



# The Witherbee Buzz

Newsletter

Fall 2008

*The Witherbee Neighborhood Association includes the area bounded by 33rd to 56th and Randolph to "O" Streets*

## Photos, Food, Fun, Officer Elections To Highlight Annual Meeting Nov. 6th

No need to cook on Thursday, November 6, just come on over to Tabitha where we will have dinner waiting for you. Let's meet at 6:30 in Tabitha's Lifequest conference room for food and friendship. We will provide a warm dinner including pulled pork chili (an award winning family favorite), and barley soup, hearty and healthy sandwiches, salads, and warm applesauce/spice bar cookies for dessert. Vegetarian fare is included, as well as hot and cold drinks.

For all of you who hope to get to know your neighbors better in your area of the Witherbee neighborhood, this is an opportunity to meet over a cup of hospitality.

Witherbee residents will have a special treat at this meeting. A historical photo slide show, customized for the Witherbee neighborhood, will be presented.



Jon Roth and Dick Rumbolz, local history buffs, realized they had found a photographic "gold mine"

when they were given custody of thousands of historic negatives from the Edholm & Blomgren photo studio. It became apparent to them that many of these these priceless negatives of Lincoln street scenes had not been viewed for decades.



Can you identify this Witherbee location?

Wisely, they decided that the pictures were too valuable to be hidden in storage, and vowed to bring the photos to the residents of Lincoln. They embarked on an ongoing effort to digitize the negatives and show them to local groups.

Their shows have been a big hit with viewers, who

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## WNA to Begin Aging-At-Home Initiative

Word is spreading about the opportunity being offered to our neighborhood and each of us residents. Supported by a get-started grant, WNA is working to establish a program that will help seniors and even younger residents with services that will allow them to remain in their home. For seniors, it could provide services so they would not have to move to an assisted living center or nursing home. For younger residents, it could mean discounts on a wide range of services that could include day-care, lawn and home maintenance, medical needs and more.

Please finish reading this article and then complete the survey that was inserted in this newsletter, or take the survey at [www.witherbeena.org](http://www.witherbeena.org).

In September, the Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA), in partnership with NCB Capital Impact and Tabitha Health Care Services, won a \$17,200 grant from the Cooperative Development Foundation. The grant-funded work will create an organization within WNA, called the Witherbee Village, that will help residents remain in their homes. With the grant award, WNA joins communities nationwide developing Villages; to date, there are 14 Villages operating in seven states. Witherbee Village would be the first such program in the Midwest. Together with the Beacon Hill Village of Massachusetts, NCB Capital Impact will provide technical assistance to create the first operating "Village" in Nebraska. Tabitha is generously donating office space to the WNA Village effort, serving as a strategic partner and providing administrative support.

The Village model is a new, grassroots community ap-

**Continued on page 6**

## About the Witherbee Neighborhood Association

### Boundaries:

33rd to 56th &  
'O' to Randolph Streets

### Meetings:

7:00 p.m. first Thursday of each  
month at Tabitha Lifequest Center,  
48th and J.

### Web Site:

[www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org)

### Executive Board:

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Steve Schwab, Past President  
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## President's Message

What a busy year we have had as an organization! We have people working on Safe Routes Nebraska, school renovation issues for Hawthorne Elementary, Tabitha expansion plans, and creating the Witherbee Village. All of this on top of our regular business and monthly programs as well as appointing an advisory board to get talents our small group needs to succeed. We are still looking for people interested in becoming more active in our neighborhood association. As Mike Fitzgerald once told me "When we all do a little, no one has to do much to accomplish a lot." Please consider attendance at an upcoming event soon and pick out something fun and interesting to you to help with.




Curtis Wood

Neighborhood associations usually get going around some issue. Witherbee became more active because of some runaway development about to ruin the nature of our neighborhood a few years ago, but has kept a focus on proactive projects since defeating that effort. This has led to many opportunities to serve our neighbors in positive ways instead of waiting for something to go wrong. You would be pleasantly surprised at the impact our little group of grassroots people can have upon issues around our city. Together we can make a difference!

I would like to take a little space to highlight our Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA) Vice-President Larry Frisch. He has helped me in many ways this year and month in and month out Larry goes to government groups around town to keep a finger on the pulse of our city and to provide input to the decisions being made about life in Lincoln. The thing he is really superb at is the newsletter. He tirelessly recruits articles of interest, provides the creative layout of the actual newsletter, sells the advertisements, and supervises the production and staging of the newsletters. As I have delivered the newsletters I always get feedback about how much the neighbors appreciate the free little newsletter. Larry takes a postman's holiday when he does the newsletter as he works doing this kind of work for a vocation. It would be easy for him to say he doesn't want to do this kind of work in his spare time but Larry gives willingly. He is much appreciated by everyone who takes part in the activities and reads the news. Thank you Larry for the continued excellence of our little piece of news published for free.

Be sure to read elsewhere in the newsletter about the Witherbee Village we are trying to launch. I think you will find it to be a self-help program we can all get behind and benefit from as good neighbors.



