

The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE

Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 34, Issue 10, October 2019



President's Letter.....

October means there is just a few more months before we ring in the new year. With every new year, we have a fresh start and a new outlook for the next 365 days. As a board, we will soon be discussing our goals for 2020 and planning for the future of the organization.

One of the things we will discuss is future grant ideas. This is an opportunity to see your big idea come together. Do you have a new project and improvement that you are passionate about? Additionally, we will work on the budget and deciding what policies and procedures to implement to secure LNA for many years to come.

Think and dream big! Bring those ideas to the next meeting. See you then.

Ashley Flater

Mark Your Calendars.....

Oct. 12 - Shredding Event

Oct. 14 - Neighborhood Grants
Archetype Coffee

**Oct. 17 - General Membership
Meeting, 7:00 PM at
Watt's Networking,
3502 Leavenworth**

Oct. 25,26 - First Lutheran
Church Rummage Sale

Oct. 31 - Halloween

Nov. 18 - Mayor's Town Hall
Mtg.

Nov. 21 - **Annual Meeting,
Election of 2020 Board**

Dear EXCHANGE,

I resign as your Editor.
Jim Thompson

Volume 34 of The Leavenworth Exchange simply means that we have been publishing this document for 34 years. Yes, starting in 1985. But even before that we produced a simple neighborhood news document to inform neighbors that we formed and are now ready to tackle the issues of the neighborhood. In my volunteer role, I believe I have produced over 25 years of The Exchange. I'm done.

I hope The Exchange will continue for years to come as it has become the only method of true communication within the neighborhood. By the way, good old Wally Heun, may he rest in peace, came up with the name. It was simple: "We talk to people all the time and exchange information. "Why don't we call it The Exchange?", asked Wally during the discussion of naming our newsletter back in the 80's. It stuck. So did the old logo of two telephone poles with communication wire between them. Back issues of the paper will show the growth from a simple black and white sketch to a colorful rendition. It's impossible to draw microwaves and the quest for modernization replaced the phone lines with the current logo you see on the masthead.

There are a couple of reasons for this abrupt change that I feel I must share with our readers and membership. Perhaps a minor issue, but significant in its execution, was a denial of an expense I incurred attending the South Omaha Neighborhood Alliance Annual Banquet on behalf of the LNA. It was a small amount, but the fact the Board denied my reimbursement showed a lack of respect, especially for someone who has given 35 years of voluntary service to the neighborhood.

As Editor, for the last few months I have been taunted about the budget for the newsletter. For the record, we currently print 170 copies of The Exchange. The majority of our readers get the email version. Oh-K Fast Print on 13th Street has always been economical and extremely fast on our monthly printing. About 30 of those are mailed via first class postage to those who either cannot receive the newsletter electronically or simply wish a hard copy. The remaining copies are distributed by either Erica or me to various businesses within our boundaries. I do not

know the exact costs of the monthly printing as the invoice is submitted directly to the Treasurer, but I think it is under \$60. However, I was informed by the Board that we were approaching the current budget year's dollar amount of \$800. No big deal I thought, we simply need to increase the budget. The taunting continued, almost to the point of harassment that we will not exceed the budgeted amount. So it became my fault for producing a newsletter that was too costly? For those of you out there who deal with budgets, precise numbers are helpful on determining the estimated expenses and yes, budgets are flexible by nature. But, I was directed to not go over the \$95 left in the budget (see page 5). I guess no November or December issue??

You folks need to be aware that the Board has since decided at their October 3 Board Meeting that we will NOT exceed the budgeted amount for the newsletter next year. Please do not ask why the newsletter is singled out for this as opposed to any other category. Further, the Board decided that to receive a hard copy of The Exchange, one must be a paid member. And instead of newsletters for businesses, a flyer or poster will be given to these places. This decision was made without any input from me or as far as I know, any of the general membership. As a long time Editor and producer of this, our only real marketing tool, the lack of vision on these decisions is something under which I cannot operate.

The Exchange is likely to look different when it is published. In 2010 the two guys that created our less-than-desirable website promised to create the newsletter. They failed. After a nine month absence I had to step in and jump start it. I hope someone picks up where I leave off simply because this method and content of communication is important to our diverse neighborhood.

Speaking of the website, it needs to be top priority to fix it. Since day one, it has been dysfunctional, lacking any ability to upload photos, change categories, add new archive information, etc. The design has been compared to a coloring book by some, but the important task is to make it a usable tool for the association. The sooner the better.

I recently turned over the records of old, printed newsletters starting from 1987. These need to be scanned and added to our website once it is fixed to allow this. Whether it is done by a volunteer or

contracted out, the job is long overdue. Please check out Gifford Park's website as an example for newsletter archiving. These documents reveal the history of the LNA and I need to trust the Board to assure this valuable data is saved and shared accordingly. Other documents such as meetings, grants, etc., have been a bit scattered and also need to be consolidated and organized. It is a thankless task, but an important one in order for the LNA to survive and continue.

