

City Council Introduction: Monday, February 23, 2009  
Public Hearing: **Monday, March 2, 2009, 1:30 p.m.**

Bill No. 09-29

## **FACTSHEET**

**TITLE:** **STREET NAME CHANGE NO. 09001,** requested by the Director of Planning, to rename "West Stanton Street, located west of N.W. 48<sup>th</sup> Street, as ***"Mike Scholl Street"***.

**SPONSOR:** Planning Department

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approval.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT:**

1. This is a request by the Director of Planning on behalf of Debbie and Jack Chandler, as a memorial to their son, L/Cpl Michael Scholl, United States Marine Corps, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marines, Echo Co, who was killed in action in Iraq on November 14, 2006.
2. The request is to rename West Stanton Street, located west of N.W. 48<sup>th</sup> Street, as ***"Mike Scholl Street"***. Michael Scholl attended Arnold Elementary, Dawes Middle School and Lincoln High School and his parents have requested this street name change in his honor in the area where he grew up and started school as a child. The letter submitted by Debbie and Jack Chandler, letters in support and photographs are found on p.4-10.
3. West Stanton Street was recently dedicated and constructed to provide access to the new Arnold School which is under construction. The new school is the only property addressed to West Stanton Street, and LPS does not object to the renaming. The staff Street Name Committee has reviewed this request and recommends approval.

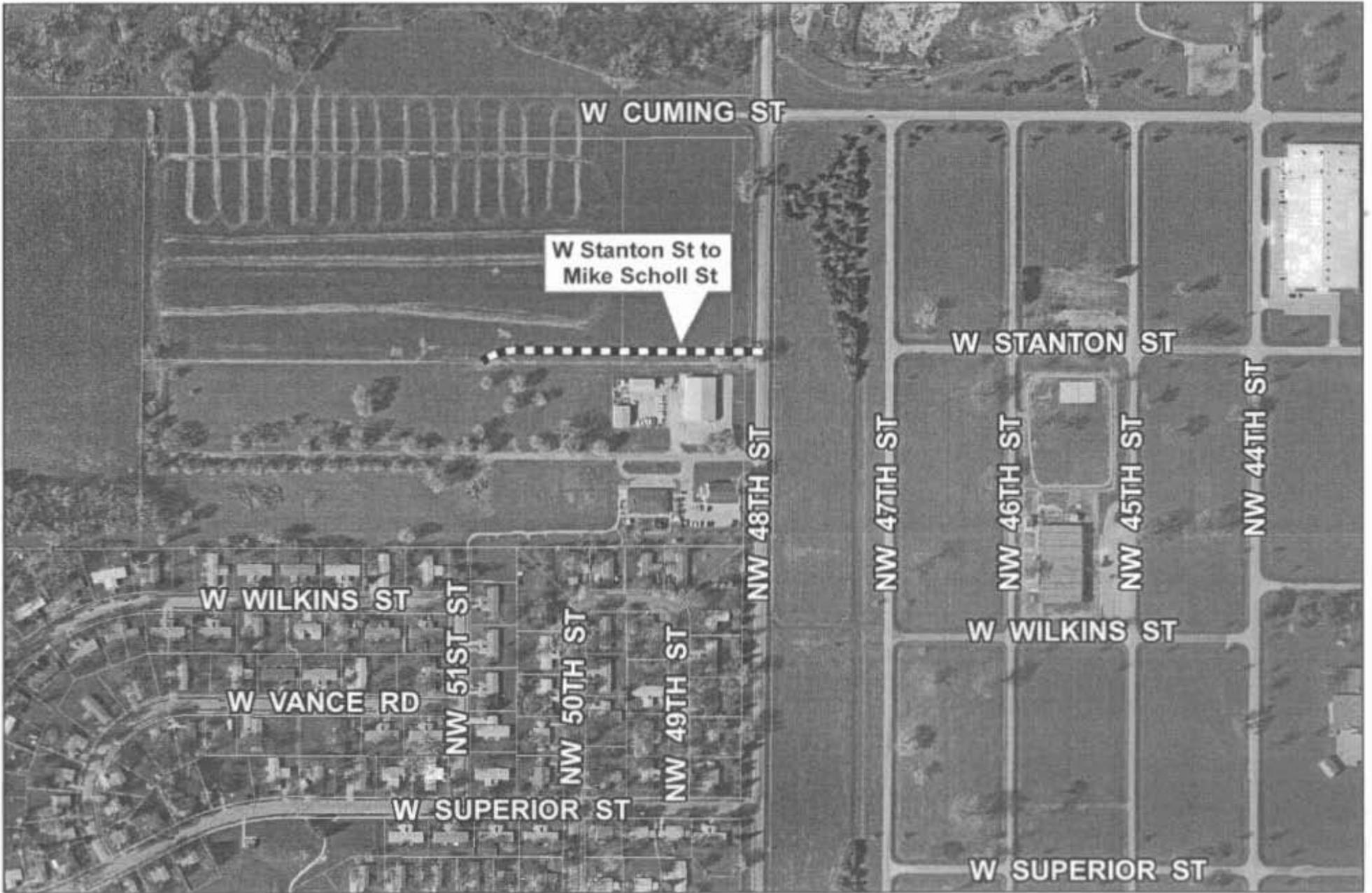
**FACTSHEET PREPARED BY:** Jean L. Preister

