

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

Public Officials To Gather For Citizen Visits Jan. 30th

Have you ever grumbled about something happening in Lincoln? Or wondered how to make your input on public issues count? Do you have concerns about taxes, schools, quality of life, street and sidewalk repair, or public services like parks and libraries? The Lincoln Neighbor-

John Chapo from Lincoln Children's Zoo To Present at February 4th Meeting



WNA has invited John Chapo from the Lincoln Children's Zoo to present some glimpses of the upcoming season for the Children's Zoo located at 1222 S 27th Street in Lincoln. John will share some of the rich history, high standards, community outreach, conservation work and a glimpse into what is new for 2010. The Children's Zoo offers wonderful programs where city kids can learn firsthand about critters that are cared for at the Zoo. The experience teaches them about volunteering in their

John Chapo

communities as well as the care of the wild things we may only see in movies and television. Not all the animals are exotic, but the Zoo presents them in a way that is sure to entertain all ages. The Zoo's motto is "To enrich lives through firsthand interaction with living things."

John has been President and CEO since April of 1986. He previously was with the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana where he began as a volunteer in 1972 and worked his way to the position of director. He has degrees in Business Management & Administration and Public & Environmental Affairs as well as a Certificate in Wildlife Conservation & Captive Mgt. & Propagation from Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, Channel Islands, Great Britain. John volunteers extensively in local and national associations that deal with zoos as well as community

Continued on page 15

Money-Saving Coupons In this issue are located on Pages 3, 5, 8, 9. hood Alliance (LNA) is again sponsoring an event to help you make your voice heard.

LNA's annual "Talk to Your Public Official" event provides an open forum for citizens to have face-to-face conversations with their public representatives. A broad cross section of officials will be on hand including the mayor, state senators, school board and city council members.

"LNA is dedicated to offering opportunities for voters to participate in the process of government," explains LNA President Russell Miller.

The event is structured to give participants five minutes of open discussion time with the official of their choice. Participants may have multiple sessions with each official, and may speak to as many as they choose.

"The goal of Talk to Your Public Official is to provide our elected officials with the information they need to do a better job representing all of Lincoln's taxpayers, which we believe will lead to a stronger city," says Miller.

During the event, LNA will also present their Neighborhood Hero Award at 3:00 pm. This award recognizes local individuals, organizations, or businesses that have made a significant positive impact within Lincoln neighborhoods.

Talk to Your Public Official is a free, open event and will be held Saturday, January 30 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Calvert Recreation Center, 4500 Stockwell Street.



Proposed Arena will be topic of Witherbee meeting on March 4th. This view is from the North. See Page 3 for additional details.

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

Executive Board:

Rick Bagby, President 488-8567 witherbeerick@gmail.com

Bryan (Bo) Dowling, Vice President 488-4195

Cheryl Hejl, Secretary 489-2557

Shawn Gordin, Treasurer 326-2563 sgordin2@yahoo.com

Curtis Wood, Past President 817-3809 cwood57@neb.rr.com

Additional Board Members:

Jason Brummels jason@drivemethod.com	730-5855
Nancy Holman nholman@neb.rr.com	488-6847
Mike Jahnke mdeljah@yahoo.com	484-8975
Mary Kay Kreikemeir mkk@windstream.net	477-9194
Tony Marquez netonym@windstream.ne tmarquez@tmcoinc.com	435-3009 et
Mary Schwab ohair42@aol.com	440-4131
Laura Wiese dorbaroy@hotmail.com	617-6024
Newsletter Editor: Larry Frisch larry@npcenter.com	486-9380
Web Development: Fred Freytag fred@witherbeeNA.org	430-6658

President's Message

A new year and a new decade.

We build on the efforts, trials and tribulations of those who came before us.

We are guided by their efforts even as we move into a new time.

Witherbee is going places. Will you be along for the ride, or sit back and watch as we shape the neighborhood? We try to make it easy and fun. Watch for us soon on Facebook. Please mail in the form on page 16 along with your dues. We hope you join in.



Rick Bagby

Year-end wrap-up:

Thank you to the Witherbee board members who recently completed their terms. Your work is still felt in the organization, and will be for years. Your continuing involvement even after board service shows dedication and caring. Larry Frisch, Karen Vogeley, Russell Miller, and Steve Schwab – Thank You.

Thank You as well to past-president Curtis Wood who lead us the last two years through a five-fold expansion of membership. Congratulations to all the award winners in the Holiday Lighting contest. The lights were especially beautiful this year with the snow to enhance the holiday scene.

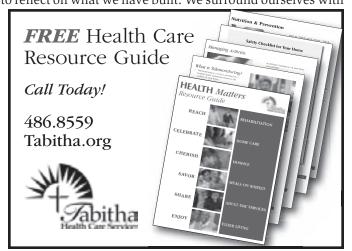
What is ahead for Witherbee?

