

## National family strengths symposium to cover individual, family well-being

In the interest of increasing individual and family well-being, the seventh annual symposium on "Building Family Strengths" will be May 16 and 17, said the UNL director of conferences and institutes.

Robert Martenson said the national symposium, which will take place at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets, is sponsored by the UNL department of human development and the family and the College of Home Economics, in cooperation with the Division of Continuing Studies and the Center for Family Strengths.

The conference will include more than 100 sessions and workshops presented by professionals from 84 universities and agencies in 28 states.

Topics to be covered during the conference include community programs for families, single parenting, stepparenting and divorce, the family and

employment, issues in child, adolescent and adult development, and the family and the educational system, Mortenson said.

Mortenson said the conference is directed toward college, high school, elementary and nursery school teachers, counselors, nurses, doctors, mental health and social work professionals, ministers, religious educators and university students.

"As budgets shrink and challenges to families mount, it is even more important for people interested in family well-being to join together," Mortenson said.

The symposium is a chance for people from all over the United States to share their common concerns, he said.

Registration fee is \$82 for the entire symposium, or \$40 for one day.

## Walk-a-thon for the blind set for May 19

White Cane Walk-a-thon participants from across the state will walk 12 miles through Lincoln May 19 for the National Federation of the Blind's walk-a-thon. They will begin and end at the 14th and Q streets Pizza Hut. Lincoln's three Pizza Huts are sponsoring the event and will supply free drinks for the walkers. The route passes by each Pizza Hut.

"We wanted to get the safest yet most traveled roads for exposure," said Gary Doty, chairman of the walk-a-thon.

This is the first year the event will be in Lincoln. In the past a 13-mile walk-a-thon was in Omaha.

The state organization hopes to draw at least 100 walkers, Doty said. It has set a \$5,000 pledge goal. Last year's walkers collected \$2,000.

The money goes toward scholarship funds for the blind, research, education seminars for parents of blind children, public relations and discrimination cases.

Many blind people are denied jobs and entrance to recreational areas such as roller rinks, Doty said.

The top three pledge earners will receive trophies in June. The winners are determined according to the amount of money they turn in.

If it rains, all pledges are doubled.

A representative from Lincoln Mayor Roland Leudtke's office will speak to walkers on the capitol steps and will declare May the National Federation of the Blind Month.

The event will conclude National White Cane Week.

Participants will begin registering at 8:30 a.m. outside of Pizza Hut.

For further information call 483-6072 or 551-8031.



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in a

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Place:

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