

WITHERBEE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 2ND

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2017 beginning at 6:30 p.m. This year the meeting will be held at the Woods Tennis Center located at Woods Park, 401 South 33rd Street.

A pizza dinner will be provided along with the chance to win door prizes!

Attendees to the meeting will be able check out the complex and watch tennis enthusiasts play/take lessons as the WNA fun takes place overlooking the courts.

There will be an election of officers at the meeting as well as the annual election of board members. If you are interested in helping keep our neighborhood the special, mid-town gem that it is, please consider becoming a board member.

Contact the President of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association, Mary Schwab at witherbeenamary@gmail.com for questions regarding WNA board responsibilities.

Look forward to seeing you all there!



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2017 Annual Ice Cream Social and Pool Party

By: Rick Bagby

A record cool August temperature and a partly cloudy day didn't stop the ice cream enthusiasts from attending the 11th annual WNA pool party and ice cream social! The sun came out just in time for Witherbee neighbors and their guests to reconnect, share conversation and enjoy a bowl of ice cream and toppings. Approximately 250 bowls of ice cream were served which means the ice cream scoopers got quite a work out! Neighborhood children enjoyed a variety of games and prizes on the courtyard outside the tennis complex and the Woods Tennis manager, Kevin Heim and staff, were welcoming additions to the event as they provided tennis balls and rackets for anyone wanting to enjoy the outside courts.

Lincoln Fire and Rescue brought an Engine company and the young and young at heart enjoyed exploring the vehicle and talking with our local first responders. Many new Junior Firefighters received their badges while learning about fire safety.

The unusually cool day prompted Woods Pool staff to

Continued on page 4



Dad David Mabie watches son Roman & daughter Elinore create chalk pictures

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
www.WitherbeeNA.org

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Message To Our Members

Hello Neighbors,

My husband and I moved to the Witherbee neighborhood in May of 2012. During our house hunt, we were enamored by the tree-lined, small-town feel of the neighborhood that is centrally-located in the city. After we moved in, we knew we had made the right decision as we began to meet people on our street and settle in. We received a copy of the Witherbee Buzz newsletter and decided to support the neighborhood with our membership in the Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA). We even checked a couple of the boxes on the membership form for things we would be interested in volunteering for.

I had said I'd be willing to help with the community garage sales event and I was eventually contacted by a WNA volunteer who was reaching out to see if I was still interested. I said yes and through that process was able to meet and expand my group of neighborly acquaintances. It was through volunteering for this one annual event that I got my "foot in the door" to the organization and I am so glad that I did. I attended several of the monthly meetings and was invited to sit on the Board, and then serve as Treasurer. Although I'm new to my formal position in the WNA, it has given me so much perspective in terms of the work that goes on behind the scenes to maintain and grow the WNA on behalf of all neighbors. The organization is entirely volunteer-run. No one is being paid for their time, and the majority of us have full-time careers. The events that we host for neighbors--everything from organizing speakers of interest for the monthly meetings, to producing and printing The Buzz, to the spring neighborhood clean-up and summer pool party/ice cream social--take a great deal of planning and effort. None of us are "professional" public speakers, journalists, or event planners. Yet we recognize the value of bringing the community together for a common good.

Ultimately the WNA is what we make it. And that "we" includes YOU! So here is where you come in. Do you have topic ideas or speakers in mind for our monthly meetings? Are there issues in the neighborhood you'd like to address with a larger group of neighbors? Do you have a skill or even just a bit of time that you could share with us for the good of the neighborhood? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then we would love to hear from you! Share your thoughts with us via email at witherbeena@gmail.com or call one of the board members listed in the Buzz. We recognize that people lead busy lives, and we aren't asking for much of your time. But if you can spare a couple of hours once or twice a year, we'd love your help with our "bigger" events. If you're looking to meet new people and grow a sense of community, we'd love to see you at a monthly meeting. And speaking of monthly meetings, the November meeting would be the perfect way to check us out. It's our annual meeting, meaning that we celebrate our volunteers with food and drinks and games, and we elect board new board members. Bring the whole family to the gathering at the new Woods Tennis Center facilities (see cover story for details) for pizza and fun, and get to know YOUR neighborhood.

I hope to see you there!

