

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

# WNA 8th Annual Cleanup May 7th

Rubbish collection, Recycling, Document Shredding, Electronics recycling, Household Goods donations, fun, work, community building.

Join us Saturday morning May 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Hawthorne School. Bring your unwanted items to be placed in roll-off dumpsters, or to be recycled, or donated. Benefits for paid WNA members continue this year. We will waive the usual fee for tire and Freon appliance collection for current members only.

NEW—electronics recycling collection and household items collection provided by Goodwill and the Dell Computer company. Please read the entire cleanup article for all details.

Rid your home, garage, yard, attic, closets and basement of unwanted items for FREE. We will recycle anything we can. (No Hazardous Materials or general household



trash). Clean the closets, the back fence, behind the garage. Leftover landscape blocks? We'll take them. O u t g r o w n bicycles? Let us get them to Mad Dads for you. The gutters that fell off last January in

the snow? Bring them in. The rusty grill with the burned out bottom? We'll take it.

The tube TV? The two old computers and the VCR gathering dust in the basement? Clothing three sizes too small? The set of dishes in a box unused for the last ten years? Goodwill will be there to take it.

We need YOU, our friends and neighbors. Bring the whole family to volunteer. Coffee and refreshments will be provided to volunteers starting at 7:30 AM. Available jobs: Greeter, Volunteer sign-in, photographer, direct traffic, unload, sort, and organize items, collect recycling fees, issue brush coupons, refreshment station, deliver tires to **Continued on page 15** 

# Roundtable Discussion On Tap For May 5th

Calling all neighbors!! Do you have an idea or issue for our association to tackle? Are you interested in becoming more involved in WNA but just haven't been sure how

or where you might contribute? Come and participate at the May 5<sup>th</sup> Witherbee Neighborhood roundtable discussion beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Tabitha's LifeQuest Center. The discussion will be a brainstorming session with Shawn Ryba of NeighborWorks who will help us take advantage of a Neighborhood Community Engagement Initiative Grant.



The grant purpose is to encourage leadership growth

Shawn Ryba

in our neighborhood that will bring about a project to positively impact our community. The grant amount is up to \$1,500.00 – a great kick-start to whatever project we select.

By attending this meeting you will help in adding to

#### Continued on page 11

### Witherbee Embraces Lincoln Energy Challenge

Never one to back down from a worthwhile challenge, the Witherbee Neighborhood Association is teaming up with the Lincoln Energy Challenge to help spread the word about the benefits of energy efficiency.

The Lincoln Energy Challenge is a campaign to encourage Lincoln residents to reduce energy use at home and save money. Mayor Beutler supports the program as a way to show Lincoln residents how easy it is to reduce energy consumption. "This free program will give residents the tools they need to improve energy efficiency in their

#### Continued on page 9

### Please Return Postcard Inserted in This Issue

### 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

Laura Wiese, Vice President 402-617-6024 dorbaroy@hotmail.com

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

Shawn Gordin, Treasurer 402-326-2563, sgordin2@yahoo.com

#### **Additional Board Members:**

Jason Brummels 402-730-5855 jason@drivemethod.com

Fred Freytag 402-430-6658 fred@WitherbeeNA.org

Larry Frisch 402-486-9380 larry@npcenter.com

Tony Marquez 402-435-3009 netonym@windstream.net tmarquez@tmcoinc.com

Kathy Stastny 402-488-3314 kstastny@neb.rr.com

Jackie Varicak 402-438-3616 wvaricak@neb.rr.com

Jeff Worrell 402-601-5269 jworrall05@gmail.com

Communication Director: Laura Wiese 402-617-6024 dorbaroy@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Larry Frisch 402-486-9380 larry@npcenter.com

Web Development: Fred Freytag 402-430-6658 fred@WitherbeeNA.org

# President's Message

Have you ever considered getting involved but didn't know where to start? Have a great project idea for Witherbee? Explore a great new opportunity to develop and kick start new projects. Through an effort of the Lincoln Policy Network and Neighborworks Lincoln, we can send a group of neighbors for group training and assistance. Some funding will be available for the project selected. Join us at the May meeting to learn more.



As for current projects, in this issue see information on the neighborhood cleanup, garage

**Rick Bagby** 

sales, meeting announcements, and the new Energy Challenge. Save the date for the Free Ice Cream Social and Neighborhood Swim coming later this summer. If you like what you see, please consider joining us in these events. It is busy season for WNA!

A great welcome goes to the newest members of our Board of Directors. Larry Frisch, Jeff Worrell, and Fred Freytag have agreed to join our board. Fred and Larry are long-time members rejoining the board. Jeff is a first time board member. Please help them feel welcome and give them your support and suggestions.

Finally:

Election time again. Once more local elections offer an opportunity to participate in the noblest of many benefits of living in the USA – free and fair elections. Mayor, City Council, School Board and more. Please read up, check the candidate reviews and surveys, attend a debate or rally, and listen to the candidate on your doorstep. Become informed, and then vote. Through the efforts of our neighborhood association you have experienced the result of neighbors working together for a better life. Working together we can accomplish so much more than working alone. City and county elections offer the same opportunity on a bigger scale. Please help in setting the tone and direction of our community by casting an informed vote.

### **Benefits of volunteering**

### Learn or develop a new skill

Volunteering is the perfect vehicle to discover something you are really good at and develop a new skill. As Mahatma Gandhi said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

### Volunteer Opportunities Right Here at WNA

### Learn newsletter production

We are currently seeking interested individuals who are or would like to become skilled in working with computer software to produce our quarterly newsletter. If you are not skilled, we will train you. How would you like to contribute to our neighborhood and at the same time learn a new, marketable skill at no cost to you! If you are interested please contact Larry Frisch at 402-560-4565 or larry@npcenter.com..

