

The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE

Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 32 Issue 9, September 2017



Guest Speaker for September

Julie Smith from One Omaha will be at our General Membership Meeting on September 21.

One Omaha, founded in 2015, is a public-private initiative dedicated to actively facilitating the development of neighborhoods in the City of Omaha through communication, education and advocacy.

Come and listen to what is happening with our neighborhoods. Julie will also be anxious to hear your comments as well.

Reminder! The next LNA Membership meeting will be **Sept. 21, 2017.**

7:00 PM

Dewey Park Building, Turner Blvd & Dewey.

Please come and bring your ideas, thoughts and concerns.

Need a Babysitter?

By Jim Thompson

Having lived in this neighborhood a loooong time, I have seen kids grow up and have kids themselves. And of course I have seen a LOT of turnover, where families simply move away. One of the constants however is the trust and faith in babysitters that are long term neighbors.

Korissa Dyche is one of those kids who has grown up enough to now offer babysitting services. Seemed like yesterday another neighbor was babysitting her! Kori, as we know her, is trying to earn some money to go on a trip to Washington DC next summer. She is 13 and from what I am told, a pretty smart lady. Wanting to go to DC with money she would earn herself definitely adds value to that experience.

I like the idea of neighbors watching neighbors. Our kids did it. But it seemed they spent the money on clothes!

Korissa says she will watch kids between the ages of 1 and 9. Her contact info is kori.dyche@gmail.com, phone 402-706-2139. Give her a call. We need smart teens to go to DC to educate those politicians.

LNA Membership Dues....

By Jim Thompson

Autumn is coming and with that we always remind our neighbors that it is time to renew membership for the coming year. For households: \$15.00. For businesses: \$25.00. Please see the last page for details on how to send in your dues.

Why join? The simple answer is we have certain operating costs to maintain this non-profit. Yes, we are a 501(c)(3) so your dues are considered a deductible expense. But in addition, we feed you at our February meeting with the annual chili cook-off, we pick up your bulky trash during the spring clean-up, we operate a driving patrol, we maintain a crime alert for the neighborhood, we advocate and volunteer to keep the neighborhood clean, we provide a strong social network you cannot get from a computer screen, etc. etc.

Join now and you will be good for the rest of this year and 2018.

Midtown Crossing Parking Program Update

As of September 1, 2017, Midtown Crossing has implemented a parking validation system similar to those in effect in other parking garages throughout the city.

Under the updated system, customers can still enjoy three (3) hours of free garage parking, only now they need to have a validated ticket. Customers can receive the three-hour validation from any Midtown Crossing retail location with purchase. For those parking without validation, garage rates will shift to an affordable \$1 per hour.

Metered parking, managed by the City of Omaha, is available along Farnam Street and within Turner Park, accessible from 31st Avenue. Metered parking is short-term (max. 2 hours) and monitored Monday through Saturday from 9am-9pm. Holidays and Sundays are free.

You might also link to this page:
<http://www.midtowncrossing.com/visit/>.

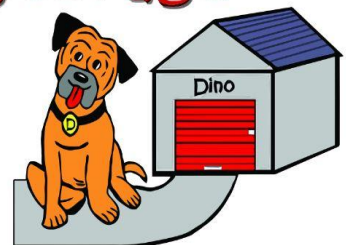
The EXCHANGE by e-mail?!?!?

If you obtained a copy from one of the drop-off locations, and want the e-version, 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 if you desire that instead. Happy reading!!

Dino's Storage

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Taking Pride in the 'Hood

By Jim Thompson

The other day I drove past Leavenworth Park and noticed a couple of my neighbors trimming the edge of the sidewalk leading to the shelter and playground. Anyone stepping foot in the park knows there is a need for a personal touch. Thank you Zach Carlberg and daughter Zoey for taking matters in your own hands and sprucing up the park.

It is painfully obvious the City does not have the resources to accomplish all that needs to be done in our public spaces. Sometimes, hopefully not ALL the times, to achieve a certain standard we must invest time and energy into make things right. It seems so simple in our own homes: cut the grass, trim the edges, pull some weeds. But in our parks, who else is going to do it? Just how many weed whackers does the Parks Maintenance Dept. own?

Probably not enough or at least not enough operators. So I commend Zach and Zoey on their volunteer effort.

One of my pet peeves as I have walked through the playground at Leavenworth is the lack of soft landing around the equipment. Oh wait, it IS there! But since it was built, no one has ever cleared the sand away. Before our picnic at Dewey Park I was curious just how difficult of a task it was to make the playground shine better. (Note: Graffiti has not been present for quite awhile!). It did take some time, and a little gas from my leave blower. But when I was done it looked great! Zach beat me to it for Leavenworth Park.

Keep Omaha Beautiful sponsors an Adopt the Park effort for volunteer groups to periodically pick up litter and perform other minor work at City parks. While this is a great campaign, it generates pride to see someone do it simply because it needs to be done.



WELCOME TO WEST OMAHA, CIRCA 1915.



Photo by: Brad Wern/Admiral District

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

CHRIS KILROY
5139 LEAVENWORTH STREET
 OMAHA, NE
 402.558.2111
 SUPPORTING MIDTOWN SINCE 2001
 MEMBER SIPC

"It's Only a Rental"....

