

# East Lawrence News

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

November 2025  
& December 2025



## ELNA

### General Meeting

Nov. 10th 7-9 pm

Dec. 8th 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](http://www.eastlawrence.com/meetings)

## Board Contacts

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[www.eastlawrence.com](http://www.eastlawrence.com)



## From the President *Barry Shalinsky*

The weather took an abrupt turn, and before long, winter will set in as the days become shorter. Times are difficult for many among us, due to changes in economic conditions, uncertainty about the world we live in, and in my case, long hours spent in hospitals attending to the needs of family and dear friends. I am dismayed with some of the recent changes in East Lawrence's built environment, the demolitions of viable, venerable vernacular buildings and the wholesale loss of thousands of linear feet of historic brick sidewalks currently underway.

I was saddened to learn of the recent passing of Alan Johnson, a long time Connecticut Street neighbor. Alan was a Board member of the neighborhood association for several years, and served as our president, circa 1983. Like every era of East Lawrence's history, the early 1980's saw its share of threats and challenges, but under Alan's leadership, the residential character of northern areas of East Lawrence was strengthened.

Despite the dark tone of the preceding paragraphs, I would like to close with a note of gratitude. After all, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving in a few weeks. I am grateful to live in East Lawrence, a place with a rich history, an eclectic streetscape, some of the best people anywhere and a quirky funky cultural vibe that always feels like home. A home with qualities that are worth fighting for. I am grateful for people like Alan who put in the hard work over the decades to help create and maintain what makes us special. I am grateful to have served as ELNA President, grateful to work with an awesome ELNA board, volunteers and neighborhood coordinator, and grateful to have three dynamic people to put their names forward to serve as new board members.

I am grateful for all of you who show up in your lives every day and do what needs to be done, and still manage to share a little bit extra. Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. And watch out 2026. We're coming for you!

## Adopt a Family for the Holidays

Again this year, ELNA will adopt a family for the holidays, this time through the Holiday Bureau.

### How it works:

The Holiday Bureau, housed at the Ballard Center in North Lawrence, accepts applications from families they serve in early November. By the end of November the application closes and they begin to match families with organizations and groups who have indicated interest in adopting a family.

The Holiday Bureau then shares details with us about the family assigned to us. We usually ask to adopt one large family, with many children, as they are often most difficult to match. They give us a few details about our family like age, gender, clothing and shoe size, and a few items they might each like to receive as gifts. For example, they might tell us there is a boy in our family who is six years old, wears a youth medium in shirts, size 7 pants, children's shoe size 12, likes Pokemon and wants comics and art supplies for Christmas. We will receive this kind of information for all members of the family.

*Continued on page 8*

## City Commission and School Elections are Underway!

It is local election season in Kansas. On our ballot, four candidates will vie for two seats on the Lawrence City Commission. The candidates are Mike Courtney, Bart Littlejohn, Kristine Polian and Bob Schumm. Seven candidates compete for three seats on the USD 497 School Board. They are Bob Byers, ChrisTophier Enneking, Kelly Jones, Shannon Kimball, Matt Lancaster, Pam Shaw and Molly Starr.

Please note that the East Lawrence News accepts advertising from candidates for public office, an opportunity we make available to any candidate. The presence, or absence of advertising from any candidate does not signify an endorsement for or against any candidate by ELNA. We encourage you to vote, not how to vote.

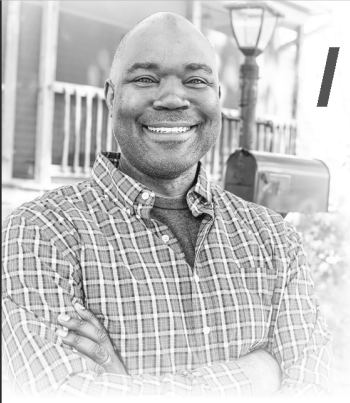
Remember these dates and details: Advance voting in person and by mail began on October 15. You can advance vote in person until noon on Monday, November 3 at the Douglas County Elections Office in the Malls Shopping Center at 711 W 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (23<sup>rd</sup> & Louisiana). The closest drop boxes for mail in ballots are located at the County Courthouse at 11<sup>th</sup> & Mass., the Elections Office at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Louisiana, and the Treasurer's Office at 2610 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. Voting locations are the Cider Gallery at 810 Pennsylvania Street (If you live north of Eleventh Street) or Trinity Lutheran Church at 1245 New Hampshire Street (if you live between Eleventh and Fifteenth Streets).

