

East Lawrence News

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

July 2018

www.eastlawrence.com



ELNA

General Meeting

JULY 9th 7-9 pm

Delaware Street Commons
Common House

Agenda

Recurring Updates

the agenda as it is known can always be viewed on our website: eastlawrence.com>join>meetings

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From The President

Welcome to the throes of Summer! I hope everyone is finding a way to stay cool. East Lawrence has been doing the concessions at some of the KVKL Sunday Night Kickball games at Hobbs Park. (Games usually run 9 to 10:30pm-ish.) We'll be there for the July 8th and 15th games, and the Championship game on August 19th. We've been selling more food than we ever have this year, making this a good fundraiser for us. Special thanks to Aaron, Pam, and Marshall for working hard to make the June fundraisers possible. If you want to help out in July contact us to find out how. It is quite a scene!

Summer road construction is slow to ramp up in East Lawrence, but it is coming! Ninth Street is still waiting on bids and does not yet have a start date, but it is still slated to be rebuilt this Summer. Watch for construction to run into the Fall. Be ready for all kinds of traffic chaos, as Ninth St. is well used. Details of the project can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, but there will probably closures along each block as each gets rebuilt. Fortunately, because of our desirable grid system of streets in East Lawrence we should have an easy to use alternate route.

Finally, the unused money from the Art Place Grant is still active, and ELNA has worked with the Arts Center to devise a plan to use that money for a grass roots arts project within our neighborhood boundaries. Despite Lawrence being an Arts Town, the grant limits the money to be spent only within our neighborhood rather than throughout the Town. We will be taking action on whether or not to move forward with a plan at our July Meeting, including adopting a budget, timeline, and a process for hiring an Administrator and Administrative Assistant.

Have a Good Summer, folks!

Summer ELNA Meetings at Delaware St Commons

ELNA monthly meetings will be held at the Delaware St Commons Common House through the summer months June, July, and August 2018. The Common House is located in the center of the Delaware Street Commons, address 1222 Delaware Street. Parking is located in the lot east of the Common House, with an entrance off 13th St.

The Common House features a large open room with bathroom facilities and air conditioning(!) available. Learn more about the Delaware Street Commons intentional community on their website: <http://www.delaware-street.com/>.

FYI the July meeting will be delayed one week due to the holiday, meeting instead on Monday July 9th.

The agenda, as it is known, can always be viewed on our website at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gB0AhiF0GfBBCEDo_1bORk-EvjSc5yglIDMyeWAnl-w/edit?usp=sharing.



Wishing Bench, Re-Dressed

The Wishing Bench got new shoes and changed it's clothes!

Thanks to all who donated to the campaign, and to Eric Jay and his associates at Struct/ ReStruct for doing the work. AND thanks to neighbor and Board Member Catherine Reed, for not only letting us all know about the need for rehabilitating the bench, but for re-dressing our old friend in it's new set up.



ELNA Merch for Sale

Tshirts! Hoodies! Stickers! Coozies!

ELNA's got tshirts, hoodies, stickers AND coozies for sale. Tshirt sizes range from 2xl to small, ladies cuts and unisex, in colors black, grey, heathered blue, and a few random others. We've got baby onesies and hoodies too! Tshirts are \$12 or \$15 depending on cut, hoodies are \$25, coozies are \$3, and stickers are \$1. Email eastlawrence@yahoo.com with questions, or leave a note for KT, keeper of the tees, at 732 Rhode Island. ELNA tshirts make great gifts and they're so stylish too!

It has been a real honor serving as your state representative for the last 4 years. If re-elected I will continue to fight for:

- Well-funded public schools
- A fairer tax system
- Medicaid expansion
- A clean energy future
- Common sense gun safety laws
- Women's reproductive rights
- Equal rights for all



I would appreciate your support in the Democratic primary on August 7

boog@boog46.com 785-424-3262

River Clean Up Thanks



From Friends of the Kaw -- Kansas Riverkeeper, our collaborator, and Mike Myers our ever-vigilant River Cleaner-up-er, thanks to all those who helped clean up the riverfront this spring.

“What a great day cleaning up the banks of the Kansas River and the riparian zone in the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association! Thanks to all of the volunteers today for coming out in the rain, working hard and getting some serious trash picked up and RE-CYCLED! We loaded an entire dumpster with about 400 lbs of trash and about 10 big bags of recycling that included PLASTIC, ALUMINUM, CARDBOARD, and GLASS...as well as some metal. Whew.....it was a busy and productive morning.....thanks for giving

your time to the earth and the Kansas River!

Thank you to all of The University of Kansas Students and Bishop Seabury Academy Students that came today to help with the cleanup!

Special thank you to the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association for all of the work that they do ALL YEAR LONG to keep this area clean....and for partnering with us for this Earth Day Community Service Project!

