

Midtown Monitor

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May 2017

Dundee Flower Baskets ... 20 years and going strong

When asked when the flower basket project was started, Dan Rock, founder and director/coordinator of the flower basket project said, "This is 20 years. 1997 is the year we started with 50 baskets. It went so well in 1998 we jumped to 450 baskets. 450 baskets times 48 begonias times 20 years equals 430,000 blossoms of fun community building." Made possible only by hundreds of neighbors working together each year.



Jennifer and David Arrell with son Justin



Dan Rock and Bob Welk putting the chains on the baskets



Jessica Hansen, Austin Runyon & Samantha Hegge



Gwen and Sara Howard

Sierra Club May Program:

Omaha's Bus Rapid Transit System with Jason
Rose, Metro Outreach Coordinator
Thursday May 25, 7 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.
(Enter north door "Education" wing)

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is coming to Omaha! BRT is described as similar to a light rail system, without the added cost of tracks in the ground. The system is due to become operational in late 2018, and will take riders along Dodge Street, from Westroads to downtown, at least initially. Linking with existing bus lines, BRT is expected to cut commute times across the city for transit riders. BRT will run every ten minutes during peak hours, making public transportation much more appealing to many city residents.

The amenities of the BRT are exciting, and include neighborhood station platforms with real-time arrival signs and ticket vending machines. Even more importantly, the benefits of BRT are impressive: mitigating road congestion, reducing travel time, and improving downtown parking supply, along with the significant environmental benefits of improving local air quality and curbing greenhouse gas emissions.

Come learn about the coming "light rail on wheels" at our May 25 program. Sierra Club programs are free and open to the public. More information at www.sierraclub.org/nebraska



For more info on what's fresh each week – visit OmahaFarmersMarket.org & like us on 

OMAHA Farmers MARKET

Saturday  **OLD MARKET**
8AM to 12:30PM
MAY 6 *thru* OCT 14

Sunday  **AKSARBEN VILLAGE**
9AM to 1PM
MAY 7 *thru* OCT 15

MEDIA SPONSORS:



       

Security National Bank, Old Omaha Association, Physicians Mutual, SP+ Parking, Spinal Balance Health Center, Whole Foods Market

Recent Midtown Homes Sold

Sold Price	Address	Br	Bth	G	Style	TSqFt
"\$90,000 "	638 N 47 St	3	2	3	2 Story	"1,362"
"\$110,000 "	5411 William St	2	2	1	R Ranch	933
"\$115,000 "	5145 Woolworth	2	2	1	R Ranch	"1,932"
"\$120,000 "	1330 S 51 St	2	1	1	Ranch	975
"\$130,000 "	6239 Pierce St	2	2	0	1.5 Story	"1,551"
"\$135,000 "	6015 Seward St	2	3	2	Ranch	"1,403"
"\$140,000 "	1331 S 51 Ave	3	2	1	Ranch	"1,317"
"\$157,000 "	5602 Cedar St	3	2	2	Ranch	"1,405"
"\$170,000 "	5515 Pacific St	3	2	3	Mlti-Lvl	"1,484"
"\$174,400 "	5023 Lafayette	3	1	1	1.5 Story	"1,360"
"\$185,500 "	5557 Mason St	3	2	2	Mlti-Lvl	"2,121"
"\$200,000 "	5806 Rees St	3	2	2	1.5 Story	"1,834"
"\$207,000 "	4806 Harney St	2	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,774"
"\$210,000 "	5629 Western	2	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,724"
"\$215,000 "	6933 Cuming St	3	2	2	1.5 Story	"2,248"
"\$215,000 "	5022 Cuming St	4	3	1	2 Story	"1,789"
"\$219,000 "	4327 Shirley St	3	3	1	1.5 Story	"1,802"
"\$222,000 "	5850 Woolworth	3	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,555"
"\$240,000 "	5550 Woolworth	3	3	1	1.5 Story	"2,518"
"\$247,000 "	111 S 55 St	4	3	2	2 Story	"2,439"
"\$262,400 "	523 S 58 St	3	3	1	2 Story	"2,048"
"\$380,000 "	327 S 68th St	4	3	3	Ranch	"3,871"
"\$440,000 "	669 N 57 Ave	5	5	2	2 Story	"2,968"

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

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Natural Stone, Drainage, Walls & Patios,
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Shelterbelt Presents the Premiere of Catherland Book

Shelterbelt Theatre is pleased to present the premiere of Catherland, book and lyrics by Becky Boesen, music by David von Kampen, at 3225 California Street, April 21-May 14, 2017. The show is directed by Roxanne Wach, with music direction by Peggy Holloway. Performances are Thursday/Friday/Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 6pm (except for May 14 at 2pm.) (Thursdays | \$15 • Friday/Saturday/Sunday | \$25 - general, \$20 - students, seniors 65+, TAG). Tickets are on sale at www.shelterbelt.org (click box office), or boxoffice@shelterbelt.org or 402.341.2757.

