

THE ENOS PARK BANNER

ENOS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOC. INC.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Next Neighborhood meeting Wednesday, **July 21, 2010** at 6:30 PM at Dove Center (St. John's Hospital)

Report ongoing nuisances in Enos Park by calling **787-ENOS**.

This number is not for emergencies

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LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Michelle Higginbotham, EPNIA Vice President, reviews an Enos Park property use map as part of the Master Plan being prepared by consultants from Mansur Real Estate Services in Indianapolis and the Lakota Group from Chicago.

Have you ever wanted to change the look of your neighborhood, adding new homes and eliminating others, changing the flow of traffic, adding lights, gateway signs and new streetscape? How about the type of houses: elevated front porches or ground level ranch style, set back from the sidewalks or up close to the street, garages in the backyard or attached to the house, small businesses located among family homes or around the perimeter of a residential area. What would you want for your neighborhood? We want to know! Whether you live in Enos Park or are concerned about how Springfield is perceived by our many guests who travel up and down North 5th and 6th Streets through our neighborhood from the Presidential Library and Museum to Oak Ridge Cemetery. On Wednesday, July 21st,

6:30 p.m., at the Dove Center (St. Johns Hospital) you'll have an opportunity to let us know! Mansur Real Estate Service out of Indianapolis and the Lakota Group from Chicago will provide the initial report of the Enos Park Master Plan. They will be hosting a workshop to get your input. This will be an interactive event with your questions and suggestions driving the program.

The workshop will start with an overview of what has already been identified about Enos Park, type of homes, property use, relationship to the medical and downtown districts, historical significance, the role of the Parks (Enos and Gehrman), the Springfield Art Association, small businesses, and traffic flow from downtown to the State Fairground.

Participants will then have an opportunity to review and recommend how to best revitalize the neighborhood as related to a variety of issues such as land use, infrastructure, transportation, historical preservation, finances, and organizational setup.

Early discussions have included strategies to best enhance the transition from the businesses along North Grand into the northern residential area of the neighborhood, the expansion of the Park

See WORKSHOP pg. 10

Did You Know?
By Steve Combs, President EPNIA

The initial research done by the Mansur Real Estate Service from Indianapolis and the Lakota Group from Chicago indicates that the Enos Park neighborhood from North 2nd to 9th Street and Carpenter to North Grand has the following types of property.

- 170 homes are single family owned and occupied
- 430 houses are rental properties
- 100 properties are vacant lots

Of the 700 properties in the neighborhood the conditions are as follows

- 134 homes are in good condition
- 268 homes are in fair condition
- 203 homes are in poor condition
- 30 properties are boarded and on the city's registration list

Additional research of the demographics of Enos Park related to the surrounding five (5) mile radius of the neighborhood shows the following

- Population has declined 10% in the last ten years as related to 3% in surrounding area
- Neighborhood has significantly higher percentage of rental and vacant property
- Median household income approximately half the median of surrounding area
- Home values slightly lower (5%) of surrounding area
- Median age of neighborhood population is stable and slightly younger than neighbors

Historically significant neighborhood properties show that

- 2 properties are on the National Register of Historic Homes
- 18 properties are potentially eligible for National Register
- 26 properties are potentially eligible for Springfield's Landmark recognition



**What an Opportunity
 If You're Looking ...**



There may be other properties for rent or sale. We invite property owners to use this feature. This listing will be on our website at www.epnia.com.

This feature is free to the public.

Call 522-9381 to list your property.

Business Space Available in Enos Park

- 1181 N 4th St. - 523-5162
- 611 N 6th St. - 544-4002
- 614 N 6th St. - 241-0202
- 1123 N 8th St. - 899-9662 (tavern)
- 701 N 9th St. - 553-7022 or 547-6650
- 800 blk N 9th - 899-470 or 525-2112 (1.95 acres)
- 802 N 9th St. - 547-6650 or 533-7022
- 1135 N 9th St. - 726-0600
- 726 E North Grand - 622-4919 or 525-2112
- 825 E Carpenter - 753-2121
- 716 E Enos - 725-4226 (tavern)
- 700 E Miller - 494-6468 or 787-7215

