



# The Witherbee Buzz

Vol.13 No. 4

Newsletter

Fall 2016

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

## NOVEMBER MEETING

### Free Chili Feed and Inspiration – Nov. 3rd

#### Chili Feed – 6:30 pm.

Free. Presented by the Board of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association in appreciation of all who have volunteered in 2016.

#### Program – 7 pm

57 cents – Hattie May Wiatt and “Acres of Diamonds.” The noble idea of service to one another. Presented by Laurie McAdams.

Laurie McAdams will present an inspirational story that revolves around the basic, noble idea of being of



Laurie McAdams

service to one another. It is a tale about two human beings, an inspiration, a dream, and the fulfillment of that dream as well as the legacy that dream established.

Laurie McAdams was born and raised right here in Lincoln. Laurie enjoyed a 30 year career working for the City of Lincoln’s Aging Partners retiring in 2011 as the Director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Laurie is currently a Pre-planning Counselor at Butherus, Maser & Love.

## DECEMBER MEETING

### Dr. Craig Vacek, DDS – Dec. 1st, 7 pm, Tabitha Lifequest Conference Room

### Times They are a Changin'

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine...you are watching a highly skilled team use complex digital imaging to evaluate projects and outcomes. To your right, a technician loads a proprietary nanopolymer blank into a four axis CAD/CAM milling chamber, while communicating design specs in real-time to colleagues far and wide. To your left, a 3D SLA printer is manufacturing precision components to a tolerance of five one-thousandths of a millimeter.

Where do you suppose you are? Maybe an R&D lab in a Fortune 500 tech company? Perhaps in an engineering startup on Nebraska's Innovation Campus? Would it surprise you to learn you were sitting in a Witherbee neighborhood dental office?



Vacek Family Dentistry team.

Gone are the days of a cold receptionist sliding across a glass window to “greet” you, her face framed by a gigantic wall of paper-stuffed charts. Substitute instead a confident and compassionate professional who greets you warmly by name, assures you that your experience is going to be a pleasant one, and knows her team has the knowledge, skill set, and technology to deliver on that promise.

Technology has changed the practice of dentistry, and it has the ability to improve the lives of dental patients everywhere. Why does this matter? Because let's face it...most people hate going to the dentist and have hated it as long as they can remember. But what if it doesn't have to be that way? What if technology makes dentistry more efficient and

**Continued on page 3.**

## 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:

Rick Bagby, President

402-488-8567

Witherbeerick@gmail.com

Mike Kreikemeier, Vice-President  
402-477-9194

mbk@windstream.net

Kathy Holland, Secretary  
402-483-6397

rh30222@windstream.net

Fred Freytag, Treasurer  
402-430-6658

fred@WitherbeeNA.org

### Additional Board Members:

Sandi Mahoney 402-570-7029  
[sandimahoney@gmail.com](mailto:sandimahoney@gmail.com)

Christine Nesmith 402-484-7673  
[jeepn68@gmail.com](mailto:jeepn68@gmail.com)

Mary Schwab 402-440-4131  
[Ohair42@aol.com](mailto:Ohair42@aol.com)

Kathy Stastny 402-488-3314  
[kstastny@neb.rr.com](mailto:kstastny@neb.rr.com)

Newsletter Committee Chair  
Rick Bagby 402-488-8567  
[witherbeerick@gmail.com](mailto:witherbeerick@gmail.com)

Newsletter Distribution:  
Jim Ihrie 402-483-4919  
510 So. 39th St.

Web Development:  
Fred Freytag 402-430-6658  
[fred@WitherbeeNA.org](mailto:fred@WitherbeeNA.org)

# President's Message

by Rick Bagby

Your Witherbee Neighborhood Association wraps up another year with several ongoing projects. We are informing neighbors, consulting with developers, shaping city policy, and working with city hall to making sure city leaders know our desires hopes and concerns.

We celebrate the small gestures of kindness and concern that make Witherbee a neighborhood of choice for midtown living. We are working to preserve protect and upgrade our city parks and streets. Inside this issue and around town, keep up with the approaching Emerald Ash Borer, improvements to our Parks, developing relationships with our schools. Celebrate home renovations and landscaping and welcoming kind neighbors.

None of this happens without you. Please join us as we shape our neighborhood.



