

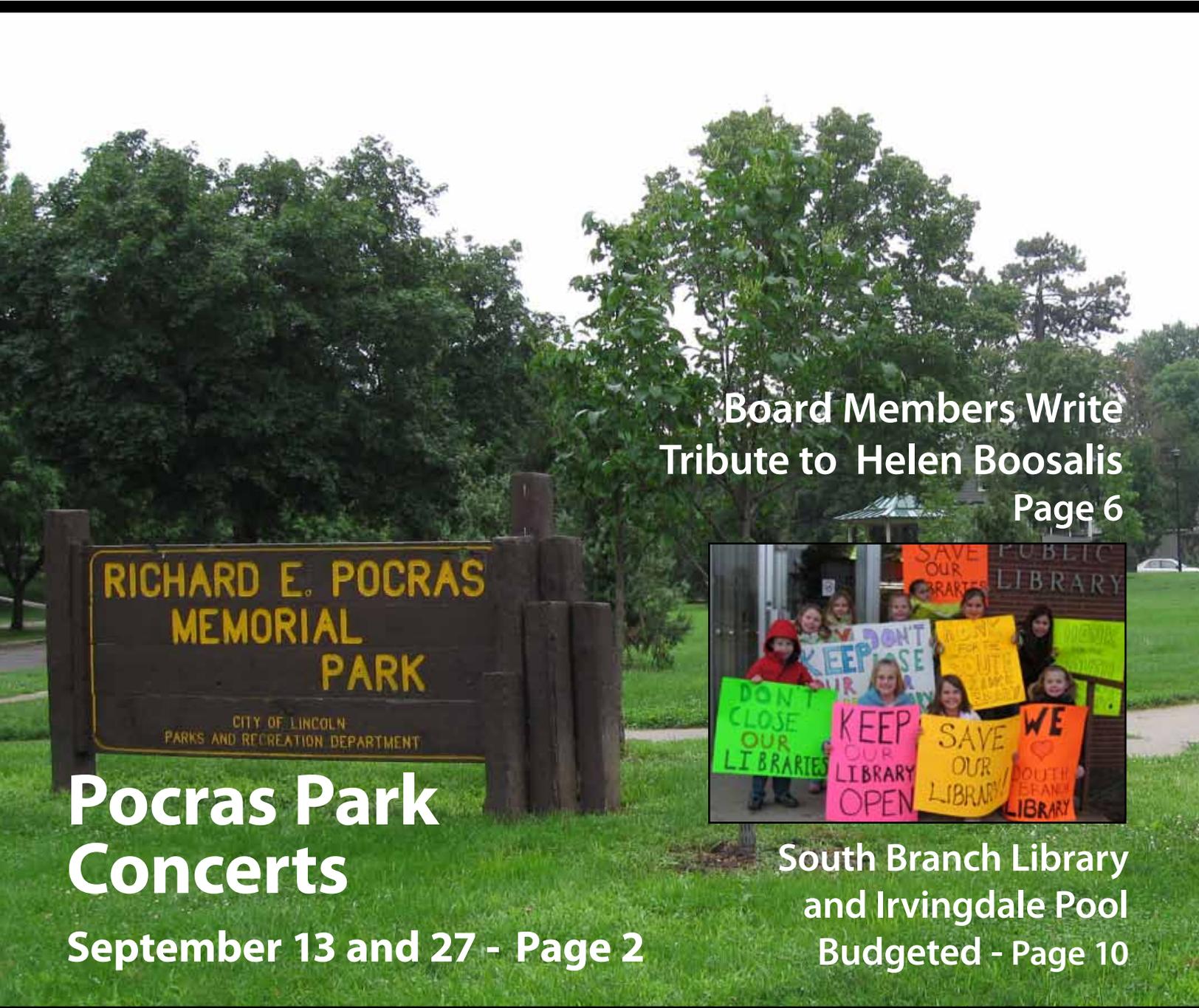


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# Chronicle

Country Club Neighborhood Association

Lincoln, Nebraska • August 2009



**Board Members Write  
Tribute to Helen Boosalis  
Page 6**



## Pocras Park Concerts

**September 13 and 27 - Page 2**

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and Irvingdale Pool  
Budgeted - Page 10**

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Feature Story Sponsored by:



# Chronicle

Country Club Neighborhood Association

## Feature Story

### Pocras Park Free Concert Series Sundays

- September 13, 4-6 PM
- September 27, 4-6 PM

It's a Sunday afternoon in September. The kids are back in school, Husker football has kicked off and you're looking for a chance to relax with the family. Bike, walk, drive or run—just get to Pocras Park at 29th and Sewell Streets for a FREE concert.

#### *Who doesn't like free music?*

Stransky Park at 20th & Harrison Sts. has been our model—they have summer Thursday night concerts with hundreds of families on folding chairs and blankets. The CCNA decided to hire two live bands and host our own party. We considered night concerts, but decided that Sunday afternoon is a great time to unwind for some music. Our other summer events (historic walk and pool party) drew around 100-150 people, so we think we should have a good crowd. Please spread the word!

Julie Enersen is leading the volunteers, she is booking the bands now and getting permits and insurance arranged. Food may be available for sale. If you want to volunteer to help, please call Julie Enersen or Bob Beecham at 420-3007. Pocras Park is a little gem of a park in our neighborhood.

The CCNA has helped outfit it with playground equipment and gazebo. It's perfect for picnics, Frisbee, softball and now – rock on! Each concert is scheduled from 2:00-4:00PM. No rain dates. Hope to see you there!

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We, at FocalPoint, are pleased to help provide this publication for your neighborhood. This newsletter is FREE to residents thanks to the support of local businesses -- please show your support by visiting their establishment or utilizing their services.

For more information about this or other publications, please call 420-7880 or visit [www.fppub.com](http://www.fppub.com).

