



# The Witherbee Buzz

Vol. 16 No. 2 Newsletter

Spring 2019

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

## Yard of the Month

Looking for the Great Landscapes of

Witherbee!!

A home surrounded by a well kept yard looks inviting and increases the visual appeal of the property and the surrounding neighborhood. Witherbee Neighborhood is so lucky to have many such yards and homes



within our boundaries! WNA will once again feature a "Yard of the Month" this spring/summer/fall. If you know a friend or neighbor who does an exceptional job with their lawn and landscaping, please consider nominating them! You may send your nominations by email to [kitty66hawk@aol.com](mailto:kitty66hawk@aol.com) or call (402) 488-2568. Please include the address of the nominee and their name if you have it.



## WNA Programs

### MAY: How to Start a Pollinator Garden

Master Gardener Gary Bell will give a talk on starting a pollinator garden at the Witherbee Neighborhood Association meeting on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM.

Gary will discuss the needs of pollinating insects, pollinator plants, and how to create a viable habitat in an urban setting. He will discuss the importance of butterfly food plants and wild bee nesting needs. Gary grows his own native plants from seeds and will share with us how we can do the same! Gary will provide resources for starting a pollinator habitat in your own garden or flower beds.

Master Gardener Bell took entomology classes decades ago and recently decided to get back to his beginnings by starting a butterfly garden. He then expanded to include bumble bees and then to an all-pollinator habitat in his own yard. He is now working on expanding it to be a pollinator prairie.

Master gardeners take forty hours of instruction and then volunteer forty hours of sharing and helping their first year. In following years they continue their education and volunteer at least thirty hours a year.

Please join us for this environmentally important program.

### JUNE: Lincoln Parks & Rec Fun

On Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> a representative from the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Dept will provide a program on the many fun-filled family activities that can be supported by the Parks and Rec Dept and staff. They will share how to find these programs, how to rent equipment and how our Parks and Rec Dept can increase your summer entertainment!! Join us and let the fun begin!!

#### SEE INSIDE STORIES:

Newest Board Member - page 3

UNL Big Event - page 4

Garage Sale Event - page 8

## 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)

### Mailing Address:

PO Box 5431

Lincoln, NE 68505

402-413-0156

### Executive Board:

Kathy Holland, Co-President  
402-310-9153  
[rh30222@windstream.net](mailto:rh30222@windstream.net)

Nancy Shelley, Co-President  
402-802-8401  
[nshelley67@gmail.com](mailto:nshelley67@gmail.com)

Mary Schwab, Vice President  
402-440-4131  
[maryschwab3510@gmail.com](mailto:maryschwab3510@gmail.com)

Mascha Miedaner, Secretary  
[mascha751@gmail.com](mailto:mascha751@gmail.com)

Kari Gentzler, Treasurer  
[kcgentzler@gmail.com](mailto:kcgentzler@gmail.com)

### Additional Board Members:

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Leanne Mulligan 402-853-4665  
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Jay Ridenour 402-613-3232  
[jridemc@hotmail.com](mailto:jridemc@hotmail.com)

## WNA THANK YOU

Thank you to the following individuals who have faithfully helped deliver our newsletter to every residence in the neighborhood in the past year:

*Nina Anderson-Trumble*

*Kari Gentzler*

*Mike Fitzgerald*

*Kathy Holland*

*Peter Hopwood*

*Bryan Hurst*

*Tim Kovar*

*Mike Kreikemeier*

*Lois Kriger*

*Fred & Jo Lambrecht*

*Sandi Mahoney*

*James McCarville*

*Lisa McNeel*

*Mascha Miedaner*

*Russell & Sherry Miller*

*Jay Ridenour*

*Mary Schwab*

*Dan Wesolowski*



Thanks also to Jim Ihrle who distributes the newsletter to neighborhood businesses and to our advertisers!

Many of these volunteers have helped distribute our newsletter for several years and often take more than one route. A typical route takes about one hour to deliver. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kathy Holland at [rh30222@windstream.net](mailto:rh30222@windstream.net) or call 402-483-6397.

*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  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Stubbs Chiropractic  
Tabitha, Inc.

#### Individual Sponsors:

Terri Bailey  
Richard Bagby  
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.....

# Welcome to the WNA Newest Board Member

## Jay Ridenour

Hi! I am the new kid on the block, Jay Ridenour! I am originally from Columbus, Nebraska, I have lived in Lincoln since 1979. My wife Edilma, our dog Benny and the Jets moved to WNA neighborhood on a cold day in January 2016. We fell in love with our home as soon we walked in on that cold November day Open House, and since then we have been enjoying the area, we love to sit on our back deck and listen to the loud blue jays and watch the squirrels eat their corn and see Benny chasing after them. After 45 years of over the road trucking career I have retired now and enjoying the time at home and now participating in the WNA neighborhood association, hoping to be able to assist our neighbors and learning to be of service to them too.

