

# Midtown Monitor

May 2014

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# The 46th Munroe-Meyer Guild Garden Walk

**Joslyn Castle** – The Joslyn Castle, the private residence of George A. and Sarah Joslyn, was completed in 1903. The plan for Lynhurst, the Joslyn's' name for their five-acre estate, was developed by Omaha architect John McDonald and influenced by landscape architects John Carpenter and Jens Jensen. Prior to the 1913 tornado, the grounds were magnificent with gardens and pastoral vistas, greenhouse and two pools for swimming and aquatic plants. Little remains today of the original sylvan landscape but a few of the original trees. A majestic English Oak, a glorious Red Oak and a lovely 107 year old Magnolia remind us of the former grandeur of the property. The current wonderful gardens are tended by passionate and committed volunteers with assistance from the staff. Free tours of the Joslyn will be given to all Garden Walk ticket holders.

**Tim and Karen Conn** – Their brick and stucco home, built in 1919 has undergone several modifications with close attention kept to maintaining its historic style. The Conns abandoned trying to grow grass in the small area that remained in the backyard. They built a patio of salvaged brick, with columns and antique fencing. Through the yard is small, it has seating areas to provide a variety of secluded views. In Spring, many container plantings of annuals allow for changing interest each year.

**Tom and Terry Price** The Price garden started in 1987 when their 81 year old Great Aunt Ruby passed along 2 carloads of old-fashioned favorites including peonies, hostas, phlox, coral bells, sedum daisies, lady's mantle, astilbe and much more. Many varieties of plants exist in gardens on all sides of the home, all bordered with cobblestones from Omaha's former Jobber's Canyon Historic District. Landscape and pathway lighting provide interest and the ability to enjoy gardens and patios after dark. The Prices have split and shared plants with countless people over the years (including the historic Joslyn Castle), continuing the tradition of spreading the joy of gardening.

**Dave and Jan Peters** The Peters' home is a Tutor Revival style built in 1927. They have a "sunken garden" in their back yard, where neighborhood children use to perform plays. Dave and Jan believe that not only are they owners of their home but preservers of history. They have wedded their choices of new plantings with flourishing mature growth. Creatively the couple works together to create a sanctuary inviting human species as well as animal.

**Jim and Ruth Vacanti** The concept for Chateau le Guerre, as their home was originally named, was birthed during World War I. It resembles a French farm house with hand wrought iron details and leaded-glass windows throughout. The front garden welcomes visitors with a tree swing made by the owner's grandchildren. Through the south gate visitors are greeted with playful works of art and a patch of heirloom gooseneck loosestrife. The gate opens to a space filled surprise grades and resting areas.

**Cathy Collins** Cathy's home was built in 1921 and was purchased as a flip project and then was encouraged by friends to keep it. She focused on the inside and then discovered she could extend her love of design to the outside. The garden contains fountains, ponds, a white garden, formal garden, butterfly garden, display garden, hanging baskets and multiple pots. The garden has been the location for three weddings and many, many memorable parties along with Family brunches, tea parties and wonderful summer evening on the patio. Garden lighting and holiday twinkle light are used year round.

For information on Munroe-Meyer institute and history of the garden walk visit [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)

## Munroe-Meyer Guild's 46th Garden Walk

Sunday, June 8, 2014

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Rain or Shine

*Five Fabulous Private Midtown Gardens  
Joslyn Castle Public Garden Plus Vendors*

Tickets on Sale After May 1

At Area Hy-Vee Stores and Nurseries

[www.unmc.edu/mmi/mmiguild.htm](http://www.unmc.edu/mmi/mmiguild.htm)

402-559-5771





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# Spring in Midtown

**Dundee Garage Sales** Find some new treasures at The Gigantic Garage Sale Weekend with scores of sales sponsored by the Dundee-Memorial Park Neighborhood Association on May 16, 17 and 18th.

## Plant Sales

The annual Super Sale! at First Central Congregational Church, 421 S. 36th St. will be held May 10-11 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Sunday. Please enter through the Evergreen Thrift Shop entrance, at the northeast corner of the building. The sale will again include the usual fabulous thrift shop merchandise, a large book sale, and a plant sale. Plants will include many perennials from the gardens of church members, and some annuals grown from seed. Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions about the plants.

## Men's Garden Club Plant Sale

May 2nd 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Saturday May 3, 9 AM - 2PM

Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Service  
84th and Center Street.

## The Plant Sale features:

A large variety of perennials, hosta, herbs, some annuals, huge selection of heirloom tomatoes and peppers. Proceeds of the sale are given back to the metropolitan community through the Seed Grant Program Saturday Short informational seminars on Sat.

