

The LEAVENWORTH EXCHANGE

Celebrating together as friends and neighbors

Volume 32 Issue 12, December 2017



Reminder! The next LNA Membership meeting will be **January 18, 2018.**

7:00 PM

Dewey Park Building, Turner Blvd & Dewey.

Please come and bring your ideas, thoughts and concerns.

President's Letter.....

December is upon us! I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and is ready for the Holiday Season. It is a time when we get to spend shopping, decorating and spending quality time with friends and family. LNA is hosting our Christmas Party at Max & Joe's, 3576 Farnam, on the 21st of December at 6 PM.

We've had a successful year in the neighborhood: the Spring Clean-up was our 32nd year of participating. It kicked off with a 5K running down Turner Blvd - with minor interruption. Chris Feistner was tired of looking at the shambles at our Triangle Garden on 34th & Jones. So, with his expertise and desire to improve the situation, he came forward to do some much needed care for this space. We officially sponsored a little league team out of Grover Little League, 64th & Grover St. It was a coach-pitch team, made up of 6-7-8 year olds and they made us proud all season! Our meetings saw increased membership with guest speakers and an Art Committee.

Christmas is the time to celebrate peace and joy. It's the time of family and friends being together and to reflect on the many things for which we are grateful. So, on behalf of the LNA, best wishes to you and the families within your neighborhood for a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!

Jack Henry

Join us for the Holiday Gathering.....

On Thursday, December 21 starting at 6:00 PM we will be meeting in the Max & Joe's area of Crescent Moon, 36th & Farnam for a social toast. Money has been allocated for appetizers but members will be responsible for their own refreshments.

Stop on by and share some cheer for the Christmas season!!!



Warm Neighbors,

Warm Neighbors

This year during the Christmas Cheer Season, the Leavenworth Neighborhood Association will be collecting and donating items that the children of Jackson School need most . . . **warm hats, gloves, mittens and scarves** . . . instead of giving a bag full of books and goodies. We will be collecting these items from Halloween to Valentine's Day, and giving our collection monthly to the school so that the children can benefit from them as soon as possible.

So, be a warm neighbor . . . help us warm our neighbors in need at Jackson School by donating new or gently used children's hats, mittens, gloves and scarves (cash will also be accepted for purchase of these items)!

Donations can be dropped off at Fashion Cleaners on 31st & Leavenworth, brought to the monthly LNA meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month, or given to any LNA board member.

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING,
SAY SOMETHING**

New LNA Board Elected!

At the annual meeting on November 16 elections were held for the three open positions on the Board. Congratulations to Jack Henry, Janelle Domeyer, and Ben White for their election for a two-year term. They join current Board members John Costanzo and Andrew Flater.

The former At-Large Board Member Jim Thompson decided not to run for another term. John Nosal from the Down Under Lounge was nominated at the November meeting in addition to the three above. Consequently the Nominating Committee of Laura Green, Linda Brown and Ann Hobbs handled the election and reported the winners.

Subsequent to the election results, the new Board recessed to caucus on who would fill which positions on the Board. Here is the line-up for 2018:

President - Jack Henry
Vice President - John Costanzo
Secretary - Andrew Flater
Treasurer - Janelle Domeyer
At-Large - Ben White

Congratulations to this new Board and we hope they continue to make this neighborhood one of the strongest.

Have You Seen the CIP Lately?

Contributed by Julie Smith, ONE Omaha

Part of being a good neighbor is learning how city government works so you can make it work for your corner of Omaha. So if you've never heard of the city's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), it's time to do a little studying.

The City of Omaha's six-year Capital Improvement Program, referred to by those 'in the know' as the CIP, is the primary tool used by the city to coordinate major projects involving Omaha's street and sewer systems, parks, public facilities and other infrastructure. It is adopted annually, along with the city's budget. The first year in the six-year CIP also functions as the city's capital budget for that year.

If you've looked at the CIP in past years, it was, ummmmm, challenging to interpret. Taxpayers like you and organizations interested in transparency in government suggested that changes needed to be made, and the planning department listened. Take a look at the latest version: 2018-2023 CIP (it takes a while to load, so be patient).

City of Omaha City Planner Kevin Carder said the changes made in this year's CIP document are intended to make it easier to use and understand, whether you're a member of the public or a city staffer. "The new format lays the foundation for further improvements in future iterations of the CIP," he said.

To help introduce the changes, they've also created a handy, two-page fact sheet that explains how the CIP is organized and the process that's followed each year to update it.