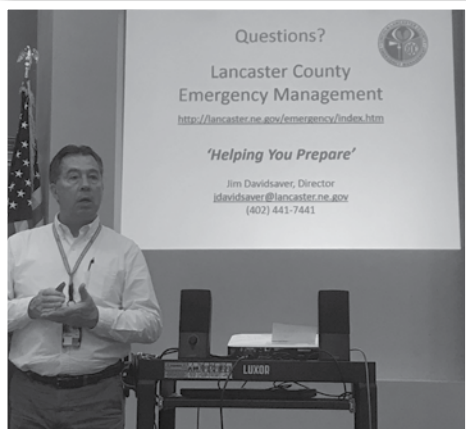
I also enjoy motorcycle riding and taking short and long trips with my wife. This year I joined the Harley Owners Group winter challenge and rode my MC during the winter. Edilma and I have a total of 5 grown children and 8 grandchildren.



## Emergency Management Program

The March WNA program featured the Director of Emergency Management for Lincoln/Lancaster Co., James Davidsaver. Mr. Davidsaver presented the structure, mission areas and procedures for the Lincoln/Lancaster Emergency Management Department. The Department is the liaison between other local departments such as Police, Administration, Transportation and Utilities. The Emergency Management Department looks at ways to prevent, protect, and mitigate disasters affecting the citizens of Lancaster

Co and the City of Lincoln. For more information check out the Emergency Management website at <http://lancaster.ne.gov/emergency/index.htm> and feel free to cut out and use the Emergency Preparedness Checklist.



**LINCOLN-LANCASTER CO.  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**(402) 441-7441**

### Emergency Preparedness Checklist

- ☐ NON-PERISHABLE FOOD
- ☐ FRESH BOTTLED WATER
- ☐ FIRST AID KIT
- ☐ PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES
- ☐ HYGIENE SUPPLIES
- ☐ EXTRA CLOTHING
- ☐ UTILITY TOOLS
- ☐ MEDICAL RECORDS
- ☐ IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS
- ☐ PET SUPPLIES
- ☐ FAMILY CALLING TREE
- ☐ PORTABLE RADIO & FLASHLIGHTS
- ☐ ASSORTED BATTERIES
- ☐ EVACUATION PLANS
- ☐ KEEP CASH ON HAND (AROUND \$200)



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# UNL Big Event!

## UNL Students Help in Neighborhood Clean Up

UNL Big Event was Saturday, April 6th. Thousands of University of Nebraska staff and students shared their time and energy when they donated several hours of their afternoon to help hundreds of Lincoln citizens with a multitude of tasks. Many of our own neighbors were the recipients of their generosity and hard work!! From painting and window cleaning to yard clean up, these busy young people made a lot of people smile with gratitude and happiness.



*The Miller home yard at 341 So. 52nd Street gets a spring clean up.*



*WNA neighbor, Jean Weygint and her Big Event crew.*



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*Mary Rowan and Finn appreciate the Big Event volunteers.*



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## New Friends, New Book

Steve Bena and his niece, Scarlett, stopped to enjoy the Little Free Library at Sherry and Russ Miller's home one sunny day.

Accompanying them were Homer and Lexi. Homer was trained to be an assistance dog by Corrections inmates, but didn't pass his final exam. Steve adopted him and enjoys his friendly companionship. A win-win for both human and pooch! Steve now lives in the house built by Neale and Olive Copple next to Stuhr Park. What a great encounter for all! New people and furry friends and a new book to read!

The Little Free Library is just one of the many perks that makes Witherbee Neighborhood such a great place to live!!



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402-477-3633 • [astreetmarket.strikingly.com](http://astreetmarket.strikingly.com)  
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Full service grocery store open 7am-10pm everyday!  
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## Keeping Up with Local Government

### Witherbee Working to Make our Voices Heard

By Rick Bagby

Lincoln's government leaders are dedicated to citizen participation. We have many opportunities to meet with and influence public officials and those who would like to be public officials. This system only works when the public shows up. Our neighborhood is well represented by neighbors who volunteer their time to keep us in the loop, to represent the neighborhood, to ensure our voices are heard. So far this year: Lincoln Neighborhood Summit on current issues and city planning with state legislators, city department heads and a followup meeting to organize continued Neighborhood level representation to the city. The Mayor's Roundtable - monthly council of neighborhood representatives. Detailed presentations on city issues, helping to shape policy and priorities. In late March we co-sponsored a candidate forum for Mayoral candidates. By co-sponsoring with Neighborworks and other groups we were assured the chance to submit questions. Attendance on a sunny dry spring Saturday was over 100. Whoever our future Mayor will be, they know Witherbee cares. Thank you to all who volunteer in this effort.

