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ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

YARD OF THE MONTH FOR JUNE

For the month of June the FPNA Board chose the front yard of homeowners Will Reger and Elizabeth Hostetter at 315 Park Ave. for recognition. This well tended yard shows nicely from the street, with its balanced shrubbery, flowers, and expanse of very green grass. It complements the beautiful historic Victorian home that it surrounds. Perhaps the original designers read the 1886 book called “Art of Beautifying Suburban Home Grounds,” wherein author Frank J. Scott said, “Preserve in one or more places (according to the size and form of the lot) the greatest length of unbroken lawn that the space will admit.” This could describe the lawns of several other homes in our Historic District, as well. Could it be that our founders all read this same opus by Scott? Probably not, too coincidental.

As we’ve said before, Linda makes the rounds, chooses several contenders for the YOTM and submits the list to the other board members, who make the final decision. Linda’s aim is to spread the joy around by not choosing those yards that have won this award in the past. She likes to see yards that are well kept, and look clean and put together; she does not necessarily look for a total “wow factor.” This method has produced a variety of winners and that’s the way it should be.

WE PAID OUR DUES OR MADE FLOWER BASKET DONATIONS

During the past month, the following folks have paid dues or donated to our flower baskets:

Dues:

Ted and Lorraine Duitsman

Donations:

Donald and Floy Irwin; Al Hudek, Sharon Babbitt

Thanks to all! Please send dues and donations to Treasurer Dave Huggins, 150 Park Ave., or drop it by his house.

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The President's Corner

Kyle Muschall

332 Glen Avenue

I want to start off with our 2014 Food and Clothing Drive for the Care and Share House. We had good participation this year. We had four large boxes of clothes and two large boxes of food. The Care and Share House, which is run by the United Methodist Church to provide food and clothing to the people of Council Bluffs and surrounding communities, was very grateful for the donations. When we dropped off the boxes they were in the middle of their evening shifts and were assisting numerous residents. There was a youth contingent from the Church who helped us move and stack our donations so that they could be sorted and distributed later. I want to thank all the FPNA residents who contributed this year and to the Care and Share House for the much needed service and assistance they provide to our Community.

The Kirn Park Grand Opening Event will be Friday August 8th starting at 8:00 p.m. The Mayor is scheduled to speak along with Larry Foster from the Council Bluffs Parks Department. We'll be showing a movie with drinks, popcorn and snacks provided. Please join us for the event. What a great way to end the week and kick off the weekend. Let's hope the weather holds out.

Another Kirn Park item, the Kirn Park entrance art signs are complete. I'm sure you've seen them progress over the last two months and they look phenomenal. The art signs are part of the "Art in the Park" project that was headed up by the C.B. Parks Department, partly funded by Iowa West and had great participation from the C.B. Residents in providing input on what they wanted to see in their parks.

I had the opportunity to talk with the artist Sean R. Ward who designed and built the signs for the Kirn Park portion of the project. Sean is originally from Long Island New York and attended the Kansas City Art Institute in his school days. Each of the signs has over four and a half yards of concrete. That is a lot of cement. The 5th Avenue sign goes deep enough that it hits the old brick road. The signs are faced with a hexagonal un-glazed tile that was popular between 1880 and 1940. I'm sure a lot of you recognize the tile as you probably have some of it in your home as I do. The edges are fitted with a brass rail and the design that is painted on the tile for the lettering and flower motif is a weather resistant glaze. The signs really do fit the period of the neighborhood, as if they were built at the same time as the park. My hat off to the artist for delivering a piece that is not only inspiring but will last for many generations.



2014 FPNA Food and Clothing Drive

FRONT DOORS: WHAT THEY SAY

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

Our front door, its color or lack of color, goes far to make that all-important first impression of our home. Maybe we've painted it our favorite color of orange or tropical fruit without giving it another thought except that we love the color. According to experts, though, colors have meanings and can evoke moods. I recently read a story that purports to explain it all and that inspired me to survey our neighborhood to see if we conform to current trends. Here are some of the colors and what they mean:

RED, one of the most popular color choices for front doors, is considered welcoming and inviting. Early American settlers set the trend for RED because it meant that weary travelers would be welcomed to stop and rest. But, in Scotland a RED front door meant the homeowners had paid off their mortgage. Confusing. It is the third most popular choice here, with twenty-seven doors showing various shades of this color.

WHITE is a classic color for front doors and has represented purity, virtue and serenity. It is a popular color for cottages, of which we have many. Forty-five of our doors sport this color.

BLUE is a popular choice as it is thought to bring lots of positive energy into a space. **LIGHT BLUE** represents ease and harmony in relationships. We enjoy eight **BLUE** doors here, but only one of them is **LIGHT BLUE**. Hmm.

