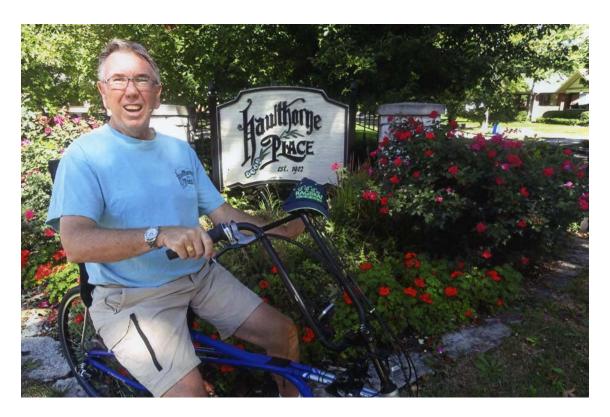


# Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association

December 1, 2012

### Life in Historic Hawthorne



Marty Vandiver on his bike at the Lowell and Laurel garden bed.

# Marty Has Moved! (And he leaves big shoes to fill.)

You may have seen Marty Vandiver riding his recumbent in Hawthorne this past summer. He was preparing for RAGBRAI, the 500-mile bike ride across Iowa in late July. You may have seen him working industriously at 1528 Whittier. He was preparing his house for sale. Most noticeable, however, and for the past twenty years, has been Marty's role as volunteer. No one has worked more faithfully and selflessly for our neighborhood. Read about Marty and Ann Vandiver beginning on page six.

# Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 1 – 9:00 AM

Volunteers will meet at the north end of Lowell to hang holiday greenery around the Hawthorne signs.

### Winter Fest

Sunday, December 2 from 4-6 PM

There will be a bonfire on the boulevard (by Cedar and Lowell) with s'mores and hot chocolate. The open house this year is the home of Scott & Michelle Eades (1409 Lowell). Those who attend are encouraged to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Other beverages, including wassail, will be provided.

# Luminary Display

Monday, December 24

Lumunaries will be set at the each end of the boulevard and all the corner garden beds. They will be lit at dusk.

# We few, we happy few ...



Among those who helped with the boulevard clean up on November 3 were Will Trojahn, Juliet Friday, Lindsey Trojahn, Jill Friday, Gabe Friday, Beth Faulkner, Harrison Faulkner, Beth Trojahn, Henry Clines, Sydney Trojahn, Jim Durako, Mike Trojahn, Thomas Trojahn, Ben Trojahn, Tien Friday, and Cheryl Jyawook. Among those who helped and not in the photo are Jeff Clines, Chelsey Hopper, Jim Huston (who took the photo), and Marty Vandiver (who no longer lives in Hawthorne).

### Fall Clean Up

The Fall Clean Up of the Hawthorne boulevard was announced for Saturday, November 3. It wasn't the biggest turn-out of volunteers. As you can see from the photo, our spirit came from women and children. More could have been done with extra help. Mike Trojahn helped enormously by using his rider mower to shred piles of leaves that had built up in the boulevard. The light overnight rain actually made it easier to rake and bag the leaves. Many thanks to Public Works who had their trucks in the neighborhood on Monday morning, retrieving all the bags encircling the boulevard.

Dave Robson, of the University of Illinois Extension Service, had a column in the *SJ-R* on the very morning of the clean up. The title was "Rake 'Em Up: Dealing with Autumn Leaves." He cautioned against neglect of raking and the assumption that leaves will decompose quickly. "Layers of leaves can smother the grass," he wrote, "the green grass shoots turn chartreuse, then yellow, then white, and finally die." Grass needs air and light to flourish.

So many untended leaves just blow into neighboring yards. Each homeowner on Lowell is responsible for that part of the boulevard that fronts their property. Raking takes more than a day and most of the volunteers of November 3 do not live on Lowell. They dedicated a morning to help others.

As of this date in mid-November, leaves are still falling from the trees. The city's free leaf pick-up program will probably extend into the first week of December.



### Mark Mahoney: Best Bureaucrat

It's a compliment. It's meant to praise. The Best of Springfield, the October 25 issue of the Illinois Times, cited Public Works Director Mark Mahoney, of 1520 Lowell, as "Best Bureaucrat." The editors also clarified the terminology: a bureaucrat is someone who works in government but is not elected. "What makes Mark Mahoney great?" the paper asked. He took a pay cut "to head one of the most thankless jobs in city government." That spoke of his commitment to the city. The Illinois Times praised his reorganization of the department as well as his candor and his commitment in working with neighborhoods. The IT concluded: "he's making the entire city better."

