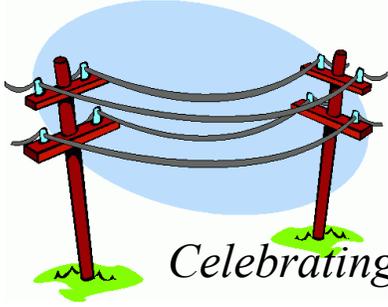


The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE



Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 29
Issue 9



September 2014

President's Letter.....

I want to first off thank Evan and Katie Freemyer for taking the time and putting in the effort to have last month's picnic in the park. The picnic was well attended with a balance of individuals who have been a part of the LNA for many years and those making their first time introductions to the organization. Though it was a rather warm Thursday evening, I greatly appreciated the opportunity to see all of those who braved the heat and came out.

While reminiscing over last month's picnic, I have been thinking about the opportunities we have to act on life. Just as many teach that if you do not tell your money where to go it will tell you where to go, so much is true with other aspects of our lives. To live engaged and purposefully acting upon our lives versus letting life happen to us can be the game changing difference for one who finds fulfillment and happiness in his or her life.

The Freemyers are a young couple who have a desire and vision to see neighbors become family. To have all voices heard from all different backgrounds within our community. Through their continuous efforts to make events like the August picnic a reality and coming along side other like-minded individuals, hopefully someday they will see their vision come to fruition.

What dreams, ideas, and passions do you have for your neighborhood? Perhaps it's a safe place for your children to grow in a strong vibrant community. Maybe you would like a small town environment where you can walk the streets and individuals will greet you by name and with reference to relationship. Whatever it may be, I encourage you to search and dream for what you want out of life and perhaps find that the LNA can be a great place to come along side supportive family to begin acting on life.

Together we can bring hope and a brighter tomorrow in each of our lives. Please join us for September's meeting on Thursday the 18th, 7pm, at Tin Box Pictures on the corner of 35th and Leavenworth. I look forward to seeing you there.

Nick Mayo

Reminder! The next LNA meeting will be **Sept. 18, 2014,**
7:00 PM.
Tin Box Pictures, 3502
Leavenworth
Please come and bring your ideas, thoughts and concerns.

Membership Outreach.....

By Cassandra Mayo

Are YOU a member of the LNA? If you are not, you are missing out on several membership opportunities to meet and greet your neighbors at neighborhood joints.

Last month, the Ugly Sister Boutique in Midtown provided LNA members a 20% discount!! The month before that, members met at Thirst Tea for refreshing beverages and a chance to catch up on the latest gossip. This month's outreach will take place on Tuesday, September 23rd, any time of the day.

Grab your closest neighbor and head to Delice European Bakery and celebrate the first day of Autumn with one of their yummy coffee beverages or a slice of their famous baked goods.

It truly is a wonderful time to be a part of the LNA!



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Every night I set the alarm clock for the time I was born so that waking up becomes a historical reenactment.

