

Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association Newsletter

DECEMBER 20, 2018

FALL, 2018

SHNA Executive Committee

Officers

Gary Webber -
President

Matthew Paul -
Vice President

Clint Idol -
Secretary

Joanna
Wiorcikiewicz-
Kuczera -
Treasurer

At-large Members

Eliza Darmon

Faye Hale

Paula Kellogg

Marlene Merrill

Marianna Nieto

Past President

Jeanne Pees

Notes from the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee (EC) met on Monday, December 10, 2018, and discussed the following items:

- SHNA treasurer, Joanna Wiorcikiewicz-Kuczera, reported that the Association has a balance of \$719.76, and 117 members.
- Our Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) representative, Gary Webber, reported that at the August, September, and October LAN meetings the following items of interest to SHNA were discussed:
 - Horizon 2040 is major plan update to 2020, there is a focus on in-filling vs annexation.
 - Schwegler questioned why neighborhood associations are not notified directly of planned development, only property owners within 200 ft. of proposed development. Currently there is no legal requirement to notify associations. SHNA supports notification of proposed developments to the neighborhood associations.
 - Future LAN meetings will be discussing changes to street calming and complete streets policies. "Neighborhood safety management program" will succeed street calming policy, and is a more holistic program. (see article below)
 - New Short Term Rental policy will be detailed in the fall SHNA member newsletter. (see below)

Follow these links for the [Aug.](#), [Sept.](#), and [Oct.](#) LAN meeting minutes.

- School pickup traffic on Crestline Dr update (Webber)
 - Gary Webber has met with principal and he reported they are using the Safety Resource Officer to the best of their ability, but acknowledged that intermittent traffic issues still exist. Webber filed a report on the city's new "Traffic Concerns" web page.
- Discussion of 2019 EC and officers (All)
 - EC members with terms ending in 2018
 - Paula Kellogg
 - Joanna Kuczera
 - Clint Idol
 - Paula will not renew, Joanna has agreed to another term as Treasurer if needed.
- Annual Meeting Flyer Distribution/Planning
 - EC members will walk the neighborhood in March 2019 and distribute an invitation letter
- Dates for Annual Meeting and Annual Potluck
 - Annual Meeting will be Tues, April 16th, 2019 at West Middle School cafeteria
 - Discussion about Guest Speakers, leading ideas were:
 - Douglas County Sustainability / Urban Agriculture

Contact Us

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Website

<http://sunsethillna.org/>



[Facebook](#)

Quick Links

Lawrence Police Department

Non-emergency Dispatch
785-832-7509

Neighborhood Resource Officers
785-830-7408

Report Traffic Safety Concerns
[Online form](#)

City Code Enforcement
785-832-3111

[Code Violation Form](#)

Animal Control
To report a loose or captured animal, call
785-832-7509

- West Middle School Principal
- Annual Potluck will be held Sat, May 4th, 2019. Webber will reserve shelter.
- Westar Outage Survey (Pees)
 - Jeanne Pees reports frequent Westar electric outages in the last several months. Marlene agreed, others had not experienced increased outages. EC discussed a possible action, but at this time deferred back to Jeanne to draft a survey questionnaire for possible send out to SHNA membership.
- Newsletter Features
 - Jeanne Pees to consider writing a 'featured business' article for a future newsletter
- Proposed Changes to Ludlum Park (Corner of 9th and South Schwarz Rd)
 - The city department of parks and recreation has identified Ludlum as under-utilized. They have also identified the swing set in this park as a potential liability issue, and will need additional funds to make compliant – there is concern that this park is underused and that those funds are not justified. The SHNA EC discussed ideas to suggest to Parks & Rec. for enhanced use of Ludlum Park:
 - Oregon Trail Historical Marker
 - Outdoor Exercise Equipment
 - Community Solar Greenhouse

Complete minutes are [available on the SHNA website](#).

What's Happening?

2018 Applause Awards Announced!



It is with great pleasure that we announce the 2018 Applause Award winners! Once a year the Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association recognizes neighbors who have recently enhanced their home through renovations, landscaping or other improvements. This year we awarded seven Applause Awards, plus three honorable mentions. Congratulations to all the award winners this year! Your efforts to improve your properties are greatly appreciated by your neighbors. Thanks as well to Joan Stone for visiting, reviewing, and selecting this year's winners. Here are the 2018 Applause Award winners.

