

# WEST PLAZA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



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## Home Safety

We have invited David Reynolds, Community Safety Coordinator with the City of Kansas City, to attend our March meeting. David will be presenting information about how to protect ourselves and our homes from the undesirable. Some of you may remember Mr. Reynolds from his presentation approximately one year ago on car safety – so recalling the tips he gave at that meeting, we will be learning much more than the basics about keeping our doors locked and not displaying things that are inviting to thieves.

Be sure to attend this meeting, because after the education component is completed, you may qualify for some crime prevention devices for your home.

## March General Membership Meeting March 15<sup>th</sup>, Swinney School Cafeteria

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## West Plaza Traffic Calming

The West Plaza neighborhood is about to embark on a neighborhood-wide traffic calming study. As an outgrowth of the West Edge development, Raymond Braswell has retained us, 180 Degrees Design Studio, to conduct the study, and determine some solutions to current and future problems. Most especially, we'll be looking at the potential traffic impacts of the West Edge development and its effect on speed and volume within the neighborhood.

We'll conduct the study in 3 phases. The first phase is our "reconnaissance" phase, where we are seeking out all of the base information. For that, we'll have meetings within the neighborhood for people to discuss their issues, as well as with our Council representatives. We'll also gather real-time information of street widths, actual speeds of traffic, and on-street parking conditions. Finally, we'll acquire base information from the City,

including other current and past studies, and the cost of various traffic calming remedies in other neighborhoods.

The second phase is the "solutions" phase. We'll mobilize on-site, within the neighborhood for a full day or 2, to check potential solutions against what we found in phase one. We'll make suggestions, but want the neighborhood's feedback on the proposals, so we can decide what to go forward with. The net result will be a plan for the entire area, some of which can be accomplished following completion of the West Edge development, and some of which could proceed immediately via City Hall.

The third and final phase is implementation. We'll present the plan to the City and seek adoption from the Planning Commission and Council. We'd like for them to adopt the solutions as ordinance ideally, to get it on the public record. Following that, the implementation of some of the solutions will wait until the West Edge is complete and operating. The purpose of this is to test the 'real-world' activity vs. those that the study projected. We'd prefer to implement the solutions at that point, so as not to waste money imprudently or exacerbate problems.

If you have any questions, please call me, Kevin Klinkenberg, at 531-9695. We have begun scheduling the first phase, with the goal of initial meetings in mid-March.

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## A Little Bit More about Recycling

Kansas City now offers convenient curbside recycling to residents in all neighborhoods. Recycling not only saves limited space in our landfill, but also allows the reuse of already existing materials for new products – which reduces the pace at which we use up our environment's limited resources.

*(continued, page 2, "Recycling")*

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter  
 Edited by Boyd Williston  
 Home Address: 4410 Fairmount, Kansas City, MO 64111-4354  
 Phone: 816-931-0194 (home)  
 e-mail: boyd01wpna@kc.rr.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles or association activities to Boyd at his e-mail or postal address (e-mail is preferred). You must include your name and how to contact you for your suggestion to be considered. Articles may be edited for length, accuracy, and grammar. The submitter's name will be used only if permission is granted.

Production of this publication was made possible through support from the KCMO Neighborhood Development (Community Block Grant) and the Missouri Department of Economic Development (Neighborhood Assistance Program)

Advertising rates (display ad other than listing in business membership):

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Quarter page	\$35 per issue
Half page	\$50 per issue

Plastic bags. Anything that has had direct contact with cooked food – pizza boxes, for example. Waxy containers like ice cream and milk cartons. Paper napkins, paper towels, paper plates, and tissues. Glass bottles. Shredded office paper. Tin foil. Styrofoam peanuts. These last four items can be recycled by taking them to the Drop-Off Center at 48<sup>th</sup> & Forest.

**How can I get more information?**

For more information, you can call the city's Department of Environmental Management at 816/513-3490 #7, or if you'd rather talk to your friendly neighborhood Recycling Ambassador, call Julie Tenenbaum at 816/931-2276.

**Trash and recycle schedule**

Trash is picked up every week; recyclables are picked up every other week on the same day as the regular trash pickup. Here is a summary of this year's recyclables pickup weeks for the West Plaza.

