

THE ENOS PARK BANNER

ENOS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOC. INC.

**EPNIA
MONTHLY
MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 10
5:30 pm
Springfield
Art Association**

"Thomas Houghan's Secret
Past: An Early Springfield
Scandal!"

**Time & location
CHANGE**

Report Crimes to
Crime Stoppers

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Featured Home	2
Did You Know Paintbrush Lanphier Volunteers	3
View From City Hall Living With Character	4
In The Garden	5
Community Health Corner News from St. John's	6
In The Neighborhood Mini O'Beirne News	7
At Home In The Park	8

INTO THE MASTER PLAN WE'LL DELVE IN 2012!

If you've been paying attention at all to the happenings in Enos Park, you know that we have a Master Plan of which we're extremely proud. But even though we hired nationally known consultants and spent a lot of time and money to put together the plan, the fact is that it will be worthless unless we actually implement it. The coming year will be a critical test in terms of putting the plans' recommendations into action.

The preliminary pieces have already been put into place, such as creating Enos Park Development, LLC to serve as a landbank for blighted properties and recruiting both homeowners and developers to put the properties back into productive use. However, many of the plan's recommendations are long term projects that are now in the early stages of being implemented. Here are a few highlights:

Finalizing and formally adopting design guidelines: This will provide guidance to developers and contractors who are interested in working in the neighborhood as well as homeowners who plan to renovate. The guidelines will focus primarily on exterior appearances with an emphasis on retaining the historic characteristics unique to our neighborhood.

Creating a cultural trail to link downtown, Enos Park, and Oak Ridge: With the abundance of Lincoln sites downtown as well as tourists who already travel to Oak Ridge Cemetery, Enos Park is a logical connection. Instead of merely being a thoroughfare, we plan to emphasize the neighborhood's many significant homes and historic sites. We are already working with Downtown Springfield, Inc. and utilizing marketing students

from Robert Morris University to help us create a tour that could be self guided by foot or car, and we would also like to explore offering more formal walking or trolley tours.

Implementing zoning changes that correspond to the goals of the Master Plan: Several different options are being weighed, and we have ongoing discussions with the City as well as the Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission. While there are several methods of approaching the zoning issues, each with their own pros and cons, everyone seems to be in agreement on the primary goals.

We want to encourage reverting multi-family homes back to their original intent as single family residence while allowing for higher density properties in appropriate areas of the neighborhood. The boundary streets of Carpenter, Ninth St., and North Grand should be developed for medical, retail,

(continued on page 2...)



(continued from page 1...)

and office use with appropriate parking and setbacks that make the businesses pedestrian friendly.

Improved infrastructure, streetscape, and signage: The installation of the new sidewalks throughout the neighborhood and historic lighting along the main corridors were a good start, but there is still work to be done to tie all the elements together. There have also been discussions with the City about changing the one-way streets to two-way traffic in an effort to make the neighborhood more pedestrian friendly and reduce speeding. The City has indicated that work on Fourth St. could begin as soon as the coming year.

This is merely a sample of the many projects that we anticipate keeping us busy in 2012. The problems in Enos Park didn't occur overnight, and the solutions won't, either. But we are well on our way to bringing Enos Park back to the "Jewel of Springfield" once again!



Real Estate - Featured Home



714 N. 6th

Turn of the Century charm abounds throughout this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in the heart of Enos Park and features an awesome original stairway in foyer, formal dining room, bright, friendly kitchen plus family room. First floor master suite has its own entrance and would be perfect for a home business. \$62,900

Call Linda Maier The Real Estate Firm Inc. 217-547-5526.

**Report Nuisance Issues
Call 787-ENOS**

Moving Forward in 2012

I want to be a part of the revitalization of Enos Park Neighborhood. Here is my donation of \$25 for 2012 Membership, which entitles me to a copy of the Bylaws and voting privileges at the monthly meetings.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

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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

Did You Know

By Michelle Higginbotham, Vice-President EPNIA

Long before the advent of reality television with its sordid dramas, a real life family drama played out right here in Springfield. Before Edwards Place was known as Edwards Place, it was Houghan's House, where prominent local physician Thomas Houghan lived with his wife and stepson from 1833-1843.