### Share your knowledge and love for gardening

We are looking for one or more people to conduct our Yard of the Month award. Past duties have included selecting yards within the WNA boundaries to feature, conducting brief interviews with the yard-owner(s) and writing a brief article for the newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Laura Wiese at 402-617-6024 or dorbaroy@hotmail.com.

www.WitherbeeNA.org

### Damage to Witherbee Park Tree Has Happy Ending

On January 13 an alert neighbor noticed some odd car tracks running through a corner of Witherbee Park at 46<sup>th</sup> and O streets. On closer inspection those tire treads were located right were one of the swamp white oak trees, donated and planted last spring, used to stand. Someone had driven off O Street and crashed into the little tree, snapping it at the base.

Witherbee Park is named after the neighborhood that surrounds it, helped build it and even hosted a bake sale to raise money for it. The park is home to a small climbing sculpture, a pair of benches and, until recently, three young oak trees.

Fred Freytag, former president of the neighborhood association, didn't see the accident. But when he found the damage, he got upset.

"There's an incident that happened here," Freytag said. "Somebody should have stepped forward and taken responsibility."

So Fred and a few other neighbors sprung into action to do something about it. Calls and emails went out to the local news stations and Journal Star and the story was covered that day by all TV and radio stations. The next morning Fred was a guest on the KLIN morning radio program.

Following the media coverage, an insurance agent who had pieced together the details contacted Freytag. It was his client who was responsible for the damage to the tree and they wanted to make it right.

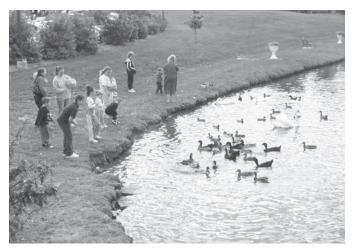
"There's a lot of people that cared and put this park together," President Rick Bagby said. "It may seem like a small thing, but the park and those trees mean a lot to our community."

The claim is being processed, with funds going to the City to replace the tree later this year.

"I'm happy to see it all working out," said Freytag. "We saved the City and tax-payer's money to replace the tree. It just took some effort of a few concerned citizens. This really shows how much the people of Lincoln care about their city."



View from 'O' St., where tree destruction occurred. Spring 2011 www.facebo



Wyuka pond is a family favorite.

### Wyuka Celebrates Lake Renovation With "Safari in the Park" May 15th

On Sunday May 15 Wyuka Cemetery and Lincoln Safari will celebrate the restoration of Lincoln's first park with an afternoon of outdoor, family-friendly activities. The day will start at 1 p.m. with a ribbon cutting and parade around the lake on a new walking trail. Lincoln Safari will kick off their 2011 program, "Lincoln Safari Advanced" with an opportunity to follow the clues to complete a Safari adventure.

### When: Sunday May 15, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Where: Wyuka's Park and Garden, 3600 "O" St.

Children can participate in more than a dozen handson activities led by nature experts from the Pioneers Park Nature Center, Nebraska Game and Parks, the Groundwater Foundation and more.

Adults and teens will enjoy a historic walking tour with Ed Zimmer at 2 p.m. Healthy refreshments will be provided by the Preservation Association of Lincoln. All activities are free and open to the public. If you would like more information, please contact Lori Raphael by emailing lraphael@wyuka.com.



# Libraries to be Discussed at June 2nd Member Meeting

Learn more about what's new at Lincoln City Libraries. Carol Johnson, Branch Supervisor for Gere Library, will share the latest happenings and additions to our public libraries. Here is just a preview of some of the topics and offerings:

- Popular new addition of downloadable audio books and downloadable ebooks
- Volunteer Appreciation Week in April (the LCL have many volunteer opportunities throughout the year)
- National Library Week, which Gere will be applauding with a BookBlurbs program – a lively booktalking event with special guest Barbara Rixstine (LJS book reviewer and "L" Magazine columnist)
- Summer Reading Programs run June 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> for three different levels: Youth (for those up through 5th grade), Teen (for those in middle school and up), and Adult
- Applications are being accepted now for middle school students to help as Summer Reading Volunteers
- Twice a week children's storytimes, evening family storytimes once a month and adult BooksTalk each Monday
- One Book One Lincoln selection committee is already busy selecting the finalist titles for One Book 2011
- Gere Branch's active Teen group here and new Teen Zone, an area that allows teens to read, play games, use computers, listen to music or just be with friends
- Lincoln Community Playhouse partnership to provide Sneak Preview performances for youth and family productions as well as materials lists and displays
- Plus meeting rooms, study rooms, computers, InterLibrary Loan Service, new release DVDs, NY Times bestsellers, and much more!

Whatever your need or interest, Lincoln City Libraries staff are available to make sure you get the best service possible whether you visit your local library branch, see them at a community event, access the LCL website



or follow their accounts on Facebook or Twitter.

Library staff welcome visits in person or online. If you have a special topic you'd like to know more about during the June 2 program feel free to send questions and suggestions to Carol Swanson at c.swanson@ lincolnlibraries.org or 402-441-8562, or Sarah Dale, Gere Teen Services, at s.dale@ lincolnlibraries.org or 402-441-8590.

Carol Johnson

#### Page 4

### Antelope Creek Water Quality Topic of July 7 WNA Meeting

The City of Lincoln and Lower Platte South Natural Resources District are working with a project team of scientists and engineers to establish the Antelope Creek Watershed Basin Management Plan. Antelope Creek flows through the heart of Lincoln; an area that is nearly 100%

urbanized, and runs near the southern portion of the Witherbee Neighborhood.

A 2007 study indicated this segment of Antelope Creek contains elevated levels of E. coli bacteria, ammonia, and other contaminants. The water quality of the Creek has become a concern of the City and NRD.

Goals of the Basin Plan are to determine the cause of the contaminants, determine what type of projects can be planned



Jonathan Mohr

to reduce levels of each contaminant, educate the public on water quality issues, and utilize lessons learned in the Antelope Creek Basin Plan in other areas in Lincoln and planned growth areas.

The cost of the study is \$500,000 and is being split between the project sponsors. Development of the Basin Plan is being overseen by an Advisory Council whose roles and responsibilities include reviewing elements of the plan, asking questions, raising issues, and sharing information with one another, the public, and the project team.

