



ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

MEETING COMING UP

Get out of those paint clothes and slip into your good jeans for our meeting on October 16th at 7:00 p.m. Homeowner Cindy Ostronic will open her home at 420 Glen Ave. for another interesting and friendly meeting of the FPNA. Her Queen Anne style, late 1800's, home has been completely redecorated. Some of you may not know that Cindy is a professional interior designer. For her to redecorate her own home was a treat for herself and is sure to offer us a feast for the eyes. Her home was on the 2008 CBHPA Christmas Homes Tour and many of us were privileged to tour it at that time, but once is never enough for a home like this. It looks good from the street, from the alley, and from every nook and cranny inside. Thanks, Cindy, for inviting us in.

Oh, yes, there will be some business to discuss as well.

CBHPA CHRISTMAS HOMES TOUR

Time flies and it is now almost time for the next CBHPA Christmas Homes Tour on December 6th from 2:00-6:00 p.m. While it may be a little early to be talking about this event, it certainly isn't too early to be planning for it. Three of the five homes on this tour are right here in the FPNA neighborhood, and the other two are in the Gibraltar NA area. Homeowners are beginning, even as we speak, to start their holiday decorating, or at least to start thinking about it. The homes in our NA, which will be featured on the tour, belong to Sharon Babbitt, Melissa Head, and Kelly Prine. Sharon has been put in charge of finding and scheduling the volunteers for this tour, and this means she is coming to get YOU! More than forty volunteers will be needed, considering that there will be two shifts operating. One of the perks for the volunteers will be a deeply discounted ticket to tour all the homes, so for a couple of hours of your time you can buy a ticket for \$5, a savings of \$10 per ticket!! Can't beat that deal. Please let Sharon know if you would like to be a volunteer. Call her at 323-5912 or e-mail at sbabbitt2@cox.net If you forget to call she'll probably hound you, anyway.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Our "home improvement show" continues with a frenzy of activities occurring in an attempt to beat the winter weather. A beautiful new picket fence just went up at 102 Park; 151 Park installed a fabulous Victorian fountain and turned it on, and new brick steps leading upward to the house have just been completed; gone are the vines which once covered 192 Glen, to be replaced with beautiful new siding. We know there is so much more happening all around the neighborhood and we need your help to tell us the details.

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Where Does Halloween Come From?

By Tracy Dreessen

164 Park Avenue

Our modern celebration of Halloween is a descendent of the ancient Celtic fire festival called "Samhain". The word is pronounced "sow-in", with "sow" rhyming with cow.

The Celtic people lived about 2,000 years ago in an area which we now call Ireland, the United Kingdom, and France. The festival of Samhain marked the end of summer, the harvest season, and the beginning of their new year. The Celtic people believed that on the night of October 31st, the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. They built huge bonfires and dressed in costumes to frighten the ghosts. The Celts also offered the ghosts good things to eat.

The modern customs of Halloween are similar to the customs of the Celtic people because many immigrants came to America and brought their beliefs and traditions with them. The carving of a Jack-O-Lantern is thought to come from the tradition of Irish children. They would carve potatoes or turnips and light them for their Halloween celebrations. The name Jack came from an Irish man who people thought was so wicked neither heaven or the devil wanted him. Jack is thought to have roamed the earth looking for a place to rest.

Halloween in America is celebrated on October 31st. The celebrations are held in towns, schools, churches and homes. Most children still dress in costumes and continue to trick or treat in safe neighborhoods or in schools.

LET'S GET COOKING

By Tracy Dreessen

164 Park Avenue

Let's do some cooking, without cooking. This is one of my favorite recipes for Halloween parties. They kind of look like little spiders or bugs when you're done and you can fix them up anyway you like. Hope you enjoy.

BUGGIN HALLOWEEN COOKIES

1 Pkg. chocolate chips	2 cups chopped walnuts
1 Pkg. butterscotch chips	2 cups coconut
1 Large can Chinese Noodles	2 cups mini marshmallows

- Melt the chips in a sauce pan at low heat; stirring frequently as to not burn the chocolate
- Remove from heat and pour into large mixing bowl.
- Add rest of ingredients and mix well
- Place spoonfuls of mixture onto wax paper to cool
- Refrigerate overnight to harden
- Optional:
Decorate to look like little bugs or spiders for your Halloween party.

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Continued From Pg.1

FUTURE MEETINGS

We believe that the FPNA policy of meeting in members' homes is one of the reasons why our NA has been so successful. We have already lined up three locations for upcoming meetings. December's meeting/Christmas party will be at President Nate's house at 126 Park; January's annual meeting will take place at Kyle and Cindy's house at 332 Glen; and Melissa responded to some arm twisting by agreeing to host the next meeting of the new year (probably late February or early March) at her home at 211 Park. Who wants to be next? You?