This Cleanup was funded by a grant from the Douglas County Natural and Cultural Heritage Grant Program!”

East Ninth Street Construction

FYI neighbors, the City has a timeline available for the rebuilding of East 9th St. The project will be completed in four construction phases:

- Phase 1: The project is slated to begin as early as July with the reconstruction of the 9th & Connecticut intersection.
- Phase 2: Reconstruction from New Hampshire to Connecticut. Work will not begin prior to the Boys & Girls Club fundraiser event at 888 New Hampshire on August 25th.
- Phase 3: Reconstruction from Connecticut to Pennsylvania Street, except the intersection of 9th & New York.
- Phase 4: Reconstruction of 9th & New York intersection.

During construction, the contractor will provide access to adjacent properties with access adjacent to 9th Street. The project completion date to open to unrestricted vehicular and pedestrian traffic is November 30, 2018.

Staff recently met again with St. Luke AME Church at 9th & New York. The Church is continuing to research plans and funding to improve ADA accessibility at the northwest entrance to the building. The current design plan allows the church an opportunity to reconfigure the access and tie into the public sidewalk when they proceed with their project. If the Church provides a plan and schedule to modify the entrance by July, adjustments can be made in the city project to connect to the building improvements.

Back to School News

School starts for USD 497 students mid-August! Classes begin for grades 1-5 as a regular early dismissal day on Wednesday August 15th. At New York Elementary, that means school begins at 8:00 am and ends at 1:35.

Sixth and 9th grade students will also attend on Wednesday the 15th, but only in the morning, dismissing at 11:15 am. Kindergarten classes will alternate on Thursday August 16th and Friday August 17th. All grades but Kindergarten will attend a regular schedule on Thursday August 16th and Friday August 17th. Then business as usual begins for all grades Pre-K through 12th on Monday August 20th.

With questions, you can contact the office of each school: New York Elementary 785-832-5780, and Liberty Memorial Central Middle School 785-832-5400. Or, with more general questions, you may call the District Welcome Center 785-330-1921. New York and Central both have active Facebook pages, with school specific supplies lists and other useful information, that are sure to be updated as the first days of school approach.

Castle Tea Room Seeking Board Members

The Libuse Kriz-Fiorito Historical Foundation, aka "The Castle" (Tea Room) is looking for 4-5 new board members. Particularly, the foundation is looking for members who are interested in local history and preservation of our cultural heritage. Prior board experience is not necessary, some free time for hands-on participation would be appreciated, but is not mandatory. Hands-on help includes tasks such as helping revamp our website, answer voicemail and email communications, setup/cleanup after events, participate in think tanks/ad hoc committees, give tours of the property and work with the development committee to help revise our grant awarding policies.

LKFHF meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30am. With interest and questions, email Brenna Buchanan Young at castleks@gmail.com or contact by cell phone at 858-692-3777. Please do not call the local number listed for The Castle as voicemail is only checked bi-weekly.

Friends of Oak Hill Cemetery Update

Shannon Hodges and Coyla Lockhart have been working on forming this Friends group for about a year, spurred by an apparent need for attention and repair of cemetery monuments. Just recently, Friends of Oak Hill Cemetery partnered with Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area's Jim Ogle. Freedom's Frontier, as an organization, partners with a lot of cemetery groups and other historical affiliations, like Grover's Barn for example, until the funds are in place for forming individual nonprofit groups.

We now have enough funds to start the process of forming our own 501(c)(3) nonprofit group! A meeting with an attorney is pending.

Friends of Oak Hill Cemetery will hold monthly meetings for all interested in volunteering to help Oak Hill Cemetery, at the Lawrence Public Library, on the second Wednesday of each month.

July 11, 8:00pm, small meeting room, August 8, 7:00pm, September 12, 7:00pm

The objective of these monthly meetings is to start advocating for work that needs to be done at the cemetery. We are committed to surveying Section 1 and working on its restoration. We also have had cleanup days to help the cemetery staff.

Our areas of concern are:

- Monument cleaning and resetting
- Buildings and mausoleums
- Lawn care and maintenance practices
- Protocols for selling of lots
- Adequate funding and perpetual care funding
- Roads and infrastructure like water system
- Education and event planning

Lynn Braddock Zollner, HRC, and Derek Rogers, the new Parks and Rec director, have been extremely helpful and easy to work with on all aspects of the cemetery. We really want to advocate for the cemetery with the city commissioners. It comes down to funding.

The fun part will be the events. It would really be nice to get people out to the cemetery. Our most pressing concern right now is building our membership. We need a lot of committees to help distribute the workload. Please attend a meeting and volunteer!

