

Country Club Neighborhood Association

CHRONICLE

Lincoln, Nebraska

Summer 2002



President's Message

By Bob Ripley

Hello Country Club Neighborhood, my name is Bob Ripley and I was



elected your new neighborhood association president this past March at our annual meeting (that'll teach you to miss those March annual meetings!). Just so you know you are thinking about the same neighborhood I am, we are

bounded by South Street, 33rd Street, Highway 2 and 20th Street, with a few exclusions along 33rd Street by choice of the residents as I understand it.

"The CCNA is a beautiful neighborhood that deserves our on-going attention."

I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve a neighborhood in which my wife Stacy and I have resided at 3022 William Street for over twenty years. I am a Lincoln native and have some specific reasons why I enjoy living in this part of the city. Other than the visually attractive character of the area, I most enjoy the interesting mix of people who reside in this neighborhood and your willingness to get involved and express your opinions. I am a firm believer in the words inscribed above the main entrance of our Capitol, "The Salvation of the State Is Watchfulness In the Citizen"...no words more deserve to be carved in stone when speaking about American democracy and neighborhood preservation.

My desire as president of the board of the "CCNA" is to carry on the excellent work done by my predecessors



CCNA History Snapshot

By Julie Enersen

The Origins of...Our Street Names Rathbone and Royal...William and Woods...Burnham and Bradfield. We see

Rathbone and Royal...William and Woods...Burnham and Bradfield. We see these names as we travel through the neighborhood. But where did they come from? What is the history behind the 58 named streets within our boundaries? The answers to these questions range from the obvious to the obscure. Some names were created specifically for our neighborhood while others were extensions from earlier developments. After extensive research-phone calls, an interview with Ed Zimmer (Historic Preservation Planner), numerous online deed searches, many hours at the Nebraska State Historical Society-and a healthy dose of conjecture, these answers can be offered:

Developers and their families

Developers often use their own or their family members' names when deciding what new streets should be called. For example, in the Country Club neighborhood we find:

Street	Named for
Arlene Ave.	Wife of developer Oscar Fiene.
Bradfield Dr.	Developer C.J. Bradfield (possibly a member of the Sheridan Park Investment, Co.)
Fiene Blvd.	Developer Oscar Fiene, owner of Fiene Real Estate Co.
Hanson Ct./Dr.	Developer V. Stanley Hanson. The court was added later by a different developer but the name was retained.
Joy Ct.	Mother of developer Dave Putensen. Her maiden name was Joy.
Kessler Blvd.	Developer Clarence E. Kessler.
Rathbone Rd.	Harvey Rathbone, very active developer in the Sheridan area.
S. Hope Ct.	Ann Hope, daughter of builder Michael Samus. (Ann's Ct. already existed in Lincoln at the time.)

The Woods brothers

In 1889, Mark, George, and Frank Woods formed Woods Brothers Real Estate Co. which over many years developed and built at least 46 additions in Lincoln. Several of the streets in the Country Club area can be attributed to the Woods' name: Woodleigh Lane, Woods Blvd., Woodscrest Ave., and Woodsdale Blvd. In addition, two names come from Woods' family members:

S. Hope Ct.	Ann Hope, daughter of builder Michael Samus. (Ann's Ct. already existed in Lincoln at the time.)
Marilynn Ave.	Daughter of Pace Woods, Sr.

(Continued on page 2)

(See message on page 4)

READ ABOUT LINCOLN'S FIRST ROUNDABOUT PAGE 5

Upcoming CCNA Meetings:

Mark your calendars to come join your Country Club Neighborhood Association at one of our meetings:

 July
 16th, 2002

 September
 17th, 2002

 October
 15th, 2002

 November
 19th, 2002

 February
 18th, 2003

Annual Meeting March 18th, 2003

We meet 7 PM, Tuesdays, at St Matthew's Church, 2325 South 24th Street (24th and Sewell)

Advertise in your Neighborhood newsletter, *The CCNA CHRONICLE* and reach over 2,400 households.

Business card ad. CCNA members CCNA non-members non-resident. non-members	\$30.00 \$40.00 \$50.00
Half page ad. CCNA members CCNA non-members non-resident, non-members	\$150.00 \$175.00 \$225.00
Full page ad. CCNA members CCNA non-members non-resident. non-members	\$300.00 \$325.00 \$375.00

Contact Ian Doremus 435-8625

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Members and readers who have questions, comments or suggestions may call the individual(s) responsible for the area(s) of concern.

The CCNA CHRONICLE is the official publication of the Country Club Neighborhood Association (CCNA). The CCNA CHRONICLE is published quarterly 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 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.

