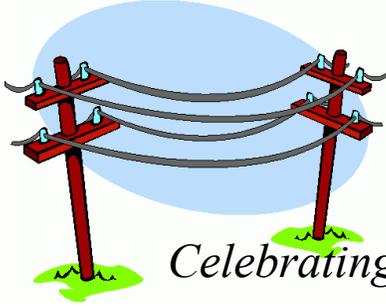


The

LEAVENWORTH

EXCHANGE



Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 29
Issue 4



April 2014

Could this be your last issue of the EXCHANGE???

We are in the process of streamlining the distribution of our monthly newsletter. Over time we are sure that some of the folks on the mailing list have moved. And the cost of printing and mailing the *Exchange* has increased. Subsequently, our primary distribution will be electronic via email. Note on the mailing label of this issue whether there is an asterisk on the name. This means you have indicated to us that you still prefer the hard copy mailed to your residence. You will receive it but it will be sent first class instead of bulk rate. If you do not have an asterisk but still want the newsletter, please call the Editor, Jim Thompson at 402-342-4371, or contact any Board member listed on page 8 to let them know your preference on receiving the *Exchange*.

We have made arrangements with some local business to have a supply available if you would prefer to pick one up. At the moment they are: Side Door Lounge, Alderman's, Bud Olson's, Fashion Cleaners, Greengo Coffee-Deli, Wohlner's, Crescent Moon, Security National Bank, Fred's Friendly Service, and Grin and Barrett Tattoo.

We thank you for taking an interest in our neighborhood and we hope you enjoy receiving the newsletter. It is also located at our website and articles are highlighted on our facebook page. As always, suggestions and input is welcome.

Reminder! The next LNA meeting will be **April 17, 2014, 7:00 PM.**
PLEASE NOTE: the meeting location has been changed to Cantina Loreda at Midtown Crossing. They are located at the northwest side of the "horseshoe".

Vice Presidents Letter.....

Spring is here, at last. Yesterday the temperature was above 70 degrees, and so I decided to do some yard work. I was in my front lawn raking the leaves out of the barberry shrubs (a horrible plant, I swear--so prickly), and I noticed that people were friendlier than normal. They would wave as they passed by, jogging down to the Field Club Trail or taking their dog to Leavenworth Park to throw around the Frisbee. A buddy of mine was driving to the store, and normally he'd just pass by my house, but he saw me working out there, and so he stopped to chat for awhile. My neighbor got home, and we all scheduled a time to go out and get a beer. The sun was shining, the birds were chirping, and in the fresh air I could smell that somebody had thrown some meat on the barbecue...It was an iconic Spring afternoon.

One of the things that occurred to me on that day was that I had more conversations with my neighbors in that single afternoon than I did in the previous four months. I am somewhat embarrassed by that, but I am more excited than anything else. The good weather gives us an opportunity to interact that we don't always have in the winter when we're cooped up inside, keeping warm. Springtime opens up to us the communal places, either parks or porches, where we can get to know each other better. If we want to have a great neighborhood, that is an opportunity that we don't want to ignore.

So, what is a good first step? Come to the Leavenworth Neighborhood Association Spring Clean-Up. Better yet, walk across the street and invite your neighbor to come with you. Find out for yourself the satisfaction that comes by working hard alongside your neighbors to make the place you live more beautiful. Look through the rest of this newsletter and you will find some other ways that you can get involved, not the least of which is attending our monthly meeting. You are absolutely invited.

Warmest regards, *Evan Freemyer*

Family membership: \$15
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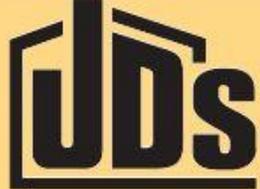
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Color It Clean - Saturday, April 12

By Jim Thompson

Hope you get this newsletter before the clean-up day. A lot depends on the mail service.

Starting at 9:00 we will gather at Fashion Cleaners on Leavenworth St. to move trash out of our neighborhood! If you read last month's newsletter the details were given. We will run the clean-up site until 2:00. Volunteers are needed. It is a great way to meet your neighbors.