Rick Bagby

## WNA Takes 2nd Place in Goodwill's Neighborhood Challenge

Witherbee Neighborhood Association took part in the Goodwill Challenge again this year by donating household and electronic items during the Cleanup held May 7th and donating unsold items following the neighborhood garage sales held June 9th-11th. At each of these events, Goodwill provided pick-up service. According to Molly Deaver, Communications Coordinator for Goodwill Industries, the Challenge brought in 15,313 pounds of donations. Witherbee neighborhood contributed 5,200 of these pounds, securing second place and was awarded \$300.00!



Witherbee

Witherbee

**\$1 off a  
Combo Meal**

**RUNZA**

Good at the 48<sup>th</sup> & O Street Runza® Restaurant location. Not good with any other coupon or discount. Substitutions and upsizing extra. One coupon per person or car per visit. Expires 12/31/16.

Runza® is a registered trademark of Runza® National, Inc.

**\$2 off a  
1/2 & 1/2  
Combo Meal**

**BRAEDA**  
FRESH EXPRESS CAFÉ

Good at the 48<sup>th</sup> & O Street Braeda® Fresh Express Cafe location. Additions and substitutions extra. One coupon per person or order. Expires 12/31/16.

## Times They are a Changin'

Continued from page 1.

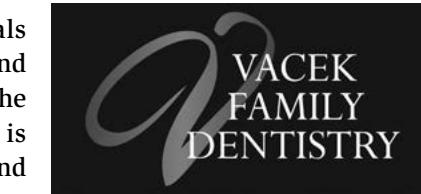
precise? Efficiency and precision leads to predictability. Predictability leads to success, which leads to longevity of treatment outcomes. The end result is less time and angst in the dental chair, and way more warm and fuzzy feelings towards your dental team!

### Did you know...?

- The ability of dental professionals to gently and comfortably manage and improve your periodontal health (the gums and bone that support your teeth) is better than ever thanks to technology, and there is a preponderance of evidence that maintaining periodontal health has a profound effect on major organ systems such as the kidneys, liver, heart and brain.

- An 18 second cone beam CT scan provides more information than your dentist has ever had before, a complete 3D rendering of your entire jaws, with similar radiation exposure as being a passenger on a Trans-Atlantic commercial airline flight.

- Dental crowns (caps) can be completed in one convenient visit, with precision, strength, and natural



beauty. ("I'd like to come back twice for my crown, Doctor," said no patient ever.)

- Technology is an amazing aid to communication between patients and the dental team, so that a patient is able to understand their treatment options and make informed decisions much easier than in the past.

- There are many examples of cases where technology has actually reduced the cost of dental services! In today's healthcare environment, that is most definitely counter culture!

So if you haven't been to your dentist this millennium, chances are things have changed a lot and you should give the profession another try. If you have been a little more regularly than that, take a minute to ask your dentist, hygienist, or dental assistant how technology has changed their practice, and more importantly, how it benefits you as a patient. In short, there are countless things in life that are very hard...but going to the dentist no longer has to be on that list.

Hear more on December 1st at 7 pm, Tabitha's Lifequest Conference Room, 48th & J Streets.

### Discover the Credit Union Difference

Member Ownership

Great Rates

Fewer Fees

Personal Service

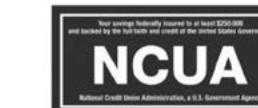
### Ultimate Convenience

30,000+ ATM's  
5,000+ Shared Branching Service Centers



325 N 52 St  
Lincoln, NE  
402.467.1102

Proud to serve present and former Federal and Postal employees, Federally contracted employees, Military personnel and their families.



VOTE November 8th



*It's all about you!*

Come in and see us at 1391 South 33<sup>rd</sup> Street in Lincoln  
Federally insured by NCUA | [membersowncu.org](http://membersowncu.org)

## Neighborly "Shout Out"

By Kathy Holland

In each newsletter we try to recognize someone in the neighborhood who has been noticed helping another Witherbee neighbor in an exchange that displayed kindness and a neighborly gesture or who shined in a special way to deserve recognition.

In this edition we would like to recognize my neighbor Leni. Sometime in the last month or two while working at home, I heard our door bell ring. When I opened the door, there stood Leni. She and her family moved into a house just down the block from ours about two years ago. Leni is 8 years old. Leni handed me a card that said "Hi!", "from me to you". Inside the card this was written: "Hi! I like to talk to people by sending letters to people so that's what I'm doing." A big heart was also drawn inside the card. Although I had met Leni and her family we had never had an extended conversation. So, on our doorstep I got to know Leni.

So many times in our busy lives we don't take time to get to know our new neighbors (or our old neighbors, for that matter). This "shout out" goes to Leni who took time to greet and get to know a neighbor!