Houses for Rent in Enos Park

- 843 N. 8th St. - 638-0014
- 1177 N. 4th St. - 341-7656 or 741-6746

Apartments for Rent in Enos Park

- 918 N 6th St. - 827-0014

Houses/ Lots Available in Enos Park

- 1030 N. 3rd St. - 652-6016 or 787-7215
- 1123 N. 3rd St. - 652-3959 or 787-7215
- 1151 N 3rd St. - 899-9097 or 787-7215
- 1000 N 5th St. - 523-5555
- 1044 N 5th St. - 971-9138
- 1050 N 5th St. - 971-9138
- 1131 N. 5th St. - 638-9598 or 787-7000
- 700 E Miller - 494-6468 or 787-7215
- 804 N 7th St. - 726-3261 or 547-6655
- 810 N 7th St. - 899-1153 or 547-6655
- 820 N 7th St. - 899-1153 or 547-6655
- 833 N 7th St. - 415-0191 or 787-7215
- 841 N 7th St. - 787-7215 or 415-0191
- 911 N 7th St. - 971-9138
- 1117 N 7th St. - 652-6510 or 787-7215 (vacant lot)
- 1120 N 7th St. - 341-4924
- 824 N 8th St. - 787-7215
- 1101 N. 8th St. - 787-7000
- 800 N. 9th St. - 525-2112, entire block, west side
- 1005 N. 9th St. - 544-4002, 2 vacant lots

In the Neighborhood
By Officer Ryan Irwin

As the 4th of July approaches and many of us prepare for celebrations and family gatherings, many of us will be around fireworks. Each year many people are injured by fireworks. Please use caution and remember these safety tips, even if you are just a spectator.

- Kids should always be closely supervised around fireworks to avoid potential injuries.
- Please do not drink alcohol when using fireworks. Fireworks must be used by people acting responsible.
- Use fireworks on a hard, flat, level surface to keep the items stabilized.
- Never use fireworks indoors, and always make sure you are in an open area free of obstructions. Have plenty of water or fire extinguishers nearby.
- Never hold fireworks in your hands.
- Always read and follow label instructions.
- Don't use fireworks near houses, find a large open area.
- If you use sparklers, have everyone dump them into a bucket of water when they are finished.
- When viewing a fireworks display, respect the safety barriers and select a safe viewing distance of at least 500 feet away.

Remember, the City of Springfield prohibits the display of fireworks without a permit.-

ARTICLE V. FIREWORKS

§ 94.53. Display of fireworks; permit.

b) No person shall possess, store, use, or explode any fireworks unless he shall have been issued a fireworks display permit. No person under the age of 21 years old shall be eligible to be issued a display permit.

Remember to always report suspicious activity!
Police Emergency dial 911
Police Non-Emergency 788-8311

Visit us on the web
www.EPNIA.com
 to learn more about the organization

Report Nuisance Issues
787-ENOS

Enos Park Historic Homes TOUR

Saturday, October 2

12pm - 5pm

6 featured homes

all potentially eligible for National Register

For more information call 217-494-6668



Dr. Jayne Home

816 N. 5th St This is one of two high style brick Italianate homes along North 5th Street. It was built for William Jayne whose father, Gershom Jayne, was the first doctor in Springfield. William was a two term mayor of Springfield. The story is told that Abe Lincoln ducked out of the rain into this house while it was being constructed in 1859. He talked with the workers and moved on after the storm had passed. The Fever River Research identified this home as a potential candidate for the National Register of Historic Sites.

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**View from City Hall
By Sam Cahnman, Alderman, Ward 5**

"Make the best of a bad situation."

That is the only thing our City government could do when faced with a long, drawn-out law suit in federal court by the victim of last year's noose incident at CWLP.

When our City Attorney and Mike Williams' attorney reached a proposed settlement, the question before our City Council was whether it was in the best interest of our City to take the settlement, or engage in an ugly law suit in federal court with an uncertain outcome.

