

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

# Comedic Magician - Free Pizza To Highlight WNA Annual Meeting November 3rd.

Come celebrate another great year with the Witherbee Neighborhood Association at our Annual Meeting November 3st.

#### Membership is not required to attend this free, family-friendly, fun event.

Each year we have much to be proud of and this year is no exception. This year's highlight is undoubtedly the



neighborhood welcoming of the Bryan Community School. In honor of our new relationship, and to accommodate the large attendance numbers, the Annual Meeting held at will be the Hawthorne Building.

WNA will provide free pizza, salad and drinks. Neighborhood residents are invited to bring a

Adam White

dessert to share. There will also be door prize drawings for gift certificates to local businesses.

Entertainment will be by magician Adam White. Adam is "the busiest magician in the Midwest" and his show promises to be one you won't soon forget. Adam is a true family entertainer, combining tricks and jokes

#### Money-Saving Coupons In this issue are located on Pages 5, 7, 9 and 11

for both adults and children so there is something fantastic for everyone to enjoy! His show will feature magic, comedy and audience participation.

Adam has been entertaining audiences since age 16 and has performed for some of Nebraska's largest corporations, numerous non-profit organizations and at countless birthday parties. This is a show you won't want to miss!

#### Thursday November 3rd., 6:15 p.m. Hawthorne School Building 300 South 48th Street

The event will be held in the gymnasium of the Hawthorne School Building at 300 S 48th Street. For the elderly and handicapped, no-stair access to the gymnasium is from the parking lot behind the building, south parking lot off of L street. Everyone else may use any parking at the building, north or south lots. Food will be served at 6:15 pm, followed by board member elections, volunteer recognition, and the door prize drawings. The 45 minute magic show will begin at approximately 7:15 pm.

### Strategic Planning and Training Are Topics of WNA December 1st Meeting

Share your ideas for structure goals and activities of WNA. Review resources and plan for 2012. Should we have a membership chairperson? A Social event chairperson? How do we reach out to families with young children as well as our elderly neighbors? How do we recruit, train, and retain members and leaders? Join us for a review and planning session as we prepare for another exciting year of community building.

#### About Your 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.

www.WitherbeeNA.org

#### **Executive Board:**

Rick Bagby, President 402-488-8567 witherbeerick@gmail.com

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Cheryl Hejl, Secretary 402-489-2557, chejl380@yahoo.com

Karen Vogeley, Treasurer 402-435-6022, treasurer@witherbeena.org

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## President's Message

I hope you had a chance to join us for the Ice Cream Social and Free Swim at Woods Park in August.

The evening was a beautiful contrast to the thunderstorms of earlier in the week. Once again we met many neighbors and celebrated life in midtown Lincoln. Thank You to Jeff and Dawn Worrall who organized this year's event.

At the September open house celebrating the relocation of the Bryan Community Focus High School and LPS Student Services to Hawthorne



**Rick Bagby** 

School we welcomed LPS's investment in the neighborhood. A new vibrant community is right in our midst, enhancing life in midtown.

The same day at Streets Alive! I marveled at how differently I viewed 33rd street as I inscribed the Witherbee logo in chalk in the middle of the street in front of Woods Park Pool. Lincoln is known far and wide for it's urban trail system – none of which run through Witherbee. It was invigorating to be out on a broad walking-hiking-biking path so close to home even if it was just for an afternoon.

Witherbee Park is looking great. The landscaping is becoming established, the 4-H flowers along the fence are still beautiful. Stop by at 46th & M on your neighborhood walks to enjoy the play structure and the shade of the mature trees. Something the new development edge of the city sub-divisions won't enjoy for decades. Further enhancements are planned. Bulbs will be planted this fall for spring blooms, a sculpture installed next spring.

How can we keep up the momentum? We need you. You decide the activities and success of our organization by your participation and your support. Join us for our Annual meeting November 3rd to recognize and celebrate the volunteers who made this year possible. Dinner, door prizes, entertainment await.

As I close out my term as President of this group I thank you for the chance to serve. I have worked with so many amazing neighbors whose talents and efforts I didn't nearly appreciate in the same way before. Thank You for your support. I look forward to continuing in my new role as past-president.

To close I issue a challenge to all of you. The editor of this newsletter is stepping down with this issue of the Buzz. Larry Frisch has been the driving force coordinating this publication for several years. We can only begin to thank Larry for his dedication to Witherbee and to the newsletter. Without his work it wouldn't be nearly the publication you are reading right now. He is willing to mentor his successor. Is that you? What an opportunity to learn the ropes from a seasoned pro! Consider joining us to make Witherbee a great neighborhood.





### Witherbee Holdiay Lighting Contest

The holiday season is just around the corner. Don't forget to check your strings of lights for missing bulbs, and repair your holiday yard ornaments for the Witherbee Holiday Lighting Contest.