If you would like to give a neighborly "shout out" to someone, please call and leave a voice mail on the Witherbee line at 402-413-0156.

Again, thanks for setting a good example for all of us Leni!

Honest banking with no strings attached.



**Stacy Svoboda**  
Branch Manager

1501 N 84th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68505  
Office: 402.323.5301  
Fax: 402.323.5319  
ssvoboda@fnni.com  
NMLS ID 768636

**1 First National Bank**

[firstnational.com](http://firstnational.com)



Member FDIC

## Call for Volunteers

By Sandi Mahoney

Unity in our community, in our neighborhood! The first thing I think about when I think of unity is a group of people working towards the same goal. In this scenario, it's the goal of making our neighborhood the best it can be, a safe place and a desirable area to live and call home. People working together with a clear vision and with clearly articulated goals can accomplish a lot! People work best when they are paired with a task appropriate to their skills and interest. We want all of our neighbors to have a voice in decisions that affect the neighborhood and the activities we promote. Everyone in the community is valued. Pride in the community is increased. Community appreciation is instilled. It takes time and effort. It's an on-going project. We need to remain focused to achieve goals, always keeping in mind the betterment of our neighborhood. Sometimes we feel most satisfied when we know that we have truly affected another person in a positive way and we have contributed to our communities. The pursuit of a common good can help all of us live more fully.

We need more active members and invite EACH neighbor to join one or more committees within our Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA). For many years the main events or activities have been the annual clean-up, the ice cream social/pool party, the holiday decorating contest, the neighborhood garage sales, yard of the month and planning for the annual meeting. Another top priority of WNA is the production and distribution of our quarterly newsletter, "The Witherbee Buzz".

Let us ponder the powerful words of Mother Teresa: "I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things."

We need you! Please contact Sandi Mahoney or Kathy Holland to find out how you can be involved in WNA! Our contact information is on the second page of this newsletter.

Randy Baldwin  
Proprietor  
M-F 7:00am-6:00pm  
2851 No 35th  
Lincoln, Ne 68504  
**BALDWIN'S AUTOMOTIVE**  
(402) 466-5144  
[Baldwinsautomotive.com](http://Baldwinsautomotive.com)

## Witherbee Connect

by Kathy Stastny

I am not a writer, but I care about Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA) so I am again attempting to write for the "Buzz". The WNA was formed some years back. It came about because of a possible problem for the neighbors living in the area of 40th and Randolph. The plan was to develop a 16 unit apartment-condo building, two, 8-unit buildings and a 100 child daycare facility on 3 acres of property between 40th & 42nd and Randolph & J streets. This project would have more than doubled the density on the block, increased traffic in this area and neighbors would have lost the feel of a quiet, residential area. When I think of the increased traffic this could have caused, I think of how difficult this could have been for me. I would have had problems merging on to Randolph, J, and H streets. Fortunately, with the hard work of several neighbors in the Witherbee area, the early leaders of WNA were able to persuade the City Council to deny the permits that would have allowed the project to proceed. A group formed, educated themselves and figured out how to solve the problem. They were creative and very detailed as to what they did. Thanks to this group the development did not happen.

WNA has lost some active members and volunteers within the past few years. We have lost some of those folks due to death, moving out of the neighborhood and just plain burnout. However, some have stayed, we have gained new people and some have returned. We have a very capable and fun group. WNA represents all of us but to me the important thing is they protect the neighborhood in so many ways. The activities help keep us connected and make us proud of where we live. We have leaders who go to the Mayor's Round Table and have knowledge as to how city government works. WNA is encouraging people to set up "Neighborhood Watch" programs. We are in discussion with city officials regarding the proposed parking lot expansion in Wood's Park. Monthly meeting speakers recently included a forester with the Nebraska Forest Service who provided information about the emerald ash borer (EAB) and how it will affect the ash trees in our community. The list goes on...

Right now we are working with Bryan Community School at Hawthorne with students to complete their service hours. They plan to help us with Stuhr Park clean-up and help deliver newsletters. We have talked with the school about many other ideas to involve the students in the neighborhood. We are hoping to take an advantage of their talent. I am excited about

this partnership because everyone wins. Wouldn't it be wonderful if partnerships like this developed in everyone's neighborhood? I am also committed to Witherbee Connect. I love to get calls from individuals who need help with a small project like yard clean-up. Hopefully I can help by connecting them with a volunteer. I love working with the school and neighbors. It makes my day more meaningful.

