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## ALL THE NEWS THAT IS FIT TO PRINT

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the FPNA will be on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. We're in for a treat because we'll be meeting at 231 Park Ave., one of the oldest and most historic homes in our neighborhood, maybe even in the City. The home was built in 1857 by Thomas Hart Benton, Jr., nephew of the famous Civil War Senator from Missouri. Originally, the home had a porch spanning the front and it's not hard to imagine that Abraham Lincoln could have stood there in 1859, or could have at least looked at it!

Many owners later the house was bought by Dr. Dean, popular pediatrician of the time. The Deans restored the by-then rundown house and lived there for 50 years. Today's residents are Ted and Lorraine Duitsman and their children. Since moving to their new digs, Ted and Lorraine have participated in last year's Preserve Council Bluffs Holiday Homes Tour, volunteered for several FPNA activities, and Ted was elected to the FPNA Board of Directors. And, now they are hosting this meeting and even providing us with appetizers, desserts and drinks. These folks really care about our neighborhood! Let's show them we appreciate it by attending the meeting. It will be the last one until the Christmas party, so be there.

### YARDS OF THE MONTH

Our July and August YOM's sit side-by-side at 434 and 438 Huntington. They were presented to the Board by Kelli, our YOM Chair, for consideration as the July choice. The Board was torn as both yards were perfect in every way, so we took the cowardly way out and named them both, one for July and the other for August. Both these homes perfectly represent the cottage charms of the mid-1900's character of this section of our neighborhood. They are immaculately maintained from all angles. 438 Huntington features about 500 varieties of hostas, some of which have migrated to 434 Huntington, its next door neighbor. We thank these homeowners for providing such beauty for us to enjoy as summer comes to an end.

### THE TALE OF THE MIGRATING IDENTIFICATION POLE

Dave and Ted removed the pole from the corner of Glen and the alley and put it into storage somewhere awaiting its new concrete footing. The footing will be poured by Dave and Kyle as time permits and the pole will make its appearance once again near where it once stood. Fortunately for our volunteers, these poles are not as heavy as they appear. Thanks to Dave, Ted and Kyle for going to all this trouble for less than minimum wage—in other words, free.

Continued On Pg.5

## July Yard of the Month



438 Huntington Avenue Robert and Mary Eicher Photo by Kelli Deere

## August Yard of the Month



434 Huntington Avenue Jerry and Cindy Ostdiek Photo by Kelli Deere

# Rocky Road Popcorn Balls

by Kyle Muschall 332 Glen Avenue

3 cups miniature marshmallows  
1/4 cup butter  
8 cups freshly popped popcorn

1/2 cup dry-roasted unsalted peanuts  
1/2 cup miniature chocolate chips

- Place the marshmallows and butter into a large pot over medium-low heat, and melt them together, stirring often.
- Cook until blended and smooth, about 5 minutes, and remove from heat.
- Stir in the popcorn and peanuts, and stir gently to thoroughly coat them with the marshmallow mixture.
- Stir in the chocolate chips.
- With greased hands, shape the mixture into 3 inch balls, and wrap each ball in plastic wrap



## THE FAIRMOUNT PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
OCTOBER MEETING

Please join us at the home of Ted and Loraine  
Duitsman for appetizers, desserts and drinks

We'll be sharing the latest news and events  
for our corner of the world

OCTOBER 7th 6:00p.m  
231 PARK AVENUE

# President's Corner

By Sharon Babbitt

200 Park Avenue

## BLOCK PARTY AND A LITTE CROW

Many of you were there when FPNA held its Block Party on August 1<sup>st</sup>, in conjunction with National Night Out. Big crowd, great food, fun for all. Now let's hear the back story.

It is traditional for FPNA to put on a picnic every summer at Lookout Point in Fairmount Park. A year ago we changed locations to the splash pad, still in Fairmount Park. It was a wonderful location—beautiful scenery, kid friendly, shelter, parking, and even toilets. What's not to like? Some of the Board, including your humble correspondent, wanted to repeat the experience, but Shari was pushing for a block party so we could participate in the citywide 100 block parties event. She wore us down and we finally agreed that she should look into it. The more she looked the more expensive it became, even down to paying a rental fee for street barricades! Forms to fill out. Permission from homeowners who lived next to the street location. More stuff. Really, that splash pad looked better and better, but Shari persisted and agreement was reached. I can't speak for the rest of the Board but I was still grumbling and that didn't bode well for *next year*.

