

East Lawrence News

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 442393 Lawrence, Kansas - eastlawrence@yahoo.com

www.eastlawrence.com

January 2023
& February 2023



ELNA

General Meeting

January 9th 7-9 pm
February 13th 7-9 pm
IN PERSON AT THE DEPOT!

7th & New Jersey Streets
And Online via Zoom

Agenda & Zoom Link

always available at [http://](http://www.eastlawrence.com/meetings)

www.eastlawrence.com/meetings

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From the President

Barry Shalinsky

Happy New Year! I hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday season! Yes, it is still holiday season, and one of East Lawrence's most treasured holiday traditions is returning! The annual MLK Chili Feed at New York School will be held in person on January 17. Read more about it in the East Lawrence News.

Speaking of Schools, USD 497 is actively engaged in a process that it is calling "Futures Planning." For those who are not fluent in the lingo of local government, that is code for school closures. Fortunately, with the conversion of New York School to a Montessori learning model, our neighborhood elementary school should avoid being on the chopping block. That may or may not be true for Liberty Memorial Central Middle School. Like New York Elementary, LMCMS has a rich tradition, as this year it celebrates its 100th year. As the USD 497 planning process continues, there will be many opportunities for public participation. Follow the local media and www.usd497.org for more information on how to be involved.

Be sure to mark February 13 on your calendar. Douglas County DA Suzanne Valdez asked ELNA for the opportunity to address one of our neighborhood meetings, and she is scheduled for our February ELNA Meeting. Remember, ELNA meets on the second Monday evening of every month. Our meetings are now conducted in hybrid fashion, in person at the train depot at 7th & New Jersey, and online on Zoom. We look forward to having a good crowd for DA Valdez. The holiday season continues the next day with Valentine's Day, so don't be surprised if there is chocolate at the ELNA meeting in February.

Yes, it is winter; the days are cold and the nights are long, but take heart. The days are already starting to get longer, and we can look forward to March and the annual ELNA Yart Sale, a harbinger of Spring time. Take care, bundle up and stay warm, and as always, if you need info on resources to help you make it through, our Neighborhood Coordinator Lane can have it in your inbox every Thursday. You may email eastlawrence@yahoo.com to sign up for ELNA's weekly e-news. She also responds to individual inquiries. Wishing you the best in 2023!

New York MLK Chili Feed

It's back! In person!

New York Elementary will host our Annual MLK Chili Feed on Tuesday January 17th from 6-7:30pm in the school gym. The menu includes chili (both meat and vegetarian), cornbread (new this year), veggies, crackers, and dessert. This year we are also adding some toppings like shredded cheese, sour cream, jalapeños, and non dairy cheese to the buffet for people if they choose. Free will donation accepted at the door but not required. If you'd like to contribute desserts, email Lane eastlawrence@yahoo.com.

Save the Date!

ELNA Yart Sale!

If you're cleaning your spaces over this holiday break or just clearing out for the new year, save that good stuff for us! We'll have our annual Yart Sale (that's Yard+Art Sale) on Saturday March 25th 2023. We'd love your useful, gently used, unique items for our sale. Email Lane with questions.

Sunrise Happenings

Community Meals

Join us for our next community meal!! (always 1st and 3rd Wednesdays). We are now serving 5:00-7:00pm with limited indoor seating! We are still serving meals to-go as well. Come on in the front (door on the porch) and we'll take care of you. We also continue to deliver to our community members who do not have transportation. If you experience transportation barriers, but would like a meal, please call/text 785-865-1618 or email melissa@sunriseprojectks.org. Vegan and gluten free options available. Donations accepted but never required. Join us!

Free Community Yoga

Yoga is for everyone! Whether it is your first class ever ... or you are a long-time yogi, we invite you to Community Yoga with Melissa Mitchell. Melissa is a certified yoga teacher with 20+ years experience. Her sessions aid in relaxation, rest, release and healing! Melissa loves teaching folks who are new to yoga so don't be shy! We welcome you!

Donations accepted, but never required. Come to the eastside doors. We have extra mats! Sundays 6-7:15.

Cafe Pop Ups!

Watch our social media for quickly scheduled cafe pop-ups! Drop in for some warm drinks, snacks, games and social connection! We'll have coffee, a variety of teas, cocoa and cider. We'll have a few snacks too! Grab a book off the shelf or check out our refreshed collection of games! All are welcome to drop by and hang out!

