

The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE

Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 32 Issue 3, March 2017



March Guest Speaker: Mayoral Candidate Heath Mello

Former State Senator Mello is scheduled to be at our meeting on March 16. Mello is running against incumbent Mayor Jean Stothert.

Please come to the meeting and listen to what he has to say. There will be time for some questions and answers.



Leavenworth Street bustles this particular day with a lot of the bars celebrating this Irish tradition. Corned beef and cabbage, green beer, shamrocks all over the place. Walk careful, and if you must drive, *please* have a designated driver. No amount of green beer is worth the problems of the potential for accidents. Thank you for your help in keeping our neighborhood safe.

Reminder! The next LNA Membership meeting will be **March 16, 2017, 7:00 PM**, at Dewey Park Building, Turner Blvd & Dewey. Please come and bring your ideas, thoughts and concerns.

And the Winner Is.....

TWO people won the annual Chili Cook Off at our February meeting! Congratulations to Andrew Flater and Matt Wettengel. Ties have happened in the past so both individuals were recognized.

There were 6 entries this year! Word around the room was nobody went hungry. Plenty accessories of crackers, cheese, sour cream, Fritos, etc. Some may recall the time when no one brought chili and the lady who had a ketchup pack in her purse won the prize...

Thank you Chris Krin for helping set the table and keep everything in order. And thank you for the other four people who whipped up a batch to share. It was a most tasty event.

Flater's Fave Chili

- 1 pound ground beef (ideally 85% lean)
- 1 can (15oz) chili beans
- 1 can (15oz) spicy chili beans
- 1 can (28 oz) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (6 oz) tomato paste
- 1 can (6 oz) diced green chili peppers
- 1/2 large yellow onion (diced)
- 1/2 clove garlic (diced)

- Chili powder (2 tablespoons)
- Oregano (1 teaspoon)
- Cumin (1 teaspoon)
- Basil (1 teaspoon)
- Salt (2 teaspoons)
- Ground black pepper (1 teaspoon)
- Cayenne pepper (1 teaspoon)
- Paprika (1/2 teaspoon)

1. Pour all canned items (with juices) into crockpot
2. Add all spices to crockpot
3. Add 1 tablespoon olive oil to skillet and warm over medium heat
4. Add diced onion and garlic to skillet, cooking 1 - 2 minutes
5. Add ground beef to skillet, cooking until browned
6. Add all items from skillet to crockpot
7. Stir crockpot until all items mixed thoroughly
8. Heat over medium heat for 4 - 6 hours

Andrew Flater

Crockpot White Chicken Chili

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 3 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breast meat - cubed
- 2 clove of garlic
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 diced jalapeño
- 2 cups chicken broth (I used homemade vegetable broth)
- 2 (4 ounce) cans chopped green chile peppers
- 5 (14.5 ounce) cans great Northern beans, undrained
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a large skillet over medium-high heat, place the vegetable oil and chicken. Cook the chicken, stirring occasionally, until all pieces are evenly brown. Stir in the garlic, onions and jalapeño. Cook until onions are translucent. Drain mixture and set aside.

Set crockpot to high heat, then add the broth, green chile peppers, three cans great northern beans (drained), garlic powder, cumin, oregano, cilantro, smoked paprika, cayenne pepper, salt and pepper. Stir in the chicken, onion and jalapeño mixture, and reduce heat. Mash remaining two cans of great Northern beans with masher or fork and add to crockpot (you can mash more beans if you'd like a thicker consistency). If you'd like it to cook quickly, leave on high heat for at least 60 minutes. If cooking for longer, set to low heat for at least 3-4 hours. I left it in the crockpot all day when I made it and it tied for first, so it's hard to go wrong.

Matt Wettengel

Now that Spring is upon us, here is the recipe for Gin & Tonic:

Go to Bud Olson's
Ask for "G&T"
Enjoy

Friday Night Fish Fries

By John Costanzo

Spring is a great time of year! The weather is warming and the flowers are not too far away. It is also Lent, which means Friday Night fish fries. This last week several neighbors and I attended the Holy Name Fish Fry. It is always amazing just how many people you run into while standing in line. We socialized in line for thirty minutes before descending the stairs and entering the tunnel on our journey to procure our fish and chips. At \$11 for adults, \$9 for seniors, the meal was well worth it. Plus, you can go back for seconds but I have rarely needed to as the portions are plentiful. Spending time with neighbors is a great evening no matter what.

