

Weatherization program fills in winter's cracks, chinks

By Patti Gallagher

As the winter winds begin to blow, those cracks and crevices of an ailing house that served as summer ventilators will no longer be welcome.

If you think you can't afford to repair home damages and protect yourself from the elements of winter, the weatherization division of the Lincoln Action Program (LAP) may have an answer for you.

Weatherization, according to Dixie Mulligan, community information director for LAP, is "a one-shot, free service" to prepare a house for the rough Nebraska winter. The weatherization program is available to low-income home owners if

they meet the specified guidelines.

One guideline for home weatherization is to be considered "low-income," which according to Mulligan, is not hard for college students. For example, the income level for a three-member family must be under \$5,600 annually.

A second guideline for weatherization eligibility is the extent of repairs needed to weather-proof a home. Mulligan said there is a \$500 limit for repairs on a single home.

If a client earns above the set income guidelines, or their home requires over \$500 in repairs, Mulligan said they are referred to another agency within the client's financial capabilities.

The majority of weatherization is done

on older homes which need repairs due to normal aging, Mulligan said. She said that one elderly couple was not physically able to repair their damaged home, and would not have been able to face another winter without the weatherization services.

Weatherization is done to prevent energy loss and improve the energy consumption level in a home, Mulligan said. Common weatherization services include replacing broken windows and

storm doors, caulking cracks in foundations, insulating attics, and installing weather stripping.

Mulligan said the weatherization services are free, but said it is a one-shot deal.

"The weatherization crew goes in, gets the job done, and gets out," she said.

Student home owners in need of weatherizing their homes are encouraged to call 443-4210, to determine if they qualify for weatherization under the guidelines.

Landis praised by colleagues as a true Renaissance man

By Nancy Ellis

"He is the most true Renaissance man in the Legislature. He's a senator, lawyer, disc jockey and family man; all that put together."

David Landis, the 31-year-old state senator from Lincoln's 46th district, was born in Lincoln and has remained here to live, work, play and fulfill his ambitions.

Kelley Baker, Lincoln attorney and friend of Landis, said Landis' ambitions are to serve the state in the Legislature.

"He wants to be the best in everything," Baker said, who specializes in school law.

Landis graduated from the UNL in 1970 and received his law degree in 1971. Landis, a Sigma Chi fraternity alumnus, said there have been two kinds of personal victories during his first year as a senator. One is the success of the bills he introduced and another is the accomplishment of career goals, he said.

"I felt I approached my goal this year," he said. "I pursued that very energetically."

A member of the Education and the Business and Labor committees during the last legislative session, Landis introduced two bills which became law; the right of privacy law and a school speed zone issue.

LANDIS SAID the Legislature has the most potential for creative law-making because a senator can see his bills working, whereas on the federal level there is such a great delay before any action takes place.

"I can see myself as being a state senator for a long time," he said.

Landis, the father of two children, Matthew, 9, and Melissa, 6, said he is a strong supporter of education. He said his long-range senatorial goals include reorganization of a commission for quality higher education and long-term planning for school finance.

Landis and his wife, Melodee, serve as co-presidents of the Havelock PTA and are working to prevent closing of the Havelock Elementary School.

Life at the Landis home is routine since the campaign is history, but Ms. Landis still reminisces about "LBC, Life Before Campaigning."

"Our schedules since the campaign have

improved," she said explaining that someone is there with the children more frequently than before. Both sets of grandparents live in Lincoln and took care of the Landis children during the campaign campaign.

"My campaign was a family effort all the way up the generation ladder," Landis said.

LOOKING BACK at the campaign, Ms. Landis said it was something they did together. From 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Landis and his wife campaigned door to door throughout Havelock. Evenings were spent licking and stamping envelopes and getting numerous paper cuts from folding fliers and letters, she said.

"It wasn't stressful work. Licking and stamping was menial, relaxing work," she said.

Fellow Sen. Don Wesely, who called Landis the Legislature's Renaissance man, said Ms. Landis had as much to do with the victory as anything.

"He has a terrific family, very close and supportive," he said.