If you're still struggling after you've taken time to investigate it, Kevin will try and help clear things up for you. He can be reached at kevin.carder@cityofomaha.org or 402.444.5150, x2010.

Get busy reading.

Midtown Crossing Outdoor "Skating"

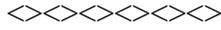
Open December 9-February 25
Thursday - Friday: 4pm – 10pm
Saturday - Sunday: 1pm – 10pm
Closed Monday - Wednesday

- 34th & Farnam in the heart of Midtown Omaha
- 60' x 80' synthetic ice rink
- Admission is \$5 per person, including skate rental
- All proceeds benefit The Salvation Army



Quick Snips.....

The recent **Reuben Fest at the Crescent Moon** was a marvelous success. I made sure to get my Smoked Reuben Sandwich on Monday, knowing that the popularity of this meal would deplete the supply. It did. By Saturday they had gone through 1500 lbs. of corn beef. Yum!!



Found out too late for the Nebraska football season, but **Alderman's served Domino's Pizza** during game days. Maybe next year??



Triangle Garden Update

By Chris Feistner

The garden is finally done at the triangle at 34th and Jackson. There will be some work to do next spring, but 95% of it is done. Next spring should be a show case as there are nearly 900 spring bulbs with a variety of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocus, and other flowers. Some will start as early as late February to bloom and go through late May.

Then the flowers in the planters will begin with the lilies, and others I planted this year. Also, the large painted planter on 33rd & Leavenworth and the 2 bench planters on 27th & Leavenworth are done as well. There will be lots of bulbs that will bloom this next spring. Afterwards I will add some annuals when it warms up.



The Salvation Army, established in London in 1865, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination for more than 130 years in the United States.

Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through a range of social services: food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter for the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. In Omaha, 87 cents of every dollar raised is used to support services in the community.

For more information, go to www.salarmyomaha.org.

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

Visioning Workshop

By Ashley Flater

When: Tuesday, January 9, 2018

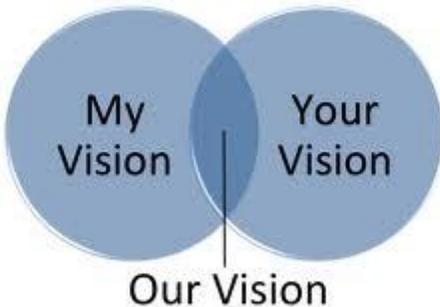
Time: 7-9 PM

Where: LNA Headquarters (Dewey Park Building).

This visioning workshop will help the LNA identify community assets, reach consensus on projects to pursue, build new committees, and create strategic action plans.

It will build on our group's existing strengths so we can address neighborhood challenges with community-led solutions.

Everyone is welcome to attend!



Streetcar or ???

By Jim Thompson

On November 14 I attending a public meeting held at The Pella concerning the Streetcar Project proposed for Omaha. The place was packed, with a lot of information on the project. There was a presentation that included many, many positive features of the proposal.

And there was a lot of discussion before and after the presentation. And there was going to be more discussion on the project as time goes on.

Although I reported about this even at our annual LNA General Membership Meeting there wasn't much time for discussion. But since the proposed route directly affects our neighborhood I believe all of the LNA family needs to study the plan further, pros and cons, and be prepared to let people know how you feel. One thing for sure is that no one official, group or institution has all the answers yet.

For further detail please visit the website:

<https://modernstreetcaradvocates.org>



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*Movie Review***"Without"****Written and Directed by Mark Jackson**

By Jim Thompson

With the colder weather here and outdoor activities slowing down, we took time to watch a movie currently available on iTunes on Apple TV. **"Without"** was delightful, moving, warm, and offered a fantastic cinematographic view of a young person's struggles through a year of her life.

On a remote wooded island, a young woman becomes caretaker to an old man who is handicapped. Her outside world is limited since she has no access to a cell signal. The story artfully includes flashbacks that cause her to think, ponder, and reveal that her current monotonous routine needs to change, including her struggle with sexuality, guilt and loss. Irony is captured many times in meaningful reflection by the director.

Although the movie was released in 2011, distribution was limited to various independent film showings, but thankfully is now available now on iTunes. Perhaps it can be seen someday at Film Streams or Dundee? In the meantime, take 88 minutes of your time and see this compelling film. The movie includes unknown actors Joslyn Jensen and Ron Carrier, who perform brilliantly. Proceeds for the purchase/rental of the film are shared with the It Gets Better Project*.

