

# Paint-A-Thon will provide homes with a fresh coat

By Matt Woody  
Senior Reporter

Some Lincoln residents will see their homes get a needed face lift this weekend.

Forty-five houses around town will get fresh coats of paint Saturday as part of the fifth annual Lincoln Paint-A-Thon, said Marc Wullschleger, the program's corporate liaison.

About 1,300 volunteers from 44 organizations will participate, he said. Paint will be donated by Diamond Vogel Paint Center.

Homes selected for painting must be owned by low-income, elderly or disabled people, Wullschleger said, and, of course, they must need a new coat of paint.

Homeowners must apply in writing, and then a selection team will review applications, he said. If the Paint-A-Thon can't help some homeowners, it often refers them to other agencies.

The program has grown both in number of participants and in homes being painted. Started in Lincoln in 1991 by First Tier Bank, the Paint-A-Thon recoated about 20 houses its first year, Wullschleger said. Four or

five corporate partners are added to the roll each year, he said.

"We've been very fortunate in Lincoln," he said. "A lot of the teams have been in all five years."

Each team assigned to a house Saturday will have about 30 members. With so many people per house, all the painting should be done by noon, Wullschleger said. After Saturday, 208 homes will have been painted through the program.

Homeowners usually are grateful for the painting, he said, because most can't afford to have their houses professionally painted.

"It's just a tremendous personal response we get from the homeowners," he said, ranging from a batch of cookies for workers to keeping in touch with team captains.

Rob Wohlgemuth, manager of Diamond Vogel Paint Center at 5900 S. 57th St., said Diamond Vogel had supplied paint for as many as 15 Paint-A-Thons across the Midwest. About 1,000 gallons of paint will be used this weekend, he said.

With about 80 stores in the Midwest, Diamond Vogel sees Paint-A-Thons as an opportunity to give something back to the communities.

# The fan Fair begins



Harold Borman instructs Brady Kappler, right, and Marv Wiens on which direction to push the tractor in preparation for the Nebraska State Fair, which starts today.

# Festival entertains some change

By Angie Schendt  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska State Fair isn't just carnivals, cows, and concerts anymore.

Changes made in the types of events at the fair — which started today — make it a more diverse festival, said J.P. Palmer, a fair marketing assistant.

The new special events were a joint project between some of the diversity programs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Palmer said.

The first new event is the Celebration of Diversity Festival. It runs all 11 days of the fair, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. The festival will include performances from the Yellow Smoke Drum Group, the White Buffalo Dancers, and Filipino, Vietnamese and Mexican dance groups. A Malay wedding ceremony will also take place.

Also running the length of the fair is the Earth Bound Festival, which will be in Agriculture Hall. An interactive display about the wetlands will be featured.

Another new event added to the fair this year was the Outlaw Truck and Tractor Pull. It will take place at the end of the fair on Sept. 2 at 7 p.m., Sept. 3 at 1 p.m. and Sept. 4 at 3:30 p.m.

There will be a new baby show during the first three days of the fair. The event will be geared toward mothers with young children, with activities for both.

Another different attraction is the ticket prices, Palmer said. The fair will run special deals on certain days. Children 16 and younger will get in free on Kids Day, the first Saturday of the fair.

Instead of the normal ticket price of \$5 a person, the price will be \$5 a carload from Aug. 28 to Aug. 31 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We started selling books because we thought that the overall lower price per concert would make people want to buy them, but people can't go to every concert."

J.P. PALMER

State Fair marketing assistant

"We wanted to encourage people to spend an afternoon at the fair or come with more than one person," Palmer said.

Tickets for concerts originally were being sold this year in books that came with a ticket to every concert.

"We started selling books because we thought that the overall lower price per concert would make people want to buy them," Palmer said, "but people can't go to every concert."

Concert tickets are now being sold individually, she said.

Another change in the concert events is the lineup. Only country-western acts are being offered.

Palmer said that was decided because of the growing popularity of country-western music. Lincoln supports country-western concerts better than other music types, she said.

An all-country lineup hasn't been done for years, she said, and won't necessarily be the way the state fair concerts are planned in the future.

Even the fair dates have changed from years past. The state fair will run today through Sept. 4, from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. Labor Day weekend used to be the first weekend for the fair, but this year it is the last weekend.

That change has affected the 4-H involvement in the fair. Along

with Future Farmers of America, 4-H moved its youth weekend to Labor Day weekend.

"It makes it busy, but we don't want the kids to miss school," said Peggy Jeffries, events coordinator for 4-H.

Other changes in 4-H's involvement include banners hung in the Exhibit Hall instead of booths set up, Jeffries said.

A new exhibit called the Discovery Center will be in the Exhibit Hall. It will be offered today through Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Sept. 1 through Sept. 4 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Extension 4-H Youth Specialists Sandra Stockall and Vickie Greve both co-chaired this exhibit. The hands-on center will be geared toward younger children, Greve said.

Each day, the exhibit will have a different topic and stations dealing with each topic. Themes include farm safety, the environment, cultural awareness and nutrition. Three to four stations will be offered for each topic, Greve said.

Greve said they came up with the idea because most of the exhibits at the fair were just for adults and children to look at.

"We think it is important for kids to get involved, and this is an opportunity for them to do something," she said.

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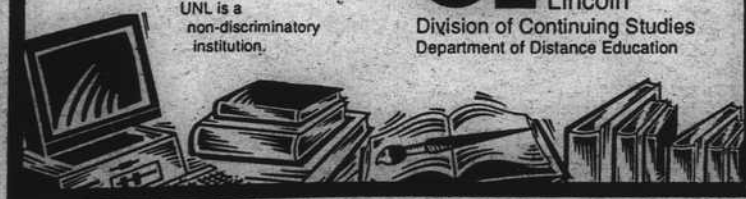
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# NOW to feature Equality Day workshops

By Cliff Hicks  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska chapter of the National Organization for Women will commemorate Equality Day with a series of free workshops.

Four separate sessions are planned at Auld Recreation Center in Antelope Park from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., said Madeline Popa, coordinator of NOW's Lincoln Chapter.

They are: the story of Rhetta Child Dorr; "Women In the Marketplace;" "Making Our Voices Heard;" and "Not For Members Only."

Dorr was a reporter for the New York Evening Post who eventually

became the editor of the Suffragist.

The second session, "Women In the Marketplace," will focus on how women can start and manage their own businesses.

It will be conducted by Kandra Hahn, the Lancaster County Clerk, who is also the co-founder of the Women's Enterprise Fund, a private loan program for helping women in business.

"Making Our Voices Heard," the third session of the day, is about the power of language and the effect it has on making women's voices heard.

This session will be led by Patricia Lahr Smith, Susan Hale and Sheryl Schrepf. Smith is the founder of Ne-

braska Republicans for Choice.

Schrepf has been an executive of several women's organizations over the past 20 years, including three different YWCAs and a battered women's shelter. Hale is the lobbyist for Planned Parenthood of Omaha/Council Bluffs.

The final session of the day, "Not For Members Only," will allow people to inquire about NOW's goals and activities.

Coffee and tea will be served all day, and lunch will be provided with advance reservation for \$4.50 or \$6.50.