As a lawyer who makes decisions on whether to try or settle law suits for clients all the time, I was uniquely qualified among our aldermen to analyze this. I reviewed the complaints filed by Mr. Williams, and the City's response, Investigative Report, photographs and other documents. I consulted with our city attorneys, as well as attorney colleagues of mine who specialize in this area of the law.

It would have been politically expedient to vote No on the proposal to spend CWLP money to settle a claim caused by two other CWLP employees who at worst intentionally committed a racist act, or at best exercised very poor judgment. But you elected me to do the right thing, not what is politically expedient. My job was to evaluate whether the city would be likely to take an even larger hit down the road if we did not settle.

My conclusion that there was a far greater chance of taking a larger hit down the road was based on a number of factors: 1) The previous City Council rejected a \$50,000 settlement proposal in Springfield police officer Ricky Davis' case. After the trial, the City was hit with a \$613,000 judgment; 2) This case involves far more than the noose incidents; 3) The law in these types of cases provides that if the jury awards the plaintiff even one dollar, the city must pay all the plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees. So even if Williams got a low award, the City could easily be hit with a bill for his attorney that exceeded the settlement amount; 4) Even if Williams lost his case, he would continue to be a CWLP employee, and as such any time he was disciplined, he could bring a new law suit, claiming the discipline was in retaliation for

See VIEW pg 7

**Living with Character
By K.J. Knox**

Opportunists abound!

Listening to other tradesmen is always helpful to see if you are thinking about certain things correctly. We receive trade magazines from pertinent trades like painting, building, rural building, metal framing, tooling, equipment, etc. This keeps us up on what is new and how we have changed the way we do things and almost always it is important to keep looking far ahead to keep from falling behind. Homeowners on the other hand, only deal with the present time and using readily available materials whether they are the best materials or not, an unfortunate but real human condition.

With the economy sinking fast, the number of productive jobs diminishing fast, and politicians scrambling to keep their place, we are now inundated with regula-

tions to further protect citizens from lead poisoning, off gassing, saving on utilities and safety up front of the line, and the costs just keep climbing. Material shortages to enhance profit for suppliers to stay solvent, and increases in safety regulations now requiring classroom instructions and added costs which have to be passed on to consumers to keep the company afloat it is only going to be more expensive to do things correctly. This of course will cause an increase in people looking to have the work done cheaper through the use of unqualified individuals buying less expensive materials to make ends meet, in turn forcing the one's doing it correctly to sit idle forcing them out of business.

The author has completed over twenty-three whole house renovations in Central Illinois, some of them in the Enos Park area, and two projects have made it to The National Register of Historic Places earning him a place in National Register's Who's Who in Executives & Professionals.

In The Garden

By Jerry Blackburn

It's July! Time for fireflies, the chirp of crickets, home-grown produce and Japanese beetles. May was cold and rainy. We had to wait three weeks past the planting date to install annuals. June, like last year, we have had more than abundant rainfall. On the upside, everything is lush and robust, with much less watering to do. On the downside, basements filled with water and high temperatures made it feel more like July or the dog-days of August. This year is turning out to be the fourth warmest in recorded history for Illinois. There have been a few cooler days, but when it wasn't raining, it's been hot and oppressively humid. Working in gardens has been a challenge. We can catch up with gardening chores if temperatures and rainfall return to normal this month.

Here's a suggested list to help get back to a routine gardening schedule:

WATER - Annuals and vegetables need the most, followed by perennials, lawns, shrubs, then trees, in that order. One to one and a half inches twice a week when temperatures are above 85 (and rain is lacking) should keep plantings healthy. Watch for signs of lack of moisture, wilting or dropping being the first indicator. Excessive heat can also make plants droop or wilt, even with adequate moisture at the roots. If you water and plants recover within 1 to 2 hours, the problem was lack of water. If not, the problem was excessive heat. Plants will recover towards evening, as temps cool down. Try to keep plants well watered to avoid stress. Repeated stress can weaken a plant, reducing productivity and leaving it defenseless against drought, insects and disease.

PLANT - anything you want. The exception would be trees. They're best planted in the fall. Plants are on sale nearly everywhere. Plant broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower starts for fall harvest. Seed of zucchini and cucumber can also be planted now.