GREEN is the color of renewal and wealth, representing balance, peace, compassion, growth and harmony. There are eight **GREEN** doors here.

PURPLE is thought to invite many opportunities into the home. It encourages a fresh perspective and also represents royalty. There are three actual **PURPLE** doors in our neck of the woods, and one **LILAC**, one **PINK** and one **FUSCHIA** (which I consider a variation of purple).

BLACK front doors command attention and project sophistication and authority. We only have two **BLACK** doors around here, so what does that tell you?

Other colors represented in our neighborhood, for which I have no explanations, are **TAN**, **SALMON**, **BROWN**, **TURQUOISE**, and **CHARTREUSE**. Who are these folks who dare to be different? Are they just like you and me? Who knows?

I have left the most popular choice for front doors to last. Far and away the most popular treatment for our front doors is **UNPAINTED WOOD**, with sixty-five doors appearing this way. It could be that the old house devotees among us can't or won't touch their doors with anything but polythurethane. Maybe they're right, but that purple door trimmed in metallic gold still speaks to me.



AUG



8TH

KIRN PARK

GRAND OPENING

The Council Bluffs Parks Department along with the Fairmount Park and Gibraltar Neighborhood Associations are hosting a celebration for the completion of the renovation of Kim Park.

The opening ceremony will begin at

8:00 p.m. on Friday August 8th.

Popcorn, Drinks and Snacks will be provided along with a movie shown on a big screen.

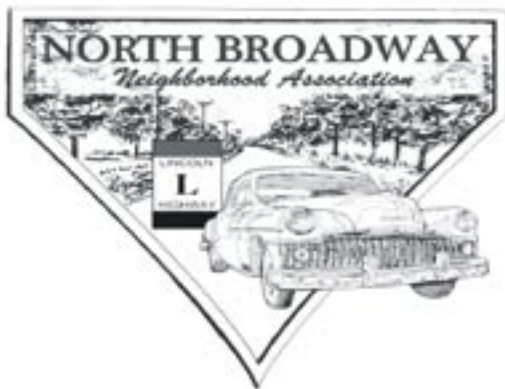
Mayor Matt Walsh and Parks Dept. head Larry Foster will speak at the event.

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FOOD TRUCK

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By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

Continued From Pg.1

HERE IT COMES AGAIN

Yes, it is a reminder to get those e-mail addresses to Kyle for inclusion in our Distribution List kmuschall@cox.net. As we've been saying (okay, harping), we will be moving to on-line newsletters rather than paper copies in each and every mailbox. If you don't have an e-mail address and therefore must receive a printed copy, please let us know this as well. We think every person should know what's happening in our neighborhood, don't you?

NEIGHBORHOODS USA

The Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) has received an excellence in newsletter achievement from the Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) national organization. We entered two of our 2013 issues into the competition in May of 2014. The acknowledgment was awarded at the annual conference in Eugene, Oregon which took place on May 21-24. This goes along with the FPNA being a finalist in the Neighborhood of the Year competition (NOTY) in which we submitted our identification banner/flower basket/pole project in the beautification and improvement category.



JUNE YARD OF THE MONTH



Will Reger & Elizabeth Hostetter

315 Park Avenue

Photos by Kyle Muschall

THE POWER TO STAY SAFE

MidAmerican Energy Company has recently received calls about scams occurring in its service territory. Many of the scams originate with a telephone call to a MidAmerican Energy customer.

Reports indicate the suspicious callers pose as MidAmerican Energy employees and tell customers they are behind on their utility bills or need equipment repairs and have a short time to make a payment to keep their utility service on. The customers are told to purchase a "Green Dot" or other prepaid debit card and call back with the serial number of the card to avoid having their electricity or natural gas shut off. These calls may show up on caller ID as if they were coming from MidAmerican Energy.

BE AWARE!

MidAmerican Energy customer service will NEVER request that you purchase a Green Dot or any other prepaid debit card to pay your bill.

MidAmerican Energy customer service will not request your account number. The company has that information on file.

Do not provide your account number, credit card information or any personal information to an unknown or suspicious caller.

If you receive a call asking you to provide personal information or buy and make a payment using a prepaid debit card, hang up the phone. Immediately call MidAmerican Energy at 888-427-5632. Do not use any phone numbers provided by an unknown caller. Help Spread the Word: Tell your friends and family about the scam, so they don't become the next victim.

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 332 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503
www.fairmountparkna.org

Kyle Muschall	President/Publisher
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Vice President
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Dave Huggins	Board Member (2016)
Terri Dowell	Board Member (2016)
Linda Ring	Board Member (2015)
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Board Member (2016)

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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. Please Contact the Editor.



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