Kari Gentzler, WNA Treasurer

The Witherbee neighborhood association would like to thank the following organizations and households for sponsoring the Buzz newsletter with their membership donation.

Organization Sponsors:

Jacobson Veterinary Clinic, PC
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Mary and Stephen Schwab

Yard of the Month *By Kathy Holland*

July Yard of the Month

The home of Kathy Frey at 5101 Lenox Avenue was honored as the July Yard of the Month. Kathy's home borders Stuhr Park. From her front and back yards there is a panoramic view of her yard and the park—lots of green space! There is a terraced area next to the steps that lead to the front door. This area has a variety of annuals and perennials--lots of green and color to welcome you as you arrive at Kathy's home. Various sizes and colors of coleus along with white foliage (dusty miller) are used in flower beds at the bottom and top of the steps.

The backyard and Stuhr Park can be viewed from the patio that is off the second level of the home. Kathy explains that several years ago they converted their sunroom to a patio. When the patio was built additional landscaping was completed in the back yard. Steps off the patio take you down to a stone path. This path leads you to either the daylight basement or to the back yard, and eventually Stuhr Park. Mums, sweet potato vine, perennials and ground cover provide a colorful border. The back yard has a very large ash tree with smaller, more recently planted trees also present. Next to the fence on the southern edge of Kathy's yard is a row of hostas.

Unlike recently honored Yards of the Month, Kathy's yard is a showcase of work completed over a couple of decades. Although there are established areas of plantings, the yard becomes new again every spring and summer with the addition of colorful annuals.

Congratulations, Kathy, for being awarded Yard of the Month for July 2017!



August Yard of the Month

The August Yard of the Month award goes to the Latimer family at 4015 J St. Their home was nominated by a neighbor, Sandy Calvert. Sandy wrote in her nomination, "Lisa Latimer has totally turned the yard from next to nothing into something beautiful since moving in a few short years ago". I met Lisa at her home recently where she described some of the work they have done over the past 3 years. One of the first jobs was cutting down two large trees in the backyard. In addition to the work done in the backyard Lisa has planted a variety of shrubs in the front and on the east side of the house. She has added perennials throughout to add color through spring, summer and fall. She has also brought in some hearty, native plants that were growing at her parent's farm and added these to the mix. A year ago, she decided to landscape an area close to the curb where grass was not growing well. She started by adding

a few plants at a time last fall while the grass was still there. This spring she added more plants and shrubs, removed all the grass and is now patiently waiting for the area to fill in.

Lisa says she gardens by "trial and error". She has a sense where something might fit well, but if not, she doesn't hesitate to move plants around as needed. Her yard is always a work in progress. The hard work at the Latimer house is evident and appreciated many in the neighborhood. Thank you to Sandy for the nomination and congratulations to the Latimer family!

Ice Cream Social Continued from page 1

close early, but they reopened for the WNA event so that around 40 neighborhood 'polar bears' could accept the invitation for a cold plunge!

Even though the evening proved to be unusually chilly for August, Witherbee neighbors and their guests enjoyed fun, friendship and a cool, sweet treat.



Kathy Holland chats with city council member Carl Eskridge



Paul Johnson plays tennis



Natalie & Jordan Duchesneau enjoy ice cream with Claire Admiral

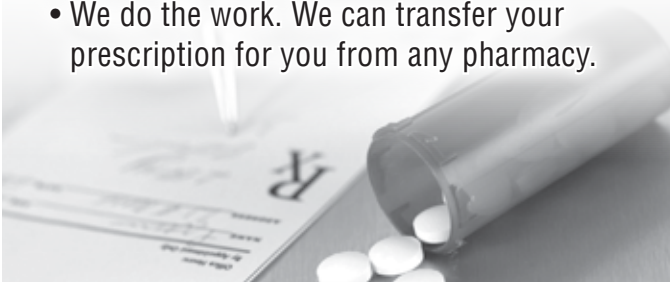


The Stratman brothers brave the cool pool water

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Mollie McNeel with Lily and Louie

Furry Friends In Our Neighborhood

By: James McCarville

Cats make great companions, so if you're looking for a furry friend, The Cat House is here to help! Located on the corner of 37th and "O" street, the 'no kill' shelter was founded in 1998 by a group of cat lovers who saw the tremendous need for an additional feline rescue adoption center in our city. The facility houses cats of all ages, temperaments and health conditions and these kitties have a safe home at The Cat House until the right person comes along, no matter how long that may be.