HARVEST - herbs for drying, blueberries, raspberries and cherries before the birds get them. We can pick our first tomato this month. Pick green beans, cucumbers and zucchini before they become too large, tough and bitter. Pick greens and lettuce before they bolt (send up a flower stalk and turn bitter).

WEEDING - is a fact of life in any garden. It's necessary and at times unpleasant. It's our biggest chore. Use weed barriers and mulches whenever possible. Pull them root-and-all to avoid dealing with the same weed over and over. Weeding in the early morning or towards evening after a soaking rain makes removal easier. We can pull twice as many in half the time when the soil has been recently drenched.

MULCH - two to four inches deep to keep weeds at a minimum, retain moisture and stabilize soil temperatures.

HERBICIDES - are chemicals that kill weeds, in some cases, any vegetation. If you must use them, do so only as a last resort. Any misuse can lead to health problems with your plantings, yourself, children, pets and wildlife. Read the entire label, use them correctly and follow all safety instructions precisely. Use them wisely, giving them the caution they deserve.

INSECTS - are proliferous and do the most damage during July and August. Japanese beetles have arrived. Killing them is simple — knock them into a pail of soapy water or use Sevin. Fall webworms will start to build nests at the ends of tree branches during July. Remove and destroy the nests or use B.T. (*Bacillus thuringiensis*).

PESTICIDES - kill insects. They should be treated with even more caution than herbicides, as they are even more toxic, sometimes deadly. Some insects are beneficial, eating other insects that can do considerable damage. Many damages from destructive insects are short-lived, temporary. They ravage our plants mainly during specific stages of their development, for short periods of time. By the time we notice the damage, in most cases the insects have "moved on" to other plants or stages of their development. Managing them without pesticides can be quick, simple, cheap and no-risk., Here's how — attract birds to your garden. They will eat as many bugs as they can hold all day, every day. You can knock insects from your plants with a strong spray from the garden hose or hand pick them. If it sounds too easy to be true, try it — it works. If you must use pesticides, follow all instructions.

See Garden pg 10.



Tips to Shake the Salt Habit

Did you know you can control or even prevent developing high blood pressure?

High blood pressure, which affects one in three adults, increases the risk of heart disease, stroke and kidney failure says Becky Smith, registered dietitian at Memorial Medical Center. If everyone decreased their sodium intake by 1,200 milligrams per day, the result would be 6 percent fewer cases of heart disease, 8 percent fewer heart attacks and 3 percent fewer deaths.

The American Heart Association recommends the following steps to control or prevent high blood:

- If you have high blood pressure and are prescribed medication, take it as directed.
- Maintain a healthy weight.
- Be moderately physically active on most days of the week.
- If you drink alcoholic beverages, do so in moderation and discuss with your physician.
- Follow a healthy eating plan, like the DASH (Dietary Approach to Stop Hypertension), which includes foods lower in sodium. It also limits saturated fat, total fat and cholesterol and increases fiber, protein, potassium, magnesium and calcium. DASH emphasizes lean meats, poultry, fish, nuts, whole grains, fruits and vegetables, and fat-free or low-fat milk and milk products.

Studies also concluded the importance of lowering sodium intake to no more than 2,400 milligrams per day. A further decrease to 1,500 milligrams per day is recommended if you have high blood pressure, whatever your eating plan.

It is important to recognize the sodium in foods. While only about 11 percent of salt is consumed from adding salt in cooking or at the table and only about 12 percent occurs naturally in foods, processed foods provide about 77 percent of the salt and sodium that we consume.

Try these tips to reduce salt and sodium:

- Compare the sodium content of different brands of a food by reading the Nutrition Facts labels and choosing the lower sodium brand.
- Use fresh, lean meats, poultry and fish rather than cured, smoked, canned or processed types. Beware of frozen meats, which may be injected with a sodium solution or seasoned, marinated or breaded.
- Choose fresh, frozen or canned low sodium or no-salt added vegetables and dried beans instead of regular canned vegetables and beans.
- Prepare hot cereals, rice, noodles and pasta without adding salt to the boiling water. Decrease your intake of instant hot cereal packets, flavored rice and pasta.
- Use powders instead of salts, such as garlic and onion powder instead of garlic salt and onion salt.
- Try adding lemon or lime juice or vinegar to salads and vegetables instead of salt.
- Avoid seasoning packet mixes such as taco seasoning and chili mixes. Instead make your own salt free seasonings following these two recipes.