YOUR VOTE MATTERS MOST IN LOCAL ELECTIONS!

PLEASE VOTE!

## ELNA Board Elections in November

We had our monthly ELNA Meeting on Monday October 13th. At this meeting, people interested in serving on the ELNA Board declared their intention to run for the ELNA Board. In order to be able to get the names of candidates out to our members, our bylaws require that prospective candidates must declare at our October meeting for the November election. Board members Barry Shalinsky, Phil Collison, Sacie Lambertson, Darrel Proffitt, Krista Gentry, Pam Blackburn, KT Walsh, Aaron Paden, Brenda Nunez, and Max Wilcox are seeking election to return to the Board. New candidates are neighbors Jan Butin, Courtney Shipley, and Sarah Norman. There are sufficient board positions available for all nominees. ELNA members will meet on Monday November 10th, 7-9pm at the Santa Fe Depot and on zoom, to elect our 2025-2026 ELNA Board. Questions can be directed to Lane eastlawrence@yahoo.com.



***I said it. I meant it.  
I'm doing it!***

- » **Housing - Affordability, Availability, Accessibility**
- » **Economic Development that works**
- » **Infrastructure Resiliency**

**Proven Leader ✓ Advocate**  
**Unifier ✓ Forward Thinking**

**VOTE**

**General Election  
November 4, 2025**

**vote4bart.org**

**RE-ELECT**

**BART Littlejohn**

**City Commission**

*Paid for by Bart Littlejohn for Lawrence City Commission Aaron Urban, Treasurer*

**Come join us on Sunday mornings!**

9:00 a.m. -	American Sign Language Class
9:30 a.m. -	In-person and Livestream Worship
10:30 a.m. -	Sunday School and Adult Forum



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
at South Park

1245 New Hampshire St  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
p. 785.843.4150  
www.tlclawrence.org



Livestream

# City of Lawrence Safe Winter Walkways

Preparing snow routes for pedestrian traffic

The Safe Winter Walkways Program is an excellent resource for members of our community who are physically unable to keep their sidewalks clear during snow events. The goal is to create safer and more accessible pedestrian walkways, and it is a structured version of what already happens in many neighborhoods – neighbors helping neighbors. Volunteers are matched with residents needing assistance, and the program makes every effort to match volunteers with residents in their neighborhoods. All volunteers are asked to commit to the entire snow season and be willing to shovel after each winter weather event. Volunteers are not required to provide snow removal for private driveways, sidewalks or walkways, but they may choose to also clear those areas.

November 21, 2025 is the deadline for registering for assistance with Safe Winter Walkways. Please direct questions to Larry Woydziak at the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County, (785) 727-7875.

The Safe Winter Walkways is a program provided by the City of Lawrence and the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County.

To volunteer to help Lawrence residents who can't physically shovel their sidewalks, fill out and submit this volunteer sign up form: <https://lawrence.wufoo.com/forms/w7p2m1/> or call (785) 727-7875. Volunteers are asked to commit to the snow season and shovel snow each snow fall. Snow removal is limited to public sidewalks and a walkway to the street from the front door. This does not include driveways, porches or other walkways. Volunteers may choose to clear these areas but it is not an expectation of the program.

To sign up to receive assistance shoveling your walkway, fill in this form: <https://lawrence.wufoo.com/forms/z1hlq3c10k6ye8n/>



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@Lawrencemodern



## ELNA Merch!

ELNA merch really does make the perfect holiday gift. We've got tees! ELNA "house" graphic (designed by Anne Patterson in 2002) white on color and in black on heathered grey. We've got a few more Shelly Miller Memorial tees in heathered grey, black Wishing Bench tees, and a few East Side Pride pink possum tee shirts. To make things simple, let's say they're all \$18. We've got Hoodies too! Black zippered hoodies with the ELNA graphic on the back in white, plus navy blue possum lady pull over hooded sweatshirts. Hoodies are \$25 each. Sizes range from 2xl to small in tees and hoodies, but we'd just have to check. We've still got a few Possum Pride tote bags for just \$15. Email [eastlawrence@yahoo.com](mailto:eastlawrence@yahoo.com) with questions and we can check to see if we have the color/size you want! Watch our enews and social media for pop up merch sales at the Murphy Brommelsick House at 10th and Delaware as the holidays approach.