(History continued from page 1)

Bishops

The area of our neighborhood which is adjacent to Bishop Heights Park is the former site of the Bishop's official residence. After the building was razed, the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln platted the area in 1959 in honor of past bishops

Beckman Cir.	Francis J. Beckman, bishop of Lincoln Diocese, 1924-30.
Bonacum Dr.	Thomas A. Bonacum, bishop of Lincoln Diocese, 1887-1911.
Kucera Dr.	Louis B. Kucera, bishop of Lincoln Diocese, 1930-57.
O'Reilly Dr.	Charles J. O'Reilly, bishop of Lincoln Diocese, 1918-23.
Tihen Cir.	J. Henry Tihen, bishop of Lincoln Diocese, 1911-17.

Historical figures

During and immediately after World War I, it was popular to name streets after historical figures. The Woods Brothers were also known to be especially interested in Civil War heroes.

Harrison Ave.	Benjamin Harrison, 23rd president of United States. Originally platted as Garfield Blvd. but changed to Harrison because planners thought the boulevard would be confused with Garfield Street which already existed in Lincoln.
Jackson Dr.	Andrew Jackson, 7th president of United States
Jefferson Ave.	Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of United States
Lafayette Ave.	Marquis Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette, French soldier and politician who served on George Washington's staff and aided colonists in the American Revolution.
Sheridan Blvd.	Philip Henry Sheridan, American Union general who led Army of the Shenandoah in Civil War.
Sherman St.	William Tecumseh Sherman, American Union general who commanded all Union troops in the West

Local citizens

Many of the early streets in Lincoln were named after local citizens who were prominent or who happened to live on the street as it was being named. In many cases, their legacies continued into our neighborhood as existing streets were extended.

Silas Henry "Cub" Burnham, president of First National Bank of Lincoln.
T.E. Calvert, Lincoln resident in 1880's. General superintendent and chief engineer of Burlington and Missouri River Railroad.
Byron Dunn, president of National Bank of Commerce. The name supposedly arose after a builder (most likely L.E. Shurtleff of Shurtleff Building Co.) approached Dunn and offered to name a street after him in exchange for a loan.
Joseph Ryons, a prominent businessman who lived at 1834 Ryons.
Capt. Thomas Sewell, served in Civil War and moved to Lincoln in 1870. Ran merchantile on O between 9th and 10th until retirement in 1887.
(Possibly) Thomas G. Smith whose name appears early on the deed.
Joseph E. Stockwell, proprietor of works and brickyards in Yankee Hill area, came to Lincoln in 1882.
Van Dorn family, owned a farm/nursery at the site of the current Van Dorn Park. Named by Mark Woods because the road deadended into the Van Dorn farm.

(Continued on page3)

Page 2 Summer 2002 The Chronicle

William & Margaret Elder, lived on the street for 2 1/2 years
before any other lots were developed.

Pilarim streets

The streets dedicated to the Pilgrims were a brainchild of developer Harvey Rathbone.

Alden	John Alden, Pilgrim colonist and political figure whose courtship of Priscilla Mullins is the subject of a popular legend.
Calumet Ct.	A long-stemmed sacred or ceremonial tobacco pipe used by certain Native Americans.
Colonial Dr.	The Pilgrim colonies which were formed beginning in 1620.
Mayflower Ave.	Pilgrims' famous ship.
Plymouth Ave.	A town of southeast Massachusetts on Plymouth Bay founded in 1620 by Pilgrims, who supposedly set foot on Plymouth Rock when disembarking from the Mayflower.
Puritan Ave.	Member of a group of English Protestants who in the 16th and 17th centuries adhered to strict religious doctrine. Left England and founded colony in Massachusetts.
Winthrop Rd.	John Winthrop, English colonial administrator who was the first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony.

English origins

Developer Harvey Rathbone, who himself was of English and Scottish descent, frequently chose names which evoked an English feel.

Georgian Ct.	Relating to the reigns of the four Georges who ruled Great Britain from 1714 to 1830.
Manse Ave.	A large, stately residence
Stratford Ave.	An Englsih town, birthplace of Shakespear.
Wendover Ave.	Town in Buckinghamshire, England

