

THE

Fairmount Press

The Newspaper of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association

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

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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.

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New Vol. 9 Issue 3

MAY 2016

Visit us Online at www.fairmountparkna.org

ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt 200 Park Avenue

GARAGE SALE APPROACHING

June 4th will be here before you know it. That means that we will have a great opportunity to clean out our basements and garages and make a little money in the process. Time to get organized and put those price tags on our stuff. Is your location staked out? If so, remember to let Kyle know so he can have the signage ready for us. Also, if you need tables, there are some available, so let Kyle know about that as well. You know Kyle—he’s a work horse, not a show pony, and we can count on him.

LOOKOUT POINT CLEAN-UP + CLEAN SWEEP

And speaking of work horses, so many folks turned out for our May 7th clean-up of Lookout Point that it took less than two hours to finish the job. Nearly twenty of us from FPNA came ready to work and we were joined by several Boy Scouts and kids from Roots and Shoots. Seventeen contractor bags were filled and three old tires were dug out of the underbrush. We got to chat with the man who’s setting up the hiking/biking trails in the Park; he was impressed with us, just as we were with him. We all enjoyed freshly baked donuts from the Madd Ox Bakery, with apple juice to drink. Photos were taken and can be found somewhere in this newsletter. Thanks to all for your help. We Care!!

Clean Sweep took place on May 17th. All our streets were denuded of trash thanks to the four—yes, four—volunteers who showed up. They walked every street in our NA and got everything. This was such a supreme effort that it is fitting to name them all, first and last names: Terri Dowell/Karl Allen, Rob Hoag, and Dave Huggins. Thank you! We are humbled.

NEXT MEETING

Surprisingly, there is no official FPNA meeting scheduled until August 13th, when we hold our annual picnic at Lookout Point, with an alternate indoor site selected if weather interferes. Gosh, how did that happen? There’s a lot of activity going on……just not a meeting. Well, please don’t get the idea that we’ve gone under because that’s sure not true. We did have a great meeting on April 9th with lots of members attending. At that meeting, we got to hear about the proposed new facility for the CB Police Department from Dale Schmidt and Mark Hansen. It was very informative and there was a great question-and-answer session following. As you probably know by now, the funding for the proposed new facility was approved by city voters.

Continued On Pg.6



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

The President's Corner

Sharon Babbitt 200 Park Avenue

The big news right now is that the City Council approved our request to use one if the vacant lots on upper Park for our pollination garden. Here's how it came about, step-by-step:

Our idea took root (pun intended) at the January membership meeting and board meeting to follow. Several people volunteered to be on the committee and Michelle was named as the chair. Research began on what bees, butterflies and hummingbirds need to begin their job of pollination and general living. A supplier was found for wildflower seeds and a contractor was contacted about tilling. We got permission from nearby neighbor Lucille Dunlavy to use her outside water hydrant and we were so glad of this that we named her as an honorary member of our committee. So far so good.

We found out we had to have City Council permission and this meant a detailed application package. We got that done and it was good enough to gain approval from the Community Development Department. We then appeared in person before the City Council, where Sharon, Michelle, and Marie presented our application. It was approved unanimously and a lot of interest was shown by people after the meeting—about wanting such a project in their own neighborhoods. Hooray, maybe it could go Citywide!

So, now we're on our way, right? Wrong. We ordered the seeds but it is still not clear where we have to go to pick them up—Council Bluffs, Ankeny? We are determined not to have to pay retail. Then the tilling contractor has been so busy he has not even been able to name a date for his work to start, and we can't begin without him. This is a larger area than a home garden tiller can do, as you can imagine.

Here we are, in limbo, and Summer will arrive shortly. If we don't begin our project soon, it will be too late to capture the spring cool and rainy weather. We may have to wait till Fall. This won't be all bad, as Fall is a dandy time to plant as well. There is one thing for certain. After all this, our project *will get done!!!*

DATES TO REMEMBER

FPNA Garage Sale
June 4th 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

FPNA Neighborhood Picnic
August 13th
Look Out Point

MEETING MINUTES

FPNA MEMBERSHIP MEETING, April 9, 2016

Meeting was held at the home of Mark and Shari Hansen, 322 Glen. Called to order at 4:00 p.m. Ten people attended.

