

Midtown Monitor

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October 2017

Neighbors Help Sunken Gardens Project Secure Hitchcock Grant

When the Omaha Sunken Gardens Project asked, the neighborhood answered.

In response to a recent mailing, more than 100 members of the Dundee-Memorial Park Neighborhood Association and its board pledged \$26,905.00 that helped the project team secure the \$75,000 matching grant from the Gilbert M. and Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation.

The team is currently raising funds to restore the historic sunken gardens along Happy Hollow Boulevard and create a safe community green space that welcomes active, informal use.

“We can't say enough about the neighborhood's support of this project,” said team lead Matt Dwyer. “It's really pushing us toward the finish line.”

More than \$880,000 has been raised to date, and the effort to secure new pledges continues. The total project cost is \$1,600,000, which includes establishing an endowment for future maintenance of the gardens.

Dwyer said the project team is also working on new ways to connect with neighbors throughout the duration of the fundraising campaign and during the construction phase.

You can follow the project's progress at www.omahasunkengardens.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/omahasunkengardens.



South Garden



North Garden



current view of Sunken Gardens



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and Gardens
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GOOD LIFE
GROUP

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Tim Reeder at 402.612.3833



HISTORIC HOME TOUR BOUTIQUE & PATRON PARTY

Enjoy touring four amazing historic properties
and shop in a truly unique gift boutique!

Friday, November 10 – Sunday, November 12



Joslyn Castle
3902 Davenport Street



Pittack Home
3402 Lincoln Boulevard



Doyle Home
903 Mercer Boulevard



Augustana Lutheran Church
3647 Lafayette Avenue

Tickets: \$20 Home Tour • \$75 Patron Party
www.joslyncastle.com or 402.595.2199

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Recent Midtown Homes Sold

Sold Price	Address	Br	Bth	G	Style	TSqFt
"\$74,500 "	1920 S 60 Street	3	1	0	1.5 Story	"1,930"
"\$90,000 "	828 N 47th Street	2	1	0	Bungalow	"1,148"
"\$92,000 "	1611 N 70 Avenue	2	1	1	Ranch	768
"\$99,000 "	1940 S 47th Street	2	1	1	Ranch	861
"\$108,200 "	6331 Hamilton St	2	2	2	Ranch	"1,116"
"\$110,000 "	1615 N 70 Avenue	3	1	1	Ranch	672
"\$110,000 "	2103 S 60th Street	3	2	2	1.5 Story	"1,268"
"\$115,000 "	5145 Woolworth	2	2	1	R Ranch	"1,932"
"\$129,900 "	6502 Seward Street	2	2	3	Ranch	"1,118"
"\$133,000 "	1808 S 60 Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,099"
"\$180,000 "	826 S 59th Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,361"
"\$220,000 "	302 S 69 Street	4	3	1	1.5 Story	"2,465"
"\$254,950 "	1708 N 50 Street	4	3	1	1.5 Story	"2,158"
"\$275,000 "	508 S 67th Street	4	2	2	Ranch	"2,133"
"\$315,000 "	104 S 53rd Street	4	4	2	Multi-Lvl	"2,505"
"\$378,000 "	4907 Cass Street	4	3	2	2.5 Story	"3,582"
"\$460,000 "	5204 Cass Street	5	3	2	2.5 Story	"3,474"
"\$513,500 "	456 N 61 Street	5	4	2	2 Story	"3,460"
"\$535,000 "	114 S 54th Street	4	3	2	1.5 Story	"2,862"

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

Omaha Public Library will offer frightfully fun Halloween programs

Halloween can be a frighteningly frenzied time of year. Between shopping for and making treats, costumes and decorations, parents may be seeking a simple solution for seasonal fun without adding to the already hectic time and expenses! Omaha Public Library (OPL) can help with fun, free, pre-planned programs and activities for all ages to enjoy. Registration may be required for some events and parental permission is required for all lock-in activities. Visit omahalibrary.org or call the hosting location for more information.