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous	
Cedar Ave.	Possibly named for the trees in the area or as a reference to the Woods family which developed it.
Country Club Blvd.	Named for close proximity to the Lincoln Country Club which was built in 1926.
Garden Rd.	Lots were apparently created from the former gardens of the homes which surround them. The road is a well-kept secret in Lincolnit does not appear on many city maps.
High St.	Platted by Mary B. Allen in 1925, possible geographic reference.
Lake St.	Street originally ran past a lake for ice-skating and fishing which once existed behind the current BryanLGH-West.
Park Ave.	Platted by Frank L. Sheldon in 1880's, began at site of what is now Standing Bear Park.
Royal Ct.	Developed by the Royal Highlanders, a fraternal order/insurance company, under the direction of Frank Sharp.
St. Thomas Dr.	Named for St. Thomas Orphanage which occupied the current Bishop Square area until 1962. (See The Chronicle, Fall 2001)
South St.	Platted in the 1870's as a south boundary for Lincoln one mile from A Street. (This was as far south as planners could conceive of Lincoln extending.)
Summit Blvd.	Possibly named for the fact that it occupies a small hill in the neighborhood

(Continued on page4)

Note from the **Editor**

By Ian Doremus

Welcome to the Summer **CCNA** Chronicle newsletter, I am still new at this so please bear with me and by all means let me know if you see something here that you like or something that you think should be changed.



We have made some minor adjustments to the layout and fonts in this newsletter that you are reading, hopefully to make this newsletter more readable. Our new policy is to keep our body font size to 11 points or bigger. For the technically minded, we are using a Helvetica font for the headlines and masthead, and Times New Roman for the body copy.

I feel we have some great information in the Summer edition and I hope that you find it useful. Julie has once again out done herself with her historical research. I haven't read one of her articles yet that I didn't learn something new about our neighborhood. Terry Schaaf has given us information and background into some of the major street construction in our area including our soon to be famous roundabout at 33rd and Sheridan.

I would recommend you read Bob Ripley's introduction as the CCNA board's new president. He has some great ideas and I agree with him that we will get some great projects done this year. If you don't want to miss out, come to one of our meetings.

Lastly we have talked about the idea of giving Neighborhood businesses the opportunity to get more involved with the community by sponsoring one of our quarterly newsletters. We are still working out the details. If you own a neighborhood business and would be interested please contact me or one of the Editorial Board members listed on page 2.

email: idoremus@neb.rr.com, though I can also be reached through the CCNA mail address: P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68542.

End

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and give all our member/residents who wish to participate in the association an opportunity to express your opinions and wishes. If you have an idea or concern you wish to discuss involving our neighborhood or the street on which you live and don't wish to go to City Hall to express it, let us hear from you.

We have much to be proud of within 'our neighborhood' and therefore preserving what makes this place 'your neighborhood' is to me, of great importance. This is why I enjoyed participating during the past two years in what has evolved into the new 33rd & Sheridan Roundabout project. Members of CCNA were asked and played a central role in the process of developing this solution...it was open to all members of the neighborhood not just association board members.

It is also important that all corners of our neighborhood be represented in board action and therefore we will keep up our effort to encourage board membership from all geographic areas of the neighborhood. As well we need to keep communication with our neighborhood a top priority and thanks to the terrific work of board members Ian Doremus and Julie Enersen and other contributors our 'Chronicle' newsletter continues to serve this function very well.

I have deliberately left out many specifics of what we are not only working on now but plan to do this next year. I assure you we will keep you informed, but nothing beats being there at our association meetings to help make important decisions. The CCNA is a beautiful neighborhood that deserves our on-going attention. This will be a great year for the CCNA, I am confident.

Thank You! Your CCNA dues make this newsletter possible

If you haven't yet, you still can mail in your 2002 dues card or fill one out from page 7 of this newsletter

Unclear origins

The quest for answers continues on several streets...

1	
Eastgate St.	Originally an alley and later developed by the Royal Highlanders. Although there are an amazing 52 pages of deeds to analyze (in contrast to the more typical 5-10 pages for many area streets), the story behind the name is not apparent.
The following two streets were platted decades apart yet are similar in theme:	
Holly Rd.	Developed in the 1950's by Clarence Kessler. However, research has not led to any connection between Holly and

created a botanical connection.

Laurel St.

Platted by Harvey Rathbone in the 1920's, but not developed until many years later. Laurel does not appear to be a family name or part of the English theme that he used throughout the area.

Kessler. (His wife was Velma and his daughter was Selma.)

Interestingly, Kessler lived on Laurel. He may have simply



Page 4 Summer 2002 The Chronicle

Lincoln's First Roundabout **Opens with Success**

By Terry Schaaf

Several years ago residents of the neighborhood proposed that a roundabout or a traffic circle address the traffic problems posed by the intersection of 33rd Street and Sheridan Blvd. When federal funds became available Works Public department approached CCNA concerning such a project. We were informed changes would be made to improve the safety of the intersection which had statistically become one of Lincoln's most dangerous, and that consideration was being given to a roundabout rather than implanting a more traditional solution such as replacing the Sheridan Blvd median with left and right turn lanes.