By Jim Thompson

On a recent visit to Menards, I was working my way to the paint section and two guys were hauling what looked to be a 4'x8' sheet of masonite on a cart. I overheard the one guy say to his partner. "It's only a rental, they won't know about this for years."

Upon hearing this I instantly wondered what kind of cheap fix they were going to put into a rental unit. I have flipped houses and have owned rental property. And I have made multiple trips to the Menards of the world. But I always attempted to do the job the right way, using the right materials.

I didn't get any company name from the guy's shirt. But I wondered if they were acting as part of a constituency of slumlords or just didn't care about quality? I know a lot of the rehabs and new construction in our neighborhood uses first class materials and workmanship. With the age of the structures in our neighborhood, doing it right before having to do it over is something these Menard shoppers need to heed.

QUICK SNIPS.....

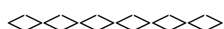
Sad news at the Marylebone... A kitchen fire has eliminated once and for all their food menu. Perhaps in the future there will be snack offerings to some degree. The beer is still good.



Our sympathies to the family and friends of Dino Andrade who passed away on August 6th. Dino was a regular attendee at our meetings and enjoyed the camaraderie and other social events that took place.



In case you have not realized it, the LNA enjoys a nice relationship with Keep Omaha Beautiful that goes back decades. We have partnered with them many times, especially during the growing phases of the neighborhood clean-up. Send them a message at HelloKOB@CityofOmaha.org to get on the mailing list of their wonderful newsletter.



The China Town restaurant on 38th and Leavenworth is history. The place is being gutted and at press time, it is unknown as to what might be replacing the business. If you miss this type of quick food, stop by Wohlner's in Midtown Crossing and pick up a can from aisle 3.

Want to Play a Piano?

By Jim Thompson

Have you heard about the concept of a "street piano"? Go ahead and Google it. Pianos are placed in public spaces all over the world. And people simply stop and pound out their tunes.

In the business I run I facilitate the removal of property from houses. Right now there is an opportunity of acquiring an old upright piano just to get it out of the house. I would like to put it outside, under the overhang at the Dewey Park Building. Then let the public have some fun.

Anyone else interested in this potential project??



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

Got something to say about our neighborhood? Got an idea? Got a concern that seems to go unnoticed? A favorite recipe to share??

Feel free to submit for publication in the newsletter.

To contribute to *the Exchange*, please contact Jim Thompson, atlarge@LNAOmaha.org. Deadline for the October issue is October 5, 2017.

Content submitted may be edited as needed.

Parking Density in Midtown

By Jim Thompson

Last month I quipped about the issue of vehicles parking all over the sidewalks and how that has somehow become the norm. And then there is the parking on the lawn in front of residences. And unfortunately I saw no less than five vehicle parked inside Leavenworth Park for a gathering! Are there too many cars? Are folks being inconsiderate by taking up two stalls on the street? Or are there just too many vehicle owners per household??

Simply put, our neighborhood was designed when there were very few automobiles around. My single car garage had to be extended at some point in time because it outgrew the Model T. The changes we have seen has required us to work to accommodate our current culture. Recognizing this, sometimes things can be touchy in the quest for parking spaces. Or in the following incident reported by a neighbor, nicely accommodating:

"My street is extremely narrow, parking on one-side only, and often not a place for more than a block for guest parking. Late this summer, new neighbors moved in next door and, although I'd not met them, their recent act of kindness tells me that they are awesome people.

Saturday night there were several people visiting my home and, of course, nowhere for my guests to park. So believing my new neighbors gone for the weekend, one of my guests parked in their driveway (at my direction). A big mistake! When my guest went to leave, the neighbors had squeezed their pickup into the driveway and had left a note on his car.

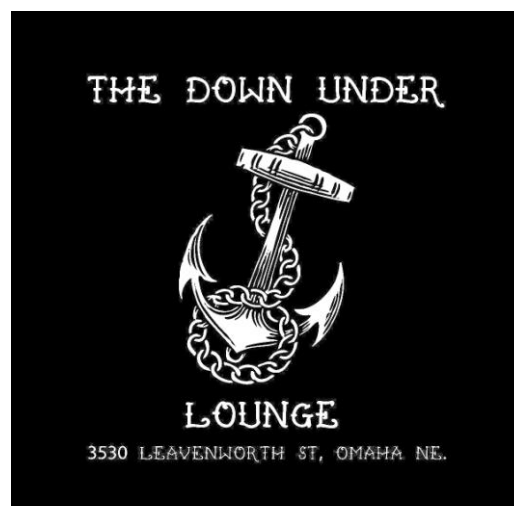
They had several options – towing the car, calling the police, or damaging the vehicle in some way. But no, they were very gracious and kind – leaving a “nice” note asking that we not park in their driveway. I’ve met them now (and shame on me for waiting to have to confess to do so) and they are really nice young people."

Just wanted to take this opportunity to relate a story of really, nice considerate people – who reacted in a very neighborly way. And perhaps someday we will be taking a streetcar to visit our friends and neighbors.

One Thing More About Parking.....

By Jim Thompson

On a recent visit to Home Depot I noticed a number of parking stalls reserved for "Combat Wounded Veterans". Nice logo and font. It got me to thinking if we have any such reserved spots in Midtown? Let us know so we can let them know.





September
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: President@LNAOmaha.org
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., Dewey Park Building on Turner Blvd.

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 that 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.