



September 6, 2008

McCook Balloon Club, LLC  
P. O. Box 1748  
McCook, NE 69001

Dear Hot Air Balloon Enthusiasts:

Hot air balloon festivals are held annually in many places around the world; but I cannot think of a better place to have one than in my hometown of McCook, Nebraska.

The balloons come in all shapes, sizes and colors; and when they take to the sky, it presents spectators on the ground with a beautiful and spectacular sight.

I can picture them in my mind as the balloons rise gracefully above the Red Willow County Fairgrounds, across the sky with the silence broken occasionally by the "whoosh" of the propane burners as the pilots take their crafts higher and higher.

It is a wonderful sport for participants in the air and spectators on the ground. The McCook Balloon Fest is a great free family event for everyone in the Republican River Valley.

Best wishes for a successful event!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Senator Ben Nelson

EBN:jmc