There are still five Friday fish fries remaining this Lenten season, maybe we will see you in line.

**TURNER PARK EAST.....
ON THE WAY.
COOL.**

Leavenworth Kid's Corner

Contributed by *Kassandra Mayo agapemayo@gmail.com*

I don't know about you, but as soon as my little one entered my life, it got a little noisier. Between her shrieks of laughter, love for music, and those darn battery operated toys everyone seems keen on buying her, I decided, why not join in the fun! Create a family band by gathering simple household materials to make homemade instruments.



Here is a link with on 10 instrumental crafts for you and your kiddos to

enjoy: http://www.momjunction.com/articles/musical-instrument-crafts-kids_0074932/?ref=KP

Make sure to post pictures of your handy work on LNA's Facebook page!

St Patrick's Day in the Neighborhood

Down Under Lounge: Doors open at 11am; Live music 3pm; Free Irish Stew (with purchase) 5pm; Live Music 9pm featuring Dr. Webb.

VFW Post 247: Doors open at noon with corned beef and cabbage as long as the supply lasts.

Marlyebone: Doors open at 6:00 AM until..... Sandwiches will be available.

Alderman's: See ad on Page 4!!

Midtown Crossing: Various food specials from the different restaurants. Go to www.midtowncrossing.com for further details.

WELCOME TO WEST OMAHA, CIRCA 1915.

CHRIS KILROY
5139 LEAVENWORTH STREET
OMAHA, NE
402.558.2111

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

SUPPORTING MIDTOWN SINCE 2001
MEMBER SIPC

Hands to Harvest Community Garden

By Carol Haas

Time to think about gardening.

Several of us (actually, 3 women and a saw) spent a couple hours the first Saturday of March cleaning up Hands to Harvest Community Garden. It was a great day, a good workout, and a huge improvement.

Hands to Harvest is located at 31st and Pacific and is a joint project of the LNA and Ford Birthsite Neighborhood. There are 22 raised beds at the garden and rental per bed is \$20 per season.

So, if you're interested in growing some vegetables this year, check out the Hands to Harvest website, e-mail maximom1@cox.net, or just stop by the garden as spring approaches and work continues to clean-up the site and prepare the beds for planting.



Located on the Southeast corner, two lots in, of 31st. and Pacific

The EXCHANGE by e-mail?

Simply send an email message to: AtLarge@LNAOmaha.org and request that you'd like to start receiving the LNA newsletter. We can also send out a printed copy to your home or business if you desire that instead.

ALDERMAN'S BAR

ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2017

6am - 2am







The Best St Patrick's Day Party On Leavenworth Street

Free Breakfast 6am-10am



\$3.50 16oz Aluminum Bud Light Bottles



\$5.00 16oz Guinness Cans

\$6.00 Irish Car Bombs
\$6.00 Big Gingers
\$5.00 Jameson, Powers, Bushmills, Tullamore Dew, 2 Gingers Shots

\$5.00 32oz Domestic Draws

3216 Leavenworth St Omaha Ne

Neighborhood Clean-up April 29

By Jim Thompson

Our date has been established for our annual event. This will mark our **32nd year** of cleaning up the neighborhood. Yes, 32 years!!

In that time we have assisted in the extraction of hundreds of TONS of material. I wish I had kept track, but in the early days we had open dumpsters. Then we graduated into packer trucks to condense the loads. Lots and lots of man-hours invested in this cause.

We have always found a way to recycle those items that were possible, starting with newspapers and tires. What you youngsters might be saying? Yes, we recycled newspapers before it was convenient and made available to everyone.

Watch for details in next month's EXCHANGE.

President's Letter.....

It certainly feels like spring in the neighborhood! We've beat back the worst of winter and look forward to what's next in 2017. Already, next month, LNA will participate in the annual Spring Cleanup – keep on the lookout for more information on what's always a successful event. This year, the collection site will be in the parking lot of our new headquarters in Dewey Park. The parking lot is very conducive to traffic control and is large enough for the trucks.

