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Chronicle

Country Club Neighborhood Association

Lincoln, Nebraska • February 2009



Looking down the ladder to the bomb shelter

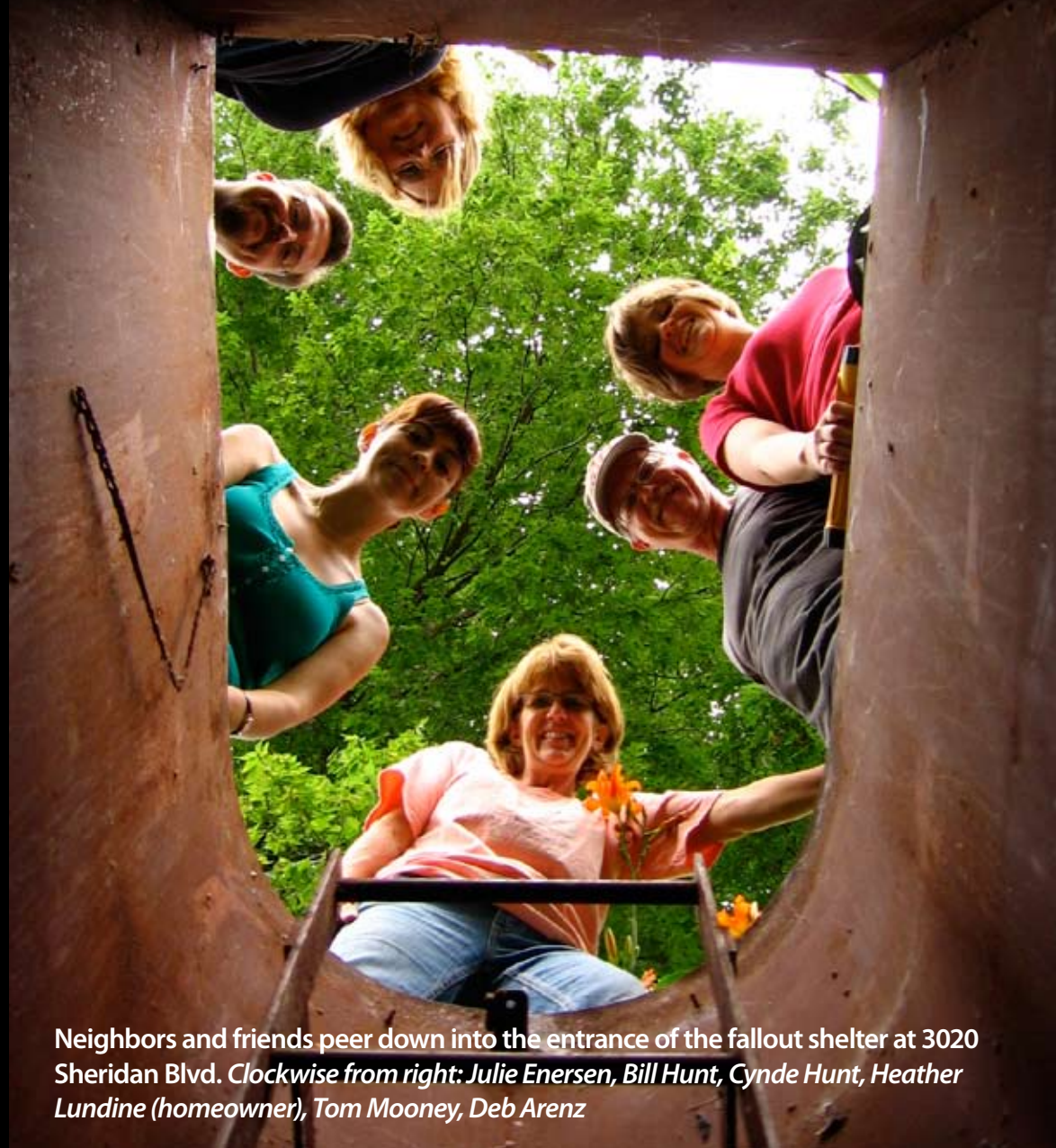


The hatch and the vent as they normally appear in the yard



The view of the shelter looking back toward the door. Cots hang in the foreground.

A Backyard Bomb Shelter - Page 2



Neighbors and friends peer down into the entrance of the fallout shelter at 3020 Sheridan Blvd. Clockwise from right: Julie Enersen, Bill Hunt, Cynde Hunt, Heather Lundine (homeowner), Tom Mooney, Deb Arenz

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A Backyard Bomb Shelter

By Julie Enersen

In the 1950s, the world worried about the possibility of a nuclear attack. In order to protect themselves from radioactive fallout, some families built inexpensive shelters in their basements and stockpiled food. Other families took even greater precautions and constructed separate fallout shelters several feet underground in their backyards. One such structure was built at 3020 Sheridan Boulevard where it was, thankfully, never used as a shelter from radioactive fallout. And since it was also never cleared out or removed, it preserved a slice of history for the rest of us.

When current owners Tom Wilmoth and Heather Lundine purchased their home two years ago, they were curious about the vents protruding from the backyard. Their real estate agent informed them about the bomb shelter and they were intrigued...but cautious. "Before we closed the deal," Lundine says, "we wanted to know exactly what we were buying. It would not have been good to discover, after the fact, that there was toxic material down there." Tom and Heather turned to Tom Riley, a friend who is a partner in The Flatwater Group, an environmental and engineering firm.