No-Salt Taco Seasoning Mix

- 2 teaspoons No-Salt Chili Powder
- 1 ½ teaspoons Paprika
- 1 Tablespoon Cumin
- 1 teaspoon Onion Powder
- ½ teaspoon White Pepper
- ¾ teaspoon Garlic Powder
- Dash Cayenne Pepper

Italian Seasoning and Herb Mix

- 1 Tablespoon Garlic Powder
- 1 Tablespoon Onion Powder
- 1 Tablespoon Dried Parsley
- 2 Tablespoons Dried Oregano
- 1 teaspoon Dried Thyme
- 1 teaspoon Ground Black Pepper
- 1 teaspoon Dried Basil

View from Pg. 4

having filed his civil rights complaint. Ricky Davis lost his original law suit, but eventually won on a later retaliation claim. By Williams agreeing to resign, the City eliminated the possibility of any retaliation claim.

Not only was the settlement the fiscally responsible thing to do, but it also puts an end to one of the ugliest and most despicable chapters in our City's history. All in all, it was the best we could do with a bad situation.

On the 4th of July we always have a lot of fun celebrating our nation's birth with barbeques, fireworks and getting together with friends and family. But let's not forget the brave sacrifices made by veterans of past wars and by those soldiers currently putting their lives on the line for our freedom in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world. If you see a veteran or a member of our Armed Forces, please give them a big THANK YOU for their service to our country!



Alderman Sam Cahnman, an attorney, can be reached at samcahnman@yahoo.com; 528-0200; fax 528-0311 or 915 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62704

**Medical District
Commission Report**

SIU Med School - Diabetes Education Night

Treating diabetes is the topic of a public education program to be presented in July in Springfield by the endocrinology division at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. It will be held 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, July 12, at the James T. Dove, M.D. Conference Center, Prairie Heart Institute, 619 E. Mason St., Springfield.

The program for patients with diabetes and their families will provide general information about approaches to treating diabetes with lifestyle changes and medications and preventing complications.

The exhibits will open at 5:30 p.m. and include demonstrations of diabetic products. The presentations begin at 6 p.m. with three talks -- "Insulin Pump Therapy," "Carbohydrate Counting," and "Hypoglycemia and Diabetic Ketoacidosis."

The presenters include Kelly Powell, a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator; Brenda Michel, a registered nurse and certified diabetes educator, and Dr. Nicoleta Speil, an endocrinology fellow at SIU School of Medicine.

The program is free to the public. Parking is available on the top level of the Mason St. parking ramp that is adjacent to Prairie Heart Institute. For more information, call SIU School of Medicine at 545-8065 weekdays.

Going Back Again in 2010

I want to be a part of the revitalization of Enos Park Neighborhood. Here is my donation of \$25 for 2010 Membership, which entitles me to a copy of the Bylaws and voting privileges at the monthly meetings.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ PHONE _____ DATE _____

SIGNED _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Send to: Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, Inc.
821 N 5th St.
Springfield, IL 62702

For more information, call 522-9381

Report Nuisance Issues Call 787-ENOS



Paint Brush Award Nomination

1021 N 5th St.



Each month it is possible to nominate a home for the Paint Brush Award. Then in January, the Board selects the property among monthly nominees for the Golden Paint Brush Award. Nominations are always welcome. Please be on the lookout for outstanding homes in your area.

