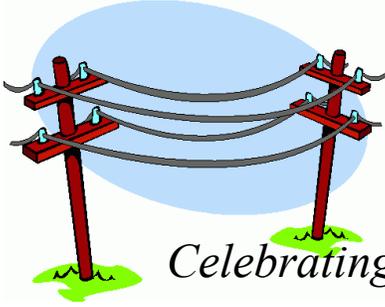


The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE



Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 29
Issue 7



July 2014

Presidents Letter....

People from near and far stood in yards and on street corners to watch the night's sky be swooned by dancing colors. Just as the sun was fading away, children ran up and down the street waving Old Glory in the air. Their jumps, their bounds, and the flags in their hands instilled peace, pride, and a promise of a brighter tomorrow into the hearts of the community around them. For this moment in time, we all had a common bond.

Moments of unity are what I live for. All too often greed and selfishness tare our communities apart. As President of the Leavenworth Neighborhood Association, I strive to see love and compassion be the dominant forces in our area. I hope that someday our neighborhood hearts will be united always and not just for a brief moment on a holiday. I hope pride, camaraderie, and love will find no individual alone and no person in need on the streets of the Leavenworth area.

We are given an opportunity, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, to build a foundation that will foster a unified neighborhood in the heart of Omaha. So please join us, the Leavenworth Neighborhood Association, in investing in the hearts of our community. Our next meeting will be at Tin Box Pictures on 35th and Leavenworth at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

Nick Mayo

The LNA Rebranding Initiative

From The LNA Board

At the General Membership meeting in June we voted to go with the proposal from Jackson + West. They are a multi-disciplinary creative agency, based on the idea of crafting beautiful and meaningful work for people they believe in.

They will be meeting with the Board to discuss a plan of action. Their website can be found at <http://jacksonandwest.com>.

Reminder! The next LNA meeting will be **July 17, 2014, 7:00 PM. PLEASE NOTE: the meeting location has been changed to Tin Box Pictures, 3502 Leavenworth St.**

Crime Alert Notices

By Jim Thompson

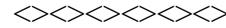
As a subscriber to our email newsletter, you may receive a periodic notice of a "crime alert" for our area. It's a good thing that these do not generate very often. But does that mean we are a crime free neighborhood? Of course not. The intent of this email listing is to keep the many, many eyes open for possible trends and ultimately the apprehension of thieves, etc.

Please do not hesitate to report issues that may involve your immediate location for wider distribution throughout the LNA. And please share with your neighbors if you get one of these messages, for they may not be on the original list.

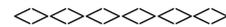
Together we can use this tool to minimize criminal activity. Send your information to any Board member or to me at zippijd@aol.com.

QUICK SNIPS.....

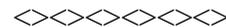
"Thirst-Tea" has opened in Midtown Crossing. They are located at the top of the horseshoe in the complex. Their banner reads "Fresh Teas and Snacks". Check them out and report back on your experience. Further details at www.Thirstteacafe.com. Yum!



Need a green **recycling bin**? We only have **4** on hand, left over from the clean-up in April. Please let Jim Thompson know if you need one: zippijd@aol.com or call him at 402-672-0603. Jim needs the space so please let him know and he will deliver!!!



Are you having to pick this newsletter up at one of many drop off locations? It is simple to get on our emailing list. Send your contact info to Jim Thompson at zippijd@aol.com to be added to our mailing. If you prefer a hard copy we can add you to that list.



While preparing the inside of my garage for painting, I discovered a number of "treasures" that I had kept for.....well for some future project I suppose. Anyway, I have prepared a box of these miscellaneous things for donation to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore on 24th and Mason. The partial plumbing pieces, the metal shelf, the bits of molding are good candidates for resale through this non-profit outlet.

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LNA!!

Car Show a SUCCESS!!

By Jim Thompson

If you missed the Midtown Car Show on Father's Day, you will have another opportunity later this summer. But the weather was great, the number of cars on display was awesome, and with the addition of live music, made for a pleasant stroll.

Thanks to Tom Johnson for his help in making this event a nice, recurring attraction to Midtown Crossing. Mark Sept. 7th on your calendar for the next show. Or watch for details of upcoming events on our facebook page or www.midtowncrossing.com.

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Join us on Facebook!

The LNA's Facebook page is a great way to meet neighbors, get LNA news, discuss current events, and get an insider's scoop on what is happening in Midtown!

We also have give-a-ways and fun facts about our neighborhood. Please join us today!

We are always looking for new friends!
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From the Membership Committee...

LNA's Membership Committee has hosted several "Meet and Greets" at various locations in the neighborhood. By coming to these events, it allows you to meet others in the neighborhood, introduce your non-member neighbors to LNA members, and check out our neighborhood gems.

A BIG thank you goes out to The Side Door for hosting June's event. So, where will we meet next? Grab your wife, your kids, your neighbors and head to Thirst-Tea Cafe at Midtown Crossing on Saturday, July 26th, 1-3 p.m.

To learn more about Thirst-Tea, check out their website at: <http://www.thirstteacafe.com/>

Fireworks Show a SUCCESS!!

By Jim Thompson

Perhaps you followed the saga on social media on whether or not there would be a fireworks show at Field Club of Omaha. It seemed that no major sponsor was coming forward and the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance chose not to provide any funding.