The weekend of December 17-18, 2011 our Judges will be driving around considering the nominees of the contest.

Each year our Witherbee neighbors are pleasantly surprised to be nominated in the contest. Will it be your house this year? Please consider participation in the lighting event this year. Nominate any neighbor's home or even your own home by calling or emailing: Jeff Worrall (402)601-5269 jworrall05@gmail.com or Lisa McNeel (402)261-6196

Due to the timing of the newsletter distribution, you will have to check the Witherbee website or Facebook page to see nominees and awards.

### Domestic Violence Awareness Topic of January 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The effect of domestic violence goes far beyond the individuals and families directly involved and can impact the entire community and society as a whole.

Voices of Hope has served Lincoln and Lancaster County for over 35 years. The agency provides a number of crisis services to empower victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, incest, stalking and other forms of abuse. Each year thousands of crisis line calls are answered and more than 2,000 people receive face-toface services. Tireless efforts are made by the staff, volunteers and



Sue Andersen

others in this community to work to end violence against women and children.

On January 5th come learn what you can do to help support victims and survivors. Sue Andersen of Voices of Hope will speak, providing an overview of domestic violence and the services her organization offers. Sue is the Community Education Coordinator at Voices of Hope and has worked with the agency for nearly 23 years.

### **CERT Training To Be Offered**

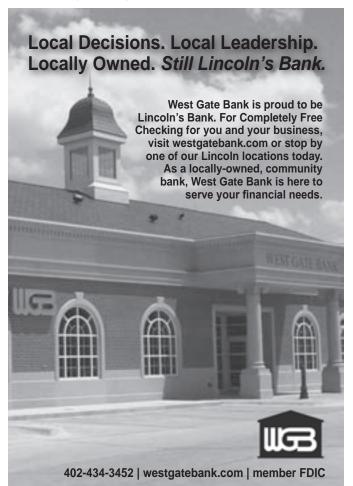
Doug Ahlberg, Director of Emergency Management for Lancaster County, is planning a Community Emergency Response Team, (CERT) training session this winter, or early next spring. The emphasis will be on training Witherbee residents to deal with disasters where normal first responders may be overwhelmed.

Lessons learned in the course can be easily applied to everyday emergencies such as traffic accidents, children choking, or how to fight that kitchen grease fire.

Taking about 20 hours, (over a weekend), the course teaches preparation for disasters, assessing structure damage, using basic fire suppression techniques and resources, assisting emergency responders, conducting light search and rescue, setting up triage areas, applying basic medical techniques, and helping reduce survivor stress among other things. The emphasis is always on safety, with the students learning how to avoid putting themselves in dangerous situations.

Graduates of the CERT training are under no obligation to respond to emergencies, and will not be "ordered" to report to any event. Involvement in CERT activities is strictly voluntary.

Class size will be limited. For more information on this valuable training, or be placed on the waiting list, please contact Larry Frisch, 402-560-4565, lfrisch@windstream. net, or Doug Alhberg, 402-441-7441.



## **Curbside Mailboxes Not Mandatory**

By Mike Fitzgerald

Questions about mailboxes prompted by the post card many residents received last month from the Lincoln Post Office were addressed at the WNA monthly meeting on Oct. 6. Lincoln Postmaster Kerry Kowalski spoke at the meeting and agreed the post card was misleading, adding that residents with mail delivery at their door may continue that service. Further, there is no requirement that they convert to curbside mail delivery within 30 days or any date, Kowalski said.

He began his brief comments saying that the Post Office is encouraging curbside delivery to save the agency money, and then he answered questions from the crowd.

Q: Alternatively, could savings be obtained by reducing delivery from 6 days to 5 days?

A: Reducing number of days of delivery is not a local option. That would have to be approved by Congress.

Q: Wouldn't curbside mailboxes on narrow streets create parking problems?

A: The Post Office didn't consider parking issues when it sent the post card.

Q: Did the Post Office consider that many residents believe curbside mailboxes detract from the character and beauty of a neighborhood and reduce the curbside appeal of homes?

A: No, we really didn't.

Q: Can the Post Office force residents to use curbside delivery?

A: In cases where mail carrier safety is at risk, such homes that have a mean dog, the Post Office uses three letters to the resident to address the issue. The first asks that the dog be kept in the back yard, the second requests a curbside mailbox, and the third requires the resident to get a P.O. Box.

Q: When ownership of a home changes, does the new owner have to use curbside delivery.

A: The Post Office may ask the new owner to convert to curbside delivery, but it is not mandatory.

Q: Does the Post Office encourage use of community or cluster mail boxes?

A: The Post Office used to help pay for community mail boxes, but it no longer does. Homes in new developments are required to have community boxes, paid for by the builders. In existing neighborhoods, the Post Office will help neighbors by suggesting a location for a community mailbox. Q: If only some residents install curbside mailboxes, wouldn't it cause mail carriers to zig zag between door and curbside delivery, thus not saving any time?