But Thomas Houghan was concealing a scandalous secret...one that would erupt in the 1860s, affecting the lives of dozens of Springfield's most prominent citizens. While Houghan was living with his wife in Springfield, he had another wife in New York.

After his death, this first wife sued everyone who had bought land from her husband for her dower rights, which entitled her to 1/3 of the property. There were dozens and dozens of people named in the suit – many of them, as you can imagine, in Enos Park, living on land that had once belonged to Houghan and then Benjamin Edwards.



It's an interesting footnote in Enos Park history and we encourage you to attend the program on January 10th at the Art Association to learn more about this interesting family scandal and how it played out in our own neighborhood.

Volunteer Opportunity at Lanphier

Dear Community Member:

We would like to invite you to volunteer for Lanphier's second Making the Grade Conference on Thursday, January 12.

The conference will take place in the Commons at Lanphier High School, 1300 N. 11th Street. As a volunteer, you will meet one-on-one with students to review their first semester grade report.

Our goal is to have all of Lanphier's freshmen and juniors engaged with a community member this day. There will be training sessions in the morning and afternoon for all volunteers.

Following the training, you will begin meeting with students. (Refreshments will be provided.)

If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Hannah Jones by email at hrjones@sps186.org or by phone at 217-525-3249.

We appreciate your support and know the conference will positively impact Lanphier students.

Making the Grade is yet another way we can reach our young people and encourage them to pursue academic excellence.

Sincerely,
 Artie Doss, Principal
 Donna A. Treadwell, Coordinator of Volunteers

**Paint Brush Award
 Nomination**



1035 N. Third Street

This year, EPNIA started the "Clean Up/Green Up" program to encourage homeowners to take on exterior renovations. Sheila Walk and Doug Kamholz were one of the homeowners who took advantage of the matching funds offered through this new program. They replaced the siding and renovated the front porch of their home at 1035 N. Third. Congratulations to them for a job well done, and we encourage additional homeowners to participate in the future.



Enos Park Banner is going

ELECTRONIC

**Do you enjoy the Banner?
 If so, let us know how you'd
 like to get it.**

**Complete the form below or
 e-mail us your preference!**

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Send response to info@EPNIA.com
 or mail form to 821 N. 5th St. - Springfield, IL 62702



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

2011 was a whirlwind of a year!

It started with our interim Mayor Frank Edwards, who did a good job steadying our city's ship of state until a duly elected mayor could take the helm. Under Mayor Edwards, with the City Council's adoption of my amendment, we passed a surplus budget without layoffs.

The year also started with a heated City election for Mayor and Aldermen. I was in a hard fought reelection battle, which only made me a better Alderman. I was humbled by the outpouring of support for my reelection.

Our new City Council, with a new Mayor Michael Houston and three new aldermen, tackled many issues, with many more remaining. In the summer we passed a stricter ordinance regulating the sale of scrap copper and other metals to cut down on copper thefts.

Shortly thereafter, the City Council passed the ordinance introduced by Alderman Doris Turner and me to prohibit discrimination by various private clubs that rent land from the city around Lake Springfield. This was prompted by the revelation that certain clubs had been blatantly discriminating against women, some 90 years after women gained the right to vote.

The Council also passed a comprehensive abandoned property ordinance in an effort to finally get a handle on this terrible problem that has plagued our older neighborhoods for far too long.

The Council approved TIF funds for the next phase of the Enos Park neighborhood development study and for the placement of a new state-of-the-art grocery store between Enos Park and downtown, at 2nd and Carpenter.

These are only the highlights. Nevertheless, there is no time to rest on our laurels. Much remains to be done in 2012.