Riley offered to investigate the underground space and started by sending a camera down the long chute leading to (Continued on page 6)

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Country Club Neighborhood Association Chronicle

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2009 CCNA Spring Meeting Schedule

February 24th, Tuesday (NOTE the date change)

CCNA Annual Meeting
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

March 17th, Tuesday

CCNA Annual Meeting
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

April 21st, Tuesday

CCNA Neighborhood Meeting
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

July 21st, Tuesday

CCNA Neighborhood Meeting
Irving Rec Center, 2010 Van Dorn
7:00PM - Everyone's Invited

The CCNA meets the third Tuesday in the months of February, March, April, July, September, October and November at 7:00PM. Meetings are held at Irving Rec Center located 2010 Van Dorn Street. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

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A Message from FocalPoint Publishing

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Letter from the CCNA President - Bob Beecham



Bob Beecham
CCNA President
2008-2009

Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year! Thank your to everyone who has supported the Country Club Neighborhood Association. The CCNA is a vibrant organization that is concerned with preserving the history and protecting the future of our beautiful neighborhood. After celebrating our 100th anniversary in 2007 with the Tour of Homes and the Gala Celebration, 2008 saw several new initiatives, including:

- Establishing the new historic district:** In addition to recognizing the unique historic nature of our neighborhood, the new historic designation will also make it more difficult to widen 27th Street. When the neighborhood association was established nearly 24 years ago our only goal was to stop the widening of South 27th Street. Our mission has widened dramatically. Securing the historic designation will strengthen our neighborhood.
- The Neighbors Recognizing Neighbors Program:** Connecting with and knowing the folks who live close by is what defines a neighbor. My favorite definition of neighbor is “a person who shows kindness or helpfulness toward his or her fellow humans: to be a neighbor to someone in distress”. The new recognition program gives everyone a chance to say thank you to those who live the definition of neighbor.
- A revitalized Bishop Heights shopping area:** With the recent addition of the new True Value hardware store, the Bishop Heights Center is back on the road to being a vibrant part of our neighborhood. Please make an effort to patronize the

businesses in our neighborhood including shops in Rathbone Village.

- Improvements to Pocras Park:** Pocras Park is the only public park in or neighborhood. The Pocras family and the CCNA has spent thousands of dollars to improve our unique triangle park. In November 2008, the CCNA and the City of Lincoln installed a new underground sprinkler system at the Park. Our goal is to make Pocras Park a show place and a place where neighbors can enjoy and meet each other. Watch for new activities at the park in 2009.

The 2009 membership letter was recently mailed. Please send your dues and encourage your neighbors to join. Your dues help finance the quarterly newsletter and contribute to the various projects and for the operation of the CCNA. Watch the CCNA newsletter for upcoming events.

-- Bob Beecham

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Country Club Neighborhood Association 2009 Dues Statement

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Annual CCNA Membership dues (good until January 2010) = \$ 15.00

Additional Contribution (Thank you very much!) = \$ _____

If dues and contributions total \$25 or more, the entire amount is tax deductible.

Enclosed is one business card for the online directory = \$ 0.00

Number of Additional Cards Enclosed _____ @ \$5.00 Each = \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed = \$ _____

Please make check payable to **Country Club Neighborhood Association** and return it with this form and your business card(s) to:

CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.

www.ccnalinc.org

Please check your areas of interest:

- CCNA Board of Directors
- Newsletter Contributor
- Parks and Beautification
- History/Historic Preservation
- Social/Neighborhood Party
- Home/Garden Tour for 2009
- Membership/Welcoming
- Garage Sale
- Traffic

Other Interests/Talents _____

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 Joyce Norris, 2832 Manse Avenue
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 Susan Vaccaro, 3500 South 27th

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Stephen Haudrich, 3215 South 31st

Thank you for serving your neighborhood!

CCNA Chronicle Publishing Schedule

February
 May
 August
 November

The CCNA Chronicle is the official publication of the Country Club Neighborhood Association (CCNA). The CCNA Chronicle is published four times a year by the CCNA and every address in the CCNA boundaries is mailed a copy. Statements of fact and opinion made are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members of CCNA. While this publication makes a reasonable effort to establish the integrity of its advertisers, it does not specifically endorse advertised products or services unless specifically stated as such. All correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to: Country Club Neighborhood Association, Attn: CHRONICLE Editor, PO Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.



CCNA
Boundary Map

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Household Hazardous Waste.....	441-8022		
Housing Codes.....	441-7785		
Mayor's Office	441-7511, 441-6300		
Neighborhood Watch.....	441-7204		
Parks and Recreation	441-7847		
Quality of Life (24 hour anonymous com-			

Visit www.ccnalinc.org to find:

- CCNA Business Directory
- A CCNA boundary map
- Links to other community organizations
- Read past issues of the *Chronicle*
- See By-Laws
- CCNA Email: ccna@neb.rr.com

(*Backyard Bomb Shelter, continued from page 2*) the shelter. Since the only image that came back was a closed door, Riley then offered to go down and see what was behind that door. He found himself in a cylindrical room that was a virtual time capsule to 1950s preparedness. The shelves were stacked with fifty-year-old food and supplies. Cots hung from chains. A “Family Radiation Kit” sat ready for use.

The structure and its contents closely matched the description of such shelters given at NebraskaStudies.org (an online educational resource which captures the life and history of Nebraska and is supported by NET, the Nebr. Dept of Education and the Nebraska Historical Society):

“Plans called for construction of a separate fallout shelter several feet underground. Even four feet of earth or a couple of feet of concrete would reduce the level of gamma ray radiation that would reach the family in an underground shelter.”

