

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



From the outgoing president

Neighbors,

It has been a privilege to be president of WPNA this past year. Unfortunately, having three small kids is taking up most of my time and I do not feel I can devote the time necessary to sit on the board.

We accomplished a lot this past year, but there is plenty more to do. I encourage each of you to attend a general membership meeting this year. Bring along your ideas, suggestions, concerns, and questions; this is the only way the board can help to make West Plaza a better place to live.

I would like to thank the board members and the various committee members that served this past year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Melinda Michael

Developer Action

Perseverance may be paying off. Mr. Van Tuyl didn't seem to understand and Block & Co. haven't gotten there yet either, but a third developer may be getting closer. You may have read in the Star about the latest developer expressing an interest in the buildings bounded by 48th Street and Ward Parkway, Madison and Bellevue. Maybe they are learning from the previous developer's mistakes.

The developer shared his desire to renovate a number of the more significant buildings located along Ward Parkway and Roanoke, provide retail spaces appropriate for neighborhood shops along 48th Street, create more residential living units along Bellevue and keep any office and/or large "box" retailers to a minimum. Historic preservation

Next general meeting will be at
St Garabed Armenian Church
44th and Wyoming
7:00 p.m. on March 19th (Tuesday)
Agenda:

- Visit by Central Patrol Police Officers
- H&R Block tax service rep to discuss tax law changes
- Westside Housing Organization reps on their tool lending library

tax credits were discussed in lieu of tax abatement or TIF.

We'll believe it when we see it, but by holding together, the best may still be ahead. If any of the developers wants to come to a WPNA meeting, we'll make a forum available, and we'll let you know about it in advance.

Paul Minto

Committee Members Needed

WPNA has a lot of activities planned for 2002, and the only way that all of these will be successful is if we can get volunteers to join with a board member on a committee to see that the work gets done. The following committees need immediate staffing, so if you've got some ideas or can help out with doing things, call the board member in charge.

Web page (Board member: Boyd Williston) West Plaza has a web page, but we haven't done much with it yet, except post a copy of the newsletter. There are a lot of possibilities for this, but we need suggestions and material. If you are interested in helping out with ideas or input, here is an opportunity.

(see **Committee** on page 2)

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
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Business card size	\$25 per issue
Quarter page	\$35 per issue
Half page	\$50 per issue
Full page	\$100 per issue

2002 Board Members

The 2002 Board Members are:

President	Paul Minto
816-756-2180	pminto@waikc.com
Finance	Marlene Toms
816-531-8251	jtoms@kc.rr.com
Marketing	Bob Crutsinger
816-797-3126	bob_crutsinger@hotmail.com
Zoning and Development	Alec Pollard
816-531-5053	tandapollard@aol.com
Senior Citizens' Affairs	Shirley Williston
816-931-0194	shirleywilliston@yahoo.com
Communications	Boyd Williston
816-931-0194	boydwilliston@yahoo.com
Membership	Delois Moore
816-665-3999	moore_delois@hotmail.com
Property Maintenance	Mike Zeller
816-531-8549	michael_zeller@kcpt.com
Crime Prevention	Jarel Gosch
816-531-7555	

Committee (continued from page 1)

By-law revision (Board member Paul Minto). Did you notice that the list of officers above is different from past years? We discovered that the version of the by-laws listing the officers we have been electing may never have been approved by the membership, so we've reverted to the copy on file with the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance. We need an up-to-date version of the by-laws. If you can help read and re-write this important document, this committee is right up your alley!

Picnic (Board member: Bob Crutsinger). This is WPNA's big event every year, and it's been getting better all the time. Here are the kinds of things you might help with: contacting merchants for contributions and door prizes; arranging games and activities; setting up before and cleaning up after; bringing supplies to the picnic; dumpsters by the park in the morning. One suggestion for something new is a tent with a 'Taste of West Plaza'. Our neighborhood has a lot of eating places, and we might want to set up a place where they could come and provide a taste of their wares.

Garage sale (Board member: Bob Crutsinger) The garage sale each spring (this year, Saturday, June 8th) is a popular and successful event. We need a few members to help with the planning, organizing and distribution of signs and flyers.

Your idea (contact any board member) Do you have an idea for something that the WPNA should be working on? Suggest!!!

Paper or Plastic?

Are you a dog owner who asks for a plastic bag at the grocery store? Apparently many West Plaza neighbors are. It seems a growing number of dog owners are cleaning up after their pets and are using plastic bags to do so. For those of you who are, we say thank you.

Unfortunately there seems to be an equal number of folks who don't have the same sense of moral obligation (as well as a legal obligation). There remains a significant amount of animal feces dropped on our neighborhood sidewalks, our lawns, and in Westwood Park.

Thanks in large measure to the efforts of our past WPNA President Melinda Michaels, the neighborhood now has a special "bio-degradable plastic pet pick-up mutt-mitt" dispenser, complete with the bio-degradable plastic mutt-mitts!!! It is located in Westwood Park, under the trees growing behind the softball backstop.

Now no one has an excuse for not cleaning up after their pet. We'll restock the dispenser so put the mitts to good use. Keep an extra one in your pocket the next time you take your dog for a walk. If the dispenser runs out, call 756-2180 and let us know. We'll get right on it.