The Landis children were involved only once during the campaign, "but they enjoyed it tremendously," their father said.

The Landis duo played dress up for the Havelock St. Patrick's Day Parade. Melissa was in a shamrock-shaped sandwich board which read, "Another Leprechaun for Landis," and Matthew was dressed as a leprechaun and handed out fliers.

The Landis' said they made a point of keeping their children out of the campaign.

"**THE EMOTIONAL STRESS** in a campaign is terrific," the blue-jean clad senator said.

The Landis campaign corps extended beyond the family to friends and business associates. Tom Barker, a KFMQ disc jockey, said he did some canvassing and public relations work for the Landis effort.

"David is very dedicated to and caring about the people of Northeast Lincoln," Barker said. "He spent a lot of time, effort and shoes walking around the neighborhood getting to know the people."

Landis has been noted by friends and colleagues for his high energy level.

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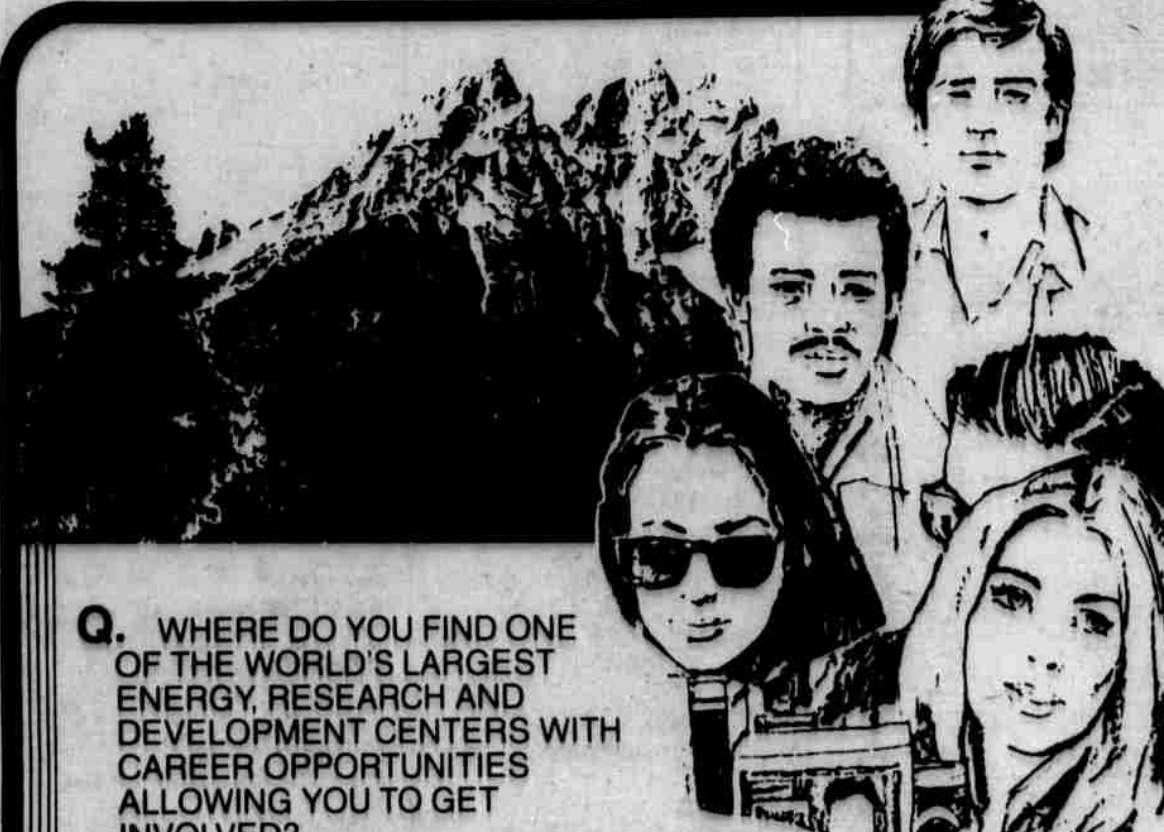
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