“Ventilation in the shelter was provided by a hand-cranked blower attached through a pipe to a filter mechanism on the surface. By turning the crank, the shelter would be ventilated with fresh air filtered to keep out radioactive particles.”

“Civil Defense agencies often provided red and yellow candies in their shelters that were called ‘carbohydrate supplements.’ Also, crackers known as ‘Nebraskits’ were available.”

“It was recommended that people stay in the shelter full time for at least 14 days after a nuclear blast. Families with children were advised to stock their shelter with recreational materials to break the monotony. Monopoly games were popular. Other suggested items included playing cards and diaries to keep a record of one’s stay.”

In July 2008, the Wilmoth-Lundine family graciously offered to let CCNA and the Nebraska State Historical Society tour and photograph the fallout shelter. For Deb Arenz, NSHS museum curator, it was a valuable experience from a historical standpoint: *“It was wonderful to find a fully outfitted shelter which could provide a snapshot into that time in our history. I wish there was an easy way to unearth the whole thing and bring it back to the museum.”*

Although Arenz has not heard of other fallout shelters in the CCNA neighborhood, she wouldn’t be surprised if others existed....even without the current owners being aware of it. *“If the vents were removed and the hatch was covered with dirt, there wouldn’t be any outward signs of a fallout shelter. People might not know they had a piece of history in the backyard unless they had a reason to do some major digging.”*

For Tom Wilmoth and Heather Lundine, major digging wasn’t necessary to know what their backyard contained....although digging may be required if they decide to do something with the area. *“A friend has suggested we turn it into a wine cellar and connect to the house with a tunnel,”* Lundine reports, *“but right now, we don’t have any specific plans for the space.”* Until that decision is made, the fallout shelter will remain a conversation piece for their family and a part of our neighborhood’s history.

All photos courtesy of Lynn Janese.

BOMB SHELTER PHOTOS

Canned fuel and Coke sit on a shelf



Fifty-year-old food and supplies



Family Radiation Kit



Good Neighbor AWARD NOMINATION Form

What is a good neighbor? We see examples every day. Walk down any street in the CCN and you will see residents improving the physical environment by building additions or by improving their landscape. You will also see neighbors checking on the elderly couple next door or helping a new neighbor move into their home. It is these kinds of acts, both big and small, that we want to recognize with CCNA GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS.

The purpose of the Good Neighbor Award is simple: to let others know what great neighbors you have and to encourage folks to continue to make the neighborhood a great place to live and work.

Some of the following would be considered grounds for nomination:

- Improving or maintaining landscaping
- Improvements to homes
- Improves the friendliness of our neighborhood
- Good deed doers
- Making the CCN a better place to live
- Contribute to the beauty of the CCN

Nominees will be recognized in The Chronicle and formal recognition will occur at the CCNA annual meeting each March. Let's pass this spirit along and encourage good stewardship and acts of kindness! www.ccnalinc.org

Name of Good Neighbor Award Nominee:

Address of Nominee:

Reason for the Nomination *(send attachments or photos if you wish):*

Name, Address and Phone Number of Person Making the Nomination:

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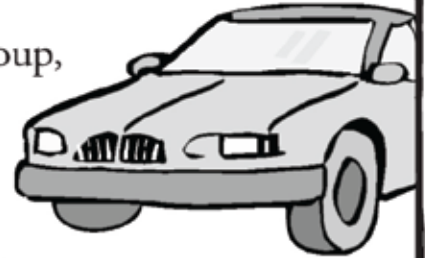
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Historic District Plan Draws City-Wide Attention

According to the Lincoln Journal Star, the city government's plan to designate our neighborhood as a federal historic district has generated criticism from area residents.

In a December 16 editorial, the paper stated that news of the plan "prompted a storm of online comments" from readers who wish to see 27th street widened in the future.

Neighborhood Association President Bob Beecham has taken the controversy in stride. "That's one of the reasons we wanted to do it," he said to the Journal Star.

While they recognized that the historic district designation will make it difficult to widen the street, the Journal Star editors appreciated our residents' effort to preserve our special neighborhood, which includes the only stretch of 27th street that is less than four lanes.

"It will serve notice that anyone who attempts to change its character will have a battle on their hands," said the editors.

The editorial comes as an encouraging sign to everyone who has supported the historic district plan, which will "boost property values and provide tax incentives for rehabilitation."

The Journal Star also applauded our residents' civic involvement: *"We credit Country Club residents for being organized, savvy, alert and energetic about protecting the special characteristics of their turf. As long as they can keep that sort of spirit alive and well, their neighborhood will flourish indefinitely."*

CCNA Book Corner

Each issue we will feature a book written about or by a CCNA neighbor. This month we highlight Otis Young, a retired minister of First-Plymouth Congregational Church and long-term resident of the Country Club Neighborhood Association.

Reach Out and Live

By Otis Young

Many people have long encouraged Otis Young to write a book including some of his sermons and other ideas. The book called *Reach Out and Live*, was published in late December. Otis and his wife Rowena have lived in the Country Club Neighborhood Association area for more than 25 years. He retired as Senior Minister of First-Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, September 2006, after serving in that position for 35 years.