You decide. We have in-progress the playground and improvements to Witherbee Park at 46th & O. We will soon complete our IRS tax-exempt filing. We have several new opportunities coming up, including bringing the Hawthorne school building back to life as LPS moves the Bryan Community alternative high school into the building. What might be the role of the neighborhood in welcoming this award winning program into our midst? You will decide.

Will there be another springtime neighborhood cleanup? Garage sales? Summer pool party? Yard of the Month? These programs we did in the past do not automatically renew. You choose. Get involved or watch from the sidelines, either way you decide.

Why get involved? Together we build the life we desire. We saw that spirit in many ways in the recent winter weather. The neighbor who plowed the alley, who scooped out stuck cars, who used the snowthrower on walks and drives for the whole block. The neighbor who knocked on the door to see that you were OK. It is a good time to reflect on what we have built. We surround ourselves with

the civic structure of our choosing. Cooperation and togetherness or isolation? Together we all determine the character of the place we live. Each time we take action or do not take action, we decide how life in Witherbee flows. Join us. Have a voice. Make a difference.



Winter 2010



Dan Marvin to Address Your Arena Questions at March 4th WNA Mtg.

A vote on the Lincoln Haymarket Arena is slated to be part of the State Primary Election ballot on May 11, 2010. The project as proposed has been developed through an extensive process of community engagement, several studies and taskforce research. If approved by the voters



Dan Marvin, Project Manager for the Lincoln Haymarket Arena, will be at the March meeting of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association to discuss the details of the project, projected timeline and answer your questions. Winter 2010 in May, a new development in the area west of the current Haymarket will become the home to:

- 16,000 seat arena (w/ University of Nebraska-Lincoln basketball anchor tenant)
- Breslow Ice Center
- 200-room Hotel
- New places to eat and shop: 100,000 sq ft retail, 100,000 sq ft office
- 100 apartments and condosPublic Gathering
- Space
- Festival Space

And the parking and infrastructure required to support all of the above. According to an economic analysis conducted in May 2009, the project will create almost 8,000 jobs during the three years of construction while the arena is being built. In the future, the Lincoln Haymarket Arena project will add more than 1,000 permanent jobs at the arena and in the surrounding retail, commercial and residential area.

The Lincoln Haymarket Arena, together with the ice center, recreation fields, hotel, new shops, restaurants, and other development, will bring in new events and will generate more than \$260 million of economic activity in our commu-

nity each year.

Importantly, the Lincoln Havmarket Arena will be built without increasing property taxes. Instead, а public-private partnership, including significant private donations, will fund the arena project. A majority of the revenues needed for the project are provided through private donations, investment and non-Lincoln residents.



Baked & Deli Sandwiches Espresso & Coffee - Breakfast

Good at the 48th & O location only. Expires 4/30/10.







Everyone Enjoys 2009 WNA Annual Meeting

Every year the neighborhood association sets up its annual meeting in various ways to attract many people and give them great information and fun. This year we focused on things to have people look, listen and learn while eating great food. Attendees enjoyed everything and stayed around over the last half hour to vote for the new board members and officers.

People knew they could come to Tabitha early to access food for dinner before the meeting started. Along the hallway to the meeting room, they saw that tables were set up with many items for dinner. There was different varieties of chili to eat with salad, sandwiches, desserts and beverages for all. Mary Schwab organized this and several volunteers came to Tabitha in the afternoon to help her set it all up for the attendees, who could fill their plates, sit



Jon Roth and Mary Jane Nielsen provided entertainment.



1024 "K" STREET • LINCOLN, NE 68508 E-MAIL: ED@CADALAW.COM OFC: 402-477-2233 FAX: 402-477-2286 WWW.CADALAW.COM down in the room to eat and talk and look ahead for the entertainment.

John Roth returned to show another 'Look Back', similar to what he did last year, now concentrated on 'The Things We Did for Entertainment'. Many pictures were shown, with description about them, and response from the audience.

For the election, voters approved to have current board member and vice president Rick Bagby as the new president, Bo Dowling as a new board member and vice president, and Cheryl Hejl, elected to second term and approved as secretary. New board members are Mary Schwab, Laura Wiese, Mike Jahnke and Tony Marquez. Returning board members are Jason Brummels, Nancy Holman and Mary Kay Kreikemeir.



Last through the excellent buffet line was Mary Schwab, food director.



www.WitherbeeNA.org

Winter 2010

Adventures in Snow Traveling

By Curtis Wood

Frustrating snow experience highlights the value of neighbors.

A winter storm with a Nebraska vengeance began on Tuesday, December 15th. I decided to leave work early in an attempt to beat some of the snowfall – it was the heaviest I had seen in my five years in Lincoln. I made it within three blocks of my house when my two-wheel drive pickup lost momentum and got stuck in a drift at 52nd and M Streets. I later learned the intersection to be particularly troublesome in snow events, according to neighbors.