For kids & families:

- Wednesday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m.: Glowing Eyes Craft at Saddlebrook Branch, 14850 Laurel Ave., 402-884-7473
- Wednesday, Oct. 18, 11 a.m.: Puffy Ghost Craft at Saddlebrook Branch
- Saturday, Oct. 21
- 10:15 a.m.: Halloween Fun Fest at W. Dale Clark Main Library, 215 S. 15th St., 402-444-4800. Enjoy a slightly scary storytime, make-and-take crafts, and delicious treats. Trick-or-treat in the library! Costumes are encouraged.
- 3 p.m.: Spooky Science and Crafts at South Omaha Library, 2808 Q St., 402-444-4850. Participate in hands-on experiments with a Halloween twist, exploring static electricity, chemical reactions and density. Things may get messy, so dress accordingly.
- Tuesday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m.: Spooktacular at Florence Branch, 2920 Bondesson St., 402-444-5299. Join us for slightly scary stories, crafts, games, snacks and treats. Costumes are encouraged. Program presented in cooperation with the Florence Community Center and Senior Center.
- Wednesday, Oct. 25, 10:30 a.m.: Halloween Party at A.V. Sorensen Branch, 4808 Cass St., 402-444-5274. Celebrate Halloween with storytime, crafts and other activities. Costumes are encouraged! Program presented in cooperation with the A.V. Sorensen Community Center.
- 11 a.m.: Bat Silhouette Craft at Saddlebrook Branch
- Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:30 a.m.: Spooktacular at Saddlebrook Branch. Join us for a storytime, a scary stroll, photo opportunities, pumpkin coloring (first 100 kids), snacks, trick-or-treat, and games in the gym. Program presented in cooperation with the Saddlebrook Community Center.
- Tuesday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.: Out & About Storytime at Marquis Place, 20800 West Maple Rd., 402-289-4367. Join us for stories, creative movement, music and more. Children will have the opportunity to trick-or-treat. Costumes are encouraged.



For teens:

- Friday, Oct. 20, 3:30 p.m.: Food & Fun at W. Dale Clark Main Library. Join us for a Halloween-themed food and fun activity.
- Tuesday, Oct. 24, 4:30 p.m.: Making Mini Candy Apples at A.V. Sorensen Branch. Registration required in person or by phone at 402-444-5274.
- Wednesday, Oct. 25, 5 p.m.: Zombie Escape at South Omaha Library. A mad scientist has created a virus to turn the population into zombies. Search the room for clues, solve puzzles, and find the cure before it's too late! Registration required.
- Thursday, Oct. 26, 4 p.m.: Halloween Makeup Hacks at Charles B. Washington Branch, 2868 Ames Ave., 402-444-4849.
- Friday, Oct. 27, 6 p.m.: Zombie Lock-In at Benson Branch, 6015 Binney St., 402-444-4846. Join us for after-hours zombie-themed fun. Eat pizza, play games, and survive our night of the living dead. Ages 13-18. Registration and parent permission slip are required.
- Saturday, Oct. 28
- 2 p.m.: Caramel Apple Party at South Omaha Library.
- 2 p.m.: Create Haunted Gingerbread Houses at A.V. Sorensen Branch. Registration required in person or by phone at 402-444-5274.
- 7 p.m.: Halloween Lock-In at Millard Branch, 13214 Westwood Ln., 402-444-4848. Join us for Halloween-themed activities and games for students 11-18 years old. Registration and parent permission slip are required.

For adults:

- Saturday, Oct. 14, 1 p.m.: Book Page Pumpkin Craft at Saddlebrook Branch. Registration required.

OPL is your source for creepy books, movies and music; and don't forget about books for unique DIY decorations and show-stopping costumes! Visit omahalibrary.org for more information on these and additional events and resources at Omaha Public Library's 12 locations.