2010 EPNIA Officers

- Steve Combs, president 494-6668
- Michelle Higginbotham, vice pres.553-4629
- Diane Combs, secretary 494-6658
- Fletcher Farrar, treasurer 523-2801
- Bryan Allen, director 416-5294
- Dennis Chrans, director 544-1464
- Jack Kriel, director 546-5157
- Ed Kubiak, director 544-4113
- Linda Maier, director 547-5526
- Cynthia Mehl, director 753-2680
- Rick Mehl, director 753-2680
- Maureen Mulhall, director 638-8175
- Dennis Musser, director 528-7106
- Andy Anderson, advisory director528-9107
- Marilyn Piland, executive director 522-9381

The Enos Park Banner

Sponsored by the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, Inc. The editor is Marilyn R. Piland, 837 N. 8th St. Circulation is 500, distributed monthly on the first Tuesday of each month. To contribute an article, idea or place an ad, call 522-9381 or e-mail m.piland@sbcglobal.net or fax 522-3060. The deadline for copy is the 20th.

Advertising rates are:

1/16 page \$15	\$37.50 for 3 mo.
1/8 page \$20	\$50.00 for 3 mo.
1/4 page \$40	\$100.00 for 3 mo.
1/2 page \$75	\$187.50 for 3 mo.
Full page \$125	\$312.50 for 3 mo.



In March, a group of about 15 Church of the Brethren youth from around Illinois gathered in Springfield for their district youth retreat on the theme of urban ministry. After a tour of the Enos Park neighborhood, they picked up trash on several streets as a service project. The three pictured here are from the Naperville Church of the Brethren.

As a reminder, the EPNIA participates in the City of Springfield's "Adopt a Street" program and we are officially assigned to 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets between Carpenter and North Grand. This means that we commit to picking up litter at least four times a year, and the city will supply garbage bags and green vests as needed. If you know of a church group, youth group, Scout Troop, etc. looking for a project this would be a good opportunity. Or, if your family or you and a neighbor would be willing to take a turn cleaning a particular street, please contact Michelle Higginbotham at 553-4629 to get on the rotation schedule. It takes approximately one hour for two people to pick up litter along one street; plus, it's a way to get exercise and feel good about helping the neighborhood at the same time!



Cecilia K. Tumulty
City Clerk
City of Springfield

PH: (217) 789-2216
FAX: (217) 789-2144
E-MAIL: ctumulty@cwlp.com

300 South Seventh Street
RM. 106 Municipal Center West
Springfield, IL 62701-1625





EPNIA is pleased to announce a partnership with Sacred Heart-Griffin’s annual community service event, SHG Works. This is a large scale community service project scheduled for the weekend of October 2-3. For the last two years, about 200 students, parents, alumni, faculty and friends have gone out into the Springfield community and scraped, painted and cleaned up the homes of those who are low income or physically disabled and cannot fix up their own homes. The work groups will also partner with various social service agencies in or near the neighborhood to assist with projects they may need done.

Because there will be so many people involved, it is important for us to identify projects ahead of time and make sure we have materials on hand for the volunteers. The SHG Works Committee will select the applicants based on apparent need for the 20 projects that volunteers will complete on October 2-3. SHG Works volunteers are not paid professionals; therefore, there are some jobs that may be too big or require too much expertise. We can clean yards, paint porches and homes or help homeowners with minor tasks they can’t do on their own. We cannot do any projects on rental property. You can nominate yourself for help or nominate someone else. If you or your nominee is selected to receive help from SHG Works, proof of home ownership must be provided and a waiver signed.

Project Nomination Form

Name of person needing assistance _____

Home address where assistance is needed (Print Clearly)

Phone number of house where assistance is needed

Name, phone number and email of person completing application if not the same as the person needing assistance

What project would you like SHG Works volunteers to take on and why (explain why you are applying for assistance)? Be specific as to what you want SHG Works volunteers to do at your house. (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

We regret that we cannot help everyone who applies. Those selected will be notified by September 21st! Nomination forms must be submitted to SHG’s main office or mailed to SHG c/o Nora Yochim, 1200 W. Washington, Springfield, IL 62704 by Friday, August 13, 2010.

SHG Works is a group of volunteers who join together to celebrate the mission of SHG. We believe that SHG works as an effective educator, not only creating successful academic students, but also people who live their faith by serving others. If you have any additional questions, please call or email Nora Yochim, SHG Works Coordinator at norayochim@comcast.net or call 217-698-9846.

