

INGERSOLL PARK

Neighborhood Association

A Quarterly Newsletter for IPNA Neighbors

AUGUST 2006

Our IPNA Board Members ~

PRESIDENT:

Graham Gillette
274-3538
grahamgillette@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

& MEMBERSHIP

Mary Brubaker
279-2190
marybrubaker@aol.com

TREASURER:

Kevin Edwards
279-3179

SECRETARY:

Britgne Lucas
279-4415

PAST PRESIDENT:

Clark Smith
255-2648
clark@butlerhouseongrand.com

BOARD MEMBERS AT-LARGE:

David DeForest-Colvig
255-9058
dcolvig@avalon.net

Paul Goodwin
279-0502
pgoodwin@mchsi.com

Bonnie Green
274-2626
btaylorgreen@mchsi.com

NEWSLETTER:

Theresa Weeks
255-7510
tcweeks@qwest.net

Neighborhood Scrub Day

THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH

7:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

NORTH PARKING LOT AT ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

If you've got junk collecting in your garage or basement that you'd like to get rid of, mark your calendar for THIS Saturday, August 26th! In just a few days you will be able to dispose of trash, yard waste and even small appliances*. Here are the particulars on this event:

- seven westside neighborhoods will be participating (expect long lines at times)
- City staff will require proof of residency with either a photo ID or a current utility bill.
- No commercial haulers allowed. Commercial haulers must use the Metro Park Landfill.
- Scrub Items Allowed:

TRASH DUMPSTERS:

General Trash including furniture
Lawn mowers without fluids
Televisions, Computers

YARD WASTE DUMPSTERS: Brush, Tree Limbs (3" Diameter or less; 6' long or less)
Loose leaves / grass clippings / straw / hay

APPLIANCES: (*Disposal fee of \$10.00 cash)

Air Conditioners, Refrigerators, Freezers,
Microwaves, Dehumidifiers, Furnaces, Stoves,
Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers, Water Heaters

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED:

Car Batteries, Propane Tanks, Toxic Liquids
such as oil, paint or hazardous chemicals

UNLOADING PROCEDURE:

Wait turn in line and ask where to unload
Plan to unload your vehicle within 15 minutes
Place all items in appropriate dumpsters
Clean up your own debris from unloading

VEHICLE SIZES ALLOWED:

Pickup Truck (maximum 4' sideboards
Car or Small Trailer

Please Note: Assistance is provided for the elderly or disabled.



IPNA is looking for volunteers to help with this event.



If you are able to assist, please contact
David DeForest Colvig at 255-9058. *Thank you!*

Monument Update

The IPNA monument, erected on the Woodland/Harwood island, is quickly approaching its one year anniversary. We're happy to report that the structure made it through a snowy winter, a repair of the planter base and the threat of graffiti artists who defaced other sign monuments near our area.

The monument, the Eagle Scout project of Ben Brown, is now a focal point for the neighborhood. It's been the gathering site for an IPNA quarterly meeting and our photograph for the Des Moines Register's recent feature on neighborhood organizations. It has also become a play place for area kids. While the island 'parks' do invite gatherings we would like to caution everyone to instruct children NOT TO CLIMB on the the monument planter. The base, which has been repaired once already, is delicate and cannot withstand the body weight of even small children. We appreciate everyone's consideration and attention.

The beautiful tulips, planted by last fall by the Simmons and DeForest-Colvig families, colorfully greeted drivers and passersby as they entered the neighborhood this spring. A beautiful summer petunia display now graces the planter. We would like to thank those involved with the planting and upkeep of these flowers from season to season. We think we saw the green thumb of Kurt Simmons in action most recently—Mark Kane was in charge last summer.

There was a discussion at the last quarterly meeting about installing a plaque of some kind on the north end of the monument. Instead of lettering across the front brick, which might be distracting or difficult to read, the plaque would convey information about the neighborhood and the date the monument was built. More information to follow.

Annual LABOR DAY PICNIC Sunday, September 3rd



The Labor Day Picnic, a long standing tradition of Gil-Mar Park and the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood will take place on Sunday, September 3rd. Rain date is Monday, September 4th.