A new issue that popped up in December is the refusal by a City Committee to provide Civil Union partners of City employees with the same benefits the City gives to spouses of married City employees.

This not only violates our State's new Civil Union law, but it is also wrong as a matter of policy. The county of Sangamon, the city of Decatur and many other local governments provide equal benefits. The cost has been minimal. Aldermen Turner, Jobe and I are working hard to right this wrong.

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

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Living with Character By K.J. Knox

As we begin the rebirth of another two vacant homes on North Seventh Street, winter is quickly moving in. We as workers hope for temperatures above 40 degrees, and so far we have been very lucky; you lose production time in cold weather to the point of things taking twice as long to accomplish. These next two have original pictures of the homes on the front page of the blueprints and those are what I will use to reproduce the millwork needed to bring these projects to completion. Adding details to houses is becoming all but lost today, and with the price of everything going out of sight it is no wonder homes have taken on the appearance of a plastic covered imitation of a box without adornment.

The sewers at both homes need replaced, both foundations need lots of work, new footings have been poured, bricklayers will commence next week. I wish I could still do the masonry but my body and doctor say no more. The new garages are up and waiting on the truss man to measure, and all concrete work has now been done. These two houses together should be a much needed improvement to this area of Enos Park and we, the workers, are proud to be involved with improvement of the community. Other people can participate, not by doing a house, but maybe pick up one of the vacant businesses and start a new one.

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.

In The Garden

By Jerry Blackburn

I hope your holidays went well.

It seems we received enough rainfall in December to ensure our plants will be going into winter with little chance of damage from dehydration.

National weather forecasters predicted below average temperatures for last month and January. December had above average temps, and rainfall was not excessive. Let's hope January follows suit.

Above average snowfall is predicted for this winter. That's good for plants, as snow insulates from fluctuating temps., keeping the ground frozen for a healthy dormancy until spring. Weather in 2011 mirrored that of 2010. Spring was very wet and cold, followed by a hot, dry summer, so dry one of our local tree farmers lost 1,600 Christmas trees due to drought.

August was a killer. Summer's stress resulted in leaf display at fall was not as colorful as usual. Let's hope 2012 brings weather more agreeable to gardeners. For gardeners, there's not much to be done in January and February, but here are some ideas:

HOUSEPLANTS - During winter sunlight is less intense and there is less of it, temperatures are cooler, growth slows and we tend to overwater. Many people don't realize that houseplants require a dramatic reduction of water, compared to what they receive in the warmer, brighter, more humid months. The combination of cooler temps, very low humidity, less light at less intensity demand less water.

Fertilization should be at half strength, only if plants have supplemental lighting. Some indications of plant problems include: new leaves stay small, stems grow long/weak, leaves yellowing, excessive leaf drop and no new growth/blooms. Try increasing the light and reduce watering. Any indoor pests can be safely treated using Insecticidal Soap.

ROSES - should be protected for the winter by now, especially the hybrid teas.

FEED - the birds. There is very little natural food for them in the winter. To help them survive, bird seed and suet cakes provide food and fat, providing heat-generating energy. They need a water supply also.

CONSIDER - any changes you might want to make in your gardens this coming season. Inventory seeds and seed-starting supplies. Order supplies — seeds, perennials, herbs, trees, shrubs, tools, etc. Suppliers will deliver at the proper planting time.

PRUNE - any diseased or damaged branches. Any time of year is good for maintenance pruning.

VISIT - garden centers, Botanical gardens, arboretums, local garden club meetings and websites. There are many garden clubs in the area. The Springfield Civic Garden Club, the Prairie State Orchid Society, the Springfield Daylily Society and many others warmly welcome new members or visitors to their meetings.

Local garden centers, the Botanical gardens and the University of Illinois Extension Service offer classes, seminars and workshops all winter long. The U of I Extension is an excellent source of research-based information regarding all aspects of gardening and horticulture . . . for free. They network with major university horticulture research facilities, horticultural institutes and arboretums throughout the country.

