

THE PARK BENCH

AEPNA Winter Newsletter

Visit us online at aepna.org or find us on Facebook at Aksarben Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association

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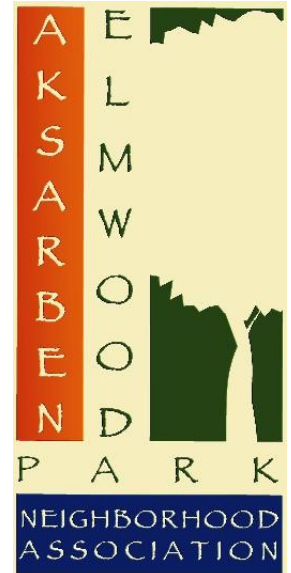
Join us at
our next
meeting
March 16 at
6:30 pm

Bringing in the New Year

In our first meeting of the year, we welcomed Jen Bauer as the interim Chair for the association. Outgoing Chair, Julie Dierberger, has done a very impressive job moving us forwards into the New Year, along with the rest of the board. We thank her for her hard work and dedication and look forward to her guidance and help in 2017.

We had three speakers at our January meeting, Patrick Leahy, Casey Logan and Chris Jerram.

- Patrick Leahy – Patrick is from the NRD Board. He spoke about environmental issues affecting our area (potential flood plane restructuring) and asked all of us to look out for items in our neighborhood that may impact natural resources.
- Casey Logan – Casey came to us from Film Streams and showed us the new plans for the Dundee Theater. Film Streams plans to open the Dundee location in December of this year.
- Chris Jerram – Chris is our City Councilman. He spoke about the (then) upcoming vote to create an ordinance for proposed Entertainment Districts in Omaha. The vote has since passed. The creation of this ordinance allows developers to apply for an Entertainment District permit. The proposal has some impact on the Aksarben Village area, only if an application is approved. It's believed that Noddle Construction will, at some point, apply for such a permit. However, Chris explained to us that this district would be limited to an area between the new HDR Building currently under construction, and a parking structure behind the new HDR building. There will be a green space with retail and restaurants within this area. An Entertainment District has rules governing where alcohol can be taken, security (private) and other restrictions on the timing of use of this permit.



AEPNA Business

Anderson Industrial Engines
Beacon Hills Restaurant
Bluestone Development
Canvas and Cabernet, Aksarben Village
Cars R'Us Auto Body
Clooty Tree Massage
Courtyard by Marriott/Aksarben Village
Daniel's Moving and Storage

Dignity Memorial
Elmwood Pharmacy
Elmwood Tower
Gotta Be Me
Hertz Equipment Rental
Learning Headquarters
Life Gate Church
LIV Lounge
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
Noddle Companies
Olsson Associates
Pruitt Outdoor Power

Residence Inn By Marriott/Aksarben Village
Sandra Turner Real Estate
Shurson Publishing
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Tasty Pastry
Tracks
UNO College of Business, Pacific Campus
UNO Board of Regents

Please support our business members and encourage other local businesses to join AEPNA

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We welcome newsletter ideas and photos. Send articles, information and photos to AEPNA1@gmail.com.

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Getting to Know Your Neighbor

Everyone has seen her that lives in our neighborhood. Most are delighted by her flowers, young and old alike. I have spent many moments walking down Leavenworth admiring the flowers. She can be recognized by her hat and known for giving everyone a smile. Maureen Borden, alongside being a well known gardener, is now a self published author of a book entitled *Hear I Go*; fiction, influenced by events in her life that has shaped who she is.