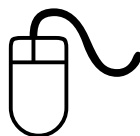
IPNA will provide a drink (most likely lemonade) and table setting. Attendees should bring their own meat to grill (grills provided) as well as one dish to share with others. You may also bring coolers for beverages of choice. We are asking that each family contribute \$10.00 toward this event (Individuals - \$5). Payment may be made to Chris Donaldson at 4420 Harwood in advance of the picnic or on the day.

Last year we had a record turnout and a wonderful array of food, so bring lawn chairs or a picnic blanket and join the fun and have a great evening out with your neighbors.

Children's games will start around 3:00. The grills will be fired up around 5:00 with dinner served at approximately 6:00. The immediate area will be barricaded off at 2:00 p.m. Kids love to ride their bikes around the closed street while the adults prepare for dinner. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity for this event, please contact Bonnie Green at 274-2626.

Would you like to receive this newsletter electronically ?

IPNA is looking to cut costs with our quarterly newsletter. By receiving the newsletter via email you will reduce printing costs and the time and effort it takes to hand deliver hard copies to individual houses. If you'd like to be added to the email distribution list :



grahamgillette@aol.com



FREEWAY CLEAN-UP SCHEDULED

Save the Date: OCTOBER 21, 2006

8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Meet at the Roosevelt High School south parking lot

Please mark your calendars now for this important neighborhood event. Many hands make for light work so your time commitment will not be great if we can assemble a good group. Be sure to wear old clothes and bring gloves and suitable shoes. This is an easy way to improve the look of our neighborhood I-235 offramp area. We hope to see you there!

If you have questions, please call Mary Brubaker at 279-2190.



The Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Association was featured in the Des Moines Register on Tuesday, July 25th. Our photo was taken on the monument island.

Fall Quarterly Meeting Planned : September 14th

The September meeting of the IPNA Neighborhood Association will be held on Thursday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. on the Monument Island at Woodland and Harwood. Please bring a lawn chair and an evening beverage to enjoy while we talk about important upcoming events and issues that affect our neighborhood. In case of rain, we will meet at Graham Gillette's house directly across from the island. Our agenda will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

Discussion Items:

- HOLIDAY WALK - Sunday, December 10th
- MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
- FREEWAY LANDSCAPING
- 100 YEAR HOUSES
- DES MOINES MARATHON

Guest Speaker:

- MAYOR FRANK COWNIE
- NOMINATION OF BOARD OFFICERS + VOTE

Treasurer's Note

IPNA does not require residents to pay dues to be a member of our association. Newsletters, email communication, events and programs are offered and available to all. We would however, like to ask residents for a free-will offering at our fall meeting. If you cannot join us on the 14th and would like to contribute, please send checks to:

Kevin Edwards, IPNA Treasurer
530 44th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

Des Moines Marathon to Run through Gil-Mar Park

On Sunday, October 15th the 2006 IMT Des Moines Marathon race will cover 26 miles of the city. Mile 7 includes a tour of Gil-Mar Park. Runners will enter our neighborhood from Polk Boulevard and will travel south on 44th Street. They will then cut east on Woodland, turn north on Harwood, continuing on along Bradway Place and Pleasant and then exiting onto Polk via Harwood -- completing the big Gil-Mar Park loop. At our September quarterly meeting we'll discuss how we can showcase our neighborhood that day and also assist with the Marathon event. If you have any questions, please contact David DeForest Colvig at 255-9058.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

- As part of its ongoing feature on various neighborhood groups around the city, the Des Moines Register highlighted IPNA on July 25th. A group photo was taken on the monument and several residents were interviewed about what makes the Ingersoll Park area unique.

- IPNA would like to thank Marge and Larry Stevens for monitoring and cleaning the patch of land to the north of the secret path (walkway from Harwood to 42nd St.).

- Thanks to all of the Gil-Mar park residents who made the Memorial Day party a success. This was a first time get together but one that may become a tradition.

- On August 12th, Scott and Helen Little threw a party to celebrate the centennial anniversary of their house on Woodland Avenue. The entire neighborhood was invited to enjoy a catered BBQ dinner on the front lawn. It was a great August evening for celebrating the rich history of their home. Thanks Scott and Helen for a fun time!



Scott & Helen Little

- Do you know what date your house was built? IPNA is taking note of houses that will turn 100 in the next year or two. We'd like to feature your home in the newsletter to showcase the rich history that surrounds us. Please contact President Graham Gillette with your house information. Thank you!