Paul Minto

Statement of accounts and expenses July to December 2001

Operating Account

Beginning Balance **\$5,572.59**

EXPENSES
 Crime phone (\$44.40)
 Newsletter (\$288.45)
 Meetings (\$85.94)
 July 4th neighborhood patrol (\$500.00)
 Westport Crime Prevention (\$135.00)
 KCNA Leadership XI Program (\$125.00)
 Westwood Park playground dedication (\$13.44)
 Midtown Connection Lunch meeting (\$8.00)
 Christmas party (board and volunteers) (\$186.70)
TOTAL **(\$1,386.93)**

INCOME
 Membership \$604.00
 Donations \$213.00
 Interest \$18.14
TOTAL **\$835.14**

Ending balance **\$5,020.80**

Neighborhood Self Help Fund 2000
Beginning/Ending Balance **\$226.00**

Neighborhood Self Help Fund 2001
Beginning Balance **\$3,700.00**

EXPENSES
 800 Mutt Mitts and Dispenser \$246.08
Ending Balance **\$3,453.92**

TOTAL MONEY ON HAND **\$8,700.72**
Marlene Toms

Tool Rental

Got a project around the house that requires a tool you don't have? Don't try to make do with the wrong tool! Quit making excuses because you don't have just what the job needs!

The Westside Housing Organization (WHO) has a tool rental program that is **much** cheaper than most rental agencies, and a big savings over buying something to use only once.

You can't just walk in and borrow a tool, however. You will have to get an identification card that shows you are a current paid-up member of WPNA.

The WHO also has a low interest home improvement loan program. Look into this if you need a little financial help to get that project going.

We'll have more information, catalogs, and forms at the next general meeting. For questions about the

WPNA Business Members

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|---|---|
| BERGAMOT & IVY, INC.
1713 Westport Road
816-561-5599 | KATE'S CANINE RESORT
207 W 31 ST
816-753-4188 |
| CATHY'S CLIPS & CURL SALON
4301 Wyoming
816-561-2331 | WESTPORT LAUNDROMAT
1409 Westport Road
816-531-8889 |
| COPYMATE PRINT CENTER
4312 Terrace
816-931-4122 | JENNINGS TREE CARE
4505 State Line
816-931-3399 |
| FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE
4401 Genessee
816-931-2276 | GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW
204 W Linwood
816-931-3535 |
| HAIR STYLE
4500 Bell
816-531-4545 | WESTPORT OIL AND LUBE
1112 Westport Road
816-931-6995 |
| SUNSHINE FLOWERS
4509 Rainbow Blvd.
913-384-5034 | SHELTON TRAVEL
4800 Belleview
816-753-4888 |
| BILL WRIGHT HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING
816-756-3625 | PRECISION OPTICS OF WESTPORT
4181 Broadway
816-756-3577 |
| VALLEY VIEW BANK
4550 Belleview
913-381-3311 | RYAN INVESTMENTS
I BUY HOUSES!!!
816-682-3998 |
| RICH YOUNG ASSOCIATES INC
4501 Fairmount
931-4724 | DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURNACE
1414 W 47 th Street
816-753-4334 |
| ACT II
1417 W 47 th
816-531-7572 | NORMANDY SQUARE APARTMENTS
4428 Jarboe
913-72-6280 |
| Judy Klemm REECE AND NICHOLS
2000 Shawnee Mission Parkway
913-677-6300 | LINDA W PEARCE ANTIQUES
1214 W 47 TH
816-531-6255 |

tool rental program contact Mike Zeller. Jarel Gosch can tell you about the loan program.
Boyd Williston

Free Tax Help

Seniors and persons of low-income may receive free help with their tax forms and the MO-PTC (qualifying seniors can get some of their real estate taxes back). Available through April 15 on Monday and Wednesdays, 9 am -12 pm; Tuesdays 9 am-3 pm at the Westport Temple of the Salvation Army, 500 W 39th Street. 816 931-0404.

Shirley Williston

Another Good Neighbor

Nick Beal, Vice President of Valley View Bank has generously donated the use of the bank's Board room for WPNA use. The WPNA Board meets once a month. Typically the meetings have taken place in a living room or around a dining room table. Now we can really get down to business in a real Board room.

And speaking of business, the Valley View Bank in located on the eastern edge of our neighborhood. Their address is 4550 Belleview and their telephone number is 913-381-3311. Call them and thank Nick for his support. Ask them about their full line of services, they may be able to lend more than just their Board room!?!

Paul Minto

Westport-Roanoke Community Center Activities

WRCC is developing a Spring/Summer flyer for activities during April-August. We are always looking for someone who may have a talent or craft to share with the community. Call Carolyn Glazener at 816-784-5200 or drop by WRCC at 3601 Roanoke Rd.

Preschool classes include fun time, kitchen fun, arts and crafts, and movement. Children's classes include animation and cartoon drawing, pottery, dog obedience, and parent/child participation. Children's clinics will include volleyball, tennis, and basketball. There will be a camp for children 6-15 years old, Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5:30pm, 9 weeks from June 10th-Aug.10th.

Adult classes include dog obedience, pottery, oil painting, chair caning, woodcarving, tole painting, German, Spanish, Tai Chi, Low Impact Aerobics, tennis, Swing and Latin dance.

Easter Egg Hunt for children is March 30th at WRCC.

A WP Neighbor, Shelly Zimmerman

Shelly has lived in WP seven years. She rode her bike looking at houses, fell in love with one for sale in WP, bought it and has been a good neighbor ever since. Shelly has been a board member and helped some with the fight against Van Tuyl. Shelly is a potter and art therapist. She has four cats. Shelly hopes to do some gardening this summer.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

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The annual WPNA Picnic and Neighborhood Clean-Up

Saturday, May 18th, 2002

Noon - ?

Westwood Park

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The WPNA Annual Garage Sale Saturday, June 8th

Know where any of the WPNA Garage Sale signs are? Please bring to 4436 Fairmount.

You can leave them on the porch

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 _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

I would like to help the neighborhood with:

Picnic Property Maintenance/Zoning

Yard Sale Neighborhood clean-up

Crime prevention Distribute newsletter

Refreshments for meetings

(March 2002 Newsletter)