If you do not have a way to get your stuff to the site call Jim Thompson at 402-672-0603 to arrange this service to our members. We will also be collecting scrap metal, proceeds of which go to the LNA Beautification Fund. As a side note, please be aware of the scrap metal thieves that are going around the neighborhood stealing whatever they can.

We will recycle useable household goods, electronics, and bicycles. Other sites will be designated for tires, appliances, and large amounts of yard waste or brush.

And we need volunteers. We hope to have enough to start cleaning the garden at Leavenworth/St. Marys. And we need volunteers. Got a pick-up truck? Come on down! Got a group that would like to pick-up litter? Come on down!! We can give you some trash bags and send you down the street or boulevard.

Did I say that we need volunteers? The more the merrier. We have food and refreshments lined up.

Open House: 35th Street/Leavenworth

By Kassie Mayo

You've probably been wondering what is going on in the old Blue Danube space on the corner of 35th St. and Leavenworth. This long vacant space is now home to a media production company owned by Jordan and Vivian Green. The parent production company encompassing three different brands tucked into one space, one team, one similar mission but three brands.

Tin Box is the photography side of things: weddings, babies, families and seniors. **Jordan Green Productions** reaches a worldwide audience with commercial video and photography solutions. **Noble Legacy** came together to craft stories that encapsulate hard working ethics, family values and personal histories into heirloom films. Each brand is fresh, visually stunning, conceptual and content.

They would like to invite you to a neighborhood open house on **April 18th, 5:00 - 8:00 PM**. Come see what it is all about!

In Memoriam - Joanne Jordan

By Jim Thompson

I was sad to read about the recent passing of Joanne, one of the founding members of the LNA. Joanne and her late husband Ed lived on 31st Ave. and participated from the onset to not only establish the neighborhood association, but to keep it running for a long time.

Joanne was never shy about providing her input. Although I cannot remember if she held any positions on the Board, she would keep the group informed of the consequences of actions or inactions. Such input was a welcome aspect of the long meetings we would hold in the church basement. And she would always help to make the coffee!

Our by-laws allow for the creation of a special class of membership for people who are unable to qualify for voting privileges. After Ed had passed away, Joanne had to sell her house and move. However, because of her dedication and work for the association she was voted this special class of membership.

Our sympathies to her family and may she forever rest in peace.



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Leavenworth Kid's Corner

By Cassandra Mayo at agapemayo@gmail.com

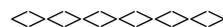
What is Earth Day?



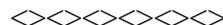
Earth Day is a Birthday!! Just like a birthday is a special day to celebrate a person, Earth Day is a special day that celebrates the Earth. Earth Day was born on April 22, 1970, in San Francisco, California. Every year, America and over 100 different countries join together in the celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd. Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. On Earth Day, we remember to appreciate nature and learn ways to protect our environment. Find ways that you can help keep the planet clean and help protect our environment!

QUICK SNIPS.....

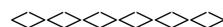
Wondering when your yard waste will be composted? As you know the City is picking up yard waste year around. However, until such time as the composting site can accept and process yard waste, it has been going to the landfill for natural decomposition. Starting in May the bags and stuff will once again be processed for the creation of that wonderful product, **OmahaGro**.



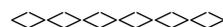
Need a green **recycling bin**? We will have some on hand at the clean-up site to issue to those who are missing one.



Share your Writing Skills!!!! To **contribute to The Exchange**, please contact Jim Thompson, zippijd@aol.com. Deadline for each issue is the first Thursday of the month.



The former Tommy Colina's space on 35th and Farnam has been purchased and will become the **Farnam House Brewing Company**. They will be brewing beer in the basement and have a full restaurant and bar on the first floor. Lunch and dinner will be served. The renovation is underway with a planned opening around June 1st. Please stay tuned for further details!!



Please note on page 1 the change in location of our **General Membership Meeting on April 17. Cantina Loredo at Midtown Crossing** has a room in back for our gathering. They also have great food and drink items on the menu. See you there!