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8 a.m.-6 p.m. M-F  
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# Dec. 4th WNA Town Hall Meeting Will Discuss Witherbee Village

Mark Thursday, Dec. 4 on your calendar to attend WNA's Town Hall Meeting about Witherbee Village. Between now and then the Witherbee Village Steering Committee and representatives from Tabitha Health Care Services and NCB Capital Impact will continue working together to develop the program that will help seniors as well as younger residents in our neighborhood with a wide range of services that will allow them to remain in their home.

The Witherbee Village Town Hall Meeting will be held at the Tabitha Life Quest Center, 48th & J Streets, at 7:00 p.m.

WNA has received a grant and is the first neighborhood in Nebraska or the central United States to establish a Village. For seniors, Witherbee Village programs could provide services so they would not have to move to an assisted living center or nursing home. For younger residents, the program could mean discounts on a wide range of services that could include day-care, lawn and home

maintenance, medical needs and more.

Witherbee Village is not a building. It is a neighborhood based program that provides services you want that help make living in your home easier.

If you are interested in learning more about the services being planned, the Witherbee Village Town Hall Meeting Dec. 4 will be a great opportunity to receive an update on the project and to ask or hear answers to questions about it.

To help tailor the Witherbee Village program to your preferences and to our neighborhood, please complete the post-paid survey that was inserted in this newsletter. You also can complete the survey online at [www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org).

If you have questions contact any of the WNA Board of Directors. Their contact information is available on the WNA website at [www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org), or on page 2 of this newsletter.

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## Nominations Committee Recommendations

Election of WNA board members and officers is held each November as part of the WNA Annual Meeting. In preparation for the election during the meeting on Nov. 6, the Nominations Committee will recommend the following slate of directors and officers. Directors are elected for two-year terms, and in an effort to keep fresh ideas injected into the association's activities, WNA by-laws state that each director can serve a maximum of two terms. While not required by WNA by-laws, the committee strives to maintain a geographic balance of directors across the neighborhood; boundaries are 33rd to 56th and O to Randolph Streets. The committee will recommend that Mary Kay Kreikemeier, 3743 Woods Ave., and Curtis Wood, 342 S. 50th St., be re-elected for their second two-year term. The committee will recommend Nancy Holman, 601 S. 46th St., and Shawn Gordin, 539 S 52nd St., be elected as new directors to the board for their first two-year term.

They would join the following directors who were elected last November for a two-year term. Rick Bagby, 389 S. 47th St.; Larry Frisch, 4105 N St.; Cheryl Hejl, 380 S. 50th St.; Kathy Holland, 501 S. 55th St.; Russell Miller, 341 S. 52nd St.; Steve Schwab, 3510 Woods Ave.; and Karen Vogeley, 3535 Frost Ct. Four of these directors are serving their second two-year term and will be ineligible for re-election next year. The board is looking for people who are interested participating in the camaraderie by joining the board next year. If you or someone you know is interested please contact one of the current board members.

Also at the annual meeting Nov. 6, after directors are elected, WNA members will elect board officers from among the directors. The committee will recommend Curtis Wood be re-elected for a second one-year term as President; Rick Bagby as Vice President; Kathy Holland as Secretary; and Shawn Gordin as Treasurer. Steve Schwab will remain as Past President.

The following directors who are retiring from the board and the committee wishes to thank them for their dedicated service for the benefit of the neighborhood: Mike Fitzgerald, 3794 H St.; Lisa McNeel, 611 S. 34th St.; and Christine Nesmith, 224 S. 40th St.

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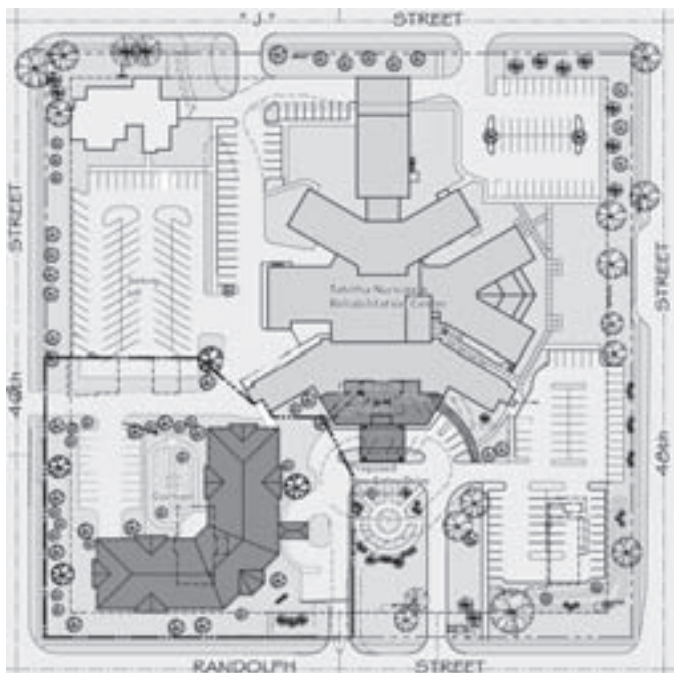
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Drawing of Tabitha Expansion of main campus. The new assisted living building is in lower left corner, and notice that the main entry way will be expanded. Building will be demolished for additional parking in lower right corner.