### City Offices

Animal Complaints.....	441-7900
Buried Lines.....	477-0547
City Council Representatives.....	441-7515
Crime Stoppers.....	475-3600
Household Hazardous Waste.....	441-8022
Housing Codes.....	441-7785
Mayor's Office.....	441-7511, 441-6300
Neighborhood Watch.....	441-7204
Parks & Recreation.....	441-7847
Quality of Life (24 hour anonymous complaints, suggestions).....	441-6300
Sidewalks (repair, shovel, etc.).....	441-7541
Weed Problems.....	441-7817
Zoning Violations.....	441-7521





# Annual WNA Cleanup is Saturday, May 4th

By Mike Kreikemeier

Wow! What a winter that was. Now that Spring is here it is time for the annual WNA cleanup event and make the neighborhood look great after such a long snow winter. The WNA cleanup will be on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to Noon. The collection site will be along M Street directly North of Bryan Community School.

The 16th annual Witherbee Cleanup is a great way to dispose of unwanted items when cleaning up your garage, your yard & your home. Many items, such as mattresses & box springs and old furniture can be disposed of by bringing them to the collection area.

We have teamed up with Habitat for Humanity ReStore, located at 4630 Y Street, to recycle and reuse construction material and items such as windows and doors from building/remodeling projects as well as leftover lawn and landscaping materials and furniture that is good condition. Stop by the store to see furniture, appliances or materials for next remodeling project.

Goodwill Industries will recycle and reuse most of the electronics and household items collected. All used tires are taken to Firestone Complete Auto Care at 300 N 66<sup>th</sup> Street to be recycled. Complete Auto Care has been a generous cleanup partner for several years.

The metal & household appliances (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, etc) are hauled to Alter Metal Recycling. Appliances with freon are safely discharged before recycling.

A limited number of Brush disposal coupons will be available. These coupons are good all summer and can be used to haul a load of brush to the Lincoln Transfer Station on North 48th street for free.

We need many volunteers to help pick up litter along the major street rights of way, around the schools and in the neighborhood parks. This is a great way to get some exercise and help make the neighborhood look great! Does your high school student need service hours to graduate? Litter pick up counts!

Delicious breakfast treats, coffee & juice are provided to all volunteers.

Items that CANNOT be accepted include trash, leaves, grass clippings, liquids of any kind (including paint, thinners, stains) ammunition/explosives, LP gas cylinders and CRT televisions.

If you need help hauling items to the collection site call Mike Kreikemeier at 402-477-9194 to make an appointment by leaving a message. The items must be easily accessible and placed near the curb if possible for our volunteers to pickup.

Many volunteers are required to make this cleanup event a success. Please consider joining us for a few hours to help clean up the neighborhood. We also need volunteers with pickup trucks and/or trailers. Vouchers are provided to volunteer haulers to help defray the cost of gas. Contact event organizers: Mike Kreikemeier, 402-477-9194 mkb@windstream.net; Bryan Hurst, 402-202-9309 bbacon.hurst@gmail.com, Dan Wesolowski, 402-488-8249 dwesolowski@windstream.net and Jay Ridenour, jridemc@hotmail.com to volunteer or for more information.

This cleanup event is funded by a grant from "Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful". Food and beverages are donated by Midtown Hy-Vee. Refuse hauling is provided by Niederhaus Refuse Services at a discounted rate.



*Will the bear return to be the WNA cleanup mascot or will there be a new mascot waiting to be discovered? Come volunteer on May 4th to find out!*



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## Lincoln Bike Plan Discussed at February General Meeting

Twenty four residents of the Witherbee Neighborhood attended the February WNA General Meeting to hear Kellee Van Bruggen speak about the proposed Lincoln Bike Plan (LBP). Residents had the opportunity to address their concerns about the plan. Van Bruggen is a Transportation Planner for the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department and has been guiding the process. The LBP is part of both the long range transportation and comprehensive plans for the City of Lincoln and the County. According to the LBP website, "The primary purpose of the Lincoln Bike Plan is to identify an on-street bicycle network that builds on the City's extensive trail network and will provide safe and low-stress bicycle commuting and recreational opportunities. The plan depicts a comprehensive system of off-street and on-street facilities that will safely connect neighborhoods and destinations and encourage bicycle travel."



Van Bruggen discussed the process that was involved in creating the plan which was developed from data about Lincoln's current bike trail system and community input. Complete details about the plan can be found at <https://www.lincolnbikeplan.com>.