Fast forward to the evening of the block party. I wandered up to the location, still prepared to be contrary about the whole thing, when what should I see but a *big crowd* and I mean a *big crowd*! Who were all these people?? Some I knew, some I'd never seen before. Some people even paid dues on the spot, which can't help but make me happy. Live music by Andre Vandervelde (328 Glen Avenue). Fresh popcorn from that cute popcorn machine ran by Dan Borgalia (435 Huntington Avenue). Lynne Branigan talking about the re-imagined Dream Playground at Manawa. Karl generously sharing free soloar eclipse glasses. Kids having fun. All that chicken and other wonderful food that only our members can prepare to perfection—and that crowd that I was forced to eat and deserved.....

So, thank you Shari and your great crew—Terri, Kyle, Cindy all those cooks and everyone else who pitched in to make it an evening to remember.

## Council Bluffs Neighborhood Network Quarterly Meeting

September 19

The 712 Initiative  
Board Room  
5:30-7 pm

Drinks and light refreshments  
will be served

**Larry Foster** will present a workshop: \*Arts for All: Bringing Affordable Arts Education to Your Neighborhood/ Park Signage as Public Art with Neighborhood engagement\*

**Sharon Babbitt** Fairmount Park resident will do a Q&A session over the neighborhood's pollination garden

**Turner Morgan** will present on Gibraltar's table at the CB Farmer's Market: How they got a table, what they've learned and how they feel about their booth.

Please RSVP to Morgan Wade  
at 712-396-2478 or  
mwade@the712initiative.org  
no later than September 12.



"Because of  
your smile you  
make life more  
beautiful"

Thich Nhat Hanh

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Continued From Pg.1

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

In the beginning..... Everybody got a newsletter delivered to their doors. Then we called for as many e-mail addresses as we could get and sent them out on-line. At the same time, we installed boxes strategically located to hold multiple copies; folks were expected to pick up a copy if they wanted one. Those boxes were broken or stolen until only one remained. That last box just disappeared from the landscape recently. The Board decided a few months ago to hand deliver newsletters to each household once a year and chose May as the magical month. Meanwhile, we urge everyone who hasn't already done so to give your e-mail addresses to Kyle ([kmuschall@cox.net](mailto:kmuschall@cox.net)) if you want to keep informed, and why wouldn't you?

## WE PAID OUR DUES

The following good folks paid their dues of \$20/year per individual or family. We thank them and pledge, as always, to act responsibly in the handling of the FPNA treasury.

Marilyn Abbott (paid for both 2017 and 2018)

Jon and Maureen Garrigan

Richard Graeme

George Scott

## A HOMEMAKER'S DREAM

In 1924, an Iowa State College publication called *The Iowa Homemaker* said "it was the homemaker's responsibility to establish a home which is loved by all its members." The College, working through the county extension services, made several recommendations toward that goal, such as sinks with drains for the ease of kitchen chores; easily cleaned linoleum floors requiring half the scrubbing of wood floors; pressure cookers; and better step-saving practices. All that efficiency, said one homemaker, freed up more time for reading, writing and the "serenities of sewing, patching and darning." Think of it—1924 wasn't that long ago.

