

HANSCOM PARK



OBSERVER • HPNA

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*October 2010*  
*Volume 10, Issue 4*

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday October 14**  
**7pm all welcome**  
**Southeast Police Precinct**  
**Scott McIntyre of the Omaha**  
**Public Works Department will**  
**be our guest speaker. Come**  
**discuss snow removal, budget**  
**concerns, slowdown of 32nd**  
**Avenue and any other**  
**questions you many have about**  
**the Public Works Department.**

Interested in being part of the leadership of your neighborhood? Elections are right around the corner and we need you!

## Midtown Dog Park Committee Update

by John Williams

The group working to establish a midtown dog park met with Melinda Pearson, Omaha Director of Parks, Recreation, and Public Property, on Friday, September 24th. The meeting helped outline some of the expectations the Parks and Recreation Department has for creating a successful dog park within Hanscom Park. Some of the things looked for include; (1) off-street parking near dog park, (2) dog park not close to bodies of water, (3) dog park not directly adjacent to a neighborhood, (4) air-lock entrance into park, (5) fencing around existing trees so they are not destroyed by urine. Ms Pearson went on to describe the roles and responsibilities shared by The City and the community with the Hefflinger Park. For example, the city will collect trash, mow, and maintain fencing and water lines (once implemented). The responsibilities of providing bags for dog waste, signage, and funding for fencing fall within the realm of the community. The Omaha Dog Park Advocates currently manage these responsibilities at the Hefflinger Dog Park.

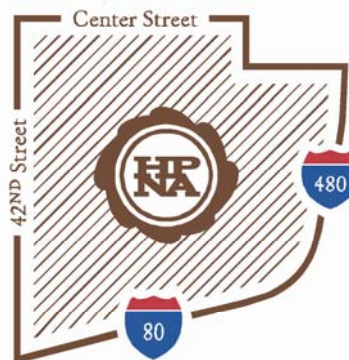
After reviewing the some of the criteria and roles/responsibilities, the north-central section of Hanscom Park (Area 4 on the map) has the best potential space for a dog park. The Parks and Recreations Department staff indicated potential funding could be available in the budget to increase off-street parking by adding additional 90 degree parking along the road directly east of the greenhouse. The parking lots directly north and south of the greenhouse could also act as appropriate off-street parking to accommodate dog park visitors. Additionally, an abandoned asphalt path runs through the area. As part of a potential long-term plan, the old path could be improved and appropriated for use by dog park visitors who are walking to/from the street into the park. The space was large enough to accommodate an all dog area and a small dog area. The space is far enough inside the park and sits below street level to not distract neighboring homes.

Our next step will be to meet with leadership from Omaha Dog Park Advocates to determine if we join their group to build and maintain our dog park or if we need to create our own group through our neighborhood associations. Once we have made that decision, we can begin planning the design of the dog park with the Parks and Recreation Department, start grant writing, and initiate fundraising.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Mike Battershell  
933-5855  
VICE PRESIDENT Brenda Coleman  
350-5010  
TREASURER Sharon Littrell  
SECRETARY Alicia Battershell  
MEMBERSHIP Kelley Rosburg

BOUNDARIES



## BECOME A FAN



Keep up with what's going on in the neighborhood.

Become a fan of Hanscom Park Neighborhood Association on Facebook.

## Omaha Police — Community Awareness Update

There has been an increase of auto thefts in the southeast precinct. Here are some tips to help prevent your vehicle from being stolen:

- Always LOCK your vehicle and take the keys with you.
- NEVER leave the windows rolled down.
- NEVER leave valuable in plain sight.
- DO NOT hid a second key in the vehicle.
- Activate any anti-theft device available.
- NEVER leave the vehicle running unattended.
- Park your vehicle in the garage if possible or in a well-lit area—Don't forget to LOCK it!
- Keep your garage door opener with you and don't leave it in plain view.
- DO NOT leave your vehicle title in the vehicle—This makes it easy for a thief to resell it.
- If you buy a vehicle from a private party, make sure you can locate them after sale.
- Check the VIN# to see if it has been tampered with and make sure it matches the title.
- Check your plates frequently to make sure no one has replaced them with stolen plates.
- DO NOT pick up hitchhikers.
- Report any suspicious activity or persons to 911.

Practice overall security! For further information or questions, contact our SE Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist Ofelia Robles 444-7743 or

## General Meeting Agenda, October 14th

- I. Call to order, introductions (5 mins.)
- II. Guest Speaker (20 mins.)
- III. Committee Reports (15 mins.)
  - A. Citizen's Patrol
  - B. Communications
  - C. Membership
  - D. PAC Update
  - E. SONA
  - F. MNA
- IV. Old Business (10 mins.)
  - A. EPA Lead Staging Area
  - B. Dog Park
  - C. 2011 Planning
- V. New Business (10 minutes)
  - A. South Omaha Historic Grant
- VII. Adjourn

## 2010 Historic Restoration Tour

Now in its sixth year, Restore Omaha is an organization that teaches and motivates the public to restore and preserve older properties. This year's tour on **Sunday, October 10th from noon to 5 pm** highlights 10 restoration projects, both under construction and complete, in Omaha's Downtown and Little Italy Neighborhoods. Sites include:

- **Scottish Rite** — 202 S. 20th St. (20th and Douglas Streets)
- **St. Mary Magdalene Church** — 109 S. 19th St. (19th and Dodge Streets)
- **Trinity Cathedral** — 109 N. 18th St. (18th and Capitol Streets)
- **A.K. Riley Building (Pinnacle Bank)** — 1016 Douglas on the Mall
- **The Omaha Building (Kutak Rock)** — 1650 Farnam St.
- **Board of Certification Building** — 1415 Harney St.
- **Medlar Building** — 416 and 418 S. 14th St.
- **Gahm-Block Building (Bloc12 Apartments)** — 1202 Howard St. (Old Mercer Hotel)
- **Anheuser-Busch Beer Depot** — 1215 Jones St.
- **Bella Vita Building** — 714 Pierce St.