**DATE:** February 13, 2009

**REVIEWED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** February 13, 2009

**REFERENCE NUMBER:** FS\CC\2009\SNC.09001



**Street Name Change #09001  
W Stanton St to Mike Scholl St**



2007 aerial

Why we think a street should be named for Michael Scholl, Lance Corporal, United States Marine Corps, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marines, Echo Co, Killed in Action, Al-Anbar Province, Iraq, November, 14, 2006.

Growing up, Michael was fun and fun-loving. He didn't just fit into one niche or group or clique but was a friend to so many and often helped kids who were on the outside fit in somewhere. He went through school in Lincoln from Arnold Elementary, Dawes Middle School and through Lincoln High School. He played alto sax in band from Arnold Elementary through high school. While still in high school, Michael joined the Camaro Club and made many friends of all ages while also carrying out responsibilities for club projects and meetings.

When his older brother died in 2000, he was failing school but turned it around and graduated early, in part so that he could join the Marines. He wanted to do something with his life and wanted to be a Marine and to stand up for our country, especially after 9-11. When he tried to join the Marines he was denied due to having a serious illness at the age of 2 that so very nearly killed him. He wouldn't however, give up. He wrote letters to political leaders, and to the doctors in the Marines who turned him down and badgered us to help him. As I, his mother, am a nurse, I wrote a letter and helped to get the proof that his medical condition had completely resolved. Many of the records from the doctor that had taken care of him then had been lost or destroyed. After going through much red tape he got in.

Michael was unable to return to Lincoln from Afghanistan in time before his beloved grandmother died, but came home shortly after with his new love and they were married at the city-county courthouse here in Lincoln.

While in Afghanistan, Michael had a serious knee condition that could have put him out of the Marines. They discovered that part of the problem was his bones in his knee hadn't developed properly as he grew and with his job he had to carry heavy weight most of the time while in the field, and while in Afghanistan that was up and down mountainous terrain. When he got back to Hawaii, he had surgery but then got infection in the knee and ended up in the emergency room twice. He was supposed to go through physical therapy and it would have held him back so he opted not to and to do his own therapy. He recovered and was able to deploy with his team. It was very hard for him to leave his pregnant wife and it was a very tearful goodbye. He loved her and was so very thrilled about the baby. Many of his comrades have told me that Michael showed them what it is to love and to show love to a spouse and to be excited about a baby. Michael called his wife, Melissa, everyday and sang songs to his daughter Addison while she was in the womb.

Because of his skills as a leader and teacher, friends told me that Mike saved a lot of lives in Afghanistan and also in Iraq. A story was told about one time when he had to make a split second assessment call that did indeed save several lives and how canny his decision making skill was at that moment.

While in Iraq, Michael was part of a team that his Captain called "his hammer", "his knock out punch" and he called on his team to get him out of serious situations. He took Michael's death very hard.

Mike didn't get to hold his daughter after she was born because he was in Iraq, but he did get to see pictures of her before he died. He was so ecstatically happy!

Michael told me that he wanted to own a house in Lincoln someday and be able to bring his family home to Lincoln at least for part of the time. Family and Lincoln were important to him.

He gave his life for this city and for our country and he is still horribly missed by many, many friends and family. That is why I would like to see the street named for Mike Scholl and it feels so fitting that it be in the area where he grew up and started school as a child.

Debbie & Jack Chandler

Proud Parents of LCpl Michael Scholl, USMC, KIA, Iraq, Nov 14, 2006

<http://00f2630.netsolhost.com/farewellmarine.html>

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Erich Kaiser  
<erich@hdsdata.com>  
02/02/2009 03:14 PM

To "tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov" <tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov>,  
"mkROUT@lincoln.ne.gov" <mkROUT@lincoln.ne.gov>  
cc "Dave.heineman@nebraska.gov"  
<Dave.heineman@nebraska.gov>, "mayor@lincoln.ne.gov"  
<mayor@lincoln.ne.gov>

bcc

Subject Street renaming for Mike Scholl

Tom / Marvin

My name is Erich Kaiser and I am a businessman here in Lincoln. I have a love for classic cars and as result I have a small collection myself and belong to 2 local clubs related to the hobby. It was through this mutual love for classic cars that I met a young energetic young man of 18 years old. He was such a nice young man and had been through quite a bit including a recent suicide of his only remaining brother.