Friends of
Omaha Public Library
Book Sales

Swanson Library 90th & W. Dodge Rd.

Thursdays 10 am - 3 pm
(Except holidays)

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

From The Omaha Press Club Educational Series

Congressman Don Bacon His First 100 Days

Freshman Congressman Don Bacon, representing Omaha's second congressional district, is a member of the republican majority but there have been many challenges. What are his priorities? What does he realistically think the majority can get accomplished? Get your questions answered and Congressman Bacon's views in a Press Club sponsored forum on his first 100 days.

MONDAY, MAY 15TH, 2017 12 NOON TO 1:00 P.M.
\$17 per person includes lunch Serving begins at 11:30

CALL 402-345-8008 FOR RESERVATIONS and info on parking. Or email Jeanie at jeaniec@opc.omhcoxmail.com

NON-PRESS CLUB MEMBERS WELCOME

The Omaha Press Club
22nd floor-First National Center
1620 Dodge St., Omaha, NE

Omaha Library and Parks & Recreation to host Community Resource Expo

All ages invited to learn more about Omaha-area opportunities available this summer

Together, we build a better city! Omaha Public Library and City of Omaha Parks & Recreation invite all Omaha residents to a free Resource Expo on Tuesday, May 9, 5-7 p.m. at Elmwood Park, 802 S. 60th St. Learn about activities and programs throughout the City of Omaha from various departments. Representatives will be on-hand to offer information and showcase services. Participants will learn more about how city services work together to help build a better city for everyone.

"It takes every city department working together to create an amazing community. Assembling Omaha city departments in one place to showcase their resources for the first time is exciting! We hope Omahans come out to learn and see firsthand what many departments do and enjoy an evening in the park," said Omaha Parks & Recreation Director Brook Bench. Omaha Public Library Executive Director Laura Marlane feels the event provides Omaha residents with a great opportunity to learn more about how to spend their summer. "City departments will be sharing information about the many programs, events and activities being offered to Omaha and Douglas County residents throughout the summer. There are so many wonderful experiences to take advantage of in our community!"

Omaha city departments participating in this event include Human Resources, Fire, Library, Parks, Police and Public Works. Various city vehicles will be on site for children to explore in addition to bounce houses, a rock wall, inflatable golf, and a lot of information! To learn more about this event, visit omahalibrary.org or parks.cityofomaha.org.

To Advertise in This Publication Call 402-714-1016

Email: midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com

Visit: www.midtownmonitor.com

Ray's Original Buffalo Wings Joining Midtown Crossing Mix

Midtown Crossing is set to welcome an Omaha favorite to its dynamic, affordable dining collection: Ray's Original Buffalo Wings.

"We're looking forward to all of the new friends that we're going to make and to feeding off of that energy in midtown. Everything feels fresh and new and full of vibrancy," says Ray Bullock, owner of Ray's Original Buffalo Wings.

Bullock grew up in Buffalo, New York, birthplace of the Buffalo wing. He has been eating them since the 1960's and making them since the 1970's. He and his family are excited to bring that knowledge to Midtown Crossing.

"We are going to specialize in chicken wings. It's what we do; it's in our name. Right now, we have ten different flavors of chicken wings. We're going to expand that and offer even more flavors of wings. All of our sauces will be home-made right in our kitchen."

Bullock expects their space in Midtown Crossing – 120 S. 31st Ave., Suite 5103 – to officially open in early June, just in time for the 2017 NCAA® Men's College World Series.

"It's the kind of place where you want to sit, watch a game, maybe sit on the patio, have a cold beer and eat good, old-fashioned, pub food," he says. "We are a family-owned business so you can, first and foremost, expect to be taken care of."