Bonus Sites

- **Dunsany Flats** — 1113 S. 10th St. (10th and Pierce Streets)
- **King Fong** — 315 1/2 S. 16th St. (only open 12-3 pm)

“This year's Tour allows attendees to get inside several historic downtown building plus see how two families have transformed former commercial building into homes,” said Restore Omaha Chair Nicole Malone. Tickets are \$10 each or two for \$15. Purchase tickets in advance at [www.restoreomaha.org](http://www.restoreomaha.org) or the day of the tour at the Scottish Rite, 202 S. 20th St. All proceeds support restoration and preservation educational efforts in the area. The annual Restore Omaha Conference and Exhibition is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th, 2011 at Metropolitan Community College, South Omaha Campus. For questions, contact Restore Omaha at 968-3349. For volunteer opportunities, which includes a **free ticket**, contact Don Seten at 444-3933.

## Snow Removal Plan Update

Fall is here and we all know what that means...after driving every street and alley in the Hanscom Park Neighborhood, Mike Battershell and I met with the City Streets Department representatives to offer input into their new “snow removal plan.” We are hopeful we can at least initiate some minor improvements for the upcoming winter. The City’s new snow removal plan was originally scheduled to be unveiled in July of this year. If it was discovered that the new plan could not be implemented until some existing City Ordinances were changed. Some of these ordinance changes which are currently working their way through the City Council approval process are: 1. There will be fines levied for pushing snow into the streets; 2. 48 hours will be given to remove snow, in lieu of the 24 hours currently allowed; and 3. An odd-even side of the street parking ban will be implemented when a Snow Emergency is declared by the City. We are also looking for residents who are willing to have a sand barrel placed on their property during the winter. The sand is to be used on public streets and alleys only, not private property. There is a form or approval process the City requires in order to see if you “qualify” to have a barrel placed on your property.

Please understand that the placement of this barrel will kill your lawn in that spot and possibly around the barrel where sand gets spilled as residents remove sand to place in intersections, on hills, etc. **If you are willing to have a sand barrel placed on your property, please contact either Mike Battershell or myself with your name, address and phone number. Sand barrels are to be placed by November 1st.** We will get this information to the City and they will contact you directly for permission. We already have four volunteers who signed up at the last meeting but we need many more. There are lots of steep slopes on both sides of 32nd Avenue. Your Cooperation is both needed and appreciated! —Kelley Rosburg [krosburg2@cox.net](mailto:krosburg2@cox.net)

Senator Jeremy Nordquist has launched a new website to allow you to discuss your healthcare priorities. You can click on [www.YourHealthCarePriorities.com](http://www.YourHealthCarePriorities.com). It takes less than 5 minutes and your responses will be sent straight to members of the Legislature and Governor Dave Heineman.

A group of neighbors is exploring putting hanging baskets on lamp posts or power poles. If you have driven through Dundee in the Spring/Summer you have seen them on many of their posts. How nice it will look to have additional flower in our neighborhood! Contact Nick Simon at [nsimon27@gmail.com](mailto:nsimon27@gmail.com) For more information

We will be planning a clean-up of the Martha Street & I-480 interchange for early November. Please email or call Mike Battershell if you are interested in helping. Thanks to Rose Gunia for the idea!

For the latest news including letters to the EPA, Snow removal documents and more visit:

# hpnaomaha.org

Have you seen the banners on the west side of the Silos Outdoor Extreme Adventures? Take a fall walk to the South End of the Field Club Trail or drive East on I-80, they are a wonderful public art display. Thanks to Anne Trumble and Emerging Terrains for bringing the project to life!

Do you have ideas, no matter how crazy, to improve our neighborhood and make Omaha even better? Join us at a meeting and let’s talk about it. We are Always looking for ways to engage neighbors and make Hanscom Park the premier neighborhood in Omaha.



## Free Exterior House Painting

Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance has teamed up with the EPA program in Omaha to help encourage property owners to have their homes tested for lead. If your property qualifies, you may be eligible to have the outside of your house and garage painted at NO COST TO YOU!!! Lead poisoning is the number 1 environmental hazard to children. Chipping and peeling paint from houses built before 1978 can fall into your yard and potentially poison kids. This program helps protect children and helps you to paint the outside of your home. If you have questions or for more information, call the Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance at 934-9700 or contact the EPA in Omaha at 731-3045.



HANSKOM PARK  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

c/o UNO  
6001 Dodge Street  
Omaha, NE 68182-0471



Printing provided by the *Neighborhood Center*



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

*name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*address* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*phone* \_\_\_\_\_  
*e-mail* \_\_\_\_\_

*Renew* your membership to maintain voting rights and continue receiving the newsletter. Dues are \$10 per household. Please make checks payable to HPNA.

Hanscom Park Neighborhood Association, c/o Kelley Rosburg  
3079 South 34th Street; Omaha, NE 68105