The book's title is the same as the church's weekly television program, *Reach Out and Live*. Copies of the book can be purchased at the Bishop Heights True Value Hardware store, at First-Plymouth Church and at Lee Booksellers. In the "Forward" to the book, Jim Keck, Otis's successor at First-Plymouth Church writes, *"Otis Young is one of America's great pastors. During the same years he served First-Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, historic protestant churches in the center of American towns were losing members at a fearsome rate--but First-Plymouth almost tripled in size. At the same time many church goers were finding worship to be boring and irrelevant, he carefully honed down the worship time into a crisp, purposeful service in praise to God and to the uplift of the human spirit."*

Tammy Alvis a member of the staff of First-Plymouth, who has worked with Otis for more than 20 years writes: *"As a masterful, thoughtful, intelligent, well-read minister, Otis shares his knowledge of the Bible by utilizing practical illustrations with home-spun sage advice to fit real-life situations. While reading his sermon in this book you may feel he has magically addressed an issue that is currently affecting your life."*

Otis Young's Book is available at Lee Booksellers and Bishop Heights True Value.

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Neighbors RECOGNIZING Neighbors

Good Neighbor Nominee:

Nadine Thurber - 2909 Lake Street

Submitted by: Dena Winter

Reason for Nomination: Nadine has lived in the neighborhood for some 40 years and has always meticulously cared for her home and made sure others do too. She has more keys to neighbor's homes than anyone! She is a smiling, friendly presence who looks out for neighbors, always. (She is temporarily in a nursing home – we miss her greatly.)

Good Neighbor Nominee:

Ed and Linda Whalen - 2923 South Street

Submitted by: LaSandra Brown

Reason for Nomination: Ed is always being helpful. He removes the snow from the sidewalks on my corner lot. He has fixed the siding and cleaned the gutter on my garage. And Linda shares her wonderful baked goods and gave me encouragement during my chemo.

*Country Club
Neighborhood Association*
ANNUAL GARAGE SALES
Saturday, May 2, 2009

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clean out the garage, clean out
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Knolls Enjoy “Happy House”

By Mary Lynn Schaffer

The Country Club Neighborhood recently lost one of its most endearing and loyal neighbors—Robert Knoll. Robert had been experiencing failing health for the last year and died at age 86 on January 8 with his family at his side. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; their children Elizabeth, Sarah, and Ben; and their families.

Robert’s quick steps on his daily walks, his cordial wave, and ready greeting were as recognizable as his full head of white hair to his many neighbors. Professionally, Robert was an academician—and educator extraordinaire, recognized throughout the state as someone who helped shape the lives of his many students. And many of the characteristics that made him so beloved by his students, made him a much loved neighbor as well—he was intensely interested in the lives of his neighbors, the activities of our Association, and always appreciative and supportive of efforts to improve our neighborhood.

For more than 40 years, Robert and Virginia Knoll shared their home on South 24th Street with friends, family and neighbors. Harry Tolly, retired dentist and neighbor for 30 years, said, *“He was great; I really loved him. We would sit on his front step or take walks together and he was so interesting and engaging. He was interested in me and my family, and I felt I knew his.”*

“Robert used to call me the Mayor of 24th Street when we lived there,” Bob Beecham said, “but Robert was actually the Mayor—he knew everyone, all about the homes and history of the neighborhood, and everyone knew and admired him.”

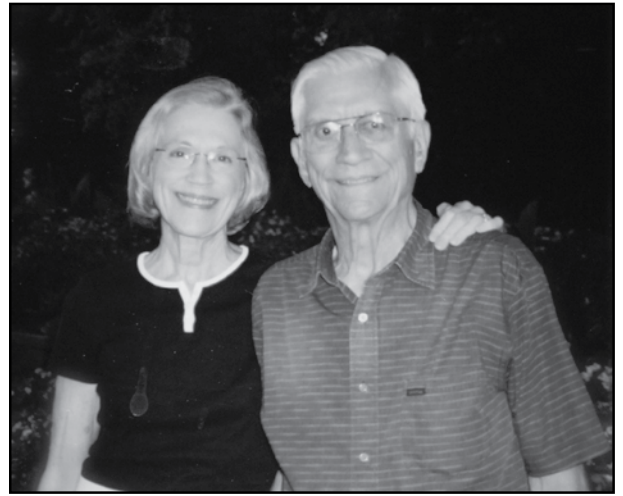
The Knolls moved to the Country Club neighborhood in December, 1967, upon their return from Austria where Robert had enjoyed a Fulbright fellowship. According to Virginia, Robert really did not want to move from their home on Woods Avenue. He enjoyed walking to the University and they had only one car. But she persuaded him that they had outgrown their old home, that the new neighborhood was beautiful, and they already had friends who lived in the area.

They found a home with bedrooms for each child, a bus stop at a nearby corner, and a house in “move in” condition. Ironically, Virginia says, “We thought we were moving further from the activities of downtown and the University,” and today the Country Club area is considered close to all of those activities.

Virginia said that when they moved to the neighborhood, many of the houses had names—some for the people who had built the home and others for the family who had lived in the home. Theirs was the Truman House, built in 1923 by Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Truman. Neighboring houses were known as the Waugh home, Barkley home, Gere home, and the Hepolsheimer home.

One of the enduring charms of the neighborhood is that each home had its own unique story. The Knolls’ home, for example, has a mural above the fireplace that was painted by Mrs. Truman’s cousin, Elizabeth Dolan, a distinguished muralist who also painted the murals in the Miller and Paine women’s lounge, the Nebraska State Museum in Morrill Hall on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and in the Nebraska State Capital Building.

The Knolls purchased the home from Hal and Flo Booth who had com-



Virginia and Robert Knoll

pletely updated the home. “There were no trees in the medians at that time,” Virginia said, “and all of the neighborhood children played in the open space.” The west sun beat down on the house so strongly that she and Robert purchased the largest red oak that could be transplanted; that oak, now a large shade tree, has protected their home throughout the years.