A: Initially, yes. Over time, if all homes on a street convert to curbside, time savings can be significant.

Q: How does the Post Office measure if curbside mailboxes are saving the agency money?

A: The Post Office reviews and adjusts carrier routes every six months. The number of carriers in Lincoln has been reduced from 142 to 129.

Q: If I install a curbside mailbox, what will the carrier do with a package sent to me?

A: The carrier will deliver packages to your door.

Q: How would I receive mail if I install a curbside mailbox and it gets broken off by snow plowing equipment?

A: If you couldn't install a temporary mail box, delivery could be put on hold.

Q: What distance should a curbside mailbox be located from the curb, a sidewalk and a driveway.

A: Generally, the front of the mailbox should be 6 inches from the curb, the back should be 6 inches from the sidewalk, and the mailbox should be a minimum of 1 foot from the driveway.

Q: How can I get more information?

A: Contact your mail carrier or a Post Office station, call the main Lincoln Post office 402-473-1602 or access the U.S. Post Office website at www.usps.gov.

The consensus of discussion later during the WNA business meeting was that WNA will not propose any request or action, and will continue to serve as a source of information. Questions or comments will be handled by Rick Bagby at 488-8567 or via email at witherbeerick@ gmail.com.





## September Yard of the Month

Lisa & William McNeel live at 611 South 34th Street. A well manicured front yard leads to a "park like" backyard setting. The back yard of several neighbors runs together, you will see no fences here.

The McNeels have enjoyed transforming their yard to what you see today. They have lost and replaced trees, transplanted many flowers and built a beautiful waterfall. The backyard includes a deck and a patio at the base of the waterfall.

The yard is a perfect place to hold a neighborhood picnic, or even a Husker Tailgate party.



Printing expense for the Witherbee Buzz is entirely paid for by advertisers. This allowes membership dues to be spent on other worthwhile causes.

Below is a listing of the advertisers in this issue. Please frequent these advertisers and thank them for helping bring you this issue of the Buzz.

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## Many Residents Enjoy Swim/Ice Cream Social

This year's WNA Swim Party and Ice Cream Social competed with a cleanup from the previous nights severe thunderstorm which caused power outages and downed trees and limbs throughout the City of Lincoln. The Woods Park corner of Lincoln was spared and the cleanup didn't keep everybody home as the weather was perfect for the event. Many came to Wood's swimming pool and tennis complex to enjoy an evening of swimming, chalk drawing, tennis playing and ice cream topped with the flavor of their choice.

Super Saver donated all the ice cream, plates, spoons, condiments, and several cases of bottled water. They are a regular advertiser and supporter of the Witherbee Buzz, as well as being a contributor in other ways throughout the year. We appreciate their support and look forward to an

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

> > Your Neighborhood Store Located at 33rd & A Street

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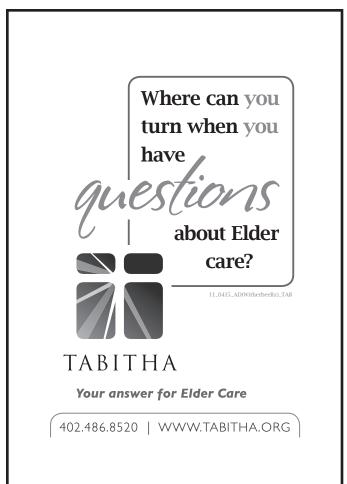


#### A STREET MARKET

We are a full service grocery store, providing Fresh Cut Meats and Produce! We pride ourselves on our customer service.

Our 8 page Sale Ad starts on Wednesdays, so please stop by and check us out. on-going positive relationship, thank you Super Saver!

This year we had an additional sponsor to the Ice Cream Social with sidewalk chalk and prizes provided by Walgreens. Children were excited to have the opportunity







# **Despite Storm Damage To Neighborhood**

to compete for bubble sets, pedometer kits, squirt guns and more. We look forward to partnering for future events with Walgreens and thank them for all their support to help make this year's Swim/Ice Cream Social a success.

As people mingled and enjoyed time with each other they took a short break for the presentation of the recycled park bench which was awarded to the Witherbee Neighborhood Association due to meeting their goal for the Lincoln Energy Challenge. WNA in turn donated the bench to Bryan at Hawthorne Community School as a welcome to the neighborhood and as a thank you for allowing us to be involved in their move into our boundaries.

Many youths took advantage of the free tennis lessons donated by Woods Tennis Center, who also provided their facilities to serve ice cream.

A new attraction to this year's event was the band "Acie and Dan" that played an acoustic set of back ground music which gave the perfect finishing touch to an outstanding evening. Many people commented they appreciated the band and that it was so nice to have it as a new addition to the ice cream social.