Project representative Jonathan Mohr of EA Engineering, Science and Technology and Ed Kouma of the City of Lincoln will present details of the Basin Plan and answer neighbor's questions during the July 7th monthly meeting, including what residents can do to have a positive impact on water quality within the City.

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



www.downunderpottery.com

# **IRS Approves WNA as Non-profit**

#### By Mike Fitzgerald

Your neighborhood association has a new powerful tool that can help many WNA efforts enhance the area. In late January, the IRS approved WNA as an official non-profit organization. The benefits of having this 501(c) 3 status include receiving tax-deductible contributions.

WNA can now offer individual donors and corporate donors a tax deduction for their charitable donations. A tax deduction is often an incentive for taxpayers who itemize their income tax deductions. Such donations will help WNA accomplish neighborhood self-help projects.

In addition, WNA is eligible to receive private foundation grants. Private foundations are required by law to distribute a minimum amount of money for charitable purposes. One way they fulfill this obligation is by making grants to 501(c) 3 public charities such as WNA. Recognition of non-profit status under IRS section 501(c) 3 assures foundations and other grant-making institutions that they are issuing grants or sponsorships to permitted beneficiaries.

The IRS designation is recognized and accepted for other purposes. Online payment services such as Paypal provide official non-profits with a lower fee for their services. Now WNA residents are able to pay membership dues or make donations via the neighborhood's website: www.witherbeena. org/.

Also, schools and organizations such as Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts with community service requirements for their students and members can include WNA projects on their list of approved organizations. In addition, residents that include WNA in their wills can receive tax benefits for their estates.

Further, WNA is now eligible for lower postal rates on third class bulk mailings through the U.S. Postal Service

With these benefits in place, watch for news about WNA projects that you can benefit by supporting to help enhance the neighborhood while simultaneously reducing your taxes.

### STUHR PARK NEIGHBORS SUNDAY SUMMER POTLUCKS 2011

MAY 29, 2011 JUNE 12, 2011 JULY 17, 2011 AUGUST 18, 2011 SEPTEMBER 11, 2011 OCTOBER 2, 2011

- Come and enjoy your neighbors in the park.
- Plan to share the meal about 6 p.m.
- Bring your own table service.
- Bring a dish to share.
- Ice tea and lemonade drinks will be provided.
- Your guests are welcome.
- Rain date -- next potluck.

Sure hope to see you "in the park". Questions or Comments call Cheryl Hejl – 402- 489-2557



# Autos now through May 31, 2011!

**Our Loan Rangers are here to the rescue!** Get up to a **1.50% APR discount** on your next new or used auto, boat, motorcycle, travel trailer or RV.

Don't get roped into high fees on Service Warranties or GAP Protection either! We'll save you money!

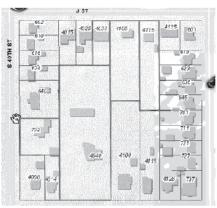
APR - Annual Percentage Rate Certain restrictions apply. Ask for details.

We proudly serve present and former Federal and Postal employees, Federally contracted employees, Military personnel and their family members.

## **Randolph Square Properties Begin New Chapter**

By Mike Fitzgerald

late February, Rosburg In Enterprises, Inc, bought the six properties contiguous between Randolph and J Streets just east of 40<sup>th</sup> Street. The parcels had been for sale since last summer when Lincoln Federal Savings Bank became the owner at a foreclosure auction. Previously, an investor purchased the properties in May 2001 for \$775,000 and in early 2003 proposed a development titled Randolph Square. The development was out of character with the neighborhood and was the catalyst for the formation of the Witherbee



Affected property shaded in green

Neighborhood Association. Now, nearly 10 years later, on February 24, Rosburg Enterprises acquired them for \$405,000 and begins a new chapter that has potential to benefit neighbors and the neighborhood.

WNA President Rick Bagby and I met with Ken Rosburg in early March to get acquainted and to learn about each other's visions for the properties. We shared with him the properties' long history of neglect and WNA's interest and involvement in seeking to have a new owner handle the properties so they would once again become an asset to the neighborhood and to the city.

Rosburg is a farmer from Martell southwest of Lincoln. His family lived in Lincoln in his school-age years and he graduated from Pius X High School. In addition to the Randolph properties, Rosburg owns one other rental property in the Witherbee neighborhood and six other properties in Lincoln. Also, he has a brother who lives south of Randolph in the 40<sup>th</sup> & A Neighborhood.

Rosburg said he does not have plans to develop the properties; instead, his priority is to clean up landscaping and repair the vacant houses so they can be rented. He described himself as a responsive landlord who carefully screens renters to avoid problems for himself and as well as for neighbors. Already, the house at 4115 J has been reshingled, 4035 is being reshingled, and 4105 is being reconditioned inside and the tall wire fence with overgrown trees was removed from that front yard. In addition, the house at 720 S. 40<sup>th</sup>, which Lincoln Federal had scheduled for demolition, has received roof repair and reconditioning is planned for the interior. Rosburg is also working on the house at 4014 Randolph.

Rosburg has no plans for developing the large space in the middle of the block, but said he would seek WNA input if he decides to explore that option.

Lincoln historian Ed Zimmer has compiled some pieces of the history of the properties and is interested in gathering more. He hopes to piece together information to answers such did attorney Joseph Krause acquire the properties in the mid 1960s all at one time, or over a period of years? In addition, why did the area develop as a double block without a 41<sup>st</sup> Street?

Zimmer has determined that a house stood on the northeast corner of 40<sup>th</sup> & Randolph by the early 1900s. A 1903 map of Lincoln shows J. L. Stephens as owner of 10 acres at that corner. The 1904 Lincoln directory identifies John L. Stephens, president of Modern Commercial School at 1309 O St., as residing at northeast corner of 40<sup>th</sup> & Randolph. Stephens was listed as a "stationer" at Lincoln Normal University in the 1896 directory and was operating his own "Lincoln Business College" by 1897.

