

Homelessness and The People's City Mission

By Fred Freytag



When YOU change ONE thing in your life and it will cost you nothing extra YOU will help the homeless and support the People's City Mission. It's a new program called "Haulers Helping the Homeless". You can do this by donating your clothing and other items by placing them in a bag with a special tag and let your Refuse Hauler take it to the

collection warehouse for you. What can you donate? How does this program work? How do the City Mission and the homeless benefit? What does the City Mission really do?

Pastor Tom Barber the CEO of People's City Mission will come and talk to us at our March membership meeting to enlighten us and answer those questions. We believe you will look at homelessness and the People's City Mission differently after this presentation. We hope it will change the perception some people have for the better.

**Mark your calendar. Come and Join us on
March 3rd 7:00 P.M**

Tabitha's Life Quest Center. 48th & J Street.

Pastor Tom's background includes broad work experience in both for-profit and non-profit organizations. He has an MBA and BA from Pepperdine University, and has taught sales and marketing classes at UNL. He has been married for forty years to Wendy Barber and has three children along with eight grandchildren.

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Designing to Stay



By Mike Fitzgerald

The Koperski family moved into the neighborhood in the spring of 2006 from Wahoo. They like to say the neighborhood found them rather than the other way around, explaining that friends notified them that the home at 721 S. 37th was for sale. On a day that it was open for viewing, they looked at the home at 6:00 p.m. and by 9:00 p.m. they owned it. Typically, David and Lisa don't make quick decisions on major issues such a home purchase, but friends had told them about the strong positive character of the neighborhood and with other people looking at the house built in 1920 they submitted the winning offer.

Fast forward to 2014, the family of five was growing (Juliana is now 12, Dominic 10 and Lydia 8) as David and Lisa were expectant with son Aidan – now 1. The kitchen was small and had a low and oddly angled ceiling, and there was only one bathroom. David and Lisa wanted to stay in the neighborhood so they decided on a 14 x 24 foot addition. In the expansion project, the old kitchen became a new second full bathroom, the first floor addition added a new kitchen and master bedroom, and the basement addition added another bedroom and bathroom.

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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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President's Message

Exciting times in Midtown Lincoln. Neighbors working together to make and keep Midtown a great area of Lincoln. Neighborhood Garage Sales, Cleanup, Pool Party and Ice Cream Social were brought to you by your Witherbee neighbors. Consider joining us in having fun and making Witherbee the great neighborhood it is. The sculpture "Little Wonders" (the Lightbulb Bee) is staying at Randolph Elementary due to the generosity of the staff, parents, neighbors and supporters. Woods Tennis Center is making good progress on the bubble replacement project. Prosper Lincoln is examining the interconnected web of education, health, safety, income, art, and environment to bring together efforts across the city. Neighbors and Landlords continue to invest in Witherbee properties. Your Witherbee Neighborhood Association continues to bring collective action to bear on issues in the area and the city. Across the street, down the block, be a neighbor.



Rick Bagby

The Big Event is Coming to Witherbee At home, in the Park, Volunteers are available

By Fred Freytag, Kathy Stastny

Mark April 9th 2016 on your calendar.

In The Park

We need your help to manage a large group of volunteers from the UNL Big Event working in our neighborhood parks. We will be picking up litter, cutting volunteer trees and mulching beds. Volunteers will be working for four hours with us to get these tasks done. Watch for updates on the Witherbee Facebook page, website, and email notices. Contact Fred Freytag at 402-430-6658 if you can help.

At Home

Do you have undone projects at home?

In addition to the park project, Witherbee Connect would like to help connect Witherbee Neighborhood residents with volunteers for this work day. Examples of projects that volunteers are able help with include: raking and general yard clean-up, trimming shrubs, cleaning windows, cleaning garages and basements, painting fences. Volunteers may not use power tools.

Do you have some undone home improvement projects for which you could use some help? Do you have a neighbor who could use volunteers for spring clean-up work? To request volunteers for the UNL Big Event, call Witherbee Connect for more information and assistance in signing-up. Individuals may also request volunteers independently. To do this, go to the UNL Big Event web site: <http://bigevent.unl.edu/>.