~ Coyla Lockhart, friendsofoakhillcemetery@gmail.com

Pie Auction and Other News – Sunrise Project

Sunrise Project invites the community to our 4th Annual Pie Auction on Aug. 25, 5-8pm. We'll have a potluck meal, beer and other cold beverages, slices of pie, live music and of course a pie auction! Come out and support Sunrise, have a great time and enjoy a fun annual tradition! And by popular demand: This event will take place at Hobbs Park!! Interested in donating a pie for the auction or for selling by the slice? Contact Emily: info@sunriseprojectks.org

Visit Sunrise Coffee!

Open daily 8am to 5pm with daily specials!

Early bird discount: Everyday 8-10am 10% off entire purchase

2-fer Tuesday - FREE 8 oz. coffee with purchase of any espresso drink

every Thursday - \$1 donuts!

And M-F happy hour, 2-5 p.m. \$2 12 oz cold brew, iced tea and Italian sodas!!

All proceeds benefit Sunrise Project!

Sunrise Project free food sites offer fresh, healthy food for all! Visit Lawrence Community Orchard at 830 Garfield and explore this beautiful free food park, open dawn to dusk. Sunrise Community Garden, located at 1501 Learnard, is a free food garden where all are welcome to explore and harvest fruits, vegetables and herbs.

Home Tour Save the Date

Please save the date for the ELNA fall home tour on Saturday October 13th from 10am-4pm. Eight East Lawrence homes will be showcased and guests can come and go at their own leisurely pace. Tickets are \$20.00 and will be sold at a few neighborhood businesses. Volunteers are needed for 2-4 hour slots and anyone interested can contact Eric Jay (eric@structrestruct.com) or Mike Anderson, andersonforlawrence@gmail.com, for more details. Other details will be posted on the ELNA website in the following

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Van Go, Inc. Job Openings

Van Go, Inc. (www.van-go.org) is a small non-profit in Lawrence that serves Douglas County youth who face a "barrier" to successful employment. We are currently hiring ten 18-24 year olds for the fall session of The Arts Train (TAT), an arts-based part time employment and job-training program. The positions are 20 hours/week at \$8/hr. The young adults in our programs will develop job skills as well as healthy living skills in the context of a supportive work environment based on the arts: painting, metal work, glass work, wood working, etc. No experience necessary! We also help place participants in off-site internships for different individualized work experience. Due to our grant funding, we do have some eligibility criteria for applicants: (1) Applicants must be residents of Douglas County; (2) be 18-24 years old; and (3) must NOT currently be enrolled in post-secondary schooling. Other qualifying factors apply, so we encourage interested individuals to call or stop by for more information! Ask for Jeff or Kristen. Van Go is located at 715 New Jersey Street, Lawrence. 785-842-3797

Security Tips from District Attorney Charles Branson

Vacation Season is Here:

June is here and with it, the traditional summer vacation season kicks off. Unfortunately, that long awaited trip may also make your home an attractive target to a criminal. Have you considered what steps you can take to keep your home and property safe? I want provide you tips on how to reduce your chances of becoming a crime victim while you are away from home.

General Home Security:

Ensure all doors and windows are kept locked at all times.

Consider installing deadbolt locks on all exterior doors.

If open windows are needed for ventilation, install a "stop" in the frame that allows it to be opened no more than four inches. One way to create a "stop" is to drill a hole through the upper frame and place a removable screw into the hole.

Areas around exterior doors should be well lit with motion activated lights. If light installation is a problem, easy to mount solar powered, motion activated lights are available.

Check that door hinges face the inside of the home. If hinges are on the outside, consider installing non-removable pins.

Keep window drapes/blinds closed. A criminal can easily size up a home by looking in uncovered windows.

Do not leave garage door openers in the car. If someone steals the opener, they can easily get into the home.

Consider keeping the door between your garage and your home locked.

Shrubs and trees near doors and windows should be kept trimmed back to prevent sight lines from being blocked. Do not give a criminal a place to hide.

Keep ladders and tools in a secure area and keep storage sheds locked.

Lock the door when leaving, even if the plan is to only be gone for a few minutes.

House numbers should be easy to read from the street. In an urgent situation, law enforcement and other emergency responders need to quickly find the correct address.

Special considerations for vacations:

Have multiple light timers set to turn the lights and a radio on and off.

Consider placing padlocks through the garage door's tracks. The rollers will be blocked and the door cannot be forced up.

Have a close friend or family member pick up mail/newspaper or stop its delivery. Ask them to call law enforcement if they see anything unusual.

Do not advertise vacation plans ahead of time on social media platforms. Post vacation pictures after the fact.

Other items to consider:

Have a monitored security system and post signs in the yard and/or windows as theft deterrents.

If you believe someone is lurking near your home, call 9-1-1. You do not want to wait until it is too late to try to summon help.

If you will be out-of-town, you may want to consider contacting local law enforcement to request a property check. Residents living in the county may contact the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at 785-841-0007. Residents living inside the city limits may contact the Lawrence Police Department at 785-832-7509 (non-emergency line) or online at LPD Property Checks.