- Several new families have recently moved in and we'd like to welcome them to the neighborhood. If you're new to IPNA, please come to our September meeting to introduce yourself. We're a friendly bunch and we welcome your input and participation in neighborhood events. We know you'll love it here.

- Thanks to Katie Gillette for organizing and coordinating our tree plantings this past spring. The flowering pear trees are a lovely addition to our streets and we look forward to their blossoms next year. We have had a nice amount of rainfall the past several weeks but if things turn dry again, please remember to water the trees in your area. If you have any questions about watering, please contact Katie at 274-3538.

- Just a reminder that the Des Moines public schools resume classes on Thursday, August 24th. Students will be walking to and from school, so please drive carefully.



A new group called Restoration Ingersoll is currently working on coordinating a

streetscape improvement plan and has been actively raising money for a pilot project for improvements on Ingersoll Avenue between 28th and 31st streets. If the pilot project is successful, improvements will be implemented along the remainder of the Ingersoll corridor.

The Chicago landscape firm of Douglas Hoerr was hired to create the design. The first plan would have an 8 ft. wide sidewalk on the north side of Ingersoll and a 6 ft. wide sidewalk on the south side. Pedestrian crossing areas would be enhanced, and street trees would be planted. This plan would cost \$650,000 with money coming from both city money and a federal grant. The second plan builds upon the first and would add bike racks, benches, trash receptacles and decorative urns similar to those in the downtown area. Curbing would be replaced and street lighting would be added. This second plan will cost \$2.3 million and would require additional outside sources of money.

In an effort to bridge the gap between available money and the second plan's cost, Restoration Ingersoll is selling inscribed bricks at a cost of \$100 each. The bricks are large enough for 2 lines of text at 13 characters per line. Each inscribed brick will be worked into the landscape design where bricks are called for. Restoration Ingersoll is also looking for additional sponsorships for larger items like benches and bike racks. If you'd like to be a sponsor, please contact:

KIMBERLY HANSEN, Co-Chair Restoration Ingersoll at 279-2684.

If you'd like to purchase a brick, please send check, contact information and brick inscription text to:

Restoration Ingersoll
c/o The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation
1915 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

All donations to this project will be tax deductible. Restoration Ingersoll would like to emphasize to residents that improvements made will enhance residential housing values and will increase retail, entertainment and dining opportunities. All of these things will in turn strengthen the economic base of the Ingersoll area.

Tree Project Update



Above: Mayor Cownie (with pitchfork) and Skip Moore (standing at right) are joined by representatives from The Home Depot and Trees Forever and NeighborWoods organizations at the June 16th planting ceremony.
Below: City workers and residents begin the planting on Harwood.



On June 16th Mayor Frank Cownie and City Arborist Skip Moore were joined by representatives of Trees Forever, The Home Depot Foundation, Tree City USA, the NeighborWoods Alliance and IPNA residents for a ceremonial planting of our new flowering pear trees. After



presentations were made the group got down to the business of digging and planting. Our streets are now graced with this series of young trees that will enhance our neighborhood, especially in the spring.

Many thanks to Katie Gillette for her vision and initiation of this project and to all those who helped out on tree planting day. For those residents with trees in front of their property, please monitor watering and growth. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Katie Gillette at 274-3538.



TREES FOREVER MISSION

To plant and care for trees and the environment by empowering people, building community, and promoting stewardship

The Bradford Pear tree is a flowering, non-fruiting, grafted hybrid that makes a very nice tree to plant along the driveway or street where space is limited. The Bradford Flowering Pear produces white flowers in the early spring and its leaves turn yellow in the fall. They hold a narrow shape, so they can be planted as close as six feet apart. Besides the masses of spring flowers and narrow shape, Bradford Pears are hardy and disease resistant. Their roots are not invasive like some trees, and the mature height won't interfere with overhead power lines.

—Empire National Nursery

IPNA

c/o 635 Harwood
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

TO : Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Resident

Planning Ahead IPNA Calendar

- September 14th - Quarterly Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Monument Island - Woodland & Harwood
- October 21st - Freeway Clean-up Starting at 8:00 a.m. - Meet at Roosevelt H.S.
- October 15th - Des Moines Marathon runs through Gil-Mar Park
- December 10th - Annual IPNA Holiday Walk

The IPNA Board would like to remind residents that school will soon be in session.

Please drive safely through the neighborhood.

Children will be walking and biking to and from schools and buses will be making their rounds.