## Recycling is Rewarding; Record Recovery in Lincoln

Recycling in Lincoln got a lot easier and a whole lot more rewarding thanks to a local company, RecycleLink. In July, RecycleLink rolled out recycling carts to eager recycling customers wanting to do more for the environment. Now they are doing more and doing more than any other community in the nation.

Each household receives a 68 gallon cart equipped with a radio frequency identification (RFID) chip used to identify the cart is weighed when serviced. Each time the cart is dumped it is weighed and recorded to the customers account online at [www.recyclelink.net](http://www.recyclelink.net). Online, the customer can see how many trees and gallons of oil they saved due to their recycling efforts. Additionally, the customer can turn his or her recyclables into rewards at hundreds of national and local retailers.

For every one pound recycled the customer receives 2.5 points into their account. When the customer reaches point levels ranging anywhere from 25 to 100 points they earn discounts at retailers. "Most homes are recycling an average of 25 pounds per house every week, that is over 60 points each week," says Trent Harris, RecycleLink's Operation Manager. Lincoln homes are recycling nearly 100 pounds per month, nearly double that of the national average.

No sorting required. All recyclables including: newspapers, phone books, junk mail, cardboard, cereal boxes, plastics 1, 2, 3, and 5's, aluminum cans, and steel cans can be placed into provided cart as part of the service.

The service costs \$8 per month and RecycleLink is currently offering 2 free months at signup. Interested recyclers can visit [www.recyclelink.net](http://www.recyclelink.net) or call 466-0412 to inquire about the service.

## WNA Monthly Meetings



**AUGUST MEETING**—Many people attended this meeting to learn about pest control projects from Stephen VanTassel. He spoke for over a half an hour, with a presentation on how to determine problems and how to fix them. After that, representatives from Tabitha answered questions about its planned expansion and Kelly Morgan of Sinclair Hille briefly addressed the Safe Routes to School Nebraska as proposed by the Nebraska Department of Roads.



**SEPTEMBER MEETING**—John Carlson, aide to Mayor Beutler in the area of Stronger Safer Neighborhoods, addressed us and displayed current maps that correspond to crime statistics. He also spoke of the 'Healthy Home' initiative, which will seek to establish one judge for housing cases. It could possibly bring on Americorps volunteers and enable the city to provide mini-grants to fix up homes.



**OCTOBER MEETING**—Local candidates for the County Commission spoke and answered questions about their positions on various issues. Candidates Bernie Heier (Rep) and Nancy Intermill (Dem) are running for District 4, and Larry Hudkins (Rep) and Barbara Baier (Dem) are running for District 2.

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Photos courtesy of Dick Rumbolz/Edholm & Blomgren Collection.

## Relive Memories — Discover History Continued from page 1

often are able to identify buildings and people in the photos.

The show will start at 7 p.m., followed by a short business meeting to elect new WNA officers, and informa-

tion about the Witherbee Village project.

Get out and meet others on your block, bring them along to this meeting and see what great projects are being done right here in the middle of Lincoln. The Witherbee Neighborhood Association is well on its way to becoming a “village in Midtown Lincoln”, where we not only get to know one another better but also work together to keep our neighborhood a safe and desirable place to live.

All Witherbee residents are encouraged to attend this meeting. (Membership in WNA is not required to attend any WNA meetings.)

## Wyuka Stables Update



Artist's rendition of renovated Stables

The Stables building at Wyuka Cemetery is located down a slope from the main “O” Street gate, near the bridge at the end of the lake. Built in 1906, the Craftsman-style Stables are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building once housed the horses that performed the heavy work in the cemetery. Oral history accounts tell us that the horses which pulled the first trolley cars out “O” Street rested at the Stables.

The Stables become the “Swan Theatre” every June and September when the Flatwater Shakespeare Company uses the interior courtyard for their acclaimed productions. More than 2000 people attend plays at the Swan each summer. In the past the building has been used for a variety of community events, but this is becoming more difficult because of safety issues.

The renovation of the Stables into a community meeting space has been a goal of the Wyuka Historic Foundation since 1997. An application for federal funding to renovate this historically significant building has been submitted. Wyuka Historical Foundation is asking for community support as we work to save the Stables from total deterioration. Recently, a group of community volunteers painted the woodwork to make the building ready for winter.

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# WNA to Begin Aging-At-Home Initiative Continued from page 1

proach for people who need assistance to remain at home. As self-governing organizations, Villages help elders, as well as younger participants, remain in their neighborhoods and homes by coordinating and delivering programs and services. Members pay monthly or annual dues which cover the costs associated with a one-stop shop for receiving assistance. Village staff, ranging between one to six staff people depending on the Village, coordinate or deliver most any service or type of assistance a member needs. Coordination of needed services through a network of Village-approved contractors is called concierge service. Other services, such as transportation, exercise classes, and volunteer services, are typically delivered by the Village organization. Village membership dues cover the cost of Village coordination of concierge services, services delivered by the Village and reduce the costs of concierge services. Discounts for concierge services, achieved through Village "bulk purchasing," range from 10 to 50 percent for services such as home maintenance, home health care, house keeping, and skilled nursing.

