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## Communication goal Neighborhood Week

By Donna Slisson

Picnics and neighborhood projects are just a few of the activities that will mark the first Neighborhood Week, June 9 to 16, to take place annually.

Jane McGinnis, the Lincoln Neighborhoods Inc. chairperson for Neighborhood Week, said LINC, a coordinating body for neighborhood groups, began the week.

Neighborhood Week is sponsored by more than 13 neighborhoods together with Lincoln Neighborhoods Incorporated and the city's Community Resource Office.

The goal of the week is to foster communication between business, government and neighborhoods, McGinnis said. Last year, LINC activities mainly focused on the city government. This year, the group wants to support business as well, she said.

Jim Willet, community resource specialist for the Lincoln Community Resource Office, said many neighborhoods often see their vitality linked to the vitality of downtown Lincoln.

Part of Neighborhood Week's purpose is to help create a self-help fund that will complement city funds and let neighborhoods make physical improvements and do other projects, Willet said.

The week also gives visibility to neighborhood groups and lets people know what these groups can do, Willet said. Neighborhood groups make physical improvements on things like sidewalks and parks. They also create a neighborhood network to represent the citizens to the government, he said.

It is quite a statement that Lincoln neighborhoods have a unique level of cooperation while neighborhoods in other cities are fighting, Willet said. It also speaks well that neighborhood groups realize the need for effective relations between business and government, he said.

One of the major events will be a series of half-hour slide shows presenting Nebraska life as it was at the turn of the century. The shows were produced by seven older neighborhoods with the help of a grant from the Nebraska Committee for the Humanities. The presentations will show at the new State Historical Society Museum on June 9 beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The finale for the week is a neighborhood picnic celebration on June 16 at Antelope Park. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with music by guitarists and fiddlers from the Old Time Fiddlers Association. Historians John Schneider and Jim McKee will speak about neighborhood backgrounds and later, ice cream and soda will be served.

## State tourism rising; Tourism Week begins

By Mark Davis

More than 90,000 people have asked for Nebraska travel packets this year, the deputy director of research at the Department of Economic Development said.

Tom Doering said the DED anticipates a 5 percent increase in Nebraska tourism this summer — in conjunction with the start of National Tourism Week Sunday.

Several factors regulate how many people from other states visit Nebraska each summer, Doering said. One is the weather.

"The weather has to be better than last summer's flooding and droughts," he said.

Ak-Sar-Ben's out-of-state tourist business, the largest in Nebraska, also depends on good weather, Doering said.

Finances also determine out-of-state tourism, he said. More people have secure jobs and more money, he said. Both result in increased tourism throughout the state.

According to the DED and Lincoln's Tourist Information Office on Ninth and O streets, most of Nebraska's out-of-state tourists come from Illinois, Iowa and Colorado. These and other out-of-state tourists look for sights they can't see in their home states. Many Coloradans come to Nebraska to see Lake McConaughy.

Besides the tourists from those top states, a high percentage of Nebraska's out-of-state tourists come from eastern states. These people come to see Nebraska's Western attractions, Doering said.

Interstate 80 also plays an important role in Nebraska's tourism business. According to a survey by the Lincoln TIO, four out of five summer non-resident Nebraska tourists traveled some portion of I-80. Doering said the interstate attracts twice as much traffic from transcontinental travelers than I-90 does through the north or I-70 through the south.

The TIO, which directs tourists to Lincoln attractions, served 165,000 visitors last year in Lincoln. The office had an open house Sunday and will stay open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. all summer.

## Off The Wire

National and international news  
from the Reuter News Report

## Kidnap threats made in Lebanon

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Classes were suspended and security troops set up a cordon Monday around the American University of Beirut after U.S. intelligence sources warned that pro-Iranian militants are planning mass kidnappings of Americans on and near the city's campus, U.S. sources say they received reports that 100 of the Iranians, with explosives wrapped round their bodies, planned to seize U.S. academics at the university and diplomats at the adjacent U.S. Embassy compound. The university, in Moslem-controlled West Beirut, has 4,000 students enrolled from Lebanon's religious groups. Three American AUB professors have been killed or kidnapped since 1982 and U.S. diplomatic and military installations also have been hit by devastating attacks by Moslem militants. A group known as *Islamic Jihad*, which has claimed responsibility for most of the attacks, has threatened to strike until all Americans and Frenchmen leave Lebanon. But the AUB and Embassy sources said the reported mass kidnap plan was being mounted by another group.

## New abortion method

TOKYO — Doctors at Tokyo University Hospital said Monday they had successfully developed a new method of abortion which induces miscarriage within 24 hours of administration. But the vaginal suppository, Prostaglandin, made from a derivative of prostate gland hormones, has yet to receive full approval from Japan's health ministry. Developed by Ono Pharmaceutical, the suppository is half the length of a matchstick and can terminate pregnancies up to six months after conception, Japan's legal limit for abortion, a doctor at the hospital said. "It is a very promising development as it is simpler and less risky than other methods," he said. "After administration, it melts spontaneously which means a patient can go home, making abortion less traumatic." Chances of infection or other adverse side effects are negligible, "And much less than when the conventional vacuum method is used," he said. Doctors at the hospital said known side-effects are headaches, vomiting and diarrhea. The statistics information bureau reported that 567,539 abortions were carried out in Japan in 1983. A health ministry official declined to reveal the cost of the new suppository but it is believed to be around \$20, compared with around \$500 for a conventional abortion.

## Veterans get tribute

WASHINGTON — President Reagan Monday paid tribute to the dead and missing veterans of the Vietnam War in an elaborate state funeral service interring the war's unknown soldier beside those from three other conflicts. In a brief speech, Reagan said Vietnam's government must account for those Americans still missing in action. In an emotional and somber ceremony, Reagan conferred on the serviceman the country's highest military award — the congressional Medal of Honor. The casket then was interred in a marble monument at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery, carrying the inscription: "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." But Reagan made clear the ceremony would not close the book on an unpopular and divisive war. "A united people call upon Hanoi with one voice... return our sons to America." U.S. involvement in Vietnam drew to a close in 1975 when Saigon was overrun by communists from the north and south. During American participation in the conflict — which the Pentagon says officially lasted from 1961 to 1973 — 58,012 servicemen lost their lives in one of the heaviest war tolls in U.S. history. Another 2,489 are listed as still missing.

## Landslide kills 100

PEKING — At least 100 people were killed by a landslide in Southwestern China that buried buildings and parts of a mine were swept away by torrential rains, the provincial radio reported. The landslide, in Yunnan Province's Dongchuan City, buried a supply and marketing cooperative, a bank and a post office. Dozens of homes were flattened and more than 50 people were hospitalized, the radio reported. In November of 1983, the official Peking Review reported that at least 6,600 people had died in 1983 in natural disasters, which had destroyed important power, mining and factory installations.