

THE ENOS PARK BANNER

E N O S P A R K N E I G H B O R H O O D I M P R O V E M E N T A S S O C . I N C .

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Next Neighborhood meeting

Tuesday
September 13th, 7pm
St. John's Hospital
Assisi Conference Room

For more information
See cover

Report Crimes to
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Distinguished Residents of Enos Park

The survey of Enos Park homes done in 1997 by Fever River Research, which we reported on in last month's Banner, has provided information about the integrity and historical significance of property in our neighborhood. However, as we apply for recognition as a National Historical District, it will be the residents of Enos Park and their role in the history of our city, state, and nation that will also be evaluated.

As we look back at the earliest days of our city and its formative years from 1850 to 1900, we find a significant number of leaders in government, law, commerce, medicine, and construction, living and working in Enos Park.

In 1819 the **Kelley family** from North Carolina came to the central plains of Illinois and built four log cabins just south of the Sangamon River. They were the first European settlers in what would become the City of Springfield. One of the log cabins built by William, a member of Kelley clan, is believed to have been located in what is now **Gehrmann Park** on the western edge of the Enos Park neighborhood.

In 1823 a native of Connecticut was commissioned by President Monroe to establish a land office in Springfield. **Pascal P. Enos**, recognized as one of Springfield's founding fathers, secured a large northeast quadrant of land around the city which eventually became Enos Park. He built his home at **1007 North 7th Street**. His front yard became the land donated to the city by his daughter for a public park, his back yard remained an open field, even as it is today with the open lots along the 1000 block of North 6th Street.

In the early 1830's **Gersham Jayne**, Springfield's first doctor, purchased property be-

tween 5th and 6th Street north of Enos. In 1859, his son William, also a physician and two-term mayor of Springfield, built his all-brick Italianate home at **816 N 5th Street**. The southeast section of this block would eventually be the site of **General John McClernand's** home. McClernand had been commissioned a General by President Lincoln because of his political support for the Union effort. McClernand Elementary School is currently on this site.



General John McClernand home
at 801 N 6th Street

In 1849 **Franz Reisch**, a young German, built a brewery in the area of what is now the SIU School of Medicine. He also built a majestic mansion at **631 North 6th Street**. The brewery became a major employer for many of the blue collar workers living in Enos Park. Reisch became an influential member of the community. Many of his philanthropic efforts included buying parklands for the city, contributing to St. John's Hospital and helping immigrants become established in the States.

Continued on page 3

Living with Character

By K.J. Knox

Looking better than ever!

The project at 630 N. Fifth is finally coming toward completion. Exterior is painted and trim on the inside is going pretty good. This has been a very difficult project to bring around. We replaced everything except the skeleton and had to replace a lot of it. We prayed we wouldn't see the house collapse while we replaced some important pieces. We also were lucky enough to find samples of original trim hidden under the layers of siding installed over the years. These little additions will add quite a bit to the finished front porch.

I myself have spent most of my time in the wood shop making everything needed: Picking out wood materials, keeping in mind species, thickness, durability, and the ability to hold paint. Dimensioning was hardest, as too thin looks cheap, and too thick looks out of place as well. I sure wish we had some of the old growth lumber that past carpenters were lucky enough to use. I began my work at the end of the spruce and fir studs with clear straight tight grain, which would stretch two stories, and at the beginning of spruce, pine, fir cross mix studs we use today. I believe it is farmed ready for market in less than ten years, hence quicker product and more manageability.

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 Register's Who's Who in Executives and Professionals.



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Continued from page 1

Much of the city's early industrial growth was tied to the railroads and coal mining. Here again many Enos Park residents were involved as either workers in these industries or owners. The home at **901 North 5th Street** was occupied by three generations of the **Brandenburg** family, each were supervisors on the St. Louis, Chicago, and St Paul railroad. The home at **1110 North 4th Street** belonged to **Robert Solomon**, a mine owner and original stock holder in the Co-operative Coal Mine Company with its mine shaft located at Eleventh and Ridgely.

The city was going through tremendous growth during this time, and residents of Enos Park played a major role. **George Barrick**, who lived at **814 North 7th Street**, was the most prolific builder of residential homes for 20 years in the late 1800s, **John Fortado**, who lived at **903 North 7th Street**, was the premier contractor working in granite, marble, and large stone, and **John Britz**, who lived at **1113 North 5th Street**, had his own brickyard and paved the majority of the brick streets in Springfield, as well as the brick sewer lines, many of which still exist today. These were three of the most important contractors in the city, and each lived in Enos Park.