The knowledge at their disposal is immeasurable. Their main mission is to pass that knowledge to the public. You can call them at 217-782-4617, or visit their website at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu>

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.

2012 EPNIA Officers

- Steve Combs, President 494-6668
- Michelle Higginbotham, Vice President 553-4629
- Linda Maier, Secretary (cell) 971-9138, 547-5526
- Bryan Allen, Treasurer 725-3341
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217-787-0764

Community Health Corner By Memorial Medical Center

MMC Completes

Community Health Need Assessment

As part of an initiative to improve community health, Memorial Health System's three hospitals have assessed community health priorities in Sangamon, Logan and Christian counties.

"Memorial Health System's three hospitals have completed the first portion of community health need assessments for Memorial Medical Center in Sangamon County, Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Logan County and Taylorville Memorial Hospital in Christian County," said Mitch Johnson, the health system's senior vice president and chief strategy officer. "Each hospital looked at county-specific health data and convened a committee of community representatives to gain further insight into significant health issues on the local level."

The assessment identified four top priorities to address on a local level. They are access to healthcare, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity.

"During the coming year, each hospital will work on a plan to address these issues in their respective county," Johnson said. "But we also recognize that a multitude of issues actually determine the health of a community. In addition to diseases, community health is affected by substance abuse, educational attainment, economic status, environmental issues and the personal choices of the people who make up that community. No single hospital, agency or governmental body can be entirely responsible for the health of its community or address these many issues alone."

To that end, Memorial Health System is sharing its county-specific health data with the community at large in the hope that others will find useful information as they address community health issues, Johnson said. The information is available to the public on Memorial's website at ChooseMemorial.org/HealthyCommunities and went live on Dec. 20.

The data is organized in seven broad categories: health, economy, education, environment, public safety, social environment and transportation. In addition to the county-specific information, visitors to the online service will find a link to the source of the information when they click any individual measure. The information will be helpful to anyone looking for statistics on Sangamon County. The health system partnered with the Healthy Communities Institute of Berkeley, Calif., to make the information available online.

For more information, contact Paula Gramley, Memorial's community benefits coordinator, at 788-7014.



St. John's
HOSPITAL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

ST. JOHN'S REHAB SERVICES: INNOVATIVE TREATMENT OF EDEMA AND WOUND CARE

December 19, 2011

Julia Rodrick, OTR; CLT/WCC, an international lymphedema specialist, has joined the staff of St. John's Hospital Rehabilitation Department. Rodrick specializes in the treatment of orthopedic, vascular or problematic edema, as a result of surgery, disease processes or injury.

The occurrence of persistent swelling following surgery or trauma can lead to unfavorable rehabilitation outcomes," said Rodrick. "Prolonged edema (more than three weeks) can prevent wound healing, and contribute to pain and reduced function due to chemical irritation from the inflammatory response which lingers from the time of injury." There are different types of edema caused by excessive fluid in the body's tissues. It can occur in the upper or lower extremities, trunk, face, or can involve the entire body.

Adapting an innovative method used in Europe allows for a fast, effective treatment method to reduce edema that represents an "overload" of an intact, but overwhelmed, lymphatic region due to orthopedic related conditions. This method of treatment requires the advanced skills of a lymphedema specialist, of which St. John's Hospital now has three on staff.

For more information about edema treatment or other Rehabilitation services provided at St. John's Hospital, call 217-744-7529.

Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) is a multi-institutional health care system that sponsors 13 hospitals in 12 communities across Illinois and Wisconsin and an integrated physician network. We are a healing ministry guided by the historic mission of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, and we are firmly grounded in modern best practices. Learn more by visiting www.hshs.org.

Have a Message? Want to Support Enos Park?

