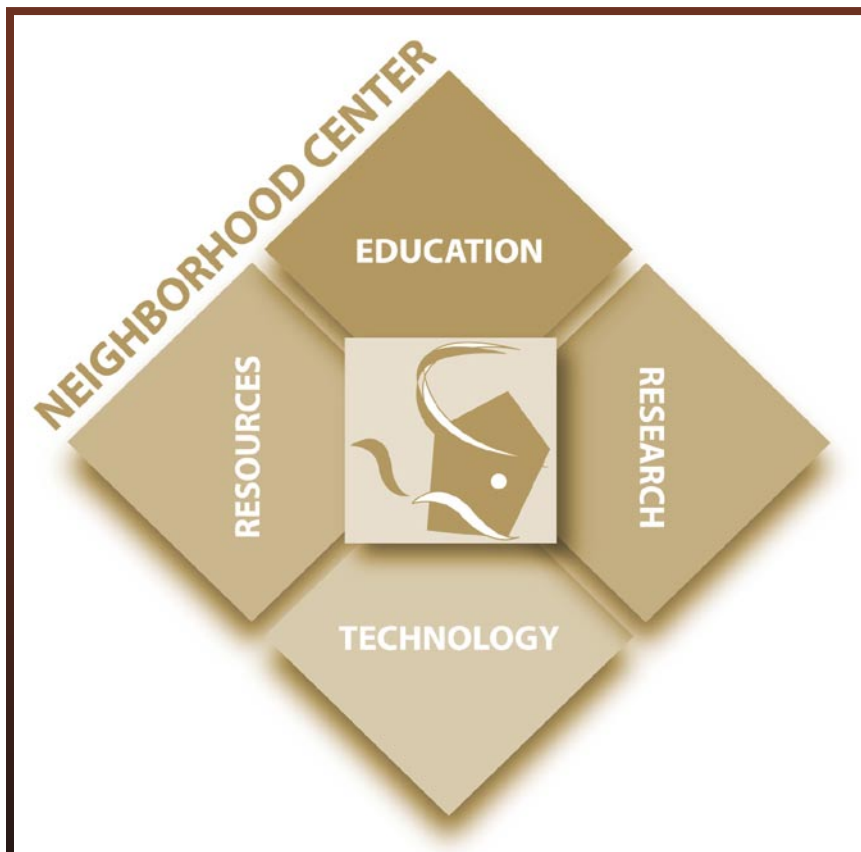
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Sharon Babbit	Board Member (2010)
Kyle Muschall	Board Member (2011)
Chad Fent	Board Member (2010)
Nate Watson	Board Member (2011)
Michelle Muchler-Burns	Board Member (2010)

Have an Opinion? Please Share!

We welcome any submission from a member that constructively furthers a topic of current public interest. Of course, opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association or its membership. Any submission must be received by the first day of the month for inclusion.

COPIES PROVIDED BY THE



Yes! I want to be an active member of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association. Please find enclosed a check for annual dues in the amount of \$20.00 per household.

My Name and Spouse's/Significant Other's Name: _____

Children's Names and Ages: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numer: _____ Email Address: _____

Remit to: Chad Fent, Secretary Treasurer, 439 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503



Yes! I want to purchase a Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association banner.

Please find enclosed a check for the Banner fee of \$10.00

(Or additional amounts of _____ for additional banners totaling _____.)

You must be a paid member to purchase a banner

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numer: _____ Email Address: _____

Remit to: Michelle Mutchler-Burns, Vice President, 407 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503 or to Sharon Babbit, Board Member, 200 Park Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503