Beacon Hill Village in Boston was among the first established. Its board of directors and founding members feel that the Village is a form of insurance for members and their families. For example, the time may come, when some people will need help and being part of the Village gives members security and enables them to have anything they need when they need it. Also, Beacon Hill Village's younger members join for the concierge services, vendor discounts, community programs and trips. Similarly, the Capitol Hill Village, in Washington, DC, has no age limit and has many members under age 60 join for child care services as well as concierge services and other Village benefits.

## Status of the Witherbee Village Effort

An interim Witherbee Village Steering Committee has been formed to guide the early exploratory and development work. Based on Steering Committee work to date, the Witherbee Village will be open to people of all ages

and has the following draft mission statement, "The Witherbee Village is being established to provide members with the practical means and confidence to live their lives to the fullest within their neighborhood."

Update information on the Witherbee Village effort will be available at the WNA meeting November 6, and Witherbee Village will be the featured topic during WNA's December 4 meeting.

If you have questions contact any of the WNA Board of Directors. Their contact information is available on the WNA website at [www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org).

To learn more about existing Villages, check out the

### How WNA Residents Can Help

Included in this month's newsletter is a one-page, postage-paid, self-addressed Witherbee resident survey on the Village effort.

*Please complete the survey and mail it by November 7, even if you have no interest in the Village.*

You also can complete the survey online at [www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org)

### Get Involved!

If you would like to volunteer with the Village effort please contact any Witherbee Board member. See Page 2 for contact information.

**Attend the WNA Town Hall Meeting Dec. 4th  
At Tabitha, 7 p.m.**

Beacon Hill Village at [www.beaconhillvillage.org](http://www.beaconhillvillage.org) and the Capitol Hill Village at [www.capitolhillvillage.org](http://www.capitolhillvillage.org). For more information on WNA partners in its Village effort, [www.ncbcapitalimpact.org](http://www.ncbcapitalimpact.org) for more information on NCB Capital Impact and, for Tabitha Health Care Services, go to [www.tabitha.org](http://www.tabitha.org).

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# Winter Holiday Lighting To Be Sensational

Why not help make the holiday season a little brighter this year by decorating your home for the winter holidays? And, who knows? Your house might be selected to receive one of our many special recognition designations (otherwise known as "awards"). The main idea is to add a little holiday cheer to the neighborhood in your own special way.

This year we've added some categories so we can spread the cheer even farther! Why not go for one of these?

- ❄ Merry and Bright (LES Loves You Award) for most lights on a single property
- ❄ Block with the Most Homes Decorated (no theme required)
- ❄ Most Creative RE-USE of Material (a recycler's paradise) You might need to call us before the judging and let us know just what you're re-using so we'll know that you're eligible for this one.
- ❄ Kid Friendly Decor
- ❄ Simply Elegant Award
- ❄ Best Monochromatic Award
- ❄ Over the Fence Neighbors Award (3 or more homes on a block with a common theme)
- ❄ Spirit of the Season (religious decor)

- ❄ Hot Air (greatest concentration of decor which is inflated on a single property)
- ❄ The One You'll Be Talking About Tomorrow award
- ❄ And other recognitions as the judges see fit.

A cross sectional, multi-generational, extra sensational panel of judges will be cruising the Witherbee Neighborhood early in the week December 14, 15, or 16 after dark. Check the Witherbee web site for the specific judging date so your property can be adorned in it's holiday finest. <http://www.witherbeena.org/> Recipients for special recognition will receive their awards within a couple days following the judges' neighborhood cruise. Honorees will be posted on the neighborhood website and recognized in the first neighborhood newsletter of the new year.

Call Mary Kay Kreikemeier at 477-9194 or Dee Wood at 817-3809 if you're going for the REUSE of Material award or the Over the Fence Neighbors award so we don't miss your theme or the fact you're re-using materials for your holiday display. If you live a little off the beaten path and want to make sure we see your house, call us as well. Mary Kay and Dee will be Show-Ho-Ho-fer-ing the judges around (driving the van) and will pass your info along to them.

Remember to get your decorations up before it gets too cold! Happy Holidays to You!

## New Arena Will Be Topic At WNA January 8th Meeting

The City of Lincoln is working to redevelop the West Haymarket area and build a new arena to replace the outdated Pershing Center. West Haymarket will be home to an arena that will provide new opportunities for entertainment and sports events including the possibility of serving as the new home of University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) men's and women's basketball.

Financed with public revenues and private investment, West Haymarket will generate significant economic growth for the city of Lincoln. Current estimates show:

- The arena will mean better and more jobs for our workers. During construction there will be 5,000 new jobs and after construction there will be over 350 new permanent jobs.
- It means \$600 million in revenue while it is built and then \$11 million every year after that.

Site design development is underway and a proposed financing plan will be formulated by the end of the year. Come to the January meeting of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association to learn more about the status of the project, but more importantly, to voice your opinion about the proposal and provide valuable input to representatives of the West Haymarket Action Team, who are guiding the development of a final proposal slated to become a ballot issue next spring.

Fall 2008

[www.WitherbeeNA.org](http://www.WitherbeeNA.org)

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Several hundred employees gather to help get the new Hy-Vee ready for opening on Oct 7th.