*Do you have an idea for a feature story in the Country Club Neighborhood Association Chronicle Publication? Send an email to [becca.berstler@fppub.com](mailto:becca.berstler@fppub.com) or 420-7880*

## 2009 CCNA

### Summer/Fall Meeting Schedule

#### September 15th, Tuesday

CCNA Neighborhood Meeting  
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn  
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

#### October 20th, Tuesday

CCNA Neighborhood Meeting  
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn  
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

#### November 17th, Tuesday

CCNA Neighborhood Meeting  
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn  
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

*The CCNA meets the third Tuesday in the months of February, March, April, July, September, October and November at 7:00PM. Meetings are held at Irving Rec Center located at 2010 Van Dorn Street. All are invited and encouraged to attend.*

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# Letter from the CCNA President - Bob Beecham August 2009

A neighborhood is more than a place and a great neighborhood is a treasure. Sure, there are places in Lincoln with more expensive houses and even gates to protect the residents. But to be honest, there is no nicer place in Lincoln than the Country Club Neighborhood. This issue of the Chronicle provides several great examples of why we consider ourselves fortunate.

1. Free concerts debut at Pocras Park in September. The CCNA is experimenting with free activities. The Historic Walk in June and free family swim in July were successful and involved new people. Next we are hosting two free concerts, so bring your blankets and lawn chairs and relax with some tunes in the little park at 29th and Sewell. We're open to suggestions for future events, so if you have an idea come to the next Board meeting and get involved.
2. After a long campaign to keep the South Branch Library from the budget chopping block, on July 3, Mayor Beutler and a majority of the City Council came to South Branch to report that libraries, swimming pools and other programs will remain in his budget. Liz Shea McCoy writes about a small group of Sheridan Elementary fourth graders led by Grace Doll and girlfriends who waved posters at 27th and South Street to protest the library closing. At his news conference, the Mayor presented these students with a certificate and congratulated them.
3. The Chronicle recognizes the day-to-day wonders of our neighbors. Our distinguished former Mayor Helen Booslis died in June but her influence is still felt. In this issue two CCNA board members to tell how they have used their neighborhood organization as a springboard to wider city service. Former City Council member Dan Marvin describes how he became involved in local



*Bob Beecham speaking with the mayor.*

4. Lincoln loves Husker Football! Over the years I've been to lots of memorable Husker games and fabulous tailgate parties have preceded most of them. Steve Thelen is an avid fan, outstanding chef, and his tailgate parties have grown into the biggest parties of the football season. He ought to have a TV show, he's engaging, fun and changes the recipes every week. We asked him to write about his parties and preparation and he included a soup recipe.
5. The City will spend \$1.6 million in federal Stimulus Funding on a major improvement project for Sheridan Blvd scheduled for 2010. All curbs will be replaced and the boulevard will be milled and resurfaced. The CCNA is working with the Public Works Department and other city agencies to protect the historic value of one of Lincoln's most recognized streets.

## CCNA 2009 Dues Statement

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual CCNA Membership dues = \$ 15.00  
 (Good until January 2010)

*If dues and contributions total \$25 or more, the entire amount is tax deductible.*

**TOTAL Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make check payable to **Country Club Neighborhood Association** and return it with this form to:  
**CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.**  
**www.ccnalinc.org | ccna.lincoln@gmail.com**

## 2008-2010 CCNA Board

### President

Bob Beecham, 2925 O'Reilly

### Vice President

Paul Vaccaro, 3500 South 27<sup>th</sup>

### Secretary

Rifka Keilson, 2827 South 27<sup>th</sup>

### Treasurer

Mary Lynn Schaffer, 2601 Lafayette

### Membership

Carrie Knight, 2525 Lafayette

### Past President

Linda Wibbels, 2740 Royal Court

### Board Members

Cathy Beecham, 3024 Stratford  
 Alice Epstein, 3144 Sheridan Blvd.  
 Lori Haudrich, 3215 South 31<sup>st</sup>  
 Stephen Haudrich, 3215 South 31<sup>st</sup>  
 Rev. Peter Frazier-Koontz, 2300 Sewell  
 Dan Marvin, 2523 Woods Blvd.  
 Kay Maxwell, 3045 Puritan  
 Bill Norris, 2832 Manse Avenue  
 Joyce Norris, 2832 Manse Avenue  
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 Susan Vaccaro, 3500 South 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Jane Williams, 2230 Sewell

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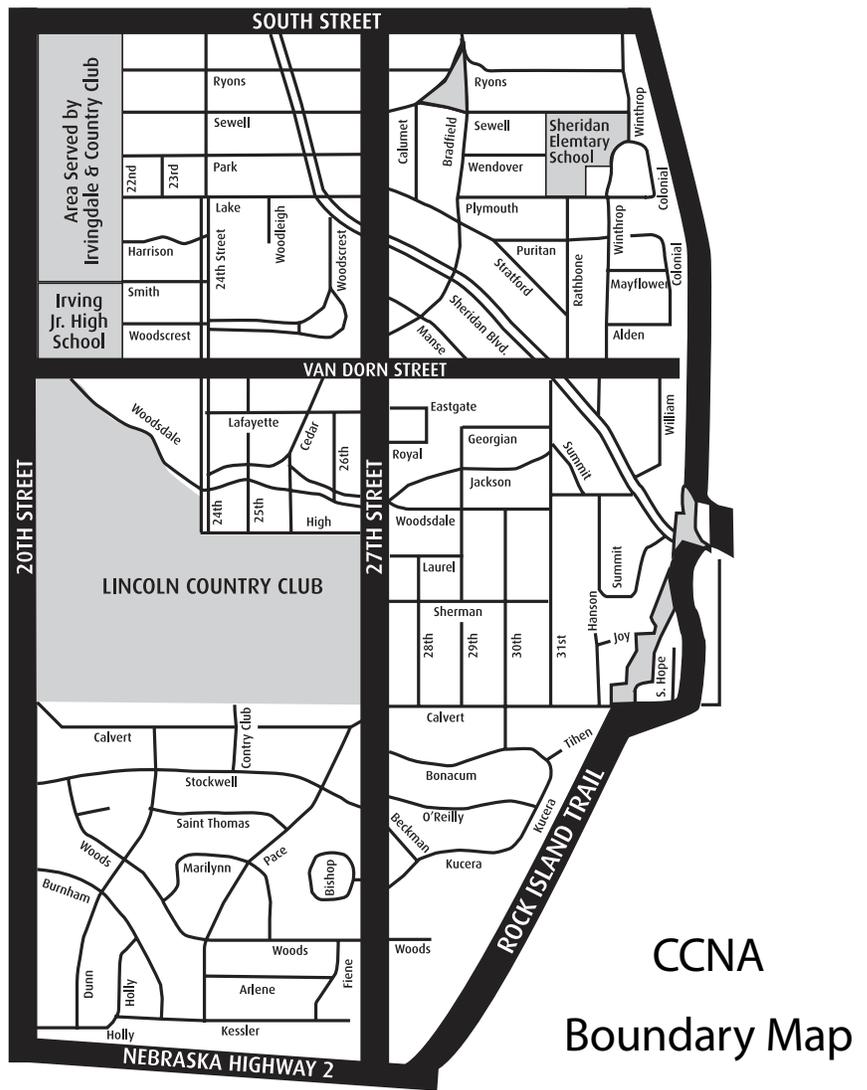
Stephen Haudrich, 3215 South 31<sup>st</sup>