I know I am rambling. What I want to say is if every household would give just a little bit of time and energy into WNA and neighborhood projects what an unbelievable neighborhood we would have for generations to come! I think we all want to make sure the neighborhood stays safe, clean and friendly. A family friendly environment costs more than money can buy. It is us, Witherbee residents, who make it special. So folks, consider getting involved in WNA. We are looking for individuals who can work on a one time project and others who desire to get more involved. Working on a project or event does not take lots of time. Being on the board or an office holder is a bit more and is also needed. Help WNA become the best neighborhood in Lincoln! I guarantee you will enjoy it! It (the Board) is a pretty cool group.

## SUPER SAVER PHARMACY

**Fast, friendly, and professional pharmacists, ready to serve you.**

- 24-hour refill ordering for your convenience.
- Convenient one stop shopping with your groceries.
- We do the work. We can transfer your prescription for you from any pharmacy.

**48th & O St. 402-464-8552**

Pharmacy 402-464-8822 Pharmacy Fax 402-434-3363

View all of our ads, recipes and more at [www.Super-Saver.com](http://www.Super-Saver.com)

## August Yard of the Month

By Kathy Holland

The August Yard of the Month was awarded to Kim & Randy Barnes at 4033 Lenox Avenue. Their nomination came through an anonymous email, perhaps from a neighbor. It didn't take long into my tour of their yard and garden to understand why they were nominated. The landscaping in the front yard was just the "tip of the iceberg".

Their back yard, viewed from a large window in their living room, revealed several evergreen trees and shrubs, providing color throughout the winter. Junipers lined their west property line, providing privacy.

The patio area was separated from the rest of the yard by shrubs and shaded by an oak tree. Several planters provided lots of color.

The garden section of their yard revealed a wide variety of vegetables, including kale, beets, broccoli, okra, along with zucchini, tomatoes and peppers.



4033 Lenox Avenue

In another area of the garden Vietnamese squash was growing, something new they had planted this year.

Kim's herb garden was truly amazing with a bountiful supply of peppermint, basil, thyme, lemon grass and sage, just to name a few.

The area of their yard next to the back fence provided additional space for their vegetable garden after spring flowers had lost their luster. However in the spring it was the spot for daffodils and iris, then, in the summer, hollyhocks. During my September tour, fall color was provided by cone flowers and a butterfly bush.

Another section of the yard, Kim called her "moonlight garden"; planted with Hostas, Lilly of the Valley and Bleeding Heart—all with white blooms.

I came away from this visit with a sense of "wow!"; inspired to think it's time for a Witherbee Yard and Garden Tour! Congratulations Kim & Randy!



EMPLOYEE OWNED

Full service floral  
Pharmacy  
Chinese  
Italian  
Bakery  
produce  
kitchen & delicatessen  
full service meat and seafood