Using Protected Bikeways, 17 blocks of downtown bike protection

By Fred Freytag

What is a Cycle Track? One of the newest pieces of infrastructure added to downtown will take some getting used to. Motorists, pedestrians and cyclists are learning the new rules. You will be surprised how the streetscape on N street has changed if you have not been downtown recently. Even during the winter month cyclists are using the new Cycle Track to get to work, to shop and for recreation.

A cycle track, also known as a protected bikeway, combines the user experience of a separated path with a conventional bike lane. Unlike a bike lane, however, a cycle track offers protection from traffic using grade separation, bollards, curbs, parked cars, a landscaped area or some other kind of physical barrier. A cycle track is also physically separated distinct from the sidewalk. Widely used in many European countries, cycle tracks are becoming popular in many US cities because they offer the safety and comfort of a separated path with the convenience of a bike lane.

The City of Lincoln has been proactive in providing education on how to use this new bike path and educate motorists to safely navigate the streets without causing accidents and injuring cyclists.

More information can be found on the city's website at www.lincoln.ne.gov and search for 'N Street Cycle Track.' You will find helpful instructional video and great articles.

"Lincoln is very excited to be the home of Nebraska's first cycle track," Mayor Beutler said. "The separation of bikes and motor vehicles provides an extra measure of safety. But, it's very important for the public to learn how to navigate this stretch of "N" Street, which includes traffic control devices at every intersection for cyclists, motorist and pedestrians."

The cycle track provides a connection from the Arena and West Haymarket to the Antelope Valley Trails, a critical link in the City's 128-mile trail network. "In addition to providing important trail connections, the cycle track promotes healthy living and contributes to the livability, excitement and vibrancy of our 21st century city," Beutler said. He noted that Nelnet cited the "N" Street Cycle Track in its announcement about the company's plans to turn the old Windstream building into offices for its employees. The project is part of the Telegraph District, the redevelopment of the 21st and "N" Street area by Nelnet and Speedway Properties.

The cycle track is funded from both public and private sources, including a \$340,000 donation from the Great Plains Trails Network (GPTN).

Watch for posting of links on Witherbee Facebook, website and in emails. Since Witherbee is so close to downtown we predict more cyclists using the new Bike Way and we want to do our part keeping everyone safe. If you are interested in a presentation at one of our monthly meetings please contact a board member.

Designing to Stay

Continued from page 1

David and Lisa did much of the demolition work themselves beginning in October of 2014. Demolition work on 95 years of redecorating in the kitchen revealed five layers of flooring and wall paper and tile behind the wainscoting. Excavation began in December 2014 and despite miscellaneous delays the majority of the work was done by last summer. One step that made the project bearable was that the new kitchen was working before they had to tear out the old kitchen.

Including some ideas from friend and architect Kevin Clark, they designed the expansion with the intention of maintaining the character of the older home and staying for a long time. The first floor now has the kitchen, bathroom and bedroom, all good sized, which means they won't need to climb a set of stairs when they are older. The family says they functioned OK before the expansion with just one bathroom, but having three is really appreciated by everyone.

Homelessness and The People's City Mission

Continued from page 1

Pastor Tom joined the People's City Mission in November 2004 and has helped the organization through a period of very rapid growth. This year the Mission will provide shelter, food, clothing and medical care to over 30,000 unique individuals. It also operates the third largest free medical clinic in the U.S. During Pastor Tom's 11 years the Mission has provided food, shelter, clothing and medical care to almost 250,000 people.

The People's City Mission was founded in 1907 and serves as Lincoln's primary homeless shelter. The Mission provides emergency housing for nearly 350 homeless men, women, and children every night of the year. Those individuals staying at the Mission receive casework, life skill training and three meals a day.

The Mission receives most of its funding from private donations and, per Charity Navigator, gets almost 90% of all donations directly to the need.

We need YOU to come and show your support!

Witherbee Day at the Pioneer Telephone Museum Feb 7th 2016

By Fred Freytag

The Frank H. Woods Telephone Pioneer Museum here in Lincoln may soon become history unless they get an extension on their lease or find a new location. Witherbee neighbors, friends, and anyone wanting to take a LAST look at this Lincoln gem are invited to join us at the museum February 7th, 1 to 4 p.m. at 2047 M Street.