## Seminar Schedule

[www.omaha-mens-garden-club.com/PlantSale.html](http://www.omaha-mens-garden-club.com/PlantSale.html)

## Omaha Farmers Market - Aksarben Village

67th & Center St. 402.345.5401

Sunday 9am-1pm May 5-October 20

## Benson Military Ave. at Maple St.

402.571.1785

Saturday 8am-1pm May 4-September 28



## Gifford Park Neighborhood 33rd & California St.

402.558.4070

Friday 4pm-8pm May 23rd-September 26

## Omaha Farmers Market - Old Market

11th & Jackson St.

402.345.5401

Saturday 8am-12:30pm May 4-October 19

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 2014

Sunday, June 8 3pm

### ROMANTIC VOICES

Mary Bircher, *Harp*  
Leslie Fagan, *Flute*  
Shelby VanNordstrand, *Voice*  
Tim Strang, *Cello*

Sunday, June 22 3pm

### STRIKING & SONOROUS

Dwight Thomas, *Timpani*  
Jeff Nelson, *Percussion*  
Christi Zuniga, *Keyboard*  
Yulia Kalashnikova, *Keyboard*

Sunday, June 15 3pm

### BRAHMS & BEETHOVEN

Anne Nagosky, *Violin*  
Juliet Yoshida, *Violin*  
Thomas Kluge, *Viola*  
Paul Ledwon, *Cello*

Sunday, June 29 3pm

### WILD WINDS

Maria Harding, *Flute*  
Darci Gamerl, *Oboe*  
John Klinghammer, *Clarinet*  
Ross Snyder, *Horn*  
Jim Compton, *Bassoon*  
Craig Fuller, *Tuba*

Location: First Central Congregational Church: 36<sup>th</sup> & Harney

For more information, and tickets: **402-960-6943**

or visit [omahachambermusic.org](http://omahachambermusic.org)

# SHURSON Publishing

**Ellen Shurson**  
**Publisher**  
402-714-1016  
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**Gary Rosenberg**  
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Community Affairs

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#### **Luther Memorial Church**

[www.lmlchurch.org](http://www.lmlchurch.org) 402-551-4488

#### **Midtown Crossing at Turner Park**

[www.midtowncrossing.com](http://www.midtowncrossing.com)

#### **Munroe-Meyer Guild Garden Walk**

[www.unmc.edu/mmi/mmiguild.htm](http://www.unmc.edu/mmi/mmiguild.htm) 402-559-5771

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#### **Omaha Chamber Music Society**

[www.omahachambermusic.org](http://www.omahachambermusic.org) 402-

#### **Omaha Farmers Market**

[www.OmahaFarmersMarket.org](http://www.OmahaFarmersMarket.org)

#### **Pruitt Outdoor Power**

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#### **Seasonal Gardens**

[www.seasonalgardens.biz](http://www.seasonalgardens.biz) 402-213-4004

#### **Transduction Technologies**

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**SUNDAYS**  
**MAY 4 THRU OCT 19**  
**9 AM TO 1 PM**

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## The Omaha Press Club Educational Series

Presents  
JEFFREY P. GOLD, M.D.  
New Chancellor of the University of  
Nebraska Medical Center

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014


Dr. Jeffery Gold assumed his position as chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center on Feb. 1. He had served as chancellor and executive vice president of bio-sciences and health affairs and executive dean of the College of Medicine at the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. He had been at that university since 2005.

Noon to one P.M (forum begins immediately at noon)  
\$15 Per person includes lunch (lunch is served beginning at 11:30) CALL 402-345-8008 For Reservations.

Non-Press Club members are welcome  
Validated parking in the Doubletree Hotel garage.  
Bring your ticket. The Omaha Press Club 22nd floor-First National Center, 1620 Dodge St.

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## Friends OF THE OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY



Swanson Library 90th & W. Dodge Rd. **BOOK SALES**

**Thursdays 10 am - 3 pm**  
(Except holidays)

**First Saturday of every month 10 am - 3 pm**  
(Except holidays)

## Vintage Market Sundays

at the Castle  
June 15, July 20, August 17

This summer, the Castle is hosting Vintage Market Sundays on the third Sunday of every month: June 15, July 20, and August 17. Local vendors will have booths on the Castle grounds where they will be selling vintage and repurposed items. The names of the vendors will be listed on the Joslyn Castle website soon.

In addition to shopping, guests will enjoy scrumptious cuisine from local food trucks, take a tour of the Castle, and listen to live music! The cost is \$5 per person. Registrations can be made online at [www.joslyncastle.com](http://www.joslyncastle.com) or on arrival at the entrance. Come enjoy the day! Spread the word!