5010 'O' • 402-483-7707



Your Witherbee Family Restaurant

Coupon

**\$5.00 OFF**

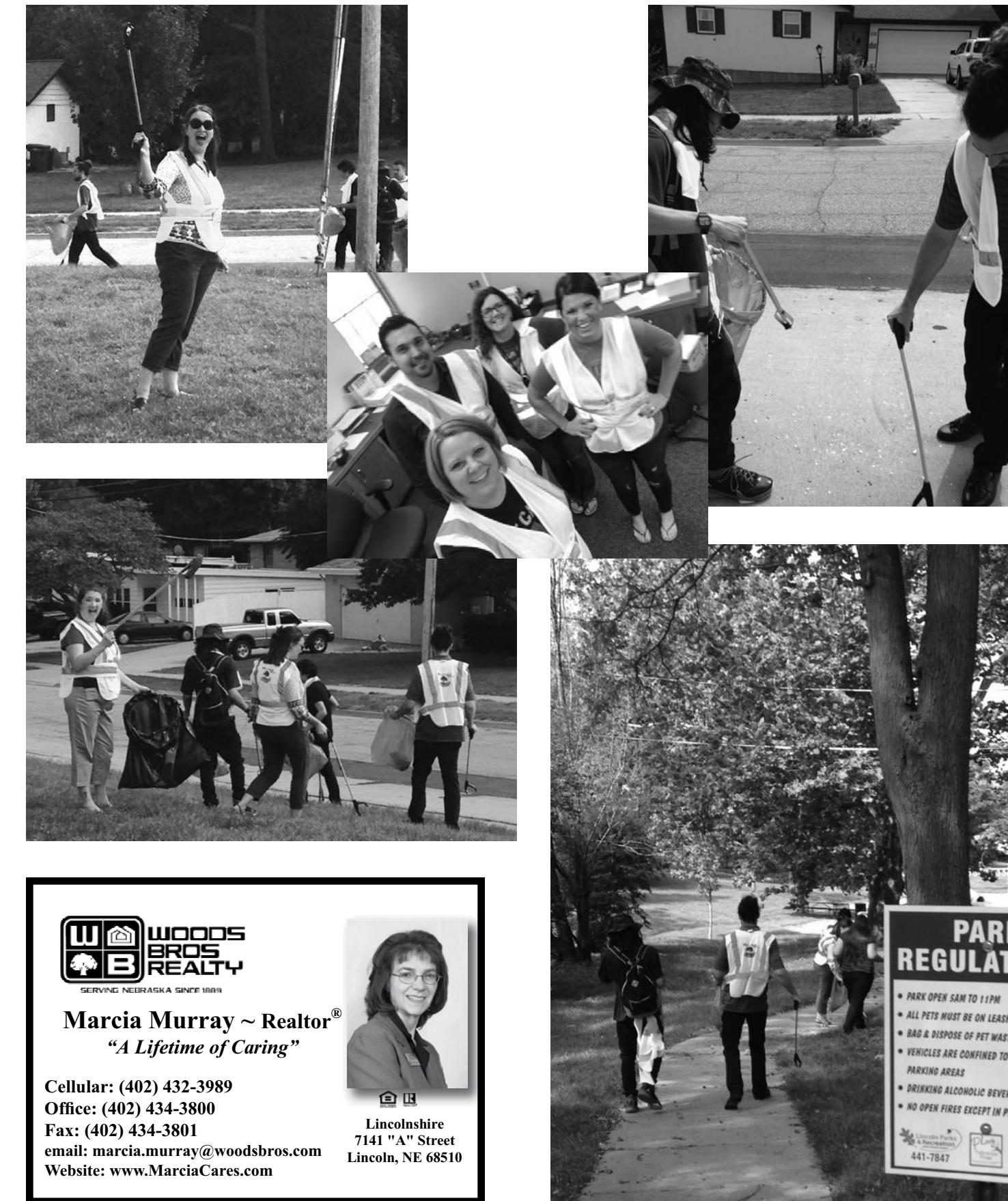
Two adult entrees with two beverages.

Redeemable at 48th and 'O' only  
Limit one coupon per meal — Expires December 31, 2016

Prompt Courteous  
121 No. 48th Lincoln, NE 68594 402-467-2674 Free Wireless Internet

Friendly Service  
OPEN  
Mon. - Sun.

## Bryan Community at Hawthorne Alternative High School Students and Staff Enjoy a September Afternoon Cleaning Stuhr Park.



## Cordner House Renovations & Cottage Home Project – December Meeting Topic

Our December meeting will feature Kelly Langer, new owner of the century-old pink brick farmhouse at 325 S 55th.

The house has been vacant for quite some time. It is great to know someone wants to bring it back as a family home. Known as ‘The Cordner House’ the 100+ year old home is to be renovated as Langer’s family home. Mr. Langer proposes to build several cottage homes on the property. See a similar in-fill project Three Pines Court at 47th & A.

We welcome you to hear about the proposal, have your concerns heard and get questions answered. December 1st, 7pm. Tabitha’s Lifequest Conference Room.



### Thanks & Giving

The year has turned to circle,  
The seasons come and go.  
The harvest all is gathered in  
And chilly north winds blow.  
Orchards have shared their treasures,  
The fields, their yellow grains,  
So open wide the doorway,  
Thanksgiving comes again.

Author: Unknown



Cordner House, 325 S 55th St.

# The Restoration Pros

Lincoln's #1 Painting &  
Home Improvement Contractor

**402-202-4261**

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

- Interior/Exterior painting and repairs
- Kitchen, bathroom and basement remodels
- Exterior improvements: siding, windows, doors
- Deck and Fence building and refinishing



**Edward Jones®** Making Sense of Investing



**Debra J. Zimmer, AAMS®  
Financial Advisor**  
3031 "O" Street, Suite 106  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
Ph. 402-476-2266 • 800-497-4310  
Fax 888-361-9101  
[debra.zimmer@edwardjones.com](mailto:debra.zimmer@edwardjones.com)  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

