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ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

ANOTHER MEETING COMING UP

Save the date of September 27th between 6-8 p.m. for the next FPNA membership meeting at 156 Park Ave. Homeowners Russell Bothwell and Kelli Deere have offered their beautifully restored back yard for a potluck get-together, weather permitting, and if it doesn't permit we will move inside to their (again, beautifully restored) interior. Either way, we won't want to miss the opportunity to show our appreciation to Russell and Kelli for joining the FPNA and for allowing us to see all the restoration work they've done on their home and grounds.

As we've often observed, this neighborhood is known for the do-it-yourself spirit of our homeowners. It is rare to see a home around here that hasn't received some sort of renovation work, mostly done by themselves. You could say that the reason is because our homes are so darned old they can't help but *need* restoring. Okay, okay, that may be true, but when we get the chance to see some quality work up close and personal, we owe it to ourselves to check it out—and show our appreciation to the homeowners while we're at it. The work done on this home, both inside and out, is worthy of an episode on HGTV, so don't miss it. Also, where else will you see a high privacy fence that was built just for the safety of a couple of cats? Yes, you heard me! Pet owners rejoice. All others keep quiet.

Remember to bring food, any kind. We do love the variety that potluck parties provide.

YARDS OF THE MONTH

For our July YOTM, the Board selected the nicely landscaped yard at 321 Park Avenue. Homeowners Mark and Sharon Peters have put in new retaining walls around their driveway and house and the large planters and beds that surround the entrance to their home are wonderful. This is topped off by a new white railing for their front patio. For our August YOTM award for 2014, the Board selected the

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The President's Corner

Kyle Muschall

332 Glen Avenue

The Kirn Park Grand Opening was a spectacular event attended by a great crowd and the weather couldn't have been better for an August event outside. Larry Foster from the Parks and Recreation department lead off the ceremony by giving a short history of Kirn Park along with the people and organizations that made it possible for such a stunning renovation.

Mayor Matt Walsh acknowledged the hard work of everyone involved and thanked those who stayed committed to the project to see it thru to the end. Jerry Mathiasen, senior Vice President of the Iowa West Foundation, gave a rousing speech extolling the virtues of what folks can accomplish when people and organizations come together. The artist Sean R. Ward related the inspiration and work involved in creating the truly grand result that is our new Kirn Park Art Signs proudly displayed at the High School and 5h Avenue entrances to the park. Even your humble FPNA president was asked to say a few words. I kept it short and recognized the folks who couldn't attend but were integral to the restoration. I will re-iterate my closing statement. It is my fervent wish that the Park be enjoyed for generations to come.

After the speeches we all, the whole large crowd, strolled out to the 5th Avenue entrance to officially unveil the new Kirn Park Art sign. Photos were taken and folks took the time to catch up with one another. The Parks Department then hosted a movie night at the grand stand by inflating a portable large movie screen to show Frozen by Disney. Lemonade and popcorn were enjoyed by all. It was a great night and a great event. Please enjoy photos of the event on pages four and five of this month's newsletter.

JULY YARD OF THE MONTH



Mark & Sharon Peters

321 Park Avenue

Photo by Kyle Muschall

UNEXPECTED GUESTS

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

Many older residents will remember the Leber family, who lived on Park Ave. for more than 30 years, first on one side of the street and then on the other. Betty and Al raised 11 children, many of whom were still living at home when they moved into this neighborhood. The story goes that they first lived on the East side of Park but Betty took it into her head one day to move to a house on the West side of the street. Al came home expecting to see new carpet, only to discover that Betty had changed her mind and decided to move across the street instead. Gotta love her!

Betty recently passed away at the age of 91, having outlived Al by some 18 years. Betty's legacy includes 10 surviving children, 30 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren — and her home on the West side of Park.

Some members of the family live in the metro area, while many others are scattered across the continent. A great many family members gathered to say farewell to their illustrious relative and thought it would be a fun thing to take a last look at the "old family home." Thus, their spokesperson called up the unsuspecting homeowner and requested a tour, stating they would be there *in 15 minutes!!!* In exactly 15 minutes the visitors arrived—all 50-60 of them. They all entered the house at once and were packed in like sardines. How they were ever able to see anything is a mystery.

