

## Eleventh Annual WNA Cleanup is May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Join us Saturday morning May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Bryan Community School at Hawthorne 50th and M St. Bring your unwanted items to be donated, recycled, or disposed of.

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



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, issue brush coupons, staff refreshment station, and membership recruiting and sign up. We also need volunteers with pickup trucks and/or trailers to help those who cannot bring their items to us.

All cleanup volunteers should report to the north parking lot ( 50th and M St. ) of Bryan Community School at Hawthorne starting at 7:30 am. 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 e-mail volunteer coordinators Dan Wesolowski 402-488-8249 [dwesolowski@windstream.net](mailto:dwesolowski@windstream.net) or Bryan Hurst 402-202-9309, [bbacon.hurst@gmail.com](mailto:bbacon.hurst@gmail.com).

If you need help hauling items to the roll-off site call Dan 402-488-8249 to make an appointment. The items must be easily accessible, and placed near the curb if

possible for our volunteers to pickup.

Some examples of waste items accepted: Furniture, lumber, screens, windows, doors, grills, landscape timbers, picnic tables, swing sets, clothesline poles, broken fences, construction material, carpet, light fixtures, pipes, wiring, etc., non-Freon appliances (stoves, washers, dryers, and hot water heaters) and tires... ( Special thanks to Firestone at 300 N 66th St. for tires).

Items accepted for a nominal fee: (FREE to paid WNA members) Appliances with Freon (refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and air conditioners), Goodwill will again be collecting electronics, computers, clothing, and other good condition household items at this event. See the announcement for this years "Goodwill Challenge".

Recyclable items accepted for EcoStores Nebraska: EcoStores Nebraska accepts donations of quality reusable

**Continued on page 11**

## Hy-Vee Dietitian to Explain NuVal at Witherbee June Meeting

Have you wondered what those numbers are next to the price when you are shopping at your local Hy-Vee store? Be sure to attend the Witherbee meeting on June 5th, at 7:00 p.m. at Tabitha LifeQuest Center, 48th & J

Sts. to hear Karen Kuzma, a registered dietitian at Hy-Vee explain the NuVal system. The NuVal Nutritional scoring system is an easy way to select healthy food while shopping. NuVal scores make nutrition simple, the higher the number, the better the food is for you. NuVal numbers makes choosing healthy foods as easy as comparing prices. Don't miss this chance to visit with a registered dietitian, get answers to your food and nutrition questions and learn about the NuVal scoring system.



Karen Kuzma

### 2014 WNA Membership

Please use the coupon on page 16 to join or renew your WNA membership. Indicate your interests in the check boxes as your participation is vital in keeping your Witherbee Association vibrant and strong.

## About Your Witherbee Neighborhood Association

### Boundaries:

33rd to 56th & 'O' to Randolph

### Meetings:

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

[www.facebook.com/witherbeena](http://www.facebook.com/witherbeena)

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

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## President's Message

### Let's Pull Together and Invest in Our Neighborhood!

By Rick Bagby

I have seen that by investing in the WNA folks are investing in themselves with the outcome of enhancing neighborhood living. When our community pulls together it becomes energized with possibilities and projects to fulfill the mission of having a great place to call home.

I have been impressed with Lincoln's efforts in the last few years that have shown the power of working together for common goals. Multiple awards on a regional and national scale prove that the efforts are paying off! The payoff has meant an increase in visitors and events in Lincoln that very well may not have happened without vision and effort, and the willingness to pull together to invest in ourselves.

Working together is not only about awards but rather deciding what type of community we want. When we work to create it, preserve it, or mold it as needed to fit our vision, great things are bound to happen. On the state level, you live in the seat of that action, your capital city. On the city level, and regionally within the city you have the Witherbee Neighborhood Association and numerous community groups, churches, councils and commissions. In the Witherbee Neighborhood alone over 170 households, who are paying members of the WNA, band together to assist neighbor to neighbor community action. We work to support schools, parks, families, singles, young, elderly, businesses and offices, as well as churches who serve and celebrate in Midtown Lincoln.

I'd like to highlight some of our recent Witherbee Neighborhood Association collaborations, promotions and events: community disaster preparedness, trails and biking opportunities, the upcoming state games, a legislative candidate forum and neighborhood wide litter pickup. Yet to come we have our Neighborhood Cleanup, Little Free Library, Lawn of the Month, Garage Sales, Swim Party and Ice Cream Social and more to look forward too!

As you get out and get active, think of what you'd like to see more of, then join us to make it happen. None of this happens without the decision to step forward to voice your ideas and gather to plan. See the list of contacts to the left on this page. Connect with us on the web or on Facebook. By pulling together we determine the nature of our neighborhood and the city. What will it look like? Please help shape that image and our future.



Rick Bagby

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## Planning Meeting to Take Place July 10th

July's WNA meeting has been moved to the second Thursday of the month due to the July 4th Holiday. The meeting will be a general meeting and board meeting to plan for officer recruitment, annual meeting planning and other project planning, especially the upcoming WNA Sponsored August 3rd Ice Cream Social and Swim Party at Wood's Pool and Tennis Complex. It won't be too early to think about Holiday Lights either!! Please join us at Tabitha at 7:00 p.m. to get involved in some fun and productive neighborhood association planning. Bring along a neighbor and some ideas too! Please check our website at [www.witherbeena.org](http://www.witherbeena.org) for where the meeting will take place as that still needs to be confirmed.