## September Yard of the Month

The home of Jeanette Fagerberg at 438 Steele Avenue was selected as the Yard of the Month for September. Jeanette’s yard was identified as one of about ten award-worthy yards by a Witherbee resident who is a master gardener. At first glance it appears that the area near the front door is the highlight of the yard but follow the sidewalk around to the side and back yards and you will find much more. One of Jeanette’s first projects after she purchased her home was to create a meditation garden. Starting with a corner, she sought some landscape advice and some “muscle” to prepare

the ground. Then she transformed the area into a quiet, meditative space. Along with rock, shrubs, an ornamental weeping evergreen and other well placed plantings, Jeanette added art pieces and a bench to complete



438 Steele Avenue

the space. Jeanette says most of her yard is a work in progress. She has added islands of landscaped spaces and other areas of native plants and shrubs as time allows.

Most of the design work she has done herself with some assistance in preparing the beds. Jeanette seems to have a natural talent for seeing the big picture; what should be planted, and where, in order to create balance and depth. There are a variety of green and flowering plants that surround her home, but not to that point that it looks crowded. With a variety of perennials, one can find color in any season in

Jeanette’s yard. She strives

to use plants native to this area or ones that adapt well in Nebraska’s climate.

Congratulations, Jeanette, for being selected as having the Yard of the Month for September!

**327-0705**

Hours:  
M.-F. 8-6  
Sat. 8-12

**Jeff Jacobson, DVM**  
4145 "O" Street  
Visit our website for useful information about your family pet. We Care.  
[www.jacobsonvet.com](http://www.jacobsonvet.com)

We'll take care of what's left over from your fall cleaning.

Visit [lincolngoodwill.org](http://lincolngoodwill.org) to schedule a FREE pick up and we'll do the rest.

Donate | Repurpose | Strengthen

Where can you turn when you have  
*questions* about Elder care?



TABITHA

Your answer for Elder Care

402.486.8520 | [WWW.TABITHA.ORG](http://WWW.TABITHA.ORG)

## The Witherbee Buzz – Delivered to Every Home in the Neighborhood

by Sandi Mahoney

Unique among all Lincoln neighborhood associations, our newsletter is hand delivered to every doorstep. First, a pat on the back to the old-timers who have been delivering "The Buzz", not just for the last couple of years but, in some cases, since the beginning of the formation of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association. Over the years many have walked the neighborhood for us. Records are incomplete so we cannot list everyone but a heartfelt thank you to all. These individuals/households most recently include: Dan & Cheryl Weslowski, Bryan Hurst, Kathy Holland, Russ and Sherry Miller, Kathy Stastny, Tim Kovar, Rick Bagby, Jim Ihrie, Mike Kreikemeier, Mike Fitzgerald, Mary Schwab, Fred Freytag and Sandi Mahoney. We are thrilled to announce, starting with the 2016 fall edition, many newcomers have joined the ranks. All volunteers are committed to the delivery of one or more bundles four times a year; winter, spring, summer and fall.

We whole heartedly welcome the following individuals or households who have agreed to being involved in getting the newsletter delivered to every home within the Witherbee neighborhood. These individuals/households are: Bill & Lisa McNeil, Jo Lambrecht, Virginia Burstein, Austin & Jessie Poulsen, Pete & Dawn Hopwood, Ingrid Hansen, Jeff & Kate High, Emily Hoeller, Adam & Kari Gentzler.

We are collaborating with Bryan School at Hawthorne this year. The delivery of newsletters will be one of their projects in order to fulfill some service hours needed to graduate. It's an excellent way to introduce students to the importance of contributing to a neighborhood in a positive way. The students, under the supervision of staff, will deliver 3-5 bundles four times a year. They will not deliver the summer "Buzz", therefore we will be looking for additional volunteers to get the summer newsletter delivered. If you would like to help deliver our newsletter, please contact Sandi Mahoney at 402-570-7029 or sandimahoney@gmail.com.

