

Greetings Neighbors! Keep your Saturday free to MARCH for our schools! Check out the attachment for details about the **Save Our Schools March** down Mass St. on Saturday – and join us!

In this issue you will find info about:

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- *February Dine and Donate for NYE PTO – Tuesday, Feb. 9th*
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- *East Lawrence YART Sale – Calling All Artists – Saturday, Feb. 27th*
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Save Our Schools March Down Mass

Saturday, February 6th,

11am – gather at Liberty Hall

12pm – March down Mass St

In a show of city-wide unification, people from all parts of Lawrence will be marching down Mass Street to show our support to NOT CLOSE ANY SCHOOL in Lawrence. Check out the attached flyer for information, and to see a photo of another march by school children in Lawrence's history. And come join us – make your voice heard!

New York School Site Council Meeting

TODAY! Thursday, February 4th, 6:30-8pm @ New York School Library

New York Elementary's Site Council will have a meeting on **Thursday, February 4th from 6:30-8:00 in the NY Library**. Please come to discuss the information presented at the Board of Education StudySession on Feb. 2nd.

Site Council will then have another follow-up meeting on **Wednesday, February 10th from 6:30 to 8:00 in the New York School Library**, as a follow up to the next School Board meeting on Feb. 8th. This meeting will be to discuss the possible impact of any decisions by the Board might have on New York.

Both meetings are open to all interested parents and friends of NY, to come together to discuss the impact of the Board of Education actions and discussions, specific to New York School and the surrounding community.

Van Go Mobile Arts Valentine Art Sale

Friday, February 5th, 5-7pm @ Van Go, 705 New Jersey

A Valentine's show and sale featuring artwork by the JAMS artists. Also featuring our very own Joe B and Tom K as entertainment! Come, shop and listen to some tunes!

School Board Meeting

Monday, Feb. 8th @ 7pm, 110 McDonald Dr.

There is speculation that the next board meeting on Feb. 8th will be a very important one in making our voice and concerns heard as a neighborhood. Come out and support our neighborhood schools with your presence at the school board meeting.

Santa Fe Depot Clean-up

Sunday, Feb. 7th @ 3 – 4:30pm, 7th & New York Sts.

A group of volunteers meets each 1st Sunday of the month to keep the depot clean and welcoming. New volunteers are always welcome. Or if you just want to stop by and see how beautiful our depot is these days – you can do that too!

February Dine and Donate for NYE PTO date set!

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

4:00 to 8:00 pm

CHIPOTLE Mexican Grill

911 Mass. Street

or

4000 W. 6th

bring a flyer!

Chipotle will be giving us **50%** of sales with our flyer.

Pick up a flyer at NY School or email Lane to request one, leisenbart@yahoo.com

Because the donation portion is so large, we will only be doing this ONE D&D during the month of February.

Central Jr High Performs at the All City Choir Concert

Tuesday, Feb. 9th @ 7pm, the Lied Center

Mr. Kevin Hart, Central's choir director writes, "The all-city choir concert is at the Lied Center Tuesday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. All four auditioned junior high choirs will perform together on 5 pieces with a guest conductor from KSU and the combined Chamber and A Capella choirs from the high schools will perform 3 pieces also with a guest conductor from KSU. The concert is free and open to the public. And (in my opinion) one of the best concerts of the year. "

ELNA Yart Sale – Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, March 27th, 8am – 1pm @ New York School Gymnasium

That's right – mark your calendars – ELNA's annual neighborhood event is back! What's a YART sale? It's where neighbors sell their art, they sell their gently used items, they entertain with their music and everyone has a great time! We know this is a favorite neighborhood event – because last year you came out in an ice storm! So mark **Saturday, March 27th** on your calendar, plan to come and volunteer to help! We need lots of help to make this event a success.

Here's what you can do to prepare for this neighborhood event:

Volunteer to Help – Join the planning committee. Sign up to advertise the event. Volunteer to help set up on Friday, March 26th. Volunteer to work at the check out table. Volunteer to work at the ELNA table. Volunteer to help clean up. Volunteer! Contact Heather at eastlawrence@yahoo.com if you can help.