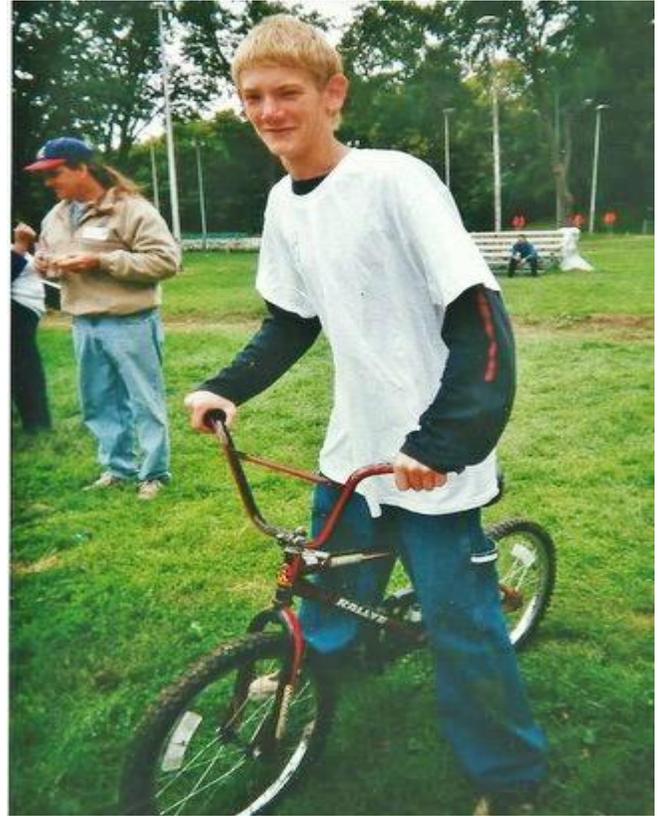
David Berman

Who is this kid?

Years ago the LNA had a Kid's Day celebration, where every kid in the neighborhood was invited to come to the park for fun, food, games, talent contests, etc. The intent was to show our appreciation for the children of the neighborhood.

Fortunately, a lot of these kids grew up to be fine, upstanding citizens and we believe our efforts to show that we care for these youngsters was the main reason.

But here is one kid that we are not sure of, but the identity escapes us. Can you help and tell us who this might be? Please report at the next membership meeting.



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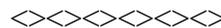
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Physicians Mutual, University of Nebraska at Omaha,
Old Omaha Association, Central Parking System

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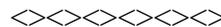


QUICK SNIPS.....

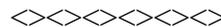
Thank you Carol Haas and Cindy Mitchell for cleaning up the Identity garden (Turner Blvd. and Harney)! The weeds had taken over and that was NOT the identity we want for our neighborhood.



Spielbound has opened up at 3329 Harney. The space has been completely remodeled and it looks wonderful. So what kind of place is it? If you like board games, this IS the place to be. There are over 1500 to choose from to play to your heart's content. There are various fees for daily use, monthly and yearly. The menu is extensive with a wide range of coffees, espresso, and some beers. Be prepared to spend some time there. Check them out at www.spielbound.org.



Goodbye and good luck to Pat McCall from McCall's Press, formally at 3219 Leavenworth. Pat is heading for the mountains to do be close to his passion for skiing the snowy slopes. A recent auction liquidated the VERY old printing presses and equipment. The building has been sold but the new owner has not made specific plans for the space.



Speaking of space, S P A C E S is now leasing at the Dewey and Park Ave. From the outside, the new building looks awesome, blending in well with our neighborhood. The improvement on both Park Avenue and 29th Street are overwhelming. Plus an outdoor heated pool and indoor golf simulator. Wow.



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Leavenworth Kid's Corner

Contributed by Kassandra Mayo agapemayo@gmail.com

September is a wonderful month to get out in nature and explore! Did you know that September is National Wilderness Month? If you visit a local forest, please send LNA your pictures via Facebook and share your trail tales!

Click on the following links to learn more ways for your family to enjoy the great outdoors:

Nebraska Game and

Parks: <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/default.asp>

Fontenelle Forest: <http://www.fontenelleforest.org/>

Lauritzen Gardens: <http://www.lauritzengardens.org/>

National Wilderness

Month: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/08/29/presidential-proclamation-national-wilderness-month-2014>



South Omaha Neighborhood Alliance (SONA) Highlights

By Carol Haas

The following information was shared at the SONA meeting on September 4, 2014:

Funding proposed by the United Neighborhood Alliances of Omaha for an organization to replace the Neighborhood Center was approved in the City's 2015 budget.

Several grant opportunities are available to SONA organizations. Small grants are being offered by SONA for building capacity. Contact Oscar Durant, SONA President, for details. od_1500@msn.com

Additionally, historic grants for South Omaha will be available soon. Information may be found on the City's website www.cityofomaha.org effective September 30, 2014.