Congratulations Mark.

# December Performances: Our Neighbors in the Arts

Some of our neighbors who are artists and musicians will be performing in the month of December. Here are a few dates to mark on your calendar.

Sunday, December 9 at 4:00 PM – Dale Rogers, director of music at Westminster Presbyterian Church (Walnut & Edwards), presents a program titled "A Gift of Music for Christmas."

Friday, December 14 & Saturday, December 15, both days at 7:30 PM – Sue Meister sings with the Springfield Choral Society in a performance of Handel's *Messiah* at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (815 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St.) General admission is \$15.

Monday, December 31 at 5:30 and 7:00 PM – Aasne Vigesaa offers a program of Edna St. Vincent Millay titled "Sonnets from an Ungrafted Tree" at the Vachel Lindsay Home (603 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St). There is limited seating. Reservations – and a confirmation – are required. Call 524-0901.

### Ward 6 Fund for 2013

Alderman Cory Jobe will be introducing a new program for the Ward 6 Revitalization Rehabilitation Fund. The grant program for 2013 will focus on homeowners needing financial assistance to make minor exterior repairs and improve the exterior appearance of their home. The program will help cover material costs and exterior upgrades that are visible from the street. There will be qualifications based on family income and the \$500 grant must be matched by the homeowner. This grant applies only to owner-occupied homes.

There will also be a separate fund for not-forprofits and will be available to businesses and neighborhood associations. Each of these grants will be for \$500 that must be matched by the organization.

A limited number of grants will be available and will be awarded based on merit and need.

The plans for the fund will be finalized and announced in late December. Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2013. Check <a href="https://www.jobeward6.com">www.jobeward6.com</a> in late December for more information as well as downloadable application forms.

Alderman Jobe donates half of his aldermanic salary to this fund. You can help this program with contributions and by attending fundraisers for Ward 6 revitalization.

# Shirley Lee Garmon

Our neighbor, Shirley Lee Garmon, passed away on August 11, 2012. She and her late husband, Dwight, had traveled extensively throughout the United States. Their homes had been at a variety of naval bases. Dwight had been a Master Chief Petty Officer in the U. S. Navy and retired after twenty-two years of service. They settled in Springfield in 1975. Shirley managed the Georgian Antique Mall and was known as a researcher and appraiser of collectible glassware. Her home was 1529 Whittier.

### Those Who Serve



National Night Out: Linda Riebling with Mayor Mike Houston, Chris Boyster, Tim Londrigan, Alderman Cory Jobe, NPO Andy Zander, and Police Chief Robert Williams.

An election has just taken place and the photo above is a reminder of the demands of public service. These officials and candidates for local office were gathered on the porch of Tony Chen and Linda Riebling (1500 Whittier) for National Night Out. For them, it was a normal evening: an evening after a full day of work, another evening away from their families, yet another opportunity for constituents to offer suggestions, compliments and complaints.

National Night Out was in early August. In the weeks ahead would be a grueling campaign – canvasing, fundraising, debating – for elected office.

A hundred years ago Teddy Roosevelt spoke at the Sorbonne in Paris. The date was 1910. He was a year out of office as President and it was two years before he campaigned – unsuccessfully – once again for the office. His speech was titled "The Man in the Arena: Citizenship in a Republic." The language is pure TR:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena ..."

Over that past century, Hawthorne Place has been home to a great number of aspirants for

public office (winning and losing, elected and appointed). It's an impressive legacy.

A hundred years ago, Hardin Masters (father of Edgar Lee Masters) resided at 1501 Holmes when he ran for the office of state senator as a Democrat. Tim Moore who has long served on the county board is a Republican and now resides at 1501 Holmes.

Hardin Masters lived at 1501 Holmes for about twenty years. He and his sons, Edgar and Thomas, were all lawyers. Hardin would run for office on the Democratic ticket.



Over on Whittier, attorney Gray Herndon and his bride moved to 1525 in 1914. Herndon was a Democrat who ran for political office while on Whittier. (His great-grandson, attorney Gray Noll, was recently a candidate for state senator supported by the Sangamon County Republicans.)

Earl Searcy lived at 1330 Lowell from 1920-1953. He was a life-long Republican. He was a candidate for state representative the year he moved to Hawthorne. Searcy won. He later became a state senator and was reelected for six consecutive terms. He sought his party's nomination for the governorship in 1940. In 1944, he was elected clerk of the Illinois Supreme Court.

