

DJ's Bar & Grill is recognized for its August 2009 participation in a statewide fundraising effort for a new Connection Homeless Shelter building in North Platte.

As part of the fundraising effort, DJ's Bar & Grill agreed to collect funds and provide a meal for Shelter Director Ron Snell as he toured the state by bicycle, attempting to stop for a meal on one unique restaurant in each of Nebraska's 93 counties.

During the months prior to Snell's tour, staff at *Nebraska Life Magazine* and The Connection Homeless Shelter accepted restaurant nominations from the public and collaborated with one restaurant in each county.

As the chosen restaurant for Perkins County, DJ's Bar & Grill is recognized in a listing and map of Snell's journey as part of an eight-page story entitled, "One man, his bike and 91 restaurants: A culinary tour of Nebraska."

Snell covered more than 3,1000 miles during his 31-day tour.

On the many restaurants he had the chance to visit, Snell said, "While I expected to enjoy sampling all kinds of food along the way, I didn't expect to be so taken with the people who own and run the restaurants. In town after town, it was clear that the places to eat and drink offer much more than food."

DJ's Bar & Grill's contributions, combined with the contributions of the other participating restaurants around the state, totaled more than \$16,000. Snell's funding drive met its goal and the shelter will open because of it.

Nebraska Life Magazine publishes six issues a year and began more than 12 years ago. It is family-owned by Christopher Amundson and his wife Angela.

More information about the magazine, including more photos and stories, can be found at www.NebraskaLife.com.

Peterson Farm

Another story in the May/June issue of Nebraska Life Magazine features the Peterson farm, south of Ogallala in Perkins County, which is home to the largest private collection of lilacs in the world.

Max Peterson, grandson of Swedish and Bohemian immigrants, began the transformation of the lilac oasis on the family homestead in the 1960s with his wife, Darlene.

The collection has grown to 850 plants, many of which have been created by the Petersons. They have contributed 20 hybrids to the worldwide pool of 3,000 varieties, one of which is included in the private garden of the queen of England.

The Petersons welcome visitors to their garden, located five miles east of Hwy. 61.