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All in all the evening was a huge success because there was something for everyone to enjoy!



# Withebee Connect Off to a Good Start

#### By Jackie Varicak

Witherbee Connect was introduced in the last newsletter as a new program with the mission to promote neighbors helping neighbors through a central phone number, 402-488-3314, for neighbors to call when in need. Connections and resources are in place for neighbors who call and have an issue they need help resolving.

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association is pleased

to report that calls have come in and neighbors are being helped. So far our biggest connection has been utilizing students of Bryan at Hawthorne Community School to provide yard work, landscaping, painting, and the completion of a small construction project. Roger Burris, Bryan teacher, said the school received an equipment grant to be used for this endeavor. They purchased tools such as rakes and shovels to bring along to any home they work at.

Roger describes their connection as a win-win situation for both our

neighbors in need and the students. The students will gain a lot of self-confidence and pride by helping others. Roger and the staff at the school are excited about the fact that students will enjoy the interactions they will have as they work within the community for their neighbors. The goal is to do the work close to the school so that relationships can be built and sustained. An important reason why the school appreciates the ability to connect students so close to the school is so they can be supervised by school staff at all times.

The students self confidence has already been boosted by impacting three families. Five students went to a home where they dug a mail post hole, placed the post and set the cement for a senior citizen. The senior citizen also needed them to landscape a small brick path and move rocks. While this project took the students about six hours to complete the estimated time it would have taken the senior citizen was about thirty hours.

Another neighbor called who had just had shoulder surgery and they needed yard cleanup work done. Three students were sent to the home and they spent one and a half hours cleaning up the yard.

The third family is a large family with many needs at this point. The students were asked to paint some trim and clean up the yard. It is families such as this where a little help goes a long way and the students are capable and fit for duty to jump right in and make another families life a little easier.

Kathy Stastny and the Witherbee Connect committee have organized a huge resource list so that when a neighbor calls they can be helped one way or another. Until more



volunteers are in place a connection may simply be to direct a caller to a resource that can help.

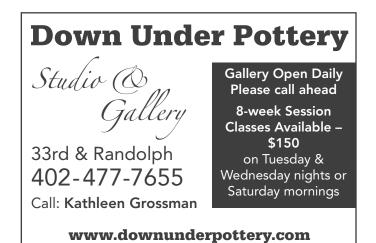
The list that Witherbee Connect has on hand is divided into categories starting with Emergency/Crisis numbers beginning with the Adult Abuse National Hotline, Boys Town National Hotline, Child Advocacy Center and so forth. The next category is Health, which lists the Alzheimer's Association, American Cancer Society,

> Clinic With a Heart and the Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs just to name a few. The Life Quality list starts with the Asian Community and Cultural Center, Cedar's Youth Services, Center for People in Need, Charlie Brown's Kids (grief), Child Care Connection and many more. The Neighborhood/Safety list is also extensive starting with Rebuilding Together which is a Home Repair resource which is free for low income elderly or handicapped homeowners, the Red Cross, the Partnership for Healthy Lincoln, Animal Control and so on. And the last category is

Property and Household numbers including Community Action Partnership, Lincoln Action for weatherization, Aging Partners Home Handyman Program and again... many many others. The list is huge and there should be help for anyone who needs it.

Kathy Stastny answers the Witherbee Connect line at 402-488-3314. If Kathy is not immediately available you can leave her a message and she will return the call within a day. If she will be out of town for an extended period of time she will leave another number for neighbors to call on a committee member who will have the resource list and can help.

Witherbee Connect is all about neighbors helping neighbors!! If you would like to volunteer and help your neighbors call Kathy at 402-488-3314.



## Bright and Shining Sights of Witherbee



Sisters are often seen visiting with school children on neighborhood streets. Left to right: Sister Mary Cecilia, Sister Mary Helen, Emma McDermott, Sister Marie Caritas, and Caitlin Nguyen.

#### By Jackie Varicak

I often see women dressed in full habits walking around the neighborhood. I know who they are but I've often wondered what other people might know or think about them.

Not long ago I noticed three of them turn the corner of my block to begin walking up my street. I quick grabbed my camera, because this is a very rare sighting in most corners of the world, and ran out of my house and asked them if I could get a picture. They said yes and were bubbling over with smiling faces at the opportunity to visit. We stood there and talked for quite a long time.

I decided to get a little background information on these Sisters to share with those who might be curious.

Their convent is located and tucked behind the beautiful and newly illuminated St. Teresa's Church at 36<sup>th</sup> and Laura Avenue. It is a humble and modest building that houses many sisters who call themselves the "School Sisters of Christ the King." The sisters administer and staff Saint Teresa's School which is located just East of the convent on 36<sup>th</sup> street and within the boundaries of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association.