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!
Join us

at: <https://www.facebook.com/LeavenworthOmaha>



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Registration Now Open for IN the Neighborhood Conference

Save the date! Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11 the Metro area is set to host its first ever Neighborhoods Conference. The two-day Iowa/Nebraska (IN) the Neighborhood Conference will be held at Metro Community College's South Omaha Campus.

Friday will feature neighborhood tours in both Omaha and Council Bluffs. Saturday will start off with opening remarks from Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert and Council Bluffs Mayor Matt Walsh. The Luncheon Keynote Speaker is Gus Newport, a nationally renowned community activist who encourages neighborhood planning from the "bottom up, not top-down." Additional workshop speakers include neighborhood advocate and Creighton University Law Professor Kate Mahern, and Empowerment Network President Willie Barney. Morning and afternoon breakout sessions will cover a range of topics from Neighborhood Identity & Connectivity in a Regional Context to Raising Poultry in the City.

To register for the IN the Neighborhood Conference, visit www.intheneighborhood.org. Early bird registration ends on September 21. . Contact: Liz Birkel-Leddy 402-444-5150 ext. 2034
Liz.Birkel-Leddy@cityofomaha.org



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MORE Development Coming

By Jim Thompson

When I moved into this neighborhood in 1981 we were more concerned about proximity to work and schools than anything else it seems. Of course the price of the house played a factor as well. And for the first couple of years I had to get used to dilapidated looking houses and oddball commercial structures that dotted the landscape. Using tarps for a garage door, the never touched school bus project parked in the driveway, and antiquated playground equipment in the parks - if there were any.

A lot has changed. Looking down my street now at least every house has been made-over at least once, some twice. There is still work to be done of course but we hope the homeowners and landlords note that we share the outside of the structures and we need to strive towards making them look decent. Grass and weeds do not get better with age. And paint is not a forever product - unless you are the Mona Lisa. Trees don't know their limits so we humans must use tools to keep them in check.

You may have noticed the house next to the Kwik Shop on 36th and Leavenworth that has had its siding removed. This is the first step in demolition. Next will be some other properties up the hill and around on Jones that will be demolished. *Whoa* might be the initial reaction. Turns out that a developer from Lincoln has discovered that Midtown is hopping, has a lot to offer, and will be building a large apartment complex on this site. Further details will be shared as they become available.

On the southeast corner of our boundaries, particularly Park Avenue, one can see more workers taking care of business. LOTS of scrambling of dumpsters, tools,

wood, and material bringing new life to old apartment buildings, especially as you head south towards Woolworth. This is all good.

Just a reminder: Park Avenue is named after the affluent, luxury street in New York City. Omaha once shared that thought when the forefathers viewed this nice, western edge of town. Why is Park Place so expensive to land on in your Monopoly Game?

And soon, perhaps while you are reading this issue, the old Godfathers, Little King, and Page buildings will be recycled into substrate for roads.

So what role does a "simple" neighborhood association take in all this? We must embrace it, we must look to it as progress and we must do our part to make the thread between all this development strong and hearty. The City will take care of the infrastructure. Hopefully more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. But the association needs to work, within our resources and energy levels, to assist in tying it all together.

People will be living and working within the new and renovated structures. Those people, along with our existing crowd, must find the common ground to assure that our own mission of community development and enhancement, community safety, and in part the social aspect of interaction of people are not only maintained but improved. The LNA has a budget with money to do certain things. Our Master Plan is noble in that all of the projects lead towards these goals. What we do lack it seems is the number of neighbors jumping in to take a bit, just a bit, and wind that energy into the equation for a better neighborhood for all.

As even more development comes our way, let us not hit our head on that raising bar, but do what we can to keep our heads above it.

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September 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: President@LNAOmaha.org
 Vice-President: Evan Freemyer 712-307-0091
 Email: Vice-President@LNAOmaha.org
 Secretary: Aaron Onufrock 402-960-0346
 Email: Secretary@LNAOmaha.org
 Treasurer: Zack Johnson Email: Treasurer@LNAOmaha.org
 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.,

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Name of Business: _____

New Member

Renewal

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 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.