The other houses in the Randolph Square, in chronological order of construction, were 702 S. 40<sup>th</sup> (1922), 4014 Randolph (1930), 4115 J (1934), 4105 J (1950) and 4035 J (1953).

A.J. Yost owned 4040 Randolph, the largest lot on the block, in 1937 when he had architect Fritz Craig designed an alteration, but the estimated cost of \$200 doesn't sound too extensive.

Mrs. Janet F. Palmer owned 4040 Randolph by the 1950s. She was a psychiatrist practicing in the Stuart Building. Dr. J. Palmer was the owner when a \$1,200 alteration was accomplished in 1954. She's listed at the house through 1964, when Joseph F. Krause was listed on a \$2,500 alteration permit. Krause was an attorney and at that time was a partner with Walter C. O'Neal Jr. in O'Neal & Krause.

Zimmer has not yet not charted the sales of the pieces of Stephens' 10 acres but thinks the basic answer to why there is no 41<sup>st</sup> or H Streets through the double block is that the development was piecemeal, probably by Stephens and or subsequent owners, rather than having an overall plat to subdivide the land and establish streets through the parcel in order to maximize the number of lots.



### **Tabitha Hosts Grand Opening For New Living Communities**

By Eldonna Rayburn

Tabitha Health Care Services is committed to be the answer for Elder Care in our community. Tabitha extends that commitment this spring with the opening of four new living communities for Elders: GracePointe Assisted Living & Memory Care Suites; two additional Green House® homes; and the Journey House for Hospice Care.

Please join us Tuesday, April 26, 1:30-3p.m., for the Grand Opening of GracePointe and the fourth Green House. The ribbon cutting and dedication will be held at GracePointe, 4620 Randolph Street, with tours also of the Green House.

GracePointe Assisted Living & Memory Care Suites will officially open May 2. This 63-bed living community is designed for Elders who are not yet in need of skilled nursing care, yet require assistance with the activities of daily living. The community features maintenance-free residences that provide around-the-clock personal care as well as activities focused on health and wellness. Forty-eight residences will be dedicated to memory care. Starr Carmichael, administrator at GracePointe, said the community includes Health Sense Technology, a quiet monitoring system offering extra safety measures for residents.

In addition to GracePointe, Tabitha will open two Green House homes to the two existing homes added in 2006 and 2010. Green Houses are a new choice for individuals requiring skilled nursing services. These communities take the institution out of the picture as they are designed with the home in mind. Joyce Ebmeier, vice president of strategic planning at Tabitha, said these 12-resident homes are unique from institutional living in that they are built to support and lift up individuals to live life on their own terms and schedules. "Green Houses foster a true partnership between caregivers and Elders," said Ebmeier. "This relationship is focused on making each day fulfilling and meaningful."

For over 30 years, Tabitha has led the community in providing compassionate hospice care. That commitment continues this spring with the opening of the Journey House for Hospice Care, Lincoln's only Medicare certified hospice skilled nursing facility.

For more information on Tabitha's living communities and all services, please visit www.Tabitha.org or call 402-486-8520.



### Randolph School Family Fun Night PTA Fundraiser

By Julie Trembley, Randolph PTA President

Please join the Randolph community for food and fun at our biggest fundraiser of the year. There are activities for everyone, *young* or *old*.

Here is a list of some of the activities to enjoy: Inflatables, Silent Auction, Bake Sale, Bingo, Dunk Tank, Clowning Around Clowns doing face painting and balloon animals, Color Hair Spray, Pop & Candy Walk, Carnival Games and so much more! Runza Rex, Saltdogs' Homer, and the Little Caesar Pizza Guy will be mingling among the crowd too.

Please come and support the Randolph Parent Teacher Association. We raise funds for technology, classroom support, recognition, field trips, books, and so much more!.

### Date: Friday, May 13, 2011

### Time: 5-8 p.m.

### Location: Randolph School, 37th & D St.

If you have any questions please contact Julie Trembley, PTA President, after 3 p.m. at 402-217-1873. We hope to see you there!



Spring 2011



More than 60 volunteers descended upon Woods Park one beautiful Saturday earlier this month to make quick work of the large piles of mulch laid by the City. UNL students and Witherbee neighbors along with Parks and Recreation workers scooped and spread their way across the park to help prepare the trees and grass for summer use.



# Community CROPS 2011 Plant Sale

### Saturday, May 14, 2011, 2-4 pm, West Gate Bank, 50th and O

Stop by to pick up a fantastic selection of plants, including hundreds of vegetable transplants, aromatic herbs and beautiful perennials. Dozens of tomato varieties include Julia Child, Black Zebra, Brandywine and Orange Smudge. Other vegetables range from peppers to brussels sprouts, cabbage to chard, and everything in-between! Perennial plants of all kinds include purple cone flower, artemesia, sedum, daylilies and devil's paintbrush, and herbs include basil, oregano, lemon balm and sage.

Donations are welcomed for the plant sale. Donate them the day of the sale between 12:30 and 1:30pm or contact us to drop them off earlier at our office.

The Community CROPS Plant Sale benefits Community CROPS, a local organization which helps families to



grow healthy food. Community CROPS has a network of community gardens across Lincoln for families of all backgrounds to grow vegetables. At the gardens you can find Sudanese families growing a variety

of greens from their home country, as well as native Lincolnites raising delicious cucumbers and green beans.

Community CROPS also helps new farmers start their business through our Growing Farmers Training Program. If you aren't a gardener but want to enjoy fresh, local food grown a few miles from where you live, the Community CROPS Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program lets you pay in spring to receive a box of fresh vegetables every week for twenty weeks during the growing season. You get to eat better, try new foods and support beginning farmers all at the same time!.

For more information about Community CROPS and all of our programs, visit our website at www. communitycrops.org or call the office at (402) 474-9802.



### Witherbee Embraces Energy Challenge Continued from Page 1

homes, and the result will be greater comfort and long-term energy savings," said Beutler.