This wonderful cat adoption facility couldn't exist without the 75+ volunteers that team up to keep this non-profit organization going. One such volunteer is Alma, who has been working there since 2003. Alma shared that the facility houses approximately 150 cats either in a foster home or the shelter itself. Each cat that enters the system is vaccinated, chipped and neutered/spayed prior to adoption. Applications for adoptions are required and all applicants are interviewed and screened to make sure they are a good match for the cat/kitten they are wanting to adopt.

Prior to adoption, each cat receives a comprehensive examination by Doctor Kelly Jordan of Wachal Pet Health Center. Dr. Jordan donates one Saturday a month to give shots, draw blood and treat other cat health issues.


The Cat House also offers a trap-neuter-return program to help control the population of feral cats in our city. This program improves the quality of life for stray and feral cats and their human neighbors as well as reducing the number of unwanted kittens.

Personally, our family has adopted 4 cats from The Cat House and have found our lives enriched in many ways by these additions to our home. We are very thankful for all the awesome volunteers who helped with the adoption process and who take such great care of the cats housed at the facility.

From kittens to adult cats, mature cats and special needs cats, The Cat House has them all so if you are interested in giving a cat their forever home or would just like to tour the facility, then we encourage you to take the time to visit the shelter. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursdays from 6 pm to 8 pm and Sunday from 1:30 pm to 4 pm.

The Cat House is funded entirely by donations, adoption fee's and fundraising events. One such event is the upcoming Meow and Chow. Please consider attending the event or giving a monetary donation during the year to support this wonderful shelter located in our Witherbee neighborhood.





8th ANNUAL

MEOW — AND — CHOW

fundraiser for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors & The Cat House

BINGO PRIZES RAFFLE FOOD FUN

SATURDAY **28** | CENTER FOR PEOPLE IN NEED
 3901 N 27th Door #2
 5pm DOORS 5:30pm SOUP 6:30pm BINGO

\$25 donation at the door
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Steve Schwab Leaves Lasting Impact With WNA

By Mike Fitzgerald

One of our long-time neighbors, Steve Schwab, passed away on August 31. Schwab was an active WNA member who also served on the Board and as WNA President. Undeniably, our neighborhood is in better shape because of the many ways Steve Schwab contributed to it. Those who knew and worked with Steve had the pleasure of experiencing his positive and can do attitude, and those who didn't know him, nevertheless benefited from the projects and activities he championed. Steve served as WNA President in 2007, at a crucial time when the neighborhood association was just four years old and evolving to add proactive efforts to the protective ones which were the first results of WNA's formation.

Steve was an engaging volunteer in the annual WNA Spring Clean-up and the Pool Party / Ice Cream Social, helping establish both as strong and positive neighborhood events.

He was involved with meetings to promote redevelopment of the area east of 48th and O Street. Numerous other activities were also underway or being completed in the Witherbee neighborhood during 2007, rejuvenating Midtown Lincoln. They included:



- Northeast corner N. 33rd & 'O' Streets - Starbucks and other retail businesses would open
- S. 37th & 'O' Streets (on 37th) - construction of a one-story 5,000 sq. ft. office building
- 145 S. 40th Street - Calvary Cemetery installed a new wrought fence, landscaping and other improvements
- Southeast corner S. 45th & 'O' Streets (4501 'O' Street)- Urban Development was working with the property owner to redevelop this 14,420 sq. ft. lot zoned H-2 (highway Business District). Both a building and non-conforming billboard on the now vacant lot at 4501 O Street were torn down. The lot owner expressed an interest in acquiring a vacated portion of Witherbee Boulevard and a 25-foot-wide area in the northern portion of Witherbee park, both pieces are adjacent the east side of his property and would provide space needed for redeveloping the site. The WNA Board voted 8-0 in favor of this proposed street vacation and proposed surplus property declaration and submitted a letter of support to the Lincoln-Lancaster Planning Commission.
- Supported WNA working with the Hawthorne Elementary PTO to keep Hawthorne open as a neighborhood elementary school, then ultimately re-purposed as an alternative high school to replace Bryan School
- Supported grants for trees in Witherbee Park and Stuhr Park.

