

OPEN DOOR HEALTH CENTER
477-3747
day or night

FOOD BUYERS CLUB
BACK DOOR

Center refers needy

**Lynn Silhasek
School of Journalism**
With bicycle parts and children scattered through the yard, the house at 1915 U St. looks like it could hold any family in the neighborhood.

What it does hold, as the sign out front reads, is the Open Door Health Center (ODHC), where low income families and individuals are referred to doctors and health services in Lincoln.

But "we handle anything anyone wants done," according to staff member Linnea Becker. This includes legal counseling, information on housing and transportation, she said.

The Center opened April 1, 1973 as a result of the work of residents of the Clinton, Malone and West F St. neighborhoods to provide better health care for the low income, according to Cherita Richardson, ODHC director.

Many problems

However, "low income people don't have one problem," she said.

Ms. Becker agreed. "A lot of people call in for one problem and we go and visit them and find out they have 15."

A staff of VISTA workers and student and community volunteers meets these problems by talking to low income individuals in person and referring them to agencies that deal with the problem, Ms. Becker explained.

Jesse Gilmer, a UNL senior, is one of the student volunteers. Interested in finding out about community problems, he was referred to the ODHC by the Student Volunteer Services on campus.

Gilmer said he is involved with raising funds for the ODHC. He is putting together a program called "Give a Damn", where any interested people with musical talent will perform before various community organizations for money to be donated to the center. Some of these funds will go toward starting a "tot lot" at the center, where mothers who work can bring their children, Gilmer said.

Gilmer said he also is involved with raising support among show owners and encouraging food donations from them.

"There are people about three blocks from here and I can go in there and there's no refrigerator and about 10 kids in a bed... they don't have any food."

"If the community could support the center more, we could have more going for the community... the Open Door Health Center is very necessary," he said.

According to Mrs. Richardson, the ODHC works with the Public Health Department and the Lincoln Housing Authority in referring low income people to these places and providing transportation there. In addition, a team from the welfare department and a psychiatric counseling group work several days a week at ODHC, she said.

In a May 24 director's report all of the cases the ODHC has handled since it opened were listed. The center referred 106 cases to health services, provided 137 with transportation and counseled in such areas as abortion, suicide and use of contraceptives. Employment, housing and child care needs also were met, according to the report.

Ms. Becker said the ODHC was helpful in cutting through "some of the red tape garbage."

Save trouble

"If we can call the 15 names before we come to the doctor who will help a person and save the person the trouble, we're doing something," she said.

"A lot of people have been turned off by welfare. They have zero income and need assistance but don't want to go through the hassle."

"A lot of people are so turned off they quit looking for help," Ms. Becker said.

A problem the ODHC hasn't been able to solve concerns money, according to David Levine, chairman of the ODHC Board of Directors and UNL

professor. The center opened on a \$5,000 grant from the Nebraska Regional Medical Program, but will depend on aid through Lincoln community services or revenue sharing to continue operating, Levine said.

According to Levine, the ODHC had planned a neighborhood health clinic, but representatives of the medical profession on the board of directors felt there was no need for one.

"Lincoln's not ready for it," Mrs. Richardson said. "They (doctors) don't realize that by free clinic it means free of red tape and for people who cannot pay," she said.

According to Lester Jensen, director of public health education at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, it would be impossible to set up a clinic at ODHC because of its financial situation.

A neighborhood clinic would "need a budget of a couple hundred thousand. If it took on hospitalization, it would run into half a million or so," Jensen said.

No walk-in health clinic exists in Lincoln now, Jensen said. Most low income people have medical expenses paid through welfare or qualify for Medicaid, a federal program providing complete medical aid through the doctor of one's choice, Jensen said.

Museum artist exhibits work

Nathan Mohler, state museum artist, will have works on display for a month at Haymarket Gallery, 118 S. 9th St.

Mohler said he will display abstract and modern oil paintings, watercolors, pen and ink still lifes and three pieces of sculpture.

A reception July 8 from 2 to 4 p.m. will open the exhibit.

Mohler, a graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago, was involved in designing the Hall of Nebraska Wildlife in the lower level of Morrill Hall.

**MONDAY, JULY 9
7:00 P.M.
W.C. Fields
in
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE**

NEBRASKA UNION
Admission 75 ¢ with Student I.D.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. 1933. 85 minutes. Starring W.C. Fields, Gracie Allen, Baby Rose Marie, Cab Calloway, Peggy Hopkins Joyce, George Burns and Bela Lugosi. Directed by Edward Sutherland. Fields, slightly lost on his way to St. Louis, drops in on the Wuhu Hotel in China in his gyrocopter-automobile, procuring liquor, women and what have you. Baby Rose Marie does a torch song rendition considered "salacious" in 1933 and Cab Calloway sings of marijuana in "That Reefer Man."

Phone 475-2222

DOUGLAS 3 TODAY AT... 1:30 4:00 7:00 9:30
13th and P St.

D-2 Nobody did it like **DILLINGER** ...he was the gangster's gangster.

DILLINGER
WARREN OATES - BEN JOHNSON
MICHELLE PHILLIPS
CLORIS LEACHMAN

PERFORMANCES AT
1:30 3:25 5:20
7:20 9:20

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ROSS HUNTER'S
Musical Production of
LOST HORIZON G
Music by BURT BACHARACH - Lyrics by HAL DAVID

D-1

D-3 "MIND-BLOWING SUSPENSE!"
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THE DAY OF THE JACKAL
AT
1:30
4:10
7:05
9:35

PG

state 1415'0'

now showing

ROGER MOORE
as **JAMES BOND**
IAN FLEMING'S
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