## Hy-Vee Opening Brings Hundreds of New Jobs to Midtown

Hy-Vee Inc. has opened a new 78,000 square foot supermarket with approximately 400 parking stalls at 50th and O. The new store will be more than double the size of the aging Hy-Vee store at 70th and “O” streets, which it replaced.

“It has also been great to see all of the job opportunities that have been created.”, according to Frank Woodward, store Director, “Our Hy-Vee family has grown to over 450 members. The number one characteristic we look for in all of our people is the passion to give great customer service to each and every one of our customers. We are very proud to be a part of the community and we all look forward to providing you with the best shopping experience possible.”

The new store caters to the latest in shopping trends and services, including one-hour and digital photo, drive-up pharmacy, a variety of dining opportunities, an attached wine and spirits store and an in-store bank. There will be expanded departments of fresh-cut meat, organic produce and Health Market products, gourmet salads and desserts, Chinese Express, salad bar, fulltime Dietitian, fulltime Chef and much more. The store also will feature a Hy-Vee Clubroom for classes and meetings, and a baby department that includes organic and natural products, plus a variety of equipment and toys.

“The process of opening our new store has been very

exciting. There are so many opportunities that have been created with our new facility. It is extremely fulfilling to be able to care for our customers and be able to offer you a great shopping experience. The job opportunities that have been created in our community have been just as fulfilling.” Mr. Woodward stated.

A storm sewer improvement project has been done north of the new store site to help prevent localized flooding and 50th Street will be constructed to connect “O” to “R” Street. Completion of this street will improve traffic circulation in the 48th and “O” street area and improve access to Hy-Vee and other local businesses in the area.

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## HANDS ON/HELP OUT

LINCOLN PARKS & RECREATION



Volunteers included (front) Steve Schwab, Josh McCluskey, Tom Vandenack, (standing) Aletha Piepko, Leon Piepko, Kathy Frey, Alicea McCluskey, Sharon Vandenack, and Christine Nesmith.

### Hands On Help Out for Stuhr Park Completed

The Lincoln Parks & Recreation Hands On Help Out Program provided an opportunity for nine Witherbee neighborhood volunteers to do some necessary ground maintenance work in Stuhr Park on Saturday, October 18th.

Volunteers started to gather at Stuhr Park at 8:30 am and began mulching park trees, between 'M' and 'L' Streets. By 9 am, good teamwork was in action as some filled wheelbarrows with wood chips, others hauled the chips to individual trees and others spread the mulch.



All the park trees in this area of Stuhr Park were mulched within two hours, thanks to this dedicated group of volunteers. Collectively, 30 hours of labor was provided by these residents of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association, which equates to \$540 of donated labor.

Braeda® Fresh Express Café at 4901 'O' Street was the corporate sponsor again for this event. Coffee, juice and their delicious Miller-Paine cinnamon rolls were provided to WNA at no cost and of course were enjoyed by all whom participated. Runza National and Braeda® again deserve a "thank you" for doing this, as they have done numerous times in the past for WNA. Please remember to patronize these local businesses on 'O' Street in midtown Lincoln when you have the chance.



## Hawthorne Renovation Approved

At its October 14th meeting the LPS School Board approved construction projects for 11 schools, including Hawthorne. Renovations to Hawthorne will include indoor air quality work. Although no decision has been made as to how the building will be used, Board member Prettyman indicated that renovations made to the Hawthorne building will not change its character as an elementary building.

As a part of the Ten-year Facilities Plan annual review, the Board's Planning Committee (Prettyman, Zimmer, Meginnis) recommended the completion of 11 projects, costing 82 million dollars. The cost of renovations to Hawthorne is estimated at about 5 million. The projects will be financed from a number of sources, including savings on current construction projects which are under budget.

At the Sept. 23rd Board Meeting when the facilities plan was introduced, Mark Shepard, Associate Superintendent for Business Affairs, commented that although Hawthorne was not originally on the list of projects to be completed, it was added. He indicated that renovations will keep Hawthorne in good condition for several possible District purposes. WNA president, Curtis Wood, spoke in favor of renovating Hawthorne during the public comment section of the Sept. 23rd meeting.

LPS staff will review possible uses for Hawthorne and report this to the Board. Work to renovate Hawthorne could occur as early as the 2009-2010 school year.

# RECYCLELINK

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- › 2 months free @ Signup

**For Service call 466.0412 or  
Visit [www.RecycleLink.net](http://www.RecycleLink.net)**



## 42 & O'HAIR COLLECTING FOR THE FOOD BANK

42nd & O'Hair Salon, at 42nd & O, has a history of 24 years' service to the community. Owner, Mary Schwab, has lived in the Witherbee area for 39 years and is proud of the nine experienced stylists' excellent reputation for care and concern. O'Hair is inviting others to join us in collecting food for the Food Bank's Backpack Program.

In 2007, Anita Eastman, one of the 9 stylists at 42nd & O'Hair, suggested that we dedicate our Christmas giving to the Lincoln Food Bank's Backpack Program. Our Christmas tree became a "giving tree" and our clients were offered \$1 off of their service each time they brought in a donation. We extended the program through January 2008. Together with our loyal clients, we were able to send 370 pounds of food to the Lincoln Food Bank.