Because of the home’s proximity to Irving Junior High School, the Knolls became impromptu hosts to a generation of students. When their son Ben was in junior high school, his friends would ride over, leave their bikes in the back yard, and all walk to school together. “They acted like they owned the place, but Robert and I loved it,” Virginia said. When graduation day came, the Knolls hosted a brunch for the boys and their parents. Virginia said it was great fun because the boys were so comfortable—“they were great kids.” Perhaps the most enduring quality of the Knolls home was the joy it held. Virginia remembers being told by a neighbor when they first moved in, “It’s such a happy house!” In those days the neighborhood had many young couples with children, and some of those neighbors are now seniors. “It’s been fascinating,” Virginia said, “a privilege of knowing the families. They have been extremely kind and welcoming.”

In the notes Robert wrote for his funeral program, he said that he and his wife had married and “lived happily ever after.” Virginia said she thinks those words were inspired in part by their home in the Country Club neighborhood. “You were right,” he told her.

It has been a privilege for many of us to know Robert and Virginia and call them our friends, as well as our neighbors.

Boulevards Historic District

By Ed Zimmer, Lincoln Planning Department

Members of Country Club Neighborhood Association have always known the neighborhood is a special place, but now much of the area is officially a Historic Place. In December 2008, 450 acres--over 1200 buildings--were enrolled on the National Register of Historic Places as "Boulevards Historic District." The district extends from South Street on the north to Calvert on the south, and from the Rock Island on the east to Irving School on the west. (See map)

Readers of the Lincoln Journal Star and viewers of Channel 5 may already know more than they wish about the District, but for patient readers, I will try to summarize briefly the National Register, the District, and the myths and meaning of the designation. The National Register of Historic Places was created by federal legislation in 1966. It is maintained by the National Park Service as an evolving list of buildings, neighborhoods, and structures (such as bridges, highways, and locomotives) that are both important in understanding America's history, and intact enough to help tell that history. Since America is made up of 50 United States and American history has occurred in thousands of communities, the National Register includes places of local, state, and national significance.

The Boulevards Historic District is listed for its local significance in the development of Lincoln, and for its landscape design and architectural history. The pattern of development of the land, principally by the Woods Brothers and Harvey Rathbone from 1909 through the years immediately after World War II, created a unique and beautiful area of curving streets, landscaped medians, and large and small house lots. Locally and nationally prominent landscape architects were involved in both subdivision planning and individual house sites. Ernst Herminghaus, Nebraska's first academically trained landscape architect who also designed Pioneers Park and the Nebraska Capitol grounds, contributed to the Sheridan Park subdivision (east of 27th). Jens Jensen of Chicago worked for the Woods Brothers on Woodscrest and the Frank Woods estate at Sheridan and Park. Lincoln's leading builders and architects are very well represented in the district, including dozens of houses by Davis & Wilson, Selmer Solheim, John Unthank, Miller & Craig, Fiske & Meginnis, and many others.

Contrary to myth, the National Register does not impose restrictions on owners, although it does require additional studies and consultation before federally funded or licensed "undertakings" can occur. Owners can legally alter or even demolish (gasp!) National Register properties without penalty. In addition to collecting and celebrating American history, the Register's principal purpose is as a planning tool, so that Federal actions can take into account their effect on historic properties, and efforts can be made to avoid harm.

The other most common myth is that there are special grants

or other funds for owners of historic homes. Sadly, there is no "First National Bank of Historic Places" but there are a couple of voluntary tax programs that owners contemplating very substantial rehabilitations may want to consider. The federal income tax credit for total rehabilitation only applies to income-producing property, so owner occupied residences are excluded. But a State of Nebraska program called "VIP" (for Valuation Incentive Program) can be used by homeowners who undertake a rehabilitation costing at least 25% of the property's valuation. Qualifying projects receive an 8-year freeze in the property's valuation and other benefits. Interested owners should contact the Nebraska State Historical Society at 441-4787 or the Lincoln Planning Dept. (c/o Ed Zimmer, ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov, 441-6360).