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Down Under Lounge Re-Opens

John Nosal has renovated and re-opened the "Down Under" at 3802 Leavenworth. This is the lower level of the corner building. The lounge has been cleaned, painted, carpeted, etc., and 3 flat screens, juke box, and dart boards have been added.

Offerings will be Orsi's pizza and popcorn. John stated he wants to embrace the heritage with the theme of the original Pirate's Cove Lounge. "Pirate's Punch" will be one of the libations. There will be a cell phone privacy room in the old telephone booth.

Stop in and greet the new neighbor.



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Clarinda-Page Update

At the General Membership meeting in March the members voted to **support the development** and to **support the removal of the landmark status** of this property. There was good discussion on how advanced and positive development has occurred in our neighborhood. Additionally, the consensus of the group is that boarded up property does nothing to the quality of the neighborhood. The condition of the Page, in particular, is sad even though it has historical looks. Furthermore, since the condo owners in the Clarinda of all in favor of selling their units, we support them in that goal.

We understand this has been a sensitive issue with a lot of preservation minded individuals as it would remove an old structure in our neighborhood. But the advantages of new and functional buildings and the wishes of the current owners override the stance of preservation for a building whose style is controversial.

The LNA is currently seeing a large amount of development activity in the area, all of which is good. The motto we had adopted on our long lost banners on Leavenworth Street is "Generations of Growth". This concept has been carried through with the actions and activities on which this organization was founded. We continue to strive towards a neighborhood based on increasing the quality of life for those who work and live in our area.



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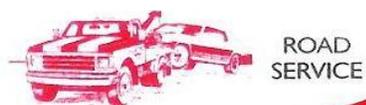
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Traffic Snafu on Farnam St.?

By Jim Thompson

I was recently made aware of a questionable plan to remove parking on Farnam St., between 35th Ave and 36th St. The reason given by Public Works is to create a left turn lane on Farnam for those vehicles heading west. To clarify, the parking spots proposed for removal are the ones on the north side of the street. Visualize the five small businesses who depend on short stop in traffic for their business.

I have discussed this proposal with a couple of these businesses and they cannot believe the City is proceeding with this change regardless of their wishes and how questionable the plan is drawn. There was a meeting or two but the results were the dismissal of most of the concerns of these affected business. In my opinion the City needs to take into consideration how important this type of parking is to the neighbors that use the spots.

Normally this type of change is discussed directly with the affected businesses. Unless such business or the City would feel the need to present the issue to the neighborhood as a whole, these situations get isolated. In reality this commercial sector is frequented by many of those living throughout the neighborhood and I believe it should have been more widely announced

The intent of removing this parking revolves around making Farnam a two-way street from 36th to 42nd. They also want to make 36th St. and 35th Ave. one-way streets from Farnam to Dodge. They say the removal of these spaces will be offset by adding parking on 35th Ave. and 36th St. The primary reason they site is safety issues if a car wants to turn left on westbound Farnam. It appears that the traffic engineers are more concerned about the alleged safety issue of a vehicle turning left than the maintenance of a vibrant neighborhood. Perhaps it is time for a paradigm shift.

With the re-opening of the former Tommy Colina space with Farnam House Brewing Company, these spaces will likely continue to be in high demand. Under the plan by Public Works, parking will be created on the hills surrounding that block. I do not know how much the weather (ice and snow) was entered into the formula. I am guessing it does not show up in a computer model.

It might be too late to discuss the issue at our next meeting. If so you might want to call City Hall to express your concerns, if any.



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April 2014

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THE LEAVENWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Who We Are

A neighborhood association advocating growth and pride for families and business in the heart of the city -- working to provide a safe, attractive, and welcoming environment in which to live, work, and play. The LNA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Our Board Members

President: Nick Mayo 402-216-1502
 Email: nimayo83@gmail.com
 Vice-President: Evan Freemyer 712-307-0091
 Email: evabfreemyer@gmail.com
 Secretary: Zack Johnson
 Email: znj@mac.com
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 LNA boundaries: East - 29th St., North - Dodge St.,
 South - Pacific St., West - 36th St.