Museum staff, including our neighbor Jim Ihrie a member and volunteer, will be on hand for guided tours and demonstrations of working relics. Join us for a walk down memory lane for some of us and a great education for others.

The building that houses the tourist attraction on the eastern edge of downtown sits in the heart of an area that developers have targeted for a 60-acre housing and retail project west of Antelope Valley Parkway and north of Lincoln High School. Speedway Properties and Nelnet have created the East Downtown Development Corp. to redevelop the area between O and K streets and Antelope Valley Parkway and 24th Street. The Telegraph District would include office space for Nelnet, retail and hundreds of new residential units. The current one-year lease with Windstream, the owner of the 12,000-square-foot museum building, expires March 31. The end for the museum as we know it now unless a new home is found.

The 400 members of the Frank H. Woods Telephone Pioneer Association are worried that the developers' plans will mean the demise of their museum, an attraction that houses artifacts dating back to 1928.

Nearly 20 years ago, the artifacts were ensured a permanent home of their own when the Independent Telephone Pioneer Association gave the local group \$40,000 to renovate the building at 2047 M St. and convert it into a museum. Volunteer members of the 501(c)(3) worked two years to whip the building into a tourist site, moved artifacts that the phone companies had worked nearly 70 years to collect and preserve, and opened the museum in October 1996.

In the past 19-plus years, the museum has drawn visitors from every state in the union, virtually every Canadian province, and 39 countries.

Anyone who has a building that may be converted into a home for the museum is asked to contact the association's board president and museum curator Wally Tubbs at dt44829@twc.com. In addition, readers are encouraged to contact the mayor, city council, Nelnet and Speedway to express their support for the museum. The mayor is at mayor@lincoln.ne.gov. Feedback to the city council is at lincoln.ne.gov/city/council/feedback.htm

You can read more details on line at journalstar.com. Search for Telephone Museum. Read the article from the Neighborhood Extra Jan. 22, 2016 and the JS Opinion Jan. 21, 2016

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Haulers Helping the Homeless

By Mary Schwab

CURBSIDE Recycling Program
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The People's City Mission is teaming up with Lincoln's garbage haulers to provide curbside recycling of unwanted clothing which will be turned into cash donations to support the Mission's services. By reducing waste and helping to extend the life of Lincoln's landfill, this effort will also help to feed Lincoln's homeless.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates ONLY 15 percent of unwanted clothing and shoes nationwide is donated or recycled, while 85 percent goes in the trash. This equates to 70 pounds of discarded clothing per person per year, which would mean Lincoln residents throw away more than 18 million pounds of clothing per year, based on the city's population.

Bagged clothing, shoes, purses, belts, and other textiles, in any condition, will be picked up at residential curbsides by your garbage hauler the same day as current trash service. Place unwanted clothing items in trash bags and tie with a green "recycling ribbon" for easy identification. The recycling ribbons can be obtained for free at any HyVee, Super Saver or Russ's Market. Check to see if your Refuse Hauler is participating in this program. Not all of them are. If not you can still help by taking your bag to one of the red and white drop boxes.

Please! Attend the Witherbee meeting March 3rd. Meet pastor Tom Barber and bring your questions. What can I recycle? In any condition? How and where do I obtain the green recycling ribbons? When do I put the bags out for my garbage hauler? What genius invented this easy way for me to recycle? It's the first of its kind in the nation. Another reason why I love Lincoln!



Winter Buzz 2016 Annual Meeting Recap

2015 Volunteers and Activities Celebrated at Annual Meeting

By Rick Bagby

Our November monthly meeting was a celebration of 2015 activities and volunteers. A time to remember the vast contributions of those who came together to make your WNA possible. Special remembrance and thanks were offered to mark the long time efforts of former Board Members Tony Marquez and Mary Kay Kreikemeier who passed this year. Among those recognized were board members Kathy Holland, Fred Freytag, Mike Kreikemeier, Sandi Mahoney, Christine Nesmith, Cheryl Hejl and members Bryan Hurst, Dan Wesolowski, Kathy Stastny, Kate High. Many neighbors, members and non-members, came together over the year to bring success to Witherbee. Thank you to all.

