

Time to Clean Up the Neighborhood!

WNA Cleanup is Saturday, May 6th

By Mike Kreikemeier

Just like the tulips in Witherbee Park, the WNA Cleanup is back for another year. The Cleanup returns on Saturday, May 6th from 8 am-Noon.

The collection site will be along M Street directly North of Bryan Community School (48th and M Street). The Witherbee Cleanup is a great way to dispose of unwanted items when cleaning up your garage, your yard and your home.

Calling all Volunteers.

Please consider helping out. Litter pick-up volunteers get exercise and make the neighborhood look great! It's a great way to spend a Saturday morning and a wonderful way to meet your neighbors. Litter pick-up counts for service hours at all Lincoln High Schools.

Recycle Hard-to-get-rid-of Items

Many items, such as mattresses, box springs and old furniture can be disposed of by bringing them to the collection area.

Tires are taken to Firestone Complete Auto Care at 300 N 66th Street to be recycled. Complete Auto Care has been a generous cleanup partner for several years. No tires mounted on rims are accepted.

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

Do you have construction material and items such as windows and doors from building/remodeling projects as well as leftover lawn and landscaping materials and furniture in good condition? These items are collected and donated to the new Habitat for Humanity ReStore at 5601 S 59th Street.



Loading tires to be recycled.



Metal hauled to Alter Trading to be recycled.

Goodwill Industries will be there to recycle and reuse electronics and household items collected.

Brush coupons are also available. Brush coupons allow dumping a load of brush (sticks, twigs, small branches - NO LEAVES or TRASH) at the 48th Street transfer station for free. **Only the coupons are provided. Picking up and hauling brush are not part of the WNA cleanup.**

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 and CRT computer monitors.

If You Need Help

If you need help hauling items to the collection site email Mike Kreikemeier at mbkreikemeier@gmail.com or call the WNA phone line at 402-413-0156 and 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. Contact event organizers: Mike Kreikemeier: mbk@windstream.net; Bryan Hurst: bbacon.hurst@gmail.com, Dan Wesolowski: dwesolowski@windstream.net 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.

**Witherbee
Neighborhood Association**

Boundaries:

33rd to 56th & 'O' to Randolph

Meetings:

7:00 p.m. Check our Facebook page or
website for meeting location.

www.facebook.com/witherbeena

www.WitherbeeNA.org

PO Box 5431

Lincoln, NE 68505

402-413-0156

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rh30222@windstream.net

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President's Message

One of our goals this year is to increase engagement of our members. I'm pleased to say that we have five new board members that began working on several projects right out of the gate. These projects include the WNA survey provided to all Witherbee neighbors and a push to recruit new Crime Watch team members. As a result, we were able to offer an on-line and paper survey and received a fairly good response. (Read more about the results in this newsletter.) The Crime Watch

Team has already had a meeting with LPD Office Hellmuth. This team is working to increase the number of Crime Watch Block Coordinators. I hope you will consider helping with this. It doesn't require a lot of work and the potential rewards for the neighborhood could be significant.

The survey revealed that many of you are concerned about traffic, from speeding, to "O" Street noise and the state of our streets. One potential outcome is the formation of a Witherbee Team that would continue to bring the issue of "O" Street noise & speeding before City government officials and would work to find solutions. If you are interested in working on this team, please let me know.

One often forgotten benefit of having an active neighborhood association is being able to influence policy at the city level. WNA members attending the Mayor's Roundtable were recently made aware of a current issue, collaborative housing or sober living homes. There has been an increase in the number of older, large homes being purchased by investors typically in one of the older Lincoln neighborhoods such as Near South or Everett. (WNA is not aware of any homes being purchased for this purpose in the Witherbee neighborhood but it certainly could occur in the future.) The investor then requests an exemption to allow 12 to 15 or more unrelated persons to live in that home. The residents, in the case of sober living homes, are recovering from drug or alcohol abuse, supporting each other through this process. However, in these settings there is no programming or supervision required. Two or three adults may have to share a bedroom and cooperatively work to clean, prepare meals, etc.