I called my wife for the number to a tow service and made arrangements for a tow to come get me out. Not content to just sit and wait, I resumed trying to dislodge myself from the snowdrift. As I fruitlessly rocked back and forth, a neighbor appeared at my aid. Neighbor #1 gave me a push while the tires spun. (My truck is terrible in wet grass so the snow was impossible, even with my volunteer pusher.) I thanked the anonymous man for the effort and decided to seek a shovel in order to dig through the snowdrifts piled around me.

Hoping to borrow a shovel, I approached a nearby house with its porch light on. Neighbor #2 had just finish scooping her driveway and had a shovel conveniently beside her door. By the time I got back to my truck, the woman had dispatched her son (neighbor #3) with another shovel to help me dig out of the drift. We struggled for several minutes together and cleared a path for each tire, but once again the traction was not enough to get me moving. He saved me a trip to return the shovel, as he went back home with my gratitude.

Next in my snow adventure, my truck died while trying to rock out of the snow banks and failed to restart. Neighbor #4 came out to check on me and when he learned my newest problem, brought a portable jump-start device that successfully got me restarted. He also volunteered to help push me, although without success again. I was quickly losing my White Christmas spirit.

About this time neighbor #5 offered to pull me home with his four-wheel drive truck. He asked if I had a tow truck coming and I answered that I did. "Call him off!" the neighbor said, as he would get me out without the expense. We tore up his tow strap trying to get me out, but were only able to move my truck one block closer to home. This time my truck was stuck in a low-lying storm drain inlet on M Street. Snow was still coming down when once again I thanked my benefactor for his efforts, promising myself to replace the tow strap we had damaged.

It had been about an hour and a half since I had first gotten stuck, so once more I called the tow service. The driver called back saying it would be about twenty minutes before he would arrive. I decided to stop my struggles as I had been out in the weather quite awhile. Neighbor #6 called to me from their front door and invited me in to warm up. I enjoyed some hot cocoa and neighborly hospitality while I waited.

When the tow truck arrived, the driver tried unsuccessfully to pull me out of the hole I was in. Honorary neighbor #7 (since he didn't live nearby) wanted to avoid charging me for a two-block tow. Success was not to be had as the traction was still deteriorating due to continued snowfall, of course. The driver hooked my truck up for a full tow and delivered me to my driveway no less than two hours after my ordeal had begun.

In total I had received seven different attempts to aid my journey home in one block of travel. This is a real testimony to the type of neighbors we have in Witherbee. All volunteered when they saw the need; no requests were necessary on my part. I know that kind acts like these happen all the time in our neighborhood. It is just one of the many things that make Witherbee a great place to live. I hope everyone has the good fortune to experience the neighborliness of Witherbee without the threatening conditions I faced that evening. Thank you to all the anonymous people who helped me that night. And yes, the tow strap was replaced and the fellow attempted to give me the old one for emergencies in my future. He knows my truck now.



www.WitherbeeNA.org

Postcard Survey Indicates Witherbee Gardening Interest

Whether due to health concerns, a limited grocery budget, or the fun of working in dirt, interest in gardening is increasing. A recent gardening poll reveals that Witherbee residents are helping set this national trend for backyard gardening.

Approximately 70 people responded to the gardening survey sent in last fall's issue of *Witherbee Buzz*. Fourty-four respondents already grow some of their own produce. And 49 people said that they would like to grow more or begin gardening. The two biggest barriers to growing food for Witherbee neighbors are space (n = 30) and time (n = 35). Other people are not certain about where and when to plant (n = 16). More than half of respondents said they would be interested in a gardening workshop. Close to 30% of people wish they had a gardening mentor, and 43% said they would be willing to share their expertise with others.

Over half of survey respondents indicated interest in co-op selling of their extra produce at a local market. According to UNL graduate student Courtney Quinn, who initiated the survey, "getting more local produce to families in Lincoln would greatly improve both environmental and human health."

The survey was part of a UNL student grant proposal aimed at creating a program to help backyard gardeners. The proposal will be part of the National Sustainable Design Expo in Washington D.C. April 22-25 where it will compete for \$75,000. Should the UNL project win, students will use the money to implement their program design, offering gardening classes, mentors, and access to gardening equipment to interested community members.

If you have any questions about the survey, the results, or the EPA grant that funded the project, please contact Courtney Quinn, agricultural leadership, education, and communication at UNL, (402) 480-2088 or courtney_quinn@yahoo.com.



Why Do We Join The Witherbee Neighborhood Association?

- We Don't Buy A Newspaper—We Buy The News!
- We Don't Buy Life Insurance—We Buy Security!
- We Don't Buy Glasses—We Buy Vision!
- We Don't Buy Awnings—We Buy Shade!
- We Don't Buy Membership In WNA—We Buy The Cooperation Of The People In The Neighborhood With Whom We Can Join Hands To Do The Things We Can't Do Alone!!!

