

# Annual Picnic



*When:* Wednesday, August 15

*Time:* 5:30 - 8:00pm

*Dinner:* 6:00pm

*Cost:* FREE for FHNA members

*Where:* Hillcrest Park (Lyon St)

It is picnic time again! The Fulton Heights Neighborhood Association will be hosting this year's annual Neighborhood picnic August 15 at Hillcrest Park. FHNA will provide barbecue, hot dogs and beverages, and members are encouraged to bring a dish to pass.

Admission is free for all FHNA members, and we

will be collecting dues and membership applications at the Picnic as well! Membership is only \$5 for singles and seniors; \$8 for families.

There will be activities for children and plenty of food - hope to see you there!

**Are you able to help?** If so please contact [FHNA@fultonheights.org](mailto:FHNA@fultonheights.org) or 540- 9920 to sign up to volunteer to set up and tear town the picnic.

# Dumpster Day

Clean out you clutter! The annual neighborhood Dumpster Day will be held on August 18.

FHNA has coordinated with City resources to obtain several dumpsters for FHNA neighborhood use. Dumpster Day is a very popular benefit, so make sure to have your garbage ready and arrive early.

**This event is manned by volunteers in two hour shifts.**

If you are interested in volunteering to help man the drop off site and/or haul items into the dumpsters contact [FHNA@fultonheights.org](mailto:FHNA@fultonheights.org).

*When:* Saturday, August 18

*Time:* 8am - 11:45am (or until all dumpsters are filled.)

*Cost:* FREE

*Where:* William C Abney Academy Parking Lot



# Fulton Heights Neighborhood Association

SUMMER EVENTS NEWSLETTER 2018

## CELEBRATE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUG. 7

*DON WHEELER*

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. This helps make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. It is observed on the first Tuesday of August across the United States and Canada.

Started in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watches, it began with folks simply turning on their porch lights, sitting in front of their homes and talking with neighbors. That first NNO involved 2.5 million residents across 400 communities. By 2016, it involved 38 million residents in 16,000 communities.

FHNA has always promoted police-community partnership at all our social functions. Our Block Captains are working on creating/ updating contact lists to simplify

communication within blocks. At the same time, they will let you know of any additional plans for this year's National Night Out on your block.

## STORIES OF FULTON HEIGHTS

*KEVIN KELLING*

BB gun fights, throwing rocks at cars & escaping through the swamp, Richard Devos delivering newspapers, hunting pheasants & building a church on the wrong parcel were my favorite stories told. On May 20th, we had a night of stories of what it was like to grow up in the Fulton Heights neighborhood. 40 of us gathered around to hear the adventures.

Did you know that none other than Richard Devos delivered newspapers in the Fulton Heights neighborhood? It's true as several people remembered him riding his bike delivering newspapers. I'd say he has had a successful career since those early days delivering papers in the neighborhood!

One gentleman told the story of going pheasant hunting along the railroad tracks. Back then, there was almost nothing built near the tracks so that you could actually hunt there. Hard to picture that today! He said they would go all the way to the steel bridge. The steel bridge was the bridge at the Beltline that went over the tracks. He said that his Mom warned him to watch out for the hobos. I've heard of hobos but not sure that I've ever seen one.

Another gentlemen told of how his grandfather drew up the plans for what we know today as the Mayfair Church. His grandfather was out of the country when the church was built. When he came back to Grand Rapids he was flabbergasted at the fact that the church was built on the wrong parcel! He had intended the church to be built on the parcel that now has the parsonage on it. The best laid plans sometimes do not work out as intended.

A special thanks to Mayfair Church and the Grand Rapids Story Spinners who helped sponsor this first time event. The event was held at Mayfair Church and Pastor Elaine May graciously shared some of the church's history as well.

Do you have stories of growing up or living in the neighborhood? I expect we'll have another night of story telling that will give you the opportunity to tell your story!