Come in and check out our **LARGE** selection of in-stock lawn mowers!

Bring in this ad for **\$10.00 off** any service, or toward the purchase of any new equipment.

**Pruitt Outdoor Power**

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M-F 7:30 - 5:00 Sat 8:00 - 12:00

**Annual Chamber Concert Series Returns to Midtown in June.**

Schedule listed in ad on page 3.



**Air conditioner Servicing**

By David Holtzclaw of Transduction Technologies

With costs for “annual service contracts” ranging from \$150/year to over \$400/year, it’s very hard for the average homeowner to really know if it’s worth it or not. The answer depends on the homeowner, age, and condition of the air conditioner (AC) or heat pump. There simply is no right or wrong answer, but an answer that is best for you and your situation. That said here are a few points you should consider before deciding on getting your AC or heat pump serviced:

Do not service the AC yourself. Let a professional do it. Period!

By far the best thing you can do for your air conditioner, furnace, and indoor air quality is to check the air filter monthly, and clean it or replace it as needed, usually quarterly or twice a year.

If you are the type of person who doesn’t want to do anything, or can’t remember the last time you changed your air filter, than an annual service contract is a good investment for you.

Appreciate that the service technicians doing the service maintenance jobs are usually the most inexperienced technicians at the company. This does not at all mean that they will do an inferior job. But as with most professionals, experience greatly benefits you if a problem arises.

There is a fair amount of consensus in the HVAC industry that a complete service trip or tune-up should last about 60-75 minutes on-site per unit. If much less, than they are probably taking short cuts. If much more, than either the service technician found something wrong (and should tell you about it), or they are having troubles putting something back together (see #4), or they are charging you too much.

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) has an industry standard (ACCA Standard 4) that prescribes the minimum maintenance inspection tasks for an annual service. I recommend you ask your service technician to follow this industry standard and complete our detailed ACCA Standard 4 checklist and leave it with you. That way, you know you’ve gotten a thorough and complete tune-up. Copies of ACCA Standard 4, our checklist, additional studies, and additional advice can be downloaded from our website [www.transductiontechnologies.com](http://www.transductiontechnologies.com)).

**View Updates and Other  
Community Affairs /Calendar Listings  
Online at [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)**

# Midtown Galleries

## Modern Artists Midtown (MAM)

3615 Dodge St.

402-520-8737

[www.modernartsmidtown.com](http://www.modernartsmidtown.com)

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

May 2 to 31

Trucks: Recent Works by Chicago-based artist John Himmelfarb

Sculpture, paintings, lithography, etching, silkscreen prints, and drawings.

Opening reception, book signing May 2, 6 to 8 p.m.



*Sweet Surrender* by John Himmelfarb

## Cathedral Arts Project, Sunderland Gallery

3900 Webster St.

402-551-4888

[www.cathedralartsproject.org](http://www.cathedralartsproject.org)

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., third Sunday of each month

April 13 to June 8

Winnebago Images by photographer Don Doll, SJ

## Connect Gallery

3901 Leavenworth St.

402-991-8234

[www.connectgallery.net](http://www.connectgallery.net)

Gallery hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May 7 to May 31

Masks & Sculpture

Masks by Norm Melichar

Sculpture by Tom Sitzman, Michael Montag, Susan Woodford, and Pete Wroblewski

Artists Reception: Friday, May 16, 5 to 8 p.m.

## Dundee Gallery

4916 Underwood Ave., Lower Level

402-505-8333

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

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.,

Friday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

May 2 to 4

Jewelry Trunk Show

This event features the handcrafted jewelry of Lynn Bowes, Sara Bucy, Donna Burdic, Tammy Coy, Jamie Feinstein, Renee Johnson, Jennifer Lawler, Lisa Maciejewski, Rachel Ourada, Patty Schwegmann, Tammy Rice, and Sera Young. Many of the participating artists will be at the event showcasing their latest creations.

## Anderson O'Brien Fine Art Old Market

1108 Jackson Street

402-884-0911

[www.aobfineart.com](http://www.aobfineart.com)

Gallery hours: Monday to Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5:30

p.m., Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

May 1 to 3, Asiatica, fashion

May 1 to 25, Jane Booth, paintings, Color Theory

## Do You Have a Great Photo of Midtown?

Submit your photo possible for publication in the Midtown Monitor and/or online. Of particular interest would be great, high resolution, colorful photos for the front cover. Could be just about anything that relates to Midtown. A great scene, historic house, garden, fun event.