## Why Pam Shaw for School Board?

Champion for Teachers and Staff  
Experienced Educator and Physician  
Committed to student health and Safety  
Committed to community engagement  
and student retention

<https://abrightfutureforeverychild.com/>

[pkshaw4kids@gmail.com](mailto:pkshaw4kids@gmail.com)

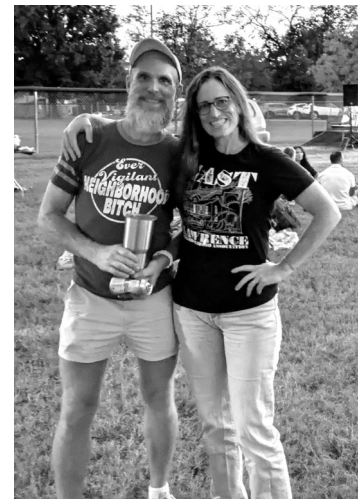
# Block Party

Thanks to beer co, raff  
and volunte





2025  
le item donors,  
ers!



# PRESERVATION OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

I have lived in Lawrence since 1964. After college I decided to stay and open my business. I have loved living in Lawrence because of all the diversity that this city offers. Lawrence is a very complex community with its various neighborhoods each being unique centers of culture. We have wonderful displays of art, from street sculptures to wall murals to art museums to an outstanding Art Center.



Our strong neighborhoods are our cities strength! I have heard a lot of concerns about the new development code and how it may work to reduce the livability of our older neighborhoods. I will work to keep our neighborhoods from being diminished by development. Our neighborhoods must retain their quality of living!



Paid for by Bob Schumm for City Commission, Kathleen Hodge, Treasurer.

mikeforlawrence.com mike@mikeforlawrence.com

## VOTE FOR MIKE COURTNEY NOVEMBER 4TH

**AFFORDABLE  
HOMES,  
FAIR TAXES,  
STRONG  
COMMUNITIES.**

#### ISSUES:

- SINGLE FAMILY HOME AFFORDABILITY
- PROPERTY TAXES AND UTILITY COSTS
- "NO" TO REC CENTER FEES



Paid for by Mike Courtney for City Commission, Jason Hickman, Treasurer

Paid for by Kristine Polian for City Commission, Torrez Dawson, Treasurer

“I’ve spent my career building  
strong, transparent, and responsive  
local government systems.”

– Kristine Polian



**KRISTINE  
POLIAN**   
for City Commission

**VOTE**  
Nov. 4th, 2025

[www.kristineforlawrenceks.com](http://www.kristineforlawrenceks.com)

*Re-Elect*  
**Shannon**  
**KIMBALL**

*FOR School Board*



Proudly Endorsed by  
USD 497 Teachers & Staff



Paid for by Kimball for School Board, Shannon Kimball, treasurer

## **ELNA Monthly Meetings to Return to New York School in 2026**

The East Lawrence Neighborhood Association will be returning to our roots in 2026. Starting with our January 12, 2026 Meeting, ELNA's meetings will be held at New York School, 936 New York Street.

In late September, ELNA was informed by Lawrence Parks and Rec that we were uninvited from holding our monthly meetings at the Santa Fe (Amtrak) Depot at Seventh & New Jersey. Building locks were changed and we were told that "the Santa Fe Depot will fully transition to internal City use and will no longer be available to host meetings or events for external groups."

Over the several decades of our existence, the neighborhood association has most often met at our neighborhood school. That changed with Covid, when the schools were closed, and ELNA meetings went online via Zoom. After things reopened, the school was no longer available due to USD 497's stated budget constraints, so we moved our meetings to the Depot, hybrid style.

ELNA is grateful to the New York Montessori PTA which has agreed to sponsor our return to the school. For those rare times when the school might be unavailable, we have secured an alternative meeting space in a commercial business at Ninth and New York.

## **Adopt a Family, continued**

As an organization, ELNA then shares family details with neighbors who want to participate in the project. We'll collect a suit of clothes and presents for each family member and a grocery gift card for the family's holiday meal. Sometimes, neighbors want to contribute just cash or check and Lane will do the shopping. :)

Then we have a party! We get all the gifts we've collected together and wrap them. Aaron usually makes some chili and people bring snacks and drinks to share. You're invited! Even if you don't contribute an item to the family. Come help us wrap!

AND THEN Lane can get any last minute gifts or gift cards and deliver the whole carload to the drop off location to be given to the family. Usually, the gifts have to be ready for the family by the second week of December.

### **Want to help?**

All you have to do is email Lane at [eastlawrence@yahoo.com](mailto:eastlawrence@yahoo.com). Lane will send an email with details about the family as she has them, updates, and a plan for the wrapping party. Watch social media too. We'll put something out there as well. Let us know if you want to help or have questions.