I was busy with my brother's wedding last month so missed the Chili Cookoff! But word has it that it was very successful and it was my loss to not be able to attend. I was hoping there would be a tie and we would need a run-off contest this month, but the force wasn't with me.

Speaking of...this month. Be sure to attend the LNA monthly meeting on the 16th at 7:00. We have Mayoral candidate Heath Mello speaking! This is an exciting development for our group and we're proud to host Heath so bring your friends and neighbors. The meeting is at LNAHQ 550 Turner Blvd.

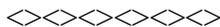
Jack Henry

QUICK SNIPS.....

Post Script to the story last month "Old To New", with the photos of **3118 Mason**: We have since learned that this old house will be torn down as part of a project by Uptown Urban Dwellings. There are a number of townhouses being erected on Mason and 31st at both 3118 and 3116 are going away. Others have already been cleared out.



We are in the process of consolidating files, equipment, etc., into the "office" at Dewey Park. If you have any old files, photos, or other LNA items that you would like to be transferred to HQ contact any Board member.



How many "**free little libraries**" do we have in the neighborhood? I found one on Marcy St. If you have one and want to share the location, let us know. If you would like to have one built.....Hmmm. Any handymen out there who want to build a special LNA Library? I think we can help out with materials.



Welcome **White and Ferguson Law** to our neighborhood. They are the new owners of the former Inflight Production building on St. Marys and 31st. Hope to see you at a meeting!

City Elections Coming....

April 4, 2017 is the primary
 May 9. 2017 is the General Election.

You will be voting for Mayor and for City Council, District 3. The following candidates have filed for District 3:

Gilbert Ayala
 D'Shawn Cunningham
 Mark Elworth Jr.
 JR Sasso
 Chris Jerram (Incumbent)

Do your homework, make your vote count.

**Family
 membership: \$15
 Business
 Membership: \$25
 Please support the
 LNA!!**

Make checks payable to "LNA".
 Bring to the meeting, give to a Board member, or

**Mail to:
 Leavenworth N.A.
 3031 Leavenworth St, Omaha, NE
 68105**

PLEASE NOTE: You can also pay directly through PayPal, sending your transaction to:
Treasurer@LNAOmaha.org

LNA Budget 2017

At the General Membership meeting we approved the following budget. A renewed focus on streamlined success, combined with a scaled back master plan has put us in a position to succeed. Here's the approved budget for 2017:

Category	2017
August Picnic	\$200.00
Building and grounds maintenance	\$400.00
Chili Feed	\$50.00
Christmas Cheer	\$300.00
Holiday Party	\$200.00
Marketing	\$400.00
Neighborhood Cleanup	\$50.00
Newsletter	\$400.00
TOTALS	\$2000.00

Your membership dues and volunteer support in raising dollars through grants and other fundraisers will help tremendously.



**V.F.W. St. Mihiel
Post 247**

3302 Leavenworth, Omaha Nebraska
Phone: 402.344.0714

Open to the Public for Food Service

Sundays at V.F.W. 247

S.O.S. Spaghetti on Sunday
1st & 3rd Sundays, Noon – 6pm

V.F.W. Pancake Breakfast
2nd Sundays, 8am – Noon

AMVETS Pancake Breakfast
4th Sundays, 8am – Noon

Kitchen Open:
5:00 – 7:00pm Wed & Thu
5:00 – 9:00pm Fri & Sat

Good Food, Great Prices, Family Friendly
Menu available at www.vfw247.com

Top Green Community Tips

By Jack Henry

It's March! Erin Go Bragh! Whenever March rolls everything from shamrocks to beer turn green as we celebrate St Patrick's Day. Below are five tips to help LNA go green and stay green:

Reconnect

To help green your community, you first need to be part of it. Start talking to your neighbors, find out what's going on around you, and get involved. It sounds obvious, but busy days often don't include time for keeping in touch with the community.

Buy local

Not only does shopping locally reduce food miles, it also keeps resources circulating in the community. Plus, it's a great way to get to know your neighbors. When did you last chat with the person who grew your tomatoes?

