

# *Midtown Monitor*

September 2014

## Florence Boulevard

Neighborhood Tour



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- Florence Boulevard Tour
- Gallery and Theater Events
- Midtown Events and much more...

# Florence Boulevard Neighborhood Tour

Sunday, October 5, 2014 Noon to 5 p.m.

Tickets \$10 or 2 for \$15 available on the day of the event at Miller Park Pavilion or online at [www.restorationexchange.org](http://www.restorationexchange.org)

Featuring nine, historic homes along Florence Boulevard where attendees can tour each of the residences and talk with the owners of the properties. Plus the Miller Park Pavilion will be open to view historical displays of early photos and architectural plans of the neighborhood. All attendees will receive a brochure with the history of the tour homes and the neighborhood thanks to the work of three University of Nebraska at Omaha Urban Studies students last fall. Creighton University will provide a free shuttle to take you to the properties along Florence Boulevard. A flat, easy biking route also is available. The tour is sponsored by AIA Omaha and a Turnback Tax North Omaha Historical grant. All proceeds support Restoration Exchange's educational and advocacy efforts in the area. More information is available at [www.restorationexchange.org](http://www.restorationexchange.org)

4802 Florence Blvd	Jeff Gillette
4811 Florence Blvd	Wayne & Joan John
4823 Florence Blvd.	Nola Mosley
6129 Florence Blvd	Tom Woods
6140 Florence Blvd	Erick Gustafson
6141 Florence Blvd	Becki and William Brenner
6531 Florence Blvd	Bill and Janelle Ruyf
6532 Forence Blvd	Gary Westbrook

Miller Park Pavilion	Brenda Paul, Special Projects Coordinator
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To read an interesting article on research conducted on the homes on tour  
visit: [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)

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## Graffiti Abatement Kits and Recycling Bins

The United Neighborhood Alliances of Omaha, in partnership with the City of Omaha Public Works Department and Omaha Public Library, is excited to announce the expansion of the neighbor graffiti abatement supply kit program. These kits are available at no charge, and contain basic supplies to remove or cover small tags or marks of graffiti present in neighborhoods, including graffiti wipes, sandpaper, cover-up and more.

Funds for the kits were made available through grant monies provided by Omaha Public Works and show the City's continued strong commitment to removing graffiti quickly and increasing the tools available for residents.

Kits will be offered at all 12 Omaha Public Library branches starting middle of August, and will be available until supplies are depleted. For further information please visit [www.sonaomaha.org](http://www.sonaomaha.org), or visit your local library.

Some Omaha Public Library locations also serve as a pick-up points for Omaha recycling bins. OPL can provide residents with new bins and with stickers to recycle old and broken bins. More information about Omaha curbside recycling and what can be recycled can be found at <http://www.wasteline.org/mybin/>



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FREE Holland Lecture Series

# "We're all better off when we're all better off." – Eric Liu

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In his book, *The Gardens of Democracy: A New American Story of Citizenship, the Economy, and the Role of Government*, **Eric Liu** asks us to think of government not as a machine that needs regular service and repair, but as a garden to be nurtured. Successful gardens follow natural rules but require goals, regular tending, and an understanding of connected ecosystems. While he wants us to have a bigger share of the harvest (we're all better off when we're all better off), Liu also asks us to be more involved as citizen gardeners.



Liu, a former White House deputy domestic policy advisor and a regular contributor to TIME.com and TheAtlantic.com, also says:

- "Society becomes how we behave. Positive behavior begets positive behavior."
- "Government should be about the big what and the little how."
- "Freedom is responsibility. Freedom costs a little freedom."

Join us as Eric Liu makes his case.

More information in the "learn" link at: [firstuomaha.org](http://firstuomaha.org)

LECTURE DATE:  
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# Programmable, Smart, & Learning Thermostats

By David Holtzclaw of Transduction Technologies

A “programmable thermostat” is a digital thermostat that allows the resident to program at least 2 different thermostat settings within a 24 hour period. These settings can run from 1-7 days. They are available from most retail stores for \$50-\$150. Most homeowners can install them in less than 30 minutes. A “smart” thermostat, like a smart phone, has a WiFi connection enabling remote access to the thermostat by a computer, tablet, or smartphone, via internet connection. All smart thermostats are also programmable thermostats, but not vice versa. Smart thermostats retail for \$150-\$250 and can be installed by the homeowner or professionally. However, you need a home WiFi network to use the smart features. A “learning” thermostat is a smart thermostat that you don’t have to program. Basically, you treat it like a manual thermostat, adjusting the temperatures throughout the day. After a few days, the learning thermostat will remember your thermostat settings and automatically adjust when needed. These retail for \$250-\$450, and can be installed by the homeowner or HVAC professional.