Politically, Enos Park was home to the governmental leaders of the city, state, and nation.

Although not elected to public office, **Benjamin Edwards**, who purchased his home and 14 acres of land north of the city in 1843, was a political power broker. He was a close personal friend of **Stephan A Douglas** and supported his run for the presidency in 1860. Edwards hosted a rally for Douglas on the grounds of his home at **704 North 4th Street** in 1858 prior to the formalized debates later agreed on by Lincoln and Douglas. At the same time, he was a professional associate and friend of **Abraham Lincoln**. Benjamin and Abe were also tied together through their marriages to the Todd sisters.

Shelby M. Cullom set an Illinois record for longevity in major office. He was elected Governor of Illinois twice and after resigning, began a thirty-year career in the U.S. Senate. Prior



Governor Shelby Cullom mansion
at 611 N 6th Street



Franz Reisch mansion
at 631 North 6th Street

to these accomplishments, he was also a State Representative and Congressman. His home at **611 N 6th Street** was a center of hospitality and entertainment for many prominent leaders of the time.

Ozias M. Hatch was a close personal friend and political ally of Abraham Lincoln. The first effort on Lincoln's behalf as a Presidential aspirant was taken by his friends at a meeting held in the State House early in 1860, in the rooms of O.M. Hatch, then Secretary of State. O. M. Hatch was elected, on the Republican ticket, Secretary of State for Illinois in 1856, and re-elected in 1860, serving all eight years. When Ozias married **Julia Enos**, daughter of Pascal Enos, in the Enos home at **1005 North 7th Street**, it was attended by the newly elected president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary.

James Garland, who lived at **630 North Fifth Street**, was elected to the state legislature in 1880, and became mayor of Springfield in 1885, being elected to that office by the largest majority ever received up to that time.

Although some of the unique and historic homes of Enos Park have been lost over time, the distinguished residents and events of the neighborhood live on in the fabric of the City as we know it today.

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Report Nuisance Issues
Call 787-ENOS



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

Karen Hasara served as Mayor of our great city, but she cannot join the Springfield Motor Boat Club on City-owned land simply because she is a woman. This makes no sense and is an anachronism the good members of the club should repeal. But regardless, the laws of our city should not allow such insidious discrimination on City property.

Our City Code for years has prohibited discrimination against women in employment, financial credit, housing and public accommodations. Yet we lease our most treasured public land on Lake Springfield to a club which openly discriminates against women by prohibiting them from being full members. Ninety-one years after women gained the right to vote, this is a form of discrimination that must end in Abraham Lincoln's home town.

That's why Ald. Doris Turner (Ward 3) and I introduced legislation to do just that. It prohibits organizations, which lease City property from engaging in the types of discrimination, including gender, our City Code already prohibits in all other types of public conduct. Our proposed ordinance makes an exception for organizations like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, which promote the positive development of only boys or only girls under the age of 18.



The theft of copper and other metals, especially air conditioning coils, has become a serious problem in our City. This problem first reared its ugly head in 2005 when I was on the County Board. At that time, the County Board and City Council passed identical ordinances making it more difficult for thieves to sell metal to scrap metal dealers.

On August 16th, our City Council passed stricter rules regulating the sale of copper and other metals to scrap dealers. The ordinance was a rerun of a proposed ordinance Ald.

Kris Theilan (Ward 8) had introduced two years ago with the addition of a few suggestions by me. Under our old law, the dealers only had to get the license plate number of the seller's vehicle and pay for any transactions in excess of \$100 by check. Under our new law, the dealers will also have to get the following information from the sellers: date & time of transaction; name of seller; number & photocopy of seller's state or federal issued identification; description of scrap metal; amount paid to seller and other information. Some of these requirements are in State law, but the State law only applies to sales of \$100 or more.

The idea behind this is two-fold. First, to give law enforcement more information to go after the thieves, and second to discourage the thefts in the first place because the thieves will not want to give all the information that will be required to sell the scrap metal.

Because there are only two or three scrap metal dealers in the City, and all the rest are in the County, it is important for the City and County to have identical regulations on this; otherwise the thieves will just go to the dealer in the jurisdiction with the least restrictive law. That is why I appeared before the County Board's Solid Waste Management Planning (SWAMP) Committee, of which I used to be a member, to urge the adoption of identical regulations at the County. At the end of August, the Committee approved such an ordinance, but the final decision will be up to the full County Board at their September meeting.

