K L S M A W The Park Bench AEPNA Association Newsletter Visit us online at aepna.org B R NEIGHBORHOOD

Picnic!

ASSOCIATION

Thursday, July 19th

6:30 - 8:30 PM Elmwood Park Pavilion Main Dish - Catered Sides - Potluck: A-L- desserts M-Z- salad/veggies

Bring a Friend or Two!

Meeting Schedule... 3rd Thursday Every Other Month

Saint Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church 1725 S. 60th Street



Millers & Olsons at 2011 picnic

President's Letter

The Garden Walk last month made our neighborhood look wonderful. More than 100 people toured the 5 gardens and the event raised more than \$1,000. Special thanks to Scott Swanson who organ-

ized the walk and to all of the homeowners who opened their gardens to us! The AEPNA picnic is at the Elmwood Park Pavilion on July 19th. There'll be fun and games

and a raffle of prizes from neighborhood businesses. Raffle proceeds will go towards the matching grant for Schroeder/Vogel Park improvements. We've got

\$11,000 of the \$50,000 we need to raise for the new playground equipment and landscaping.

In addition to the food, fun and games, we'll have two brief but important presentations by guests:



Someone from the Neighborhood Watch will explain the program and how it makes communities better. Any Neighborhood Watch Captains in the

AEPNA area who attend the picnic will get a triple bonus: the picnic satisfies the annual meeting requirement, you'll get a complimentary association membership, AND you'll have fun!

John Royster and Michael Killeen from Big Muddy Architects will show some design options for the Mayor's Grant project at 66th and Woolworth Streets. They have done a great job helping us with this project. The designs are an exciting first step to transforming an obstacle into a bridge.

I'll see you at Elmwood on July 19th!

Avery Schwer

CWS. Olympic Swim Trials. Block Parties.

Mega-events like the Berkshire Hathaway annual shareholder meeting, College World Series and Olympic Swim Trials make Omaha look great, but small

events make Omaha home. Block parties, ice cream socials, and barbeques build bonds and strengthen a sense of community. We can be proud of Warren Buffett and cheer for

great athletes, but a gift of homegrown tomatoes or praise for a garden yields valuable social capital. Make your block buzz with a block party. Propose the idea to a few neighbors and set a date, time and place that will make it easy for neighbors of all ages and physical ability to attend. With a bit of legwork to spread the word door to door, you can bring an entire block to life. The act of inviting in itself builds community. Invitations made in person (with a "refrigeratorready" reminder) are great opportunities to visit with neighbors. The event will take care of itself; typically everyone brings something and helps set up and clean up. All it takes is one person to get the ball rolling.

Will you be the life of your block party?

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Small Wonders

Patriots on Pierce

Hanging the flag is a small act of patriotism for most of us, but when the flag is huge and the line runs high up in the trees and over the street, that act would seem like an act of valor in itself. Brent. a patriot and a proud member of the Iron Workers Union 21, rigged up a line between the tree in his yard and in his neighbor's vard across the street several years ago. Then on American holidays like Flag Day, Memorial Day, and the Fourth of

July, Brent shimmies up the tree in his front yard and raises the colors. The oversize flag once flew on a building in downtown Omaha so it's an impressive display of Old Glory on a quiet neighborhood street. We salute you, Brent!

For information on flag etiquette such as how to display, fold and retire a flag, go to www.flagcode.us



National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7

National Night Out is an event designed to bring neighbors together. It can be as simple as inviting neighbors over for tea on the porch or as complex as a progressive dinner party. An easy option is a potluck block party. Whichever way you go, let us know what you do to celebrate and strengthen your neighborhood on August 7th. Post your photos and stories on AEPNA's Facebook page or send them to us at AEPNA1@gmail.com

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