Even small improvements in our home's energy efficiency can make a big difference, and those who pledge to join the Challenge also will be eligible for prizes, incentives, rebates and rewards worth thousands of dollars. Some examples are: a bundle of CFL lights, gift certificates to local business and restaurants, and movie tickets.

In addition to individual prizes, groups are eligible for prizes as well. As a neighborhood association, we could win a bike rack or park bench made from recycled materials, solar-powered trash compactor, or trees – all perfect items for our wonderful new Witherbee Park or other location in the neighborhood.

To participate in the pledge and make yourself and WNA eligible for these prizes fill out and return the Energy Challenge pledge card that accompanied this newsletter.

Be sure to write in "Witherbee Neighborhood Association" on the 'Group Affiliation' line, unless you receive a pre-printed one. Tear off and keep the top portion of postcard.

You may also pledge online at http://green.lincoln. ne.gov, call the Challenge office at 402.441.7511 or stop by their office located at 2143 O Street.



Spring 2011

# **Sculpture Proposed for Witherbee Park**

### By Jackie Varicak

WNA board member Tony Marquez has worked to bring a seven foot sculpture of a mother and child to the south side of the new Witherbee Park at 46<sup>th</sup> and O streets. His company, TMCO, has agreed to donate the sculpture. The purpose of the sculpture is to bring a family-friendly atmosphere to the park and grace it with a piece of art that will cause people to stop and think. Tony commissioned local artist, Emily Brodersen, of TMCO to design the sculpture. Brodersen has drawn up plans for the sculpture to be constructed of stainless steel which would be rolled,



Artists rendering of sculpture

### Edward Jones® Making Sense of Investing 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 cut, welded together and then covered with a brushed finish.

To bring the spirit of the sculpture alive the concrete base of the sculpture will hold a stainless steel plaque etched with a poem. The following poem is currently being considered:

### If I Had My Child to Raise Over Again

If I had my child to raise over again, I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less. I'd do less correcting, and more connecting. I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes. I would care to know less, and know to care more. I'd take more hikes and fly more kites. I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play. I'd run through more fields, and gaze at more stars. I'd do more hugging, and less tugging. I would be firm less often, and affirm much more. I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later. I'd teach less about the love of power, And more about the power of love It matters not whether my child is big or small, From this day forth, I'll cherish it all. —Diana Loomans

It was thought that licensing rights to the original poem would cost as much as \$1,000. In a surprise move, the author, Diana Loomans, added the last two lines, (which removes the published version licensing), and offered the poem licensing free of charge to the Witherbee Neighborhood Association, for use on the scultpture.

Approval by the City of Lincoln Parks Department Futures Committee and the Witherbee Neighborhood Association has been given to move forward with the construction and setting of the sculpture. Final approval from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is pending.



### **Packing Up And Moving Out!**

#### By Patience Johnson

Bryan Community staff and administrators are gearing up for the big move to the old Hawthorne building. This move has been highly anticipated and the time is finally here. As boxes upon boxes begin to be packed away it is a bittersweet farewell to a building full of memories. For many Bryan staff packing is just the beginning. There are many things staff and administrators are doing to prepare for the transition. When asked the question of what they were doing to get ready for the move the four people I spoke to were quick to respond.

Judy Thompson, a secretary at Bryan Community, says the way she needs to prepare herself more than anything is mentally and psychologically. She says, " I need to say my goodbyes to this building and it's very bittersweet." However she also says, " I want to generate enthusiasm to because the new building will be gorgeous. I am also very excited for the space for students because it will all be new to us. We will have a gym, and a cafeteria which is something Bryan's never had."

Mindy Roberts the new principal this year at Bryan Community discusses all the things she and the other staff are doing to prepare for the big move. She starts by saying "We are very excited for the move because there are lots of great features at the new building." She says right now she is really focused on supporting the teachers and their transition. "We are getting new supplies in order, working on assigning classrooms, and we are also searching for the funding to upgrade our Elearning labs, as well as funding for new P.E equipment so that we can offer more classes in that area of school."

Julie Miller the head Student Child Learning Center coordinator at Bryan Community talked to me about how the child center is getting ready for the move to Hawthorne. "We are just packing the whole center up. We are packing everything from the blankets, to the toys. We are sorting out all of our stuff and getting rid of what's old." She goes on to say, "This is a great opportunity to sort, clean, and organize all of the center's supplies." She ends by saying, "We are very excited for the move and we hope to get some Witherbee retirees to come down to the center and rock the baby's!"

Roger Burris a teacher at Bryan says, "I have been packing, packing, packing and cleaning out my room." He says, "We are doing a lot of recycling of old things we no longer need or use and I am just really trying to prepare for a different kind of transition." He also says that, "Even though it is a different transition I'm excited."

So as Bryan staff begin to say goodbye to a building that was held so dear to many, the farewell really is bittersweet. However there are feelings of excitement and enthusiasm all around. Everyone is ready to have more space and the ability to offer so much more to the students. The move is just around the corner and the excitement is adding up.

See you soon Witherbee! See you soon!

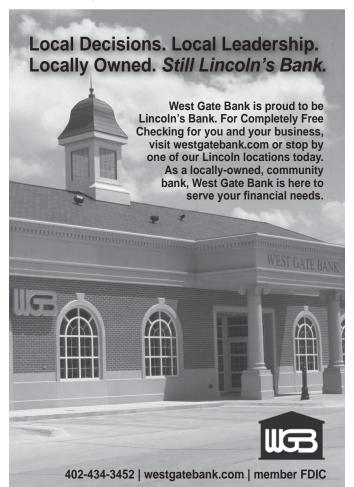
### Roundtable Discussion On Tap For May 5th Continued from Page 1

and choosing from a host of project ideas. Here is a list of possible projects WNA might elect to pursue:

- A series of block parties for neighborhood association recruitment
- Public street art project
- Neighborhood satisfaction survey
- Problem property potlucks
- Community/Neighborhood Market
- Rain barrel/community garden workshop series
- Community mural project
- Neighborhood Scan-property assessments to collect housing stock condition data
- Neighborhood signage
- Tree planting
- [Your idea goes here!]