This year we extended the hand of shared service. A letter of invitation has gone out from 42nd & O'Hair to over 130 beauty salons in the city of Lincoln and surrounding areas asking that they join us in Salon Professionals Against Hunger. All salons that will be joining us will collect food for the Lincoln Food Bank. There will be an article in the Neighborhood Extra and the Witherbee Association newspapers announcing the food drive by Salon Professionals Against Hunger and a follow-up letter announcing the total pounds of food collected. Look for the results in the next Witherbee newsletter. Together, we will make a greater difference for Lincoln's children.

This year we will be filling TWO Christmas trees with food and personal care products. Please stop by and see our success, visit with the stylists, and drop off your donations.

42nd & O'Hair is proud to be a member of The Witherbee Association in Midtown Lincoln. Join us in our effort to help others.

## New Landscape for Eastridge

As you have probably noticed, Eastridge will be getting a new landscape! Some trees were removed during the renovation process of the past few years. PTO formed a Landscape Committee to help replace the trees and enhance the front of the school for the benefit of the children, families, staff members and neighbors.

- A grant awarded by the **Community Enhancement Program** has provided more than \$12,000 in funding for the landscape to replace the trees lost and to plant many more.
- Donations from many **Eastridge families, neighbors and staff members** helped to match the grant, contributing more than \$2,000.
- **Family and friends of Mary Finke** have honored her memory by a generous contribution of \$1,500. Mary Finke was an educator and an Eastridge parent who devoted many hours of volunteering to the school while her children attended Eastridge. Plantings in the northeast corner are dedicated to her memory and marked by a special sign.
- **Finke Gardens and Nursery** also has made a significant donation of labor to help make this project possible.

Many studies have shown the benefit of a natural environment on learning. The school yard will benefit from improved air quality, protection from solar UV radiation, and wind protection that full-grown trees will provide. Some studies have shown reduced rates of asthma in neighborhoods with many trees. The diversity of trees, shrubs and grasses will encourage beneficial birds and insects. And, the many parents, grandparents, and siblings who wait in the hot sun for their school children will now have a shadier place to wait.

All plants have been carefully selected for their hardiness. Eventually they will be able to live and thrive on their own with very little maintenance. To successfully establish these plants we will need to water them during this fall, next spring, and a few times next summer. If your family, youth group or civic group would like to volunteer for a week or month to water the trees, please contact Becca Jewell at 465-0604. Your help would be greatly appreciated!



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## 37<sup>th</sup> & H Streets Hold First Potluck

The homemade food, fresh air and the opportunity to visit with friends and meet neighbors was a combination that attracted more than 60 residents of all ages to the first 37th and H Streets Potluck that was held Sept. 14.

Rainy weather earlier in the week moved out, replaced with cool breezes and mostly sunny skies for the multi-block potluck. Before the eating and visiting commenced, neighbors introduced themselves and told how long they have lived in the neighborhood and how many pets they keep. Prizes were awarded to those who have lived here the longest, the shortest and to the person with the most pets. Appropriate for the tree-lined streets of the neighborhood, the winners received a bundle of paper leaf sacks. Lucia Demma was winner for living here 50 years. Dan Roman, Emma Frost-Briley and Abby Sadlecek were winners for moving here three weeks prior to the neighborhood get together. A bundle of sacks was also presented to the runners up in the newest to the neighborhood category, Brad and Cara Wogsland, and their children Alora, Brittan, Maxwell and Zara. Having moved here just three months earlier from Tennessee, a snow shovel might have been a better gift for the Wogslands. And Nancy Shelley was a winner in the most pets category, with 15 cats.

The group anticipates holding the second annual Potluck again next September, hoping for a repeat the good fortune of pleasant fall weather.



## Safe & Sound

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# WNA Calendar

**All WNA membership meetings are held the first Thursday of each month 7:00 P.M. at Tabitha's LifeQuest Center.**

*(Please note that membership is Not required to attend WNA meetings.)*

**Tuesday, November 4,** General Election

**Thursday, November 6,** WNA Annual Meeting **6:30 p.m.** at Tabitha LifeQuest Center. Jon Roth and Dick Rumbolz will show historical photos at **7 p.m.** Food, Refreshments, snacks, and socializing. Election of officers.

**Saturday, November 10,** Village Workshop in Boston. Representatives from Witherbee will attend.

**Thursday, December 4,** 7 p.m. Town Hall Meeting at Tabitha to survey service needs of our neighborhood for Witherbee Village.

**December 14-17,** Holiday Light Judging. Exact day to be determined later.

**Thursday, January 8th,** 7 p.m. West Haymarket Arena update and comments. (Notice that this is second Thursday of month—meeting moved because of holiday).

**January 16th,** Deadline for Winter Edition of *Witherbee Buzz* content.

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WNA wishes to thank Tabitha  
for being a great neighbor and providing  
meeting space for us each month.  
We appreciate it.

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Paula Bowers, Dr. Jacobson, and Tricia Stanczyk

## September Yard Of The Month

Dr. Jeff Jacobson, DVM of Veterinary Clinic, P.C. of 4145 'O' st. was the recipient of the September Yard of the Month. Dr. Jacobson says credit for the clinic's beautifully landscaped yard goes to his wife, Pam Jacobson. Pam must have spent many hours planning and planting the clinic's landscape and it shows. Residents of the neighborhood will often see Pam and her husband working on the landscape on Sunday afternoons.