We enjoyed coffee and cookies donated by HyVee while Mike Kreikemeier brought back the ever popular 'Witherbee Bingo.' Thank You to the local individuals and businesses who provided bingo prizes: Cuddy's Indian Jewelry, Modern Vintage, St. Teresa's Thrift Shop, Member's Own Credit Union, Pearls & Pebbles, Sips & Subs, Home and Closet.

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Witherbee Supports Woods Tennis Center Bubble Replacement

by Rick Bagby

Witherbee Neighborhood Association supports the Woods Tennis Center bubble replacement capital improvement project with a \$500 donation.

By a vote of the membership, the Witherbee Neighborhood Association supports the bubble replacement project, and backed up that support with a \$500 donation to the fundraising effort. Board Members Rick Bagby, Fred Freytag, and Mike Kreikemeier presented a check to Kevin Heim of the Woods Tennis Center on Wednesday, January 20th.

Several years ago a previous plan was turned back with vocal opposition from Witherbee and other area groups. In a dramatic turn-around, the Witherbee Neighborhood Association supports Woods Tennis Center's plan to replace the bubbles covering the tennis courts with permanent structures. Staff and supporters of Woods Tennis Center have worked with area groups to address concerns. Relocating the proposed new buildings, emphasizing community outreach and education have turned around opposition. The Witherbee Neighborhood Association and the Woods Park Neighborhood Association have each given \$500 donations to support the current plan.



Woods Tennis Center has demonstrated a commitment to active healthy lifestyles and to neighborhood living throughout our community. Kevin Heim has kept us informed of opportunities and activities for neighbors, and has been active in several Witherbee projects. Kevin is allowing Witherbee neighbors to use outdoor courts for free when they are available.

Witherbee challenges all of the city of Lincoln to learn more about the project and the city-wide impact of the Woods Tennis Center and it's outreach projects. You will like what you see and will want to give your own support to the project. Learn more at project site <http://www.takingthegame.com/>

Did you know that winter is the perfect time to prune/remove most trees?

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Holiday Lighting Contest

Our 2015 Holiday Lighting Contest is in the books. Checkmark, SUCCESS! Our three volunteer nominator units were Ryan and Voni Wesolowski and family, Mary Schwab, and Kathy Holland. Each unit represented a designated subsection of our Witherbee neighborhood. Several nominations were received by email or phone. Our judges were Mike Kreikemeier, his son-Liam, and Kathy Holland. The volunteers spent many hours cruising the neighborhood blocks in their survey of the wonderland created by those who decorated for the season. The judges noticed so many deserving displays they added two more categories to the original seven. Gift cards of twenty dollars were presented to each winner. Although there are only nine "official" winners everyone who participated made our neighborhood more festive and spirited for this joyous time of year. We are grateful to all who participated. We know the decorations provided a dose of delight for all, not only for us who reside in Witherbee, but for other Lincolntes and visitors who had the good fortune to see the holiday spirit throughout our neighborhood. The nine winners and their respective categories are:

- 1) Lincoln Electric System Superior Customer Award (Most Lights)
Winner: 4200 Randolph
- 2) Simple Elegance Award
Winner: 735 S. 55th St.
- 3) Animated Antics Award
Winner: 4306 L St.
- 4) Ultra Inflatable Award
Winner: 319 S. 56th
- 5) Rooftop Award
NO Lights/Holiday Decorations observed for this category by Nominators or Judges. We changed the award to:
Santa Claus is Coming to Town Award
Winner: 200 Piazza Terrace
- 6) Visions of Sugarplums Award (Kids Choice Award)
Winner: 5325 L St.
- 7) Best Monochromatic Award
Winner: 703 S. 37th St.

Other Awards:

- 8) Reason for the Season Award
Winner: 5201 L St.
- 9) Lights of the Future
Winner: 3785 H St.

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Meet New Board Member Mary Schwab

My family moved into OUR neighborhood at 3435 N St. on October 1st 1969, 47 years ago. When we moved to 3510 Woods Avenue on June 1st 1976, almost 40 years ago, my three children were 9 ½, 6 ½, and 6-weeks old. My children graduated from Randolph Elementary, Lefler Junior High and Lincoln High where I was active in PTA and all of their many activities. We attended St. Teresa's Church. The solid support from neighbors and the good friends that last a lifetime have always given OUR neighborhood the feeling of an extended family.