Dale Schmitz, Mark Hansen, and Matt Walsh, were there to speak about the need for a new Police Headquarters building. They gave an in-depth presentation of the costs, and answered many questions about the project.

Michelle gave a report on the wildflower pollination committee's presentation to the City Council, which is scheduled for April 25th. The presentation, consisting of the application for permit, and cover letter with attachments, was passed around for the members to read. It was agreed that Lucille Dunlavy should be made an honorary member of the committee. She lives next to the site and is providing water for the plants.

Kyle gave a report on the garage sale. He said that to date he had only received notice of participation from one family. He will send the notice out on the distribution list again. Estimated costs for putting on the neighborhood wide garage sale is \$200, which includes the cost of advertising and printing. Garage sale participants are urged to contribute some portion of their sales to FPNA to cover the costs for this service. Saturday, June 4th, is the date. No rain date.

Dave gave the treasurer's report, as follows:

Beginning balance:	\$1188.10
Deposits:	60.00
Ending Balance:	\$1248.10
Petty Cash:	120.00

Meeting adjourned at 5:30

Minutes submitted by Sharon Babbitt



Recycle your Clean, Dry, Empty Plastic Bags and Film Packaging!

Plastics to Collect:

- LDPE / HDPE Films
- Newspaper Sleeves
- Bread Bags
- Product Wrap
- Cereal Liners
- Food Storage Bags
- Ice Bags
- Pellet Bags
- Produce Bags
- Dry Cleaning Bags
- Grocery Bags
- Case Overwrap
- Packaging Air Pillows
- Salt Bags



Look for bins and signage near store entrances and drop off collected plastics and wraps.



Your plastic bags and wraps then become Earth-friendly composite decking & railing!



Go to trexrecycling.com to see participating retailers.
800-BUY-TREX

ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt 200 Park Avenue
Continued From Pg.1

WE PAID OUR DUES

Dues continue to be \$20/year for individuals or families. The following folks have paid their dues since we last published the list. Thanks to all.

Don Angeroth	Carol Mattox	Harold Beck	Betty McKee
Ellie Caughlan	Matthew Schuling	Lucille Dunlavy	

If your name hasn't been published this year, you know what you must do...

BENEFITS OF A POLLINATION GARDEN!!

By Marie Huggins

150 Park

Few may appreciate it, but bee and other pollinators are vital to the U.S. economy and our sustainability as a nation. The USDA reports that bee pollination is responsible for more than \$15 billion in increased crop values per year and that one in three mouthfuls of our diet benefits from honeybee pollination. But, while our demand for pollinated food sources continues to increase, since 1940 our honeybee population has decreased from 5 million to 2.5 million. Since 2006 the annual loss of bee populations has averaged a frightening 33% each winter.

Scientists have been unable to pinpoint a single reason for the decline in bee populations and actually suspect multiple reasons. The four most likely causes are pathogens, parasites, lack of nutritional diversity and low nutritional value of pollen available (the types of crops and flowers planted are not varied enough and hybrids lack good pollen), and pesticides.

While this may seem like an overwhelming problem, there are simple things ordinary citizens like us can do to help rebuild our bee population, such as incorporating pollinator-friendly plants into our yards and avoiding use of pesticides. (If pesticides must be used, avoid applying them during the mid-day hours when bees are foraging pollen from flowering plants.)

You can also assist by volunteering your time to water, mow or weed our neighborhood pollination garden. Other benefits of the pollination garden include neighborhood beautification, producing more breathable oxygen and reduction of CO2, establishing root systems that purify water and prevent erosion, and spending more time with your neighbors and friends in the sunshine. See you at the garden!

Sources: US Forest Service website - USDA.gov website

Neighborhood Wide GARAGE SALE

Multiple Locations

Historic Park Glen District of Council Bluffs

JUNE 4TH

8 AM - 3 PM

Hosted by the

Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association

LOOK OUT POINT CLEAN UP 2016