What is really needed on this, however, is a new State law, because even if the County passes a new law identical to the City's, the thieves can still take a short drive to Jacksonville or Decatur to escape the regulations of both the City of Springfield and Sangamon County.

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

Moving Forward in 2011

I want to be a part of the revitalization of Enos Park Neighborhood. Here is my donation of \$25 for 2011 Membership, which entitles me to a copy of the Bylaws and voting privileges at the monthly meetings.

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

For more information, call 522-9381

In The Garden

By Jerry Blackburn

September brings the beginning of fall. There is much we can do in the garden before leaves turn color in October, then fall in November. For now — it is still warm and plants are growing and producing. This month the 8-12 week process called dormancy will subtly begin, hardly noticeable at first — then evident by October and all-consuming by November. It's wise not to fight this natural process. Try not to feed, prune or water excessively — only as needed.

A garden list for September:

PLANT - a last planting of lettuce, spinach, radishes and turnips or beets for their tops (greens) by mid-month. They will approach maturity for harvest before the first frost hits. As soon as you clear your vegetable bed, you can plant a cover crop. It's time to plant garlic and bunching onions. Buy any end-of-the-season sale plants you want, as long as they're in good condition. Garden centers will be offering spring bulbs this month as well as sales on trees and shrubs. Daffodils should be planted by the end of this month, as they need longer to form roots than other types of spring bulbs.

DIG - dahlias, callas, cannas, caladiums, tuberous begonias and gladiolus by the end of the month to avoid October frosts from killing them. Store them in a basement or a cool 50 degree room.

HARVEST - anything that's ready. Carrots and beets can be dug now and winter squash should be ready, also broccoli and eggplant. Hang herbs to dry for winter use. Early cultivars of apples will be pickable this month.

WATER - continue to water regularly if there's not enough rain. One inch, once a week should be enough to the eye, perennials aren't doing much of anything, but below the soil level they're growing, multiplying. Most perennials should almost double their spread each year, if healthy. As temperatures cool down our plantings will need less water. Apply enough to avoid wilting leaves, or drooping or collapsed plants. Container plants are another matter. Full, lush foliage above the container rim means a pot chock-full of enough roots to support all that growth. I've had to water container plants once or twice a day sometimes to keep them doing well.

PRUNE - there is no pruning to be done now except maintenance pruning of dead, diseased or damaged branches. Any late pruning of shrubs will stimulate soft new growth which may not have time to harden-off before winter. Such new growth dies back in late winter. Prune out any fall webworm nests. Spray is not recommended. Seal them in a plastic bag and dispose of them, eggs and all.

LAWNS - If you feed your lawn four times a year, this is the month to apply the third feeding. Sod or grass seed should be installed by Sept. 15th for best results. New grass needs about eight weeks to mature enough to withstand winter conditions. This is a good time to core-aerify your lawn.

ROSES - the last feeding for roses was August 1st. Continue to withhold food but continue to water if rainfall is less than one inch per week. Withholding food now (then withholding water in October) will make roses begin their two-month-long process of dormancy, producing a plant-type antifreeze-like compound needed to get them through the winter.

MOVE - any perennials or small shrubs (except roses) now. September and October are good months to move things around in the garden. Divide perennials (a good way to multiply your stock, enlarge your gardens), or give some to friends or neighbors. Cut back oregano, basil and chives — pot them up and bring them indoors after they show new growth.

HOUSEPLANTS - should be brought indoors before night temperatures stay below 50 degrees (around Sept. 15th). Spray them off with a hose and use an insecticide one week before bringing them indoors. Prune them if they've grown too large.

MULCH - renewing mulch in September or October as gardening chores decrease, is a good way to avoid doing it in the spring when chores are numerous.

PLAN - changes you wish to make this fall or next spring. Sit outside with a cup of coffee or tea, soak up the sun and visualize what kind of look (feel) you want for your gardens. Make lists and sketch or draw a plan reflecting your ideas.

CLEAN UP - rotting vegetables or fruits from your gardens. Have those tomato or squash plants had it? Remove them to the compost pile! Apply to your flower beds any compost you have that's ready. That will give you room in your compost area for all the lawn, garden refuse and leaves you'll be dealing with in October and November.

ENJOY!

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.

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1/8 page for \$20

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PUT YOUR MESSAGE HERE

Community Health Corner By Memorial Medical Center



The Best Treatment for Childhood Obesity

Childhood obesity has recently become a hot topic in the media. The Centers for Disease Control recently reported that 17 percent of America's children and teenagers are obese. Research shows children who carry excess body weight are at a higher risk of developing certain chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes and fatty liver. Encouraging good food choices and increased physical activity is the best treatment for childhood obesity. Christina Rollins, MS, RD, LDN, Clinical Dietitian III, at Memorial Medical Center offers these tips to help your family.

