

The Park Bench

AEPNA Newsletter

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

President's Letter An Old Story

Once upon a time, in the magical Kingdom of Quivira, thoroughbred horses raced on a race track in a sleepy little place on the plains of Nebraska.

This sport of kings brought economic and cultural vitality to the area. Much to the dismay of the locals, it also brought traffic, dust, smells, litter, noise and flies. (Lots of flies.)

When the track died, the neighbors cheered the end of traffic and flies, but mourned the loss of a place that was so much a part of their identity. The sad place sat mostly empty and wasted for years.

The University and developers woke it from its long sleep, when they began to develop it into a village for mixed use. The locals cheered! They were delighted to see the place brought back to life. When the reality of living next to a growing University hit them, the wailing began anew. Parking, traffic, litter and noise would once again change their street! New roads and parking structures will cut into green spaces. New buildings seem to spring up overnight.



How does the story end? It doesn't ever end; it just keeps adding chapters that repeat and change a bit. Every neighborhood experiences cycles. It's new and exciting, then mature and stable, then old and in need of a face lift. Then it's rediscovered, redeveloped and revitalized, and the cycle repeats itself.

Our neighborhood is in a second golden age right now (without the flies). The University, the arena and the commercial development in the Village bring enormous opportunity and vitality to the area. People really want to live here! The new senior living community that's coming to the Village will provide an alternative to owning and maintaining an older home and keep us in the neighborhood. I'm looking forward to watching the next chapters in our story unfold!

I'll see you around the neighborhood!

Avery Schwer

Meeting
Thurs. July 16 7:00
PM
St. Matthew's
1725 S. 60th St.
Join us and bring a
neighbor!

Guest presenters:
Julie Anderson –
Senior Living
Community in
Aksarben Village

Updates on
Developments in the
Neighborhood



your neighborhood bank  more

You may know us as the friendly, neighborhood bank. But there's more to the story than that. Here, you'll find mortgage experts to help with all of your purchasing, refinancing, and home equity loan needs. You'll find experienced financial advisors who can provide you with the custom planning and consultation you need to meet any dream. Plus, you'll find insurance experts who know how to save you money on anything from home, auto, and life to business and health insurance. Best of all, you can find it right here. In your neighborhood. What more could you ask for?



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Mayor's Grant: Crime Prevention Workshops

On June 24th, AEPNA held its first crime prevention workshop of the year, Engaging Your City Officials, one of three



workshops made possible by a grant focused on crime prevention at the neighborhood level. The purpose of this workshop was to educate residents on where to call with issues and common concerns regarding neighborhood safety. Chris Jerram, our neighborhood's City Council representative spoke on the most frequent topics brought up, including traffic, poor lighting, overgrown or blighted areas, and absent landlords. He gave us a handout with City and County department phone numbers to call with problems. We will post the handout on our website and Facebook page for reference.

The next workshop is Home Security and Personal Safety, a presentation followed by questions and answers with Southwest Precinct Officer Angela Echtenkamp and her partner. The officers will demonstrate affordable and common sense ways to light and secure your home as well as review and talk about any crime concerns in the neighborhood.

When: August 26th, at 6:00pm

Where: St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church 1725 S 60th St.

YIMBY Award

Nominations for the YIMBY Award, Yes In My Back Yard Award to recognize good landlords are still being accepted. If you know of a rental complex in the neighborhood that is well-maintained or an improvement over what once was there, let us know! Download the nomination form from on our website and email it to aepna1@gmail.org.

Renew your AEPNA membership!

Use this form or sign up & pay online by using the PayPal link on our Facebook page

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Household \$10/1 year; \$20/2 years; \$25/3 years

Business \$20/1 year; \$40/2 years; \$50/3 years

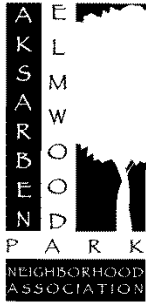
New Renewal Gift (great for your thoughtful neighbor!)

Please include me in the neighborhood roster Yes No

Please make check payable to Aksarben-Elmwood Park NA

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Volunteers and Workers at the Spring Dumpster Day

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Glamorous It Ain't

Neighborhood parks and parties get more ink and air time than trash, but only when trash isn't a problem! A deserted couch at the curb or a few abandoned appliances get our attention, though.

We are fortunate to have a free, annual event to give us an easy way to get rid of bulky items.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped with the Dumpster Day during the spring cleanup. And thanks to Hertz Equipment Rental for letting us use their parking lot.

AEPNA Business Members

- * Anderson Industrial Engines Co. * Cars R'Us Auto Body * Clooty Tree Massage *
- * Courtyard by Marriott /Aksarben Village * Elmwood Pharmacy * Elmwood Tower * Gotta Be Me *
- * Hertz Equipment Rental * Hy-Vee * Kids DIY Studio * Learning Headquarters * LIV Lounge *
- * Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church * Noddle Companies * Olsson Associates * Pinhook Flats * Pruitt Outdoor Power *
- * Residence Inn by Marriott /Aksarben Village * Sandra Turner Real Estate * Security National Bank /Aksarben Village *
- * Shurson Publishing * St. Mathew Lutheran Church * Tasty Pastry * The Gourmet Granola * Tracks *
- * University Regent * UNO College of Business * UNO Community Relations * Village Canvas and Cabernet *