**Thank you for serving your neighborhood!**

### CCNA Chronicle Publishing Schedule

February  
 May  
 August  
 November

*The CCNA Chronicle is the official publication of the Country Club Neighborhood Association (CCNA). The CCNA Chronicle is published four times a year by the CCNA and every address in the CCNA boundaries is mailed a copy. Statements of fact and opinion made are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members of CCNA. While this publication makes a reasonable effort to establish the integrity of its advertisers, it does not specifically endorse advertised products or services unless specifically stated as such. All correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to: Country Club Neighborhood Association, Attn: CHRONICLE Editor, PO Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.*



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Crime Stoppers.....	475-3600	Zoning Violations.....	441-7521
Household Hazardous Waste....	441-8022		
Housing Codes.....	441-7785		
Mayor's Office.....	441-7511, 441-6300		
Neighborhood Watch.....	441-7204		
Parks and Recreation.....	441-7847		
Quality of Life (24 hour anonymous com-			

### Visit [www.ccnalinc.org](http://www.ccnalinc.org) to find:

- CCNA Business Directory
- A CCNA boundary map
- Links to other community organizations
- Read past issues of the *Chronicle*
- See By-Laws

## Tribute to Helen Boosalis Board Members Influenced

*Helen Boosalis, one of our neighborhood's most distinguished leaders, died June 15, 2009 at age 89. She was elected to City Council in 1959 and served until 1975 when she was elected City Mayor. She was Mayor for 8 years until appointed State Director of Aging. In 1986 she ran against Kay Orr for Governor: the first time both candidates were female. She inspired many and will be missed. Two of our Board Members share their thoughts on neighborhood involvement, in a tribute to Helen Boosalis.*

## From CCNA Board to Council to beyond...

By Dan Marvin



Dan & Donna Marvin

In the book, "Mayor Helen Boosalis-My Mother's Life in Politics" by Beth Boosalis Davis, you can find some of the history of the growth and influence of neighborhood associations in Lincoln. My election to the office of City Council in 2005, would not have occurred had it not been for my own involvement in CCNA. All this happened

quite by accident; it was the early 1990's, and I was driving home from work. Both sides of 27th street were lined with "caution" tape. This perked my interest enough to go to a meeting. One thing led to another and I was on the board as treasurer, a post I held for six years.

By 2000, then Mayor Wesley appointed me to serve on my first infrastructure task force. This continued advocacy for city government to balance boards and commissions with appointments that have broad representation, including neighborhoods, was another legacy that was born in the Boosalis administration.

The rise in neighborhood groups nationally, according to Helen's book was due to the rise of "great society" programs under LBJ and by community development block grants under Nixon. Locally neighborhood groups gained power as the influence of business groups faded. Quoting a newspaper column from the time "neighborhoods had organized to protect themselves against rapid growth and development favored by business forces ... the sides criticized each other as believers in either no growth or growth at any cost."

As mayor, Helen worked to involve more people in the process. This meant using the Urban Development Department and reaching out to neighborhood associations. "Mom further encouraged residents to take ownership of their neighborhoods through a program developed by the city's Urban Development Department that sought input from neighborhoods organizations ... Neighborhood groups were strengthened during her era and became pretty good watch dogs over city councils and mayors."

The empowering of neighborhoods led to a backlash by then councilmen Hampton and Sikyta. Quoting the newspaper, "Some council members, however, were far less enamored with actively involved neighborhood organizations." Both took on the Urban Development Department with Sikyta proposing to eliminate the department altogether." Responding to those types of efforts to weaken neighborhood involvement Helen said, "...there are people who will be threatened by neighborhood involvement. I am not one of those people."

The growth of neighborhoods' influence is just another legacy of Helen Boosalis. I see Lincoln as a community that is inclusive and allows all points of view; it is an open process and it began with Helen.

## How My Neighborhood Assoc. and I Helped Each Other

By Cathy Beecham

One morning a few years ago, I woke up and headed across the street to my favorite park for a walk. It felt like a hidden garden, full of flowers, trees, and fountains and bordered by tidy, historic homes. Unfortunately, it also had a sign posted in front of it outlining a plan to redesign the park which included a proposal to tear down some of those homes in order to create parking space.

That was the shock I received in 2003 when the plan for the Sunken Gardens redesign was revealed. I lived in the Near South Neighborhood at the time, with my husband and our new baby. Being fairly new to Lincoln, I had not involved myself in local issues up to that point. Somehow though, the thought of old houses bordering the Sunken Gardens being torn down shocked me into action.