Sister Mary Helen says, "Our Congregation is a "new" order that was founded to teach in Catholic Schools by the late and former Bishop of Lincoln, Glennon Patrick Flavin in 1976. He desired Sisters to be in the Catholic Schools in the Diocese and felt the Lord was asking him to begin a new community." She notes, "He gave to them a special charism or focus to live their lives which was very dear to him; joyful fidelity to Christ the King and His Church.

The Sisters, when you meet them, desire to exemplify this motto in everything they do, even in their walks in the wonderful neighborhood in Witherbee."

According to Sister Mary Helen the Sisters assumed the convent after the Dominican Sisters in 1988. The School Sisters also teach at Saint Joseph's and Saint Peter's Schools in Lincoln. They take turns residing in the convent on Laura Ave. They also have a Motherhouse in West Lincoln where the rest of the Community resides. Along with being located at these two residences they can be found working on their teaching degrees at Benedictine College in Atchison KS.

Drive or walk by St. Teresa's Church, located at 735 S. 36<sup>th</sup> Street, and you will now see it illuminated in the evening and at night. The church is shining brightly, just like the faces of the sisters, because a generous parishioner donated his time and talent to place outdoor lighting all over the grounds of the Church. According to Monsingor Joseph Nemec, Pastor of St. Teresa's, "The lighting accents the beauty of the church and will provide greater safety for all who come to our church during the night." He says, "It also has a spiritual meaning. In our Catholic Faith we try to be lights in the world and to bring light to the world."

These are but a couple examples of the bright and shining sights of Witherbee.



## Witherbee Neighborhood Assn. Provides Fun Booth

#### By Jackie Varicak

The Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln and their sponsors brought to the City of Lincoln an event called "Streets Alive" on Sunday, September 25th from 12:30pm-5:00pm. The completely free event opened 3.23 miles of Lincoln's streets to walkers, cyclists, skaters, and joggers of all ages. Any human-powered transportation was welcome. Free from the distraction of automobile traffic , over 2000 of Lincoln's residents enjoyed a variety of recreational activities, sampled a variety of healthy foods, and took the opportunity to rediscover some of Lincoln's





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most popular parks and bike paths.

Because the Streets Alive route bordered the Witherbee Neighborhood Association from 33rd and N St. to 33rd and Randolph St., WNA participated by providing an information table and fun activities for the entire family. The activities were a hit with the kids which included a bean bag toss, chalk drawing and bubble blowing. Many people who walked the route stopped by to learn more about the Witherbee Neighborhood Association and to





Reading Times, Arts & Crafts, Science Projects, Building, Costumes, Play House, Singing, Parades, Nature Walks, Holiday Events, Park Trips, Fun Theme Days, Monthly Daisy Doe Clown Visits, Santa at Christmas...



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## for Streets Alive

enjoy the kid-friendly offerings. Witherbee Neighborhood board members and volunteers took turns throughout the afternoon to keep the action going, visit with participants and answer questions. Mayor Chris Beutler even stopped by to chat.

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association was proud to be a part of this event along with many of Lincoln's other associations, businesses, agencies and recreational groups. The Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln is committed to promoting a healthier lifestyle for Lincoln's residents, creating a more vibrant and active city and encouraging outdoor recreation in the City. This Mission is very compatible to many of the goals and aspirations of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association and if the Streets Alive event returns in the future you can be sure, if the route stays the same, WNA will be involved.





As your Witherbee Neighbor, I can offer you a free, no obligation, market analysis. Scott Anderson, Realtor® 402-217-1975 scott.anderson@woodsbros.com



R

Scott Anderson



### **October Yard of the Month**

Jim & Suzanne Borovich live at 4130 "J" Street. A freshly mowed lawn, with roses still in bloom across the front walk way caught my eye. This was also one of the first homes that put out fall seasonal decorations in our area.

The Borovichs purchased their home in December of 2009, and enjoy being part of the Witherbee Neighborhood. Working in the yard, whether it be mowing, taking care of flowers, or raking leaves in the large front yard is a pleasant chore.

It has been a pleasure to bring to you the Yards of the Month this year. I look forward to finding more treasures in our Witherbee Neighborhood next year! Thank you, Jeff Worrall



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## WNA Involvement Reaps Many Rewards!!!

#### By Jackie Varicak

A little over a year ago I was approached by Witherbee Neighborhood Association Board member Tony Marquez who asked if I would be interested in serving on the WNA Board of Directors for a two-year term. I didn't say yes right away and took some time to decide if this was something I was interested in, had time to do, and to determine whether I was passionate enough to be able



bassionate enough to be able to serve effectively. After a couple of weeks of thought I didn't know if I could say yes to all those questions but I decided that yes I would like to serve my community in this way and I felt it was the right thing to do for my family and my neighbors. I realized that by getting involved with the WNA I had the opportunity to live out my faith and serve my neighbors as well as fulfill my civic duties.