The grant requires us to put together an action plan to complete our project. NeighborWorks will provide a structured framework for our project team to work within. The project team will also receive training to assist them in the completion of the project.

So mark your calendar today and start thinking of ideas to bring to the Witherbee Neighborhood roundtable discussion May  $5^{th}$ !



### Witherbee Gardener's Corner By Roberta Sandhorst Garden Plants and Seed Resources

After pouring over seed catalogs and shiny garden magazines all winter, it's finally time to buy! Like many of you, I have an insatiable urge to try new plants or just add to my hosta collection. There are so many choices now that it can become overwhelming. Following are some suggestions about how to get started and on your way to choosing the best plants for your garden.

The Garden Watchdog (http://davesgarden.com/) has become one of my favorite garden reference websites. The Garden Watchdog is a free directory of over 7,000 mail-order gardening companies. Here, gardeners share and rank their opinions on which companies really deliver on quality, price and service. You're able to search or browse features to find reputable sources for all of your gardening needs. This is a great resource for beginning and experienced gardeners alike.

While we're on the subject, I thought I'd share my favorite perennial website. I have an almost exclusively shaded property and have hundreds of hostas along with ferns, coral bells and other shade plants. Hallson Gardens (http://www. perennialnursery.com/) is one of the best online hosta and perennial resource. The plants are field grown, high quality and are guaranteed to be healthy and pest free. If there's one thing I've learned, it's to buy perennials from a REPUTABLE source (hence, The Garden Watchdog). Most big box stores do not offer this kind of guarantee and you don't always know where they come from.

Friend, Witherbee neighbor and gardener, Pam Magdanz, grew up on a farm in northeast Nebraska and has always been interested in gardening. After moving to Lincoln 35 years ago she started with pots on her apartment patio and remembers buying vegetables and plants at a garden center on "O" Street between 10th -11th. Today she and her husband, Wayne, still raise vegetables in a large plot in her yard. Pam's favorite catalog site is The Cook's Garden (http://www.cooksgarden. com). It not only includes a great selection of heirloom and organic hybrid seeds, but also recipes and helpful comments from other gardeners. She remembers her mother ordering seeds from Gurney's catalog (http://gurneys.com) and it's still a favorite. Pam purchases most of her vegetable bedding plants from local gardeners at the Farmer's Market.

Pam's friends, Bruce & Mary Beth Noble, live on a large lot in Bellevue. They tend a large vegetable garden, and have perennial beds that include native prairie grasses. Here are a few of their favorite websites:

**http://www.chilepepperinstitute.org** - New Mexico green chiles! The NuMex Heritage 64 and NuMex Heritage Big Jim are the peppers that characterize New Mexican food. The most frequently asked question in New Mexico is "green or red?" The red peppers are those you find strung drying in ristras, and the green are roasted and used in chile rellenos, stews, etc. The institute also sells many other hot and belltype peppers. This year Bruce is trying the world's hottest pepper, "the bhut jolokia" pepper, or "ghost pepper."

**http://www.territorialseed.com** - Bruce orders most of his vegetable seeds from Territorial seeds. They have a

great and informative catalog. He says if he only grew a few tomato plants, he might order



their new grafted tomato plants. They are the top part of the plant (the scion) grafted onto the root system of a separate plant. Territorial Seeds claim they are healthier, stronger and more productive than plants from seeds. Like most good companies, they have some very nice mixes of lettuces and greens. A family favorite is the Japanese Black Trifele tomato. They are medium sized, mahogany in color, and somewhat smoky flavored.

**http://www.johnnyseeds.com** - A friend of Bruce's who used to make a living off of his urban farm in Bellevue swears by Johnny's Selected Seeds. Their catalog includes a lot of organic products, and is employee-owned and stresses the community-building aspects of gardens and gardeners.

**http://www.prairienursery.com** - Native flowers and grasses, like rattlesnake master, compass plant, some rudbeckias, joe pye weed, etc. They sell a lot of grass and wildflower mixes.

**http://www.totallytomato.com** - Bruce has ordered peppers and tomatoes from this site. There are almost too many choices, but if you are looking for something obscure, you'll find it here.

#### **SPRING AFFAIR**

You don't want to miss the Spring Affair, hosted by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, April 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center, 84th and Holdrege. FREE ADMITTANCE. The plants, purchased from Bluebird Nursery, Inc. (Clarkson, NE), are selected for their hardiness in Nebraska and for their past popularity. More than 1,000 different varieties of plants will be available. They will again feature programs and demonstrations to help your learn about updating your garden spaces. In addition, vendors selling garden art, sculpture, birdhouses and other items will be on hand

#### "TWO WOMEN AND SOME PLANTS" - SALE!

Neighbor and gardening friend, Carol Goodding and I divide our sunny and shady perennials every other year and hold a sale. This year our sale will be held on Friday, May 6th from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The sale will be held at 3320 N Street.



### Lincolnites Can Recycle Juice and Milk Boxes/Carton

RecycleLink now accepts cartons. This new addition to RecycleLink will help to divert more materials from the landfill and earn recyclers more Reward Points.

Recycling programs only add new materials when a stable end-market for the recyclable material is available. Through the assistance of the Carton Council and Firstar Fiber, new markets have been developed that can use recycled cartons.



Examples of recyclable cartons

### What are cartons?

Cartons are the packaging for many products you can find at the store including milk, juice, cream, egg substitutes, soy milk, soup, broth, ice cream containers, and wine. They come in two different types-shelf stable and refrigerated cartons.

### How do I recycle cartons?

Place empty cartons in your recycling cart. Please remove caps and straws.