Our Whittier neighbor, Mary Sellers, lived at 1414 Lowell when her father, James Fitzgerald, ran for police magistrate in 1927.

Another long-term, ninety-year neighbor, Tiss Cullen, lived at 1427 Holmes when her father, Clarence Milligan, was elected to the Springfield park board in 1936. He served as president for nine years until his resignation in 1948.

Both Louis Gietl of 1509 Holmes and his son, Louis Gietl III, were elected to the park board as was Otto Siefert of 1609 Lowell.

Joseph M. Figueira was living at 1532 Lowell in 1927 when he was first elected as a city commissioner. He served in the administration of J. Emil Smith.

Dan Wavering, who grew up at 1605 Lowell, would become Public Works streets superintendent for the city of Springfield. Mark Mahoney, of 1520 Lowell, who had previously been elected Ward 6 alderman for two consecutive terms, became Director of Public Works in 2011.

Hawthorne Place has also been home to a full courtroom of the judiciary. Charles Briggle lived at 1605 Lowell from 1912-1931 and was active in the Republican party. He served as Judge of the U. S. District Court in Springfield from 1932-1958.

Across the street, Benjamin De Boice, who lived at 1612 Lowell, was a probate judge for Sangamon county from 1930-1950.

On the same block, Lawrence Stone, who moved to 1519 Lowell in 1924, was judge of the Sangamon county circuit court. He was first elected in 1933 for a six-year term and reelected in 1939. In 1940, Judge Stone was elected by the state Democratic convention as a delegate at large to the party's national convention.

At the same time, Harlington Wood Jr. was growing up at 1404 Whittier. The family moved there in 1926. He would become associate judge on the U. S. Court of Appeals from the Seventh Circuit from 1976 until his death in 2008. His father had served as a Sangamon county judge for sixteen years in four consecutive terms from 1934-1950. Harlington Jr. remarked – or joked – that his father ran for office to secure a steady income and fund his son's college education.

James Edward Day would have been six when his father moved the family to 1420 Lowell in 1920. He would serve as state director of insurance when Adlai Stevenson became governor of Illinois in 1948. In 1961, he became the U. S. Postmaster General in the administration of President Kennedy.



This photo of James Edward Day, future Postmaster General, is his 1932 graduation photo from Springfield High School. Harry Devereux, a Democrat, was mayor of Springfield at the time when Hawthorne Place was a new subdivision. Devereux was elected mayor in 1903 and re-elected in 1905. Mayor Devereux moved to Hawthorne in 1920, residing at 1317 Lowell. It was his home when he died in 1925.



Mayor Devereux's last residence was at 1317 Lowell.

He was mayor when Hawthorne Place was in its first years as the city's new residential subdivision.

Karen Hasara, a Republican, did not actually reside in Hawthorne. But it was her second home. Her grandmother, Flora Feldhausen, resided at 1408 Whittier from 1923 until her death in 1969. A beloved aunt, Annabel Feldhausen, continued to live there until she died in 1984. Karen Hasara is the woman in Teddy Roosevelt's "arena." She was elected circuit clerk and served from 1980-1986. She was elected state representative, serving three terms from 1986-1993. She was then elected for two terms as state senator. In 1995, she became the first woman elected mayor of Karen Hasara served as an Springfield. elected official for 28 years and never lost a race.



Karen Hasara at 1408 Whittier in 2008

This summary barely does justice to the story of local politics and the hundred year history of Hawthorne Place. But it's still a fascinating connection, one worth further consideration.

### Marty & Ann



Ann & Marty Vandiver in front of their home at 1528 Whhittier in 1995.

Marty and Ann Vandiver moved to 1528 Whittier with their twin sons, Matthew and Doug in 1992. They had been living on State Street and Marty would walk to work at the Harris building on South Grand. He would pass through Hawthorne Place and was attracted to the older neighborhood, the varied styles of the houses, and the boulevard at its center. The boys were eight in 1992, and Marty and Ann had hoped to find a larger, two-story home in Hawthorne. They looked at several houses as they came on the market. was through a realtor, Richard McDermmott who grew up at 1317 Lowell, that they discovered 1528 Whittier. It was all that natural woodwork to be seen inside, the wide central staircase, and the room arrangements that won them over. 1528 would be their home for twenty years.