Makeover Your Grocery List

Choose a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, low-fat cheeses, unsalted nuts, baked crackers and pretzels at the supermarket. Be certain to wash and cut any fresh produce as soon as possible so it is ready to eat when hunger strikes. For meal times, plan to serve mostly lean meats like skinless chicken, turkey and fish as well as lean beef and pork. Avoid breaded, pre-cooked items like chicken patties and tater tots. These items have been commercially fried prior to sale and tend to be higher in salt, fat and cholesterol.

Learn Portion Sizes

Eating too much of anything can lead to weight gain. According to the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, individuals should "prepare, serve and consume smaller portions of food and beverages, especially those high in calories." Portion size of food varies with age. Here is an easy rule of thumb to figure portion size: offer one tablespoon of food per year of age up to age 4. For those under age 5, use standard portion sizes. For example, the appropriate serving size of applesauce for a 2 year old is two tablespoons.

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Serve Balanced Meals

There is no such thing as a perfect meal. Food choices are influenced by a number of factors including culture, food allergies, food preferences, income and many others. To ensure your child meets his or her daily nutrient requirements, offer at least three food groups per meal and two food groups per snack. Remember, it is your responsibility as a parent to serve healthy, balanced meals and snacks.

Here are a few examples of a balanced meal:

Breakfast:

Oatmeal + skim milk + banana
Scrambled egg + whole wheat toast + orange juice
Light Yogurt + apple + granola bar

Lunch:

½ turkey & cheddar cheese sandwich on rye bread + water + carrot sticks
Tomato soup + crackers + peaches
Grilled chicken breast + macaroni & cheese + cucumber slices

Dinner:

Pork loin + mashed potatoes + green beans
Turkey burger on bun + corn on the cob + fresh strawberries
Lasagna + steamed broccoli + grapes

Snack:

Light cheddar cheese + crackers
Mandarin oranges + skim milk
Celery sticks + low-fat peanut butter

Turn off Electronic Devices

Limit "screen time" to less than two hours per day. This includes the television, game systems, MP3 player, smart phone and whatever other electronic devices your child is using. Instead, encourage physical activity like running, playing sports and even doing chores around the house or yard. Being active helps burn off excess calories consumed, improves coordination, builds lean muscle mass and even reduces food cravings.

COMING EVENTS

Free Seminar: Healthy Eating on a Budget

Monday, Sept. 12, 5:30-8 p m.

Memorial Medical Center in Wedeberg Conference Center
Take part in a food sampling by local chefs, and learn from registered dietitians how to feed your family well while watching your budget. This FREE program is sponsored by Friends of Memorial. Registration is required, call 788-3333.

Memorial's Be Aware Women's Fair

Saturday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-2 p m.

Orr Building at the Illinois State Fairgrounds
\$4 admission covers all health screenings, exhibits, and entertainment. A coupon for \$1 off the admission is available at BeAwareWomensFair.com. Proceeds from Memorial's Be Aware Women's Fair will go toward a mammography patient assistance fund.


In the Neighborhood

By Officer Ryan Irwin

It's back to school time, and I thought this would be a good time to bring up some safety tips for keeping kids safe. Back to school means more children walking and biking on the roads. Younger children sometimes have limited experience with traffic and the lack of skills to negotiate in traffic safely. As the kids head back to school please try to remember these tips:

- ◆ Be aware of school zone signage.
- ◆ Reduce speed in the school zones.
- ◆ Stop when directed to do so by a crossing guard.
- ◆ Be patient and wait for children to completely cross before proceeding.
- ◆ Be ready to stop at any moment. Children don't always notice oncoming traffic.
- ◆ Remember to stop when the school bus has its flashing lights on.
- ◆ Youngsters sometimes dart into the street without first looking; allow plenty of room to stop when driving by parked cars.
- ◆ Kids with earphones connected to CD players, portable radios, and other devices can be distracted and less able to sense potential danger.
- ◆ Parents, try walking the route to and from school with children, pointing out potential safe places to go in an emergency, if they are being followed, or need help.
- ◆ Remind your children to utilize the sidewalks when available, and cross at intersections.

Remember to always report suspicious activity, Police Emergency dial 911, Police Non-Emergency # 788-8311.