## Community CROPS Opportunities To Be Discussed At May Meeting

Community CROPS is looking to expand our work to new neighborhoods. CROPS manages 11 community gardens throughout Lincoln, providing opportunities for local residents to grow food for themselves and their families, increasing self-sufficiency and making Lincoln a more sustainable city. All of CROPS gardens are organized as allotment gardens, where individuals or families are given a plot within the larger garden space, to use however they wish. All we ask is that gardeners follow organic growing practices. We provide tools, water, seeds, compost and mulch and are available to provide support with issues like pest management, weed control and any other issues that may arise.

The demand for our community garden program has increased greatly, and we have nearly 250 people signed up to garden with us this year. But, we had more than 300 people turn in applications, which means there's a lot of unmet demand. One of the ways we are trying to meet that demand is through a partnership with Lincoln Parks & Recreation to utilize unused areas in local parks. The first such collaboration will start this spring at Peter Pan Park. We are excited to partner with Parks & Rec on this project and look forward to future park gardens in Lincoln.

We are also collaborating with a group of local partners to launch a gardening campaign to encourage Lincoln residents to grow some of their own food. The "Let's Grow: Get Out and Garden" campaign will kick off at the Earth Day celebration, April 12th at Union Plaza, but we're encouraging anyone interested to go online and pledge to garden this year. To pledge, go to: <http://www.communitycrops.org/letsgrowlincoln> and fill out the form. You will be directed to lots of gardening resources and information.

Attend the May 1st WNA meeting at 7 p.m., in Tabitha's LifeQuest Center at 48th & J Sts. to learn about Community Drops opportunities along with some great gardening tips.



## Special MEDS Takeback Day Is April 26th, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Nebraska MEDS project continues to offer local, convenient, and year-round solutions for the proper disposal of non-controlled and over-the-counter medication for Lincoln-Lancaster County residents at 40 different participating pharmacy locations. Taking back leftover medications for proper disposal is extremely important because it reduces the risk of accidental poisonings, illegal drug use, all the while protecting aquatic environments as well as our own drinking water.

Currently, pharmacy locations can't accept controlled medication (e.g. narcotics, painkillers, etc.) for disposal but on April 26, 2014 there is a national DEA medication Take-Back event happening at 11 different pharmacies around Lincoln-Lancaster County where you can dispose of all medication in your home including controlled medication. With the help of law enforcement, our community can utilize the DEA Take-back event as a deadline in getting rid of those unused and unwanted medications from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at any of the locations listed:

Russ Market, 1550 S. Coddington, Hy-Vee, 5010 O St., Walgreens, 1701 South St., Walgreens, 1404 Superior St., Walgreens, 8300 Northern Lights Dr., Walgreens, 4000 S. 70th., Walgreens, 2502 N. 48th., Shopko 6845 S. 27th St.

Visit [leftovermeds.com](http://leftovermeds.com) for more information.

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## Just a Few Fun Tips.....

# Including how to Window Clean the EASY Streak Free Way!


By Sharon Cochrane, Our WNA Home Decorating Columnist

The seasons are changing, and I hope the temps will begin to warm up and allow us to plant, see tree buds burst forth, and jackets to be left inside for a change. Along with weather changes, as I wrote in my last column, we are anxious to make changes in our surroundings. With our focus more on the exterior now, sometimes the interior gets left to just sit, feeling left out and dejected, no longer receiving the attention it got for the last 3 or 4 (or more) months, but here are a few of my fave and inexpensive ways to still have something going on inside that will give you some interest throughout the summertime without a huge outlay of dough....

Always, and I mean always, bring fresh flowers and green plants inside. If you don't grow them yourself, pick some up at the supermarket. Growing things are always cheering.

Bring more of the outside in. How about finding, for instance, a good deal on a bird bath or a broken fountain, maybe at a garage sale you can pick up a good deal. Perhaps look for some outdoor statuary. I recommend you find a good sized window for the bird bath and put some rocks and moss in it along with some low-growing potted flowers. It's a good focal point and a good conversation piece when you have guests. I did this one winter and put spring bulbs in the bird bath, a decorative frog and some twigs to support the growing flowers and really enjoyed it. You can do this with garden tuteurs as well.

Add dimmers everywhere in your house. No more brain surgery in every room where you have ceiling lights or chandeliers. Add light bulbs that are tinted pink or at least are a soft light. Some of the newer energy-saving bulb companies have added a comfortable soft light to their lines instead of the harsher blue tinted lights that could be used to signal an ocean liner from a light house. With dimmers you can save money and control light for watching TV, conversing, or ahem, other close encounters. And lots of candles all over the place are always a soft addition to a room. If you like scented ones, just be careful not to use them in the dining room and don't mix more than one kind in one room. Yech!