Special Olympics 2010 National Games In Lincoln—WNA Volunteers Needed

Special Olympics has announced Lincoln, Nebr. as the site for its 2010 USA National Games. This will be the largest event ever held in the state of Nebraska, and one of the biggest sporting events in the United States. The Games



will take place July 18-23, 2010 with competitions and events held throughout Lincoln.

Special Olympic offers both children and adults with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to compete in 13 Olympic-style sporting events. According to

Deb Stroh, director of volunteer services, "these competitions give the athletes continued opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and build self-confidence. Using sports as the catalyst, Special Olympics works to enhance and improve the lives of people with intellectual disabilities." Special Olympics offers programs that teach health and wellness.

The USA National Games are held every four years and will bring 3,000 athletes, 1,000 coaches, 800 officials, and over 15,000 family members and fans to Nebraska. The Games will have an estimated \$40 million economic impact, including an expected \$5 million in state tax revenue.

The 2010 USA National Games would not be possible without the help of many dedicated volunteers and Special Olympics estimates it will take 8,000 to be successful. Volunteer opportunities range from staffing check-in tables, and officiating games to running water and ice to athletes. "There is something for everyone and no shortage of diverse ways to get involved," says Stroh. "The 2010 USA National Games will change Nebraska forever and will leave a lasting legacy of education, awareness, and inclusion. The event will be seen nationwide, and we're inviting everyone in the state to join in the efforts to make the 2010 USA National Games something the world will remember."

To learn more or to volunteer for events, visit www.2010specialolympics.org. Select "Witherbee Neighborhood Association" from the group affiliation field when filling out your online volunteer registration.





Charleen Smith (left) and Rose LeCorgne are two of the 30 plus Thrift Shop volunteers

St. Teresa's Thrift Shop Benefits From And Serves Community

By Jackie Varicak

St. Teresa's Thrift Shop, located on the North side of St. Teresa's school 616 South 36th St., has been serving the community since 1983. Two rooms hold clothing and one holds miscellaneous items.

Bernita Hruby, a long time volunteer and past coordinator of the Thrift Shop said, "The primary goal of the Thrift Shop is to provide free clothing for people in need. For others, most clothing is priced from fifty cents to \$2.00. Winter coats and better items are somewhat higher." It is estimated that over 1,000 families in need have benefited from the services of the Thrift Shop in the past several years. Hruby noted that, "a secondary goal is for volunteers to work and pray together, to share both good and sad experiences."

According to current Thrift Shop coordinator Cyndi Vestecka the Thrift Shop is operated solely by volunteers and is stocked through donations from the community. Vestecka said, "volunteers straighten up the Thrift Shop every Monday after being open over the weekend. This is also the time the volunteers pray together, drink coffee, and visit about their experiences. Thursday is another work day for volunteers when they price, hang, and display items." Vestecka explains that volunteers are often moved to mend or launder items that come in. Their efforts help make the thrift shop affordable, as well as a dignified place for all to shop.

The thrift shop is also involved in charitable events beyond its own walls. In December 2009 the Thrift Shop donated a decorated Christmas tree to the Heritage League of Lincoln's annual Holiday Tree of Lights event. The tree was adorned with angels and ornaments, all of which were donated by the community. The Holiday Tree of Lights event raised money for the Child Advocacy Center.

Income generated by the Thrift Shop has provided Saint Teresa's Parish and School with improvements such as a church elevator, landscaping for the courtyard, a new bell system, windows, student desks, black top for the



Valentines day is right around the corner. A lucky shopper will be wearing this recycled top.

playground, and tables for the cafeteria.

The Thrift Shop is open to shoppers Fridays from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and Saturdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Donations are accepted during these hours as well as Mondays and Thursdays. If you are interested in volunteering at the thrift shop, or have questions contact Cyndi Vestecka at 489-4048.





Witherbee's Holiday Lights Brighten Our Spirits

This year's Holiday Lights Awards were spread far and wide throughout the neighborhood. If you missed the award winners on our website www.WitherbeeNA.org, here's the list of homes chosen by our judges for special recognition:

611 S 34th – Norman Rockwell award 3450 J St – Reach for the Star award 3401 J St – Gingerbread House award

A Special Thanks to the following businesses who donated prizes for this year's contest:

HyVee, 5010 "O"St. Big Apple Bagels, 6105 "O" St. Braeda, 48th & "O" St. Starbucks #2, 33rd & "O" St.