The Vandivers still lived on State Street when they came to know Claire Martin (1417 Holmes). Their kids played soccer. When Claire began to organize the Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association she recruited Marty to become a member of the board. It was the beginning of Marty's long and remarkable dedication to his new neighborhood, one that was widely shared in the early years. People have come and gone. There are others who would serve a year and be finished. Most would have no time at all. But Marty has been so dependable, so committed to Hawthorne Place - for nearly twenty years - that the roles of many have been filled by one. You really have to wonder about the future vitality of the Association without him.

\*He has been on the HPNA board for sixteen years.

\*He has served as treasurer for the past decade.

\*He organized the Hawthorne spring cleanup for the past two years.

\*He always helped with the planting and maintenance of the Hawthorne garden beds.

\*He has sent out mailers reminding neighbors of annual dues for the HPNA.

\*He has delivered reminders to Lowell residents for dues for the boulevard mowing.

\*Both Marty and Ann helped with the luminary display on Christmas eve.

\*He and Linda Riebling would usually hang the winter greens around our Hawthorne signs – and take them down.

\*He always worked at the food court (cooking hotdogs, replenishing supplies, furnishing the cash boxes) for the HPNA fundraiser at the Big Event.

\*He would attend zoning and city council meetings on behalf of Hawthorne.

\*He was often the HPNA liaison for multineighborhood events.

\*And when no one else would volunteer, Marty became the Hawthorne representative to ICON, the newly formed organization to create greater awareness of our older neighborhoods.

The Vandivers have moved. So, now, who will fill any of these shoes all worn by one man? Who will volunteer?

Both Marty and Ann worked while raising a family. They took pride in their home. They pursued a variety of other interests and hobbies. Marty enjoyed bike touring.



Ann sold Tupperware.

And they always made time for Hawthorne. Now another neighborhood will benefit from their sense of commitment and community. Thank-you, Marty. Thank-you, Ann. You've been great neighbors.



### The Vandivers as Volunteers

Both Marty and Ann would help with the planting, pruning and care of the Hawthorne garden beds. They could often be seen at work on Lowell. Marty is pictured above with a shovel, perhaps laying mulch. Ann is in the photograph below. She is deadheading the beautiful half-circle of pinto red geraniums.





Marty could always be counted on to help with the spring clean-up. It was a special effort to make the boulevard look its best in time for the Big Event when many visitors would be coming to Hawthorne. Pictured above are Deb Yoder, Riita Anderson, Marty, Chris Oliver, and Mark Mahoney



Every December Marty and Linda Riebling would display greenery around our Hawthorne signs. Marty would always be high on the ladder and Linda, below, would want him to tightly fasten the greens so they would stay in place during the winter winds and snow.

### 1528 Whittier



1528 Whittier was first listed in the city directory in 1910

1528 Whittier is an unusual home in a neighborhood with a great variety of architectural styles. The front door on the north side is a bit of a surprise. It opens onto a side porch. Some might call it a Savannah porch. There is a lovely entryway into the main house in the center of the north side of the house. You step into an open setting. The living room is on the right, the dining room is on the left. Both are large rooms, with the living room extending across the full width of the house. You are immediately aware of all the natural woodwork and, in front of you, the beautiful wide central stairway to the second floor. Then there was Ann Vandiver's wonderful collection of antique furniture, a perfect fit for a hundred year-old house.

A sleeping porch runs along the north side on the second floor.

There have been many previous owners. Perhaps as many as ten different families have resided at 1528 Whittier. Among the earliest was the family of Maurice Kellner. Kellner became proprietor of the Illinois Grocery and Meat Market in the 700 block of East Washington Street in 1915. His business flourished over the years. He moved his family to Whittier at least by 1921. It was the year in which they shared a bit of unfortunate history with the family of Abraham Lincoln. On July 1, 1921, a car driven by F. R. Cox struck and killed Edgar Todd Smith at Fifth and Adams. Smith, who was about 68, was the nephew of Lincoln. His childhood home was 603 South Fifth where the Lincolns were frequent visitors. (It is now known as the Vachel Lindsay Home.) Within a day of the accident, a coroner's jury exonerated the driver as Mr. Smith had crossed the street diagonally against traffic rules. He was also hard of hearing. So, what's the connection with Maurice Kellner? He owned the car that killed Abraham Lincoln's nephew in 1921.

Strange to tell, that story appeared on page five of *Illnois State Register*. Just a year later, the Kellner's made the front page when their young daughters planned an ice cream party for "nursery tots." (*Illinois State Journal*, August 3, 1922) The "little misses," as the paper described them, were Miriam, age seven, and Betty Ann, age two and one-half.