I wish you and your family a fun and a safe summer! If you have any questions or concerns for my Consumer Protection Unit, please call 785-330-2849 or email daconsumer@douglascountyks.org. We are always ready to serve all the citizens of Douglas County.

Sincerely yours,
Charles E. Branson
District Attorney
Visit our Website
Douglas County District Attorney
districtattorney@douglascountyks.org
<http://www.dgcod.org>
Judicial & Law Enforcement Center
111 E. 11th Street, Unit 100 | Lawrence, KS 66044



1832 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, KS 66044
PH (785) 843-2981

hardware@sunflower.com
<http://cottinshardware.com>

Remembering the Reverend Sims

Our own personal east side historian, Dave Evans, dug up this Letter to the Editor from Reverend Wesley Sims, Jr., dated November 1st, 1945. In this letter, transcribed below, Rev Sims describes his experience of being removed, along with his wife, from the Granada after refusing to move to a segregated section of the theatre. Oral histories suggest this, segregated seating and removal, was common practice.

Wesley S. Sims, Jr was born in February of 1921 in Parsons, Kansas. His family moved to Lawrence in 1925, and he and his siblings attended Cordley Elementary. Rev. Sims attended KU, then Kentucky State University, before he joined the Army during World War II. Rev. Sims father was also a pastor, here in Lawrence, and an active participant in our east side history. Rev. Sims Sr, neighbor Mark Kaplan remembers, "would give an opening benediction at every ELIA meeting." Rev. Wesley S, Sims Jr, the author of this letter, passed away in Dallas, Texas in 2013, preceded in death by his wife, mentioned in his letter, of 60 some years.

Lawrence Journal-World (Thursday) November 1, 1945, p. 4

Letters to the Editor – "A Soldier Comments"

Editor Journal-World:

After spending 3 years in the Army with over a year in combat in Europe, I returned home. While overseas in a

non-democratic civilization, I was treated like a gentleman. When in Rome and the Vatican City, I met the Pope, and played the organ in the Great St. Peter's Cathedral. But when I returned to Lawrence, Kansas, and went to a theater with my wife, and sat in the same seats we sat in before I went into the Army, the manager had the police put us, both members of the Armed Forces, out, because we would not move over to the other side of the balcony. Before I went into the service I was considered good enough to participate in school activities both in high school and the University of Kansas. Even now I have two brothers overseas. Someday they may return home and when they do they will see people who have never left American soil during the war who will look at them and feel it just to segregate them because their skin like mine is of a different color. I was wounded overseas and received the Purple Heart, have not disgraced my uniform and have the Good Conduct Medal, served during the worst of combat and wear the European Campaign Ribbon with three battle stars for three major battles. I only say this to show that we made the same sacrifices as other soldiers made with the thought in mind that we were fighting for equal rights and privileges for all.

Since this incident I often wonder, "Just what was I fighting for?" - Cpl. Wesley S. Sims, Jr.

ELNA Mower and Tiller for Rent

You can rent a lawn mower from ELNA for \$10 per half day, or a tiller for \$20. Contact Phil, in the 900 block of Pennsylvania at 785-843-8098 or phil@pcollison.com. Please be prepared to provide your own transportation.



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HELP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD – GET A BIG BANG FOR A BUCK!

Your \$1.00 membership in ELNA and contact information help us represent East Lawrence in our city and county government and to meet the needs of our neighborhood. Please note, memberships are per individual, not per household.

Support us. Let us support you.

\$1.00 for in-neighborhood individuals \$5.00 for out-of-neighborhood individuals
\$10.00 for in-neighborhood non-profit entities \$20.00 for in-neighborhood businesses
\$100.00 lifetime individual membership

Date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- We print the names of new and returning members in the bimonthly paper newsletter. Check here if it's OK to print your name.
- We're working on creating a block-by-block calling/check-in network of neighbors to contact in the event of an emergency. It's a work in progress. Check here if you'd like to be contacted about being a BlockHead—a contact person for your block in the event of emergency or issue.
- Check here if you'd like to be added to our "Thursday ELNA News" weekly e-newsletter email list.

Send this form and your check payable to ELNA to:

ELNA, PO Box 442393 Lawrence KS 66044

Plus! Visit ELNA's website for information on *new* tshirts and merchandise!

Click the paypal button to donate securely there!

ELNA Needs Your Help! Please Volunteer!

Mark what ELNA events/skills you would like to volunteer for:

- Work Days
- YART (Yard/Art) Sale
- Block Party
- Adopt-A-Family
- Art
- Music
- Photography
- Gardening
- Grilling
- Fund Raising
- Historic Preservation
- Serving on the ELNA Board
- Website/Technical Management
- Baking/Cooking
- Other: _____