Dr. Jacobson's Clinic is located in a lovingly renovated older home. Pam's use of plant material stayed true to the old-fashioned front porch. She used shrub roses covered with many pink blooms. She also planted hydrangeas. These shrubs flower summer - fall and give winter interest too if left on the stem. Pam also planted ninebark 'Diablo' bushes. This shrub's foliage holds an attractive reddish-purple color all summer and fall. The porch itself was set off with hanging baskets overflowing with annual flowers.

The Clinic's entry and parking area plantings were also well thought out. Water conserving plants such as rock cotoneaster and little bunny grass were planted. Plants were mulched with shredded bark to reduce water needs. This is a well thought out, water-conserving landscape with the right plants for the right place.

## August Yard Of The Month

Jane Wilhelm of 3333 Woods Ave. received the August Yard of the Month. Jane's front yard is landscaped with many perennial flowers and ornamental grasses. Bee-balm, daylilies, plumbago and sand love grass are among the many plants providing seasonal color from late spring into summer. Hibiscus with dinner-sized blooms add drama while annual flowers add a punch of color to Jane's yard in late August.

One of Jane's challenges is the hot, western sun exposure her yard receives late afternoon into evening. She said her best gardening defense is to plant hardy perennial flowers such as daylilies and to mulch.



## Annual WNA Pool Party and Ice Cream Social Held August 10th

Throughout the day, during a summer full of rain, the mercury pushed higher and made ice cream a great menu choice for all who participated at the second annual Witherbee Pool Party and Ice Cream Social on August 10. We had more attendees than last year, making it another success for us. WNA thanks all who attended and those who planned, purchased and served, and especially Super Saver, 48th and O, for donating all 14 gallons of ice cream.

Over 200 people showed up to have conversations, play games, launch water balloons and eat ice cream with several kinds of toppings. Singles attended, couples at-

tended, and families came with children, sometimes lots of children.

There were those who were so young that only these pictures or those taken by their parents will remind them that they attended. All residents within our neighborhood were welcome to the free event.

The weather, the crowd, the games, the ice cream – everything came together perfectly. One hour after the event a large rain storm appeared, cleaning up the park and watering our gardens.

### You are invited to be a member of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St.: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Contributions of \$35.00 or more will receive a **tax deductible receipt**.)

**Mail to:**

Karen Vogeley, 3535 Frost Ct., Lincoln, NE 68510

#### Membership Categories:

___ Single .....	\$10.00
___ Family .....	\$15.00
___ Senior Family .....	\$10.00
___ Additional Household Member .....	\$ 5.00
___ Sponsor .....	\$35.00
___ Benefactor .....	\$50.00 & up
___ Business .....	\$40.00

Benefits of membership: (besides being in the loop of things)

Single – one vote; Family – two votes, one per person; Se-

nior Family – same as Family; Additional Household Mem-

ber -one vote; Sponsor – up to three votes, one per person;

Benefactor – same as sponsor and listed in newsletter once

Business – one vote as per bylaws, reduced ad costs, one free

listing in newsletter, and an ad on our web site.

# The Home is a Time Capsule, part II

By Bridget Fitzgerald

*Buzz* readers may remember that the summer issue included an article about while daydreaming and looking out my bedroom window I noticed an inscription upon the window frame. The observation led to discovering a larger pane of history pertinent to our neighborhood and to Lincoln.

That article ended with the mention that in January 1894 Curtis Bros. & Co. opened a branch in Lincoln for the distribution of its woodworks and windows products. It was under the management of Paul Bartlett and in 1897, the Lincoln operation became a separate company known as Curtis & Bartlett Co.

1894 was a very significant year for the state of Nebraska in that, according to a August 5, 1894 New York Times article, there was a great drought.

The company is an excellent example of the industrial diversification that was taking place at its headquarters in Clinton, Iowa as the lumber industry was declining.



In addition to making the various wood components necessary for house construction, the Curtis Service Bureau began publishing the Better Built Homes catalogs which featured plans which could be ordered by mail. New York architects Trowbridge and Ackerman designed a series of small houses for the Curtis catalogs. Each could be built of standard materials in stock sizes, including of course, Curtis Woodwork.

In the middle of the Great Depression Curtis introduced the "Silentite" double hung window, which it claimed was the first major improvement in double hung windows in over a century. The company was one of the first to set up extensive research and development departments. When aluminum and stainless steel began to replace wooden building materials, demand for Curtis products dropped. But the end of the company was caused not by competition, but by nature. In 1965 the Mississippi River flood waters swept through the plant, damaging buildings and materials. In 1966, after a century of doing business, the company closed. It is painfully ironic that the Curtis Company in the Midwest went from thriving in a drought to destroyed in a flood.

This bit of history time capsuled in my window means the Curtis Silentite, double sash windows in homes here have seen a minimum of 68 years of sunrises. I hope the houses and the windows of the neighborhood last long enough to see, at the very minimum, 68 years more of breathtaking sunrises and the daydreamers that watch them.