This impromptu tour will be remembered for a long time to come, both by the surprised homeowner, her "unexpected guests," and maybe even by Betty herself who was no doubt chuckling from her vantage point in the great beyond.



KIRN PARK GRAND OPENING



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Continued From Pg.1

200 Park Avenue

expansive front lawn at 151 Park Ave. Although homeowners Bob Pashek and Bill Mann experienced the heartbreaking loss of their beautiful vintage fountain earlier this year, they continue to make the location of the lost fountain a focal point, surrounding it with trimmed boxwood bushes. We were waiting for the blossoming of their sweet autumn sedum vine cascading across the front bay of their home, and it did not disappoint. Thank you, homeowners, for helping to beautify our street and our entire neighborhood.

NEW ARRIVALS

A new family has moved into the house at 199 Glen. We welcome Ruth Tijerina and her three daughters, Miranda, Michaela and Malena. They attend St. Albert’s. Two older children, Mason and Maria, are college students. (Three guesses which letter of the alphabet was favored by their parents—and it’s not the letter “Z.”) They have chosen a good neighborhood in which to settle. We are friendly and helpful so don’t hesitate to grab any one of us if you need to.

WE PAID OUR DUES

During the past few weeks, the following folks paid their dues:

Kelly and Ward Prine
Gregg and Julie Mooney
Will Reger and Elizabeth Hostetter

Thanks for your support of the NA. We are slowly building our treasury up again after all the expenses from our recent poles project, and all dues (still \$20 a year) and donations are welcome and needed. Please send it to Treasurer Dave Huggins, 150 Park Ave., or drop it by his house.

READER ALERT, AGAIN

Just a reminder—our newsletters will soon almost exclusively be delivered electronically. For this, we need all those e-mail addresses. If we don’t have yours, please let Kyle know (kmuschall@cox.net). If you are on our distribution list, that means we have your information. It is very important to keep connected and this is the modern way of doing it. If you don’t have an e-mail address, we need to know that as well because our plan is to deliver printed copies of our newsletters to you and you alone. After



AUGUST YARD OF THE MONTH



Bill Mann & Bob Pashek 151 Park Avenue

Photos by Kyle Muschall

THE POWER OF PLANTING SHADE

In addition to their natural beauty and environmental benefits, trees can shelter and shade your home, resulting in lower heating and cooling costs. MidAmerican Energy Company can help you put the power of shade to work with its Plant Some Shade® program. We’ve partnered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and local conservation organizations to offer affordable landscape trees at a reduced cost.

The trees are available to Iowa residential customers for planting on their property to provide energy efficiency benefits by means of shade and windbreaks. Through the Plant Some Shade program, a 5-8 foot shade tree and a 2-3 foot conifer can be purchased for \$30 per tree with a two-tree maximum.

Iowa MidAmerican Energy customers may preorder trees and pick them up at one of our fall 2014 Plant Some Shade events. These events will be held in September and October.

Des Moines-Oskaloosa-Sioux City-Waukee

Additional event sites may be added. Visit our website for detailed event information.

In September, order forms will be available at www.midamericanenergy.com/iowa_plantsomeshade. Preordering and prepayment are required. Trees are not guaranteed or covered by warranty, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Plant the power of shade with help from MidAmerican Energy. Call 800-434-4017 with questions.

THE Fairmount Press

The Newspaper of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association

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

Kyle Muschall	President/Publisher
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Vice President
Sharon Babbitt	Secretary/Editor
Dave Huggins	Treasurer
Cindy Muschall	Special Representative

Sharon Babbitt	Board Member (2016)
Kyle Muschall	Board Member (2015)
Dave Huggins	Board Member (2016)
Terri Dowell	Board Member (2016)
Linda Ring	Board Member (2015)
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Board Member (2016)

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.

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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: 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