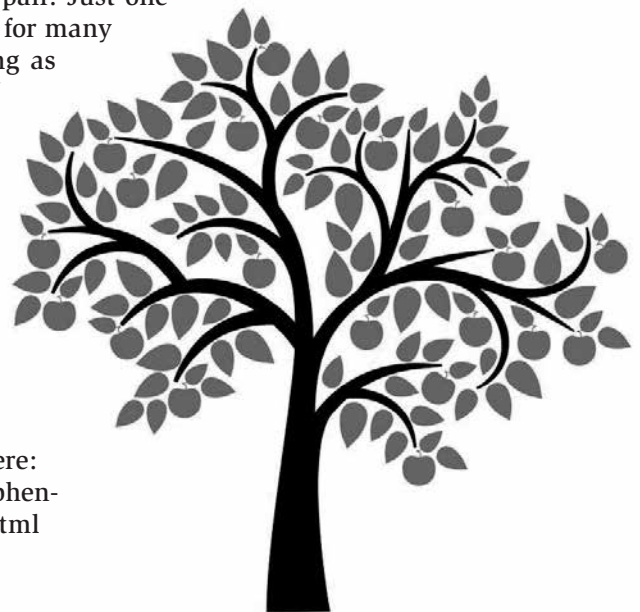
Steve was a people person with leadership skills who could focus on business but just as easily put individuals or a group at ease with his humor and his contagious smile.

Thankfully, we can get a glimpse of his contributions by reading the WNA newsletters from 2007 at <http://www.witherbeena.org/newsletters/newsletters.htm>. These highlights are just a sample of what he did during that year and continued to do long after he relinquished his position on the WNA Board.

Steve was long-time Forester for the City of Lincoln, so it was natural for him to help neighbors throughout our neighborhood with their tree questions, problems and projects. This is another way Steve put his mark on making our neighborhood great. Steve and his wife, Mary, were a great pair. Just one example is that they helped host the Woods Avenue block parties for many years – always encouraging neighborliness. Now Mary is serving as WNA President. Both Steve and Mary are wonderful examples of how volunteering can be fun and help protect and enhance the neighborhood we all call home.

Steve asked that any memorial monies be spent on trees and his preferred location is Maxwell Arboretum on the UNL campus. WNA will make a contribution to the Arboretum and the WNA Board encourages you to consider also honoring his work and love of our neighborhood with a contribution. If you would like to contribute in Steve's honor, tax-deductible donations can be made to: University of Nebraska Foundation Maxwell Arboretum Stephen Schwab Memorial.

Steve's full obituary and memorial information can be found here: http://journalstar.com/lifestyles/announcements/obituaries/stephen-edward-schwab/article_ed5a98b8-5016-5cd4-87b0-a8ea2604f4ac.html



September Meeting: Informative & Fun By Kari Gentzler



The September WNA meeting featured a program led by two active Witherbee residents. Ann Ringlein, manager of The Lincoln Running Co., and Dr. Adam Gentzler, of Spine and Sports Chiropractic, gave the group tips on how to stay active outdoors as the weather cools.

Witherbee residents are lucky in that they are not far from parks and trails in Lincoln which provide the opportunity to get outside and get active through walking, running, or biking. The speakers pointed out that the paved trail around Woods Park is a great one-mile loop, one loop around Calvary Cemetery is three-quarters of a mile, and walking through Stuhr Park from L street to N street and back is nearly half a mile. Additionally, the Mopac Trail is only one mile north of Witherbee's O Street border, and the Billy Wolff Trail is only one mile south of Witherbee's Randolph Street border. Lincoln has over 130 miles of trails within the city. More information about the city's trails, along with links to trail maps, can be found at <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/parks/parksfacilities/trails/>.

In addition to sharing ideas about where to go to get active outdoors, the speakers also shared tips on starting a sustainable fitness plan and staying healthy. They noted that most people have been taught to stretch before starting any physical activity; however, stretching when your muscles are "cold" can actually lead to injuries. Research has shown that it's better to let your muscles warm up

through physical activity (5-10 minutes of walking) prior to stretching, or just use stretching after a workout to cool down.

