



G.I.T. (Greentree, Iron Ridge, and Tranquility View) Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the G.I.T. Neighborhood Association Newsletter.

GIT was formed to:

1. make a difference in the community
2. address specific concerns
3. meet new people and build a community-wide network
4. make positive contributions to the community
5. repay the kind acts of others
6. assist others who are less fortunate

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!

Be sure to check out the website at
<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/omaha/git/main.html>

Neighborhood Clean-Up Day:

Thank you to all those who participated in the clean-up on October 7th. It was great to see everyone get together to beautify the community. We even had a segment on TV!!

Ideas? Suggestions? Want to participate? Want your business advertised in this newsletter? Feel free to contact any of the board members listed below with any of your thoughts.

Who to Contact:

- *President-Chris Laughlin-706-9377*
- *Vice-President-Meredith Stone-707-3681*
- *Treasurer-Julie Kirby*
- *Secretary-Tami Turner*
- *Other Board Members-Pam Perry, Sherri Vance, Karen Emerson, Mary Lew, and Gary Lew*

Mark Your Calendars!

GIT Board Meeting-Tuesday, April 3rd
@ 6:30 pm

All neighbors are welcome to attend
Easter Egg Hunt- Saturday, April 7th-
10:00 am

Bike Rodeo-Sunday, April 29th-
1:00-4:00 pm

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Neighborhood Association Neighbors and Community Businesses:

Since starting this Association this last summer, we have been busy with many projects and ideas. We welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have. The purpose of the association is to seek to enhance and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood through encouraging communication and relationships among neighbors, in matters of public services, environmental protection, crime prevention by promoting "Neighborhood Watch" groups, and to promote and participate in the civic life of Omaha.

We have some ideas for spring events in which we hope you will participate. Newsletters will be sent out on a quarterly basis. If we have your e-mail address, we will be sending them via e-mail. If you ever want anything in the newsletter, please let us know.

We are working with many businesses, and they are very supportive to the Association and will be advertising in our newsletter. Also, Maple Village Association has met with us and has praised us for all the work we have done so far. They would like to be linked with us and would like to work with us. They also shared some of their wonderful ideas for the future. Please read through the newsletter and enjoy!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at anytime.

Chris Laughlin, President

Watching Our Neighborhood



GIT is looking for a few good volunteers to help launch our Neighborhood Watch and Citizens' Patrol Programs!

What is a Neighborhood Watch and why do we need it? The Neighborhood Watch Program is a collaborative effort between citizens and law enforcement; providing one of the oldest and most effective ways to prevent crime. Certainly the program is not designed to alter criminal behavior but it is designed to consistently reduce opportunities for crime to occur, create a greater

sense of security and address quality of life issues. Ultimately, Watch programs strengthen the economic and social fabric of communities.

How does it work? Imagine that cars were being vandalized just a few blocks away. You might not hear about this on the evening news, but if your neighbor called to share some details about the incidents, the information could prove valuable in keeping a lookout based on the suspect's description and by taking other preventative measures.

How do I get involved? Gary Lew

has generously agreed to coordinate this effort and serve as our Neighborhood Watch Captain. Now, all we need is one person per block to act as the Block Leader and liaison.

If you're interested in learning more, please call Gary at 445-4932 or 813-3860 by March 1st. A complete orientation session will be conducted for all volunteers, thanks to Bridget Fitzpatrick of the Omaha Police Department.

Neighborhood Wish List

If you had funds to spend on improving the neighborhood, what would you do? That's the question GIT would like your help in answering!

There are plenty of grant dollars available and the GIT Board needs your help in identifying and prioritizing a wish list so we can begin

seeking these funds.

Would you like to see nicely landscaped entrance or park signs? Are Drive 25 notices important? Would a neighborhood directory be useful?

Please send your ideas to Chris Laughlin at:

christinelaughlin@yahoo.com or 706-9377 by March 1st.

GIT Involved

Looking for fun ways to get involved with your community? Want to network with people, make new friends or simply try your hand at something new?

Whether you're pressed for time or looking for something to keep you busy, GIT has a volunteer opportunity for you:

Welcoming Committee

Social Events

Neighborhood Watch Leaders

Citizen Patrol

McGruff Homes

Neighborhood Garage Sale

Easter Egg Hunt

Block Parties

Clean Up Day

Business Directory

Residential Directory

To learn more about these exciting projects, please contact Chris Laughlin at christinelaughlin@yahoo.com or 706-9377 by March 1st.

GIT Connected

Sign up now to be included in GIT's Neighborhood Directory!

Not only will this fabulous resource save you walking steps in contacting your neighbors and help you communicate neighborhood messages via email, but it will also provide valuable service information. For example, wouldn't it be nice to know how many childcare providers we have in the area? What if you found out the person down the street was a landscaper, mechanic or computer technician who did work on the side?