Spread the word

People are increasingly curious about living 'green.' If you bike to work, compost, or buy organic, tell people why. If people are interested in trying it themselves, show them how. Remember though, there's a fine line between talking and preaching, so know when it's time to drop it and get back to talking about baseball.

Join in

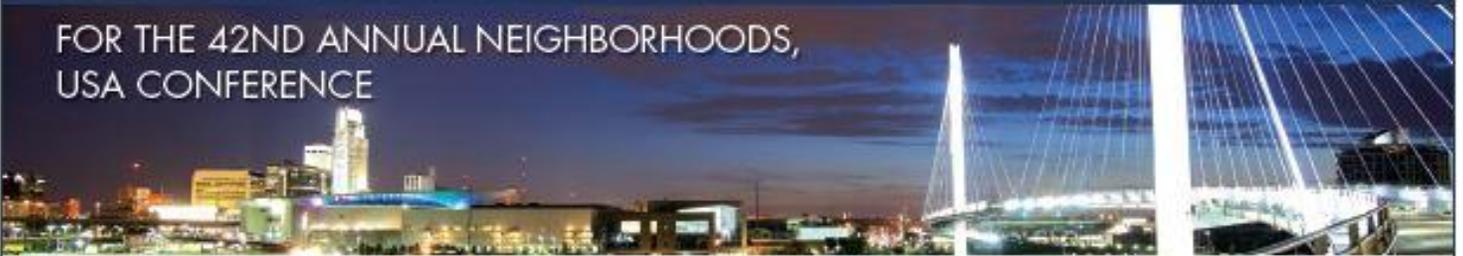
It can be lonely going it alone. Why not find out about environmental groups in your area? Many national conservation groups have local chapters -- the Sierra Club's website offers a local 'zoomer' for US residents to find out what's going on in their area. But you shouldn't just think in terms of green clubs. As sustainability goes mainstream, more and more local organizations are including environmentalism as part of their focus. So if you're a member of a faith group, a parent-teacher committee, or even a sports club, why not look at steps that you can take together. From energy efficiency measures to local community action, there are countless ways to get your fellow club or congregation members involved.

Spread the love (and unwanted electronics)

So you don't want that item of clothing, record, book, or printer anymore? The chances are good that someone else does. LNA has our spring-cleanup next month and there is the usual route of donating items to your local thrift store or charity shop, but there are also resources like the trusty OfferUp, Craigslist options as well.

REGISTER TODAY

FOR THE 42ND ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOODS,
USA CONFERENCE



May 24 – 27, 2017

Downtown Hilton Omaha
& CenturyLink Center in Omaha, NE

Register today and join hundreds of people who are passionate about improving neighborhoods and building stronger communities. Gather together to share information with one another, attend and actively participate in educational workshops, tour neighborhoods and recognize achievements of neighborhoods across the nation.

Highlights of the 2017 Neighborhoods, USA Conference:

- **Pre-Conference Activities**
- **Keynote Speakers**
 - **Fred Kent**, *Founder and President of Project for Public Spaces*
Read more about him [HERE](#).
 - **Joseph Porcelli**, *Senior City Strategist for Nextdoor*
Read more about him [HERE](#).
- **Over 56 local and national workshops in eight tracks**
(including Neighborhood Initiatives, Creative Inclusion, Emerging Leaders, etc.)
- **Over 20 Neighborhood Pride Tours**
- **Over 30 local and national exhibitors**



For more INFORMATION and to REGISTER visit www.nusa.org.



March
2017



LEAVENWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
3031 Leavenworth St.
Omaha, NE 68105

*"Celebrating together as
friends and neighbors"*

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: Jack Henry 402-650-3761
Email: jack.austin.henry@gmail.com
Vice-President: Janelle Domeyer
Email: Vice-President@LNAOmaha.org
Secretary: John Costanzo 402-699-0048
Email: Secretary@LNAOmaha.org
Treasurer: Andrew Flater 515-520-1255 Email: aflater@gmail.com
At Large: Jim Thompson 402-672-0603
Email: atlarge@LNAOmaha.org

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.