Joslyn Castle is pleased to announce the 2017 Holiday Historic Home Tour & Gift Boutique

Now in its fifth year, the tour highlights historic Omaha properties. The Historic Home Tour & Boutique is a joint project between the Joslyn Castle and the Joslyn Castle Guild. The tour will be open Saturday, November 11 and Sunday November 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

In addition to viewing the Joslyn Castle which will be decorated for the holiday season, guests will have an opportunity to see the inviting Doyle Home located at 903 Mercer Boulevard, the stately Pittack home located at 3402 Lincoln Boulevard, and the distinguished Augustana Lutheran Church located at 3647 Lafayette Avenue. We are thrilled to be including the Pittack home on this year's tour. This 1904 Eclectic Revival, was in the path of the 1913 Easter Sunday tornado, as was the historic Joslyn Castle, and though the damage was severe it was soon rebuilt. Tour guests will have an opportunity to learn in greater detail about the all the properties on the tour. The goal of the Historic Home Tour and Boutique and Patron Party is to present an opportunity for guests to visit the Castle and other historic homes during the holiday season which is truly a wonderful time of year to show off the Castle when it is beautifully decorated for the holidays. A variety of guests attend these events—those interested in the Castle, architecture buffs, history buffs, local shoppers, and more. The program serves as a great way to bring new visitors to Castle events.

Inside the Joslyn Castle a gift boutique will provide the perfect opportunity for tour guests to get a head start on their holiday shopping. Vendors participating in the gift boutique include: The Afternoon, Christian Nobel Furs, MAM Candy, Family Jewels KC, NE Humane Society, Hush La Boutique, Stella & Dot, She.La, grae, The Simple Man and many more!

The proceeds of the Holiday Tour benefit the Joslyn Castle and its mission to preserve and share the magnificent Joslyn Castle and its beautiful grounds and gardens to enrich the community. The landmark Joslyn Castle and estate grounds are used to educate and enhance the cultural aspects of the Omaha community.

During the tour a complimentary shuttle will run between the homes. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased at any of the tour sites on the days of the tour or in advance via the Joslyn Castle website, www.joslyncastle.com.

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Email: midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com
Visit: www.midtownmonitor.com



Sierra Club October Program:

“Climate Change and National Security” with Dr. Elizabeth Chalecki

Thursday Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

(Enter north door education wing)

Climate change is already affecting our planet: in the US alone, we’ve seen plenty of examples this summer of the devastation and chaos caused by extreme flooding and fires. While some politicians may choose to debate the reality of climate change, the US military is aware that climate change has national security consequences: it will escalate instability across the globe, causing humanitarian disasters, contributing to political violence, and undermining weak governments.

Dr. Elizabeth Chalecki, Assistant Professor of International Relations at UNO and Research Fellow at the Stimson Center (Washington DC), is an innovative thinker who is devoted to interdisciplinary, real-world research on the environmental and scientific basis of international relations. She is the author of over 20 works on the environment, security, and foreign policy designed for a cross-disciplinary audience. Her specialties include environmental security, global environmental problems, climate change, Arctic security, international security, international relations, sustainability and environmental politics.

Please join us for this thought-provoking presentation. Sierra Club programs are free and open to the public. Refreshments provided. More information at <http://www.sierraclub.org/nebraska> Attachments area

First Unitarian Church of Omaha

3114 Harney Street All are welcome

For more info visit. www.firstuomaha.org

People’s Film Festival

Monday, Oct. 16 at 7pm in the Common Room. We’ll watch Disobedience, the story of the struggle to save the world. Disobedience tells the David vs Goliath tales of front line leaders around the world risking life and limb in the fight for a livable climate. See the Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1322345517893902/>

Taoism Discussion Group

Tuesday, Oct. 24 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. The leader is Geoff Erickson: gerickson03@gmail.com. If you have an interest in Tai Chi or Qi Gong, please join us at 6pm (before the group) for a relaxing quick session. The class will be led by Mary Lou Flearl, who also teaches an hour-long class at Omaha Power Yoga. This class at the church is free! Come as you are; the movements are gentle and do not require special clothing or experience.

Book Club

Our next meeting is Monday, Oct. 30 at 7pm in the Merritt Lounge. The book has not been selected yet. If you have a book to recommend, contact Dave at dritchardson821@gmail.com.