As mentioned above, I believe The Exchange is THE best tool for communication to the entire neighborhood. Social media has evolved into a primary tool for many. Facebook is immediate and significant, but the outreach is limited. And Facebook, like any blog type entry, fails to record history and put it in perspective. Of all my "friends" it has become very noticeable on who actually participates anymore. Nextdoor is an app that many of our neighbors use. Those listed in the LNA boundaries are in the hundreds! Yet how many have we *personally* invited to join us. The mission of our neighborhood is much more essential than looking for lost pets. If the LNA can get a Marketing Committee established, Nextdoor needs to be mined.

Right click, left click is what we now use for producing documents. In the 80's, we cut printed articles and taped them to an 8-1/2x11 blank sheet. Photocopy machines took care of the reproduction, and good old Terry Brown had a special technique to produce sheets of mailing labels. A trip to the post office with bulk mailing stamps applied, and the news was on the way. Producing the newsletter has become soooo much easier now and I don't miss those old days. Perhaps it has been a million words that have been exchanged over this time. Countless pictures, support from our businesses and the foundation of our neighborhood was firmly established. I feel good about having played an integral part of that process. Clearly the nature of neighborhoods involves the revolve of people. And of course the physical nature of our neighborhood is changing all the time.

I encourage everyone reading this to get involved in our institution. We cannot be run by a select few. Because we are a 501(c)(3) organization, audits have to be done and transparency is paramount. The LNA has been through a lot of growing pains over the last three decades and we ought not to open those scars. The agenda seems to be continuously full, but with the few

Paper and Electronics Shredding Event

By Jack Henry

Leavenworth Neighborhood Association is hosting a paper shredding and electronic recycling event on Saturday, October 12, at Dewey Park.

Hard drives, cell phones, flash drives will be shredded on site as collected. Computers and laptops can be collected and will be removed by DataShield staff and shredded.

Electronics will be collected and responsibly recycled at their facility. This includes monitors, computers, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, TVs, radios, networking equipment, small household appliances, gaming consoles, etc. Hard drives will be removed and shredded at DataShield's plant-based facility in accordance with standards set by the National Association for Information Destruction.

Thanks to Mayor Jean Stothert and her office for awarding a grant to support this event. Join us on the 12th!



volunteer hours a month projects can be completed and helpful ideas can be realized. If you live and/or work in this neighborhood, you will receive many intangible dividends by stepping up.

The Editor@LNAOmaha.org email address will be passed on to.....someone. If you want to contact me, try: jdthompson1001@gmail.com, or buzz me at 402-672-0603. If you have not noticed, I enjoy writing. Perhaps sharing a million more words would be a tough act to follow, but my personal agenda may allow this to happen to some degree in the future.

In Case You Missed It . . .

By Laura Green, LNA Secretary

Sept. 19, 2019 Meeting

In Attendance: 10

Secretary – Meeting Minutes: Read and approved

Treasurer – Account Balances: Checking Account: \$10,882.12 (includes \$3,684 grant money), Jim Krin Fund: \$664.17, and PayPal (Membership): \$0

Old Business:

- Composting Project (MNA Grant): The compost bin has been half full each week. Consider advertising through Hillside Solutions (the compost company), the Park Ave NA, and tenants in Urban Village and Legacy properties.
- Leavenworth Park: Students from Our Lady of Lourdes and others are using the soccer goal posts in Leavenworth Park. Less litter in the park. Obtaining estimates to renovate the baseball field next.
- LNA Membership (SONA Grant): Doing a mass mailing/every door direct mailer postcard to promote LNA membership. Extra money will be used to print more marketing material.
- Dewey Park: All LNA furniture and items need to be moved out of the Dewey Park building by September 30th as the city has begun renovations. Will the use our chairs in the Dewey building? Can we store our desk and files in the building during renovations? Dog park construction started.
- Erica presenting on Omaha's Missing Middle Housing Campaign at the October meeting.

New Business:

- Park Avenue Project: A community meeting was held at Jackson School in July where they presented feedback gathered to date and asked for input about what the neighborhood people want to see in the Leavenworth/Park Ave. neighborhood. RDG will put all information into a document to present to the city.
- The city a "City To Do" list for our neighborhood. LNA suggestion include: 1) wide walkable sidewalks on Leavenworth St. and Park Ave.; 2) add bump-outs to Leavenworth to calm the traffic; 3) add streetscaping on Park Ave; 4) resurface streets in the neighborhood, don't just patch holes; and 5) require that any new buildings, apartments and house fit the neighborhood aesthetically.
- Volunteers needed for the Keep Omaha Beautiful tree planting event, Sunday, October 6th, 1-3:00 pm for Leavenworth and Dewey Parks. Interested volunteers should register on the KOB website. Meet at the Dewey Park building at 1:00.
- Shred Event: Saturday, October 12th from 9:00 am – noon at Dewey Park. Includes paper shredding and electronic disposal (for a fee). Information will be posted on Facebook, on the LNA website, on Nextdoor and in the October newsletter.
- Christmas Cheer: Erica volunteered to organize the event and will contact Jackson School to see what they would like.
- Jim suggested creating a detailed list of all the murals within the LNA neighborhood, and list the murals, their history, and a map in a brochure. Omaha Public Arts Council apparently has a list of Omaha murals.
- Project: Scan or upload all the old LNA newsletter for our archives. Write a grant for this?