I could only imagine how the ambiance of the Sunken Gardens would be changed if some of the homes were torn down in favor of parking. I believed that much of the charms of the Gardens lay in the feeling that it was a hidden jewel in the middle of a neighborhood. To me, taking the houses down would expose the park to more traffic noise and pollution as well as destroy some lovely homes.

I started talking to my neighbors and discovered that they too opposed the destruction of the houses. Many, however, felt that the City had already made the decision and that there was little we could do. I contacted the Near South Neighborhood Association and they told me that the City was going to hold a public meeting to comment on the Park Improvement Plan. I tossed my baby in the stroller and walked the neighborhood encouraging everyone to attend the meeting to voice their opinions. The Neighborhood Association spread the word to their members. My neighbor circulated a petition around the neighborhood and contacted the television stations.

The evening of the meeting we had over 80 people attend (the normal attendance for this kind of meeting was around 20). It was standing room only. For their part, the City and the Parks Department were terrific. They listened to our concerns and worked with us to redesign the plan. Their initial design was intended to get parking off the streets - something most neighborhoods like. After meeting with us, however, they realized that in the Near South, residents were very protective of the historic housing stock. They preferred to have people park in front of their homes rather than have houses torn down. The Parks Department came back with a new design that expanded the parking lot without destroying any homes.

*(Continued on page 7)*

(How My Neighborhood Association and I Helped Each Other, Continued from Page 6) That was the night that I joined the Near South Neighborhood Association Board. By myself, I was just a single voice but by working together and enlisting the help of our Neighborhood Association, the residents of the Near South had a strong voice, one which City Leaders listened and responded to.

In the ensuing years, I witnessed several other exam-

ples of change that could be affected by Neighborhood Associations. Four years ago, the City Council approved a re-zoning proposal initiated by the Near South Neighborhood Association. It will help protect the existing historic homes in the area and help prevent old homes from being torn down and replaced with slip-in apartment buildings.

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association defeated a proposal to create a large development in the middle of their residential neighborhood. The Country Club Neighborhood Association has worked together to prevent the widening of 27th Street and has increased the care of parks and green space throughout the neighborhood. Part of the Country Club neighborhood has also recently been designated a historic district.

My husband, my two daughters, and I recently moved to the Country Club neighborhood. We are delighted with the warm sense of community that exists here and the value people place on maintaining their historic homes. And I have joined the Country Club Neighborhood Association Board. I have seen how neighbors joining forces can improve our corner of the city, and Neighborhood Associations are a great way for residents to be heard. A little bit of volunteer time goes a long way towards sustaining and improving our corner of Lincoln and many hands and voices are much stronger than one.

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# It's Husker Football Season – a wonderful reason to TAILGATE

## Let the Party Begin!

By: Steve Thelen

*(Steve Thelen and his wife Jan and two children Joannie and Andrew have lived in the same house on 26th Street for over 30 years. Steve has always enjoyed cooking, he once smoked a turkey for Sheridan School fun night, he grills in the backyard, and goes to the grocery store several times a week to see what looks good for dinner. When not selling real estate, golfing, or vacationing to Mexico, he's usually in the kitchen whipping up something delicious for an assortment of friends. Steve grew up in Wood River and has been a Husker fan forever. His tail-gate party started small with one card table and a cooler. Now he's enlisted 7 other guys and they entertain an all-ages crowd every football Saturday in Lincoln. The food rolls out two hours before kick-off. Steve's hospitality and wide grin welcome the friends who gather round. The first tail-gate party kicks off September 5, 2009 when NU plays Florida Atlantic.)*



Ah.....it is already August so I can start thinking about one of my favorite pastimes - Husker football and TAILGATING! In my opinion the two go hand in hand.

I have already read Street and Smiths, Athlon and the Phil Steele college football editions to educate myself about the Division One football teams across the country. In addition, these magazines generally tout some new tailgate items to serve. Now is the time to try some of them out to determine if you want to spring them on friends attending the tailgate. With seven home football games this year,

there is plenty of opportunity to branch out.

Our regular group of eight couples generally starts to arrive at our tailgate site underneath the Powerball overhead sign about 2 hours before game time. We generally communicate with each other prior to the game to determine who wants to bring what. Some specialize in appetizers, some desserts and some do hearty items like beef

sandwiches, enchiladas, or soups and stews. Weather is often a determining factor as to what is going to be served. Everyone contributes to the beverage supply which we try to diversify enough to satisfy all ages. Another determining factor of what will be served is the actual game time. With game times ranging from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM we are able to serve brunch types of items, as well as hot soup and sandwich items for a cold night time kickoff.

An integral part of the tailgate is the opportunity to socialize and reconnect with old friends. Granted the food and beverage is often the catalyst, but the true enjoyment is seeing friends and acquaintances. Many times friends will show up who remember the tailgate from years past and spend a few minutes catching everyone up on what has been happening in their lives.

About 45 minutes prior to kickoff people start to get a little antsy. We can hear the marching band in the background. We can see the throngs of Husker fans dressed in red making their way to Memorial Stadium. That means it is time to start packing food and drink back into our cars. Depending on seat locations, people wander toward the stadium. I am always amazed at the number of people that just come to tailgate and not even attend the game. They just love the atmosphere and can generally watch the game on one of the numerous televisions scattered around the tailgate lot.