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)

Farmers Markets

Omaha Farmers Market - Aksarben Village

67th & Center St. 402.345.5401

Sunday 9am–1 pm

May 7–October 15

Omaha Farmers Market - Old Market

11th & Jackson St. 402.345.5401

Saturday 8am–12:30pm May 6–October 14



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

Shelterbelt Theatre

is pleased to present Resurrection:
The Best of ShelterSkelter,

at 3225 California Street, October 6-29, 2017.
The show is directed by Kaitlyn McClincy, Jayma Smay
and Elizabeth Thompson. Performances are Thursday
Friday/Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 6pm (except for
October 29 at 2pm.) (Thursdays | \$12 • Friday/
Saturday/Sunday | \$20 - general, \$15 - students, seniors
65+, TAG). Tickets are on sale at www.shelterbelt.org
or boxoffice@shelterbelt.org or 402.341.2757.

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



"Solar Group Buy" Roundtable Discussion

WHEN: Wednesday, October 11th from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: UNO'S Community Engagement Center, Combined Rooms 201 & 205

Nebraskans for Solar Board Members Helen and Ken Deffenbacher, who are having a solar PV system and the ConnectDER installed on their home, and Don Preister, President of Green Bellevue, who installed a ground-mounted solar system last December, will facilitate a roundtable discussion on the benefits of organizing local Solar Group Buy Campaigns in the greater Omaha area and other Nebraska communities. There are two main types of Solar Group Buy Programs, also called Solarize™ Programs: those led by nonprofits and ones led by solar installers. Hear a discussion about both — plus, a third variation. Refreshments will be served. Parking is available in the lot in front of the Community Engagement Center and adjacent lots.

Omaha Public Library announces Food for Fines Week, Oct. 15-22

Omaha Public Library (OPL) will accept food donations during the week of October 15-22 to benefit the Alliance for a Better Omaha, a collaborative of Heart Ministry Center, Together, and Food Bank for the Heartland. OPL cardholders can donate non-expired canned goods and other non-perishable foods in exchange for credit toward overdue fines on their OPL accounts. For each food item donated, two dollars in current fines will be waived, up to a maximum of 10 items/\$20.

Patrons who have accrued fines at OPL are encouraged to return long overdue items and have their fines waived for a donation of a food item.

"This is an exciting opportunity for OPL to welcome patrons who have fines on their accounts back to the library," said OPL Borrower Services Manager Megan Klein-Hewett. "It's a great way for them to reduce or eliminate fines while providing a service to our community."

Donations must be brought to the service desk of any Omaha Public Library location. A library card or photo ID must be shown at the time of donation to receive a fine waiver. Food for Fines waivers apply toward late fines only. Customers with questions about their account status and whether or not the waiver will apply should contact their local library branch.

Visit omahalibrary.org for more information on these and additional events and resources at Omaha Public Library's 12 locations.

Nebraska Sierra Club Harvest Moon Banquet

When: Friday, November 10, 2017 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Where: Field Club of Omaha Ballroom 3615 Woolworth Ave. Omaha, NE 68105

The Nebraska Sierra Club's presence with the Nebraska Legislature got a lot accomplished during the 2017 Session and we have even bigger plans for 2018!

Our Harvest Moon Banquet fundraiser on Friday, November 10th will help fund our extensive environmental advocacy program at the Nebraska Legislature next year. Please plan to attend and enjoy the company of your fellow environmentalists. Social Hour with cash bar at 6:00 pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm. The buffet style dinner will include vegetarian selections. \$50 per person or \$500 for a table for ten. Special sponsor levels are also available.

Our guest speaker, David Domina, will tell us how he defended Nebraska landowners from the Keystone XL Pipeline. Entertainment provided by the Rivertown String Band.

Candy Bless Heydorn, Chair, Nebraska Sierra Club treasurer@nebraska.sierraclub.org

For more information, please contact: James Cavanaugh Sierra Club - Nebraska Chapter
cavanaughlawfirm@aol.com 402-341-2020



Midtown Business Owners
 You're invited to the
 MBA Meeting October 25th

**Speaker- Melanie Stewart, Sustainability
 Manager UNMC and Daniel Lawse**
Topic: Multi -modal transportation

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.

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 Benson, NE 68104

Contact Matt:
 402-213-4004
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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.

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