Send only your two favorite photos for submission to [midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com](mailto:midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com) (do not send whole collections, thumbnails etc. They will not be considered.) Send along a detailed caption and statement that all permissions were obtained for photos of people, especially children.

# Douglas County Historical Society Marks 135th Anniversary of the Trial of Standing Bear

On Friday, May 9th in commemoration of the landmark 1879 trial of Ponca Chief Standing Bear vs. General George Crook, Douglas County Historical Society will host its annual Ponca Chief Standing Bear Commemoration filled with free activities for the whole family to enjoy. The event will kick off at the General Crook House Museum at 5:30 p.m. with a reception featuring bean soup and corn bread, Native American dance and music. At 7 p.m., the event will move to the south end of campus to the Swanson Conference Center for the staged reading of Mary Kathryn Nagle's latest play. The evening will wind down at 8:30 p.m. with a talk back panel discussion ending at 9 p.m.



A staged reading of Mary Kathryn Nagle's new play about General George Crook's military career, entitled *Three Stars* and directed by Roxanne Wach, begins at 7:00 at the Swanson Conference Center, Institute for the Culinary Arts. A talkback panel discussion will follow the reading.

This event is FREE and open to the public. Register at [DouglasCoHistory.org](http://DouglasCoHistory.org), by emailing [Members@DouglasCoHistory.org](mailto:Members@DouglasCoHistory.org), or by calling 402-455-9990.

## Artistic Workshops

With returning favorites like blacksmithing and watercolor, Omaha Creative Institute's class lineup for early 2014 features something to interest everyone. These workshops support local artists and metro residents and visitors access to hands-on artistic experiences. May Schedule

May 3, 10 a.m.: CINCO DE MAYO PARADE on South 24th Street (D to L) (FREE)

May 10, 10 a.m.-noon: MIXED MEDIA with Dori Settles at Smiling Turtle Art Spot (\$35)

May 21, 6-8 p.m.: ARTIST INC INFO SESSION at Omaha Creative Institute (FREE)

May 24, 1-3 p.m.: BLACKSMITHING with Elmo Diaz at Blacksmith Shop (\$65)

May 24, 1-3 p.m.: LAMPWORKING with Kathy Diaz at Blacksmith Shop (SOLD OUT)

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:  
[OmahaCreativeInstitute.org](http://OmahaCreativeInstitute.org) QUESTIONS:  
[Rebecca@OmahaCreativeInstitute.org](mailto:Rebecca@OmahaCreativeInstitute.org) or 785.218.3061

Free Email subscriptions to the Midtown Monitor are available. Simply email [midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com](mailto:midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com) a request a subscription.

## The Eclectic Book Review Club,

organized Oct. 11, 1949, will continue its spring calendar at the Omaha Field Club on the third Tuesday schedule at noon.

Omaha South High School principal Cara Riggs will review her book, "Hope in Urban Schools: Love Stories," on May 20.

If you are interested in good food and a good book, join us at the Field Club at Noon. Lunches are \$13.00. Call Rita Price at 402-553-3147 for a reservation. Deadline is the Monday morning prior to the meeting.





# Where yesterday meets tomorrow

Our beautiful, historic sanctuary is among the oldest in Omaha. But inside you'll find a diverse congregation, open to a variety of spiritual perspectives, welcoming *everyone*.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
Adult discussion group: 9:10 a.m.  
Music & message for all ages: 10:30 a.m.



**First Central  
Congregational**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

36th & Harney  
402-345-1533  
FirstCentral.org

These Open Forums are free and open to the public, and will be held at **First Central Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**, located in midtown at the corner of 36th and Harney Streets, at 9:10 a.m. on the dates noted. For more information, call 402-345-1533.

## May 4: A Piece of Fertile Ground

Jan Riggerbach, gardening expert, columnist, and member of First Central, will share her experience creating a city garden: everything from raised beds for a bountiful harvest, to skinny trees for more diversity.

**May 11: Super Sale! No First Forum.** The annual Super Sale! at First Central Congregational Church, 421 S. 36th St. will be held May 10-11 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Sunday. Please enter through the Evergreen Thrift Shop entrance, at the north-east corner of the building. The sale will again include the usual fabulous thrift shop merchandise, a large book sale, and a plant sale. Plants will include many perennials from the gardens of church members, and some annuals grown from seed. Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions about the plants.

**May 18: The Design Evolution of the Nebraska Capitol** Robert C. Ripley, AIA, Capitol Administrator, Office of the Capitol Commission, will touch briefly on the preceding Capitols, the two territorial structures in Omaha and the three state capitols in Lincoln, with greatest emphasis on how the building evolved into our current Capitol by architect Bertram G. Goodhue of NYC. This program will also give him a chance to praise one of his architectural heroes of Nebraska, architect Thomas Rogers Kimball, who served as professional advisor to the Capitol Commission, as well as to highlight the four principal team members who collaborated to create our current building.