"33rd and Sheridan...the intersection which had statistically become one of Lincoln's most dangerous..."

After considerable discussion between association members and Public Works and the formation of an association committee to study the proposal, the association voted to endorse the roundabout concept. The reasons for taking this position were several and included the roundabout being generally safer; the physical aesthetics of the roundabout over what became known as the 'landing strip' plan and the thought that a roundabout would reduce speed on Sheridan and might discourage its use by cross-town commuters. It was concluded that a roundabout was safer because it eliminated all left turns and significantly reduced the potential pedestrian-vehicle contact points. The committee included representatives of schools in the area and it was agreed the roundabout would be much safer for pedestrians than a greatly expanded crosswalk across six new lanes of pavement.

Aesthetically the roundabout was

found to be preferable since it eliminated all traffic lights and allowed for the burial of the utility lines and the removal of the utility poles. Additionally it provided for the retention of the historic medians and for a



landscaped center circle. It should be kept in mind that the status quo was never an option. The association was faced with a new and locally untried approach while trying to avoid correcting the problem as might be done at a major intersection, such as 27th and South. It is hoped the association members and neighbors will approach this new traffic control concept with an open mind and will ultimately find it a most attractive addition to our neighborhood.

ROUNDABOUT PROCEDURES

Approaching the roundabout you reduce your speed, yield to any pedestrians crossing and then enter the circle turning to your right after vielding to any vehicles in the circle to your left. You have the right of way while in the circle and you simply turn to your right to exit when vou reach the direction you wish to continue traveling once again yielding to any pedestrians attempting to cross.

Hours Restored At Irvingdale Pool Chronicle Staff

Thanks to a successful fundraising effort by neighborhood resident Donna Baddeley and others, along with the generosity of City Councilman Jonathan Cook, the hours that had been cut this summer because of a tight city budget have been restored at Irvingdale Pool (19th and Van Dorn).

This summer, due to loss in sales tax revenue, Lincoln Parks and Recreation made cuts to most neighborhood public pools, saving approximately \$100,000. Weekday hours were reduced from seven to five a day (closing time 6 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.), and two weeks were cut from the end of the season (last day August 4th instead of August 18th).

In response, Donna Baddeley and her kids, Claire and Bradley, along with many neighborhood folks, started a fundraising effort called "Keep 'Em Wet" to add back hours that had been cut. That effort raised more than \$2400.

City Councilman Jonathan Cook then provided \$5000 from his research and constituent services fund to help out the effort, resulting in enough money to restore all the hours that had been

The pool will now be open until August 18th, with hours of 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on weekdays (not 8:00 p.m. because of already scheduled swimming lessons) and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends. Take advantage of the generosity of your neighbors and Councilman Cook and go for a swim.

But please note the pool hours were only restored for this summer. Next year's city budget shows cuts to neighborhood pools again. These pools are important to all older neighborhoods. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the 2002-2003 City Budget on August 12th at 5:30 p.m. in the County/City Building. If you want to express your opinion about the pool budget to the City Council, you can do (council@ci.lincoln.ne.us), letter (555 S. 10th St., 68508.), or in person at the public hearing.

NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

CCNA Board Opposes Library Cuts

Chronicle Staff

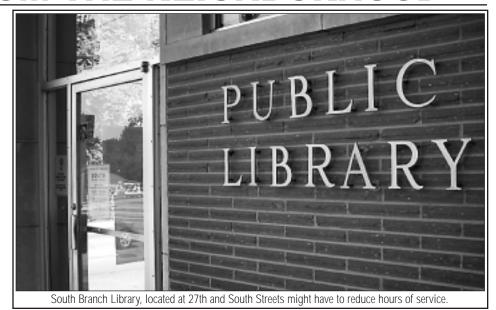
In the Mayor's Recommended City Budget for 2002-03, South Branch Library (27th and South Sts.) will lose one-fourth of its hours. It will lose all of its morning and noontime hours as well as Sunday service. While the city budget is tight this year, South Branch is the only library to have services cut significantly. these proposed cuts are a concern to the cena board for a variety of reasons.

They are justifying this reduction by saying they always intended to cut South Branch services after the new libraries were built. The people in our neighborhood who voted for the library bond issue a few years ago didn't know that, or they might not have voted for it. In any case, the new Walt Branch, just north of 14th and Pine Lake Road, is over four miles from South Branch. Both Bennett Martin and Gere are closer. Why would a new branch so far away cause a cut at South Branch?