Without appropriate zoning rules in place, a neighborhood could soon see an overabundance of these homes within the same block, thus putting a strain on infrastructure (sewer, roads, traffic and parking). To prevent this from happening, the City Planning Department is working on rules that will apply to group homes of this type, as to the maximum of number of unrelated individuals who can live in one property, a required spacing of these types of homes throughout a neighborhood and requiring basic safety measures be adhered to such as requiring smoke alarms in every bedroom. Also to be addressed is available parking on the property, for example 0.5 parking spaces per resident.

WNA members are currently working with the Near South Neighborhood to support recommendations Near South will make to the Planning Department regarding the development of these new zoning rules. As you can see, this is a complicated issue and one difficult to summarize in a short paragraph. If you have an interest in getting involved in this or other city-related issues, please reach out to myself or any Board member. Volunteers are needed to keep our neighborhood strong!

We (WNA) anticipate a busy spring and summer with the upcoming Neighborhood Cleanup and WNA Garage Sales. We expect to host the annual Pool Party & Ice Cream Social this summer, date to be determined. We need volunteers to plan this event. Please raise your hand and say "I'll help!"

Kathy Holland

New Business in the Neighborhood!

Mingalar Asian Market

by April Stevenson

I am sometimes a little nervous going into a business where I've never been, although I went to the building at 33rd & B many a time when it was a liquor store! So I asked my sister, Joy, to meet me there, since she lived in Singapore for over 20 years.

She and I LOVED the store... very well lit, super clean and organized, with friendly owners to help you find what you might be looking for. A huge variety of items caught my eye: spices from around the world, shelves of hot sauces, fresh veggies, cage-free eggs, quail eggs (which my sister bought for adding to the fresh ramen she also got.)

Maung Aung, the owner, originally from Myanmar (Burma) was proud of the large variety of Southeastern Asian food items for sale. I love all kinds of food and look forward to shopping here in the future!



Just some of the hot sauces and pastes.



A huge selection of pastries and treats.



It's all about you!

1391 S. 33rd Street

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WNA Calendar of Events

April 27 – WNA Board Meeting (*all welcome to attend*); 7 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 510 S 33rd St.

May 2 – City General Election

May 6 – WNA Annual Neighborhood Cleanup

May 25 – WNA Monthly Meeting; 7 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church.

June 8-10 – WNA Annual Garage Sales

June 22 – WNA Monthly Meeting; 7 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church

July 27 – WNA Board Meeting (*all welcome to attend*); 7 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church

FitLot Classes Resume at Woods Park

Fitlot at Woods Park will start up again beginning Tuesday April 4th, at 10:30-11:30am, then Thursdays 10:30-11:30a and Fridays 9-10am. Join us Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays into the summer (probably June, until the Nebraska heat arrives.)

Jessie Krikac leads the informative, easy-to-follow classes, **FREE**, courtesy of Lincoln Parks & Recreation.



Woods Park:

Keep It Green Update

Fun Fact: Did you know Woods Park has over 700 trees, representing 72 species!

Upcoming Park Projects:

Monday, May 1, 10-noon: planting 15 new trees

Mid May (TBA): planting perennial garden in the north area of park

Keep Informed, Keep Active!

- Follow *Woods Park: Keep It Green* on Facebook for updates and activities.
- Write to city officials to let them know you value Woods Park.
- Got questions or want to volunteer? Contact us at keepitgreen@yahoo.com

Keep It Green Celebration for Woods Park!

Join us between 1 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 13 for the **Woods Park Earth and Sky Celebration**. Come fly a kite (we will have a dozen on hand), chalk the walks and wander our wonderful park.

Helping Our Community - Those Who Serve July 4th Troops Care Package



Spirit of America FCU is asking for donations to deliver a care package for Nebraska's men and women deployed overseas.

Please drop off donations by June 30, at the Credit Union.
Thank you for supporting our Troops!

Visit our website: Spiritoofamericafcu.org for a list of requested items.

Please bring donations to: 325 N 52 St, Lincoln NE



Spirit of America FCU is
Celebrating our 90th Anniversary
Serving our Members!



*Proudly serving Military, Federal,
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Thank YOU to Every Neighbor Who Completed a Survey!