When my children were growing up we also loved living in "midtown" because we could travel a mile in any direction to find all the services we needed. Or, we were only minutes to the edge of town in any direction. This helped us arrive at school and events promptly--well, most of the time. This was very important when I had three children in two or three schools for 22 years.

My son, Andy Beecham, and his wife, Cathy are partners at FUSE Co-Working. Their daughters are Katie, 13 and Jenna, 10. My daughter, Beth, a nurse at Bryan Heart Institute+ and her husband, Kyle Rupp, live in Lincoln with their daughter, Tabitha, 5. My youngest, Shannon, is a Marketing and Public Relations Specialist at Geary Community Hospital. After many years on the move with the Army, she and her husband, Ryan Rosauer, settled in Junction City, Kansas with their children Abby, 13 and David, 9. My three kids and I delivered the Lincoln Journal Star in our immediate neighborhood for 13 years which truly gets you right up to your neighbor's doorstep. While remembering frozen fingers, wet cement and early alarms on Sunday morning, we also recall the time a neighbor treated us to a cold lemonade on a hot summer's day.

During the summer of 1976, our new Woods Avenue neighbors organized an outstanding block party which included all of the 57 homes between 33rd to 38th on Woods Avenue. It was complete with a live band and

kids' competitions. That tradition continued for 34 years and became an amazing bonding event for all the old neighbors as well as a wonderful welcome to the new neighbors. It spawned a book club and the annual Christmas cookie exchange. Each year I have been asked when we are going to have the block party again. My response has been "LET'S DO IT!"

With 52 years as a cosmetologist and wig specialist, I worked alone in a home beauty salon at both 3435 N and 3510 Woods Ave. before moving my business, O'Hair Salon, to 42nd & O in 1984. The 11-block commute is appreciated. Throughout the years, many teens from the neighborhood have cleaned and swept-up for our sisterhood of talented stylists. I currently continue to create smiles for those with extreme hair loss.

There is a brick at Sunken Gardens to commemorate the marriage of Mary and Steve Schwab on August 30, 1997. Steve enjoyed the big yard at Woods Ave and planted many trees. He found new friends as a charter member of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association and is a Past President. He was also a board member for many years. We enjoyed working together on special projects for WNA. I've had great fun in the past supplying food for annual meetings and working on neighborhood clean-up as well as the summertime swim/ice cream party at Woods Pool. I would encourage anyone to join in the fun.

Witherbee neighborhood's boundaries are 33rd to 56th, & O to Randolph. This is truly the grass-roots of organizations. My current interest in being on the Board of WNA is energizing all the wonderful people of the Witherbee neighborhood to become more involved with one another through WNA. There is an amazing amount to be learned from one another and also from the speakers at each month's meeting. Special projects that take only a little time, done by someone of any age, can produce results that last for years.

The association was born from the need for a special

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Neighbor Shout Out

by Sandi Mahoney

zoning project and resulted in most of the properties in WNA being down-zoned to R2. Do you know what that means for you??? Do you know how many owner-occupied homes are in our neighborhood? Do you rent your home? --then you are our neighbor and you are very welcome to join the Witherbee Neighborhood Association. Owners of rental property are also welcome.

Do you know that YOUR neighborhood association is well represented at monthly meetings with other neighborhood associations in the city? And that gives us a voice in city government. Do you complain about high taxes, and do you know where that tax money is spent? Do you know or would you recognize your police and firefighters who watch out for you and your family 24/7? Join us and you will meet them!!!

Do you know who your neighbors are within a block in each direction well enough to say that you watch out for one another? Or who to call when your neighbor has an especially lovely yard that deserves recognition? Are you a parent or volunteer at Randolph, Lefler, St. Teresa's or other area schools and feel the need to be more connected to one another in the neighborhood? Are you aware of something in your area, either good or alarming, that needs to be shared with your neighbors? I have seen all these things and MORE discussed at the monthly meetings. Please join us and make Witherbee Neighborhood Association your extended family.