Is it history come to life through the imagination of a gifted and precocious child--or something far more powerful? That's what Van Techner wants to know, every time he finds himself around Megan, his newest student. Even their first meeting--apparently totally by chance--somehow seems wrapped up in mystery.

**Witherbee author Gary Brienzo has new e-book available at Amazon.com for 99 cents**

Mix styles. Think of it like mixing rich and poor stuff. I made a wreath once made out of luxe-looking white and burgundy peonies, then added trim and a bow made of burlap. This combination makes each element stand out. As the designer Richard Hallberg said, "I love a touch of chaos. Things shine better when they are living with opposites." Hmmm.... Sounds like some families I know!!! Well, anyway, I am reminded of one of my cousins who bought a furniture "suite." The two chairs, ottoman and couch were all upholstered with the same fabric! OMG ~! And they were SO proud that they got EVERYTHING to MATCH. Matchy-matchy is NOT goody-goody. Throw some difference into the mix and it will make the whole room much better. Of course, this tip goes whether it is summer, spring, winter or fall. Call it eclectic, mixed-up, or chaos, but it does truly make a difference. In the above cousin scenario, the eye didn't stop to look, it was just bored, and didn't look at all.



Sharon Cochrane

Above all, in your decorating for the season, keep indoors clean and uncluttered. I am planning for a move later this year, and I have had to unclutter my living and dining room this last week. I have had to take my own advice, and WOW what a difference! Here's an extremely good tip for cleaning windows or glass - it really works. Mix ½ gallon warm water, 3 tablespoons liquid Cascade dish washing detergent and 1 tablespoon liquid Jet Dry for dishes. Apply it with a sponge to outside windows. Hose it off with your garden hose and the glass will dry without streaking!!! You can also use it to dip your many crystal chandeliers or spray them and let them drip dry over a tarp or towels. Love this stuff!

Here's to a fun and safe spring and summer (if they ever get here) for all WNA'ers....

Ta Ta for Now, Sharon

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# History of Witherbee Assets by Ed Zimmer

Two special assets of Witherbee Neighborhood and its environs, for walking, bird watching, remembering and contemplation, are Calvary and Wyuka Cemeteries.

Calvary, between O and L Streets west of S. 40th Street, is Lincoln's Catholic cemetery. It dates back to 1877, when James O'Connor, the first Catholic bishop of Omaha, acquired 10 acres for \$1,000 to establish a Catholic cemetery in Lincoln (which did not yet have its own bishop). The cemetery was first called St. Theresa Cemetery, not for the Catholic St. Teresa church and parish of the neighborhood, but for the early St. Theresa Catholic Church downtown, which stood at 13th and M Streets. Lincoln's first Catholic bishop, Thomas Bonacum, received the title to the cemetery from Bishop O'Connor in 1888 and by the turn of the century the name Calvary Cemetery was in place. The cemetery grounds were almost doubled in size in 1929, to about 18 acres.

Wyuka Cemetery, across O Street from Calvary, is a few years older and nearly ten times as large. Founded in 1869 by the State of Nebraska, Wyuka encompasses about 150 acres between O and Vine Streets. Wyuka is operated as a non-profit corporation, overseen by five trustees appointed by the Nebraska Governor. Wyuka's hilly terrain, diverse plantings, and curving streets are characteristic of the 19th century "rural cemetery" movement, which was popularized after the creation of Mt. Auburn Cemetery near Boston. Many American cities created their own versions of these park-like cemeteries, which were intended not just as burial grounds, but also places to visit, stroll, remember, and learn about the community's history.

While Calvary's smaller size and simpler grid pattern of streets does not display the "rural cemetery" characteristics, both cemeteries are rich in fascinating monuments and memorials of noteworthy persons. The white marble crucifixion statuary

in the center of Calvary marks the graves of cemetery founder Bishop Bonacum (1847-1911), and two of his successors, Bishops Charles O'Reilly (1860-1923) and Louis Kucera (1888-1957). Victor Vifquain (1836-1904) is interred at Calvary, under a marker recalling his receipt of the highest military honor of the U.S., the Congressional Medal of Honor, for his service in the Civil War. He also served in the Spanish-American War more than four decades later, a remarkable combination. John Sheedy's large monument near the west edge of the cemetery records his life span of 1833-1891 and his Irish birth. For the story of his life, times and death in Lincoln, one can turn to the richly detailed website "The Great Sheedy Murder Trial and the Booster Ethos of Lincoln Nebraska." <http://gildedage.unl.edu/>

Wyuka Cemetery is replete in fascinating monuments of the great and small of Lincoln and Nebraska, the famous, infamous, and unknown. Seven Nebraska governors, more than a dozen mayors, writers, teachers, soldiers and sailors were laid to rest within its fences. The beautiful O St. fence of Wyuka is famous in its own right, as the original fence around the University of Nebraska's downtown campus. It encircled the original 10-acre campus bounded by R, 12th, T, and 10th Streets from the 1890s to the 1920s, when it was removed from the expanding campus and relocated to Wyuka.