Within a couple of years, the Kellners added a son to their family, Haskell (Hack). And by 1930, they had left Hawthorne for Bates Avenue. The business continued to grow and they were very successful. The grocery store that Maurice owned in 1915, along with other enterprises, expanded into a multidimensional full-line food distributorship. of generations Kellners contributed to that success. Today, the company is known as M. J. Kellner Food Service.

Maurice Kellner became a well-known civic and business leader. He worked to raise funds for Jewish refugee and relief efforts. He was a former president of Temple B'rith Sholom. He was also a founder and past president of the Springfield Urban League. When he died in 1945, his obituary appeared on the front page of the *Illinois State Journal*.



The Collins family, our new neighbors at 1528 Whittier: Josh, Claire (age 5), Lydia, and Eddie (age 3). A hearty welcome!

## Halloween in Hawthorne 2012



The kids on the north end of Whittier always pose for a group photo.



Will Trojahn as an aviator. His costume was inventive – and mobile.



Elise Huffstedtler and Emma Faulkner



The Ratcliffe children prepare for their Halloween journey. They had to confront



flying skeletons in black robes,



the biggest spiders you've ever seen,



and hot-headed pumpkins.

Hawthorne was a really scary place.

And a heart-felt thank-you to all our sponsors:

- Brian Barstead of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
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- Mark Yeates of Dick's Shoe Repair (now closed)

Please remember to patronize our sponsors! Thank them for their support of our newsletter.





















(Dick's Shoe Repair is now closed. With thanks to Mark Yeates for many years of support to Hawthorne Place.)

# HAWTHORNE PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

What is it? – The Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association is an organization for residents of Whittier, Lowell and Holmes between South Grand and Laurel – the boundaries of the 1902 Hawthorne Place subdivision. The organization advocates for the neighborhood, sponsors social activities, and is a forum for working on neighborhood issues.

History – The Hawthorne Place Neighborhood Association held its first meeting at Laurel Methodist Church on October 27, 1994. The organization grew out of the effort to get a stop sign installed at Holmes and Cedar. Neighbors discovered the benefits of a group effort and a group voice.

How to join - Membership is \$20 per family for a first time membership and \$10 per family for a renewing membership. To join, contact Membership chair Burnell Heinecke (522-3842). Also, let Burnell know if you do not want to be listed in the neighborhood directory.

Directories – Neighborhood directories are available to members. Contact your block captain if you need a directory.

Neighborhood Officer – Hawthorne Place is protected by the Springfield Police Department. Andy Zander, our Neighborhood Police Officer, can be reached at 741-0988. His email is andrew.zander@cwlp.com. If there is an emergency situation call 911.

Alderman – Hawthorne Place is in Ward 6. Our alderman is Cory Jobe. He can be reached by phone (622-9630) or email (cory@jobeward6.com). His webpage is www.jobeward6.com.

Webpage – <u>www.hawthorneplace.us</u> The webpage is maintained by Chris Oliver. Newsletter – The neighborhood newsletter is published quarterly. And the newsletter is self-supporting – thanks to our advertisers. Three cheers to them! Rates are \$10 per issue for a business card space or \$40 per year. Interested? Call Marty Vandiver, the HPNA treasurer, at 523-3544.

Block Captains – The neighborhood is divided into six "blocks," with block captains elected to represent each block on the association board. The blocks consist of the north or south section of a street, separated by Cedar Street. Three block captains are elected each year to a two-year term at the annual meeting in the spring.

The following is a list of the current block captains.

#### N. Holmes

Beth Faulkner – 1420 Holmes (744-0295) Karmen Goodrich – 1324 Holmes (414-0783) Karmen is the secretary of the HPNA.

#### S. Holmes

Chelsy Hopper – 1620 Holmes (528-7110) Chelsy is the vice-president of the HPNA.

#### N. Lowell

Beth & Mike Trojahn - 1314 Lowell (744-7303) Beth is the president of the HPNA.

#### S. Lowell

Mark Mahoney - 1520 Lowell (544-7944)

#### N. Whittier

Lindsey Trojahn - 1317 Whittier (789-1315)

#### S. Whittier

Linda Riebling – 1500 Whittier (523-1450) Marty Vandiver – 1528 Whittier (523-3544) Marty is the treasurer of the HPNA.

Jim Huston – 1524 Lowell (528-5256) (HPNA newsletter since 2006)

> Volunteer. Get involved. Your neighborhood needs you.