

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Election of 2001 Officers

The January general meeting is always the time for electing our officers for the year. Be sure to attend and vote for your choice. If you did not renew your membership for 2000, you will need to get your membership renewed for 2001 before you can participate.

We accepted nominations during the November 2000 meeting. Before we vote in the January meeting, we will accept additional nominations from the floor.

Here are the nominations as of December 11th, 2000:

President: Melinda Michael, Stephan Glentzer
Vice President: Paul Minto
Secretary: Kate Kerns
Treasurer: Marlene Toms
Communications: Boyd Williston
Marketing: Melinda Michael
Membership: Mary Kay Marx
Sr. Citizens' Affairs: Shirley Williston
Property Maintenance: Scott Shannon
Safety/Crime Prevention: Gary Jerkins

Many of these are current office holders. The positions that don't have current officers running are President and Property Maintenance.

Phone change

Did you notice that the footer below does not show a phone number now? We are considering dropping the contract we have for

our cell phone, since we are not using it enough to justify the cost (over \$300 per year).

To get a message to West Plaza, call the current Director of Communications, Boyd Williston, at 816-931-0194 (home phone) or 816-679-7446 (mobile phone). Both numbers take voice mail. Or you can e-mail him at boydwilliston@yahoo.com.

Membership renewal

It's a new year, so it's time to ask everyone to renew his or her membership. Membership is on an annual calendar basis only. You must be a member to vote for officers or to hold an office.

If this copy was mailed to you, check the address label for your latest year of renewal – it's in the upper right hand of the label. Unless it reads '2001', you need to get in your renewal as soon as possible.

If you didn't get a copy of the newsletter by mail, then Boyd's records show that you haven't been an active member since 1999.

If you think that our records may be in error, call Boyd for confirmation.

**Next general meeting will be at
St Garabed Armenian Church
44th and Wyoming
7:00 p.m. on January 16th, 2001
(Tuesday)**

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
Edited by Boyd Williston (Director of Communications)
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e-mail: boydwilliston@yahoo.com

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Bulky item pick-up

Instead of asking you to call and arrange for bulky item pick-up, Kansas City is now scheduling this service monthly. The next three dates are:

January 26th, February 26th, and March 26th.

Place items at the curb by 7 a.m. of the scheduled date. If you have questions about what can be picked up, check the December WPNA newsletter or call Environmental Management Customer Service at 531-3490.

Thanks a bunch

A special thanks to Judy Klemm and all the volunteers who worked to make another successful clean sweep. We filled up two dumpsters again.

And a very special thank you to Louise Birt, who brought down some hot coffee and snacks for the volunteers. This was very much appreciated.

Traffic Study on 45th

The City's Street and Traffic Division has conducted a traffic study on 45th Street. This was done at the request of the West Plaza Neighborhood Association, the Purple Dragon and C.S. #1 schools, and the merchants of 45th Street. These parties are concerned about speeding traffic, lack of traffic calming devices for the school zone, safety issues, and the high volume of cut-through traffic (vehicles that use 45th Street that don't either start or end a trip in the neighborhood).

Unfortunately, the study results did not warrant additional traffic calming devices. Another

meeting is being planned to discuss other options available to us. We will discuss the outcome of that meeting, and hear from a representative of the City at the next Neighborhood Meeting scheduled for January 16th. Please, plan to attend, get involved, and be heard! Thanks, Melinda Michael, Marketing Coordinator.

Westwood Park improvements move forward

The latest revisions of the new park playground equipment were unveiled at the November WPNA general membership meeting. The new equipment will have a rubberized play surface beneath it. It will be surrounded by a concrete tricycle circuit, be wheelchair accessible, and connected to the existing sidewalks.

The design will be finalized over the winter. Construction cost bids will be received in the spring. Construction is scheduled for next summer.

If you have any advice or comments, please call the playground design committee and share you ideas with us. The committee chairman is Paul Minto, 816-756-2180.

Here is a picture of what the proposed new playground equipment will look like:



Meet a neighbor: Wendell McClymond

Wendell is a long time active WPNA member. He has helped pass out the newsletter in the past. Wendell has lived in the neighborhood for 47 years and has seen many changes. He is a retired postal worker. He is also a block co-captain.

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE

Joe Monanari

One of the outstanding teams that have actively served the West Plaza Neighborhood has been Jo and Joe Montanari. They were often at meeting, presenting issues of importance to the betterment and well being of the neighborhood. They worked together and separately behind the scenes putting feet to those ideas. The neighborhood suffered a great loss with untimely passing of Jo.

Joe has put many hours in the past few years doing his best to get deadbeat landlords to correct code violations on their property. He has personally gone to court many times on your behalf.

Joe is now finding that because of the demands of his business, he must give up his post on the WPNA Board of Directors. It will be hard to find someone of his personal integrity and commitment. He will be sorely missed.

Paul Minto

Paul Minto bought a vintage house in West Plaza, thinking he could rehab it in short order. That turned out to be more a project than he expected. After about 3 years, Paul threw an open house for the neighbors on the block.