Nearly 1000 Civil War veterans of both the Union and Confederate forces are interred at Wyuka, including several hundred in the "G. A. R. Circle" near the heart of the cemetery. (The Grand Army of the Republic or G. A. R. was the Union veterans' organization after the Civil War.) A large granite marker among the soldiers' marble stones memorializes John Milton Thayer, who led Nebraska's soldiers into the Civil War and rose to the rank of Major General. He served as Nebraska's first U. S. Senator, as the Territorial Governor of Wyoming, and as the Governor of Nebraska in a long

life of public service. A tour booklet of Wyuka is available at the Administration Building near the O St. entrance.

Our neighborhood is made more livable by the peaceful and beautiful burial grounds of those who came before us.

*Editors Note: Witherbee resident, Ed Zimmer is Historic Preservation Planner for the Lincoln Planning Department. He can be reached at [ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov).*

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# Witherbee Interview—Author Gary Brienzo Shares His

Long-time Witherbee Neighborhood resident Gary Brienzo says he strongly believes two things he's often heard: first, that "everyone has a book in them," and second, that the Witherbee Neighborhood is a great place to live. Gary and Ann have lived at 624 S. 37th Street since 1992, welcoming their first son, Michael, home to them from Korea in 1993, and Anthony, also from Korea, in 1996.

"It's a warm, close neighborhood, where neighbors are friends and know each other," Gary says. "It's centrally located, close to parks, bike trails and downtown, and it just feels like home."

Concerning writing and the books each of us has inside, Gary has spent most of his 59 years writing in one form or another. "My first efforts, at age five or six, were dreadful little poems I wrote for my mom," he says. "I can only hope it went uphill from there."

Gary and Ann moved to Lincoln in 1986 when Gary started a graduate program in English. He finished his degree in 1990, soon after publishing his dissertation on Willa Cather with Susquehanna University Press, and then divided his work between teaching freshman English at UNL and as a writer for the University. But by the time his degree was completed, Ann had a good job in Lincoln and they both enjoyed the Star City too much to leave. So, Gary found permanent work as a writer and editor for nonprofits in Lincoln, including UNL and Nebraska Wesleyan University. Today he's a grants and communications writer at the University of Nebraska, and he pursues his other writing interests—mainly fiction and essays—on his own time.

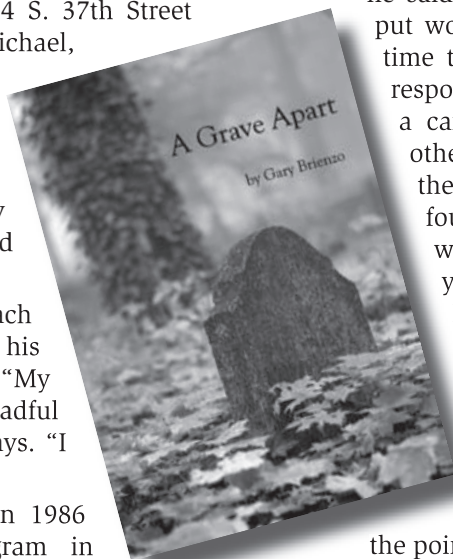
He's recently reduced his full-time University work to have even more time for other things he enjoys—including gardening and more personal writing. The result? Two short novels published as e-books on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com, a personal essay in the Spring 2014 edition of *The Lincoln Underground*, and plans for other books and stories.

His first recent novella, *A Grave Apart*, written in 2012, is a horror/ghost story set in his childhood home on a farm in South Dakota. Even more recently he wrote *Megan 9*,

a decidedly more upbeat book, publishing it on amazon.com earlier this year. (See the cover on pg 4 adv).

The ideas for both books kept coming back to him, he said, until he finally gave in and sat down to put words on the page. "It just seemed the right time to start," he said. "As some of your other responsibilities in life—raising children, building a career—evolve and give you more time for other things, sometimes those things rise to the top of your own personal to-do list. And I found myself having more time to indulge in what-ifs. I mean, sometimes an idea comes to you and you think, 'Some day, if I have time, I'll explore that a little further. I'll let myself indulge it a bit, and see what happens.' But it can be hard to go back and pursue those things."

Getting back to his recurring inspiration was the fun of the writing, he adds, as well as the challenge. "It got to the point that a thought or image just kind of stuck with me, and wouldn't go away. I'd think I'd forgotten about it, and then, before I knew it, it came back, stronger than before. The next step was when I started keeping notebooks again, writing things down, even mapping out other ideas that sprang from my first one. And before I



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# Fun of Writing

knew it, I was writing.”

For *A Grave Apart*, Gary says he drafted that story first in long-hand, and then edited it as he typed it. The background for that story was a public radio report he heard about a lone, solitary grave on a remote farm. “It wasn’t a cemetery, just this one forgotten grave,” he said. “The suggestion of it struck me, and I started to think ‘what if’—what if there were something more to the story, something more sinister or at least sadder to it than one might expect? The next thing I knew, the story was coming to life, set on a lonely farm along a river where I’d actually spent a lot of my childhood, up in South Dakota. No ghosts there, as this is totally a work of fiction, but the loneliness and emptiness of it all just caught me.”

Megan 9 has more than a touch of the supernatural, too, he says, but he describes it as a far kinder, gentler book, and more upbeat. It’s probably more accurately a Young Adult book, for readers twelve and older, he says, set in current times, in a Midwestern town a lot like Lincoln.

