



## ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbit

200 Park Avenue

### THE TOUR'S THE THING

Our big event is nearly upon us and we are ready (well, almost ready). We have been steeped in publicity issues for weeks now. The question has been how to spread the word, get it out to all the important venues, without spending a bucket full of money? We think we managed to accomplish this all-important goal. By now, you will have read the excellent article by Tim Johnson in the Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the Nonpareil. Similar press releases were sent to all the area newspapers and newsletters, and Melissa appeared on Channel 17, the Council Bluffs television station (hint—we asked her to do it because she is by far the best looking!). Many of us passed out the wonderful poster designed by Kyle, which described our event. The black and white ones were distributed by many of you and the colored versions were placed in 30 locations throughout town. If all this doesn't generate interest, then the public has gone into a coma or perhaps been captured by aliens and taken to another planet! We will know the answer to that on Sunday.

Although we have been referring to our tour as a fundraiser, and it is, we hope it will serve an additional purpose as well. We want to generate interest in our neighborhood and demonstrate the camaraderie we have come to identify as our most important attribute. Sure, we lavish great care and love on our homes (and, incidentally, there are some dandies for sale right now), but where would we be without our friends and neighbors?

Many of you volunteered to help at our tour and the schedule is complete. Look for Nate, who will be conducting a walking tour during the afternoon of our event. Whatever will he be saying? Mary Lou will offer lemonade and cookies in her garage to all the tour patrons, and Carol has volunteered to bake most of the cookies. There will be other good cooks stepping forward, too. Thanks to all.

### KIRN PARK

The focus of the volunteer efforts of Mutual of Omaha, the Gibraltar NA and the FPNA has been the restoration of the stadium at the old football field, which has served the high schools and middle schools all around our fair city since 1936. The Parks Department, represented by Larry Foster and Dennis Kuhlman, the Mutual volunteers, represented by Bill Davis of Mutual, and members of both NAs, have been choosing the paint color and scheduling the paint days for many weeks now. The final color choice has been made and it will go on in two coats over the newly sand blasted cement of the stadium. Also, good news, security cameras will be installed to cut down on the vandalism! The work is scheduled to be done on Thursday and Friday, September 16-17, weather permitting. The weather may not permit, however, because

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four rain-free days are required—two days before the painting is to begin, and two days during the painting process. If the cement is damp it will cause the paint to bubble from the moisture below. By the time you read this, you will know whether or not we were able to get the job done. We keep our fingers crossed.

## LANDSCAPING ISSUES

The Iowa Architectural Foundation, a charitable group, is coming to our neighborhood to do a study about how to bring our NA together visually and make it appear as one cohesive unit. They will meet with the Board on September 24<sup>th</sup> to begin the process. Some of the ideas we're discussing are to install decorative poles along all the streetscapes, which will be able to hold the banners we hope to acquire in the future, flower baskets, and other decorative items like holiday bows; and perhaps entry décor to announce the entrances to our NA. We shall see what the IAF architects come up with, but we will be expected to attend their meetings and show our support for what could turn out to be the most significant contribution we will make as a NA to our neighborhood.

## YARD OF THE MONTH

Our final yard of the month has been chosen! Your Board feels that Carla and Denny Evans of 226 High School deserve the award this time around. Why, some of you may ask, haven't they been mentioned prior to this because, clearly, their yard is among the most beautiful in the neighborhood? We have always agreed with this assessment. We knew that their yard would look just as beautiful in September as it did in May, whereas, other landscapes would be fading along about now. Drive by and take a look at the unique trellis/gazebo by the front door, and the many and serene shades of green throughout, and see if you don't agree that they deserve this award. Congratulations, Carla and Denny, for a job well done.

## BE CAREFUL

We are receiving reports of thefts in both the Gibraltar and Lincoln/Fairview neighborhoods. Cars have been stolen and there is even a report of a home broken into and things stolen. So, be aware of your surroundings, lock your car doors and secure your home and property. So far, we haven't heard of anything happening in our area and we want to keep it that way.