**Ast market**  
Your friendly and convenient neighborhood store  
On the corner of 33rd and A  
402-477-3633 / astreetmarket@gmail.com  
Find our Weekly ad on facebook.com/astreetmarket  
Open 7 days a week • 7 am - 10 pm



Tabitha Campus Expansion Preliminary Design



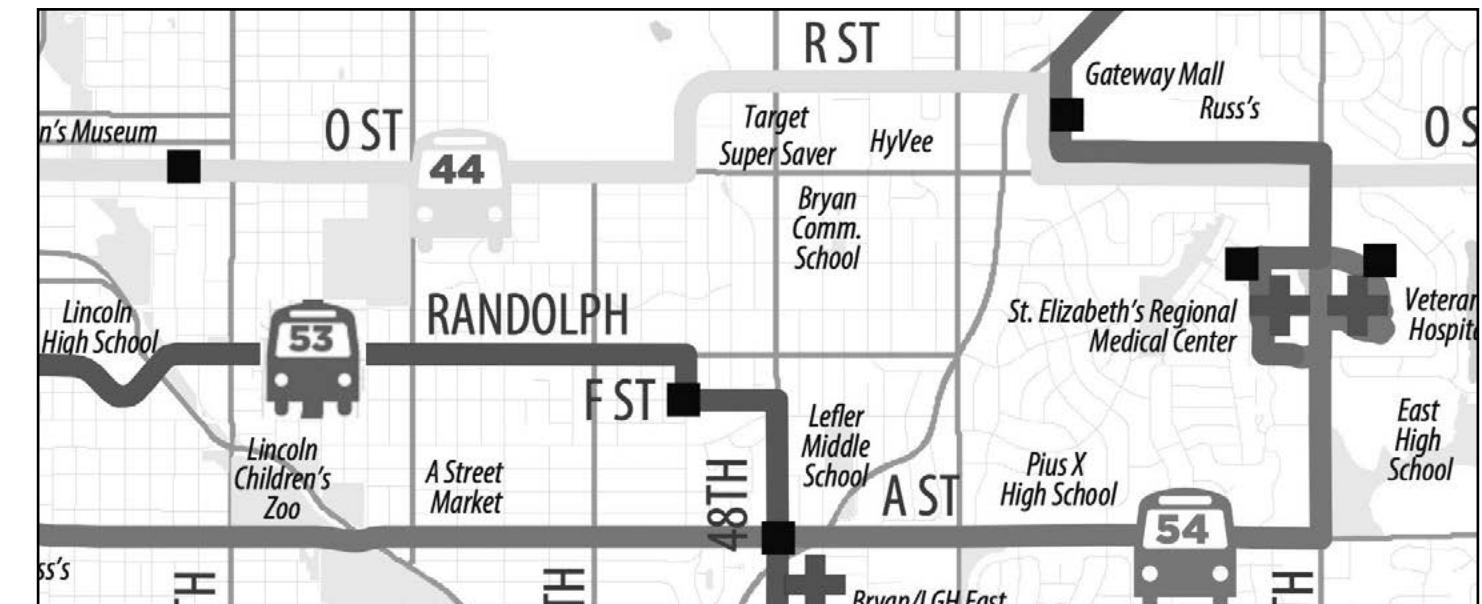
Convenient banking begins at West Gate Bank®. In addition to Completely Free Personal and Business Checking, West Gate Bank® offers a suite of products that allows you to take your bank with you! Contact us today to learn more at 402-434-3456 or visit one of our seven convenient branch locations.

FREE\* MOBILE BANKING WITH MOBILE DEPOSIT  
FREE\* ONLINE BANKING WITH INSTALERT  
FREE STATEMENTS  
FREE BILL PAY  
POP MONEY® (P2P)  
small fees apply



\* Your cell phone provider may charge additional fees for web access or text messaging.

## StarTran Changes – New Routes and Bus Stops



**Ride Free through November—  
to draw interest all rides are free through November**

As part of the new bus route implementation effective November 1st, new bus stop signs are currently being installed. You may have seen some of these signs already as the contractor is busy installing signs along all the new routes. Old bus stop signs will be removed once the new bus stop signs are in place.

With the new bus stop signs, on November 1st StarTran will be switching from the current flag-stop policy to a designated-stop policy. A designated-stop policy means you must be at a bus stop sign to board the bus, and when you pull the stop cord, you will be dropped off at the next designated-stop.

In order to make this a smooth transition for patrons, there will be a grace period. This means if you are not at the exact bus stop or do not know where the bus stop is, the driver will still pick you up and inform you where the correct bus stop location is. The grace period will end on Saturday, December 3rd. On Monday, December 5th, the bus will only pick you up at a designated-stop location.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/startran/routemap/new-routes/>

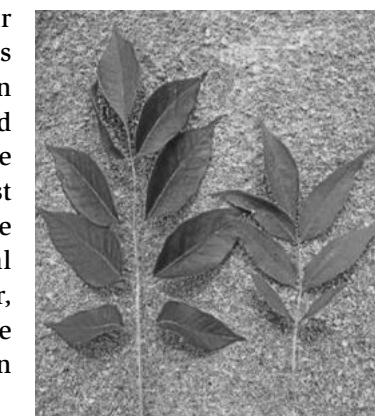
## Emerald Ash Borer Seminar

Missed our June meeting? You have another chance to learn about the approaching Emerald Ash Borer at a seminar at the Lancaster County Extension Service Saturday, November 5, 9-11 am. Registration is required by calling 402-441-7180 by November 2.