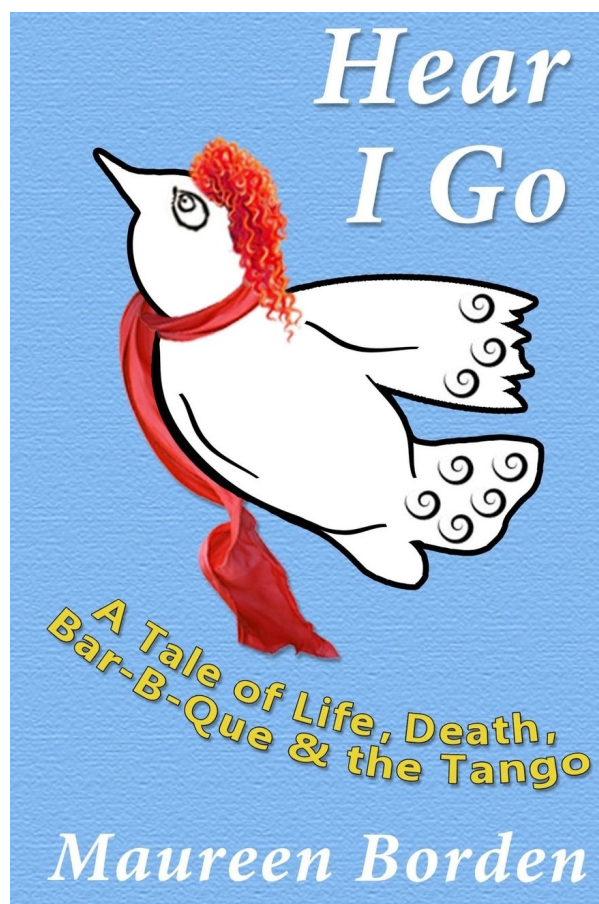
Maureen began gardening 35 years ago when she attended a lecture given by Earl May and received a free packet of zinnia seeds. That single packet led to all the flowers you see today.

Maureen has hope that besides seeing her flowers bloom, local artists can display their work amongst the

We all know weeds tend to be problems. Maureen's solution to the weeds amongst her grass on 57th street will be more flowers. I know I can't wait to see this addition to her gardening.

Curious about Maureen's book? [Check out *Hear I Go* on Amazon](#) and visit her [Facebook page](#). Largely a work of fiction, it is based upon her life with her beloved Michael, who passed before she could get to the hospital. His death and her grief propelled this new book.

Her character, Malka, navigating the guilt and grief of losing her Micky answers an ad to read to the dying at a newly opened hospice. If Malka couldn't be with Micky, she's determined to give someone a proper send-off.



Throughout the novel, Malka is thrown into situations she could have never imagined and hopefully you find the conversations, actions, and the characters poignant and funny.

Socializing AEPNA Style with Beacon Hills

We were given the opportunity to meet with our neighbors through an AEPNA scheduled Happy Hour at one of our new Aksarben Village businesses, Beacon Hills. Beacon Hills is also a new member of our AEPNA.