If you struggle programming your thermostat, value elegant looks, a bright display, and feedback from the thermostat (the leaf rewards it gives you), then the Nest learning thermostat is for you (retail \$250). However, you should install at least 2 occupancy sensors per HVAC system for better comfort. If you are looking for more data or more thermostat interactions through mobile devices, then the Ecobee Smart thermostat is for you (retail \$300 plus professional installation). The Ecobee Smart thermostat is not only a smart thermostat, but also a data logger, which records indoor and outdoor temperature, indoor humidity, thermostat set points, and air handler run time, all of which you can access and download anytime via an internet connection. This is enough information for the savvy homeowner to diagnostic their own indoor comfort problems.

Despite what you read on the internet, there is much debate and little evidence on the energy efficiency of programmable thermostats. Pick a thermostat that you are comfortable using and will increase your comfort level within your home.



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## Life Doesn't Stand Still

*and Neither Should Your Investments.*

Time can affect you as much as your investments. While you can't stop change, you can help ensure your investments match your current circumstances and goals.

Fortunately, doing that may be as easy as meeting with your financial advisor. A complimentary portfolio review from Edward Jones can help identify where your investments stand in relation to your goals and how to get them moving in the same direction.

To schedule a complimentary portfolio review, call or visit your local financial advisor today.

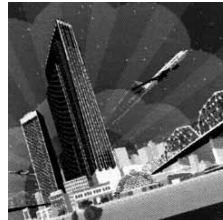
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### Attention

**Midtown Business Owners**

**You're invited to the**

**Midtown Business Association Meeting**

**Speaker: TBA**

The next MBA meeting will be Sept 24th, 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.

**MBA**  
**MIDTOWN**  
**BUSINESS**  
ASSOCIATION

# Midtown Galleries & Theaters

## 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.

September 5 to 27

Roberto Kusterle

Roberto Kusterle lives and works in Gorizia, Italy. While painting and installation works were his early focus, photography has been his primary medium for the past 25 years.

Opening reception, Friday, September 5, 6 to 8 p.m.

## 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

September 21 to November 16

EDGE: Fiber Artists

Opening reception, Sunday, September 21, 1 to 3 p.m.

## 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.

September 3 to 27

Ebb and Flow — Pointillism by Nancy Lepo and woodwork by Dan Klima.

Artist Reception: Friday, September 19, 5 to 9 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.

Artworks include acrylics by Mark Niemeyer, glossy mixed media works by Karen Schnepf, oil pastels by Jane Chukas, jewelry by Jennifer Lawler, acrylics and serigraphs by Judith Welk.

## 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 to 4 p.m.

New works include paintings by Vincent Hron, Gary Bowling, William Tinker, and Susan Tinker, woodcuts by Karen Kunc, and jewelry by Lori Paulsen.

September 24 - 26

Wearable Art Show - Arlene Wohl, Handwovens

## Omaha Community Playhouse

6915 Cass St.

402-553-0800

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

Howard Drew Theatre.

Enron — August 15 to September

14

A satire by Lucy Prebble that exposes the corruption and deceit of a company whose predecessor called Omaha home.

Hawks Mainstage Theater

The Drowsy Chaperone — September 12 to October 12

A parody of American musical comedy of the 1920s, The Drowsy Chaperone concerns a middle-aged, musical theater fan who shares his favorite musical on his phonograph. The show comes to life onstage as he comments on the music, story, and actors.

## Shelterbelt Theatre

3225 California St.

402-341-2757

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

No productions scheduled until January.

## SNAP Productions

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

We Are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as South West Africa, From the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915

August 21 to September 14

This play by Jackie Sibblies Drury shows what unfolds when a group of actors gather to give a presentation on a distant genocide, then realize that summaries are not enough. In their attempt to delve into history they struggle with stereotype, fear, and their own personal histories—uncovering the potential for brutality in all of us.

## Blue Barn Theatre

614 S. 11th St.

402-345-1576

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

October 2 to October 25

American Buffalo

This play by David Mamet concerns a Chicago junk shop, where three small time crooks plot to rob a man of his coin collection, the showpiece of which is a valuable "Buffalo nickel." The reality of the trio is that they are merely pawns caught up in their own game of last-chance, dead-end, empty pipe dreams.