And don't forget about the Pantry! The Sunrise Porch pantry, located at the Sunrise site at 1501 Learnard, is a place you can give or receive food any time. Most requested items for donation are ready to eat snacks and treats like granola bars, crackers, and cookies. Fresh produce, butter, milk, eggs, and meat are always wanted. Hygiene items like laundry detergent, shampoo, toothpaste, and period products are very welcome as well. To receive items from the Sunrise Porch Pantry, stop by anytime, and see what's there.

Volunteers Needed for Winter Shelter – City of Lawrence

City of Lawrence continues to seek volunteer organizations for Winter Emergency Shelter. The shelter provides a safe, secure and warm environment when the weather is life threatening to people who would otherwise have to spend the night on the streets. It will once again be located at the Community Building, 115 E 11th St. It has a capacity of 75 people per night. Volunteer shifts will be from 7-11 p.m., 11 p.m. - 5 a.m., and 5 - 8 a.m. The WES is scheduled to be open from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day from December 1, 2022, through March 12, 2023.

Ideally, the City is seeking community organizations and groups to volunteer for repeating shifts at the WES throughout the season; for example, a group that could sign on to have volunteers at the shelter every Tuesday throughout its operation. The City is once again providing the facility and some staff support for the shelter, but they will need active volunteers from the community to keep it operating on a nightly basis.

If you are a community group that is interested in participating or would like to learn more about volunteer expectations, please email the homeless programs team at homelessprograms@lawrenceks.org.

The Winter Emergency Shelter is one offering in the City's approach to supporting those who are unsheltered in our community. The City is also working to identify a long-term plan and has committed to beginning the process of moving into a long-term support location for the unsheltered community by March 12, 2023, which is the end date for the Winter Emergency Shelter.

For more information on homeless programs, please visit the City website, lawrenceks.org/pds/homeless-programs, which includes a new FAQs section with answers to some of our community's most common questions regarding homelessness.

Contact:

Mitch Young, Homeless Liaison
Cicely Thornton, Homeless Programs Project Specialist
homelessprograms@lawrenceks.org

Bike Theft in the Neighborhood

JT Thornburg, neighbor

Bike theft has always been a problem for cyclists. That problem has surely grown and if all bike thefts were reported to the police, the numbers would likely surprise us all.

Have you or a ELN neighbor had a bicycle stolen? Prevention is of course our first defense against bicycle theft. This means a quality lock used in a secure location.

Direct and recent experience tells this cyclist that only a quality "U" lock, used to secure the frame, back tire to a quality rack, located in good high-visibility location is going to provide confident security. This for temporary public bike parking. At home, bringing bikes inside is certainly best.

Stolen bikes, even if found, are not sure to be returned without proof of ownership. This means having a record of serial numbers. These are often found stamped into the underside of the "bottom bracket" or on the inside of one of the rear wheel drop outs. Any bike shop will help find the serial number if asked.

The City once promoted registering bikes with the Police department. At only 25 cents per bike this is certainly a good idea. Provided with registration is a sticker to be applied to the bike. Though meant to be a deterrent, the sticker is easily removed, painted over or the bike may be stripped for parts. An option is to register the bike online with Bikeindex.org.

Expecting homeowner's or renter's insurance policies to compensate for a stolen bike is apt to be a disappointing adventure in fine print, featuring deductibles, rate hikes and even cancellation. A recent development which may appeal, especially to those who invest in expensive bikes, is "stand alone" bike insurance. Said to be the only such provider, bikeinsure.org is worth a look. At \$25.00 a month, it buys some peace of mind, and may be worth the price to you. A bike commuter for example may regard this an insignificant capitulation compared to the total cost of driving.



Cable locks are easily cut with diagonal cutters, chain locks, though said to be made of hardened steel, are vulnerable to bolt cutters. Best choice: "U" lock, medium of longer length.

Earth Care Forum Series - 2023

OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED

Sundays, January 8 – February 5, 9:15 - 10:15 am

Recordings can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpreslawrence2258/playlists>

First Presbyterian Church, 2415 Clinton Parkway (Fellowship Hall)

Jan. 8: Bringing the Ocean Back to Kansas

Presenter: Lisa Ball: Ball teaches environmental Science at Lawrence High School. Her teaching awards include the following: Toyota International Program (Galapagos Islands); Earthwatch Teacher Fellow (2009 and 2017); 2020 KEEP Konza Teacher of the year; Science Communication Fellow with Ocean Exploration Trust. She was recently awarded a Fulbright Teachers for Global Classroom. As a result, Ball will be part of an international school exchange somewhere in spring or summer of 2023.