“The whole idea for this one came from a single image that struck me,” he says. “Lots of people in Witherbee know us for our frequent walks around the neighborhood with our old Jack Russell terrier. Well, one day when I was walking her, I had another ‘what if’ moment—what if, while you’re walking along a very ordinary street, you suddenly notice something totally unexpected and almost out-of-this-world? I imagined a remarkable piece of sidewalk chalk art, a drawing so amazing that it didn’t seem possible. And that image just kept coming back to me, again and again, until a story formed around it. It’s a far more hopeful story than my first one, it involves a lot of history, and more humor, and I think it encourages belief in more powerful, positive forces around us.”

Once the books were written, the process of readying them for publication began. It involved meeting stringent formatting requirements for both Barnes and Noble and Amazon.com, as well as adherence to the publishers’ editorial guidelines and restrictions. Some re-writing was essential too, as well as working with others on the graphics of the covers. And for Megan 9, Gary enlisted the editing help of his friend Michelle DeRusha, a Lincoln-based writer whose spirituality columns appear in the Lincoln Journal Star and whose own two books are being published this year by Baker Books and Convergent.

But Gary says that the challenges of final book preparation also came with their own rewards, and looking back on it, he’s pleased he persevered. Besides, he adds, it’s easier to have a more positive view of things when you live in a place like the Witherbee Neighborhood. “People care about each other here, support each other, and just take a general interest, including in reading, art, gardening, or whatever other personal expressions neighbors engage in,” he says. “It’s a good feeling. And without a doubt, it’s the mark of a healthy, growing neighborhood.”

## Bright Lights Provides Great Learning Opportunities for Kids!

Bright Lights is a program that makes Lincoln and Witherbee a great place to live with most classes being held at Randolph Elementary. Bright Lights program offers experiences that stretch and challenge youth’s interests and hobbies with interesting educational activities that are provided in intensive, three hour daily blocks of time or full-day camps, allowing students to pursue focused interests beyond the nine-month classroom. Dates: Week 1: June 2-6; Week 2: June 16-20; Week 3: July 7-11. Tuition cost: \$115 for a half-day class, \$230 for a camp. Career Day Camps are \$230.00 and are held 9 am- 4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Additional fees apply to some classes.

Location: Most classes are held at Randolph Elementary School, 1024 South 37th St.

On-line registration began April 1st at noon and completed mail-in registrations started to be processed at the same time. Class choices are first come first serve. Classes are available for kindergarten through ninth grade (grade level as of April 1.) Bright Lights is a non-profit organization and welcomes community volunteers year-round. For more information logon to [www.brightlights.org](http://www.brightlights.org) or call 402-420-1115, ext 46.

Visit “FAQS” OR “Summer Program Information” for additional information.



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# Home Imp

By Mike Fitzgerald

When Rebecca and Troy Cisneros started the home improvement projects in their home in the past few years they are reminding us of the projects they have accomplished. "One project we have now we can see how busy we have been," said.

Originally from the Hasting area, Rebecca and Troy and their first five children moved to Lincoln. They bought their home at 3488 M Street from Craig (now in Fremont) seven years ago. They moved in and had expected they would move out in a few years. Now they want to leave the neighborhood and the home improvement projects began.

First they gutted the kitchen, including the wall with an arched doorway into the kitchen and dining room, as well as the kitchen cupboard with a fold-down ironing board. In the tear out work they found cabinets from the 1920s. New oak cabinets and matched hardwood floors throughout the home. They also reroofed the home.

Plumbing for an apartment unit was removed, and new electrical



The Home Improvement Award goes to the Cisneros family at 3488 M Street.

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# Improvements for Growing Family

Cisneros look back on the improvements they have done in the neighborhood of all that they have added to another and have been," Rebecca

Minden area, they moved to their current home (30 miles north of Lincoln) needed more room for the addition. But they didn't want to, so the string of improvements

including removing the wall that separated the living room as removing a dining board. During the remodel and photos of the new cabinets and flooring throughout the rest of the house then.

that once upstairs wiring and a hot

water heater were installed.

The expansion project was next and involved replacing the wood deck on the north side of the house with a family room adjoining the dining room, and a bedroom and large bathroom are underneath. A second laundry room and new half bath are on the west side of the new family room.

The back door from the living room out to the old deck was reused - it just got moved to the north side of the new family room. To make space for the addition, they had to remove an old tree that was eight feet wide at its base. This required a crane because there was no way for trucks to reach the back yard. Bushes taken out and dirt leveled accommodated a cement patio adjacent the new addition and the backyard. And to help blend the addition with the existing home, they also had siding installed on the whole house.

With the entire home now essentially renovated, they hope to finish landscaping the back yard. Rebecca works part time outside the home at Tabitha Hospice Care and Troy works at Molex as an electrical and mechanical technician. They have seven children: Tyson is a senior at Pius X, Marcus



Exterior of new addition.

is a sophomore at Pius, Michael is a seventh grader at St. Teresa, Sara is a sixth grader, Katherine is a third grader, Rachel is a kindergartner and Anne is a preschooler at Redeemer Lutheran.