At the game's end, we all *(Story continued on Page 9)*



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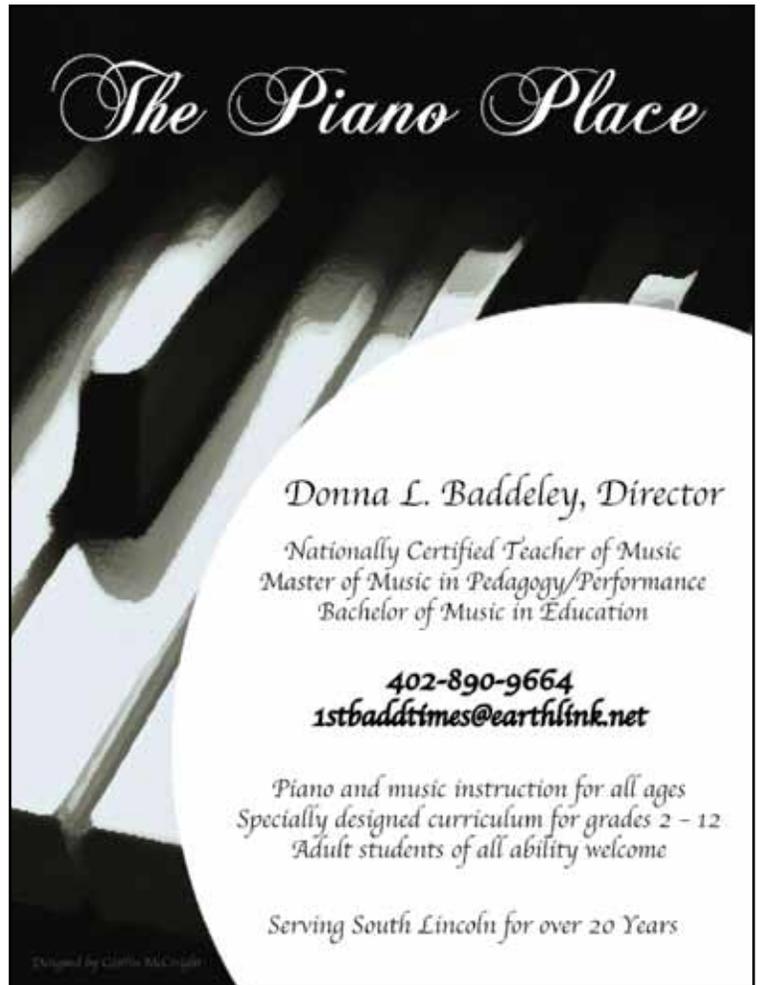
(It's Husker Season, continued from Page 8) meet back at the spot and often eat leftovers. That is assuming that the Huskers have played well, and everyone can rehash the day's great, and not so great, plays. The number of arm chair quarterbacks multiplies exponentially at this point. Finally, about the time that all of the downtown traffic clears, we all head home to rest up from the long day. By the next day, we are already thinking about what to bring to the next game. One of my favorite tailgate items is an easily made Mexican soup that I like to bring to cold-weather games.

### Steve's Hot Mexican soup:

One oven roasted whole chicken, simmer it overnight with about 5 Jalapeño peppers and a chopped onion, chopped celery, salt and pepper.

On the morning of the game, pick chicken from the carcass. Discard bones and put meat back into soup stock. Add a can of Stokes chicken and Stokes burrito sauces (I can always find at Leons or Ideal market). Add a couple of cans of hominy and a can or two of garbanzo beans. Add more salt and pepper, if needed.

Serve it over crushed up tortilla chips and throw shredded cheese on top. There is nothing better than hot soup on a cold football Saturday.



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# FOURTH GRADE SHERIDAN STUDENTS Organize to Save Library and EARN ADMIRATION OF NEIGHBORS

By Liz Shea McCoy



Ever since Tuesday, February 24, 2009, I have had a news clipping and photo on my desk which focused on Grace Doll and her fourth grade friends, all bundled up in parkas, holding colorful homemade poster board signs which read “Save Our Libraries”...“Keep Our Libraries Open” and “Don’t Close Our Library.” They held their wintery rally from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. on the corner of 27th and South Street to protest the Library Board of Trustees’ proposal to possibly close South Branch Library. At the same time that I clipped the article I addressed an envelope to Grace Doll c/o Sheridan Elementary School, as I wanted to send it with a note of my thanks to applaud her and her friends’ efforts to keep a vital community institution alive. I must say as someone who has lived in this neighborhood since 1962 I know, first hand, about the importance of South Branch Library, because as a student at Prescott, Irving and Lincoln High in the 1960’s, my friends and I spent countless hours at South Branch (walking and riding our bikes to get there) in order to utilize the resources for research papers and group projects.

Grace and her friends realized the importance of South Branch Library. I hoped that the rally by that committed group of fourth graders would serve as a springboard for other supporters to step up to the plate. However, I, like many, were unsure what the ultimate decision would be in regard to the city’s continuing support. For that reason I kept the article on my desk and waited to hear the city’s decision. When I read the July 4th front page headlines “*Mayor’s Budget Spares Libraries, City pools*” and a quote from City Council Chairman Doug Emery “...*the (4th grade) girls’ protest drew a slew of e-mails and letters in support of their cause...Thank you for standing up and making a difference,*” referring to this small, determined group of Sheridan fourth grade students who truly made a meaningful impact which ultimately helped save a neighborhood institution of higher educational resources and learning.

Background from those involved:

Sunday, February 22, 2009 - After learning the news of the possible library closings, Bruce Doll explained to his daughter that

the city was considering closing South Branch. He remembered Grace appearing somewhat shocked and confused. “*For a 9 year old, quite honestly, it seemed absurd that the city would do such a thing. It just didn’t make sense.*” After discussing with Grace about what the library meant to her and what its closing would mean to the neighborhood, Bruce asked her if she would like to do something to help the library. Her first response was,

*“I want to make a poster for the library.”*

Grace made several phone calls to her Sheridan friends: Anna Keene, Meredith Enerson, Ellie Schernikau, Olive Martin, Allison Bergmeyer, Maizy Hurst, Madison Mar, Kate Dvorak, Emma Traudt and Jennie Hammel. She invited them to the rally and asked them to make signs to “*Save the Library.*”

In the words of Bruce Doll, Grace’s dad, “*I don’t think the girls realized what they were about to experience.*” It was simply amazing. As they stood on the corner of 27th and South Street chanting “*Save South Branch Library*” and “*Don’t Close Our Library,*” hundreds of people honked their horns and waved as they drove by. The energy was incredible and it inspired the girls even more.

