

Changing Spaces Chatter

The latest information, news, and rightsizing tips from Lincoln's premiere senior move management company!

2nd Quarter - 2015

Caring For Others, As We Have Been Cared For

"To care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors." - Tia Walker

This quote is the kind of thing that puts a frog in my throat. It sums up perfectly the sentiment our staff has in regards to the work we do. We often say that we treat our clients the way we would want our family members to be treated. Some of us still have aging parents nearby, some live in other states, and others have passed away. Many of us feel that by helping our clients and their families through difficult times of transitions we are, in a way, helping our own families.

In a conversation with a staff member recently, we were talking about the moment we say "goodbye" to our clients after their move is completed and they summed it up perfectly: "At the end of the move, it's not a handshake – it's a hug!" By the time that moment has arrived, we have been through quite the journey with our clients. From the initial consultation meeting where we introduce ourselves and our services, to the start of the sorting and deciding process – which can take quite a toll – to the packing, move day and the most rewarding of all, the unpacking process of getting their new home set up to be as cozy and comfortable as their former home. We don't gloss over the fact that getting used to a new home is difficult, but we do our best to ensure that the new home feels as much like the old home as possible. Staff members do their best to arrange clients' furnishings, décor and personal items in similar spots to where they were located in the old home, so that clients feel as though they are already home their first night.

Many of our staff have been through this very transition with their own family members, others may be going through it right now, while others are anticipating it. Still others had parents who never had the privilege of growing older, so they never had the honor of caring for them the way they cared for us. It somehow completes a circle, I think, to care for your elders in this way. It mirrors all those times when we have received help from our parents and grandparents as we move through chapters in our life – whether it be leaving home for the first time, getting married, having our first child. We have been on the receiving end of so much care, and it is an honor to be able to help those who have helped us into their next chapter.



Changing Spaces SRS, LLC
Rightsizing & Relocation Assistance

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Our Services Include:

- Assess your new residence, measure your furniture, and create a customized floorplan for your new home.
- Assist with the downsizing process of all your household's contents, room by room.
- Provide moving boxes and packing supplies, and carefully and efficiently pack all items for the move.
- Arrange moving dates and times with a moving company.
- Supervise and direct movers on moving day.
- Empty refrigerator and freezer items, transporting perishables to new home.
- Unpack and organize essentials in your new residence (make the beds, plug in lamps and phones, unpack bathroom and kitchen items) on move day so you can be comfortable in your new home the first night.
- Put everything – furniture, knick knacks, clothing, dishes – in its place in your new home.
- Make the beds, hang pictures, connect phone, TV, computer, clocks, etc.
- Dispose of all packing material and boxes.
- Empty old residence of all items not moved, either by hosting an estate sale, online consignment sale, or arranging for charity pick-up of items.

Please join us for some upcoming events!

Estate Planning Fundamentals: Living and Leaving Well

Talk with the experts on estate planning, selecting a trustee, pre-arrangements, and what to do with what's left.

Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Union Bank Building
4732 Calvert Street
Lincoln, NE 68506

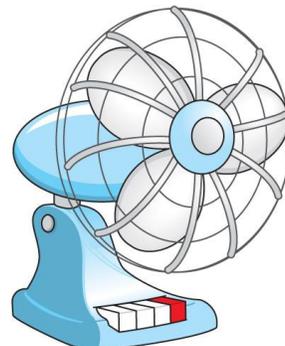
Light refreshments will be served.
Please RSVP to 402-323-1123

Presenters include:
Doug Koenig, VP of Personal Trust & Wealth Management, Union Bank & Trust
Brian Block, Family Service Advisor, Butherus, Maser & Love
Jeannine Bryant, Owner, Changing Spaces SRS

COAHP'S "Be a Fan of Seniors" Donation Drive

The Coalition of Older Adult Health Promotion (COAHP) is sponsoring the 3rd annual donation drive for local seniors in need. Items being collected include fans (new or used, clean and in good condition), incontinence supplies, or monetary donations.