WNA recognizes the investment the Cisneros family has made in the neighborhood by selecting them as the newest recipient of the Home Improvement Award.



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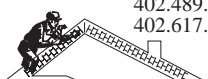
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Candidate Patty Pansing Brooks addresses a packed house as neighbors from across the city gather at Tabitha for a candidate forum for the 28th District Unicameral race. **(The WNA does not endorse candidates.)**

## Large Crowd Puts Questions to Candidates at Forum

A celebration of the Nebraska way occurred Thursday March 27th as neighbors from across the city packed the conference room at Tabitha to hear from all four candidates running to replace Bill Avery in the Nebraska Unicameral. An overflow crowd of more than 140 spilled into the hallway as Patty Pansing Brooks, Dallas Jones, Bob Rauner, and Jeff Keidel gave their views on topics ranging from taxes to climate change, minimum wage to Medicaid expansion, education, jobs growth, the death penalty, and more.

The forum was organized by Friends of Wilderness Park and cosponsored by Witherbee Neighborhood Association and 11 other neighborhood and community organizations. Moderator Adam Hintz presented the group's questions after opening statements by all four candidates. Answers to the group's questions revealed similarities in positions on some issues, differences on others.

We thank all of the organizing and supporting groups involved. It's another fine example of community building exhibited by Lincolmites and your neighborhood

association. Please follow up with the candidates to thank them for spending an evening with us.

Learn more about each candidate, then vote! Your voice does count. The primary is coming in just a couple of weeks, Tuesday May 13th

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Website: [www.MarciaCares.com](http://www.MarciaCares.com)



Lincolnshire  
7141 "A" Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510

# Neighborhood Cleanup

Continued from Page 1

building materials and supplies. General home remodeling and construction supplies, leftover lawn and landscaping materials, aluminum windows; plywood, 2x4s or any width, but 5 ft. or longer, kitchen sinks and faucets, stainless steel or cast iron; anything metal, brass, copper, etc. unopened paint that is less than a year old. If EcoStores are overstocked with any particular item we may not be able to accept it. We will have a list of items they will take. ([www.ecostoresne.org](http://www.ecostoresne.org)). EcoStores is located at 530 W. P Street, 402-477-3606

FREE brush disposal is offered again this year by Scott Hofeling, longtime Lincoln Arborist with Hofeling Enterprises. Members can take their brush to them for FREE on Saturday, May 3rd at their location on 2200 South Folsom Court. While you are there, check out the great wood mulches they have for sale at a low cost. Express your gratitude while dropping off your brush since they are saving us grant money.

We have 10 Coupons for free brush disposal at the city landfill that are available at the cleanup until they run out. 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, household trash, leaves, or yard waste. ( Only one coupon per household )

Items we CANNOT take: Household trash, Offal, liquids of any kind (except for good, unopened stains, paints, thinners, and adhesives in their original containers ); Ammunition/ explosives; opened containers of Gasoline, Diesel, Kerosene, antifreeze, oils and other automotive chemicals, Lead acid batteries, heavy metals Lithium, Nicad etc...( Mercury thermometers), solvents, pesticides, fertilizers , fluorescent light bulbs. Some of these items are accepted at the HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov) (key word: household). See page 15 for the WNA calendar.

See you at the cleanup! If you have any questions or comments please contact the WNA Cleanup coordinators: Dan Wesolowski 402-488-8249, [dwesolowski@windstream.net](mailto:dwesolowski@windstream.net) or Bryan Hurst 402-202-9309, [bbacon.hurst@gmail.com](mailto:bbacon.hurst@gmail.com). Thank you in advance to all volunteers, sponsors and participants. Look for our cleanup report in the next Witherbee Buzz.

## Follow LPD Captain on Twitter!

Lincoln Police Department Southeast Team Captain encourages residents to follow him on Twitter at [@ateoh1](https://twitter.com/ateoh1).

Captain Martin Ferringier decided to create a twitter account as a way to update citizens and businesses of police problems and plans to make daily updates on issues happening in SE Lincoln.



Dave Mlnarik, Executive Director of Nebraska Sports Council spoke on April 3rd.



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## Our Neighborhood Was Spruced Up on April 5th

Witherbee Neighborhood partnered with the UNL Big Event and Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful (KLLCB) April 5th for litter clean-up. WNA volunteers worked with 20 UNL student volunteers to pick-up litter over 192 square blocks of Witherbee neighborhood.

This year over 2900 students, faculty and staff from UNL reached out to Lincoln to complete service projects for 2-3 hours on a sunny, cool, spring morning. We were fortunate to have 20 volunteers that came as a group from Alpha Phi sorority to help with our litter clean-up.

WNA "scouts" spotted two other groups of UNL volunteers working at private homes within the boundaries of WNA. Members of the UNL Water Ski Team and the Navigators were found helping home owners with yard clean-up and landscaping.



Proud UNL volunteers show off their hard work.