The planning process began in February 2018 and received approval a year later by the City Council to amend the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster Comprehensive Plan to include the LBP. This is a high-level analysis that will involve more discussion and community input before it becomes part of the master plan, gets developed into a formal city ordinance and then gets built. Of note to Witherbee residents are the following proposals in the plan:

- Side path is proposed from internal trail and sidewalks of Woods Park to proposed Bicycle Boulevard on L Street
- Bicycle Boulevard proposed on L Street from Woods Park to S. 66<sup>th</sup> Street
- Proposed extension of existing Bike Route/Shared Lane on S. 35<sup>th</sup> Street (J to D)
- Keep existing Bike Route/Shared Lane on S. 44<sup>th</sup> Street and S. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street

Intersection improvements proposed at:

- S. 35<sup>th</sup> Street and O Street (grade separation)
- S. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and L Street (signing and striping)
- 48<sup>th</sup> Street and L Street (Ped Signal)
- S 44<sup>th</sup> Street and O Street (signing and striping)
- 40<sup>th</sup> Street and L Street (Traffic Circle)
- 56<sup>th</sup> Street and L Street (Traffic Circle)

If you would like to be kept informed of the next steps and to have input about these proposals, add yourself to the contact list at <https://www.lincolnbikeplan.com/contact-us>.




### Support our Troops Care Packages


Spirit of America is taking donations to deliver a care package for Nebraska's men and women deployed overseas. **Please drop off donations at 325 N 52nd St.** Thank you for supporting our Military!

"Heroes Into Homes" is a non-profit Veteran assistance organization, helping homeless Veterans into homes. Spirit of America is collecting canned items for their pantry. Please drop off your donations in the Credit Union lobby. Thank you for supporting our Vets!

Spirit of America FCU is a not for profit member owned Financial Cooperative established in 1932. We're more than a financial institution for our members and community. Visit our website or call us to find out more!



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# ANNUAL WITHERBEE NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALES EVENT

By Kari Gentzler

As you undertake your spring cleaning projects, consider gathering items to sell as part of the annual Witherbee Neighborhood Garage Sales event! The annual neighborhood-wide garage sale event will be held Thursday-Sunday June 13th through 16th, 2019. Registering your garage sale with WNA for only \$5.00 means you'll receive a LOT of advertising that will translate into foot traffic (and sales!) at your garage sale. Your registration fee helps us place ads in the Lincoln Journal Star. Additionally, information about your sale will be posted to the WNA website, Craigslist, multiple Facebook pages, as well as local radio stations and event calendars. Think of the time you'll save when all of this advertising is done for you. Please spread the word about this opportunity to your family and friends in the neighborhood!

If you decide to hold a garage sale and register your sale with WNA, there are a few things you should know. First, you should fill out and return the registration form and \$5.00 no later than Wednesday, June 5. In order to guarantee your sale gets full advertising, it is important to mail the information in by the deadline. If you would like to register your sale after June 5, you will need to call the committee co-chairperson (listed below). Late registrations are \$10.00. When you are completing the registration form, keep in mind that you get to pick the days (June 13, 14, 15 and/or 16) and the times for your sale. In the days before the sales, a member of the garage sale committee will deliver to you a WNA Garage Sales

yard sign as well as a stack of papers with a list of all WNA garage sales. Please share the papers with your shoppers to encourage them to visit other WNA sales.

Each registered garage sale participant will get a yellow sign to display in their front yard. Because we plan to use the yard signs for multiple years, we ask that you place the one you receive by your front door after your sale is over so that a member of the committee may pick it up on June 16th or 17th. Please do not write or mark on our signs!

You are also free to make your own garage sale signs. Please note that it is illegal to place garage sale signs on light poles or in the right-of-way. Also, after the sale you should make plans to pick up all the signs that you personally place in the neighborhood.

Still have items left over after your sale? WNA is again participating in the Goodwill Challenge. If you want Goodwill to pick up your leftover items, please indicate on the registration form. Goodwill will do one pick up, starting at 3pm on Sunday, June 16. Items must be placed by the curb at that time. Please see the box below for items Goodwill can & cannot accept. If you want a receipt, please call Molly at (402) 438-2022 Ext 118.

Before June 5, please mail your completed registration form and \$5.00 (checks payable to Witherbee Neighborhood Association) to: WNA Treasurer PO BOX 5431, Lincoln, NE 68505

## 2019 Garage Sale Registration Form

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Date of Sale

Thursday, June 13 \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, June 14 \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, June 15 \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday, June 16 \_\_\_\_\_

### Time of Sale

\_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. to \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

☐ Check here to participate in the Goodwill Challenge.

Goodwill will pick up your unsold items starting at 3pm on June 16. Items must be placed at curb. See list of acceptable/not acceptable items.

Please note: EACH INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANT DETERMINES THEIR OWN DATES AND TIMES FOR THEIR SALE

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send \$5 payable to 'Witherbee Neighborhood Association' by June 5, to:

Witherbee Garage Sales, PO Box 5431, Lincoln NE 68505-0431