3600 J St - Traditional Nativity award 420 S 38th - Creative Whimsy award 3400 Woods Ave and 3330 Woods Ave - Best Use of Wreaths award 3415 M St – Shooting Star award 3425 N St - Simply Elegant award 3348 N St - Black Forrest Cottage award 4200 Randolph, 5101 M St and 4300 Witherbee -Maximum Use of Property award 4306 L St - Little Bit of Everything award 380 S 44th - Happy Snowman award 623 S 46th - Most Creative Nativity award 5041 L St – LES Loves You award (LOTS of lights) 5511 L - Celebrate the Season award 700 S 53rd - Spirit of the Season award Get **\$25** Extra For Non-Running Vehicles* WE BUY SCRAP BATTERIES, STEEL CASE BATTERIES AND REMOVE NON-RUNNING VEHICLES Allen's New & Used Batteries NEW & USED ***** BUY & SELL ★ Boats ★ Autos ★ Farm Equipment ★ Small Tractors **ALLEN FELTON** (402) 467-2455 ★ Yard Equipment

3320 Cleveland Ave., Ste 2 (east end), Lincoln, NE 68504

*Coupon must be mentioned at time of call



s Again

Homes not to miss: 3769 H St 710 S 37th 3414 Randolph 325 S 54th

Streets worth driving by: Piazza Terrace 49th and J Streets Alles Ct – Cood Neighbors

Alles Ct – Good Neighbors award (all homes on the street with a common lighting theme)

34th to 35th and J Streets

Our intergenerational panel of judges enjoyed cruising the neighborhood, snapping photos, and choosing homes for special recognition. Hot drink coupons, bags of freshly ground coffee and coffee beans, and discounted meals at local restaurants were bestowed upon our awardwinning residents shortly after the judging. Membership in the Witherbee Neighborhood Association is not necessary to receive an award. However, several award winners commented on their interest in the association and their intention to become involved. We always welcome more interested neighbors!

Thank you to the judges and the volunteers who helped solicit prizes, and to the local businesses who donated prizes. And a special thanks to each of you who showed the spirit of the season by decorating your home and brightening our neighborhood. We look forward to an even brighter holiday season next year.

Witherbee NOW on Facebook

By Fred Freytag

Changing times challenge us to keep in touch with as many Witherbee residents as possible. Avenues of communications change and newsletters, web sites, flyers and newspapers are not touching everybody any more. Online social networks have come quickly into the picture as a means to keep each other informed. That is why Witherbee has chosen to include Facebook pages as a communication tool to keep residents, young and old, up-to-date.

Please join Witherbee as a **fan** on Facebook and you will find pictures of events from cleanups, pool parties, block parties, lighting contests and much more. You will be informed of activities and events from the neighborhood in real time. You will be able to comment on posts, participate in discussions and communicate with each other.

If you already have a Facebook account just log in and search for Witherbee Neighborhood or go to www. witherbeena.org and click on our Facebook link. If you don't have a Facebook account, go to www.facebook. com and sign up. It is simple and easy.

We are working hard to stay in touch with all residents, please help us to stay in touch with you to keep you informed!













Your Neighborhood Store Located at 33rd & A Street

We are a full service grocery store, providing Fresh Cut Meats and Produce! We pride ourselves on our customer service and strive to help each customer that walks through the door.

Our 8 page Sale Ad starts on Wednesdays, so please stop by and check us out.



Orders for a small fee.

Vegetarian Barley Soup Served at the 2009 Witherbee Neighborhood Assn. Annual Fete

- 3 C. chopped onion (sweet Vidalia)
- 3 C. chopped celery
- 3 C. chopped carrots
- 6 t. chopped garlic
- 6 T. olive oil
- 4 Roma Tomatoes, diced
- 2 small zucchini, sliced thin
- 4 C. water
- 4 (15 oz.) cans of chopped tomatoes with juice
- 4 C. vegetable broth
- 1 ¹/₄ C. uncooked barley
- 3 T. Italian seasoning
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 t. black pepper
- ½ t. oregano
- 16 oz. Velveeta cheese

In a large kettle, over medium heat, combine the onions, celery, carrots, garlic and oil to sauté for 5 to 10 minutes, or until all vegetables are almost tender. Do not overcook vegetables.

Add water, chopped tomatoes with juice, vegetable broth, barley, zucchini and seasonings.

Bring to a boil, then quickly reduce heat to simmer for one hour.

At this point, transfer the soup to a 6 quart crock pot, add chopped tomatoes and Velveeta cheese. Stir as cheese melts, season to taste. Keep on low heat for another $\frac{1}{2}$ hour and then serve.

In addition, if the soup is not thick enough, you can thicken slightly with some cornstarch water or cornstarch broth.

Depending upon what might be added the results are 24 to 32 cups.

(ie. T. = tablespoon t. = teaspoon C. = cup)





This tree at 42nd and O'Hair salon was the local collection point for food and cash to combat hunger.

Beauty Salons Repeat Food Bank Collection

By Mary Schwab

Salon Professionals Against Hunger, a group of Lincoln's beauty salons, once again gathered food and cash for the Food Bank of Lincoln's backpack program this year. In its third year, this group has grown and includes 42nd & O'Hair Salon, Cherry Hill Salon, Hairloom Salon, Classic Styles and Utopia Salon.