## Goodwill Neighborhood Challenge Could Net Witherbee \$500.00

This year Witherbee Neighborhood Association will be participating in the Goodwill Neighborhood Challenge. If we win, our association will receive \$500.00. To even qualify we need at least 2,000 lbs of collected items. Last years winner collected over 9,000 lbs! We have 2 events scheduled in which we can collect items: Neighborhood cleanup on May 3 and Neighborhood garage sales on June 12, 13, 14. Bring your old computer monitors ( about 40 lbs ), tools, books, boxes of dishware, silverware, old jeans and many more heavy household items. At the Neighborhood cleanup we will have big cardboard tubs "gaylords" for you to drop off your items and we will be having the Goodwill truck available on June 14 at 5:00 p.m., for pickup on items not sold after the garage sale. Call Amanda Herndon (402) 742- 8449 if you would like a receipt for donated items. Please consider participating for this great cause. Call Bryan Hurst at 402-202-9309 with questions

Again, thanks to our UNL Volunteers as well as our Witherbee neighbors who came out to help clean up the neighborhood!! Thank you to Adam Rhoads, KLLCB Coordinator with Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department, for serving as a resource and for coordinating our supplies.



UNL Students and Witherbee residents banded together to clean up the neighborhood.

Where can you  
turn when you  
have

*questions*

about Elder  
care?



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# WNA Neighborhood Garage Sales

## Scheduled for June 12th, 13th, and 14th

Residents of the Witherbee neighborhood are invited to participate in the 2014 garage sale extravaganza Thursday, June 12th, through Saturday, June 14th, 2014. The Witherbee Neighborhood Association will do the advertising for YOU! An ad will run in the Journal Star, on the KOLN-KGIN, KLIN, KFOR calendar of events web pages plus signage and fliers will be available at local businesses. You can also help "spread the word" by telling friends and coworkers of the neighborhood sales. 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 delivered to 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 4th, 2014. Tips for a successful garage sale:

- Over the next couple months, 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](http://www.ebay.com).

- You can also list items on Craig's List at <http://lincoln.craigslist.org>. When potential buyers come to look at your Craig's List item, they will find your other great garage sale finds as well.

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

- Prior to sale day, get rolls of quarters, dimes, and nickels, along with small bills (plenty of one's). You will have many customers with twenty dollar bills so you want to have plenty of change on hand to accommodate their purchases. Always keep an eye on your cash box, and never leave it unattended. Fanny packs or carpenter aprons are handy too, as you will always have your money with you.

- 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.

- Make a couple of large, clearly written signs, with the date, time, and address of your sale. Post these on the corner of your block, and also put one in your yard. Arrows on your signs are helpful for those not familiar with the neighborhood.

- 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](http://www.witherbeena.org)

### Witherbee Garage Sale Sign Up

Please clip and drop off or send with \$5 to Terri Brasfield, 309 So. 53rd, Lincoln, NE 68510 prior to June 4th. Make checks payable to Witherbee Neighborhood Assn. E-mails may be sent to [garagesales@witherbeena.org](mailto:garagesales@witherbeena.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ph. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Check Days: ☐Thur. ☐Fri. ☐Sat. Time of sale \_\_\_\_\_

Sale items 25 words or less: \_\_\_\_\_

# Witherbee Connect Opportunities

By Kathy Statsny

Hello neighbors, well we survived the winter so far. Spring is here and I am sure most of us are looking forward to spring and summer activities. I hope to get my lawn furniture out and just read a book. I guess I will begin planting so I can enjoy flowers.

I have one huge thank you to shout out to the snow angels. I know they helped people in our neighborhood. Individuals can just call them when they need shoveling help. I have heard very good reports from the people they have helped. Not everyone has a great neighbor like I do that cleans out my drifted driveway when it snows. If I had to shovel it myself it takes me at least four trips out to finish the job, so it's great to know I can call on the snow angels if I need to!



Kathy Statsny  
402-488-3314

A challenge many in our neighborhood have is taking care of some really heavy yard work on their property. Last fall several requests came in to Witherbee Connect for help with the big jobs. We were not able to help with that before winter hit but have found a way to help through the Big Event that the University of Nebraska sponsors each year. Many neighbors have signed up to take advantage of volunteer UNL student's community service that takes place on a Saturday morning for four hours. It will give those they help a great start for the spring season. Please keep this in mind early next year if you need assistance (it is now too late to sign up for 2014). Please be aware they cannot not use power tools or work above a 1st floor but they can paint, do lawn work and help clean out a shed and many other tasks. If you are like I am, getting the lawn in order only shows me all the other things I need to do but with the jump-start the Big Event provides the other things won't seem so daunting.

Witherbee Connect wants to be able to help neighbors as much as possible so call if you need us. We have lots of

resources and we are willing to share them. Hopefully we can help by doing the foot work for you to find the help you need. We think of it as a safety net for our neighborhood. We are always trying to find ways to fulfill requests, do them better, and offer more services and are open to your help and suggestions. For now I am going to kick back and enjoy the beautiful sunshine.



Bob Boyce talks bicycle safety at February WNA meeting.