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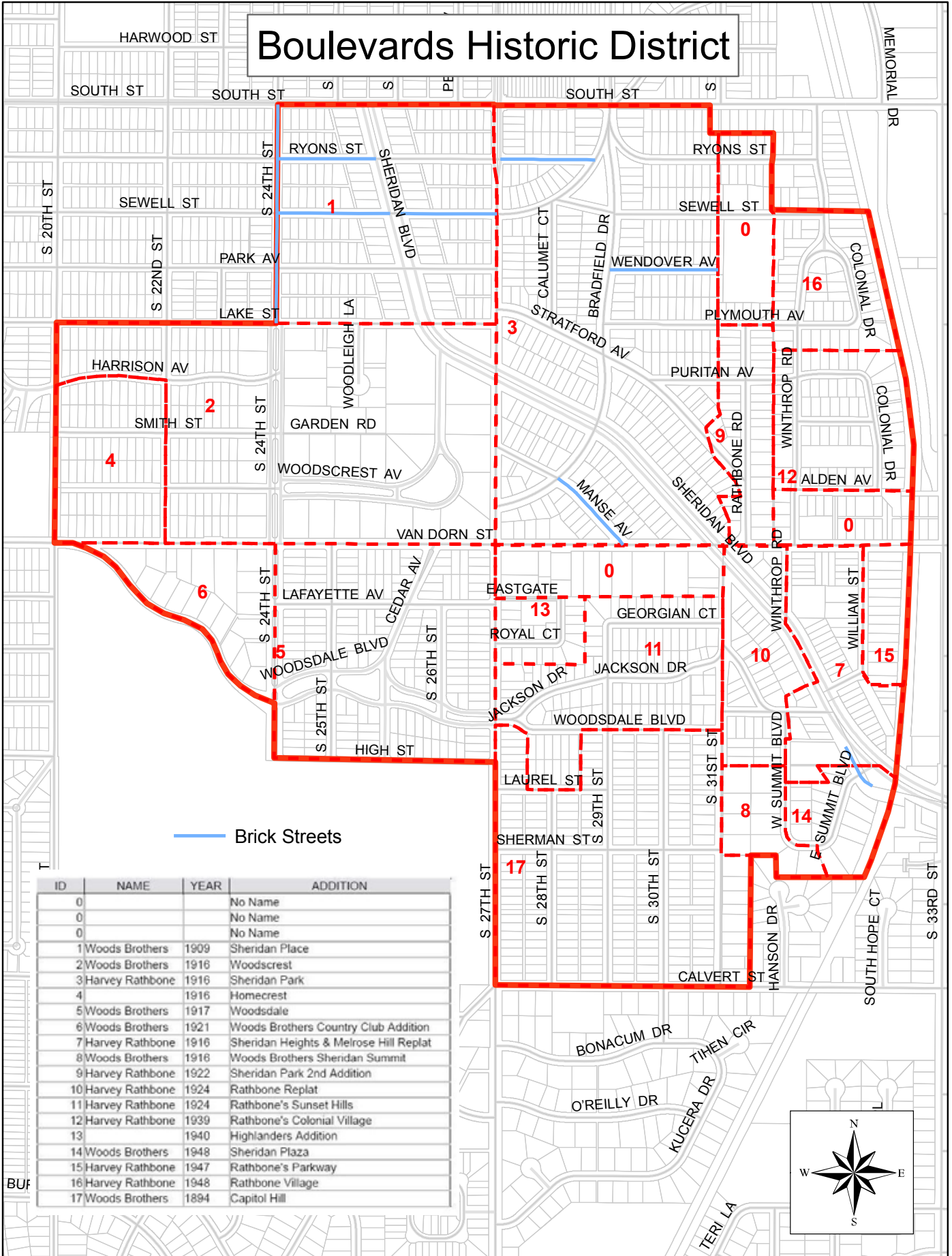
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School NEWS

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Maude Rousseau Elementary School



beyond the halfway point? Have you noticed changes?

Go Rams! Hello friends and neighbors, as you know, we are deep in the heart of the school year, finishing up on the first semester and starting the turn for second half of our exciting educational year. Please take a moment and reflect on your thoughts from the start of the school year to today – a little

The staff at Rousseau continues to reflect on what has transpired... new friends, new school, new concepts, new books, new learnings... we've accomplished a lot, yet we still have much more to get done. The Rousseau staff will continue to make adjustments in curriculum and instruction aimed at helping all students meet rigorous educational standards and expectations. The focus will continue in an effort to support the school mantra of LEARN, THINK, and LEAD.

The Parent Organization at Rousseau is active in its support of the school and we are excited about another year of Books and Beyond – a program designed to get students more interested in reading and how reading can open your eyes to the world around you. If you get a chance, ask someone in the Rousseau family about Books and Beyond, I think you'll be surprised at what you may find out.

Do you know about "Box Tops for Education?" The Rousseau community actively collects box tops from numerous consumer products sold at area retail stores. You can learn more about the box top program by visiting <http://www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/> (you can get a complete list of box top products on the web) or stop by the school and we will gladly share our information. Please remember to mark your box tops efforts to support Maude Rousseau Elementary School.

We continue to thank you for all your support in what we do and we humbly ask you for your continued assistance. If you'd like to learn more, please check us out on the web at <http://rousseau.lps.org/index.html>. As always, we'd like to hear from you.

School Days, School Days, Good old golden rule days...

The Country Club Neighborhood Association contains Sheridan Elementary School and Irving Middle School inside our boundaries, but we also have CCNA students who attend schools in their district, but outside our boundaries: Elementaries – Beattie, Prescott, Cathedral of the Risen Christ (K-8) and Rousseau; Pound Middle School; Southeast High School and Lincoln High School.

When driving, be careful of student traffic. School hours can be as early as 7AM and as late as 4PM. Our schools and our students contribute to the pride and the health of our neighborhood.

CCNA supports our students as they may be our future neighbors. If you have an article you would like to contribute to the *CCNA Chronicle*, please mail or email to CCNA.



mcnebraska.com

Southeast High School

Please Join Lincoln Southeast High School on February 12, 13, and 14, at 7:30 p.m. As We Hold The Grand Opening and Dedication of the Jennifer L. Dorsey-Howley Performing Arts Center

First, let us introduce you to our 1985 graduate with whom we are so proud:

Lincoln Southeast can be justifiably proud of its 1985 graduate, Jennifer L. Dorsey-Howley. On September 11, 2001 she was last seen ushering co-workers to the stairwell on the fire-engulfed 92nd floor of the south tower of the World Trade Center, before attempting to descend the staircase herself.

In Jennifer's 14 years in the insurance industry, she worked her way up from an entry-level position to the title of Director within Aon Corporation, the world's second largest insurance brokerage and a Fortune 500 company. Her client base was estimated at 1/2 billion dollars.

"I would like to briefly tell you about a woman who defied expectations," Jennifer's husband, Brian Howley, said in accepting LSE's Distinguished Alumni award on her behalf in April, 2002.

"As many of you well know, graduation is decision time...Jennifer's financial situation dictated that a job would be better suited for her than college...after a year and a half (as a nanny to two small children in Long Island, NY)...Jennifer...seized an opportunity to work with an insurance company in Midtown Manhattan," he said.