### **New Board Members Appointed**

As written in the Witherbee Neighborhood Association bylaws, open board elections take place each November during our Annual Meeting. For the November 2010 elections there were six potential open board spots and two new board members were elected - Jackie Varicak and Kathy Stastny. Their terms are for two years and will expire November 2012. This left four potential vacant positions. Our bylaws state the board shall be comprised of at least seven and no more than 12 members. These guidelines are laid down in the bylaws, which can be found on our website at http://witherbeena.org/aboutus/aboutus. htm.

New board members may be appointed at any time of the year by a vote of the existing board. During a February 26th board meeting three new board members were appointed - Jeff Worrall, Larry Frisch and Fred Freytag. Jeff Worrall will serve a two year term ending November 2012, Larry and Fred were appointed to vacated positions and will serve the remaining year of their respective terms which end November 2011. All board meetings are open to the public. Notice of board meetings is made known 10 days prior to the meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the WNA board or would just like to learn more or become more involved in WNA, please come to any monthly meeting or contact a current board member. Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Tabitha LifeQuest Center. A listing of board members and their contact information can be found on the inside cover of this newsletter or on the Witherbee website.

# **recycle?** As with all recyclables, they are first

What happens to the cartons I

taken to our local material recycling facility to be sorted and baled. The bales of cartons are then placed on a truck and transported to a paper mill. Here, fiber in the cartons is converted into pulp, which in turn is made into recycled paper products and building materials.

### Why should I recycle cartons?

Cartons are made mainly from high-quality paper making it a valuable recyclable commodity. This means that companies want this material to make new products, and cartons can generate revenue for a recycling program, offsetting some of the costs of collection.

## What if I put cartons in my cart before, were they recycled?

Yes, your cartons were recycled before, we are now encouraging customers to recycle more cartons.

For more information about carton recycling go to www.RecycleLink.net or follow RecycleLink on Facebook.



Spring 2011

# **WNA Calendar**

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

- April 30th Arbor Day. Plant a tree.
- April 30th Household Hazardous Waste collection. Walmart South. 87th & Hwy 2. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. no latex paint. lincoln.ne.gov, keyword: household
- May 3rd General Election. Mayor, City Council, School Board, Airport Authority
- May 5th WNA monthly meeting Roundtable discussion with Shawn Ryba. Bring your ideas for neighborhood improvement projects, 7 p.m. at Tabitha Lifequest Center conference room, 48th and J.
- May 7th Neighborhood Cleanup. 48th & M., 8 a.m. – noon. Household rubbish, personal documents shredding, electronics recycling, clothing and household goods. Please volunteer. Article page 1 of this issue.
- May 9th Mayor's Roundtable, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, in the Mayor's Conference Room, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- May 14th Community Crops plant sale. Westgate Bank, 50th & O. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- May 19th City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting. 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Victor E. Anderson Branch Library 3635 Touzalin Avenue. Enter on the west side and turn left.
- May 21 Household Hazardous Waste collection. 601 West Cornhusker Highway, Pfizer Inc, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. no latex paint. lincoln.ne.gov keyword: household
- May 21 Latex Paint Exchange. EcoStores Nebraska, 530 West P Street, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free drop off of useable paint. Must be never frozen. Cans must be <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> full or more. Take home any amount for free. Will be repeated Sept 24 and Nov 12.
- June 2nd WNA monthly meeting- Carol Johnson will talk about resources available through Lincoln city libraries, 7 p.m. at Tabitha Lifequest Center conference room 48th and J.

- June 9 thru June 11 WNA Neighborhood Garage Sales, For more info contact garagesales@ witherbeena.org or Nancy Holman 402-488-6847.
- June 10 Household Hazardous Waste collection.
  Union College. Parking lot at 52nd & Cooper.
  9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No latex paint. lincoln.ne.gov keyword: household
- June 13th Mayor's Roundtable ,County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, in the Mayor's Conference Room, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- June 16th City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Victor E. Anderson Branch Library 3635 Touzalin Avenue.
- July 7th WNA monthly meeting Jonathan Mohr will talk about Antelope Creek Watershed Basin Management Plan. 7 p.m. at Tabitha Lifequest Center conference room 48th and J.
- July 11th Mayor's Roundtable, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, in the Mayor's Conference Room, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- July 14th City Councilman Doug Emery's Citizen information meeting. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Victor E. Anderson Branch Library 3635 Touzalin Avenue. Enter on the west side and turn left.

### SAVE THE DATE

August 7th — WNA Neighborhood Ice Cream Social and Free Swim, southeast corner Woods Park, 33rd & J. Pool opens 6:30 p.m.



# 8th Annual WNA Cleanup May 7th Continued from Page 1

recycling site, membership recruiting and signup. We also need volunteers with pickup trucks and/or trailers to help those who cannot bring their refuse to us.

All cleanup volunteers should report to the north parking lot of Hawthorne School starting at 7:30 a.m. Please bring your own work gloves. If you can help us with this year's clean-up please contact us in advance so we can assign volunteers to specific jobs. Call or email volunteer coordinator Rick Bagby. Email: volunteer@witherbeena.org or phone 402-488-8567.

NEW this year – Electronics and Household items collection. Goodwill will have a truck and crew at Hawthorne to accept donations.

The Lincoln Energy Challenge household energy savings program will be there to sign you up for the program. Help Witherbee earn prizes by listing WNA as your group affiliation when you sign up.

Residential document shredding. 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. only.. Shredding Solutions (a Palmer & Sons Company) will provide FREE document shredding to paid members of WNA for up to 50lbs and \$0.13/lb over that. The non-Member fee is \$0.13/lb. This is a very inexpensive way to rid your home of unwanted confidential data. Regular minimum cost is \$25 for up to 75 lbs. Bring items like tax records, financial records, payroll records, personnel files, legal documents, cancelled checks account records/ledgers, computer printouts, medical records, old credit and ID cards, cassette tapes and CDs. Please check with your accountant or tax advisor how long documents need to be kept. Staples do not need to be removed.

Curbside pickup will NOT happen this year. Low participation in this portion of the event last year lead us to take a year off.