1/8 page for \$20

3 issues for \$50

Call 522-9381 for more information

PUT YOUR MESSAGE HERE

In the Neighborhood
By Officer Ryan Irwin

Over the past few weeks I have seen a growing interest from several callers who have asked me about personal safety tips. Many of the people asking me are people who live alone or spend a lot of time alone and are concerned for their general safety in everyday life circumstances.

It seems that some of the people asking are expecting one good tip that if followed will ensure their safety in any given circumstance. Others seem to be on the other side of the field with going overboard on ideas to ensure their safety. Remember that circumstances change and what works well for some may not work as well for others. There is no super tip or trick that will keep you totally safe all the time. There are however, several things you can do to help minimize dangers. Here are some tips and ideas to remember when you are by yourself.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS-If something happens to make you feel uncomfortable in a situation or relationship, don't worry about feeling or looking stupid. It's better to be safe than sorry!

Always stay alert to your surroundings, know where the nearest exits and entrances are. Avoid walking alone through vacant lots, parks, or places with low lighting. Be aware of nearby businesses or public places with people where you can go to get help. Try and go with trusted friends when you go places.

Don't look like an easy victim. Walk with your head up, if you hear or think someone is following you, turn around, be assertive, look at the person. This shows you won't be taken by surprise. If someone is following you from a car, turn and walk in the other direction. The driver will have to turn around to continue following.

In any situation, your goal is to get away safely, escape and survive. If an attacker wants your valuables, give them up. Your valuables can be replaced, your life can't.

Each situation is different, only you can best decide what action to take given the circumstances. Be realistic about your ability to protect yourself. Evaluate the situation and act accordingly.

When calling the police to make a report or report a crime try to remember the following:

1. Car license plate, make or model, color
2. Race of suspect
3. Approximate age, weight and height of suspect
4. Length and color of suspect's hair
5. Eye color
6. Clothing description
7. Any unusual marks, scars, tattoos, rings, jewelry, etc.

Remember to take precautions and avoid potentially dangerous situations. Keep emergency phone numbers in your cell phone for quick dialing. Keep those same numbers somewhere in your home easily available.

Use good common sense!

News From
Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery

This year's Children's Holiday Store was a great success!

The store was open from November 26th until December 23rd, and was located at 3251 West Iles. While the numbers have not yet been finalized, we do know that hundreds of children enjoyed the experience of shopping for family, friends, and even pets!

Special thanks go to Family Video for donating the holiday store space to MOCN, and to St. John's Children's Hospital for being our largest corporate sponsor. Many thanks also go to the hundreds of volunteers who worked at the Children's Holiday Store.

In addition to the store, this holiday season a week-long pajama drive was held by Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health on behalf of the Nursery. A total of 349 pairs of pajamas were donated to be given to and used by children who stay at the Nursery.

This holiday season, the Springfield and surrounding communities have shown their support of MOCN in many ways: through volunteering, donating items from our wish list, "adopting" families in need, and donating to our annual holiday appeal and through on-line giving.

We are truly so thankful for the support we receive.

Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery:
 1011 North 7th Street
 217-525-6800
www.miniobeirne.org



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.

Remember to always report suspicious activity!

Police Emergency dial 911

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At Home in the Park

By Lola L. Lucas

This year Giles had his picture taken with Santa—I've got framed proof of it.

We were surprised that by his third Christmas our miniature poodle was perfectly willing to be picked up by a huge bearded stranger at PetSmart. "He's the sweetest, softest little dog!" exclaimed the volunteers. Kevin then told him about Giles' first 15 months of life confined to a wire cage, unwanted and abused. He was literally scarred from being kicked. We adopted a scrawny shivering little wreck who spent months being terrorized by the slightest movement. Gradually he relaxed as he figured out nobody was going to hurt him anymore.