Love to Tom Olson, Part II Final Act

By Jim Thompson

Everyone must admit that it has been a great run! Bud Olson's will be closing on October 31. As reported previously in The Exchange, Tom had some health issues that negatively affected the way he would have liked to run the bar. Currently he is feeling great. And looks great too I might add.

But time marches on and although many of us will miss the camaraderie, cheap "neighborhood" drinks, historic atmosphere, change will happen. Entirely due to Tom's management style and his love for the customers, Bud's was known for a gathering of softball players, golfers, friends and friends of friends, and too-many-to-count regulars. The coffee pot was a staple along with the best Bloody Marys in town. Cherish the memories folks as this special "dive bar" takes a final plunge on Halloween.

There is no word on future plans for the site. We sincerely wish the best to Tom and ALL the Olson family during this transition. Cheers old buddy!!!

In Memory - Pete Vincentini



1950 - 2019

Our sympathies to the family of Pete who passed away last month. Pete was part of Vincentini clan that lived within our neighborhood. He and wife Marilyn were very involved and good supporters of our neighborhood association. Pete was a Viet Nam Vet. He started Vincentini Plumbing, now known as V & V Construction, in 1981. I am sure that many of the houses in our neighborhood contain his work. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Marilyn, John, Gina and the rest of the family. May he rest in peace.

LNA Board Elections - Nov. 21

The terms of Jack Henry, Janelle Domeyer, and Addie Gengenbach will be expiring. Elections for these new, two year terms will be at the Annual Meeting in November.

As of this writing, no incumbents have stated their intentions on seeking an additional term nor have any newcomers come forward for a nomination.

Being a Board member can provide a rewarding experience and of course, assist in guiding this association on its mission. A Board member must live, own property, or own/operate a business within the boundaries of the Association during their whole term.

Please note that the positions of the officers are not up for the election. After the election is held, the current Board members and the elected members convene to determine the officers.

Each adult (18 years or older) who has paid dues and lives, owns property, or owns/operates a business within the LNA Boundaries shall be eligible to vote on Association matters.

JOIN US NOW!!

Family membership:
\$15

Business Membership:
\$25

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

Budget Report

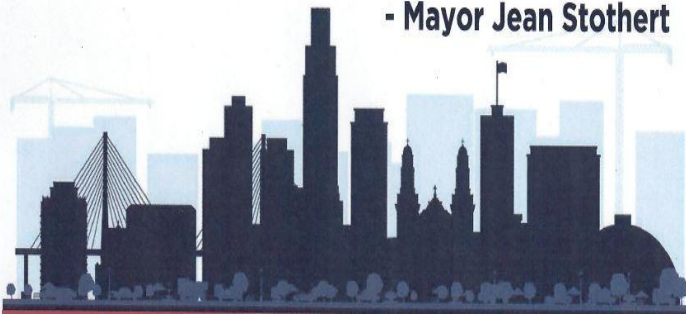
By Janelle Domeyer, Treasurer

2019 Budget				Grant Funded Expenses			
Category	Budget	Spent	Remainder	Category	Budget	Spent	Remainder
Chili Feed	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 30.00	Green space	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Spring Clean Up	\$ 300.00	\$ 113.38	\$ 186.62	Composting	\$ 744.00	\$ 159.74	\$ 584.26
August Picnic	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.58	\$ (100.58)	Shred Event	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00
Newsletter	\$ 800.00	\$ 704.68	\$ 95.32	Marketing	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 910.00	\$ 390.00
Christmas Cheer	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Holiday Party	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing	\$ 800.00	\$ 515.00	\$ 285.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues	\$ 50.00	\$ 73.00	\$ (23.00)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Office Supplies	\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,656.64	\$ 943.36		\$ 4,144.00	\$ 1,369.74	\$ 2,774.26
Current Balances				2019 Memberships			
Jim Krin Fund			\$ 664.17	Business	10		
Checking			\$ 9,917.12	Household	19		
PayPal			\$ -		29		

MEETINGS

"Town Halls give taxpayers the opportunity to learn about important city issues, offer input and ask questions. This year, we will be talking a lot about developing a long-term strategy to improve and maintain our roads and the transition to the new trash collection system in 2021. It's so important to meet people personally so we can work together on issues that affect all of us."