Description: Lisa had the opportunity to sail with Dr. Bob Ballard and his ship, the Nautilus, in December 2021 as a Science Communication Fellow for the Ocean Exploration Trust. She was able to teach her classes in Kansas as well as students around the world while on expedition near the Hawaiian Islands. For Kansas students, she connected the ocean of today with the native biome prior to the prairie (the Cretaceous Ocean). Come and learn about her adventures and the science and conservation of the deep sea.

January 15: Is Solar for Churches a Possibility?

Presenter: Bill Woods, Project Director for Cromwell Solar

Description: The Inflation Reduction Act that was recently passed in Washington DC included direct 30% payment available to nonprofits, including churches. Wood will explain how this can occur. Since the Solar Tax Credit was increased back up to 30% for homeowners and commercial businesses, their interests in solar have been raised as well.

January 22: All About Bees

Presenter: Sidney Plantz, Master Gardener, KU Graduate in Cellular Biology, Retired from Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Description: Plantz has incorporated her academic studies into genetic research being performed in the development of Varroa destructor resistance in bee colonies. As a beekeeper she will discuss plants for bees, pollination, types of bees, nesting, pests, bee "products" and how to become a beekeeper.

January 29: Recycling Critical Metals Utilized in Lithium-ion Batteries Using Oxalate Chemistry

Presenter: Mark B. Shiflett, Ph.D., P.E., Foundation Distinguished Professor Institute for Sustainable Engineering, Editor-In-Chief Journal of Ionic Liquids, The University of Kansas, Institute for Sustainable Engineering

Description: Lithium-ion batteries (LIBS) are rechargeable energy storage devices having great importance in portable electronic goods and electric vehicles. The growing demand for LIBS has prompted a need to mitigate the scarcity of critical metals used in production. Today, less than 5% of the critical metals in LIBS is recycled. New technologies are being developed by the Shiflett Research group to recycle the Lithium, Cobalt, and other critical metals in an environmentally friendly manner that will be highlighted in this presentation.

February 5: "Do we have an Ethical Duty to Conserve the High Plains Aquifer?"

Presenter: Burke W. Griggs, Associate Professor of Law, Washburn University School of Law

Description: The High Plains-Ogallala Aquifer spans eight states and supplies modern production agriculture with its most important single ingredient, water. The aquifer is enormous and is responsible for transforming High Plains agriculture from a risky proposition into a dependable, if not always profitable, business. Unfortunately, the aquifer is also mostly non-renewable, and so groundwater pumping to supply the agricultural industry has permanently depleted the aquifer, especially across Kansas, Oklahoma, and the Texas panhandle. Prof. Griggswill pursue the question of whether the State of Kansas and its citizens have an ethical duty to conserve the water.

Since 2015, the EcoTeam of First Presbyterian Church has coordinated presentations by well-informed individuals addressing earth care concerns which are open to church members and the general public. The church is recognized by the Presbyterian denomination as an Earth Care Congregation and is also a member of Lawrence Ecology Teams United in Sustainability (An interfaith network of green teams related to the following faith traditions: Muslim, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, Unitarian Universalist, Zen Buddhist).

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
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Advertising Rates for the ELNA Newsletter

Have you considered advertising in the ELNA paper newsletter?

The East Lawrence News is published bi-monthly in odd months. Over 1500 copies are printed and distributed to over 1200 East Lawrence homes, several local businesses, and mailed to associate members far and wide. We have special rates for ELNA members! The deadline for each newsletter is approximately mid-month of the month preceding publication. For example, next newsletter will be the March – April issue, and the deadline for submission will be approximately February 15th. A single-issue business card sized ad is just \$25 for a member. For maximum visibility, we also have our fancy back page ad for \$160. Email Lane eastlawrence@yahoo.com with questions.



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Traffic Safety Committee Report

The ELNA Traffic Safety Committee met this month. Over the course of the year we were approved for a CDBG Grant to apply pavement markings along Delaware Street from 8th to 11th streets. The purpose of the grant is to reinforce the 20 mph speed limit along there. Per the City, those pavement markings should be installed in the spring. The City also is planning on putting in a new water transmission main line along New Jersey Street from 8th to 15th Streets. That plan should get bid in 2023 and then construction could begin in the following Spring.

We also met with City Traffic Engineers to find out how we can best interact with the City. What we learned is that they have a lot on their plate, and we should just keep advocating for things we need in our neighborhood. As a result we are looking to write a few CDBG grants for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and hope to finance crosswalks at various crossings along Connecticut Street, and to help improve the overall safety at 8th and Connecticut.

Let us know where you think an area needs a traffic safety improvement by contacting a member of our Committee. Our members are Phil Collison, Krista Gentry, Sacie Lambertson, Kate Lowder and Barry Shalinsky. Find our emails among the board listings on the front page of this newsletter.