The purpose of the WNA Survey was to gather information, submitted by Witherbee neighbors, either hard copy or on-line, and learn more about our neighborhood needs and opinions. We hoped to measure your satisfaction and gauge your opinions about neighborhood events, including interests and services, now and in the future. The purpose was to obtain a better understanding of how you would like the WNA to serve our neighborhood, to set goals, and improve the efforts of the WNA.

Each of the quarterly newsletters in 2023 will share a portion of the survey. Each portion will be revised as necessary to include additional surveys submitted after this Newsletter. All surveys matter! If you haven't already turned in your survey, YOU ARE NEVER TOO LATE!

Survey analysis was completed by Julie Flodman in early March after 100 surveys had been submitted by residents.

Importance of WNA events:

The importance is shown as an average and was calculated using 87 respondents of the first 100 surveys returned.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most important. How would you rate these annual events promoting community involvement?

Public Policy Development & Participation = 4.15

Newsletter = 4.07

Spring Clean-up = 4.0

Crime Watch = 3.875

Pool Party & Ice-Cream Social = 3.65

Neighborhood Garage Sales = 3.37

Meetings with Educational Speakers and/or
Information = 3.31

Holiday Lighting Awards = 2.98

Yard of The Month Awards = 2.95

How satisfied are you with our neighborhood?

95 of the 100 surveys responded:

37 answered Very Satisfied = 39%

45 answered Satisfied = 47%

9 answered Neutral = 9%

3 answered Unsatisfied = 3%

1 answered Very Unsatisfied = 1%

How Safe do you feel in our neighborhood?

94 of 100 surveys were completed

36 answered Very Safe = 38%

44 answered Safe = 47%

11 answered Neutral = 12%

3 answered Unsafe = 3%

0 answered Very Unsafe = 0%

What do you feel is the most prominent issue in our neighborhood?

81 of 100 responded:

Traffic through the neighborhood is increasing

Drivers use the Witherbee neighborhood as a
throughfare or bypass

Noise and racing on "O" St

Drivers speeding through the neighborhood

Poor street conditions

Parking issues

Homeownership Perception:

30 responded:

Home ownership numbers were decreasing

Home rentals were increasing

Rental homes were deteriorating

The average number of years neighbors have lived in Witherbee is 23 years. The range was from less than one year to 73 years.

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Vacation Bible School

June 5-9, from 9:00AM-Noon.

Register at www.redeemerlincoln.org

Outdoor Movie Night – Free!

Friday June 9, 7:30 PM



Redeemer Lutheran Church

510 South 33rd Street

402-477-1710

Neighborhood Crime Watch

LPD Officer Jason Hellmuth recently shared with the Neighborhood Crime Watch Team that crime is increasing in Lincoln, and is increasing in Witherbee. Our best tool to reduce crime in our neighborhood or protect ourselves is: "Neighbors Looking Out for Neighbors."

The Witherbee Crime Watch Team is looking for volunteers willing to serve as Block Coordinators. All this requires is understanding how this effort works and getting to know the neighbors on your block, or possibly across the street and keeping an eye out for one another.

If you have questions or are interested in learning more about this program, please contact our Team Neighborhood Coordinator, Julie Flodman at jsiffing@yahoo.com.



Coming of S²age at Tabitha

Tabitha is set to open the first-of-its-kind-in-the-nation intergenerational living community in the capital city this fall. As Witherbee neighbors can see, construction of S²age Living by Tabitha is progressing nicely with windows installed, brick laid and rooftops raised. Local company, Brestor Construction, is heading up the ambitious build.

Older adults (55+) and Bryan College of Health Sciences students will call S²age home.

Located on Tabitha's campus in the heart of Lincoln at the corner of 47th and 'L' Streets in the Witherbee neighborhood. It is conveniently less than a mile from Bryan College of Health Sciences as well as great shopping and dining options.

The community offers bright, airy apartments with in-suite washers/dryers, plus beautiful gathering spaces inside and out, including a rooftop terrace. The S²age also welcomes pets and features a spa, just for them, along with a fenced in dog run.

"S²age is like no other as it intentionally connects two generations; building relationships to fulfill common needs in an uncommon matter," said Christie Hinrichs, Tabitha President and CEO. "We cannot wait to welcome residents. S²age will be a fulfilling experience as we offer a creative approach to living with neighbors who are engaged with one another."