The Ray's name may sound familiar. Ray and his son Tom currently run Ray's Original Buffalo Wings out of a south Omaha bar. The family had a restaurant of the same name in Ralston until the early 2000s.

"We were voted the best chicken wing in Omaha ten years in a row, every year that we were there," he says.

In addition to wings, Ray's new midtown Location will serve some other Buffalo, NY, specialties, including beef on weck sandwiches (thinly sliced roast beef, steeped in au jus, served on a kummelweck roll) and Chiavetta's marinated chicken breasts grilled over an open flame.

"There will be a rotating surprise special on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Stay in touch with us on social media because you never know what our chef will be coming up with."

Ray's Original Buffalo Wings replaces Saints Pub + Patio, which is working to align its space needs to its current business plan.

Pickleman's to Open at Midtown Crossing

The midtown Omaha lunch crowd will soon have another quick and affordable "go to" dining spot. Pickleman's Gourmet Café is announcing plans to open shop in Midtown Crossing,

An upscale, fast-casual sandwich shop, Pickleman's menu also includes freshly-prepared, all-natural pizzas, soups and salads. The signature fare, made with high-quality ingredients, is served in a comfortable, friendly environment.

The Midtown Crossing location marks five locations in seven years for local franchisee Alex Harrington.

"In selecting any location, I like to spend a lot of time in the area to understand the vibe; see if it's bustling and if people are excited to be there," Harrington said. "We found the great neighborhood feel and true community focus we were looking for in Midtown Crossing."

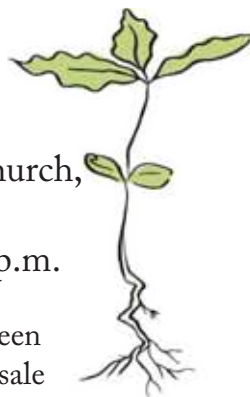
Founded in 2005 in Columbia, Missouri, Pickleman's is something of a family business for Harrington. He met his wife, Catherine, at Pickleman's. His brother, Doug Strizel, serves as the franchisor.

Harrington says he looks forward to becoming a midtown lunch staple by "getting to know customers on a first name basis – and more importantly, by what they order when they come in."

Pickleman's is set to open its Midtown Crossing location in mid-summer at 3201 Farnam St, Suite 6104. The shop will also offer delivery and catering services.

The Annual Super Sale!
at First Central Congregational Church,
421 S. 36th St.
May 13th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Please enter through the Evergreen Thrift Shop entrance, on Harney. 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.





Many great Midtown non profits are participating in Omaha Gives!

This 24-hour charitable challenge, organized by the Omaha Community Foundation, will give area nonprofit organizations an opportunity to compete for matching funds.

Omaha's 5th annual 24-hour charitable challenge is set for May 24. The giving begins at midnight with a minimum \$10 donation and hourly drawings and prizes make your donations go further. So start gathering your circles and get ready for another great big give-together!

More information: www.omahagives.org

Pinot, Pigs & Poets

Pinot, Pigs & Poets is set to return for an eighth year on June 1, 2017 at Happy Hollow Club. The event will include attendee favorites of fine pinot noir wines and delectable pork dishes, as well as slam poetry by the Nebraska Writers Collective. Pinot, Pigs & Poets is a collaborative effort with the Nebraska Pork Producers Association. All proceeds benefit the Completely KIDS weekend and after-school food programs. Visit pinotandpigs.org or call (402) 397-5809 for reservations. Patron, \$250; Regular, \$125; Ages 21 to 30, \$75.

Farmers Markets

Omaha Farmers Market - Aksarben Village
67th & Center St. 402.345.5401
Sunday 9am-1 pm
May 7-October 15



Benson- Military Ave.
Omaha Home For Boys
Saturday 9am-1pm May 6-September 30th

Gifford Park Farmers Market
33rd & California St. 402.558.4070
Friday 5pm-8pm May 26th-September 29th
(except June 30th)

Omaha Farmers Market - Old Market
11th & Jackson St. 402.345.5401
Saturday 8am-12:30pm May 6-October 14

First Unitarian Church of Omaha

3114 Harney Street All are welcome
For more info visit. www.firstuomaha.org

Adult Religious Education at First Unitarian

AHA (Agnostics, Humanists, Atheists) Discussion Group Thursday, May 11 at 7pm in the Common Room. For those interested in "bring your own dinner," doors open at 6pm. The series "Trumpism vs. Humanism" presented by First Unitarian Atheist, Humanists, Agnostics continues with special guest speaker Susan Walsh. She is Assistant Professor and Director of Health Administration and Policy Program in the Department of Cultural and Social Studies at Creighton University. Susan has been invited to talk to us about the state of health care and the development of policy under the Trump administration. The program will include Q&A. Everyone and all viewpoints are welcome.