Rereading my April 2010 column about him reminded me that we had to teach him how to have his tummy rubbed. He quickly got the hang of that: nowadays he pumps his little paws in the air, "More! More! MORE!!" It was half a year before we saw him wag his tail for the first time. Recently Giles has begun to run like a little hobby horse, bouncing up and down as he plays. He routinely goes on walks with his big brother and sister (both standard poodles) and the three of them make a delightful set in espresso, apricot and chocolate. He even braved the farmers market this year coping with crowds and other canines. This is big stuff for a dog who used to fall over on the leash like a fainting goat.

It hasn't been easy and we didn't expect that it would be. Petfinder.com puts a green heart symbol by animals with special needs. Housetraining has been a long process because at first he was out of his mind with fear. There's a moral to the story right there: fear shuts down the ability to learn but trust raises abilities. Giles has been to training several times and that opened up lines of communication. Finally he put words and gestures together with his actions which then led to rewards. He got it, the doggy lightbulb went off, and he's been a happier, calmer pup.

It's been a year now as of Christmas Eve since our beloved Fiona passed onward at nearly 15½. She made it out with her looks and her wits about her, a regal white princess to the end. It was so lonely being the only female in the house! After a few months I went back to Petfinder.com and found a standard poodle who needed a home. Aleta had been left in the stall of a barn in northern Indiana to produce litter after litter. The breeder decided to get out of apricot standards to produce the more profitable Newfoundlands so he had no further use for her. He turned her over to a rescuer who got her cleaned up and ready to be adopted. I really admire people who do rescue work including fostering dogs. I don't know how they're able to let them go, but they find forever homes for them and make room for the next one in need.

Aleta has the maturity that comes both from being five years old and from her experience as a mother. She gets the most *intent* look on her face when she climbs on Kevin to kiss him! She treats Giles like a puppy, holding him down to clean his eyes. Never have I seen such a cheerful dog—clearly she was not abused but she had to be trained to live indoors as part of a family. She took to that in a hurry, making herself into a 50 pound lapdog. We also had to get used to putting things higher again because she counter surfs. We'd almost forgotten about that with Giles being too short and Valentine's hind leg too crooked to support that particular vice.

A friend's golden retriever had passed on well over a year ago. "You got another in three months?" she asked. "How can you just replace a dog that way?" I was a bit stung until I got it worked around in my mind. Fiona cannot be replaced because there probably won't be such a diamond bright self-aware poodle in my life again. She was exceptional, not just by my doting estimation, but in professional trainers' opinions. For that matter, Giles can never replace Finnegan. It is love renewed, love that goes on. I'd like to think that Finnegan and Fiona, and Justin before them, would be utterly appalled if we could manage to live without dogs. We can't.

Valentine, once the silly puppy, is now the senior dog. And since things went so well with Giles we gathered up all three to have their photo taken with Santa. It's not a great picture, just a snapshot with the top of his hat missing. Aleta's eyes are big yellow splotches, Val's tongue hangs out, the size of a pink Chihuahua, and Giles cuddles with the old elf himself. What it lacks in artistic merit it makes up as a record of a moment when love has won out over pain and fear and neglect.

Kevin and I didn't have children but we're happy with our creatures. It gives us enough of a taste to truly respect the work that parents—like you, perhaps—do, day and night. When things get rough, you can't lock yours in a crate for a few hours, the law frowns on that. Yours eventually get car keys. They wander around unspayed, unneutered. They may pick up things worse than fleas. Truly, I admire you for your patience year after year, decades upon decades because parenting never stops. And when you have grandchildren and great grandchildren, that's love renewed and expanded.

Happy New Year to you and yours, two and four-footed, as we begin 2012!

Lola, Kevin, Valentine, Aleta, and Giles

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.

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JANUARY 2012

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Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association

**The January membership meeting
will be hosted by the
Springfield Art Association**

**"Thomas Houghan's Secret Past: An Early Springfield Scandal"
Tuesday, January 10, 5:30 pm
Hosted in conjunction with the Sangamon Historical Society**

A short business meeting and refreshments will follow.

Please note the change of time and location for the January meeting.