Mike and I became very close and he was able to share with me his most passionate lifelong dream of joining the Marines. That dream seemed unattainable once the military doctors discovered a pediatric record of a Kidney problem as a result of an illness he had suffered, although the issue no longer existed in his young adult life the fact that it was on his record was enough to make him ineligible for entry into the Marines.

He begged for a second opinion only to be turned down.

We then encouraged him to consult a senator from Nebraska to allow for another physician to examine him and provide feedback to the Military physician. Through excessive examinations and tests it was deemed that his Kidney issue was indeed a thing of the past and that he could join his beloved corps.

I remember the day he left for basic training .. I have never seen him so proud in my life his head was high and was bubbling with anticipation.

My young friend went to basic training and returned a decorated soldier in the Marine Corps eagerly awaiting his first tour of duty.

He also surprised us all when he returned engaged to his love which he met on the beaches of Hawaii during her family vacation.

He married her here in Lincoln the day before his first tour which turned out to a 8 month tour in Afghanistan where he quickly became a leader and a hero in his platoon.

After returning briefly back to his base in Hawaii he and his bride found out she was expecting their first child.

Mike was going to be a daddy and he called me several times to gloat.

During the latter part of his tour in Afghanistan Mike had injured his knee which required surgery while back in Hawaii. His pre-determined recovery period would have allowed him to be there for the birth of his daughter Addison Rose while his platoon was to ship out to Iraq for another tour.

Mike's knee recovered faster than expected and he was given a choice... Continue physical therapy and be there for the birth, or get cleared by physicians to ship out 1 month before his daughter's birth but with his regular platoon and fight in Iraq.

I can assure you that this was one of the toughest decisions he ever had to make. My friend decided to join his platoon and was quickly shipped to Iraq.

Addison was born 1 month later, Honestly one of the most precious and beautiful babies I have ever seen.

My phone rang at 11:00pm Tuesday on November 14<sup>th</sup> 2006, One of those late night calls you are afraid

to answer. I was informed that Lance Corporal Michael Scholl had been killed in a military vehicle that ran over a road side bomb. My tearful words to my wife was merely repeating the phrase "He never got to meet his daughter". You see I only knew 1 person in Iraq.. I thought the odds were in my favor that I would not lose the only friend I had fighting for this country.

Why are you receiving this email? Why do I share my story with you?

Debbie Chandler , Mike's mother is diligently working to get a street named after him and I strongly encourage urge you to support this initiative.

Mike was the first soldier from Lincoln to perish in the Iraq war. His sacrifice to his family and country far exceeds any honors we can provide. Please let me know what I personally need to do to get this to happen. If there is someone I can contact that would expedite this please let me know.

This is not a matter of whether it is the right thing to do.. We must remember those local heroes who made sacrifices so that others did not have to.

Thank you in advance.

Erich Kaiser  
[ERICK@NEB.RR.COM](mailto:ERICK@NEB.RR.COM)  
Phone 402-429-9509



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## **Marvin S. Krout**

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**From:** monicaalex@cox.net  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2009 4:44 PM  
**To:** Tom J. Cajka; Marvin S. Krout  
**Subject:** Street naming

Dear Gentlemen,

I understand that you're involved with plans to name a street after L/Cpl Michael Scholl, who was killed in November of 2006.

I want to commend you for bestowing such a fitting honor in memory of this young man who gave his life for our country. A sign with L/Cpl Scholl's name on it will serve as a reminder to those driving by that we have our freedoms as a result of generations of people who were willing to put their personal interests on hold as they served to protect and defend our country, some paying with their lives.

Our son, CPL Matthew Lee Alexander was killed in Iraq, 05-06-07. The city of Gretna named a street in his honor in December of 2007. The day was very cold but over 100 people and PGR came to honor one of Gretna's own. I have purposed to thank God for those who've served, ask His protection for those serving now and His blessings on their families every time I drive by that sign. It's a visible reminder to what I know in my heart, that "freedom isn't free"!

A sign honoring Michael will impact many people every day. It's sure to stir up feelings of patriotism, which makes for a stronger country, as we're reminded of the strength and courage of this nation's true heroes.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Monica Alexander  
Proud mother of  
CPL Matthew Lee Alexander, US Army

