

Near South News



Ice Cream Social & Prescott Summer Festival Friday, 15 July 2011

Be sure and mark you calendars on Friday, July 15, 2011 from 5:30-8:30pm for the annual NSNA Ice Cream Social. This year NSNA will again hold the Ice Cream Social in connection with the Prescott Summer Festival at Prescott Elementary School, 1930 S. 20th Street. Neighbors are invited to spread out their blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy ice cream and goodies while enjoying the live music and performers.

The school grounds will be alive with activities for kids and families. The early portion of the evening features a social hour & Art Walk with community artists. Painters, ceramicists, other craftspeople and face painters will demonstrate their work and have activities for kids. Neighbors will have a chance to meet or catch up with friends over picnic baskets or dinners from food vendors. Jugglers, belly dancers, and other performers will stroll about the event, entertaining the crowd and giving kids a chance to join in.

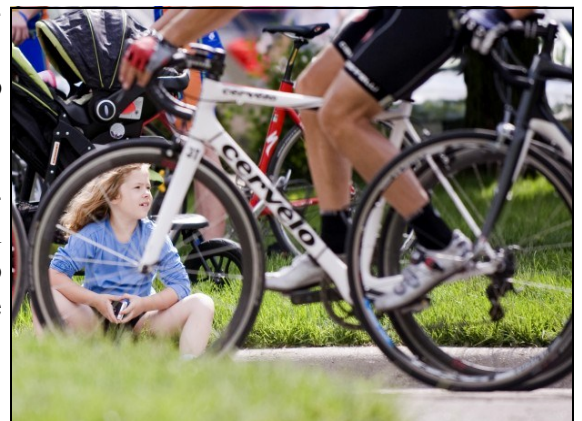
The second half of the evening will feature music and ice cream. One of the featured acts scheduled is the String Beans, Curt and Randy Bright. Kids will be able to dance and sing while working up an appetite for dessert. Other music will follow and free scoops of ice cream will be served for dessert courtesy of the NSNA Ice Cream Social and our neighborhood Russ's Market.

You won't want to miss this annual summer highlight. We hope to see you there. For more information, contact Ashley Ulven at the Prescott Community Learning Center: aulven@lps.org

3rd Annual Biketacular and Capital Criterium

More than 500 area residents attended the City's 3rd annual Biketacular from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 21st in the area south of the State Capitol along Goodhue Boulevard. Captain Mike Woolman, (LPD-Southwest Team) was there to help award prizes including three free children's bikes generously provided by Bike Pedalers. The family friendly event included a children's bike rodeo, bike mechanical and safety checks, kids' races and the Capital City Criterium featuring pro and semi-pro bike racing.

Biketacular was hosted by the City and the Near South and Everett Neighborhood Associations, with the cooperation of local agencies and businesses. Mayoral aide Jon Carlson, who manages the Stronger Safer Neighborhoods program, said the goals of the event were to promote safe and healthy lifestyles and foster a friendlier community. **(Continued on page 2)**



What we've been up to...

BIKETACULAR AND CAPITAL CITY CRITERIUM GAINING POPULARITY

“Biketacular is a way to showcase two of Lincoln’s great assets – strong neighborhoods and an energized bicycling community,” Carlson said. “We hope to increase community awareness of the importance of walking and biking as well as the convenience and high quality of life you can enjoy in the beautiful neighborhoods near downtown, UNL, and the State Capitol.”

“This is a great opportunity to bring the community together and celebrate cycling,” said Sean Craig, Race Director and co-owner of Bike Pedalers, one of the event sponsors. Nearly 150 adult racers from across the region competed in the Criterium races from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The main entrance of McPhee Elementary served as the starting and ending location of the .7-mile course. The races were USA Cycling sanctioned events with six divisions. Medals were awarded in beginner and junior races, and cash prizes totaled \$3,000.

Lots of hard work and volunteers created an event that we can all be very proud of. Hundreds of folks attended and many more were exposed to positive aspects of the South Capitol area and of biking. Residents of the area remarked on the improved appearance of Goodhue Avenue, and they were proud to be the hosts. Kids learned about bike safety and adults had a great day with their kids and with the racing. Near South hopes that Biketacular continues to grow as an annual event here in our neighborhood.