## South Branch Library Included in Mayor’s Budget

*“I find television very educational; whenever someone turns it on I go to a library and read a good book.” -Groucho Marx*

On July 3, Mayor Beutler and four city council members came to South Branch Library to celebrate the news that our neighborhood library at 27th and South Streets will be included in the mayor’s budget.

No one wanted to cut the library, but neighborhood activism reminded city officials that our people read and vote. The Save South Branch Library web site created and maintained by Jim McFarland, provided supporters with information on how to contact the Mayor and City Council.

In addition to the Mayor and City Council members, CCNA president Bob Beecham addressed the nearly 50 people who attended the press conference. Beecham thanked the Sheridan students for their efforts and the Mayor for including the libraries in his budget.

Funding for Irvingdale Pool is also included in next year’s budget, so our neighborhood pool is safe for another year. As budgets tighten it is important for neighbors to let City leaders know the importance of libraries and pools.



## Summer Health Tip

### Five great Ways to Make your Summer Sizzle

#### Unleash your inner child.

Take advantage of the warm summer afternoons and evenings, and mix up your activity routine, or add some new elements. Go ahead, play in the sprinklers, become a dance diva or try your hand at Frisbee golf. We can really “play” ourselves fit. Just be sure to exercise safety first—the ground is a bit harder to hit as an adult!

#### Prevent your fitness from taking a permanent vacation when unpredictable Nebraska weather strikes.

Seasonal transition is a danger zone for breaking great habits. Weather that's too cold, windy, hot or rainy can sideline your “outdoor only” activity in a hurry. Take shelter from these excuses by making indoor activity an option.

#### Make water sexy.

Challenge yourself to experiment and find some new favorite ways to dress up water

for your family without adding to the cavity and calorie count. Kids at home for the summer? Consider keeping a pretty sun tea-type jug filled with ice water on your counter.

Not only is it more appealing and a healthier choice, it will keep your energy bill in check by eliminating the revolving refrigerator door! Drinking plenty of water and other calorie-free beverages are key to staying hydrated and helping keep those kidney stones at bay.

#### Put more on your grill than protein!

Grill baskets are sensational for helping bring fruits and veggies to life during grilling season. Use a bit of the high temperature cooking spray or olive oil to your veggies in before putting them in the basket. You can start them at the same time as your other foods. One of our family favorites is a mix of green peppers, onions and fresh pineapple. Try all different types of mixes!

**Feel good about going green.** Visit any of

Lincoln's great farmer's markets and buy local for the best nutrient content, yummy produce and lean meats. It's great for you, the Nebraska economy and mixing up the variety in your food choices. They are a great, relaxing way to enjoy your weekends.

**Written by Michelle Welch, RD/LMNT for Madonna Fit for Work ©2009**

*Registered Dietitian and Licensed Medical Nutrition Therapist Michelle Welch has an extensive background in the creation of successful wellness programming for individuals and groups. She developed initiatives that have been touted as “exemplary programs that work” by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), US Department of Health and Human services and American Hospital Association. Michelle currently applies her talents as a Corporate Wellness Developer for Madonna Fit for Work. 8*

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# PLAYWRIGHT AND TEACHER CHRIS MALY DEBUTS 3rd PLAY—"TO EACH HIS OWN"

Chris Maly grew up at 23rd & Park Streets in Lincoln. He is an educator at Lincoln High School. His first full-length play *The Unhallowed Arts* was produced by the UN-Kearney in 1999. In 2006, his play *This Unsafe Star* was featured at the Lied Center. He has been recognized by the Nebraska Speech and Theatre Association and has received a Mayor's Arts Award. Last summer, he was awarded the Trenholm Award for Civil and Human Rights by the NEA. Chris and his wife Brook live at 2501 Lafayette Avenue with their son Miles and are expecting a daughter in September. His new play, *To Each His Own*, ran July 30 to August 1, at the Haymarket Theatre.



By Chris Maly

If often begins with a photograph. Eight years ago I discovered a photograph of Moses Wright testifying at the Emmett Till trial in Sumner, Mississippi. In 1955, he risked his life to tell of the kidnapping of Emmett Till. Seeing Moses Wright fearlessly challenging the lynching of a fourteen year old child led me to write the play *This Unsafe Star*. When Moses Wright arrived to Sumner, Mississippi, to testify, he passed a sign that read "Sumner, Mississippi: A Good Place To Raise A Boy." The juxtaposition was bewildering. Today you will find a highway in Mississippi named after Emmett Till and you will also find a highway named after the sheriff that attempted to have the evidence of his murder suppressed. In an interesting way, it was through Emmett Till's story that led me to this play, *To Each His Own*.

*To Each His Own* is a study of juxtapositions. It is a historical drama that explores the delicate balance between acknowledgment and action amid violence and bigotry. Within this climate,

a young photojournalist, Gerhard, aspires to capture the "critical moments" of the changing political tides in Dresden, Germany through a camera lens. His father, Hermann, struggles with the dehumanization of Germans and his son's aspirations to chronicle its evolution. *To Each His Own* explores the moment when an abstraction of humanity becomes a dominant reality and how people choose to observe or choose to act.

The cast features David Landis, Gage Wallace, Tim Mittan, Maggie Stuckey, Andy Dillehay, Jessie Tidball, Jeremy Short, Christian Novotany, John Heineman, and Kam McKinney. Original music for the show is written by James Olivia and the show is under the direction of Patsy Koch Johns.