WORKSHOP from Pg. 1

system to include greenways between Gehrman and Enos Park, and participation with the Art Association to broaden its role and visibility in the community as a cultural campus. Enos Park's southern border along Carpenter puts it directly between St. John's and Memorial Hospitals. Any effort to tie the two campuses together with walkways, gardens, or mutually beneficial facilities could create a unique transitional zone with the southwest residential area. Package all of these possibilities with Enos Park's rich history and our location directly north of the downtown area and we have both a physical and historical tie to Springfield's second most important industry, tourism!

There are a lot of different aspects to this neighborhood once known as the "Jewel of Springfield"! Come join us in this exciting revitalization project! We want to know what you think! The workshop will be your opportunity to be the city planner you've always wanted to be.



FREE DELIVERY
to Enos Park
Residents
Call for details
217-528-7529

GARDEN from Pg. 5

FEED - garden and container plantings regularly with the proper type and amount of fertilizer for the intended purpose. Houseplants, perennials and flowering shrubs need 5-10-5. Vegetables need 10-10-10. Roses need rose food, etc. Don't feed trees during the summer, and never feed hostas or ferns. Their root systems can't take anything stronger than the nutrients released from composted mulch or compost.

DEADHEAD - flowers to encourage new blooms.

PRUNE - wisteria to control its spread now that it's done blooming. Trumpet vine blooms at the terminal ends of the vines, so trim them after they're done blooming. Trim yews, junipers and privets. Prune any flowering shrub right after it blooms. Prune out any damaged, diseased, misshapen or errant branches from trees and shrubs (maintenance pruning) at any time.

CONTAINER PLANTS - should have an eye kept on them as they grow lush. As they mature in warmer weather roots will fill the pots, necessitating increased amounts of water and food. Some may need water more than once a day.

Jerry Blackburn has been a garden designer for 30 years. He designs, installs, maintains and renovates perennial beds and borders. He was employed at Washington Park Botanical Gardens for 11 years.



Linda Maier
REALTOR®, BROKER
739 S. 5th Street, Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62703
Tel: 217.971.9138
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Vacation Proof Your Home

There is always a lot to do before heading off on vacation. Sometimes these things get overlooked or are left undone because you have run out of time. Use these guidelines to get everything done, so you can relax and enjoy your vacation!

Six Months before

- Call travel clinic for any vaccinations you may need if traveling abroad (Hepatitis A and B is a 6 month process, so start early!)

One Month before

- Create a vacation folder and research activities you would like to do while there. Also put hotel and travel information in here.
- Consider having a home security system installed.
- Research kennels for pets or get sedation pills from your vet.
- Get a house/plant/pet-sitter.

Two weeks before

- Write down everything that needs to be done before you leave. Delegate things to other family members. Set deadlines for completion.
- Arrange kennel for pets.

One Week Before

- Pay bills that will be due while you are away.
- Ask neighbor to pick up your mail and newspapers while you are away or have the post office hold your mail and paper carrier to hold your subscription.
- Gather supplies for your pets including carrying cages.
- Gather suitcases and start tossing in things you would like to take that you don't need now.
- Type up a packing list that you can use again for your next trip. Print out a copy and put it in your suitcase. Check items off as you put them in.
- Find out what amenities and supplies your hotel offers (blow dryer, robes, laundry)

Two days Before

- Let a relative or neighbor know when you'll be back and how to reach you in the case of an

emergency.

- Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway while you are away or park your car in the driveway.
- Ask your neighbor to put out your trash on garbage day.

Day before

- Discard perishable food. Turn fridge temperature to a moderate setting (not the coldest) to save on energy use and prevent other food from freezing due to lack of opening and closing of door.
- Set lamps on timers to switch on and off.

Day of Departure

- Adjust curtains and blinds so that the house looks occupied but so that people cannot see in.
- Lock all doors including the garage door.
- Lock all windows.
- Turn down the volume on your telephone and answering machine. (So burglars can't hear that no one is home)
- Turn heat or air conditioning to 10 degrees less than the temperature outside.
- Unplug appliances and electronics.
- Turn off water and gas (if applicable)
- Empty trash cans.

