



ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

SEPTEMBER MEETING

We've already talked about the wonderful home at 150 Park Ave., in which we will be meeting on Sunday, September 23rd at 5 p.m., so we won't go on again about how beautiful and historic it is, and blah, blah... But we do extend a special invitation to some newcomers who have just made our neighborhood their new home. What a great way for these new friends to introduce themselves to us, and vice versa, and learn about the little community of like minded homeowners who wish to make their acquaintance. We are speaking directly to you folks at 167 Glen, 314 Park, and 331 Park. Please come by and say hello!

Speaking of home ownership, there is a little difference between buying a home listed on the National Register of Historic Places and one that has been named a Local Landmark. It has come to our attention that realtors and others don't know about this "little difference," which makes ALL the difference as to what can and can't be changed about a home. If a home has been named to the NRHP, and many of the homes located within our NRHP neighborhood are so designated, owners have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them or even to maintain them if they choose not to do so, and exterior alterations are not restricted if a federal license, permit or funding is not involved.* BUT, if a home has been named a Local Landmark, the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Council Bluffs has the authority to review any proposed exterior alteration, including remodeling, demolition and new construction which affects the special characteristics of the site. To the best of our knowledge, there are only two homes in Council Bluffs which have been designated a Local Landmark, one being the Historic General Dodge House.

*Historic Preservation Commission brochure, published April 2008

KIRN PARK RENOVATION

Money for the financing of improvements to Kirn Park is likely to be included in the City's budget for next year. No word yet about exactly what improvements to our Park will be included in the City's plans but anything will be welcome and appreciated. We will remember that together the Fairmount Park and Gibraltar Neighborhood Associations purchased one security camera for the Park with a combination of grant money and donations, and the stadium was painted with the help of Mutual of Omaha and neighborhood volunteers, so we care about our Park!

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AUGUST YARD OF THE MONTH



500 Glen Avenue Richard and Clara Hobbs

Photo by Kyle Muschall

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The Historic General Dodge House will present two performances of A Christmas Carol at Iowa Western Community College Looft Hall on Sunday November 18. In celebration of Charles Dickens' 200th Birthday Gerald Charles Dickens, the great-great grandson of the literary master, will perform the classic - A Christmas Carol - a story near and dear to all of our hearts. This is a one-man performance; each character has a very definite voice and expression that can be very easily distinguished.

Sunday 2:00 p.m. Matinee tickets - Family (2 adults & children, age 8-16): \$55.00 Members: \$20.00 Adult: \$25.00 Child (age 8-16): \$10.00 Sunday 7:00 p.m. performance - Member or Child (age 8-16): \$35.00 Adult: \$40.00 Iowa Western Community College, Looft Hall, 2700 College Road, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Please call 712-322-2406 for tickets or information

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB VOLUNTEER

The Boys & Girls Club of Council Bluffs is in need of volunteers to work specifically with their younger members to help them with reading, writing and math. Scheduling is flexible but volunteers are most needed between 2-5PM on Mondays and 4-6PM Tuesdays through Friday. This is a great opportunity to truly affect the lives of children in our community. It is also perfect for students wanting to go into education or work with youth, or for anyone who enjoys children and having fun. If you have any questions about this volunteer opportunity please feel free to call or email Tiffanie Teeple.

Tiffanie Teeple
Campus Coordinator
Charles E. Lakin Human Services Campus
1415 Ave. J Council Bluffs, IA 51501
Phone: (712)323-4416
tteeple@themicahhouse.org

The President's Corner

Kyle Muschall

332 Glen Avenue

Those of you who frequently motor passed the Dodge House on 3rd Street may notice that the brick streets have gotten a little less bumpy. The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, The General Dodge House and the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association have been working closely with the Council Bluffs Public Works Department, namely Greg Reeder and Matt Cox, on a Council Bluffs Brick Street Initiative.