There is always a great deal of excitement among customers and stylists during the Christmas season as plans are made for gathering a mountain of food under the Christmas tree. With this year's message from the Food Bank that \$1 in donation could buy \$6 in food because of their ability to purchase in bulk, the amount of cash donations escalated.

We will continue with Salon Professionals Against Hunger next year by once again inviting all salons and salon professionals to join us in making the backpack program our special way of saying THANK YOU to the city of Lincoln and surrounding communities.



Rick Helwig to Talk About "Safe Routes to School" At April 1st Witherbee Meeting

There are many reasons to support Student's Safe Routes to School. As the name implies, safety is of prime concern. Increased traffic around schools in the mornings and after school; students having to cross busy street where drivers are frequently distracted by cell phones, text messages, or other distractions; lack of traffic control on streets where drivers are seemingly given priority over pedestrians make student's routes to school unsafe. Another reason to support Student's Safe Routes to School is that walking and biking to school is good for the health of the student and the parent that chooses to walk with them. As childhood obesity has grown to become an epidemic in Lincoln, the state of Nebraska, and across the country, we need to start making choices that help our kids lead healthier more active lives. Walking or biking to school is an easy first step in this direction.

Safe Routes Nebraska works to make student's ways to school... safe. With the closing of Hawthorne Elementary School on 48th Street and those students being directed to Eastridge Elementary, the way to school for those students became an unsafe venture. The Witherbee Neighborhood Association has been a leader in working to make the routes to school safer for those students.

Completely Free Checking



Is your current checking account costing you more and giving you less? With Completely Free Checking from West Gate Bank, you get more. *More value. More flexibility. More control.*

Stop by West Gate Bank at 50th & O Street today to find out more about Completely Free Checking and ask how you can get free money and a free gift!

West Gate Bank really is Lincoln's Bank.



Tabitha Construction Update



The East Side of the south entrances is being refaced with new brick.

Second Green House.

Construction began in January to convert the former Intergenerational Center into Tabitha's second Green House. (Tabitha Adult Day Services moved to the Lincoln Medical Education Partnership building at 4525 F Street.) Project completion is expected in July 2010.

Assisted Living Facility.

Construction will begin this spring and finish late summer of 2010. More information will follow as this project gets underway.

Feedback.

We thank you for patience as construction crews are in our neighborhood for the next few months. Catch our transformation as it happens by visiting our Web site at www.Tabitha.org (click on See Tabitha's Construction Project). Stay tuned for invitations to upcoming events! Feel free to contact Tabitha Public Relations at 486-8559 or pr@Tabitha.org.



New offices on 3 South receive the final framing touches.

By Eldonna Rayburn

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to completing several projects in this new year. The winter weather has not delayed Tabitha's building for a better tomorrow!

South (Main) Entrance.

The construction area was enclosed just in time for winter's harsh weather and most of the crews are working on interiors. The framing is nearly complete with drywall installation beginning. Heating, electrical and mechanical have been roughed in and insulating is almost done. When the outside temperature is more tolerable, one crew is laying new brick on the east side of the new expansion. The target completion date for the South Entrance is early May 2010.



Tabitha's former courtyard framing is complete and crews are now installing drywall.



Construction started in January 2010 to convert the former Intergenerational Center into Tabitha's second Green House® Project.

Your Witherbee Neighborhood styling/barber salon at 42^{nd} & O—for the past 23 years Monday-Saturday—early and late—walk-in or appointments



488-8253 Wigs and hairpieces—sales and service Specialist in alopecia and chemotherapy related hair loss Manicure, pedicure, color, perm, cut and styling with

9 experienced barber/stylists

120 South 42nd

Meet Your Witherbee Neighbor

Tony Marquez, a newly elected WNA board member was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas, the youngest of 10. He graduated from Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas with degrees in Accounting/Business Administration and Hotel & Restaurant Management. After graduation he lived in Louisville, Kentucky and Cleveland, Ohio before moving to Lincoln, Nebraska in 1969. Tony has lived at 729 S. 37 Street since 1969. Tony has two children, Stephen, a Captain in the National Guard and a daughter, Amy who is a stay-at-home mother of eleven children. Both of his children still live here in Lincoln.

Tony started work here in Lincoln with Notifier Company and then moved to Union Loan and Savings which was purchased by Commercial Federal Savings & Loan. This was followed by working for Commercial Federal as an Internal Auditor and commuting to Omaha daily.

In 1974 Tony helped start TMCO, INC. with Roland Temme, who is the majority owner, while still working at Commercial Federal. In 1979 he went full time with TMCO. Inc. and has been there ever since. He is the Secretary/Treasurer, CFO, and co-owner of the company which employs about 155 employees and is located near the corner of 5th & J Street east of downtown. TMCO makes many Harley Davidson parts including some of the most highly prized aftermarket sprockets and accessories. TMCO has a metal art division which produces public art pieces and outdoor objects. At their annual October Open House, hundreds of people get to view their many laser and robotic metal working machines that can operate 24 hours a day if needed. Many farm implement and heavy earth moving machine parts as well as utility meter parts are produced by the various divisions of TMCO.