Wednesday, May 20, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
The Piedmont Shopping Center
1265 S. Cotner Street
Lincoln, NE 68510



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Happy Spring! Time to Tackle that Filing Cabinet and Garage!

Now that most of you are breathing a sigh of relief that taxes are over and done with for another year, it's time to flip through those filing cabinets and pull out old records you no longer need.

Some guidelines to keep in mind:

- Taxes – Keep 7 years. The IRS has three years from your filing date to audit your return if it suspects good faith errors, and six years if it thinks you underreported your gross income by 25% or more.
- IRA Contributions – keep permanently.
- Retirement/Savings plan statements – keep quarterly statements until you receive your annual summary; then keep your annual summaries until you retire or close the account.
- Bank records – keep statements for one year, making note of any transactions that deal with taxes. Shred any non-tax related documents after one year.
- Brokerage statements – keep until you sell your securities.
- Bills – Shred after one year. Receipts for large purchases (jewelry, appliances, cars, etc.) should be kept for proof of their value in the event of loss or damage.
- Credit card receipts and statements – Shred after one billing cycle, unless they include tax-related information.
- Paycheck stubs – Shred after one year. Once you receive a W-2 form, this is all you will need to keep for tax purposes.

Personal shredding machines should be used for 1-10 sheets of paper at a time, but when you have a larger stack of papers to be shredded, the easiest solution would be to utilize another shredding resource in town. Contact your local bank to inquire about their next upcoming shred day (many are scheduled to take place this spring). FedEx/Kinkos also offers shredding services for 79 cents/pound. If the amount of shredding to be done is more than what you can carry, call a local company that can come to your house and pick up the papers. Two companies we have used for clients are Paper Tiger Shredding at 1-888-873-5633 and Shredding Solutions at 402-474-6815.

The other area of your home that should be tackled in the spring is your garage. Get out there and sort through everything now before the summer heat kicks in! If you find items you wish to sell, spring is a great time to sell tools and garden items at a garage sale or online (we use www.Craigslist.com quite a bit). Or, if you don't think it's sellable but does have some use left in it, put it out to the curb a day or two before trash day – you'll be surprised what folks will pick up!

You'll likely run into some hazardous waste materials which cannot be thrown in your dumpster. This means you'll want to be sure to mark down the dates for the local hazardous waste collections, which will take place on the following dates, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:

- Saturday, April 25: Wal-Mart South – 87th and Hwy. 2
- Saturday, May 30: Zoetis – 601 West Cornhusker Hwy.
- Friday, June 19: Union College – South 52nd and Cooper Ave.

If you are over the age of 60, you may want to inquire with Aging Partners at 402-441-7070 about their Home Handyman Program in which a person will come to your home, identify the hazardous waste you have, and take it to a proper disposal site on your behalf – free of charge! This is only for seniors who are staying in their home, so that's another good reason not to put this off until you decide to move and get your house ready to go on the market!

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Won't you join us for one of our upcoming estate sales?

April 10-11: 4610 A Street

April 17-18: 5501 Rebel Drive

April 24-25 DOUBLE SALE WEEKEND: 2820 William Street and 5505 S. 73rd Street

All sales run Friday 8:30-5:30 and Saturday 8:30-3:30

All items full-price Friday

25% off Saturday 8:30 a.m. -Noon

50% off Saturday Noon-3:30 p.m.

For more information on all sales (and photos of sale items!) check out our website at www.ChangingSpacesSRS.com and our Facebook page "Changing Spaces SRS."

To receive e-mail notifications of all our sales, e-mail us at info@ChangingSpacesSRS.com

Do you know someone who needs to have an estate sale?

As always, we do free in-home consultations for anyone interested in our services. Calling sooner is always better than later – our weekend dates do tend to fill up quickly!

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