The pragmatic day-to-day driving conditions of traffic on these streets has always been a concern so we decided to take action and to do something about it. The coalition started to meet back in June to discuss our concerns with the deteriorating state of the few miles of brick streets we have left within Council Bluffs. From the neighborhood association perspective the brick streets were vital to maintaining our Historical Status on the National Registry of Historical places. This translates directly into tourism dollars generated for events like Railroad Days, of which the Dodge House is a featured stop, and continued economic development for the city.

Partnering with the Public Works department, we've been meeting regularly at the Dodge House so that all groups involved could share their concerns. From the city's perspective there was no clear policy in place specific to maintaining the brick streets. Most of the repair work was performed by utility company sub-contractors or home-owners where no consistent standard was applied. That is why we have the patch work of concrete and asphalt that we see today.

We reviewed previous retention assessments of the brick streets done by the city from the nineteen eighties and whether an existing city ordinance (Chapter 16.03.1105) whose purview is building preservation might also include preserving the brick streets. While drafting and passing policy might be considered the "easy" part the greater, more-difficult concern is to consistently communicate and enforce a policy across all the various entities that do repairs and perform maintenance on the brick streets.

The consensus that all parties were able to reach is when

repairs are done the brick is put back into the street, no concrete patches, no asphalt patches. The City has communicated to their Permits Issue Department that when home-owners, contractors or utility companies apply for permits to perform work that effects any of the existing brick streets, this policy will be applied and enforced. They have also shared this information with all the utility companies within the city at their monthly meetings.

For our part, the neighborhood associations have begun to communicate to our constituency that when performing renovation or repairs to have their contractor confer with the city on the Brick Street Repair and Retention policy so that the job is carried out correctly and there will be no need to issue "work stop" orders.

The results we are seeing is that a few weeks ago the Public Works department piloted a series of small repairs performed by Linhart Construction on 3rd Street by the Dodge House. They took up the bricks, compacted a new paver base and re-inserted the bricks into the street, locking them in with a small grain sand that was brushed over the surface.

While this is just the initial steps in our effort I want to take a moment to thank the Public Works Department for partnering with our various groups to initiate an effort that I firmly believe will have long-lasting results within our immediate neighborhood and our community.

**"The most
wasted of all
days is one
without
laughter"
E.E. Cummings**

BE ALERT BE SAFE!!

By Terri Dowell

445 Glen Avenue

I came across these helpful hints on the web. Because of recent abductions in daylight hours, refresh yourself of these things to do in an emergency situation. This is for you, and for you to share with everyone you know. After reading these 10 crucial tips, share them to someone you care about. It never hurts to be careful in this crazy world we live in.

1. Tip from Tae Kwon Do: The elbow is the strongest point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do!
2. Learned this from a tourist guide: If a robber asks for your wallet and/or purse, **DO NOT HAND IT TO HIM**. Toss it away from you. Chances are that he is more interested in your wallet and/or purse than you, and he will go for the wallet/purse. **RUN LIKE MAD IN THE OTHER DIRECTION!**
3. If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick out the back tail-lights and stick your arm out the hole and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you, but everybody else will. This has saved lives.
4. Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their check book, or making a list, etc.) **DON'T DO THIS!** The predator will be watching you, and this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in on the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go. **AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND LEAVE**. If someone is in the car with a gun to your head **DO NOT DRIVE OFF!** Repeat: **DO NOT DRIVE OFF!** Instead gun the engine and speed into anything, wrecking the car. Your Air Bag will save you. If the person is in the back seat, they will get the worst of it. As soon as the car crashes bail out and run. It is better than having them find your body in a remote location.
5. A few notes about getting into your car, in a parking lot or parking garage: A.) Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat B.) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door. Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the victims are attempting to get into their cars. C.) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out. **IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY**. (And better paranoid than dead.)
6. **ALWAYS** take the elevator instead of the stairs. Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot. (This is especially true at **NIGHT!**)
7. If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control. **ALWAYS RUN!** The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times; and even then, it most likely **WILL NOT** be a vital organ. **RUN**, preferably in a zig-zag pattern!
8. As women, we are always trying to be sympathetic: **STOP!!** It may get you raped, or killed. Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good-looking, well-educated man, who **ALWAYS** played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked 'for help' into his vehicle or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.
10. Water scam! If you wake up in the middle of the night to hear all your taps outside running or what you think is a burst pipe, **DO NOT GO OUT TO INVESTIGATE!** These people turn on all your outside taps full ball so that you will go out to investigate and then attack.