Paint Brush Award Nomination

Tuxhorn Towing and family home
1130 N 6th Street

An Enos Park family, whose towing business includes large trucks and equipment, has made a positive and beautiful transition with the surrounding neighborhood. John Tuxhorn and his three sons run a heavy equipment business that is "man enough" to paint their trucks pink!



Enos Park Banner is going
ELECTRONIC

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At Home in the Park

By Lola L. Lucas

(Lola is on summer vacation so she updated this column from May 2004 with current data.)

Times have been rough all over—so bad that ExxonMobil just laid off 25 congressmen. That's a joke. I think.

Meanwhile, the trend to supersized houses has gone the way of the housing bubble. After the huge mortgage crash and bank bailout of 2008, excess is no longer chic, the magazines tell us. The well-to-do have been downsizing from 12,000 sq. ft. homes to 5,000 sq. ft. "cottages." Scarcely hovels, they're nonetheless small enough to pass for the pool cabanas in some neighborhoods. The houses pictured in *Architectural Digest* have some features that appeal to me, such as a lavish use of wood and stone. An indoor pool would be nice: better still would be having the sort of money some folks in Lincoln Park area of Chicago obviously do to buy the house next door, gut it, install a pool then put in a bridge and elevator to make an afternoon dip ever so convenient. I was horrified when I saw another home with a two-story "library" where less than half the shelves had any books on them. The architect for that one said he'd tried to create a house that wouldn't feel like a stadium if just one person was having coffee in the kitchen. Judging from the picture, I don't think he succeeded. It looked to me like the owners would rattle around like a marble in a shoebox, as the saying goes.

I also noted that some of the luxury homes were designed to keep the offspring snugly in the nest: "We want their friends to come to visit them here. They never need to go anyplace else." For example, the featured homeowners had remodeled their indoor basketball court into the *junior* media room for their teens. Their Colorado winter vacation home had a huge recreation room so the sons could invite buddies along for the holidays. "They can bring their girlfriends here, and later their wives and our grandchildren." Clearly they had in mind a family compound---it's not that I'm against togetherness but their comments smacked of something too in-drawn. They'd taken the idea of a gated community and moved beyond that to a mentality of "our home is our fortress." I've heard overly-attentive types referred to as helicopter parents because they hover over children constantly but these folks were even protecting their kids from *other* rich kids!

Springfield has a few exclusive communities but they seem half-hearted compared to ones with manned gatehouses and live-in staff 24 hours a day. Well, a house here that costs over a million dollars is a rarity. We continue to have one of the most affordable housing markets in the nation according to data from the National Association of Home Builders in their Housing Opportunity Index. That calculates the per-

centage of homes a family earning the median income in that area can afford to buy. They use a conservative 28% of income for mortgage payments, taxes and insurance instead of the usual rule of one-third. By that standard, 86.1% of families with our median income of \$69,100 can buy houses with Springfield's median sales price of \$130,000. As of second quarter 2011, we rank as the 20th most affordable market in the Midwest and the 44th nationwide. Would you move to Detroit or Flint Michigan just to increase your chance of finding an even less expensive house? No, I didn't think so.

You want affordable? Enos Park has some houses that are genuine cottages with three or four rooms that could be restored to tiny jewel boxes. We have lots of moderate sized houses and even some modest mansions in conditions ranging from fixer-uppers to finished masterpieces. We spend so much time living in Abe's shadow that we forget there is something special about driving past Edwards Place where he proposed to Mary Todd Lincoln. (Some of his biographers suggest that if he'd been happily married, he might not have poured so much energy into his political career so I suppose we should be glad they got together.) We live with history---our annual house tour is a great way to see both Enos Park's past and future.

Children play in the yards, on the sidewalks, and in the parks and streets of our neighborhood. They build hideaways for themselves in basements, attics and garages, places of their own where they can get away from grown ups and focus on being kids. True, they have to use public basketball hoops but that gives them a chance to make new friends in the process. I can't help but think Enos Park offers its own sort of wealth to the families who make their homes here.

Lola Lucas is the author of
At Home in the Park: Loving a Neighborhood Back to Life,
about Springfield in general and Enos Park in particular.
You can find it at Amazon.com & other online booksellers.

The Enos Park Banner

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**Next Neighborhood meeting September 13 7 p.m.
Assisi Conference room at St. John's Hospital.**

Join us Tuesday, September 13th for a presentation by the Robert Morris University CAD Architectural Design class featuring graphic overlays of the data collected in the Fever River Research survey of homes in Enos Park.

There will also be a slide presentation of the unique and historic homes in the neighborhood.