The speakers also warned to avoid doing "too much too soon". Ringlein, who coached cross country at the collegiate level and leads running groups for beginners in Lincoln, says she often tells people "you don't have to go as fast as you think you should or as far as you think you should, but you should go more often than you think you should." In other words, consistency is key. Take stock of your weekly schedule and responsibilities and set aside some time three or four days a week to get out and walk or be active in some way. You can build speed and endurance more easily if you are consistently active.

Dr. Gentzler, whose practice focuses on helping people resolve soft tissue (muscle and joint) injuries, noted that if you're just starting a fitness routine, or you've been active but are now setting a bigger goal for yourself, you may feel some aches and pains towards the beginning as your body adjusts. If those aches and pains last for three workouts in a row, however, he suggested seeking a professional opinion to avoid more serious injury.

Finally, the speakers answered questions from the audience. Many people were interested in knowing more about the type of shoes they should be wearing and how often they should be replaced. Ringlein suggested being fitted for shoes at a specialty store, because brands make and send higher quality shoes to those stores. "Big Box" stores may sell similar shoes, but they will have been made with different materials. Ringlein also suggested avoiding workout shoe fads because, in her experience, the best shoe is simple, offers good cushioning in the midsole, and doesn't need lots of extra bells and whistles.



A New Plan for Toxic and Hazardous Materials

By Rick Bagby

Drain cleaner, brake fluid, old gasoline, mercury thermometers, turpentine, insecticides and other toxic wastes just got easier to dispose of safely.

Lincoln homeowners have spent years trying to remember where to take hazardous items for disposal, checking calendars, trying to catch up with the roaming teams who help to keep us all safe. While we made the system work, it was easy to miss one of the events, or to show up on the wrong date or at the wrong site. No longer. We have a new permanent home for collection of hazardous and toxic waste. Twice a month every month in a fixed site on a fixed schedule should be much easier.

Located near the North 48th street transfer station, the Hazardous Materials Collection Center (HMCC) is at 5101 N 48th. It will be open twice a month for drop off of waste hazardous materials. First Wednesday and third Saturday of every month by appointment only. Appointments can be made online at the city's website – keyword "household" or by phone at 402-441-8021. <https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/environ/Waste/HHazWaste/HMCC.htm>

The new facility also allows expansion of the program to certain small businesses. For details, see the city website at <https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/environ/Waste/BizWaste/CESQ.htm>

Need help? Call 402-441-8021 for assistance.

WHAT TO BRING

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HOUSEHOLD

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Fertilizers
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Tires
Asbestos
Household trash
Batteries
Used oil
Explosives
Electronic waste
Fire Extinguishers
Large propane cylinders

TRIVIA SPOT

Halloween Trivia & Fun Facts

- 1) In what country did Halloween originate?
- 2) From which words did 'bonfire' originate?
- 3) What vegetable was originally used to make Jack O' Lanterns?
- 4) Why were Jack O' Lanterns originally carved?
- 5) From what region in the world do pumpkins originate?
- 6) Transylvania is a region in which country?
- 7) Is a pumpkin a fruit or a vegetable?
- 8) What is the significant of seeing a spider on Halloween?
- 9) What substance should you sprinkle on you doorstep to keep out evil spirits?
- 10) What is the order of color on a piece of candy corn (bottom to point)?

Answers on page 10

FUN FACTS:

World's largest pumpkin weighed in at a whopping 836 lbs in 1993.

The Halloween holiday grossed 7.4 billion in 2012 (2nd only to Christmas)

American's spend > 2 billion on Halloween candy.

American's spend > 350 million on 'pet' costumes



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Witherbee Artist David Alles

Here in the Witherbee neighborhood, we live among people of all ages, from little children to folks who would need a large number of candles on their birthday cakes.

Name the profession, from accountant to welder, and you're likely to find such a person living among us here in the Witherbee.

This article will introduce you to a unique professional living among us, visual artist David Alles.

David lives on H Street with his wife Tracie, and their two children Emilie and Jacob. The house was first owned by David's Grandparents, Johanna and Theodore Alles who built the home after Theodore returned from World War II.

As a contemporary artist, working with many mediums, David has been producing and selling commissioned pieces of art since high school. Alles graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University and has quickly one of Lincoln's most widely recognized artists (see www.DavidAlles.com).