Stay alert, keep safe, and look out for your neighbors! Please share these with everyone you know, it may save a life.

Historic Preservation Lecture

Preserve Council Bluffs would like to cordially invite you to attend a lecture on historic preservation and to participate in developing a historic preservation plan for our community. This event will occur in two parts:

Saturday, October 6th, 9:15am – Noon
Saturday, October 20th, 9:15am – Noon

Both sessions will occur at the Council Bluffs Public Library Main Floor meeting room and attendees are asked to make both sessions if possible since they will build off of each other. These training sessions will deal with basic information on what historic preservation is, the duties and responsibilities of Historic Preservation Commissions, the role of non-profit preservation organizations, the relationship of Main Street to historic preservation, what historic surveys and evaluations are, how the National Register affects properties, interpreting the Secretary of Interior's Standards, and, why preservation education is important. In addition, a Preservation Plan will be prepared to serve as a "road map" for future preservation activities. The ultimate goal is to have a well-informed preservation community focused on projects that enhance and protect Council Bluffs' historic resources. For more information or to RSVP, please call 402-630-7474 or email sbanasik@hotmail.com. This training is funded through a grant awarded by the Iowa West Foundation.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers and sponsors are needed for Preserve Council Bluffs Preservation Promenade: Fine Dining in Historic Homes. The event will be held Saturday, October 13, 2012. Volunteers to set up and tear down our reception space, servers for the reception and the dinners. Please call or contact for more details:

Michelle Mutchler-Burns
712-322-1448
gopack8763@aol.com

Council Bluffs Fall Bird Fair

The Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society is sponsoring a Fall Bird Fair, Sunday, October 7, 2012 from 10-5 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs. They will feature breeders and vendors from across the mid-west selling birds, cages, toys and accessories. Admission is \$2, kids under 12 years old are admitted for free. Please call or contact for more details:

Michelle Mutchler-Burns
712-322-1448
gopack8763@aol.com

Crime Prevention thru Environmental Design

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 5:30pm, Omaha Public Library - Benson Branch (6015 Binney St). Learn how to make the physical environment surrounding your home or business less of a target for criminal activity. In collaboration with Omaha by Design. For more information, call

Omaha by Design
(402) 554-4010
Liz with the Neighborhood Center
(402) 880-4664.

Omni Dental Clinic

Friday, Oct. 5, 8am-1pm at the new Omni Dental location (1026 Woodbury Ave). Free basic urgent care for Pottawattamie County residents. Eligible participants must meet the following criteria: Pottawattamie County Resident, Income Under \$25,000/year, Ages 19 & Older, No Current Dental Benefits, Provide Health History. To apply: Email contact information to:

omnidentalcares@hotmail.com

A staff member will respond. Apply early due to limited appointments.

Signs of Stroke

DO YOU KNOW THE SYMPTOMS

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms. Here are three easy questions to ask:

S: Ask the person to SMILE.

T: Ask the person to TALK and speak a simple sentence coherently.

R: Ask the person to RAISE both arms.

And here is a new sign of a stroke:

Ask the person to STICK OUT HIS/HER TONGUE. If the tongue is crooked (goes to one side or the other), this is also a sign of a Stroke.

If the person has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 911 immediately!!

CRIME INFORMATION

Visit the Council Bluffs Police Department website

www.cbpolice.org/avenues2.

To view crime information that reflects written reports by the officers of your police department in a given time frame (just click on the "Crime Information" links to open up the reports as PDF documents). There are five sections on the PDFs that are broken up to show case number, date and time report was written, general location of the incident, the district the incident occurred, and a description of the incident.

The Council Bluffs Police Department hopes the citizens of Council Bluffs find this information useful in keeping their neighborhoods safe. Remember if you see something say something.