2011 Capital City Criterium Racers Sweep the Capitol



William Carver Recognized and Donation Fund Established



Coralee Carver, William Carver, Kathy Beecham, Jonathan Cook and Jon Carlson at William Carver’s Award Ceremony

On April 16th friends and family of William Carver gathered to recognize his work in the community, both as President of NSNA and as the City Graffiti Prevention Coordinator. City Councilman Jonathan Cook presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his willingness to help his neighbors and his commitment to projects like the Spring Clean-Up and Tour of Homes. Last summer he was diagnosed with oral cancer which has resulted in surgery, followed by months of chemo and radiation treatment. He is recovering with the support of his wife, Coralee. However, insurance does not cover all of his medical expenses; William is currently unable to work full-time and they have been faced with mounting bills. If you would like to help out donations to the William Carver Donation Fund will be accepted at all US Banks.

PRESCOTT PARK AND OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

RAIN GARDEN, AND WALKING PATH COMPLETED

Parents and supporters of the Prescott Park Project have accomplished a major part of their \$250,000 goal. Thanks in large part to a \$99,000 Safe Routes to School grant, organizers raised \$126,000 at the Second Annual Walkathon in May. Combined with money raised last year, the two-year total stands at \$169,619. This year's funds will cover outdoor classroom items, a performance stage and plantings to enhance the outdoor experience. A bridge funded by the Prescott School PTO will be installed. A ribbon-cutting preceded the kickoff to this year's walk. Dr. Steve Joel, Superintendent of Lincoln Public Schools and Lincoln City Council member Jonathan Cook helped cut the ribbon along with Lincoln Board of Education members Don Mayhew and Barbara Baier. More than 200 guests walked with the students, combining to cover 1,100 miles in one day.

"This is Phase Two of what will likely be a three year project," said Tammie Vacek, parent of a Prescott School student and member of the Prescott PTO. "We had a great kickoff, and all the students got to walk on the walking path for the first time"

Phase One of the project removed the gravel from the playground, trimmed trees, seeded grass for the playground, and Campbell's Nursery installed a rain garden. Walking paths were laid in time for the Walkathon. Near South resident Chad Johnson has designed and begun construction of a footbridge for the walking path over the rain garden.

Phase Two includes a new bicycle/entry court, an outdoor classroom, and a festival stage area. The NSNA is proud of their partnership with Prescott School. Historic Prescott Elementary is an important neighborhood resource. Near South residents have been working through the Prescott's School Neighborhood Advisory Committee (SNAC) to create outdoor learning and community spaces for the school and neighborhood. For more information, see their website at <http://prescottpark.info> with links to Facebook and Twit-

NSNA Donates \$10,000 from Home Tour to Prescott Park Project



William Carver (NSNA President) presents check from NSNA to Ruth Ann Wylie, Prescott Principal

The 2011 NSNA Tour of Homes welcomed approximately 1,500 visitors to the seven beautiful historic Tour Homes as well as the newly renovated Hazel Abel Park. Due to the enthusiastic response, excellent weather and generous sponsorship this was our most successful Tour ever. The Tour of Homes would not be possible without the gracious participation of the Near South Homeowners that open their doors to thousands of visitors and allow us into their lives.

It would also not be possible without the many volunteers who serve as House Captains, Tour Guides, Refreshment Servers, Musicians and Cookie Bakers. This year's Tour Organizer, Greg McCown did an outstanding job in bringing together homeowners, sponsors, and volunteers as well as the Prescott School PTO and SNAC Committee. As a result, NSNA was able to donate \$10,000, largely profits from the Tour, to the Prescott Park Project. Your support of this event is greatly appreciated.



Musicians perform at Hazel Abel Park during 2011 Home Tour

In the News

Inaugural Legacy Tree Program



In its first year the Legacy Tree Program has become popular in the community and an effective way to enhance our urban forest. Last year 124 trees were planted at Antelope Park, Bowling Lake, Larsen Park, Mahoney Park, Oak Lake and Woods Park.

This Lincoln Parks Foundation Program encourages members of the public to purchase trees as special gifts for loved ones, to provide an opportunity for donors who want to support the city's urban forest, or as memorials. For more information please visit: www.lincolnparks.org

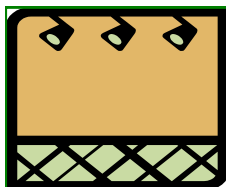
Centennial Mall Renovation Project

The next major project for the Lincoln Parks Foundation is the revitalization of Nebraska's Centennial Mall. The Foundation, Lincoln Parks and Recreation Committee and a group of volunteers is organizing a fundraising campaign to complete the \$9 million project, which includes \$7.5 million in construction and a \$1.5 million endowment. For more information visit www.necentennialmall.org



Near South Receives Mini Grant for South and 27th Streets Sign

Urban Development has awarded a \$1,500 mini-grant to NSNA to partially finance the design and installation of a Near South Neighborhood boundary sign at 27th and South Streets; NSNA will be responsible for the remainder. This site is currently being landscaped by Windstream to camouflage cable boxes. Installation will be complete by late August.