People's Film Festival

Monday, May 15 at 7pm in the Common Room. The movie will be The Mask You Live In, which explores how our American culture's narrow definition of masculinity is harming our boys, men and society at large. It then further unveils what we can do about it.

May 29th (rescheduled from May 1).

"Constructing Rebellion". Author and activist Chris Hedges names the most dangerous institutions in America, and calls for the "overthrow of Corporate tyranny".

Taoism Discussion Group

Tuesday, May 23 at 6:30pm in the Common Room. Join us to discuss anything and everything related to Taoism! As Taoism is best understood through practice rather than theory, the goal of this group is to provide a participatory space to explore how Taoism is applied in daily life, with an emphasis on experience. With our direct experiences as a reference point, we can then delve into the main texts of Taoism. This group will be led by Geoff Erikson. Contact him at: gerickson03@yahoo.com.

Details:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/259129814545199/>

Holland Lecture

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 7:00 pm

Speaker: Jacob Hacker

Topic: American Amnesia: How the War on Government Led Us to Forget What Made America Prosper

This is a free event but tickets are needed.
Call Ticket Omaha at 402-345-0606 or at www.ticketomaha.com

Midtown Galleries

Midtown Theaters

onGallery 1516

1515 Leavenworth Street
www.gallery1516.org

Modern Artists Midtown (MAM)

3615 Dodge St. 402-520-8737
www.modernartsmidtown.com
Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m

Cathedral Arts Project, Sunderland Gallery

3900 Webster St. 402-551-4888
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

Connect Gallery

3901 Leavenworth St.
402-991-8234 www.connectgallery.net
Gallery hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Anderson O'Brien Fine Art Old Market

1108 Jackson Street 402-884-0911 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

the little gallery

5901 Maple St. (we moved down the block)
402.681.1901
Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Friday from 3 to 6pm; Saturday
from 10am to 1pm; + by appointment
info@poleatcommunications.com

Omaha Community Playhouse

6915 Cass St. 402-553-0800
www.omahaplayhouse.com
Howard Drew Theater
Hawks Mainstage Theater

Shelterbelt Theatre

3225 California St. 402-341-2757
www.shelterbelt.org
Next production in January.

SNAP Productions

3225 California St. 402-341-2757
www.snapproductions.com

Blue Barn Theatre

1106 S. 10th St.
402-345-1576 www.bluebarn.org

PART Theatre (Performing Artists Repertory Theatre)

Continues Season Celebration with Beehive, The 60's
Musical at The PART Theatre at the Crossroads, 7400
Dodge Street
showing on Friday's and Sunday's. Friday's at 7pm and
Sunday's at 2pm and 6pm. Doors open 45-minutes before
each show. Seating is on a first come first served basis.
Tickets may be purchased by calling 402-706-0778. Tickets
are \$35 for Regular admission, \$30 for Seniors, \$25 for
Students.

We'd Like to Hear From You

If you are **located in midtown** and have news of interest to Midtown residents and businesses, please send it to midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com Word docs are preferred with separate tiff or jpeg images Please try to send **at least one month in advance** of event whenever possible.

A.V. Sorensen Community Center **4808 Cass St**

Recreation Center info: 444-5596
To view the many offerings of classes and activities visit
www.cityofomaha.org/parks
Hours: Monday 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 am - 8:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm



Midtown Business Owners

You're invited to the
MBA Meeting
May 24, 2017 - Brad Ashford,
Midtown Vision 2050

Noon, UNMC private dining room, just \$10. for lunch.
Must make reservations by Friday prior to meeting.
E mail: Paul Swanson at paul.swanson@owh.com or
by phone at 402-444-1248.

SOLD

When you want your home sale nailed, call Jeff.

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Midtown Business Directory

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Benson, NE 68104

Contact Matt:
402-213-4004
www.seasonalgardens.com

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Advertising Rates for Business Directory....

Business card \$80 one time (larger example above)
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 to inquire about display advertising rates.





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