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## Sheridan Blvd. Rehabilitation Project in 2010

### ECONOMIC STIMULUS COMING TO YOUR HOME TOWN

The summer of 2010 will see the closing of Sheridan Blvd for a major rehabilitation project. Funded with federal Economic Stimulus dollars, the \$1,680,000 project will extend from South Street to Calvert Street. A committee of the CCNA has already been in contact with the City of Lincoln Public Works Department - Engineering Services as they plan to repair the existing street. Here are some details of the project:

- Driving surface will be milled
- Voids in the street will be repaired
- All outside and median curbs and gutters replaced
- The street will be overlaid with asphaltic concrete
- All curb ramps will be reconstructed to meet ADA specs
- Current drainage patterns will be continued
- There will be no trees removed as part of the project
- There will be no utility relocation
- All work will take place within the existing roadway
- There will be no roadway widening
- There will be no building demolition
- There will be no storm culvert extension or channel work needed

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will need to document the presence or absence of species or critical habitat in the project area. Sheridan Blvd. is one of Lincoln's most recognized streets. The CCNA and individual neighbors have contributed considerable time and money to preserving the beauty and historic value of the medians

and the parking areas. There is no doubt that Sheridan Blvd. is in need of repair. The CCNA is committed to working with the city to make this a successful project that will improve our neighborhood and maintain the historic value of the street.

While planning for this project is still in the preliminary stages, the CCNA feels that this is the most opportune time to influence the outcome of the project. On July 21, at the regular CCNA meeting the city Public Works Department was present to address some of the specific questions of neighbors and the CCNA Board. Concerns were curbs, landscaping, driveways, drainage, storm sewers, sprinklers and shrubs.

There will be other opportunities for neighbors to provide their input to the Sheridan rehabilitation project but the longer you wait the less chance you will have to influence the outcome of the project.

If you have questions about this project you can contact Kent Evans at 441-7711 with the Public works Department. The CCNA Board member contact for this project is Alice Epstein, 3144 Sheridan Blvd, 486-1495.



## Health Chat

### Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.

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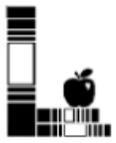
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# School NEWS

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## Lincoln Public Schools 2009-2010 Student Calendar

- August 19: First day of class for students  
 August 19–21: All schools will dismiss one hour early
- September 7: Schools not in session
- October 12: Elementary schools not in session  
 October 26-30: Schools not in session
- November 25: Elementary schools not in session  
 November 26-27: Schools not in session
- December 21: First day of LPS Winter Break
- January 4: Classes resume  
 January 18-19: Schools not in session
- February 15: Elementary schools not in session
- March 22-26: Schools not in session
- April 2: Schools not in session  
 April 30: Elementary schools not in session
- May 31: Schools not in session
- June 3: Last day of class for students  
 June 5: Graduation for LHS, LNS, LNE and LSW  
 June 6: Graduation for East, LSE

## ENCOURAGE AMBITIOUS INDEPENDENT LEARNING PROJECTS

*Excerpt taken from article written by Dr. Raymond J. Huntington.*

If your child enjoys writing and storytelling, consider journaling activities. These can be as simple as keeping a diary or more inventive tasks such as using prose, photography and illustrations to chronicle summertime activities such as family trips or camp. If your child is especially visual, consider using a loose-leaf notebook that enables individual pages to be taken out and posted in family-friendly areas such as the kitchen or playroom.

Scientifically-minded students can find many exciting “science fair”-type projects through books at their local library and through Web sites that specialize in sharing this type of information. One of the most comprehensive sites is “Science Fair Central,” offered by The Discovery Channel at <http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral>. Another great offering comes from the American Federation of Teachers, which publishes a “Summer Learning Calendar” that can be found at [www.aft.org/calendar](http://www.aft.org/calendar).

Students who enjoy mathematics can test and strengthen their skills through Figure This! ([www.figurethis.org](http://www.figurethis.org)). Created by The National Science Foundation in partnership with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, this initiative features engaging mathematics challenges that are designed to be completed by children and families together. While they tend to be “fun,” the challenges are also an effective primer for the rigorous mathematics that most students will be required to master in school.



[mcnebraska.com](http://mcnebraska.com)

## 23 YEARS OF MYSTERY, THE HOUSE THAT TIME FORGOT

“EVERY HOUSE HAS A STORY--EVERY BLOCK HAS AN INTRIGUING HOUSE”

By Linda Davis

There are so many wonderful things about living in an historic neighborhood; the sense of community, the friendliness of people, the beautiful architecture, and the wonderful stories that come with the passage of time.

The house across the street has always been a mysterious attraction for the neighborhood. When we moved into our home 23+ years ago, we were told that the stately two-story house was empty and had been for some time. The man who owned it had given it to his son who shortly thereafter died. From that point on, the house became a shrine to the long-held memory of a life cut short. Stories were told, often times late at night in hushed tones, about the circumstances surrounding the son's demise, and that just maybe, there was a ghost in that home lurking in the closets. The neighborhood kids, our sons included, liked to play hide and seek in the overgrown bushes which covered the front façade of the house, secure in the fact that no adult would ever come out and chide them for playing on their lawn. The boys were certain that all sorts of animals lived in and around that big, old, empty house. It was exciting and mysterious and kind of scary – all which makes for great fun when you're a kid.

The owner was fastidious about keeping the home up. It was even said that at one time when a broken pipe had flooded some of the carpeted rooms, the despondent father had searched for the exact grey wool carpeting to cover the floors. One day as I was glancing out my family room window I thought I saw someone or something in the window of that home across the street. There wasn't a car around so I waited and watched to see if I had just imagined something happening over there. Suddenly I saw it again, and this time I recognized the familiar face of the neighborhood mascot, the brown squirrel, jumping onto the living room window ledge, looking over at me and almost taunting me, then just as suddenly, it darted back into the bowels of the house. I called “Bill”, the owner, and he came and quickly chased the intruder out the door. That was my first and only opportunity to go inside the mysterious home and have a look. It was a home where time stood still, boxes piled high as if moved in but never unpacked. “Bill” declined my offer to help chase the varmint away and that ended my visit to the home across the street.