Donate Your Gently Used Items – Start collecting your gently used items now to donate. You can drop your items off at KT's barn now, or bring them to the New York School gym on Friday, March 26th, when we are setting up.

Sell Your Art - We are putting out a call for artists (you will be asked to donate 10% of your earnings to ELNA). Contact Heather at eastlawrence@yahoo.com if you would like to vend.

Baked Goods – We will be selling baked goods this year – bring something scrumptious from your kitchen to donate to the cause!

Entertain Us With Your Music – Several musicians have already stepped up to entertain us, but we still need a few more. Contact Phil, phil@collison.com if you would like to play music.

Plan to Come – The Yart Sale is ELNA's big fundraiser for the year. Please plan to come and support us and the work we do for the community!

New York Elementary Needs Your Help!

As many of you know, USD 497 is considering the closure of one elementary school this year due to budget shortfalls. New York Elementary is being seriously discussed for elimination, as are other neighborhood schools. Cordley is also on the list. ELNA is against any school closure, especially New York Elementary. As an integral and vital part of our Eastside community and as a positive educational environment for our children, New York Elementary must not close!

How can you help?

Check Out the New “Save Our Neighborhood Schools” Website. This website gives all the latest info on what's going on in the Save Our Schools movement. Check it out at, www.saveourneighborhoodschools.com. You can also sign up on the website to receive periodic emails about upcoming events.

Write a letter to the Lawrence Board of Education, your Legislators, the Newspaper. Contact your elected representatives. Write a letter to editor of the Lawrence Journal World. Tell your neighbors. Tell your friends and co-workers.

Join Save Our Schools Yahoo Group. There is a yahoo group that is VERY active already in motion. On it you will find numerous voices with ideas and support on how to save our schools. If you would like to join this yahoo group, email, Sharon at sharon.ashworth@sbcglobal.net and let her know you'd like to be included.

Join the Save Our Neighborhood Schools Facebook Page, <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=239362197094>

For State-wide Info on Public Education:

Kansas Families for Public Education
<http://www.fundourpublicschools.com/>

School Board Public Forums

- *February 9, 7 pm, South Junior High auditorium*
- *February 15, 7 pm, Southwest Junior High auditorium*
- *March 1, 7 pm, Central Junior High auditorium*
- *March 2, 7:30 pm, West Junior High auditorium*

The Lawrence Board of Education invites community participation as it discusses the budget of the Lawrence Public Schools.

Losses in state aid reduced the district's general operating fund by about 10% this year. As a result, the school board cut \$2.5 million from the 2009-10 budget. Reductions were made primarily in transportation and administrative, facilities/operations and instructional support services.

Turning its attention to next year, the school board expects a budget shortfall of at least \$4 million. The board is considering various cost-cutting measures, including changing school boundaries, closing schools, increasing the student-teacher staffing ratio and further reducing staff and non-mandated programs and services.

Public school budgets reflect community priorities. You're invited to share your opinions during a public forum at any of the district's four junior high schools.

Sustainability Advisory Board Requests Community Input

The City of Lawrence Sustainability Advisory Board will embark on a planning effort that involves long-range goal setting. Current issues under consideration include increased options for improving residential waste reduction and recycling, the promotion of energy conservation and public transportation, and encouragement of sustainable business and development.

Community organizations and individuals may submit their ideas and priorities regarding sustainability to the Sustainability Advisory Board via email to sab@ci.lawrence.ks.us by March 1st.

A new show at the Lawrence Percolator!

Objects + Presence

Artist: Keshav Ramaswami

Opening: **Friday, February 12th, 7p - 10p** (with a musical performance by the artist and his band)

The show continues weekends February 13th - March 7th, noon - 6p

Painted between mid-2008 to early 2010, the two series, Objects + Presence explores the formalistic aspects of composition. "Objects" is an *aconceptual* series that explores placement, color, texture, and size of forms that includes a tapered figure, a circle, and a diaphanous line. "Presence" is a series of works composed of arrows, definite rectangles, indefinite quadrilaterals, faded textures and *free-form circles*. The use of *color-textured* and dark backgrounds were a basis to thoroughly express the sometimes bold, and other times faint foreground.