Follow this timeline for a stress-free preparation for your trip and a worry-free vacation. Remember, the key is starting early, so as soon as you know you will be going away start making a list of things to start doing to prepare.

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At Home in the Park

By Lola L. Lucas

Do you have your own personal Rosebud? I don't want to ruin the movie for anyone---it's called a "spoiler alert," so if you haven't seen *Citizen Kane* and want to be surprised, stop here.



OK, you're still reading. In Orson Welles' classic movie, Charles Foster Kane is a multimillionaire and as he's dying he gazes into a snow globe and murmurs "Rosebud." In his life of almost unimaginable wealth, it was the only thing he couldn't have---his sled from childhood.

It was 1971 when I purchased an Ohio Art Astroscope in the toy department of Famous Barr long before the days of Macy's or even Toys R Us. It was something like a Spirograph on acid---geometric patterns, lots of swirling lines, but done with motor driven rotating mirrors. Light came up through a color wheel and was projected onto a circular screen. How I enjoyed it! I'd sit in a darkened room and watch the designs change shape and color. No, I wasn't stoned. That was part of the appeal: it was psychedelic without having to worry about LSD flashbacks.

Years went by and I made the mistake of leaving the batteries in my Astroscope. They corroded and leaked then it no longer worked. My next mistake was believing a friend when he said he could fix it for me and I let him take it away with him. Now, that wasn't bright. I knew that he was funny and charming but not what you'd call reliable. A year or so later I saw what was left of it in pieces in his basement. I should've retrieved as much of it as I could salvage right then and there.

Oh well, I'd just get another one. Should be simple, huh?

It wasn't. In each Salvation Army, Goodwill and resale shop I visited I looked in the toy bins, but no Astroscope. I searched antique malls. I called Ohio Art---nope, they didn't have them and didn't know where any could be found, but they'd be happy to sell me the tooling if I wanted to go into production of them myself. Hmm, that seemed a bit extreme. Surely one would turn up soon.

Years turned into decades. I put ads in the wanted sections of toy collector magazines. When the Internet

arrived I contacted antique toy vendors online and tracked down even faint leads. Shop owners would say, "Oh yeah, I know what you're talking about, come on in, I think we've got one" but they didn't. Of course I checked eBay routinely but "Astroscope" brought up astrology readings.

Instead I bought kaleidoscopes, light sculptures and color organs that responded to sound. Early screen savers looked quite a bit like the simple line designs of my Astroscope but they quickly evolved into ever more complicated patterns. I spent happy hours creating my own by combining parts of *Intermission* and *After Dark*. Although I prided myself on my skills in locating things, I couldn't find what I wanted! It was so frustrating. I finally had to admit that I'd failed.

Amazing how hope springs eternal. One day I typed "Astroscope" into the search box on eBay and there one was with the box, instructions and all. In the final moments of the auction, I sat breathless and trembling, just sure someone else would try to swoop in but I was the only one who bid on it. For \$7.99 plus shipping it was mine. How I agonized waiting for it to arrive! It's my Rosebud and now I've got it! I keep looking at it because I can scarcely believe it's real. [Note: I discovered the law of diminishing returns in the years since this column first appeared in March 2005. Purchasing two more Astroscopes on eBay did not add to pleasure, just to clutter. Live and learn.]

What I've described is common enough with baby boomers looking for toys from their childhood or teens. Kevin is always happy when he finds a Ms Pac Man game to play at a truck stop. Lots of guys pay top dollar for GI Joe's and I've heard hair-raising stories of intrigue among Barbie collectors. Money can't buy love, but it can purchase a reminder of a time before adult responsibilities settled on our shoulders.

The Rolling Stones told us, "You can't always get what you want but if you try real hard, you just might find you get what you need." Persistence pays. Think about what you really want and need for your own life and for Enos Park. Maybe it won't arrive today or tomorrow, but give it time. Life holds some wonderful moments if you have the courage to keep looking for them.

Lola Lucas is author of At Home in the Park: Loving a Neighborhood Back to Life about Springfield in general and Enos Park in particular.