1026 Crestline

This home overlooks Crestline and proudly watches over West Middle School. A gradual upgrade has taken place over the last couple years. Most recently a larger front stoop has been added that balances the architecture of the home. Fresh landscaping and new trees soften the steep front yard. A splash of orange color to match the brick. I can see more is yet to come. Nice.

2606 Orchard

When the front yard tree came down this home said "Good Morning!" Most recently new porch columns add some mass to the facade, the new light fixtures and house numbers are good looking and practical. LOVE the

City Code
[Regulation of Animals](#)

City of Lawrence

[City Information for Residents](#)

[Forms for Residents](#)

[Good Neighbor Ordinances](#)

[Snow Removal](#)

[Dispose of Hazardous Waste](#)

Sunset Hill Businesses

Absolute Pawfection

Acres Realty

Advanced Health Center

Alvin's Wine & Spirits

Arcpoint Labs

B. A. Green Construction

Barnes Homes

Beautiful Music

Belltone Hearing Aid Center

Biemer's BBQ

Body Boutique

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas

Busey Home Mortgage

Capitol Federal Savings

Capitol Agency Insurance

Central Bank of the Midwest

updated cream color with a rum accent, a pleasant combination. The recent addition of a basketball hoop is attracting the neighborhood children to enjoy a beautiful fall day... The best part of the home is watching the family enjoy it.

924 Madeline

Impressive. This humble gray rancher sports some cool artistic white dots that flatter the house and trim, a refreshing design feature. A tasteful pop of color with the green door and accent chairs are the ribbon on the package. The design improvements and modern furniture enhance the architecture of this home giving it character and style. Love it!

2719 Harvard

The latest trend in home improvement is to paint the brick exterior and this classic style home has done that along with new trim and color. A beautiful sage green and rust color combination. A lot of work has gone into this update and it shows. The front yard features a trellis and a combination of perennials in a rock lined bed.

825 Crestline

A soft, winding landscape design, mulch and plants have appeared at 825 Crestline. This 1950's rancher wears a new coat of charcoal colored paint. The fun yellow house numbers compliment the gray making a nice statement. Vintage patio furniture welcome you to the back yard.

811 Lawrence Ave

A creative touch is obvious at 811 Lawrence Ave. A sweet bench and flowers welcome guests to the front door. Most recently the brick and garage doors have been updated with new colors and design. A beautiful gate leads to a back yard of fountains, plants and puppies! A home where a project is always in the works! Nice job.

916 Murrow

Bright yellow garage doors greet you as you pull into the driveway, highlighting the mid-century architecture – spectacular! The new fence includes a modern twist with the corrugated metal gate. The trim, house color and yellow accents are a great combination. Smile!



Honorable Mention

900 Schwarz

On the corner of 9th and Schwarz is a graveyard of fun. The (un)welcoming house features crumbling boards hastily nailed over the windows indicating you should "Keep Out". "Beware" signs dot the front yard. Look close and you might see monsters and skeletons nestled in the bushes? Every year this home has pulled together a scary treat for all those children and adults who enjoy Halloween and decorating their yards. Creating memories – thank you for the touch of frightful fun. When this home is not a haunted house it is cheerful, charming and very welcoming.

3033 Steven Drive

This home is always on our Christmas lights drive by journey. Some yards have flashing lights that dance to music and air filled creatures that bobble but this home has the large tree in the front yard totally filled with oversized lighted bulbs -truly magical. The time spent to make this magic

CEK Insurance
The Chiropractic Element
Chops Comics
Chris Munk State Farm Insurance
Christal K-9
Color Studio
Commerce Bank
Connie K. Grob, Bookkeeping
Conroy's Pub
Cosmos Indian Store & Cafe
Crimson & Brew's
Dazzlers Christian Dance
Econo Lodge
Edie Insurance
Empire Bar & Billiards
Ernie Williamson Music
Everest Liquors
Excalibur of Westminster Hair Styling
Family Psychological Services, LLC
Family Therapy Institute Midwest
Farm Bureau Financial Services
The Fit Flavor
Free State Insurance
Free State Ride
Genstler Eye Center
Orchards Executive Golf & Footgolf
Goodcents Deli

happen is always appreciated by our family. The impressive holiday feature is designed and built by the homeowner and make you ooooh and ahhhhh as you drive down Steven. Thank you for the years of enjoyment so tastefully crafted.

Electric Power Outages

Recently, Sunset Hill neighbors have reported a number of electricity power outages that seem to be happening with increasing frequency. Your president contacted Westar and had a long discussion with their representative about the best way to reduce the number of outages. Here's what I learned.