## THE LAST WORD

I hope you will forgive me if I reserve this space for something purely personal. I am organizing a Christmas Boutique to take place at 134 Park Ave. on the weekends of October 15-17 and 22-24, with an added bonus of a meet-the-artists preview and wine event the evening of October 14. This Boutique will feature the works of 17 area artists and wine from Prairie Hawk Winery of Council Bluffs. The works these artists are producing range from refinished antiques, paintings and prints, home and holiday décor, jewelry and wearable art, dolls, bears, snowmen, santas, and a myriad of other original items. I hope you can stop by and do some early Christmas shopping. And, incidentally, support some of the best local artists in the metro area.

Until next time.....Sharon

## DATES TO REMEMBER

September 19th  
FPNA Home Tour

October 23rd  
FPNA October Meeting

October 15th - 17th  
October 22nd-24th  
Christmas Boutique

December 3rd.  
FPNA Christmas Party  
126 Park Avenue 7:00 p.m.

# LET'S GET COOKING

By Tracy Dreessen

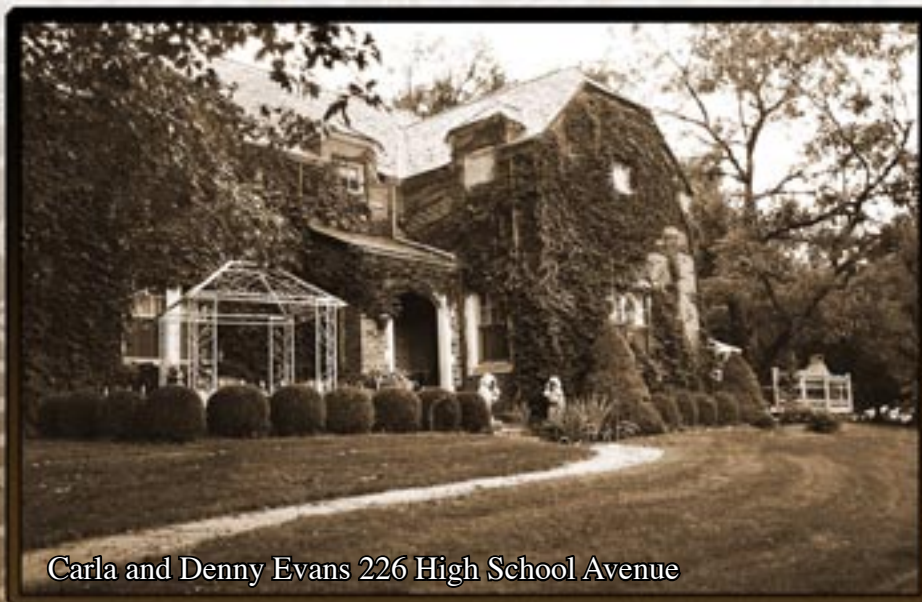
164 Park Avenue

Without cooking. Just in time for Football Season. Watn to make a home-made Salsa that will knock your socks off?

## ARE YOU READY FOR SOME SALSA!!!

5-Fresh Tomatoes-Ripe Vine and/or Roma	Lime Juice to taste
1 bunch of Green Onions ends	2 tsp. Olive Oil
3 to 4 radishes	Salt & Pepper to taste
Cilantro to taste	
3 to 4 jalapenos- leave the seeds for a kick or wash them out.	

- Chop tomatoes, onions, radishes, jalapenos, and cilantro and mix in large bowl.
- Add lime juice, olive oil, salt and pepper and mix well
- Chill for at least 15 minutes
- Serve with blue and yellow corn chips and Enjoy.



Carla and Denny Evans 226 High School Avenue

Photo by Kyle Muschall



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Sharon Babbitt	Board Member (2012)
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Tracy Dreessen	Board Member (2012)
Nate Watson	Board Member (2011)
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Maxine Gotto	Board Member (2011)

**Have an Opinion?  
Please Share!**

**W**e 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.

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**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:** John Huggins, Treasurer, 206 Park 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:** Sharon Babbitt, President, 200 Park Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503 or John Huggins, Treasurer, 206 Park Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503