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**Luther Memorial Church 61st and Western**  
8:45 Traditional Worship and 11am The Spirit Alive Worship  
10 am Christain Education for all ages  
<http://lmlchurch.org> 402- 551-4488

**We'd Like to Hear From You ...** If you are **located in midtown** and have events, fundraisers or other news of interest to Midtown residents and businesses, please send it to **midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com**

Please try to send **at least one month in advance** of event whenever possible.

**Check our website for even more midtown events [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)**

# Midtown Business Directory

## Housecleaner



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1/2 business card size ad. \$45. one time or two for \$80., 3 for \$115.

1/4 bc size \$25. or two for \$45., 3 for \$63.

All advertising must be prepaid for entire schedule, ads run consecutive months.

Call 402-714-1016

Email: [midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com](mailto:midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com) to inquire about display advertising rates.



### Attention

Midtown Business Owners

You're invited to the

Midtown Business Association Meeting

Speaker: Mayor Stothert

The next MBA meeting will be May 28th, 2014  
Noon, UNMC private dining room, just \$10. for lunch.  
Must make reservations by Friday prior to meeting.

E-mail [contact@midtownbusinessassociation.org](mailto:contact@midtownbusinessassociation.org)  
or call Judy Alderman at 402-213-6474.

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## Recent Midtown Homes Sold

Price	Address	BR	BA	Car	Style	SQFT
\$375,000	684 N 59 Street	5	3	2	2 Story	2,527
\$650,000	652 N 59 Street	4	6	2	2.5 Story	3,241
\$433,500	1121 N 56 Street	3	4	2	1.5 Story	3,339
\$239,000	2028 N 54 Street	4	3	2	1.5 Story	2,626
\$233,000	5315 Blondo	3	3	1	2 Story	2,127
\$224,500	4408 Hickory S	3	3	2	1.5 Story	2,412
\$215,000	4205 Pine Street	3	3	1	1.5 Story	2,563
\$214,000	1508 N 54th Street	4	3	2	2 Story	2,516
\$194,000	1713 N 59 Street	4	3	2	Ranch	2,152
\$180,000	1120 N 66 Street	4	3	3	1.5 Story	2,018
\$166,500	5104 Pacific Street	3	3	2	1.5 Story	2,200
\$146,500	4528 Pierce Street	3	3	2	1.5 Story	1,330
\$145,000	2623 N 52 St	3	2	1	1.5 Story	2,485
\$137,000	4853 Cuming St	3	2	0	2.5 Story	1,531
\$137,000	1010 S 54 Street	3	2	2	Ranch	1,950
\$132,000	905 N 50 Ave	3	2	1	Ranch	1,377
\$129,900	616 S 32nd Ave	5	3	0	2 Story	2,315
\$129,000	5819 Ohio Street	3	2	1	2 Story	1,537
\$125,000	965 S 55th Street	2	3	1	Ranch	1,988
\$124,500	2218 S 60th Street	3	3	1	1.5 Story	1,972
\$111,000	7037 Hamilton St	2	2	1	R Ranch	1,378
\$109,000	1512 N 63rd St	2	1	3	Ranch	1,220
\$105,000	4519 Shirley St	3	1	1	1.5 Story	1,337
\$217,500	526 S 51st Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,822
\$326,000	737 N 57 Avenue	3	3	2	2 Story	2,313
\$270,000	5007 Cuming St	4	2	2	2 Story	2,266
\$240,000	459 N 61 Street	2	3	2	Ranch	1,972
\$236,000	2543 Country Club	3	2	1	2 Story	2,234
\$189,000	5426 Western	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,377
\$180,000	917 S 54 Street	3	3	1	R Ranch	2,210
\$160,000	1724 S 32 Avenue	3	2	2	2 Story	1,909
\$150,000	972 S 45 Street	4	2	1	2.5 Story	1,814
\$147,000	1501 S 52nd St	3	2	1	R Ranch	1,962
\$130,000	6352 Poppleton	3	1	1	R Ranch	1,472
\$125,000	2736 N 64 Street	3	3	3	1.5 Story	2,147
\$115,000	5145 Woolworth	2	2	1	R Ranch	1,932
\$174,000	1815 N 49 St	4	2	1	1.5 Story	1,957

Our thanks to Raquel Ahlvers, The Ahlvers Group, CBSHOME Real Estate for providing this information.

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