Learn more about what S²age Living has to offer, explore floor plans and sign up for a hardhat tour. Call Aubrey Paulsen at 402.486.8520 or visit Tabitha.org/SageLiving

Thank you to the following individuals & businesses who support the activities of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association with their sponsorship donations:

Organization/Business Sponsors:

Dr. Jacobson Veterinary Clinic, P.C.
FM Lawn Care
Redeemer Lutheran Church

Individual Sponsors:

Rick Bagby
Carolyn Barber
John Dzerk
Michael & Elizabeth Fitzgerald
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Randolph Street Plans

What is the plan for repair of Randolph Street, Capitol Parkway to 40th Street? Why wasn't this section of Randolph repaired before 40th to 56th? These questions have been asked by a number of residents who drive on this section of Randolph regularly. And, if you live in the Witherbee neighborhood, Randolph is likely one of your regular routes.

The answer became a little clearer following a meeting of Woods Park, 40th & A and Witherbee Neighborhood presidents and other leaders with Danielle Vachel with LTU (Lincoln Transportation & Utilities) and construction engineers from the firm, Felsburg, Holt and Ullevig, who are consulting on this project. The not so good news is that this project is now projected to be completed in 2026. The good news is that more will be done rather than just street replacement. Plans include, in addition to renovation of the roadway, renovation of curbs & storm drains and reconstruction of pedestrian ramps as needed. Run-off protection for Antelope Creek will also be completed. The engineering firm will also look at possible upgrades to the intersections at 33rd and 40th streets. The City has applied for federal funding which will cover 80% of the cost, thus the delay in repair and renovations. Public meetings regarding this project will likely occur in 2024.

LINCOLN ON THE MOVE – Improvements to Existing Streets 2023

The following project is planned for the summer of 2023: Witherbee Area: Re-paving of 52nd Street from Randolph to O St.

Funding Sources: Lincoln on the Move ¼ cent Sales Tax and Street Improvement Vehicle Tax - Residential



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Shredding Events Around Town

LincOne Credit Union, 4638 W St

Saturday April 15, 9-11 am

Union Bank & Trust, 6801 S 27th St. (Pine Lake)

Saturday, April 22, 9am-noon

LibertyFirst Credit Union, 501 N. 46th St.

Saturday, April 29, 9-11 am

Members Own Credit Union, 33rd & A Street

Saturday, May 13, 9-11 am

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 510 S 33rd St.

Thursday, May 18, 4-5:30 pm

Fundraiser for Young Adult Service Project Trip

Suggested Donation - \$15

Are You Thinking About GARAGE SALES?

Then Maybe You Need To Think About
GETTING READY for
the Annual Witherbee Neighborhood GARAGE SALES!

This year's annual event will be held
Thursday June 8th through Saturday June 10th .

Grab your sunglasses, don't forget your hat,
get busy and display all of your amazing treasures you're willing to part
with, and
Sell, Sell, SELL!



You decide which days, which hours, and how much you want to bargain.

Then, join in the fun to sell your treasures along with other Witherbee Neighbors.

Ask your neighbors, Witherbee's Annual Garage Sales are a great way to make new friends,
meet neighbors and make a little extra Fun Money for spending.

Please complete the Witherbee Neighborhood Garage Sale Registration form below.

Mail your \$5 Registration Fee & the completed form to 3401 L Street, Lincoln NE 68510.

(The registration fee covers costs for item listings, mapping, advertising, printing)

REGISTRATION IS DUE BY MAY 31, 2023

Prior to your sale date, a neighbor will deliver item listings, maps
and an Official Witherbee Neighborhood Garage Sale Sign for your yard.

2023 Garage Sale (June 8-10, 2023) Registration Form:

Name: (First & Last) _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ Phone No: (XXX-XXX-XXX) _____

Email Address: _____

Thursday, June 8 (List Open - Close Times) _____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m.

Friday, June 9 (List Open - Close Times) _____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m.

Saturday, June 10 (List Open - Close Times) _____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m.

Note: Each Individual Participant/Address determines their own dates and times for their sale.

List Sale Items: (25 Words Or Less)

**Send \$5 payable to WNA with completed form
before May 31, 2023 to: WNA Garage Sale, 3401 L Street, Lincoln NE 68510**