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Leaky facet, call Rick. Air conditioning not working, call Rick, and the list goes on. Not everyone has the privilege of ownership of a home, but on the flip side, a renter usually has less responsibility in the "home maintenance" department. In this Buzz edition, a "shout out" goes to Rick Moseman, owner of Rick's Reasonable Rents. He owns the duplexes on the corner, down the street from my home. Late summer and early fall I observed him making several updates and reseeding large areas of the lawn around the duplexes. He worked diligently many days, in spite of hot weather and a brace on one of his legs. We love to see brightly colored SOLD signs in our Witherbee Neighborhood, however, we equally appreciate owners who properly maintain their rental properties and in turn attract good neighbors. When I spoke to Rick he said, "I think with ownership comes responsibility and I take it very seriously." It's apparent because of his positive attitude and attention to his properties, his renters have a comfortable place to call home. Thanks Rick!

We need your input to recognize noteworthy neighbors in our "Shout Out" column. Please send information per email or phone call to Sandi. See contact information on page 2.



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Remodel, Renovate, Update?

By Fred Freytag

These will be some of the topics at the next WNA monthly meeting. Remodel the kitchen or the bathroom, re-roof, re-paint, new siding, new windows, finish the basement or add on to the house. As a homeowner or property owner in general we are faced with questions of maintenance or updating all the time. So we often wonder where to start. How much will it cost? How can I finance this? Where can I get the cheapest money? How do I find the best contractor? How do I know I can trust the contractor or the workers that will come into my house? These and many other questions come to mind.

Those questions and others can be answered at the next monthly Witherbee Neighborhood meeting. We have invited speakers from the Remodeler Council of Lincoln to our February 4th membership meeting. Come and find out how to do your next home improvement project right and save money. Bring your spouse, neighbors and friends.

**JOIN US AT Tabitha's Life Quest Center.
48th & J Streets, February 4th at 7:00 P.M.**

Our first speaker, Roger Reynolds, now a realtor for Woods Brothers Realty, enjoyed 30+ years of remodeling Lincoln's finest homes. He will educate us, answer your

questions, and share with us the benefits of using a professional.

As owner of Reynolds Design and Remodeling, he helped hundreds of homeowners update and enhance their homes to better suit their specific needs. The same qualities that helped him receive the 2008 Better Business Bureau's Integrity Award for Small Businesses carry over to the real estate world as well ...honesty, attention to detail, and knowing how to coordinate all the pieces that make a project a success. Roger's dedication to his craft has been recognized nationally as well. He received the National Association of Home Builders Remodeler of the Month and outstanding Remodeler of the Year awards from the Homebuilders Association of Lincoln. He was recognized in 2005 by NeighborWorks with a Leadership Award for his total home renovation of a rundown property in the Woods Park neighborhood.

Roger enjoys giving back to Lincoln, his home since 1970. He has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, Matt Talbot Kitchen, Lincoln Children's Museum, Food Bank of Lincoln, and Santa Cops. Recently he traveled to Honduras with his son, Ross and helped build two homes with Heart to Honduras.

Roger's wife Sharla is a Speech Pathologist in the Early Childhood Program at Lincoln Public Schools. Roger and Sharla are very proud of their two sons, Tyler and Ross. Tyler joined Roger in 2014 at Woods Brothers and they now form the Reynolds Home Solutions team helping homebuyers and sellers with their real estate needs. Ross is majoring in Finance with a minor in Spanish at UNL.

Our second speaker, Ray DeMar is the President of 1st United Mortgage Banc. He will speak to us about options of financing remodeling projects.

He has been a member of the Lincoln Realtors Assn., Lincoln Homebuilders and Lincoln Remodelers Council for the past 30 years – Serving many volunteer positions including Vice President of the Remodeler Council, on the Board of Directors for Homebuilders and committee Chairperson for the Realtors Assn. and a member and past President of the Nebraska Assn. of Mortgage Professionals.

1st United Mortgage Banc is a locally owned independent mortgage banker in business since 2000. They offer the largest selection of construction and home improvement options in Lincoln.

Have you ever thought about this?

When you maintain or update your home and property you also help maintain and update the neighborhood. It is a long-term investment for all. There is great value in it for you and all of our neighbors. It can become contagious and inspire others to do the same and keep the neighborhood a great place to live. What will be YOUR next project?