Tony has been a member of the Sunrise Optimist Club since 1976 and they meet every Wednesday at 7:00 AM at Perkins Restaurant at 48th & O Street. Tony is on the Board of the Optimist Youth Sports Complex which provides baseball diamonds for youth to play on during the summer. Tony has just finished a three year term as a member of the Board of the Lincoln Electric System on December 31, 2009.

Tony has offered the services of his company to help produce some piece of public art for Witherbee if we can find the right project that his company has the ability to





Debra J. Zimmer, AAMS® Financial Advisor 3031 "O" Street, Suite 106 Lincoln, NE 68510 Ph. 402-476-2266 • 800-497-4310 Fax 888-361-9101 debra.zimmer@edwardjones.com www.edwardjones.com perform. Possible locations have been discussed such as the new Witherbee Park at 46th & O Street or Stuhr Park. Neighbors with ideas, talents, and suggestions are encouraged to attend a meeting soon to bring forth how we can create something to help make Witherbee a destination in Lincoln and take advantage of Tony's generous offer to improve our neighborhood.



Tony Marquez

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



WNA Calendar

(Please note that membership is Not required to attend WNA meetings.) Additional meeting information may be found at Witherbeena.org

- Saturday, Jan 30th., 2-4 p.m. "Meet Your Public Official" & Neighborhood Hero Award Presentations, Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance, Calvert Rec Center, 4500 Stockwell St.
- Thursday, Feb 4th., 7 p.m., WNA monthly meeting. Speaker/Topic Lincoln's Children's Zoo, President/CEO, Lincoln Children's Zoo John Chapo.
- Monday, Feb 8th., 5:30 p.m., Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Mayor's Conference Room.
- Monday, February 15th., 7 p.m. Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance. Tabitha Lifequest Conference Center, 48th & J St.
- Thursday, Feb 18th., 5:30 p.m. City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting, Anderson Library, 3635 Touzalin Ave.
- **Thursday, March 4th.,** WNA monthly meeting. Speaker/Topic - West Haymarket Arena, Dan Marvin.
- Monday, Mar 8th., 5:30 p.m., Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Mayor's Conference Room.

Witherbee Park

By Fred Freytag

Your help is needed. Witherbee Park is a small park, .6 acres, at 46th & O Street. Lincoln Cares Program is providing funding to improve the park this year with benches, fencing, landscaping and play structures for small children. We thank Lincoln Cares board for choosing Witherbee Park for this important improvement. The land was designated for park use from the beginning and we have the opportunity to create a small gem in the Witherbee Neighborhood for everyone to use and admire when they drive by on O Street for years to come.

We can help stretch the improvement dollars by volunteering with the installation of the new amenities and raising money for additions that are not currently in the plan due to costs. We can find and apply for grants to improve this park or find donations for some amenities but we need YOU to help us make it happen. If you would like to help, please contact Fred Freytag at 402-430-6658 or e-mail him at fred@witherbeena.org. Future generations will thank you. Watch for more news on the WNA web site, Facebook and the next Witherbee Buzz.

- Monday, March 15th., 7 p.m. Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance. Tabitha Lifequest Conference Center, 48th & J St.
- Thursday, March 18th,. 5:30 p.m. City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting, Anderson Library, 3635 Touzalin Ave.
- Thursday, April 1st., WNA monthly meeting. Speaker/Topic - Safe Routes to School, Rick Helweg
- Saturday, April 10th., 9 a.m., WNA and UNL "Big Event" volunteers mulch trees at Woods Park
- Monday, April 12th., 5:30 p.m., Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Mayor's Conference Room
- **Thursday, April 15th.,** 5:30 p.m. City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting, Anderson Library, 3635 Touzalin Ave.
- Monday, April 19th., 7 p.m. Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance, Tabitha Lifequest Conference Center, 48th & J St.
- **Pending projects** watch our website for further information on:
- Hawthrone Community School- meeting with principal/staff and staff plan partnering ideas and future plans.

Witherbee Park-playground.





UNL students joined with WNA volunteers to mulch Woods Park trees in 2009.

UNL Big Event - Mulching Trees in Woods Park

Volunteers needed: Woods Park -spread woodchip mulch around trees.

Please join us for an hour or two as we partner with the Lincoln Parks Department to stretch our tax dollars caring for our city parks. We will be at Woods Park on Saturday April 10th to spread woodchip mulch around the park's trees. The ring of mulch around each tree allows mowers to stay a safe distance from the trunk, preventing bark damage. Mulch and all tools will be provided by the Parks department. We provide the labor to spread the mulch. Work gloves recommended. You supply the fun. We will again invite UNL students to join us on their day of community service, the "Big Event." Last year a dozen or so university students joined us for the morning. Please let Rick Bagby know if you can join us this year. witherbeerick@gmail.com or 488-8567.