# Why Should I Vote?

In his Gettysburg Address, Abraham Lincoln called democracy "government of the people, by the people and for the people." It means that we are not here to serve our government, but that our government is here to serve us — and we have the right to decide who will represent us and how we want to be represented. It means that we have one of the greatest rights any free people can have: the right to vote.

Maybe you're asking yourself, "With all the millions of people who vote in any given election, does my vote really count?" Or perhaps you feel like you can't really make a difference, so why bother? The truth is that your vote does count and you do make a difference every time you vote!

Your Witherbee Neighborhood Association consists of 4 precincts plus a small part of another precinct. In the last election there were 2,660 persons that were registered in Witherbee. You, and your neighbors have enough collective votes to influence local elections in a big way.

Your vote makes local politicians pay attention to Witherbee. They need your vote, and they focus attention on high voter turnout areas, so encourage your neighbors to vote also.

Vote because you care about your community. Vote because you believe in free government and want to add your voice. Vote because it will make you feel good to participate and have a say. Vote because it's the right thing to do!

Voter information can be found at [www.ci.lincoln.en.us/cnty/election](http://www.ci.lincoln.en.us/cnty/election).



Monthly picnics at Sthur Park have been enjoyed by many Witherbee neighbors this summer. The last one was October 5th, and they will resume next May.



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# Bicycling Could Be Good For You And Your Pocketbook

As the price of gasoline rises, many people are thinking about alternatives to driving. This is a great time to consider using your bicycle as transportation—to work, to the store, to the park! If your first reaction is “I can’t do that,” then read on. Several of your neighbors already ride to work every day—and we’re not supermen! We’re ordinary people—librarians, even!

## Consider all the benefits:

**Environment:** While biking, you don’t contribute to global warming or congestion, or using up natural resources—or creating noise or potholes! A short four-mile bicycle ride keeps 15 pounds of pollutants out of the air (Worldwatch Institute). AND you can hear the birds, see your neighbors and their flowers, and feel the breeze on your face!

**Exercise:** What a great way to get your daily exercise! It takes no extra time, it’s low-impact, and appropriate for all ages. Some days you may not feel like a workout, so you can take it easy. Other days you may want more, so you can ride faster, or take a longer route. You’ll feel energized when you get to work, and you can use the ride home as a chance to de-stress. Doctors recommend at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise most days of the week—riding to work will do that for you!

**Saving money:** Beyond the obvious savings on gas, you’ll probably save on parking. The less you drive, the less wear and tear on your car, so there may be lower maintenance costs and depreciation. Did you know that most insurance companies have lower premiums for low-mileage drivers, and for those who don’t drive to work or school? In the long term, you may save on healthcare costs, due to improved physical condition!

**Fun:** Remember the feeling of freedom you had when you were a kid with your first bike? You can have it again—every day!

## Now let’s consider the objections:

Too dangerous? Not so! Studies have shown that if you bike following the rules of the road, and ride carefully, you’re twice as likely to have an accident in your automobile than on a bicycle! (And that’s for an equal amount of time in each.) Lincoln motorists are careful and courteous (you’re a careful motorist, aren’t you?!)

It takes too long to bike to work? For people in our neighborhood, it takes hardly longer to bike than to drive to most locations in Lincoln.

You get to work all hot and sweaty? Yes, summer in Lincoln is hot. But most of us can wash off in a restroom and change clothes, if need be.

There’s no place to put your bike at work? Most places have bike racks or a tree or a railing nearby. Some workplaces will allow bikes inside. Ask management about it.

You’re out of shape? You can ride slowly—and work

up to longer distances.

Here are a couple of websites you can go to for information:

--The League of American Bicyclists---[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

--Bicycling Life—[www.bicyclinglife.org](http://www.bicyclinglife.org)

--Paul Dorn’s Guide to Commuting--[www.runmuki.com/commute](http://www.runmuki.com/commute)

By Bob Boyce, with material by Todd Kellerman.

## Street Tree Voucher Program

The City of Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department offers a cost-share assistance program, when funding is available, to property owners in Lincoln who desire to purchase and plant a street tree (s) on the city right-of-way adjacent to their property.

Limited funding is currently available and interested property owners in the Witherbee neighborhood can contact the Forestry Section of the Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department at 441-7035 to provide the address of their property where they are interested in possibly having a street tree(s).

Forestry Section personnel will then check addresses to see if there is adequate room to plant street tree(s) and to accommodate their development and anticipated mature size.

The correct determination of street tree type(s) and planting location(s) will be done by Forestry and a no-fee street tree planting permit will be issued, which is good for one year. A Street Tree Voucher will also be issued with each street tree planting permit. The voucher will have a specified redeemable value of \$50.00 for each street tree(s) specified on street tree planting permit.

The voucher may be redeemed by it’s recipient at designated local participating tree nurseries toward the purchase and/or planting of street tree(s) specified on the street tree planting permit and in accordance with the Street Tree Voucher Program requirements and restrictions. Voucher is also good for one year.



For your best performance, call Tabitha.



486-8559 (800) 418-9335 [Tabitha.org](http://Tabitha.org)

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LU 2806

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**MONTH THREE**

LU 2807

Hy-Vee. RX# \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**\$25 GIFTCARD**

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