Signing up is easy! Just fill out the information you would like printed and email Pat Derr at paderr@cox.net. If you do not have e-mail, please mail to

Patt Derr
4605 N. 126th St.
Omaha, NE 68164

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Name _____

Spouse or Partner's Name _____

Children's Name and Age _____

Address _____

How long have you resided in the neighborhood _____

Phone (home) _____

Phone (cell) _____

Phone (work) _____

Email Address _____

Profession _____

Place of Employment _____

Technical or Trade services you are willing to provide _____

Personal or Professional services you are willing to provide _____

OPD's Community Resource Center is Now Open to the Public

(courtesy of Omaha Police Department Newsletter)

Omaha Police Department's Community Resource Center has moved from the Crossroads Mall to new offices at 10245 Wiesman Dr. (north of Fort at 102nd St, which runs into Wiesman Dr). The hours open to the public are 12:00 pm—5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The phone numbers are 444-3765 and 444-3480.

What does the center have to offer you, your Neighborhood Watch Group, and the public?

- Brochures on a large variety of crime prevention topics including starting a neighborhood watch group, home and personal safety, drug prevention, auto theft and theft from auto prevention, citizen corps materials, and much more.

- Monthly CRC Newsletters—pick them up for your group or block
- Police reports—It takes 5 business days after an incident to receive a police report.
- State accident forms
- Advice & assistance on how to access non-emergency Omaha Police services.

GIT Cookbook

GIT is putting together a "best recipes" cookbook to sell at neighborhood functions. The money will be used to cover the costs of neighborhood associated activities. If interested in contributing your favorite recipe(s) to be included in the cookbook, please contact Mary Lew at 445-4932, 813-3860, or e-mail it to melmbj@yahoo.com

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GIT Bike Rodeo

Come one, Come all – any age!!
Bring your bike or tricycle for a
free afternoon of family fun, food,
and entertainment.

When:

**Sunday, April 29, 2007 1:00 – 4:00
p.m.**

Where:

SuperTarget – 129th and W. Maple
(west end of parking lot)

What:

- Professional Emcee – Roy
Coffman
- Certified bicycle inspection sta-
tion – Bike Masters
- Bicycle Road Reaction Course –
Rod Combs, Aces Ent, LLC
- Professional safety instructions
– Rod Combs and OPD

- Free child ID Kits – Wal-
greens/Omaha Police De-
partment
- Bike registration – Omaha
Police Department
- Free refreshments
- Prizes and balloons


***Be sure to bring all of your
safety equipment to the rodeo
for evaluation***

**Please complete the registra-
tion form and return by April
1st either by e-mail or postal
service to:**

Chris Laughlin
13105 Meredith Ave.
Omaha, NE 68164

Cell - 706-9377
e-mail -

christinelLaughlin@yahoo.com



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REGISTRATION

Family Member(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____ **Zip:** _____

E-Mail: _____

How many will be attending? _____ **Ages:** _____



1st ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER EGG HUNT

WHEN: Saturday, April 7th at 10:00 A.M.

WHERE: Greentree Park

There will be age divisions and activities planned for all. Please join us for some fun with the kids.

Contact Julie Kirby at 345-1926 or e-mail cjkirby1@cox.net



GIT GARAGE SALE AND CLEAN-UP DAY

Watch for a flyer announcing the date for the event which will be held in late in late spring/early summer.

- Keep Omaha Beautiful will provide dumpsters for large items and coupons for dump sites
- Start your spring cleaning to-day!

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Restaurant Spotlight

Looking for a taste of Italy without straying too far from the neighborhood? Look no further than 129th and Maple Streets. Faro's Ristorante and Marketplace is a family owned and operated Italian restaurant and marketplace. Named after owner and head chef, Paul's grandfather and culinary inspiration, Faro Pellerito, who worked as a chef in Naples, Italy, Faro's specializes in fresh, innovative Italian cuisine in an open European setting. Faro's offers a large selection of imported meats, cheeses, Italian groceries, and fine wine. With a wide selection of appetizers, soups, salads, pastas, pizzas, paninis, and other entrees, Faro's has something to

please everyone. Be sure to check out the daily lunch specials for \$5.99 or the All-you-can-eat homemade soup, salad, and breadsticks for \$6.99.



GIT Neighborhood Association Restaurant Spotlight

Buy one get one 50% off! Use this coupon to receive one entrée at half price when you purchase one at regular price.

Coupon good through April 30, 2007



Code Enforcement Information: What Neighborhoods Should Look For! (courtesy of "Neighborhoods" Winter 2006)

CODE VIOLATIONS:

- Deteriorated and cracked sidewalks and driveways
- Deteriorated porches, decks, and patios
- Stairway with three or more steps without handrails
- Broken or missing siding
- Deteriorated overhangs
- Deteriorated or missing gutters or downspouts
- Cracks or holes in foundations
- Broken or missing windows
- Torn or missing screens
- Broken or missing storm or entry doors
- Deteriorated fencing
- Missing light fixtures
- Exposed electrical wiring
- Basement bedrooms without adequate windows
- Torn, deteriorated or missing basement screens
- Missing mortar broken back plaster on chimneys
- Hazardous electrical service entrance
- Unregistered/inoperable cars on street, yard, or alley

- Trees hanging on house and/or garage

To report any of the above conditions, please call the City of Omaha, Planning Department, Code & Zone Enforcement @ 444-5371 or the Mayor's Hotline @ 444-5555



GIT Neighborhood Association
c/o Chris Laughlin
13105 Meredith Ave.
Omaha, NE 68164