Jackie Varicak

I'd like to share some things that I have learned, accomplished, and gained

by serving. I have learned that there is a wonderful group of individuals on the board of the WNA who really care about people and who are willing to share their time and talents to keep our community strong, inviting and engaged. There are also many individuals who are not on the board of directors that are just as important and significant to the effectiveness of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association. These folks are integral to all that we do as a community and I am so impressed that they take the time and effort to do what they do from serving ice cream at an ice cream social to raking leaves in a park to helping load trucks on cleanup days.

I have also learned that serving the WNA is worthwhile and fun. It is worthwhile because I have gained many friends and become close to people I never would have, and the bonus is that they are my neighbors! I have found that it is always fun. It's fun getting together with people

### Hello everybody!

I want to take a minute to express my extreme gratefulness to all of you for your help in planning and implementing Streets Alive! From your excellent ideas (Cheryl= stickers) to helping to pass out flyers (Mary, Jackie, and Larry) to having an incredible booth during the Streets Alive! event, to inviting me to speak at your meeting—you all have been incredible.

I think you are all so fortunate to have such great neighbors--as I said before, if I ever decide to move, I'm coming to the Witherbee Neighborhood!

Thank you again--and all best to you! Linda Kern and laugh with them, learn new things from them, and get to know them better. It's fun when we put our minds together and accomplish positive things. We all have the same worthwhile goal of making our community a better place to live for our families.

Some things I have accomplished have been contributing to our quarterly newsletters. I love to write and have been able to put my love to practice by completing and submitting many articles to the WNA Buzz. I have also been involved with the launch of Witherbee Connect. I am a member of the committee and have helped to organize Witherbee Connect and get the word out that all neighbors are just a phone call away from getting their needs and concerns met. I was allowed to use my creativity to assist in naming this new program and it made me feel valued. These are just a couple of my major accomplishments in the past year.

The biggest thing that I have gained personally from my involvement as a board member of the WNA is that it was a resume enhancer for me and helped me land a couple of new part-time jobs. I didn't realize when I tried to answer those questions a year ago, as I contemplated joining the board, that by volunteering I was gaining great experience. Because of my experience writing for the newsletter I was hired to write for Lincoln Women's Edition Magazine. I also applied for a job with the City of Lincoln and they were very happy to see that I was involved in the community. My experience and involvement with the WNA was definitely helpful in being hired. I also happen to do a lot of volunteer work for my church and school and these things also supplemented my application and resume for the jobs I applied for.

I hope that by reading this testimony and all the great things about being a board member and volunteering for the WNA, you might consider doing the same. The rewards are endless. Please consider what you may be able to contribute. Can you scoop ice cream, rake leaves, write a short article, answer a phone call, attend an informative meeting once a month, plant a flower, deliver newsletters, have a good time? These are just some things we do. If you can contribute in big or small ways you are needed and valued. Please call one of the WNA Board members listed on page two for more information on ways that you can help the Witherbee Neighborhood Association.



## **Flu Vaccine Recommended For Most Everyone**

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is strongly encouraging everyone 6 months of age and older to get a yearly flu immunization. Ample supplies of influenza vaccine are now available. It takes up to two weeks after vaccination for your body to develop an immune response and protection lasts about a year. In the United States, influenza season usually begins in October and can last until May.

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year. While everyone should get a flu immunization each flu season, it's especially important that certain people get vaccinated yearly, either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications.

#### Those at high risk include:

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old
- Adults 65 years of age and older
- Pregnant women
- People who have certain conditions including, asthma, neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions, chronic lung disease, heart disease, blood disorders, diabetes, kidney disorders, liver disorders, metabolic disorders ,weakened immune system, people younger than 19 years of age who are receiving long-ter aspirin therapy, people who are obese.

## Other people for whom vaccination is especially important are:

• People who live in nursing homes and other longterm care facilities

### reEnergize to include part of Witherbee

The reEnergize Program is a joint effort between the Cities of Lincoln and Omaha to help residents build energy smart communities. By upgrading your home or business, you can save energy and be more safe, healthy, and comfortable. A majority of the Witherbee Neighborhood is within our Start Zone.

Benefits of the reEnergize Program include; a free



Healthy Home Review (\$60 value), a pool of contractors who are pre-qualified based on national industry standards, a minimum 15% energy savings (based on use), and a financial incentive for recommended upgrades.