This Witherbee "Snow Dog" was begun in mid December and has grown larger with each succeeding snowfall.

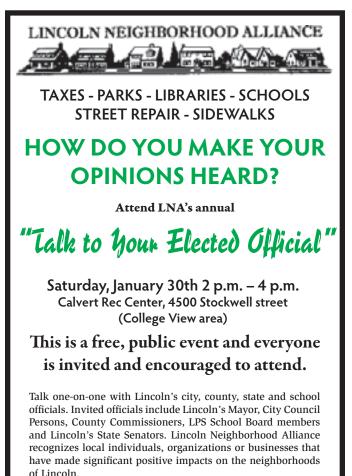


John Chapo from Lincoln Children's Zoo To Present at February 4th Meeting

Continued from page 1

organizations. When John asks for volunteers, he is asking from a well seasoned experience of his own. Many youngsters have had their first working experience at the zoo. There are many opportunites for adult volunteers at the Children's Zoo. Our own Jim Ihrie (510 S 39th St.) spends lots of hours helping at the zoo on a regular basis when he is not helping WNA with newsletter distribution.

The Lincoln Children's Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife. Visit the Children's Zoo in person soon or check out their website at www.lincolnzoo.org.Check out their "CritterCam" and view animals featured in real time and many other features.



The "NEIGHBORHOOD HERO AWARD" will be awarded at 3 pm by Mayor Chris Beutler.

www.lincolnneighborhoods.org

Winter 2010

WNA Victories - One for All and All for One

Please Support the Cause with Your Membership

WNA association consists of residents like you who volunteer in lots of ways - large and small - to help preserve and enhance the character and quality of life in the WNA area. 2009 was a productive year, and we will be working to make 2010 the same. WNA is a winning team, well known and respected by public officials and envied by other neighborhood associations. To continue the record we need your help. Just as having homeowner or renter's insurance is a wise investment we ask you to think of a WNA membership as your neighborhood insurance – only it's a lot cheaper

Some items your neighborhood association has done in 2009:

- ★ Filed applications with the Nebraska Secretary of State and the U.S. IRS to become an official non-profit, which will provide postage savings, and allow WNA to accept tax-deductible donations or grants.
- ★ Hosted a Lincoln Public Schools Board meeting to provide input for the renovation and use of Hawthorne Elementary School.
- ★ Supported a change of zoning request that would allow a historic landmark designation of the Ricketts House at 33rd and L St.
- ★ Participated at monthly Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable meetings to represent the neighborhood in a wide range of issues and programs.
- ★ Participated in Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance meetings to represent the neighborhood's interests.
- ★ Helped distribute a questionnaire to determine the need for home gardening programs.
- ★ Continued planning for the development of Witherbee Park at 46th & O
- ★ Continued monitoring City efforts to get 48th & O properties redeveloped (northeast corner)
- ★ Conducted a neighborhood cleanup, coordinated neighborhood garage sales
- ★ Hosted a free Pool Party and Ice Cream Social at Wood Park for neighborhood residents
- ★ Hosted speakers monthly who addressed neighborhood concerns
- ★ Produced a quarterly newsletter to keep WNA residents updated
- If these projects or another interests you, we invite you to attend our monthly meetings held on the first Thursday each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Tabitha Lifequest Center, 48th and J St. To support resident volunteer efforts to enhance your neighborhood, please renew your WNA membership or join us for the first time. For about the price of just one pizza you can support your neighborhood for an entire year! Please make your check to Witherbee Neighborhood Association. Contributions of \$35 or more will receive a tax-deductible receipt.
- We invite you to join us by volunteering a little time on a specific project and/or serving as a board member. Being involved is arguably more fun than work. Please indicate your interest on the membership form below. And if you want more information, the WNA website is www.witherbeena.org.

Sincerely, WNA Board (neighborhood residents like you)

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

	Membership Categories:		
Name:	Single	\$10.00	
	Family	\$15.00	
Address:	Senior Family	\$10.00	
City, St.:	Additional Household Member	\$ 5.00	
City, 5t	Sponsor	\$35.00	
Zip Code:	Benefactor	\$50.00 & up	
Phone:	Business	\$40.00	
E-mail:		Contributions: Donations to WNA of \$25.00 or more will	
Please indicate your areas of interest and mail to Shawn Gordin, 539 S 52nd St., Lincoln, NE 68510			

Distributing newsletters	Serving on the board	Annual meeting food preparation
Help with clean-up	Newsletter writing/photography	Boosting home ownership project
Organizing garage sales	Newsletter production	Other (describe below)
Holiday Lights contest	Web pages	
Pool Party & Socials	Acquire meeting speakers	