- Mayor Jean Stothert



NOVEMBER 18 - City Council District 3

Subby Anzaldo Columbus Park
Community Center
1515 S. 24th Street
6:00-7:30pm

First Lutheran Church RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, October 25
Saturday, October 26

542 S. 31st Street

LOTS OF BARGAINS!!!

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Omaha Neighborhood Grants

By Erica Sladky

ONE Omaha will be at Archetype Coffee (1419 South 13th Street #101) on Monday, October 14th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM to talk about the upcoming Omaha Neighborhood Grants Program. They will answer any of your questions, help you develop and plan your project, or help you work out details for the application. Stop by and see them anytime! No appointment necessary.

Also, for those interested in learning more about the grant program, I saw this on FB from One Omaha.
https://www.facebook.com/events/523493678192570/?notif_t=event_calendar_create¬if_id=1567576628374490

Also, the LNA's grants have been anything from marketing materials to composting. If you have an idea you would like the Leavenworth Neighborhood Association to work on, please come to our next meeting or message us on Facebook.



Warren Buffett
@itswarenbuffett

Surround yourself with people that push you to do better. No drama or negativity. Just higher goals and higher motivation. Good times and positive energy. No jealousy or hate. Simply bringing out the absolute best in each other.

Park Avenue Planning Committee Update

By Addie Gengenbach

The Park Avenue Planning Committee had its last committee meeting on October 1st. RDG presented a document that includes strategies for the city and for the neighborhoods/communities to implement and use as a guiding post. These strategies were based on neighbor's feedback through a variety of sources and formats including surveys and public forms. Do you still have some ways you'd like to see the Park Avenue Corridor improve? Send us a message by the end of October, and we'll make sure that your feedback is included!

The next steps for this project include presenting the plan to the city planning department, and our Councilman Chris Jerram for their feedback. After that a draft version will be presented to the public on November 20th (details to come) and a final draft will be presented to the public and City on January 22nd.

This plan will ideally help our city and community better shape the Park Avenue Corridor, and serve as an example of and the first of many neighborhood-directed city plans. If you're interested in joining a task force or committee that will start implementing some of the plans early next year, let us know!

Compost Reminder

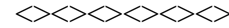
By Addie Gengenbach

Hi neighbors! This is a reminder to use the compost program we have. It's a great resource to defer the amount of waste we produce in our neighborhood and turn it into something useful. The bins are located in the Hands to Harvest Community Garden (1113 S 31st St., off of Pacific) near the back, northeast side of the property. The bins are emptied and cleaned on Wednesdays. The food scraps go to Soil Dynamics to be turned into compost.

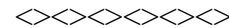
You can include any kitchen scraps in these bins or paper that can't be recycled due to food or oil residue. If you use a plastic bag to transport your compost, please **DO NOT** include the bag in the bins. Currently this program is open to all Leavenworth Neighborhood residents.

Quick Snips.....

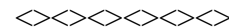
THANK YOU to the **Alpha Kappa Psi** fraternity from Creighton University for picking up the litter in Leavenworth Park on a recent Sunday. Spokesman Coleman Barnes said they are signed up with Keep Omaha Beautiful's Adopt-A-Park program. This volunteer event, with about 80 students involved, speaks to their core value of service to the community.



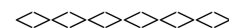
Free **knitting classes** are available at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 34th & Woolworth. Scarves, dish rags, slippers, etc., all taught my Teresa Fuhr. Supplies provided!! Starts at 6:30 PM. Call 402-345-0799 to enroll.



I recently had a need to visit **Andy's Shoe Repair**, 4954 Grover. If you have some worn shoes you can drop them off for donation to the Pottawattamie Prison. Andy donates his time to repair them and assure they will be put to good use. Remember too that our own **Fashion Cleaners** provides a variety of shoe services along with all your clothing needs.



The Southeast Precinct of the Omaha Police Department is sponsoring a "**Meet and Treat**" event for all in the area. It will be held at the SE Precinct at 25th & Vinton on October 26, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. Come meet the police and receive a treat!



Various candidates for legislature, school board, etc. will be invited to **future LNA meetings**. Stay tuned for details.

Windows can be a pain!

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Oct.
2019

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: Ashley Flater
Email: President@LNAOmaha.org
Vice-President: Jack Henry 402-650-3761
Email: Vice-President@LNAOmaha.org
Secretary: Laura Green
Email: Secretary@LNAOmaha.org
Treasurer: Email: Janelle.Domeyer@LNAOmaha.org
Email: Treasurer@LNAOmaha.org
At Large: Addie Gengenbach
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

Or send via PayPal to: Treasurer@LNAOmaha.org

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.