"For the next 14 years, and against many odds, Jennifer's intelligence, confidence, hard work, and determination combined to successfully establish herself as a preeminent insurance broker in her industry. Because Jennifer did not have a college degree, she had to work much harder. However, once she established herself, a degree became a moot point as she immediately began proving her prowess among her peers. What Jennifer didn't do, was to allow the caliber of the individuals within her industry, most of them Ivy League graduates, to intimidate her. Jennifer would never back down," Brian emphasized.

A number of colleagues wrote to Brian to share their thoughts of Jennifer.

One highly respected colleague in the insurance industry noted, in Jennifer's professional vitae, "a reputation for thoroughness, efficiency, organization, energy and originality in problem resolution,...(and)...has become a formidable player and a keen competitor (in the insurance brokerage/risk management industry)."

"Jennifer was like no other. She had the ability to be a team leader, while all the time being a teammate," Brian recalled from those colleagues who wrote to him. *"She learned from mistakes,*

and grew because of them. She knew that hiding from mistakes was a weakness, and because Jennifer was not weak, she could admit and learn from them...now that takes someone special," Brian said.

"In both the banking and the insurance fields, the expectation is that you will be a dedicated employee (who) will sacrifice yourself for the company. With that sacrifice comes hard work and long hours. Neither of these were an issue for Jennifer-- she was the personification of hard work," Brian noted.

"One of our last goals was Jen's alone. Work 5 more years and then cut back and become a stay-at-home Mom. While I believe she would never leave the workforce, I knew that today's technology would allow her to work from home or virtually anywhere. She also knew this, and we spoke about it all the time. Jennifer had work in her blood. She thrived because of it and somehow it never left her system."

The red carpet and movie spotlights will be rolled out for the grand opening and dedication of the Jennifer L. Dorsey-Howley Performing Arts Center, February 12,13, and 14, 2009. On Thursday, February 12, at 5:00 p.m. we will do an unveiling of the ticket booth which holds Jennifer's name, and twenty tiles have been inscribed with words the family chose to describe her. The unveiling is intended just for Jennifer's immediate family. At 7:30 p.m., there will be a ribbon cutting on the stage with words from the Superintendent of the Lincoln Publics Schools, Dr. E. Susan Gourley, and Jennifer's husband, Brian Howley. The Choir, a play dedicated to Jennifer and written by 1980 Lincoln Southeast graduate, Christopher Cartmill, will be performed by Lincoln Southeast students. A reception in the Commons, free and open to the audience, will follow the show each night.

On Friday, February 13, we have invited back all Performing Arts teachers who have taught at Lincoln Southeast over its 54 year history. In addition, we hope alumni, particularly those who participated in drama and instrumental and vocal music while at LSE will return for the show at 7:30 p.m. and a reception to follow.

On Saturday, February 14, Valentine's Day, we are inviting all present Lincoln Southeast students to get dressed up and attend a night at the theater. A dessert reception for all student will follow in the Commons.

Please call Lincoln Southeast High School at 436-1304 to reserve tickets for any performance February 12, 13, or 14. We hope you will come to see this beautiful new theater and to celebrate the life of Lincoln Southeast High School graduate Jennifer L. Dorsey-Howley!



Go Knights!



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News from Irving Middle School



Irving Middle School has three book club opportunities for students. Mrs. Eckery, Irving's Media Specialist, had applications out early in the year for all three. One is called the After School Book Club which meets September through April. Everyone in the group reads the same book on their own. We meet the next month to discuss it and have an activity. Last November, Mrs. Eckery started a blog for students to share any comments or questions. Four of the six books to be read are Golden Sower titles for the Intermediate list. That is a list of quality literature as found by a committee sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association. By reading four, students will be able to vote for the one that is their favorite. Tallies are then sent to the committee to determine which title is the winner for the state. Meetings take place in the Media Center from 3:10 - 4:00.

Sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Miller, joins Mrs. Eckery hosting Irving's One Book, One Family Book Club. We are able to conduct this club thanks to the generosity of several restaurants, Wells Fargo, and Lee Booksellers. We meet once a month, September through April, on Tuesdays in the Irving Media Center from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. Participants include one student and one parent/guardian. Students are given a paperback book a month for parent and student to read together or on their own. Participants may keep the book. At our meetings, we start with a book discussion and activity and follow with a light meal. This has proven to be a valuable program that opens much discussion between the student and their parent/guardian.

The Reading Advisory Council (RAC) meets with Mrs. Eckery once a month September through April to discuss, review, and decide on books that might be purchased for the Irving Media Center. Mrs. Eckery borrows preview books Irving does not own from the district office. Students rate the books and discuss their opinion. If the book is recommended and purchased, a sticker is placed inside the book saying that it is recommended by a member of the Reading Advisory Council.

Sheridan News



Our school focus during the 2008-2009 school years continues to be helping all students reach their full potential. Members of our school improvement and professional community teams work together designing instructional strategies that help students achieve this goal. We want to teach and model for students that learning is an important part of their lives, regardless if they are completing school assignments or using their skills to complete other projects.

Staff and parents are committed to providing the best educational opportunities for students at Sheridan. Our staff feels parents are their child's first teacher and we respect and value their input when planning their child's educational program. We also want our students to help create a *(continued on page 17)*

(*Sheridan News, continued from page 16*) vision for their own lifelong learning, as we support their capabilities and awareness.

Parents, staff and students helped design Sheridan's Vision, Mission and Core Values statements that are listed below.