# The origin of "Bated Breath"

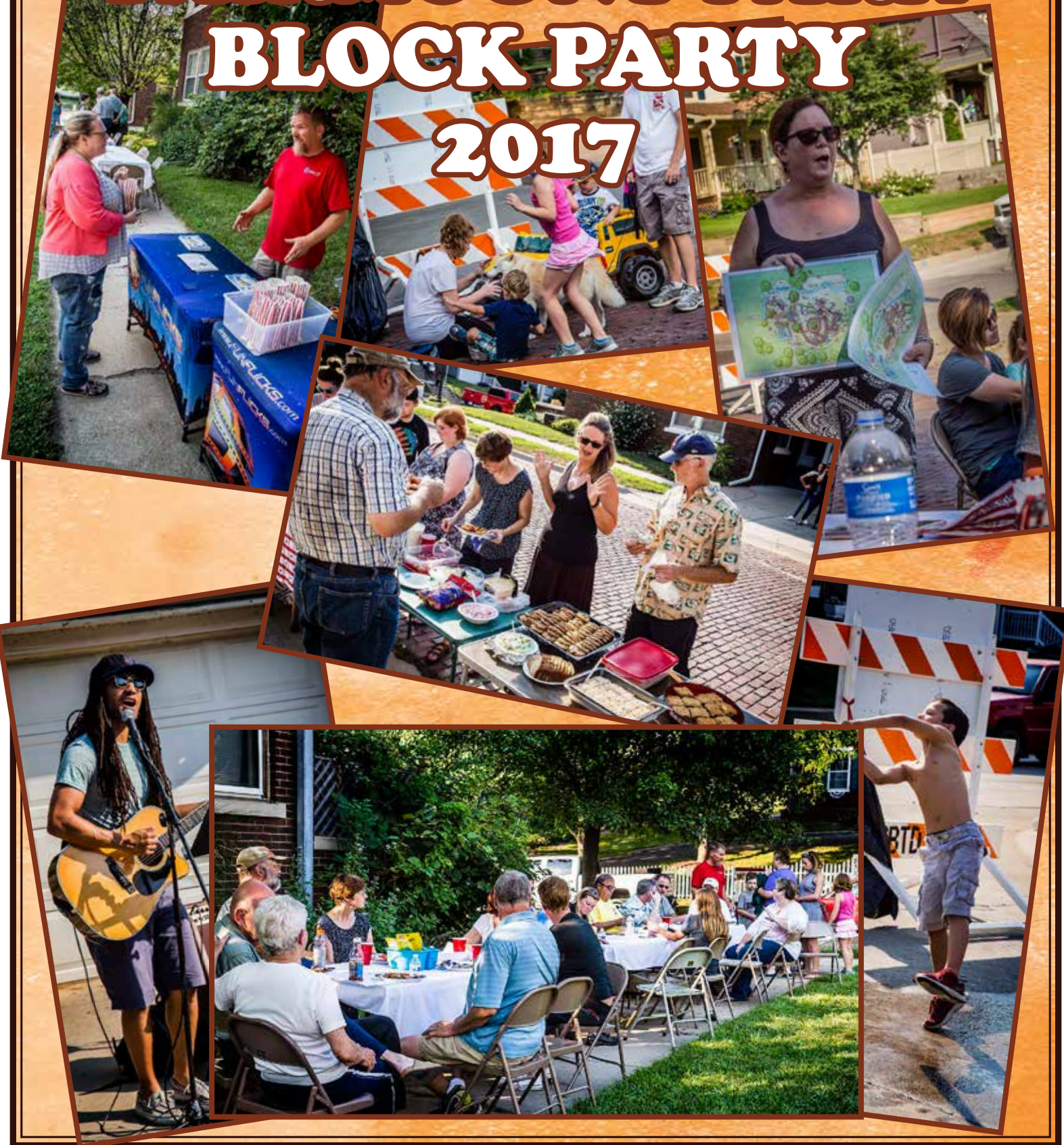
**The Straight Dope**

**By Cecil Adams**

Dear Straight Dope: I pride myself on my knowledge of word and expression origins — after all, I have acquired most of it from reading your columns/books for over five years. But recently I was stumped, and even after consulting my Straight Dope Reference Library, I still had no answers. Pray, could you search your reference library (AKA gray matter) and tell me — what is the origin of "bated breath"? I, and many of my associates, had mistakenly thought it was "baited." As a confessed member of the teeming millions, I can do nothing but embrace my ignorance, and turn to you for guidance.— Leslie in Wilmington, DE

SDStaff Terey replies: What, Leslie, you thought maybe people were chewing on worms? If your extensive research had involved a dictionary, you would have easily found the word "bate," meaning: "To moderate or restrain (a variation of "abate"): *to bate one's enthusiasm*, and, "to lessen or diminish," and "**with bated breath** - in a state of suspenseful anticipation." "Bated breath" has been around a long time. Here's the first cite in the *Oxford English Dictionary*: "1596 Shakespeare, *Merchant of Venice* i. iii. 125 'With bated breath, and whispering humbleness.'" Maybe someday the Teeming Millions will all invest in a good dictionary, but I won't bate my breath.

# FAIRMOUNT PARK BLOCK PARTY 2017



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# THE Fairmount Press

The Newspaper of the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association

332 Glen Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503  
[www.fairmountparkna.org](http://www.fairmountparkna.org)

Sharon Babbitt	President/Editor
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Vice President
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Dave Huggins	Board Member (2018)
Terri Dowell	Board Member (2018)
Greg Myers	Board Member (2019)
Shari Hansen	Board Member (2019)
Michelle Mutchler-Burns	Board Member (2018)

## 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. Please Contact the Editor:

Kyle Muschall : [kmuschall@cox.net](mailto:kmuschall@cox.net)

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THE 7<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> INITIATIVE



**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