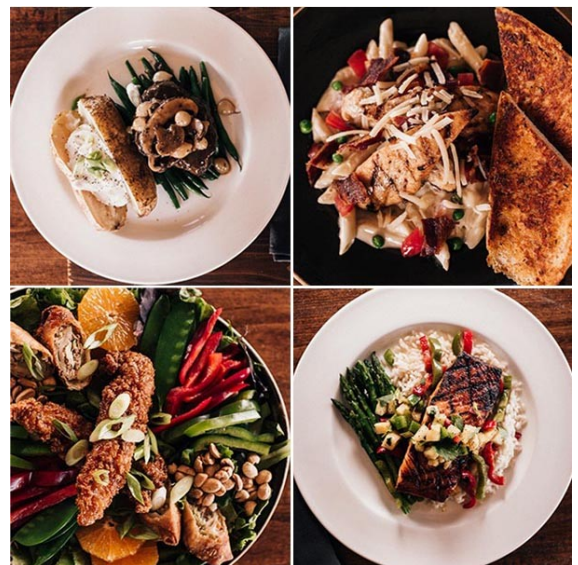
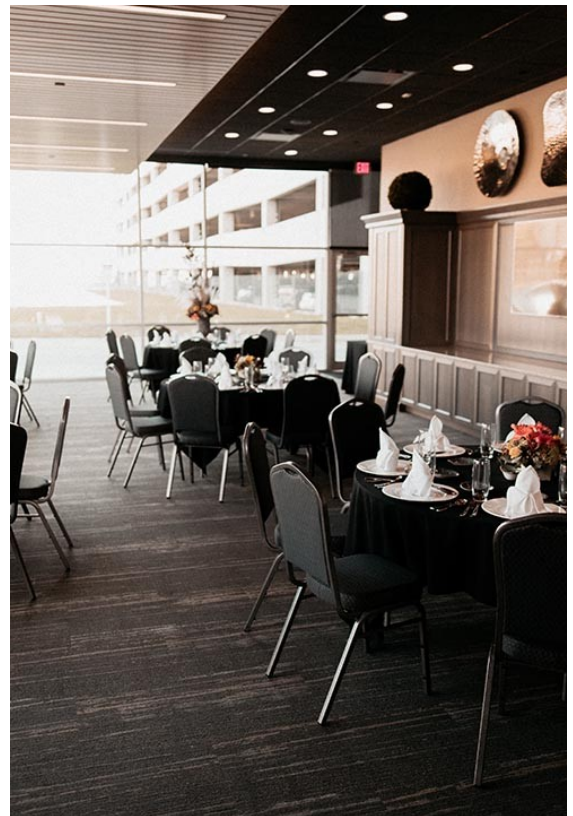
Over 60 people attended the winter happy hour. The management and staff worked very hard to make us feel right at home. We enjoyed a wine tasting and appetizers in the restaurant's "Elmwood Room".

It was an amazing space for hosting our event and we hope to utilize their patio space once the warmer weather returns.

Beacon Hills, owned by Craig and Anne McVeigh, recently opened this past fall. While serving lunch and dinner, they focus on homemade food and desserts in a contemporary atmosphere. Beacon Hills is open every day at 11 and also offers catering.

Thanks to Beacon Hills for helping us to throw an amazing event for our neighborhood. We are so happy to have you as a supporting business partner.

Please visit their [website](#) for more information on joining them for your lunch, dinner, or next event!



Photos from beaconhills.com

Advertise with us!

Our newsletter reaches over 250 members of our Aksarben Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association and over 1,000 members of our Facebook Group.

A 2"x 3" ad is \$10.00

1/4 page ad is \$20.00

1/2 page ad is \$35.00

Full page ad is \$50.00

Help us keep our money
local by sharing
your business with AEPNA!

We Need YOU!

Maybe you have seen the postings on Nextdoor and our AEPNA Facebook page. There have been numerous reports of packages stolen, cars broken into, and general uneasiness amongst our neighborhood. Besides talking to your immediate neighbors and knowing their daily habits and routines, what can you do to help?

Join our neighborhood citizen's patrol!

Mike Heilig has taken the reigns to setting up the Aksarben Elmwood Park Citizen Patrol. It is an unarmed non confrontational organization to help raise awareness that people are watching and do notice. Their goal is to decrease the levels of crime we have seen lately.

Now that you are set on being a member of this great group, how do you join?

Easy! To become a patroller you must attend a three hour training session and have a background check done by the Omaha Police Department.

Don't know if this is for you yet?

Join Mike or one of the other members for a ride along to check it out. Ride-alongs do not need the three hour class and it will provide you the opportunity to see our neighborhood for what it really is.

A great place to be with GREAT people looking out for you. Be one of those people that makes a difference and helps keep us safe.



Look at our [neighborhood Facebook page](#) for more information!

AREA EVENTS THIS SPRING

March 3-4 Restoration Exchange Restore Omaha Conference

March 16 AEPNA Meeting

[Spring Cleaning COMING SOON!](#)

May 24-27 Neighborhood USA Conference

February Notes

For the month of March, we will be featuring your favorite spring activity in the neighborhood. If you could please email Kelsey Cunningham your activities to share at Kelseykcunningham@gmail.com. We look forward to sharing your special moments with our neighbors.