Many homeowners have questions about their trees and potential treatment options available to them. All ash species—including the popular cultivars Autumn Purple, Marshall's Seedless, Patmore, Skyline and Summit—will be at risk from this insect, along with all wild ash trees.

Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County and the Nebraska Forest Service has scheduled another Emerald

Ash Borer (EAB) seminar to provide homeowners with the information they need to make good decisions about the care of their ash trees. Cost is \$15 per person/couple for one set of educational materials. Pay at the door, making checks payable to Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County.



Ash Leaves

# Holiday Lighting Contest 2016

By Sandi Mahoney and Kathy Holland

Let's do creativity. Let's do creativity with Nativity! You may remember our holiday lighting contest of 2015 in which we had winners for each of nine categories. This year we have changed some of the categories and added a few in the spirit of giving...not getting. We want to encourage families and the entire neighborhood to get involved in the spirit of the holidays!

Cyndi Lamm, our District 1 City Council representative, has graciously accepted the invitation to judge the contest this year. Her "assistants" will be her husband and grandchildren. Cyndi said, "We love to drive around and see the lights". While specific categories are listed, if Cyndi and her team see some exceptional decorations that do not fit a category, they are the judges and can award as they wish.

## Categories:

**1) Creative for Causes:** Fill a holiday decorated box or decorate a "theme" tree. Your neighbors and friends can add items to your selected theme. Add sign-age, like "Feel Free to Add" or however you choose to get the message out.

Suggested "causes" might be Habitat for Humanity, a Food Bank of Lincoln food box, feed the wildlife, a goody box or tree, angels among us, a nutcracker/sugar plum fairy tree, a veteran food pantry box, the Salvation Army, a mitten theme, the Friendship Home, Diaper Heaven, "snack shack" or whatever cause is close to your heart. It's whatever you choose for YOUR cause!

Invite your neighbors, family and friends to add items related to your theme to your holiday box or tree and plan to donate the items after the holidays. OR, in the case of the snack shack, invite neighbors to take a snack as they pass by the tree or holiday box in front of your home.

**2) Front Door Décor:** For those of you who want a quick and easy way to participate, how about decorating your front door? Cyndi and her team will be checking out the most creative! However, the judges won't be able to judge unless your address is on their list. You MUST toot your own horn and let us know that you want to enter the contest. Call or send us an email!

**3) A Scene with Music:** There are so many great holiday songs! How about "Santa's Coming in a Whirlybird", "I Saw Mama Kissing Santa Claus" or the beautiful "Silent Night"? For those who are computer savvy, music can be easily downloaded.



### 4) Traditional, Simple Elegance Award

### 5) Best Monochromatic Award

### 6) Red, White and Blue Award

### 7) Lincoln Electric System Superior Customer Award (most lights)

### 8) Visions of Sugar Plums Award

(Kids Choice Award)

The deadline to enter is December 16, 2016. We will give Cyndi a list of those who wish to be considered for an award. Judging starts on December 17 and will end at 10 pm on December 20. Please leave the lights on! We will attempt to have ALL of the nominations posted on our facebook page.

If you don't celebrate Christmas we would love seeing Hanukkah trees too.

For the New Year, we suggest you invite people to tie their resolutions for the New Year on your tree or add it to your decorated box.

Our goal is to light up at least one home on every block in our neighborhood! If you don't have a creative bone in your body, I bet you have a neighbor who is ready to impress you with her/his talent. How about getting 4 or 5 neighbors together and as Larry the Cable guy always says..."get errrr done".

Winners will receive their awards within a few days and will be announced in the next WNA newsletter.

Call or email Sandi or Kathy to nominate your house or your neighbor's house for an award. You can reach Sandi at sandimahoney@gmail.com or by phone (402) 570-7029 or Kathy at rh30222@windstream.net or by phone (402)-483-6397.

Thanks to Deanna Harris for some "clever" ideas and let's have some fun!

Holiday Lighting Contest Committee: Sandi Mahoney, Kathy Holland & Rick Bagby.