Participants who decide

to invest in the recommended energy upgrades are guaranteed an incentive of \$500 or more. Standardized contracting tools and a technical review after the work is complete assure quality products and service. Visit www. reEnergizeProgram.org to sign up for more information or call us at 877-402-5111

- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
- Health care workers
- Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
- Household contacts and caregivers of children younger than 5 years of age with particular emphasis on vaccinating contacts of children younger than 6 months of age (children younger than 6 months are at highest ris of flu-related complications but are too young to get vaccinated)

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department will provide flu immunizations to children and low income and uninsured adults beginning October 3, 2011. All children between the ages of 6 months through 18 years of age can receive a flu vaccination as part of the Department's childhood immunization program. The Department will also provide flu vaccine to adults who are low-income and not covered by private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid or other thirdparty payers. Appointments are needed to obtain flu vaccinations through the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Please call 402-441-8065 for an appointment or more information.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is located at 32nd and O Streets. Client parking is available north of the building.



# **WNA Calendar**

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

- Saturday October 29 Drug Take Back events from 10am to 2pm: Walgreens Stores: 8300 Northern Lights (84th & Holdrege), 2630 Pine Lake Road, 4600 S. 70th Street (70th and Pioneers Blvd.), 1404 Superior Street, and Guardian Angels, 3200 O St.
- **Sunday Nov. 6th** Daylight Savings Time ends. Set clocks back one hour. Check smoke alarm batteries.
- **Thursday, Nov. 3th** 6:15 p.m. WNA Annual meeting. Dinner provided. Bring a dessert to share. Volunteer recognition. Board Elections. Entertainment: Adam White "the busiest magician in the Midwest"

Saturday Nov. 12th — Lincoln Recycles Day.

- Lincoln Recycles Day on November 12. However, a month's worth of events will celebrate recycling and safe disposal of waste! For details and to sign the recycling pledge, go to www.lincoln.ne.gov, keyword: recycling.
- Saturday, November 12 Free Wood Waste Recycling from 8am to noon at Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 S. Folsom Ct.
- Saturday, November 12 Usable Latex Paint Exchange at EcoStores Nebraska, 9am to 2 pm, 530 West P St.
- **Sunday Nov 13th** St Teresa's Catholic Church Parish Bazaar
- **Friday, November 18** Household Hazardous Waste Collection last one this year Appointment Only, call 402-441-8084.
- Nov. 24-25 Lincoln Public Schools closed Thanksgiving
- Thursday, Dec. 1st 7 p.m. WNA monthly meeting, Tabitha LifeQuest Center conference room, 48th & J St.
- **Dec 16-18th** WNA Holiday Lighting Contest Judging. See story in this issue. Nominate your neighbor!

- Dec. 23rd Jan 6th Lincoln Public Schools closed. Winter Break
- **Thursday, Jan. 5th 7 p.m. —** WNA monthly meeting & quarterly board meeting- Tabitha LifeQuest Center conference room, 48th & J St.



Leon Piepho points to uprooted tree at his home on south 52nd street. Witherbee suffered considerable damage during the Aug. 6th storm, and some residences were without power until late Sunday afternoon.

### Eliminate Neighborhood Graffiti

If you notice graffiti on your property or in your neighborhood please report it to the Lincoln Police Department at 441-6000 and call the City Ombudsman at 441-7511 as soon as possible. Reporting and quick removal sends a message that graffiti will not be tolerated.

When reporting you MUST need to know:

- ✓ Your name, address, & phone number
- ✓ Exact street address of property where graffiti is located (i.e. 555 South 10th Street)
- ✓ Location of the graffiti on the property (i.e. North side of garage on door facing alley)
- ✓ Description of graffiti (i.e. Blue spray painted number 13 about three feet wide and two feet in height)

If graffiti is removed quickly it will reduce the likelihood of graffiti in the same area appearing again.

If the unauthorized graffiti is on a residential property that you are living in and you are unable to make arrangements to remove the graffiti, in some cases Volunteer Partners, a community volunteer center, has a list of organizations that may volunteer to help remove unauthorized graffiti. You may check if a volunteer group is currently offering to help remove graffiti by calling Volunteer Partners at 435-2100 or Shawn Ryba or Erik Laing at Lincoln Action Program at 471-4515.

# Tabitha Installs Sites AsDirector of Pastoral Care

Tabitha Health Care Services recently celebrated the installation of Rev. David Sites by hosting a reception, installation service and luncheon in his honor. As



Director of Pastoral Care, Sites oversees the pastoral care program to meet the spiritual needs of the Tabitha communities. Rev. David deFreese, Bishop of the Nebraska Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), conducted the installation.

"I have been very impressed with the warm, caring spirit that is evident in those serving at all levels at Tabitha," Sites said. "Everyone seems focused on those they serve and how they can be supportive of

**David Sites** 

one another in their service. It is a very loving environment in which to work."

Sites has led ministries throughout Nebraska and Kansas for more than 37 years. Throughout that time, he has been a committed member of the synod, serving eight years as a secretary for the Nebraska Synod, and holding posts on the candidacy board and several planning teams. Sites also has played an active role in his community as a member of the Rotary and Lions Clubs.