Paul is the kind of neighbor every block needs. He often took time to sit and chat with an elderly neighbor. When the neighbor had to go a nursing home, Paul was there to visit him.

Paul has become more and more involved in the WPNA, serving informally and on the Board of Directors. He has many hours of his personal life in issues WPNA. He has not been afraid to get his hands dirty helping with the dumpster for the Clean Sweeps. He has put up signs for neighborhood wide garage sales and then gone back to pick them up. Paul has participated in the picnics. There are numerous other ways Paul has benefited West Plaza.

The demands of Paul's job are forcing him to

WPNA Business Members

STATE LINE & 45TH STREET ANTIQUE DEALERS

4501 Genessee
816-561-4501

BERGAMOT & IVY, INC.

1721 Westport Road
816-561-5599

CATHY'S

CLIPS & CURL SALON

4301 Wyoming
816-561-2331

COPYMATE PRINT CENTER

4312 Terrace
816-931-4122

CUMMINGS CORNER ANTIQUES

1703 W. 45th Street
753-5353

DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURANCE

1414 W 47th Street
753-5956

FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE

4401 Genessee
816-931-2276

HAIR STYLE

4500 Bell
816-531-4545

JESSE'S LAWN SERVICE

1800 Rosedale Dr.
913-321-5764

ONLY THE BEST

4448 Belleview
816-960-1551

KATE'S CANINE RESORT

207 W 31ST
816-753-4188

LINDA W. PEARCE ANTIQUES

1214 W. 47th Street
816-531-6255

RELIABLE AUDIO VISUAL

ENLIGHTENMENT
1307 W 45th #201

kdowd@kc.rr.com
816-756-1517

SUNSHINE FLOWERS

4509 Rainbow Blvd.
913-384-5034

WESTPORT LAUNDROMAT

1409 Westport Road
816-531-8889

JENNINGS TREE CARE

4505 State Line
816-931-3399

WESTERN FIREPROOFING OF KANSAS, INC

1501 Westport Rd
816-561-7667

GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW

200 W Linwood
816-931-3535

cut back his involvement WPNA. Although he is not "quitting," Paul is deserving of recognition.

If you would like to send a card or letter of appreciation to Joe or Paul, you may send it % WPNA. P O BOX 32326, Kansas City, MO 64171-7826.

Gentlemen, we salute you. Shirley Williston

!!!Recycle!!!

27th Terrace and McGee
(Near Halmark)

Saturdays and Sundays
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m

No cost energy saving tips

In case you hadn't noticed, energy costs have risen a lot recently. In early December the wholesale price of natural gas was **four times** what it was a year ago. Here are some tips from the gas company that will save energy and don't cost anything to use:

Set your thermostat at 68 degrees Fahrenheit. If you get cold, try adding layers of clothes or blankets before you turn the heat up.

Let the sun shine in for added warmth in winter, and make sure draperies are closed at night to keep out cold. Reverse this habit in warm weather.

Set your water heater temperature at 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This should be adequate for most household functions; choosing a higher temperature could result in scalding as well as higher utility costs.

Use cooking utensils that are the same size as burners or surface units on your stove. Using lids when cooking on surface units can shorten cooking time and save energy.

Pre-heating your oven for baking may not always be necessary (unless you are preparing a particularly delicate recipe).

Use the full capacity of your oven, when possible. Prepare a whole meal in the oven, or prepare multiple dishes that can be frozen for reheating later (possibly in a microwave or other appliance).

Countertop cooking appliances (microwave, electric skillet, crockpot, etc.) often use less energy, especially when preparing smaller quantities.

Close doors and windows to avoid wasting energy by allowing heated or cooled air to escape.

Use hot water for only extremely soiled clothes when doing laundry, if possible, wash only when you have a full load and always use a cold-water rinse.

Arrange furniture away from outside walls and windows, when possible.

Hildy Erben

If you voted Nov. 7, 2000, you were no doubt assisted by election judge Hildy Erben. Hildy has faithfully served many years as an election judge. She has also often entertained at parades and charitable events as a clown. Hildy is an artist and a retired professional person. She is an avid walker and puts many younger people to shame with her pace.

Richelle Cirino and Michael Turner

Richelle has helped pass out the newsletter. Richelle and Michael live and work with the greater community. They often walk along the streets, meeting familiar faces of people out walking their dog or jogging. They go to the grocery store, out to eat, or to a movie within the community, often seeing familiar faces. It makes it nice to live in West Plaza. Richelle and Michael added their signatures so that the grant money could be gotten to improve the park. Thanks to them and the other neighbors who helped us get the grant and are helping on the park committee.

Join Your Neighbors in the WPNA

Please fill out the information below and return along with your check to:

West Plaza Neighborhood Association ~~ P.O. Box 32826 ~~ Kansas City, MO 64171-7826

New Renewal

Household (\$12) Senior (\$7) Business (\$25)

Name _____

I would like to help the neighborhood with:

Address _____

Picnic Property Maintenance/Zoning

Zip _____ Phone _____

Yard Sale Neighborhood clean-up

e-mail _____

Crime prevention Distribute newsletter

Refreshments for meetings

(January 2000 Newsletter)