Here is the iTunes link: <http://apple.co/2gDoEJe>

*"It Gets Better Project" was established in response to the suicides of teenagers who were bullied because they were gay or because their peers suspected that they were gay. Its goal is to prevent suicide among LGBT youth by having gay adults convey the message that these teens' lives will improve.

Information for Contributors
To contribute to *the EXCHANGE*,
please contact Jim Thompson,
editor@LNAOmaha.org.
Deadline for the January issue is
January 4, 2018.

Content submitted may be edited as needed.

KEEP KIDS ALIVE DRIVE 25®

By Jim Thompson

At our November meeting our guest speaker was Tom Everson from the above organization. Tom is based in Omaha and has been spreading the word about keeping kids safe for almost two decades. Perhaps you have seen the signs:



According to their website, "The mission of **KEEP KIDS ALIVE DRIVE 25®** is to make streets safer for all who walk, cycle, play, drive, and ride. Our goal is to put an end to deaths and injuries caused by all manner of unsafe driving behaviors. We do so by educating and actively engaging citizens in a common commitment to create safer streets for the benefit of all, beginning right in our own neighborhood. No one wants to be behind the wheel and hit someone, yet our behaviors can lead to just such incidents."

Other key campaigns that KKAD25 is actively marketing:

BE AWARE! DRIVE WITH CARE™
CHECK YOUR SPEED
NO NEED TO SPEED
STOP! TAKE 3 TO SEE®

If you need yard signs, decals, etc., to help in this effort for your street contact:

402.334.1391

kkad25@cox.net

www.KeepKidsAliveDrive25.org

SONA Holiday Party Recap

By Carol Haas

We had a GREAT night at the SONA holiday party. So many to thank!

- > Thank you to all who could attend and were able to bring a dish to share.
- > THANK YOU to outgoing Secretary Kimara Snipe for all of her dedication and leadership to the SOA team.
- > THANK YOU to Don Preister and Mary Ann Kreizman for the door prizes
- > THANK YOU to ONE Omaha for sponsoring a \$500 grant to be awarded last night to a neighborhood project.
- > THANK YOU to SONA for voting to allocate an additional \$500 to go towards a neighborhood project.
- > THANK YOU to Don Preister and Mary Ann Kreizman for generously contributing \$500 towards a third neighborhood project.
- > And finally, THANK YOU to Al Martinez Jr and his family for awarding ANOTHER \$500 towards a neighborhood project.

So...about the neighborhood projects that were voted on by those in attendance last night:

1. A community garden will be put in the Dahlman Park neighborhood. Thanks to Marianna and Mary Thompson from Dahlman Park.
2. The Beals neighborhood association will be producing yard signs to advertise when they are holding neighborhood meetings.
3. The Leavenworth Neighborhood Association will be delivering hats and gloves to students at Jackson Elementary.

The last project voted on ended up in a tie, so splitting another \$500 will be:

4. Deer Park neighborhood will be hosting diversity dinner nights.
5. Karen Western neighborhood will be purchasing a laser printer to save on cost of printing their neighborhood newsletter.

Because of the collective impact of the night, \$2000 was awarded to 5 neighborhood projects!! We had so many good ideas for neighborhood projects last night, please be encouraged to apply for the SONA mini-grant.

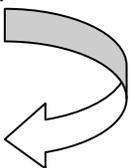
Thank you to Richard Harrison and Midsummers Mural for sharing all the great work that you have done this past year working in South Omaha. As always, we are thankful to Mitch and the team at the Kroc Center for being so hospitable to us.

Want to Advertise in The EXCHANGE?

The expenses of The EXCHANGE have diminished significantly since we converted mostly to an email version. We do, however, print copies for bulk distribution to local businesses and mailing to those who prefer a hard copy. Advertisements not only help us defray these costs, but definitely reflect your support of this organization.

The current format is one price for an ad to cover the full year vs. creating/invoicing for each month or quarter. The rates would not change: \$99/year for a business card size. Additional sizes (quarter page, half page, etc) are also available. And if you have a one-time event, we can accommodate those situations.

Let Jim T. know: editor@LNAOmaha.org



**Your ad
could be
here.**

LNA in '18

At the January meeting on the 18th we will be talking about two major items:

Budget
Master Plan

Be thinking about how you would like to see our resources spent and which projects you think requires some focus. Of course we have routine expenses such as reproducing/ mailing the Exchange and membership recruiting. And we depend on advertising and membership dues for income. But we also have been fortunate to obtain grants for special projects.

Take some notes and we'll talk in January!



December
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.