A NEIGHBORHOOD FIXTURE

That could describe Mary Lee Johnson, 210 Park, who recently passed away from the effects of Alzheimer's and cancer. Mary Lee had been a registered nurse for 43 years, with 27 of those years having been spent as an emergency room nurse at Mercy Hospital. One of her greatest joys was helping others and many of us benefited from her assistance. Mary Lee's most favorite mode of transportation was walking, and she could be seen on foot heading to or from work, to church, and to all places in between. After she retired she continued walking through the neighborhood at any time of the day or evening. Even if you didn't know her name, you probably saw the slender woman walking, walking, and walking. Although she is gone now, her example lives on.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 16th
F.P.N.A October Meeting


October 17th
Haunted In the Bluffs

November 14th
Younkens at the Westroads
Community Day Sale

December 4th
F.P.N.A. Holiday Party

December 6th
Council Bluffs Historical
Preservation Alliance
Historic Home Tour

January 9th
F.P.N.A. January Meeting



Let's Meet

For Our F.P.N.A. Fall Meeting

Friday October 16th
7:00 p.m. 420 Glen Avenue

BLUFFS ARTS COUNCIL LECTURE SERIES

The Bluffs Arts Council is hosting a FREE lecture series that is open to the public. They cover a diverse range of creative topics and endeavors by local artists, writers and craft people. Don't miss an opportunity to listen and ask questions on that something special that interests you.

Fiction and Film

Sunday October 4th. Community Hall 2:00-3:30 p.m.

The Life of a Writer: Inside Tips. Sally Walker, a published author and screenwriter, will share the ins and outs of daily life as a writer.

Scrap Booking Fun

Monday October 12th. Council Bluffs Public Library 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Diane Gudahl presents a broad overview of scrap booking, from the art form's historical origins to the wide range of products and methods available today.

Product Design

Tuesday October 20th. Community Hall 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Product Designer Connie Eyberg has 16 years of experience of turning ideas into reality. Get an inside look at how the everyday items around you are created.

Meet Einstein

Sunday November 8th. Community of Christ Church 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Veteran actor Duffy Hudson brings Albert Einstein to life here in Council Bluffs with his unique one-man show. No knowledge of math or physics required

Abstract Art

Tuesday November 17th. Community Hall 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Amateur painter Simon Noel presents his journey from simply an admirer of art to an artist in his own right.

If you want more information please contact the Bluffs Arts Council at 712-328-4992 or go to www.bluffsarts.org.

**"A lot of people have
gone farther than
they could
because someone else
thought they could "
Zig Ziglar**

Halloween Safety Tips

Young children should always go trick-or-treating with an adult.

Never trick-or-treat alone. Have at least 2 buddies go with you.

Make sure that you are wearing a flame retardant costume.

Wait until you get home and your parents check your candy before you eat it.

Be very cautious of strangers.

Accept treats only in the doorway. Never go inside a house.

Be sure and say thank you for your treats.

Don't play near lit jack-o-lanterns.

Visit only houses where the lights are on.

Walk, do not run.

Walk on sidewalks and driveways.

Cross the street at the corner or in a crosswalk.

Wear a watch.

Always use common sense.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Nate Watson

126 Park Avenue

It has been an exciting month in our neighborhood! First of all, I want to thank Wayne Andersen, the President of Bayliss West Neighborhood Association, for so kindly hosting our September meeting, at which we celebrated the second anniversary of FPNA. It was very nice to visit a nearby neighborhood, hear about happenings in our own neighborhood, and hear about the efforts of the up-and-coming neighborhood associations around us. For all who were able to attend, it was an absolute joy!

The general membership, at the September meeting, gave first-round approval to the proposals that we go from a five-member board to a seven-member board, and that we split the Treasurer/Secretary officer position into separate positions, both effective in January. In addition, after some discussion, the general membership also gave first-round approval to the annexation of Grandview Avenue into FPNA; further efforts will be taken to meet with the folks in that area, to confirm interest in becoming part of our neighborhood. All of these proposals will be up for final-round approval at the October meeting, and your input at that time is sought and highly encouraged.

Just to our east, Wickham Neighborhood Association currently is engaged in an effort to reach out and attempt to expand its boundaries into a larger association. We wish them great success.

Discussions continue with the City concerning the historic rehabilitation grant program, as well as the near future of Fairmount Park, itself, and I hope to have something further to say on both topics in the near future.

The Downtown Neighborhood Alliance (DNA) Board held its first formal meeting on September 28th. The five current neighborhood associations were able to meet two potential new members, Indian Creek Neighborhood Association and Government Center Business District. Both have now incorporated as Iowa non-profit corporations, and are starting to get up and running. It is hoped that they might be ready to join the DNA, officially, within a few months. It is so nice to see the benefits of local effort and shared cooperation and dialogue amongst all the neighborhoods of downtown.

The final thing I want to mention to you this month is to express my profound thanks to the Publisher, Kyle Muschall and the Editor, Tracy Dreessen, for the countless hours and talents that each brings to this publication each month, freely given by them to all of us, and freely endorsed and funded by the active members of FPNA to every resident in the neighborhood. From its humble beginnings, to its current expertise, this newsletter is the cherished voice of our neighborhood. Long may it live.

RECEIVE A FREE ENERGY AUDIT

A home energy audit, \$150 VALUE!, is the first step in saving energy, increasing your home's comfort and saving on your utility bill. A professional energy auditor will provide you with recommendations for increasing the efficiency of your home. Sign up today to receive a FREE Home Energy audit from Black Hills Energy.