- The best way to minimize outages is to report them to Westar **every time they happen**. Even if the interruption in service is only momentary, call the Westar hotline at 1-800-544-4857 and report the outage. If you come home and all of your clocks are blinking 12:00, call the outage hotline and report an outage. [You can also report an outage online by following this link](#). This allows Westar to pinpoint the exact area where the problem exists. As the number of outage reports from an area increase, a work order will be generated and a technician will come to inspect the lines.
- Power outages that are short in duration are almost always generated by local issues; a squirrel nest on a transformer, a loose transformer lead, a failing switch, a faulty house drop cable. These local disruptions can only be found if local residents report outages.
- The new meters that Westar has been installing on our homes will automatically report an outage if it lasts more than 15 minutes. Nonetheless, **call the hotline if an outage occurs**.
- You can call the outage hotline to find out the history of outages at your home. Just give them your address or account phone number and they will tell you the date and cause of outages for the last two years or so.
- [You can view a map of ongoing outages with an estimate of restoration time here](#).
- Finally, you can download the MyWestar app for your smart phone. When severe weather knocks your power out, the MyWestar app is the fastest way to report an outage and see an outage map with real-time information about when your power will be restored even if your computer, phone and Wi-Fi are down. Download the app from the AppStore or Google Play.

Short Term Rental Ordinance Passed, Then Modified

When the Lawrence City Commission voted Sept. 19 to require permits and licenses for short-term rentals, some commissioners said that they were unsure about a \$1 million insurance requirement and would like to discuss it further. At its meeting Tuesday, Oct. 2, the commission voted 4-1, with Commissioner Leslie Soden against, to strike that requirement from the regulations.

Under the newly created regulations, licenses for short-term rentals require yearly inspections, proof of taxes paid, and adherence to the city's parking and occupancy rules. As originally proposed, the regulations also required short-term rental operators to have a certificate of insurance in an amount of at least \$1 million for casualty, personal injury and property damage. Commissioner Herbert noted that Airbnb, which is one of the most popular

Great Plains Media
 Heartland Meat Market
 Hillcrest Laundromat
 Hillcrest Styling Center
 Hite Collision
 Hi-Q Massage
 In the Zone Pro Shop
 Ignacio's in Empire Bar & Billiards
 Iowa Massage
 Jade Garden Restaurant
 Jayhawk Nail
 Jayhawk Trophy
 Jazzercise Lawrence
 Joda & Friends
 John R. Hooge, Attorneys at Law P.A.
 Kansas Secured Title
 Kathy's Alterations
 Kobe Japanese Steakhouse
 Kwik Shop
 La Petite Academy
 Lawrence Center for Entrepreneurship
 Lawrence Family Vision Clinic
 Lawrence Shirt Factory
 Lawrence Suitel
 Lawrence Tattoo
 Leeway Franks & Butcher Shop
 Lewis Veterinary
 Linux New Media

sites, automatically provides both liability and property insurance to property owners that use their platform. [For more information on the short term rental ordinance, follow this link.](#) *From the Lawrence Journal World*

KU Agrees to Discuss Bob Billings Location for Transit Hub

The University of Kansas has agreed to enter into negotiations with the City of Lawrence to locate a Transit Hub on KU property on the south side of Bob Billings Parkway between Iowa and Crestline. The city has been trying for years to find a suitable central location for the hub as an alternative to the current location across from the Public Library on Vermont St. A more central location will allow Lawrence Transit to modify routes to better serve the citizens of Lawrence, and should reduce travel time for bus riders.



Lawrence Transit has stated many times in the past that a more central location will not mean that downtown routes will go away. Downtown Lawrence will continue to be a major destination and will be well-served by bus routes when the new hub opens. Good news for all of us who rely on the bus to get around quickly and cheaply.

In a related note, Lawrence Transit would like to share information with Sunset Hill residents about the K-12 Student Fall Bus Pass. For only \$10, students can access unlimited transit rides from January through April. [Please check out their Facebook page](#) for the latest updates about transit service.

Kasold Project Should Finish in March



Have patience, the work on Kasold between Bob Billings and Sixth St. is nearing completion. City engineer Dave Cronin estimates the street will be open to traffic in March. Speed limits on the street will be the same as they were before the street was reconstructed, 30 miles per hour north of Harvard 35 miles per hour south. The new street will feature 5 lanes with a center turn lane, a signalized intersection at Harvard, and a 10 foot wide multi-use path along the east side.