Sheridan Vision

The future belong to those who believe in the power of their dreams Sheridan is a neighborhood learning center that welcomes scholars, artists, musicians, athletes and dreamers of all kinds. You are important and valued here.

Sheridan Mission

We believe . . .

- All Students can learn and improve
- All Students need to feel a sense of safety and belonging at school
- Students can support each other's learning
- We are all learners.

Core Values

At Sheridan Elementary ... We consider these behaviors paramount to successful teaching and learning:

- Look for the gifts and talents of others
- Share ideas and materials
- Create a clean, safe, learning environment
- Listen to and respect many voices
- Welcome visitors, volunteers, families, neighborhood and community
- Assign meaningful work and access it accurately
- Show an openness o learn as individuals and professionals
- Collaborate often.
- Appreciate the background and cultural differences within our school
- Communicate these messages daily
 - This work is important
 - I know you can do it
 - I'll be there if you need help

We are pleased with the progress and work of our students as evidenced in their work in the 2007 – 2008 school year state standards. This information is located at <http://reportcard.nde.stat.ne.us>

We continue to focus on the arts as a vehicle to enrich the learning of our students. David Seay will be at Sheridan to work with our students. David will help students understand how folk traditions of different cultures have merged to become our own traditions as immigrants found their way to Nebraska. He will demonstrate and share stories of folk instruments such as harmonica, penny whistle, Indian flute, ocarina, pan-pipes, yak horn, bugle, musical saw, banjo, singing bowl and limber toys.

David will provide hands on instruction on harmonica for our students during their music classes the week of January 12th. Each student will have their own harmonica to help make this activity successful. Thank you to our wonderful PTO for making this residency possible.

RECIPE BOX

Nebraska Educational TV (NETV) will be producing a cooking show this fall, tentatively called "Recipe Box." Recipes were submitted from all over the state and there are two finalists from Lincoln--and one is from our neighborhood. Each episode will feature a recipe and the accompanying story. Below is Jan Dutton's recipe for "Platte River BBQ Pulled Pork" and her story.

Cooktime: 10 Hours

Oventemp: 350-225

Ingredients: 1 large Pork roast, approx 3 -4 lbs (pork shoulder or also called Boston Butt). The cheapest cut is just fine. (Can double the recipe to feed 20 persons).

1 large onion, chopped

2-3 gloves garlic, chopped

1 bottle BBQ sauce (store bought)

1/2 c. vinegar

optional (1-2 tsp of liquid smoke)

Instructions: Start at bedtime. Put pork roast in oven dish (metal or glass) or covered casserole. Cover with tin foil. Cook for 1 hour on 350., then turn oven down to 225 degrees and slow roast all night, for 8-9 hours.

In morning, drain off all grease and let cool. With clean hands, pick off any remaining fat, then shred meat. (thus the "pulled" or shredded pork). Add the BBQ sauce, with onions, garlic, vinegar lots of seasoning salts, pepper and liquid smoke. Heat another hour at 225 degrees. Let rest and reheat later in day in crock-pot.

Serve on sandwich buns with pickles , more BBQ sauce or mustard and cheese.

Story: Every June, around Fathers Day, we camp at Platte River Park near Louisville with 5 other families. Bob and I started this tradition 25 years ago when we lived at 27th & Sheridan. We all had tiny babies and stayed in the "Wild Strawberry" cabins, so we call our camping group the Wild Strawberries. Between us we have raised 20 successful kids + loads of friends have joined us over the years for meal-time, canoeing on the Platter River, and sitting around the camp-fire, telling stories. It's a 45 minute drive from Lincoln but we might as well be in the Rocky Mountains, it is so remote and a great break from our hectic lives. It often rains and we have never missed a year of canoeing on the Platte. Every year we enjoy fabulous food and pledge our undying friendship.



Water Facts . . .

By Jeff White, President of Hague Quality Water of NE

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Do you want to reduce house cleaning time by 40%?

A study by Ohio State University determined that it takes an average of nearly four hours per household cleaning with hard water. When softened water was made available, cleaning time was cut by 40%, to 2 hours 21 minutes. Over the course of a year, this would save a homemaker more than ten 8-hour work days or 80 hours per year. That is like an extra two weeks of vacation from the tedious task of scrubbing hard water spots.

I hear it all the time and you might be thinking it now. The water in Lincoln is not that bad. I must be talking about areas where they have hard water. Did you know that the National Water Quality Association considers anything over 10.5 grains of mineral hardness extremely hard? According to the 2007 City of Lincoln Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Lincoln's water hardness is 12 grains. That falls into the extremely hard water category. Even on water provided by the City of Lincoln you will experience reduced cleaning time by installing a water softener.

In addition to the time savings there are many other benefits to softened water.

- Makes hair soft, lustrous and easy to manage
- Gets clothes and linens cleaner, leaves them softer and prolongs their life
- Eliminates hard-to-remove curd from tubs, sinks and faucets
- Saves up to 75% of the cost of soaps, detergents and shampoos
- Reduces costly plumbing repairs caused by mineral buildup
- Reduces the energy needed to heat water, saving you up to 33% on your gas or electric bill
- Reduces scaling damage to other water-using appliances

How much money will you save by installing a water softener? Do you have the space for a water softener? How much installation is involved with a water softener? How much salt will I use? Will I like the feel of soft water? These are all questions you can find the answers to in our free water treatment consultation.

Give us a call at 466-6800 or go to www.haguewaterne.com to find out if a water softener is right for you!

This article is a paid advertisement by Hague Quality Water

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- Dave Mlnarik Executive Director
NE Sports Council

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Kerri, mother of Jaden and preregistered to deliver at BryanLGH.

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