If you see a crime in progress please call 911, if the crime has already happened (shed broken into) you can call the non-emergency number 712-328-5737. This phone is answered by the 911 operators; it just doesn't tie up a 911 line.

FIT TO PRINT

Continued From Pg.1

THIS AND THAT

Recently, one of our beloved senior citizens fell and broke a bone in her hand. Broken bones are something to be avoided but especially by seniors. How could this happen to a person with no problems about balance? Simple—multi-tasking! One should not be walking down her basement steps on her way to the freezer with two containers of chili in her hands, while at the same time talking on the phone. Not a good idea! But she is healing, we are happy to report.

An incident of an entirely different nature also occurred in our neighborhood recently. One of our neighbors (definitely NOT of the senior citizen variety) discovered an alleged burglar in his garage in the early morning darkness. Acting quickly, he grabbed the intruder and threw him to the concrete, whereupon he convinced the alleged burglar that it wasn't a good idea to participate in such illegal activity. The police were called after a short interval and the perpetrator may still be in jail. Contrary to what we heard, our neighbor was fully clothed at the time of the incident, and not wearing only his skivvies.

YARD OF THE MONTH

This, our final Yard of the Month award of the season, goes to 500 Glen Ave. We had several good candidates for this month's award. Any gardener who can manage to keep a yard looking good through the heat and drought of this past summer deserves to be commended, but 500 Glen has even more to offer. These homeowners invested in new retaining walls and completely replaced their sidewalk, brought in an entire row of shrub roses, and filled containers with appropriate plantings. Thanks go to these homeowners and to all homeowners from this past season for presenting the neighborhood with the excellent curb appeal that we all appreciate.

Till next time....Sharon



DATES TO REMEMBER

Crime Prevention thru Environmental Design

Oct. 2nd. 5:30 p.m.

Omaha Public Library - Benson

Omni Dental Free Basic Urgent Care

Oct. 5th 8 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1026 Woodbury Avenue

Historic Preservation Lecture

Oct 6th & Oct 20th

9:15 a.m.-Noon

Council Bluffs Public Library

Preservation Promenade

October 13th

A Christmas Carol

Nov. 18 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

IWCC Loft Hall

**"These things
I wish for
you; Someone to
love, some work
to do, a bit
o' sun, a bit
o' cheer, and a
guardian angel
always near"**

Irish Blessing

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET

Every Thursday 5:00 - 8:00 pm through September 27 on the corner of 9th Avenue and Main St. The Main Street Market seeks vendors who sell produce, wines, jams, jellies, baked goods, and arts and crafts (all processed food vendors must be State of Iowa certified). For more information or questions about the Main Street Market contact

Valerie Ware at 402.679.6366

or email

mainstreetfarmersmarket@gmail.com

FPNA ON LINE!!

We've joined the digital age. The official Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association website is finally up and running. We've been working these last few months constructing and loading content on the site. I want to extend a very heartfelt thank you to Sarah Arnold who has been lending her Web Design expertise to this project so that we can establish a web presence. Without her generosity this endeavor would never have been realized. So visit our site, add it to your favorites, leave a comment and let us know what you think.

www.fairmountparkna.org

THE Fairmount Press
 The Newspaper of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association
 332 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503
fairmountparkna@aol.com

Kyle Muschall	President/Publisher
Linda Ring	Vice President
Carol Mattox	Secretary
Dave Huggins	Treasurer
Terri Dowell	Editor
Sharon Babbitt	Special Representative

Sharon Babbitt	Board Member (2014)
Kyle Muschall	Board Member (2013)
Nate Watson	Board Member (2013)
Dave Huggins	Board Member (2014)
Carol Mattox	Board Member (2014)
Linda Ring	Board Member (2013)
Michelle	Board Member (2014)
Mutchler-Burns	

**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. Please Contact the Editor.

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: Dave Huggins, Treasurer, 150 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 \$12.00

(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: Kyle Muschall, President, 332 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503 or Dave Huggins, Treasurer, 150 Park Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503