# Fresh and local have a new outlet in Midtown Crossing

By Gary Rosenberg

The Grey Plume, which seeks “to inspire and elevate the way Omaha thinks about food,” expanded its reach in late August by opening the long-awaited “Provisions by the Grey Plume.”

Though the restaurant and store are just across Farnam Street from each other in Midtown Crossing, they provide two ways for owner and chef Clayton Chapman to bring his locally sourced food to the public.

“The store is something that has evolved organically since the restaurant has opened,” said Chapman. He has long been a proponent of canning to “preserve the season.” We’ve made all sorts of marmalades, jams, and pickled items to help get us through the winter. We really feel that these accouterments or condiments or featured items were things that we really wanted to share with the public, not just through our dinner menu. So the birth of the store was to create everyday accessibility to the same items we’re serving at the restaurant. We want to provide that same local food experience on a much more pedestrian, everyday accessibility level,” he said.

For those intimidated by fine dining, Provisions may provide a more accessible entry to foods with unfamiliar names and tastes. “It is certainly our hope that this maybe is a first step into the restaurant, or it could work backwards and the restaurant is a gateway into the store,” Chapman said.

“You’ll see a lot of the items that we’re serving here on our dinner menu, so you’ll have the opportunity to do a lot of tasting or trying before you buy,” he continued. Every jar of jam or pickled asparagus will include a “delicious with” label. For the aspiring home chef, Provisions will sell foundational ingredients such as unsalted butter, which the restaurant staff churns daily. Provisions will also sell the restaurant’s house-roasted La Chiapas coffee, which comes from the Nubes do Oro and Ismam Cooperatives in Chiapas, Mexico.

Even the restaurant’s serving dishes, plates (made from recycled wine bottles), and bread boards, which were created by local artists, will be for sale at Provisions.

Aside from grocery items, Provisions gives the Grey plume additional space for large parties and provides space for cooking classes. Provisions will share the restaurant’s recipes with home cooking enthusiasts; it will also offer continuing education classes for the professional chef. Instructors will include those from the restaurant, guest chefs from the Omaha community, and, occasionally, celebrity chefs from around the country.

Everything from knife skills to canning, to baking and pastry, to whole animal fabrication will be on the cooking class schedule beginning in September. “We want to be able to teach the things we’re doing because we have such an eclectic staff,” Chapman said.

## Omaha Creative Institute

Mark your calendars for workshops this Fall  
Fall 2014 Workshop Schedule

Sept. 13 | 10 a.m. | \$35  
Beginning Guitar with George Walker  
Poetry & Performance with Sarah McKinstry-Brown

Sept. 27 | 10 a.m. | \$35

Origami with Nancy Lepo  
Watercolor Painting with Madalyn Bruning

Oct. 4 | 10 a.m. | \$35  
Printmaking with Maranda Allbritten  
Arm Knitting with Dori Settles

Information and Registration:  
OmahaCreativeInstitute.org

## The Eclectic Book Review Club,

in its 65th season, begins its fall series of reviews on Sept 16th at the Omaha Field Club, 3615 Woolworth Ave. A noon lunch will be followed by the 12:30 review.

On Sept 16th: Retired Omaha detective Brian Bogdanoff will review his non-fiction book of an Omaha case, Three Bodies Burning.

Oct 21: Retired trail attorney and motivational speaker Steve Wolf will bring his guide dog and review his book, In Comet’s tale: How the Dog I rescued saved my Life.

Nov 18: Omahan Janet Laird, whose pen name is Maggie Montclair, will review her books: Surviving Widowhood and 79.4 Ways to Celebrate Your Old Age. The cost of the luncheon is \$13. For reservations, call Rita at 402-553-3147.





you? church? lol

hey! free coffee, great discussions; pretty awesome

OMG!

mine, too

**FirstCentral.org**

## Cherishing our children

### *A spiritual perspective*



National speaker, Julie Ward, is a practitioner and teacher of Christian Science healing and a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

**Saturday, Sept. 13, at 11:00 AM**  
**The Thompson Center at UNO**  
**6705 Dodge Street**  
**Omaha, NE**

The lecture is sponsored by  
 Fourth Church of Christ Scientist, Omaha  
 For more info please call 402-556-6826  
 or email [mayrene49@gmail.com](mailto:mayrene49@gmail.com)

## Gentle Yoga Class

Tuesdays, September 2 - October 21st  
 First Unitarian Church of Omaha, 3114 Harney, in the Whitney Young Classroom; 5pm to 6:30pm  
 Note: Class size is limited. Payment is due the first session. This gentle yoga class follows the tradition of classical yoga and the format consists of a reading and meditation. After our restoration and relaxation, we share tea and a brief feedback. Both beginners and experienced practitioners are welcome to the class. The pace is slow with a focus on stretching the mind, body and spirit.