Bring your items to us, or call to request help for things you cannot haul. We will have volunteers with pickups and trailers. If you need help hauling items to the roll-off site call Rick Bagby at 402-488-8567.

Waste items accepted for FREE: Furniture, lumber, screens, windows, doors, grills, junk, landscape timbers, picnic tables, swing sets, clothesline poles, broken fences, construction rubble, carpet, and non-Freon appliance (stoves, washers, dryers, and hot water heaters) computer CPUs; mouse/keyboards.

Items we CANNOT take: Household garbage. Household Hazardous waste including oil, chemicals, paints, etc. Lawn waste, Grass clippings, Leaves, Liquids of any kind.

Items accepted for a nominal fee: **(FREE to paid WNA members)** Appliances with Freon (refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and air conditioners), \$10 each. Car/pickup truck tires \$3 each; large pickup truck tires \$5 each; farm tractor tires \$10 each. Tires with rims add \$1 each.

Recyclable items accepted for Ecostores Nebraska: EcoStores Nebraska accepts donations of quality reusable building materials and supplies. General home remodeling and construction supplies, leftover lawn and landscaping materials, aluminum windows; plywood, 2x4s or any width, but 5ft or longer, kitchen sinks and faucets, stainless steel or cast iron; anything metal, brass, copper, etc. Latex paint that is less than a year old. Be aware that the generous people of Nebraska may overstock them in certain departments. We will have a current list of items they will take. If they are overstocked with any particular item we may not be able to take it. (www.ecostoresne. org). EcoStores is located at 530 W. P Street, 402-477-3606

FREE brush disposal is offered again this year. Scott Hofeling a longtime Lincoln Arborist with Hofeling Enterprises. Take your brush to them for FREE on Saturday, May 7th when you bring it to their location at 2200 South Folsom Court. While you are there, check out the great wood mulches they have for sale at a low cost. Please express your gratitude while dropping off your brush since they are saving us grant money. Coupons for free brush disposal at the city landfill are available during cleanup or call Rick Bagby to reserve yours. The coupons may be used to take a load for free (normally \$11 and up) from now until the end of the summer. The coupons will not be accepted for commercial use, trash, leaves or yard waste.

Hazardous items that CANNOT be accepted: Ammunition/explosives; automotive waste; chemicals, televisions, microwaves, grass or leaves (yard waste), heavy metals (thermostats, thermometers); liquids of any kind; paint or solvents; pesticides; propane tanks & gas cylinders; household hazardous waste; unidentified containers of waste. PLEASE TAKE THESE ITEMS TO A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION. See Calendar on page 14, or look at www.witherbeena.org for additional location and dates.

See you at the cleanup! If you have any questions or comments please contact cleanup@witherbeena.org, or Rick Bagby 402-488-8567. Thank you in advance to all volunteers, sponsors and participants. Look for our cleanup report in the next Witherbee Buzz.



# WNA Neighborhood Garage Sales Scheduled for June 9, 10, and 11

Start gathering your garage sale goodies for our annual neighborhood sales. For a mere \$5 you will receive a Witherbee Association Garage Sale sign for your yard and your address and sale listing will be on the WNA website. The neighborhood sales are advertised in the Lincoln Journal Star, Craigslist, the calendar of events for KOLN/KGIN, KFOR and KLKN and by word of mouth to your coworkers and friends. Our WNA sales draw a lot of Lincoln residents to our great neighborhood and what a better way to publicize how proud we are of our Witherbee connection?

Time to deliver signs is limited this year, so please pickup your sign, (and make \$5 payment), at Nancy's home, 601 So. 46th any evening after May 16th.

You may also, at your own expense, place your individual ad in the Journal Star Garage Sale section. If



you choose to do this, begin your ad with the word "Witherbee" and all of the ads will be grouped together in the garage sale section of the Journal Star Classifieds.

This event brings people from all over Lincoln into our neighborhood to see our quality of life and get the chance to find some great bargains and choice goodies.

Five dollars is all it takes to have your garage sale listed on the WNA map, fliers, and website. In addition, prior to sale dates, a full-colored WNA GARAGE SALE yard sign will be available for each sale along with maps indicating all of the sales in the WNA area.

Please complete the coupon at the bottom of this page. Deadline for registering your sale is *June 1*.

#### Witherbee Garage Sale Sign Up

Please clip and drop off or send with \$5 to Nancy Holman, 601 So. 46th, Lincoln, NE 68510 prior to *June 1st*. Make checks payable to Witherbee Neighborhood Assn.

Name	Ph. No
Address	Check Days: □Thur. □Fri. □Sat. Time of sale
Sale items 25 words or less:	

#### Tips for a successful garage sale:

• Over the next few weeks, collect what you want to sell.

• Clean out your closets and anything that is useless to you or you don't want, put it on the sale. Don't throw anything away. Remember one person's trash is another's treasure.

• Show a price on all merchandise. The price should be on the top of an item so it can be easily seen by the customers. The bigger the item, the bigger the price tag should be. Make it obvious. If you're selling a sofa-you cannot expect the buyer to be looking all over for a tiny dot sticker. Use a full sheet of paper and list any good selling points or flaws.

• Be sure to research prices by checking out other garage sales or what the price is going for on www.ebay. com.

• Display some of your more interesting items at the end of the driveway to act as a magnet to lure folks in.

• You will have many customers with twenty dollar bills so you want to have plenty of change on hand to accommodate their purchases.

• Display your items well by arranging your best items for sale on tables. Lesser goods can be put on rugs or blankets spread on the lawn. When selling books and CD's, arrange in a box so the titles can be easily read by the customer. Put some effort into your sale, and try to sell stuff by making it the most attractive it can be. If the first thing that a customer picks up is dirty, it may turn them off to looking at other things you have to sell.

• When your sale is over, please keep the neighborhood beautiful by removing your signs, and delivering your unsold/unwanted items to the thrift store or charity of your choice.

• Remember, you can access garage sale information and maps at www.witherbeena.org