Update on Adoption of Centennial Park

The third cleanup of Centennial Park was held on October 20, 2018. A family of three joined Phyllis Farrar to pick up litter in the park. Thanks to all who helped with this effort.

Unfortunately, at each of the last three cleanups, no more than six people participated. This is not enough to allow us to formally adopt the park. If you believe this is still an important project, attend the annual meeting on April 16th where Centennial Park adoption will be discussed.

We will also be discussing the future of Ludlam Park, where the single swing set has been questioned by Parks and Rec. Come with good ideas to improve Ludlam!

Living Financial Solutions Center

Life Enrichment Center

Manpower

Mediterranean Market & Café

The Merc Co+op

Midwest Property Management

Muddy Waters Studio

Munchers Bakery

NAPA Auto Parts

Optometry, F. J. Florey, O.D.

Orchards Drug

Phoenix Furniture & Home Goods

Point A School of Dance

Pops-N-More

Prestige Hair Studio

Property Management Services

Quality Inn Lawrence

Red Pepper Chinese Restaurant

Reuschhoff Automobiles

Dr. Robert Werner, Chiropractor

Royal Crest Lanes

Salon Renew

The Scone Lady's Coffee Shop

Scotch Cleaners

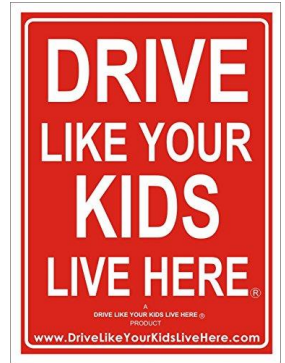
Screen Express

The Selection Autos

Sew Forth

Traffic Safety News

At the December 4th City Commission meeting, Commissioners agreed to repeal the current Traffic Calming Policy and replace it with a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. The old Traffic Calming Policy was used by residents to request traffic calming devices, primarily speed humps, on city streets where traffic was traveling dangerously fast. However, city staff maintained that adding speed humps might not always be the most effective way to address these problems. "The current policy promotes a rigid engineering response to neighborhood traffic concerns and inhibits the use of alternative, possibly more effective traffic management measures," Transportation Engineer Amanda Sahin wrote in a [memo to the commission](#).



In addition, applicants often waited years for funding to become available, only to have their project canceled because 70% of the property owners within 300 feet did not agree to the project, a program requirement.

The new program will address traffic safety problems in a more holistic manner. When traffic safety issues are identified, City staff will study the area around the location of the problem, and suggest solutions that will calm traffic without creating problems on adjacent roadways. These solutions will go far beyond built environment solutions, and will utilize application of the 5E's (Engineering, Enforcement, Education, Encouragement, and Evaluation) to neighborhood level traffic management.

One controversial aspect of this change in programs will be that all traffic calming projects currently on the waiting list for construction will be cancelled. Some city commissioners were concerned about this, and asked staff to find a way to assist existing traffic calming applicants to apply for the new program.

In a related action, city staff has posted a new page on the City of Lawrence website titled "Report Traffic Safety Concerns" that provides an opportunity for residents to report safety concerns on Lawrence streets. If you see a safety issue in the neighborhood, [follow this link and complete the online form to report the issue](#). The more complaints the city receives about a specific problem, the more likely they are to make an effort to correct it.

Thanks to The Merc for a New Sidewalk Section on Ninth!

If you walk to the [Merc Co+op, your "Solar Powered, Community Owned, Cooperative Grocery Store"](#) at Ninth and Iowa, like many of us do, you may have noticed that the sidewalk along the south side of Ninth street has a beautiful new section. For some reason, there has always been a 50-foot gap in the sidewalk just west of the entry to the parking lot behind The Merc. The sloping grass made walking tricky and the bus stop for the route 36 bus difficult to use, especially in wet weather.



The Executive Committee of SHNA contacted Rita York Hennecke, General Manager, and asked if anything could be done to make it easier for Sunset Hill residents to walk to the Co+op. Rita went to the management team and the Board of Directors, and all agreed that this was a problem that cried out for a solution. The got

Shelter Insurance

Sizzors

Sonic Drive-in

Southern Accent
Catering

The Spectacle

Stephens Insurance

Stephens Real Estate

Stoneback Appliance

Stuart Chiropractic

Sue Mulcahey, D.C.,
Chiropractor

Sunflower Natural Pet
Supplies

Sunflower Rentals

Sunset West Laundry

The University
National Bank

VA Medical Center

Virginia Inn Suites

Waddell & Reed

Walgreens

Watson's Barbershop

Wayne & Larry's

Wakarusa Valley
Credit Union

Westside 66

Yellow Brick Yoga

Sunset Hill Churches

Christ Community

Christ Covenant

First Baptist

Free State of
Lawrence

Immanuel Lutheran

down to work, found the funds, and made the sidewalk infill part of their recently completed solar energy retrofit and parking lot upgrade.