Many of us are familiar with the previous community art project involving six foot light bulbs. David designed and produced two of the most popular light bulbs, one is called "Little Wonders", a bumble bee, located in front of Randolph Elementary School at 37th & D. Alles created the piece in honor of long time Randolph principle, Wendy Bonaiuto, affectionately known as Dr. B. The other outstanding light bulb David produced in his garage studio is "Plug In" located on Capital Parkway going west on your way downtown. The funds raised from the auction of those works of art went to benefit the Lincoln Lighthouse.

Currently, David and his daughter Emilie are responsible for dreaming up some very unique designs for the upcoming Nebraska by Heart (see nebraskabyheart.org) community art project, which celebrates Nebraska's 150th statehood anniversary.

All of the heart projects will be available for public viewing on October 5 & 6 at Haymarket Park and a public auction will take place on October 6 at 7:00 pm. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Sadie Dog Fund and Lead Up Nebraska. Once auctioned off, the hearts will be placed throughout Lincoln for the enjoyment of all our citizens and visitors. WNA encourages everyone in our neighborhood to spend time locating the four Alles family heart designs. We are very lucky to have such creative individuals call Witherbee Neighborhood, their home.

So, please plan on spending time viewing the work of some amazing Nebraska artists and attend the Nebraska by Heart community event. You'll be supporting the arts and getting to know a talented, artistic family in our Witherbee neighborhood.



What's Up With Witherbee Connect

By: Kathy Stastny

As most of you know, Witherbee Connect has been in place for several years. As a third party, the Witherbee Neighborhood Association via Witherbee Connect, has been able to help folks by answering questions and finding resources for them with just a call. Many times a neighbor requires a simple service such as snow removal or lawn service and they are just not sure who to contact. At times we can find the help they need but sometimes we unable to make a connection with the service needed and a service provider. As a neighborhood association, we would like to help our neighbors more and we think we have found a way to do that!

In upcoming issues of The Buzz we will provide a section called, "Neighborhood Resource Page" where we will list groupings of services and providers that are available for hire in our neighborhood. As recipients of The Buzz, you can call upon these service providers if they fit a need in your life. As a provider, this will be an easy way to connect with the people who need your services.

We welcome all service providers to add your business to our page for a small fee. It can be any

service from lawn care, music lessons, babysitting, tutoring to handy man work. There are many talented individuals in our neighborhood and we want to connect you with the neighbors who need your services. If you are interested in having your business information listed in The Buzz, please send your business name, your name, phone number and a check payable to WNA to Kathy Stastny at 730 South 37th St. 68510. If you have questions, please feel free to call her at (402) 488-3314.

The cost is \$5.00 for one Buzz printing or \$17.50 for a full year of advertisement (4 printings).

As a neighborhood association we are always looking for ways to improve the lives of the people who live within our boundaries and we hope this will be one more reason to love life in this special part of Lincoln.

****Disclosure:** WNA does not endorse any one business or service and please remember that some services require a licensed contractor. If any concerns or questions, we do recommended checking with Lincoln's Better Business office.



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TRIVIA ANSWERS:

Trivia Answers:

- 1) Ireland
- 2) bone and fire
- 3) turnips
- 4) to ward off evil spirits
- 5) Central Americans
- 6) Romania
- 7) fruit
- 8) it is thought to be the spirit of a loved one watching over the person who sees the spider
- 9) Salt
- 10) yellow/orange/white

Nancy Osborne: “Mentoring Keeps Me Young”

Nancy and Isabel, have been meeting since 2007. Isabel was in 3rd grade. Now, she’s a high school senior. They felt comfortable together from the very beginning. “It was an instant connection,” Isabel said. “The trust was there right away.” They busied themselves with crafts, at first. They played games and folded Origami, but mostly they talked.

Isabel became involved in TeamMates at the recommendation of her school counselor after her father passed away. She appreciates Nancy’s support. “She was there for me continuously all these years. It was cool to have Nancy,” Isabel said. “I was blessed with the best.”

Nancy Osborne, co-founder of TeamMates, replies with a smile, “I was blessed with the best.”

Nancy’s idea for TeamMates began after watching a program where a man returned to his old school to give a presentation. He had become wealthy in life and planned to share success stories, but what he found shocked him. The building was run down and the students were in need.