How to Contact Your City Council Representatives

How the City spends its money has a direct impact on you. Take the time to contact the City Council and give your feedback on the City Budget. You can call, e-mail, or write to the City Council. You can also testify in person before the City Council when they hold public hearings August 8th.

Lincoln City Council

Phone: (402) 441-7515

General e-mail: council@lincoln.ne.gov

*A copy of your message goes to all council members

E-mail individual representatives:

*Council Members will try to respond to your message

Jonathan Cook: jcook@lincoln.ne.gov

Jon Camp: jcamp@lincoln.ne.gov

Dates to Remember



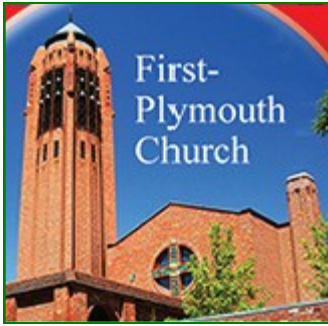
- August 8th** City Council Meeting & Public Hearing on Proposed 2011-2012 City Budget at 3:00pm at the City/County Building
- August 1-15** Citizens are invited to call, write or email their opinions and concerns

Your Neighborhood Grocery Store - 17th & Washington -



visit us at www.RussMarket.com

Summer Activities



First-Plymouth Congregational Church 20th and D Sts.

Vacation Church School July 18-21 (9:00am-Noon)



What was it like when Jesus was a kid? Imagine the stories that Mary could tell about Jesus as he was growing up! Experience the Bible Times Market Place. Play games that children in Nazareth played. Sing songs and gather in huddles to talk about God Sightings. Resister your children and their friends on-line at www.firstplymouth.org or stop by the church and pick up a registration. Call Kathie Jonson at (402)476-7565 or kathie@firstplymouth.org for more info.

Summer Sings at First Plymouth Church



Join Abendmusik for one of our annual community Summer Sings! There are no auditions of commitments. Just come as you are at 7:30 on the evening listed and within 2 hours we will have shared and energized rehearsal and an “instant performance” of a great choral work. Music, hospitality, refreshments, air-conditioning and fun are included—FREE! No sign up is necessary.

Faure REQUIEM
Wednesday, July 27th, 7:30-9:30pm
Jeremy Bankson, Conductor
Tom Trenney, Organist

For more information contact the Abendmusik
Office at (402) 476-9933

St Paul' U.C.C FARMERS MARKET



Its summer
and time for the St.
Paul U.C.C.

Farmers Market. . .

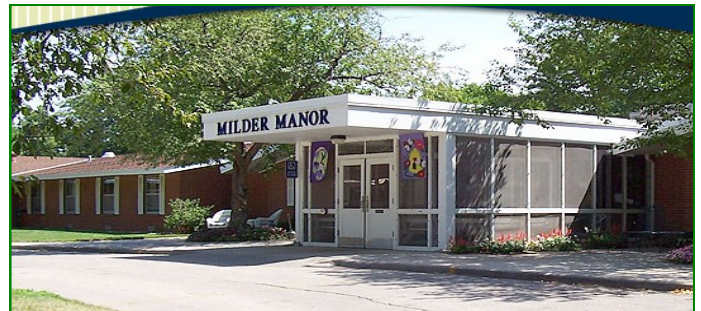
Just around the corner @ 13th & F STS

Each Tuesday evening
June through September
from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

You'll find fresh produce, plants, hot-off
the-grill food fare, and a variety
of locally handmade products for sale.
There's live music to entertain, and a free
hands-on booth for the kids each week!!

New this Season ~ EBT Cards Accepted

Milder Manor Welcomes New Administrator



Milder Manor is pleased to announce that Larry Van Hunnik has been named as our new Administrator. Mr. Van Hunnik has over 33 years of leadership experience in long term care facilities. Eighteen of these years have been here in Lincoln. Larry is known for excellence in leadership and even more for his outgoing personality, initiation of relationships and ability to build rapport. His optimistic nature provides a positive impact on every situation.

Milder Manor is one of 33 facilities owned or managed by the Vetter Health Service Group of Omaha. Mr. Van Hunnik and the Milder Manor Staff will work to enhance our reputation and ensure “Dignity in Life” for all residents.

You may reach Mr. Van Hunnik to discuss your family's needs at (402) 475-6791 or at Ivanhunnik@vhsmail.com.