About the artist:

Keshav Ramaswami is an artist from Leawood, Kansas who was born in Lawrence. He grew up painting on tiles and small canvases and scribbling abstract figures on paper. Around 2006, he began to paint on larger canvases with a more direct approach, observing and studying the works of Pablo Picasso and Piet Mondrian. Beginning to build a portfolio, he started to paint and develop his style. His current Influences include Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee, and Joan Miro.

Keshav (16) is a junior at Shawnee Mission East High School. He is an accomplished guitarist and a member of the SME Blue Knights Jazz Band. He actively pursues biological research at UMKC and is an avid tennis player.

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Lawrence Percolator ::

www.lcava.org

Location: look for the green awnings in the alley behind 913 Rhode Island

Hours: Saturdays & Sundays 12-6pm, or by appointment (call 785.840.5508)

Vinland Valley Fundraiser for CJHS: THINK SPRING!

Vinland Valley Nursery is offering Central Junior High School supporters a fantastic opportunity to purchase their landscaping plants AND help our school. Forty Percent of your online order placed prior to March 12 will be donated to CJHS! Order now, and Vinland Valley will ship your plants to you at Spring planting time. Please click on www.vinlandvalleynursery.com when you wish to shop for plants online. At checkout, type in "CJHS" as our group code. Thank you for your support!

Comprehensive Rehabilitation Loans Available to Lawrence Homeowners

The City of Lawrence has loan funding available for rehabilitation of homes throughout Lawrence. Eligible improvements include foundation repair, wiring, plumbing, painting, roofing and minor interior repairs.

The Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Services Department will administer the funds. These funds are available through the Community Development Block Grant. The program has an emphasis on comprehensive

rehabilitation to help maintain affordable, safe and healthy housing for the community. This is not a home improvement program. This program is not available for mobile homes.

To be eligible for assistance through the comprehensive rehabilitation loan program, homeowners must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be the owner and occupant of the property for at least one year at the time of application, and contain no more than two dwelling units.
2. Must make all repairs necessary to meet minimum property rehabilitation standards.
3. Cannot have previously received a comprehensive rehabilitation loan.
4. Annual gross family income cannot exceed the following guidelines:

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Maximum Income (\$)*</u>
1	38,350
2	43,850
3	49,300
4	54,800
5	59,200
6	63,550
7	67,950
8+	72,350

*Income guidelines may be subject to change.

Loans for comprehensive rehabilitation may require repayment. Loans will be awarded on a funds available basis. The deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m., March 1, 2010.

Loan applications are available in the Development Services Offices at 1 Riverfront Plaza, on Level 1, Suite 110 or on the website at <http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/>. Call (785) 832-7700 for more information.

ELNA Newsletter Now On-Line

ELNA sends out newsletters to East Lawrence residents and ELNA members on a bi-monthly basis. You can read this newsletter on-line. Go to www.eastlawrence.org and click on ELNA Newsletter Archives.

Be an ELNA Member! Sign Up Today!

Make becoming a member of ELNA part of your New Year's resolutions. It's easy to become a member and several memberships expired recently – do you know if you're an ELNA member? If you're not certain about the status of your membership – contact eastlawrence@yahoo.com.

Member dues are \$1 per year per individual. Out of area and business memberships are also available for \$5. Fill out the form found in the paper newsletter or on the

website, eastlawrence.org. Make sure to include your apartment number if you have one. Your membership allows you to support us and be able to vote at our meetings.

The ELNA Web Site is Live and on the internet!

If you want to check in on what's up in East Lawrence, or see the minutes from a meeting, go to the East Lawrence website. Thanks to Amanda Woodward for keeping it up to date. Check out www.eastlawrence.org and let us know your thoughts.

Have a Great Weekend!

Deron Belt, *ELNA President*

Heather Coates, *Neighborhood Coordinator*