Register online by emailing [yoga@firstuomaha.org](mailto:yoga@firstuomaha.org).

Cost: Your goodwill offering will be donated to First Unitarian's Caring Team, Hope in Action. Suggested guideline: \$100-160/eight weeks. If you wish to drop-in, please call instructor for availability. Suggested guideline: \$15-20/class. Instructors: Alan Vovolka (402-344-3988) and Julie Jons (402-708-6508).

**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

## Omaha Sierra Club presents “The Growth of Recycling in Omaha”

Thursday Sept. 25, 7 p.m.  
 First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass Street

It's been almost ten years since the city of Omaha started the so-called 'single stream' recycling program. A lot has changed since 2006. Join the Sierra Club to learn about what is new in Omaha, as well what we can expect in the next 10 years.

Speakers include Dale Gubbels, President and CEO of Firststar Fiber, which handles the materials picked up through the city's recycling program; Adam Sagert, owner of WeCompost, a new startup in Omaha that picks up food waste from residential and commercial customers; and Leslie Wells, Program Director of InCommon, which is launching a Neighborhood Glass Initiative, where glass will be picked up in neighborhoods through a "Recycling Bicycles" program.

Sierra Club programs are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. More information at [sierranebraska.org](http://sierranebraska.org)

# Midtown Business Directory



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## 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.) Send along a detailed caption and statement that all permissions were obtained for photos of people, especially children.



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## Recent Midtown Homes Sold

Find them online  
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\$92,000	5631 Frances Street	1	1	1	Ranch	942
\$99,900	710 S 69 St	3	1	1	Ranch	1,014
\$113,000	1217 N 66 St	2	2	1	Ranch	1,516
\$115,000	5145 Woolworth	2	2	1	Rd Ranch	1,932
\$126,000	1529 S 55 Street	3	3	1	Ranch	1,894
\$127,500	6014 Pierce Street	2	2	1	Ranch	1,534
\$128,000	1815 S 58th Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,853
\$129,000	6182 Walnut Street	2	1	2	Ranch	1,064
\$131,000	404 S 48 Street	2	1	0	2 Story	1,172
\$135,000	1516 S 52nd St	3	1	1	1.5 Story	1,428
\$135,000	5633 Leavenworth	3	2	1	2 Story	1,646
\$135,000	2131 N 61 Avenue	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,466
\$141,500	5812 Hamilton St	3	3	1	Rd Ranch	1,793
\$142,500	1302 S 52nd Street	3	2	0	1.5 Story	1,455
\$144,000	1916 S 61 Avenue	2	2	2	Ranch	1,802
\$145,000	5635 Briggs Street	3	3	1	1.5 Story	1,412
\$149,000	1010 Sunset Trail	3	2	2	Rd Ranch	1,182
\$170,000	6933 Cuming	3	2	2	1.5 Story	2,248
\$171,000	5815 Mason	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,426
\$173,000	5807 Pierce Street	3	3	1	1.5 Story	1,900
\$190,000	533 S 51st Street	4	3	2	2.5 Story	2,104
\$195,000	1030 N 64th St	3	2	2	Ranch	1,700
\$198,000	225 S 68 Ave	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,651
\$199,500	5703 Marcy St.	3	2	2	1.5 Story	2,077
\$210,000	4250 William St	2	2	1	2 Story	1,653
\$243,000	4241 William Street	2	2	2	Ranch	2,286
\$251,000	5110 Lafayette Ave	3	2	2	2.5 Story	1,823
\$310,000	1226 N 53 Street	4	2	2	2 Story	2,484
\$340,000	904 N 66 Street	3	4	2	Ranch	4,157
\$442,500	850 Fairacres Road	3	3	2	1.5 Story	2,969
\$510,000	521 S 52nd St	4	4	2	2.5 Story	2,789
\$650,000	652 N 59 Street	4	6	2	2.5 Story	3,241
\$750,000	312 N 54 Street	6	5	3	2.5 Story	4,930

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

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