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Luann Finke to Speak at April 7th WNA Meeting



Create great color combinations in your landscape with new plants and old favorites. The key to success is understanding the planting site and matching plants for sun, soil and the setting. At our April 7th meeting Luann will make suggestions for

combining plants to suit a variety of settings.

Luann, along with her husband, Rich, own and manage Finke Gardens & Nursery, 500 N. 66th St. They launched Finke Gardens in 1987 as a landscape design installation business. With their knowledge of plants (both have degrees in horticulture from UNL) and their understanding of landscape management they hoped to help people make better decisions about the right plants for their yards and gardens. Their business grew by word of mouth and by 1995 they had established their own greenhouse and had opened the retail side of their business. The plants sold at Finke Gardens & Nursery are grown locally to optimize their health and quality. In fact, they have signed a contract to again grow what will be planted in the Sunken Gardens and in the rose garden across the street.

One of the areas of emphasis of Finke Gardens is sustainable landscape design suited to the individual needs of the gardener and their outdoor setting. Luann will include information in her presentation about natives and heat tolerant plantings. A key component of their business is educating their customers and the general public about strategies for successful gardening and landscape improvement. We look forward to a good turnout to hear from one of our local garden and landscape design experts in April. Come with your questions!



It's all about you!

Come in and see us at 1391 South 33rd Street in Lincoln

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WNA Calendar

Feb 4th, 7pm WNA Monthly meeting. Remodeler's Council of Lincoln

Feb 7th, 1-4 pm. Witherbee Day at the Pioneer Telephone Museum, 2047 M Street.

Feb. 12-14th, Nebraska Builders Home and Garden Show, Lancaster Event Center

March 3rd, 7pm WNA Monthly meeting. Lincoln City Mission, Pastor Tom

April 7th, 7pm WNA Monthly meeting. Finke Gardens & Nursery. Luann Finke

April 9th, 9-12am UNL Big Event. UNL Community Service Day. WNA suggests you sign up for project help at home, or supervise UNL students at a Woods Park landscape project.

April 22nd, Earth Day

April 23-24, Noon-5pm, Tour of Remodeled Homes, HBAL Lincoln

April 29th Arbor Day

SAVE THE DATE:

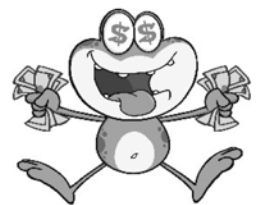
May 5th, WNA Monthly meeting. Topic tba

May 7th, Witherbee Neighborhood Cleanup

May 10th, Primary Election

Jun 9-12, Witherbee Garage Sales

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Show Your Witherbee Pride!

By Mike Fitzgerald

There are many reasons you can be proud of the neighborhood you call home. For example, WNA is well known and respected by city officials and other neighborhood associations. If you ask them about Witherbee Neighborhood – your neighborhood – they will tell you that Witherbee is a shining example of neighbors working together proactively to protect and improve their neighborhood as well as being engaged in city-wide issues. You also may not know that your neighborhood's newsletter – the one you are reading right now – is the standard of excellence among neighborhoods in Lincoln. Yes, you can be proud of your neighborhood. Such a reputation wasn't established overnight or by accident. It has been created since 2003 with investments of time and money. Witherbee residents give what they can, some give their time, others give financially, some give both.



The Witherbee Neighborhood annual membership campaign is being held now and the board of directors and current members invite you to send in your 2016 membership dues – you can sign up or renew on line at www.witherbeena.org/membership or fill out the form which is below.

Perhaps more importantly, they ask that you too consider taking a step to be more involved. When we each do a little, we all do a lot.

Please become a member and participate at whatever level of involvement that fits you and your schedule. Everyone has a talent, skill, idea or area of interest that would be an important contribution. There are many jobs, large and small, that we could use your help with. Please attend a meeting or participate in an activity.

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St.: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Categories:

Single	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Senior Family	\$10.00
Additional Household Member	\$ 5.00
Sponsor	\$35.00
Benefactor	\$50.00 & up
Business	\$40.00

Extra WNA window sticker logo\$5.00

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

Contributions: Donations to WNA of \$50.00 or more will receive a tax deductible receipt.

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

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