To learn how to save energy around your home, schedule a free home energy audit from Black hills Energy by calling 888-567-0799 or visit www.BHEHowTo.com

"I love to travel but hate to arrive"

Albert Einstein

HAUNTED IN THE BLUFFS

The popular third annual ghost story event will take place in the historic downtown district of Council Bluffs on Saturday, October 17th from 7pm - 9pm. The Union Pacific Railroad Museum, the Historic General Dodge House, and the Squirrel Cage Jail will be hosting live story tellers for a fun evening of free family entertainment.

All ghost stories will be told in beautiful outdoor settings in historic Council Bluffs by story tellers from the Omaha Organization for the Purpose of Storytelling, or OOPS, as well as stories of the old Council Bluffs Public Library by Diane Herzog.

Stories will begin at each location: 7:00pm, 7:40pm and 8:20pm. Remember, stories are different at each location, so be sure to visit them all. Please dress according to the weather and bring blankets, or chairs to sit on as all venues will be outside this year.

This year Haunted in the Bluffs will also be offering a Haunted Trolley tour of historic Council Bluffs. Trolley leaves the Union Pacific Railroad Museum at 7 pm. Haunted Trolley will board in front of the Union Pacific Railroad Museum. Tickets are \$25 per person and will be sold at The Historic General Dodge House and the Squirrel Cage Jail through October 16th, and at the Union Pacific Railroad Museum through Saturday, October 17th. Each passenger must have a ticket to ride regardless of age. All trolley proceeds help the participating historical non-profits continue to tell their stories!

For more information please visit
<http://sites.google.com/site/hauntedinthebluffs/>

Or call
(712) 329-8307

Black Squirrel Arts

Brought to you by Bluffs Art Council
712-328-4992 / www.bluffsart.org

CREATIVE WRITING - \$20
SAT. OCT 10TH (register by October 8th)
10 – NOON

At Community Hall
For Grades 6 thru 9

Bring Pencil, Paper, and your favorite Poem
Join Dr. Todd, a professor of creative writing at UNO, as he takes you through a series of fun, strange, and productive exercises to help you unlock, nurture, and reward your inner poet.

THEATER ARTS - \$25
SAT. OCT 17TH
10 – NOON

At Community Hall
For Ages 10 to 14

Learn the art of stage makeup right in time for
Halloween

POTTERY - \$30
SAT. OCT 24TH
9 – NOON

At Lewis Central HS
For Ages 7 to 14

Create 3 pieces of original artwork that you can
actually use!

**"I believe in
standardizing
automobiles
Not Human
Beings"
Albert
Einstein**

FUN FALL WEATHER FACTS

These are some of the more popular North Carolina folk sayings about autumn and the weather. Many variations exist and have been reported in numerous sources, including the Old Farmer's Almanac, the Foxfire series, and the collections of the NC Folklore Society. All of them are guaranteed to be true (sometimes).

A warm November is the sign of a bad winter.

Thunder in the fall foretells a cold winter.

If animals have an especially thick coat of fur, it will be a cold winter.

When squirrels bury their nuts early, it will be a hard winter

If the woolly worms head is more black than colored, the coldest part of the winter will come in the first months of winter.

The more blacker than brown a woolly worm is, and/or the wider the black stripe, the worse the winter.

If fruit trees bloom in the fall, the weather will be severe the following winter.

If berries or nuts are plentiful, it will be a hard winter.

A cold winter is succeeded by a warm winter and vice versa. If the first snow falls on unfrozen ground, expect a mild winter.

It will be a bad winter if trees keep their leaves until late in the fall
Hornets nest built in the tops of trees point to a mild winter.

The first twelve days of the year are thought to foretell the weather for each of the next twelve months. The variant is the 12 days from new Christmas (Dec. 25) to old Christmas (Jan. 5) determine the weather.

If an owl hoots on the east side of a mountain it denotes bad



**"You have to do
your own
growing
no matter how
tall your
grandfather
was"**

Abraham Lincoln

**Jackson &
Almeda Concert**

Broadway United Methodist Church

11 South First Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

October 10, at 7:00 p.m., Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Jackson Berkey - Composer, Pianist, Teacher

Best known nationally as a pianist and recording artist, Jackson celebrated

37 years in 2009 as featured keyboardist with Mannheim Steamroller. In the classical world, his recording for American Gramophone and SDG Records continue to elicit rave reviews.

Almeda Berkey - Conductor, Soprano, Teacher

Almeda has been playing keyboards with Mannheim Steamroller in concerts since 1973, and also maintains a private voice and conducting studio in

Omaha. She has conducted various choirs throughout the US and other parts of the world.

Jackson is releasing a double CD entitled 21st Century Romantic and Almeda will perform several numbers to appear on a new recording along with many others at the concert.

Free will donation will be taken, no tickets necessary. For more information on Jackson or Almeda Berkey visit <http://www.berkey.com/> [www.berkey.com.](http://www.berkey.com/)

THE Fairmount Press
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**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.



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