Rather than give the presentation he’d planned, the man told the elementary students if they could graduate and stay out of trouble he would pay their way through college, all of them. All they had to do was visit him at his office downtown once a month to check-in.

Nancy was “blown away by this man’s challenge.” That night when her husband, Tom, then coach of the Cornhusker football team, came home, they discussed what they could do.

“He asked football players to volunteer to mentor young kids. He had about 10-20 hands go up and they became the mentors.”

Aided by Lincoln Public Schools, the program launched in 1991. “To my knowledge, all the kids graduated,” Nancy said “and quite a few went to college.” Over the years, the program has evolved into a school-based mentoring program, providing a safe environment for mentors to meet with children. In Lincoln, the program serves nearly 1,200 students each year.

Throughout their time as TeamMates, Isabel has valued Nancy’s help setting goals and providing support as they



prepare for her to graduate from high school. “Nancy and I have been talking about college and setting goals for a long time.” She said.

While she is not yet sure of her career path, she will begin at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln with an undeclared major. She is considering interior design, or perhaps photography, but more importantly, she said she is interested in a path that puts her in a position to help others.

Isabel credits Nancy for helping her mature and develop. “I never thought I would be here today. People need people and I want to help others.” She says participation in TeamMates has fostered her giving spirit, “I’m on a team at church to help others and a student leadership team to help high school students.”

She wants to be a mentor when she finishes school. “It has helped me. I feel I want to get to know people who are struggling with their home life and help them.” Observing the many mentors meeting with students at her school, she believes it provides a positive experience for all.

Nancy also finds it rewarding to see the mentors. For her, the most rewarding aspect of being a TeamMate is the opportunity to get to know a young person.

“It keeps me young. She keeps me up on things. It just does your heart good to see other mentors who care and want to help kids do their best.”

She advises those who are considering mentoring to “be prepared to be a good listener. Listen intentionally. Isabel’s mother has been great, but many children don’t have someone at home to talk to.”

Isabel agrees, “a lot of teenagers don’t have that special person. They need to have that someone.”

This is one of hundreds of similar stories taking place across our community every week. Lincoln TeamMates highlights one such story every month when we profile a mentor/mentee match that exemplifies the ideals of the Program. If you would like to read more TeamMates of the Month articles, check out the archive on our website at www.LincolnTeamMates.org.

Of course, if that’s not enough, you could create your own story. Become a TeamMates mentor today!



Isabel and Nancy



Holiday Lighting Contest 2017

Right now many of us are spending more time raking up the never ending piles of leaves that come with living in such a wonderfully tree established neighborhood, but it is never to early to start thinking about the white stuff and all the holiday fun that goes along with it.

So get ready to break out those icicle lights, wreaths, inflatables, manger scenes, Santa's, snowmen or whatever puts you in the Christmas spirit! The Witherbee Neighborhood Association is once again sponsoring a Holiday Lighting Contest with future Buzz recognition and PRIZES (\$\$\$) for a variety of categories.

- 1) **Traditional/Simple Elegance Award**
- 2) **Lincoln Electric System Superior Customer Award (most lights)**
- 3) **Visions of Sugar Plums Award (kid favorite)**

Judging will occur during the third week-end in December (16th -17th) and winners will be notified the following week. This gives everyone plenty of time to get those lights untangled, replace burnt out bulbs and dust off Santa and his reindeer!!

Call or email Mary Schwab with your own home as a nomination or another home that you feel deserves recognition.
 witherbeenamary@gmail.com (402) 440-4131



Barry Fox and Rich Hamby of Lincoln Parks and Recreation re-install the repaired pedestal

Damage Repaired at Witherbee Park

By Rick Bagby

Thank you to the maintenance team at Lincoln Parks and Recreation for quick repairs to the poem pedestal in Witherbee Park. First noticed Labor Day weekend, the damage was repaired in the shops of Parks & Rec. The repaired and reinforced pedestal is now back in place next to the sculpture. If you see damage in any Lincoln Park, please report it to 402-441-7847 or parks@lincoln.ne.gov.

Consider taking a few minutes this fall to enjoy the beauty of this special little space in our neighborhood.



Damage to poem pedestal



Damage to poem pedestal

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