### Walk With A Bag - Win A Prize!

Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful, (KLLCB), is launching their Walk with a Bag! campaign, encouraging residents who walk in their neighborhoods to carry a small trash bag with them to pick up litter along their walking route.

Many neighborhood associations work hard every spring to clean up our neighborhoods – in 2011 they collected over 145,000 pounds of trash and recyclables. Let's keep our city clean this fall so that, next spring, our snowmelt won't reveal a mess in our neighborhoods.

Enter your name into a monthly drawing for a useful "green" prize every time you report how far you walked and the amount of trash picked up (i.e., "half a kitchensized bag," "one plastic grocery bag,"). Email your name and the approximate amounts to kllcb1@gmail.com (note: that's a number "1" after kllcb). The first drawing will be October 31, so start Walking with a Bag!

Tell your neighbors about the Walk with a Bag campaign, or ask them to join you on your neighborhood "litter walk."



won by WNA during the Lincoln Energy Challenge, and the picnic table first presented to Hawthorne in 2004, from proceeds of that year's neighborhood cleanup. Both items are made of recycled material, and are sure to be enjoyed by Byran Community School students for many years.



Join us on deck thru November 23 for a new or used auto, motorcycle, boat or RV loan and we'll slash your rate up to 1% APR\* . . . Plus delay your first payment up to 90 days!

**Shiver me timbers!** Enjoy flexible terms with up to **100% financing**, inexpensive GAP and Service Warranties, and the added security and peace of mind low cost Credit Life and Disability Protection Plans.

Avast Ye Matey, when it comes to great loans, you'll find a treasure of savings at your Spirit of America Federal Credit Union!

\*APR (Annual Percentage Rate) Certain restrictions apply, see Credit Union for details. Minimum Ioan amount \$3,500. Offer ends November 23, 2011.

## **WNA Needs You!**

Please take a few minutes to think about what our neighborhood association provides:

- Information about neighborhood and community issues
- Opportunities to socialize and get to know your neighbors
- A mechanism through which to voice concerns about neighborhood matters
- A platform for taking action to improve our community
- And more

These wonderful benefits would not be possible without the strength in numbers that our paid membership implies. We can boast one of the largest, if not the largest, membership lists in Lincoln. We have phenomenal turn-out at some of our popular events like the free swim and ice cream social (mark your calendars for August 7th, by the way), and Annual Meeting. We've made a positive name for ourselves among local policymakers and other neighborhood associations. A sincere thank you to all our paid members.

But there is also a lot that goes on behind the scenes of activities like the newsletter and swim party. Our successes are also owed to the people-power of our board and project chairs – the individuals who choose to commit a few hours of their time each month to get these valuable projects done. And our organization needs a regular infusion of fresh people to stay viable.

There are more than 1800 residences within the boundaries of Witherbee, most of which contain families

or living groups of two or more. That is a lot of people in our little corner of Lincoln. Just think of what we could accomplish if every one of those people took just a couple hours of their time each year to give back to our community.

Maybe you've been actively involved in WNA in past years but needed to take a break. Could you give of yourself again soon? Perhaps you've been a paying member for a while and are now ready to give a little of your time to a project or two. Now is a great time to become just a little more involved. Whether you can give a few hours a month or a couple hours this year, we thrive on the contributions of everyone.

At our Annual Meeting we will vote for a new slate of board members. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved in being on the board, or know someone who might be a good candidate, please attend our next monthly meeting or contact Rick Bagby at 402.488.8567 or Laura Wiese at 402.617.6024.

Don't sit back and hope your neighbor is the one who steps forward. Everyone has a talent, skill, idea or perspective that would be an important contribution to our association. There are many jobs, large and small, that we could use your help with. And if there isn't anything currently that strikes your interest, WNA can be the platform for you to start a new project or tradition. We need you to continue to make our neighborhood the best community it can be. Please attend a meeting or contact a board member today to get more involved.

	hips received after July 1st will en alance of current year, and entire f	-
You are invited to be a	member of the Witherbee N	eighborhood Association
	Membership (	Categories:
Name:		\$10.00
Address:		\$15.00
City, St.:	A 1111 1 11	7\$10.00 pusehold Member\$ 5.00
Zip Code:	Sponsor	\$35.00 \$50.00 & up
Phone:		\$40.00
E-mail:	$\mathbf{O}$ - $\mathbf$	
Please indicate your areas of intervention         Serving on the board         Witherbee Connect         Distributing newsletters         Neighborhood Cleanup         Organizing garage sales         Holiday Lights contest	est and mail to Witherbee Neighborhood / Newsletter writing/photography Newsletter production Web pages Acquire meeting speakers Annual Meeting Boosting home ownership project	Assn, P.O. Box 5431, Lincoln, NE 68505 Neighborhood Watch Bryan/Hawthorne School Other (describe below)
Pool Party & Socials	Witherbee Park	
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