Over the years, neighbors moved into and out of houses on our block but that lovely home stood motionless, quiet, impervious to the passing of time. Our boys grew up and went away to college, new kids moved onto the block and they enjoyed the same kind of exciting games centered around that



big old home as in past decades. Then one day, the owner died and shortly thereafter trucks pulled up and people started carting out relics of years gone by. Most of it went into dumpsters and was hauled off. The trees and bushes, once the ideal hiding place for squirmy kids and who knows what else, were all chopped down. Neighbors came out and watched as an old Plymouth was dragged out of the never-before-been-opened garage. That was quite a spectacle. Once again, stories were told about the house to the newest members on the block just to get everyone up to speed.

Soon, carpenters came, a flurry of work started and before too long a For Sale sign appeared across the street in the yard of the charming old home. We are all curious about who our new neighbors will be, for the house has just recently sold. I am happy that someone is going to once again fill that home with life. It is just too lovely to sit idle and quiet for so long. The great thing about this neighborhood is that chances are good every block has at least one interesting story to tell about a house or two.

The house next to us used to have the police summoned so often, when the owners finally moved out of state, the officers came to their garage sale looking for particular pieces of furniture which they had admired during their many “visits”. We were so relieved to be rid of these neighbors that a few of us ended up having a “bon voyage” party for the family moving out – and it is safe to assume they were not included on the invitation list. Ah, but that is another neighborhood story.

Linda Davis  
*A happy CCNA resident*

## Pool Party and July 4 Fun for Neighborhood Families!

After the neighborhood association lobbied to save funding for Irvingdale Pool, we felt it only fitting to have a celebration at the pool. The pool has been a summer gathering place for 50 years and most of us learned how to swim in the Irving deep end.

On July 23, 2009 from 8:00 to 9:30 pm the Neighborhood Association, in partnership with Lincoln Parks and Rec, opened the pool for a free family swim. Swimmers of all ages, from infants to grandparents, enjoyed night time swim with lots of games. Assisting with the event were two volunteers from Americorps. The CCNA youth leaders were Sally and Emma Schultz. They wrote press releases, made signs, planned refreshments and helped coordinate the festivities.

Several neighborhoods held block parties on 4th of July. The biggest parties were on Georgian Court and on Wooddale Blvd. A morning parade and brunch was held in Bishop Heights. Over 200 people attended the Wooddale party, the street was blocked off for Lincoln firefighters who cooled off some children with the fire hoses.



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# Good Neighbor Award

## Mike and Karen Butler, 2835 Jackson Drive

*Nominated by:* Jens Schneider and Allison Wimmer, 2828 Jackson Drive.

My husband Jens and I have lived across the street from Mike and Karen since purchasing our first home on Jackson Drive in 2005. Mike and Karen have always been helpful and welcoming. When Mike offered advice on lawn care our first summer in the house, we gladly accepted, not knowing then that he would become our chief advisor on all things yard-related in the years to come. We knew he may have been wishing for that chance when we began to hear from each passerby how wonderful our yard and lawn looked, statements which to the effect of “the lawn has never looked better”. Mike always had some new yard and lawn advice (much of it “water more”!—a debate he shared with Karen we came to discover). He has sprayed our weeds and fertilized for us each year without asking. During our extended trips to Germany, they have kept an eye on the house and even mowed. When arriving back late one night from a December trip to see Jens’ parents in Germany, we found our driveway shoveled and knew immediately who should get the credit for this. We do not know, except through this communication, how to show our deepest gratitude.

Whenever Mike and Karen are outside, we like to chat and catch up. They have been a part of many milestones in the life of our young family: improving our first home, job change, my first pregnancy and the birth of our daughter (they advised on pediatricians), many celebrations involving the backyard and the grill, including most recently, the completion of Jens’ PhD.

They have also heard the play-by-play of the sale of our home. We are sad to leave Lincoln and especially Jackson Drive at the end of June for Jens’ new job as a geologist on the Gulf Coast. Lincoln has been good to us, and I highly doubt we will ever know neighbors as kind, generous and helpful as Mike and Karen.



## SOUTH RIDGE ANIMAL CLINIC

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Address of Nominee:

Reason for the Nomination *(send attachments or photos if you wish):*

Name, Address & Phone Number of Person Making the Nomination:

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## Have You Had Lawn Spinklers Checked?

By Judson Byleen, owner Judson Irrigation



It's been an unusual year when one considers the weather patterns we have observed in Lincoln. Starting with a much drier than normal April and May, most homeowners turned on and checked their lawn sprinkler systems early this spring. As June arrived, rain has fallen on a consistent schedule and as a result most systems have been idle for some time. With the high temperatures of recent days and an outlook for drier weather, now is the time to make certain your sprinkler system is ready to go to work for you.

What should look for if dry spots are a problem in your lawn? The first check I would make is to be certain that all sprinklers are covering the areas they are intended to cover. Sometimes I find pop up type spray heads that are not oriented correctly and the heads simply need to be pointed in the right direction. Other times the nozzle on the sprinkler is plugged and needs to be cleaned out. Rotary sprinklers are often times set so that they are not covering a wide enough arc

and an adjustment needs to be made.

When looking at the rotary sprinklers you should check to see if it looks as though all sprinklers are putting out the same amount of water. This is OK if all the sprinklers on the zone you are checking are throwing the same arcs. If all sprinklers look as though they are putting out the same amount of water and quarter circles are running on the same zone as half and/or full circles, this will give uneven watering that will result in dry spots throughout the yard. At Judson Irrigation we take the time to balance the precipitation of all the sprinklers of a new installation so that dry spots won't occur. These improvements can be made on existing systems as well.

Finally, if your system was installed with sprinklers that aren't popping up high enough to clear the grass, it's time to change out the heads for ones that will get the job done. At Judson Irrigation an estimate can be given as to the cost to convert your system to make it more efficient or if you are looking to do the project yourself a stop at the Sprinkler Zone will put the products in your hands so that you can do the job yourself.

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