This is the kind of response that makes locally-owned businesses so important to our community and our city. Thanks to The Merc for their generous support for active lifestyles, and for all they do to improve the quality of life of all Lawrence residents! We are proud to have you in Sunset Hill!

Sunset Hill Residents in the News

A number of Sunset Hill residents have appeared in the news lately. Here are a few that caught the eyes of the SHNA Executive Committee.

- One of the "Hometown Heroes" on [page 39 of the fall 2018 issue of Lawrence Magazine](#) is Georgia Orchard, a longtime SHNA member and former secretary. Georgia volunteers at CASA of Douglas County, and recently received the "Honorary Jean F. Shepherd Volunteer of the Year Award".
- Jean Grant, longtime SH resident and current SHNA member, won the 2018 J. Donald and Bertha Coffin Memorial Book Award for her novel "Flight" at the state [Kansas Authors Club](#) Convention on Oct. 6 in Salina.
- SHNA member Joe Douglas was featured in an excellent "Exit Interview" article on page 22 of the [Lawrence Senior magazine 2019](#). After spending his entire career in mental health, Dr. Douglas will retire this year from the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center.
- Kenn Peters, Sunset Hill resident, builder, and vintage motorcycle enthusiast, is featured on the front cover of the 2019 issue of [Lawrence Senior magazine](#). You may have seen the vintage motorcycles on display at Weavers on May 24. These classy cycles were owned by members of the Wheelsport Vintage Motorcycle Club, of which Kenn is a member. Read the article on page 22.

Do you know a SH neighbor who has been in the news? Send a note to me at president@sunsethillna.org and I will include them in the next issue!

SHNA Executive Committee Seeks Volunteers

The Executive Committee needs new members! We need to replace outgoing committee members Clint Idol, Paula Kellogg, and Joanna Kuczera. Committee members serve a three-year term, meet four times each year, and attend SHNA events and the Annual Meeting. The success and continuation of your neighborhood association depends upon a strong and dedicated Executive Committee. Please consider volunteering to serve on the EC! Email Gary Webber at president@sunsethillna.org if you are willing to serve.

Worshiping in Sunset Hill Neighborhood

Our third article in this series about places of worship in Sunset Hill neighborhood is about [West Side Presbyterian Church](#), located at 1024 Kasold Drive. I asked Pastor Debbie Garber the following question; "What would you want SHNA members to know about West Side Presbyterian Church?", and here is her response:

Saint Nicholas
Orthodox Christian
Unity of Lawrence
West Side
Presbyterian

Sunset Hill Parks

Centennial Park
Ludlam Park
Quarry Park

Sunset Hill Schools

West Middle School
Sunset Hill
Elementary School

West Side Presbyterian Church is a lively, diverse, and joyful community of believers, located in what has become the middle of Lawrence. We treasure both tradition and new ways of worshiping and serving our community. We come from a variety of church backgrounds, but are also unabashedly Presbyterian. We are all enriched as we worship, fellowship, learn, and serve together.

We like to make a joyful noise and have fun together. You'll see and hear our sense of community at one of our intergenerational events—like our ice cream social, where young friends and older friends roll coffee cans to make homemade ice cream, our dessert auction to raise money for our youth group activities, or in worship with voices lifted to God and our handbells ringing "alleluias." But you will also know we are a faith community as our hearts reach out to support one another through the ups and downs of life. We are a serving community, which you will see through the vegetables from our community food garden that we donate to the First Baptist Church's food pantry, or serving monthly at LINK, or preparing for a new, awesome, Vacation Bible School this coming July. Basically, West Siders like to be involved! We hope to continue to find new ways to connect with and serve our community, here in the Sunset Hill neighborhood, and in Lawrence.

Pastor Debbie Garber

Thanks to Pastor Garber and West Side Presbyterian Church of Lawrence for their service to their congregation and to the community.

That's it for now!

We wish you the most joyous of holidays! Get out and play in the snow and watch for our winter edition in February!