South Branch is within easy walking distance of more people than probably any other branch in the city. It is a accessible library for kids, who are unlikely to walk or bike four miles to Walt when South Branch is closed.

If the hours are cut, it will just be the start of a death spiral for South Branch. It will lead to lower usage, which will lead to more cuts and even lower usage. For some reason, Lincoln seems determined to make the same mistakes other cities have made. They build new at the fringe and then cut in older areas.

We don't begrudge the new libraries, we just believe ours is equally important. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the budget August 12th at 5:30 PM at the County/City Building. If you want to express your opinion about this issue to the City Council, you can do so by e-mail (council@ci.lincoln.ne.us), letter(555 S. 10th St., 68508.), or in person at the public hearing.



You May Be Committing A Crime Right Now!

Chronicle Staff

Yes, it's true. If you have a shrub in your yard that is trimmed closer than three feet to any sidewalk or curb, you are in violation of the law. If you have a flower garden or landscaping rock between your lot line (usually a few feet inside the sidewalk) and the curb, you are in violation of the law. All over town homeowners have been receiving letters from the Public Works Department ordering them to remove offending material or the City will do it for them.

If you are like most people, you aren't even aware that planting a posy near the curb is illegal. And if you are City Councilman Jonathan Cook, you aren't sure it should be illegal. To that end, Alene Swinehart from the Irvingdale Neighborhood Association has organized a meeting on Tuesday, July 30th, at 7 PM at Westminster Church (Sheridan and South, enter the parking lot and building from Ryons Street) to discuss possible changes to the law. Councilman Cook will be there with some proposals that would allow homeowners to plant and landscape as they see fit in the area in front of their homes, as long as it is taken care of and is not a public safety issue.

As things now stand, many thousands of people are in violation of the law

and don't even know it. Normally there is no enforcement unless the City receives a complaint. Once received, however, the City feels compelled to follow through. The rosebushes, retaining wall, river rock, whatever, must go, and there is no alternative. What often happens is that the person receiving such a letter goes out and finds hundreds of other locations with the same violation and turns those people in too, leading to a snowball effect, and lots of angry people. In other words, if you have illegal landscaping

"...meeting on Tuesday, July 30th, 7 PM at Westminster Church."

in front of your house, it is a bomb waiting for someone to set it off.

And to clear up a misconception: there is no "grandfather clause" for right-of-way infractions. If you have a hedge too close to the sidewalk (not over it, just too close) that has been in front of your house for 60 years and someone complains to Public Works, they'll send you a letter telling you to cut it down.

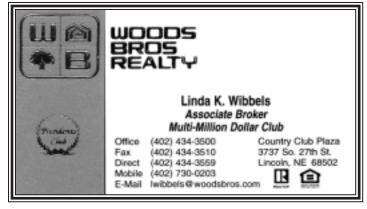
If you are interested in this issue, please attend the meeting on July 30th. It is open to everyone in all neighborhoods.

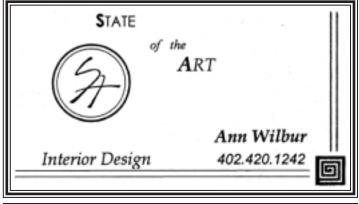
Page 6 Summer 2002 The Chronicle

From the Membership committee

Thank you to the 721 (a record setting 30%) of our 2,434 households who have demonstrated their support for CCNA by becoming paid members this year. And a special thanks to those who so generously contributed additional funds. CCNA protects our quality of life, keeps up property values and acts as an advocate for the neighborhood interests. Your support of the organization is what keeps it thriving. If you have not yet sent in your dues for 2002, it's not too late! Simply send in the form below to CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542. Your small dues payment helps CCNA do enormous good.

CCNA 2002 DUES STATEMENT You are invited to join the Country Club Neighborhood Association. Voting memberships are open to Please update your areas of interest: any person, family or organization owning real estate, renting, residing or operating a business within the neighborhood area. Annual household or business membership dues are just \$15. Additional contribu-CCNA Board of Directors tions are also welcome and can simply be included on your dues check. If you contribute \$25 or more, Telephone/Calling Tree Newsletter Contributor the entire amount is tax-deductible. Dues paid now are good until January 2003. If the information we Parks and Beautification have for you on the back of this card is correct, you need only fill in your areas of interest. History/Historic Preservation Hiking and Biking Trails Fund Raising/CCNA Foundation Address: Gov't Lobbying/Monitoring Tour of Homes City, State, Zip: Neighborhood Party E-mail: Garden Tour Membership/Welcoming (NEW) Amount Enclosed: Garage Sale (NEW) Other Interests/Talents Please make check payable to Country Club Neighborhood Association and return with this card to: CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542











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