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# WNA Calendar

*Membership not required for any meeting or event.*

**Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** — Happy Arbor Day

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** — 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,  
Special Meds Take Back Day (see page 3)

**Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** — 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., WNA  
Monthly meeting, featuring Community Crops,  
LifeQuest Center conference room, 48th and J.  
(see page 3)

**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** — Witherbee Clean Up Day  
(see page 1)

**Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>** — Primary Election Day

**Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** — 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.,  
Citizen's Meeting with Doug Emery (City Council  
Member) at the Victor E. Anderson Branch Library,  
3635 Touzalin Ave., Enter on the west side and  
turn left. **Occurs monthly every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday.**

**Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** — 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,  
Hazardous Waste Collection at Zoetis: 601 West  
Cornhusker Hwy

**Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** — 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Usable  
Latex Paint Exchange at EcoStores, EcoStores  
disposes of unusable paint for \$2/can. Call or  
email 402-477-3606, [www.ecostoresne.org](http://www.ecostoresne.org)

**Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** — Bright Lights Summer Programs  
Begin, Sign up Began April 1<sup>st</sup> (see page 7)

**Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>** — 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., WNA  
Monthly meeting, featuring HyVee Dietitian (see  
page 1)

**Thursday-Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>** —  
WNA Garage Sales (see page 13)

**Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>** — 9:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m., Hazardous  
Waste Collection at Union College; South 52<sup>nd</sup> &  
Cooper Ave

**Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** — City Fireworks, No WNA

**Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>** — Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July

**Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>** — 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., WNA  
Monthly meeting and Board Meeting, Planning  
Time (see page 2)

**Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>** — Nebraska  
State Games

**Sunday Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>** — 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Swim Party  
and Ice Cream Social, Woods Park

Spring 2014

## Stuhr Park Potluck

### Schedule for 2014

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

**Friday July 4<sup>th</sup>,** (No Potluck, Evening to share  
fireworks - after dark!)

**Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.**

1. COME AND JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS IN THE PARK
2. PLAN TO SHARE THE MEAL ABOUT 6 P.M.
3. BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE
4. BRING A DISH TO SHARE  
(PREFERABLY WITH FOOD IN IT)
5. ICE TEA AND LEMONADE DRINKS  
WILL BE PROVIDED
6. YOUR GUESTS ARE WELCOME
7. RAIN DATE – NEXT POTLUCK

Sure hope to see you “in the park”.

Questions or Comments call Cheryl Hejl, 402-489-2557

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### HyVee Pharmacy



## Keep Witherbee Strong, Join or Renew Your Membership

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA) celebrated 10 years in 2013. Like the saying goes – time flies when you're working hard and having fun! Since it was organized, your neighborhood association has accomplished many important things to help maintain and enhance the neighborhood you call home. To help keep it strong we are conducting our annual membership appeal. As your neighbors and WNA volunteers we hope that you will read the following points and send in your membership (or sign up or renew on line at [www.witherbeena.org/membership](http://www.witherbeena.org/membership)). Thank you to those of you who already have. In addition, we hope you will come to a meeting or participate in an activity.

In 2013, in addition to annual events (Pool Party and Ice Cream Social, Mulching trees at Woods and Stuhr Park, Neighborhood Cleanup, Yard of the Month and Holiday Lights award contests) your neighborhood association:

- Supported the first-ever Prom for Bryan Community School.
- Coordinated assistance to residents through Witherbee Connects program

- Supported Randolph School walking path paving.
- Met with LPD on neighborhood safety.
- Sent representatives to Mayor's Round Table, Lincoln Policy Network and Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance meetings.
- Hosted monthly speakers and open meetings to address neighborhood concerns.
- Published and distributed the quarterly Buzz newsletter keeping you informed of all of these neighborhood issues and activities.

When we each do a little, we all do a lot. Please become a member and participate at whatever level of involvement that fits you and your schedule. Everyone has a talent, skill, idea or area of interest that would be an important contribution to your neighborhood 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. Please attend a meeting or contact a board member today to get more involved.

Last, but certainly not least – participating in WNA is a very good way to meet nice and interesting people – from across the street, down the block and throughout your neighborhood.



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

### Membership Categories:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Single .....\$10.00  
\_\_\_\_ Family .....\$15.00  
\_\_\_\_ Senior Family .....\$10.00  
\_\_\_\_ Additional Household Member ..... \$ 5.00  
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\_\_\_\_ Benefactor .....\$50.00 & up  
\_\_\_\_ Business .....\$40.00  
\_\_\_\_ Extra WNA window sticker logo .....\$5.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you want to receive one free WNA Logo window decal for your car, home, or business with your paid membership. Additional decals are \$5. Please enter total number of decals needed here \_\_\_\_\_.

Contributions: Donations to WNA of \$35.00 or more will receive a tax deductible receipt.)

**Please indicate your areas of interest and mail to Witherbee Neighborhood Assn, P.O. Box 5431, Lincoln, NE 68505**

____ Serving on the board	____ Newsletter writing/photography	____ Neighborhood Watch
____ Witherbee Connect	____ Newsletter production	____ Bryan/Hawthorne School
____ Distributing newsletters	____ Web pages	____ Other (describe below)
____ Neighborhood Cleanup	____ Acquire meeting speakers	_____
____ Organizing garage sales	____ Annual Meeting	_____
____ Holiday Lights contest	____ Boosting home ownership project	_____
____ Pool Party & Socials	____ Witherbee Park	_____