Consequently, the volunteers showed up and hustled numerous sources for donations so this annual event could continue. Businesses and neighbors came to the rescue and provided sufficient money to allow the July 5th show. The general membership of the LNA voted to make a \$500 donation so recognition as a sponsor was appreciated. Other sponsors were Dundee Bank, Field Club Homeowners League, Backlund Plumbing, and the Central High School Foundation.

The Field Club Parade on July 4th is always a treat. Especially with the homemade costumes and decorated items, it started the holiday weekend on a spirited note. The amount of fireworks in the streets that evening was.....hmmm.....loud? Bright? Thank you to all who picked up the residue.

But walking down to 36th and Woolworth on Saturday night experiencing the fireworks show was just wonderful. Perfect weather, people dropping in from all over town, blankets, yard parties, etc., all added up to a great celebration. Let's make sure it happens again in 2015.

Leavenworth Kid's Corner

Contributed by Kassandra Mayo agapemayo@gmail.com

"Where the Wild Things Are" by Kate Brophy

It goes practically without saying that children love being outdoors. It doesn't matter if they're in a cultivated garden, an empty lot overgrown with weeds, or on a suburban sidewalk. A child will find something fascinating to capture his attention. Just watch a 3 year old on a walk to the local park; he'll stop time and again to investigate a broken twig or an interesting leaf. Older kids love wandering through meadows and woods, overturning rocks to see what kind of minibeasts crawl out, or noticing the way falling leaves spiral on their trip from tree branch to ground.

Creating a wildlife sanctuary is a wonderful way to show your child how nature works and how the seasons affect wildlife and plants. "Your own nature-scape, large or small, is the perfect place to teach kids about the complexity of life while having a great time," says Pete Quasius, President of Audubon South West Florida. He explains that deliberately planting certain flora (bushes, flowers, herbs), will attract all manner of fauna (birds, butterflies, bugs). "Plant some parsley, and a black swallowtail may decide to come visit," he says. "Milkweed will pretty much guarantee a busy butterfly garden." And before you get butterflies, of course, you get caterpillars and their cocoons, giving curious kids a self-contained lesson in the cycle of life. "Gardens, both backyard plots or pots on the patio, are great classrooms," says Quasius.

Here are some ideas for getting up close and personal with nature, whether you've got a [rolling meadow](#) or a [narrow patio](#) to play with. Remember, there are four basic elements wild birds, animals, and insects will need to make your garden their home.

Food: You'll need to include plants that produce seeds, berries and acorns, and attract insects. These critters will, in turn, supply food for birds and animals.

Water: Your visitors will need a source of clean water to drink and bathe in.

Cover: Animals need a place to escape from predators and from the elements.

Places to raise young: Newborns need protected spaces if they are to grow strong enough to care for themselves.



Check out the following website for more ideas: <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/science-nature-activities/where-wild-things-are>



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Upcoming Events:

National Night Out is August 5. This is the time to turn your yard lights on, talk to your neighbors, create an awareness of your neighborhood, all in hope of coming up with crime prevention activities. Have a "porch night" and invite your whole block. And think about a Neighborhood Watch group for your location.

August picnic: LNA Summer Picnic! August 21st from 6PM-9PM in the Leavenworth Park. Food, volleyball, kickball, a clown, and live music! **BE THERE!**



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Neighborhood Salute - Fly Those Flags!!

At the June meeting it was voted by the membership to replace our worn flags with more sturdy new ones. Unfortunately they did not arrive in time for our planned display of flags from Flag Day, June 14th, through the 4th of July. However, with the help of John Costanzo and Jim Thompson, we were able to proudly display the flags for about a week and a half.

By next year we should have figured out the trick to keep the flags from moving up or down the pole during excessive windy conditions. But the majority held strong before being removed on Sunday.

Also under consideration is the expansion of the display either down Park Avenue and/or Turner Blvd. All it takes is a little money, a visit to the respective bureaucracies, and some volunteer time to set them up.

In addition to the install, we need to thank Brian Eaton and Dan Krueger for their help in taking the flags down and preparing them for storage.

Thank you to all who originally sponsored the "Salute" by purchasing flags and poles. This is one of the many ongoing and proud programs we have established for the LNA.




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AKSARBEN VILLAGE SUNDAYS
MAY 4 THRU OCT 19
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 3031 Leavenworth St.
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*"Celebrating together as
 friends and neighbors"*



July 2014



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: Aaron Onufrock 402-960-0346
 Email: aonufrock@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Zack Johnson Email: znj@mac.com
 At Large: Jen Beirola 402-980-5713
 Email: jbeirola@gmail.com

Join us for our monthly meetings -- the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.,

Website: www.LNAomaha.org

Become a Member of the LNA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Family membership: \$15 annually

Business membership: \$25 annually

Name of Business: _____

New Member

Renewal

Make checks payable to LNA. Dues are for Jan.-Dec.
 Mail to LNA, 3031 Leavenworth St, Omaha, NE 68105.
 Each adult 18 or older, 2 max. per family or business who pay dues and lives, owns property, or owns/operates a business in the LNA boundaries shall be eligible to vote on Association matters.

LNA boundaries: East - 29th St., North - Dodge St.,
 South - Pacific St., West - 36th St.