Recyclables will be picked up in our neighborhood during the following weeks:

Mar 21	June 13, 27	Sept 5, 19	Dec 12, 26
Apr 4, 18	July 11, 25	Oct 3, 17, 31	
May 2, 16, 30	Aug 8, 22	Nov 14, 28	

Following these city-observed 2005 holidays, trash and recyclables pickup will be delayed by one day. If your normal trash day is Monday, trash will be picked up on Tuesday. If your trash day is Friday, please set your items out for pickup on Saturday. The 2005 holidays are:

Memorial Day	Mon, May 30
Independence Day	Mon, July 4
Labor Day	Mon, Sept 5
Veteran's Day	Fri, Nov 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thurs, Nov 24
Christmas Day	Mon, Dec 26

**WPNA Officers and Board Members**

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|--|---|
| <b>President:</b><br>Phone: 816-797-3126                 | <b>Bob Crutsinger</b><br>e-mail: bob_crutsinger@hotmail.com |
| <b>Vice President, Secretary:</b><br>Phone: 816-304-7416 | <b>Paul Minto</b><br>e-mail: pminto@urbanprairiekc.com      |
| <b>Treasurer:</b><br>Phone: 816-531-8251                 | <b>Marlene Toms</b><br>e-mail: jtoms@kc.rr.com              |
| <b>Membership:</b><br>Phone: 816-931-0194                | <b>Boyd Williston</b><br>e-mail: boyd01wpna@kc.rr.com       |
| <b>At-Large:</b>   |   |
| <b>Penny Cox</b><br>Phone: 816- 531-4867                 | e-mail: pcox@kansascityhomes.com                            |
| <b>John Toms</b><br>Phone: 816-531-8251                  | e-mail: jtoms@kc.rr.com                                     |
| <b>Julie A. Tenenbaum</b><br>Phone: 816-931-2276         | e-mail: jatkc@aol.com                                       |
| <b>Shirley Williston</b><br>Phone: 816-931-0194          | e-mail: swilliston@kc.rr.com                                |
| <b>Delois Moore</b><br>Phone: 816-665-3999               | e-mail: moore_delois@hotmail.com                            |

**Recycling...**

*(continued from page 1)*

Recycling is easy to learn and it's convenient to use. If you are not presently recycling, here are some basics to help you get started.

**When are recyclables picked up?**

Recyclables are picked up every other week on your regular trash day (see page \_\_\_ for the WPNA schedule and the holiday schedule). Set out your recycling bin(s) along with your trash, preferably separating them by a few feet to make it easier for the trash haulers to see which is which.

**Is there a limit to how much I can set out?**

Each residence is allowed to set out up to two 40-pound trash bags each week, and an unlimited amount of recyclables on recycle day. If you put out more than two trash bags, a tag – which can be purchased for one dollar at participating Westlake Hardware or Price Chopper stores – is required for each additional bag. A blue bin (available at the same stores) is required in order to participate in the recycling program. A coupon for one free bin per household is available from the city; if you did not receive a coupon in the mail, you may call 816/513-3490. Additional bins can be purchased for \$9.

**What is recyclable?**

A surprising number of items are recyclable, and you can throw them all in the bin together. The entire newspaper. Phone books. Plastic water bottles and milk jugs. Tin and aluminum cans. Office paper and mail. Chipboard, which includes toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, and cereal boxes. Cardboard, both shiny and plain.

**What is NOT recyclable at the curb?**

## SW Tfwy/Westport/43rd St Intersections

Do you know the complex of intersections on 43<sup>rd</sup> and Westport Road, from where they split to Madison Avenue, has one of the highest accident rates in Kansas City?

Because of the high traffic volume and number of accidents, the City is developing a plan to possibly reconfigure this intersection. Several meetings have been held with the area neighborhoods and the public on this matter. If you are interested in improving this intersection, this is a perfect time to contact our City Council members and express your feelings.

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## Service Opportunity

Do you know a young person who is looking for a way to earn community service hours? Are you looking for a way to get involved in your community?

The West Plaza Neighborhood Association is in need of volunteers to deliver our newsletter. This job is simply a walk in an area of the neighborhood convenient for you. All we ask is for you to place a newsletter in each of your neighbors' doors. This is a great opportunity to become acquainted with the people on your block and to help improve the quality of life in the community you call home.

If you feel that delivering the newsletter would be a fitting volunteer opportunity for you, please call Bob Crutsinger at 816-797-3126. Be proud of your community and get involved!

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## Garage Sale

Remember to set aside Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> for the annual WPNA garage sale. If you want to be included in the neighborhood listing (it's FREE), contact Shirley Williston at 816-931-0194.

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## Easter Egg Hunt

The festivities begin Saturday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m. inside the Westport-Roanoke Community Center with games, crafts and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Then, at 11:00, we move outside to Roanoke Park for the egg hunt. Bags will be provided for those who need them. In case of rain - no problem! The hunt will be held inside.

Volker Neighborhood Association is again co-sponsoring the event along with our neighbors at the Roanoke Baptist Church, Jacob's Well, and WRCC. Volunteers are needed for hiding eggs, making crafts, and hosting games. Call Judy Widener at 561-5827 for more information.

## WPNA Business Members

**SHELTON TRAVEL**  
4800 Belleview  
816-753-4888

**(This retail space for rent)**  
4802 Belleview  
Call 816-753-4888 for information

**LE NAIL'S SALON**  
4804 Belleview  
816-931-0303

**YING'S COFFEE AND DELI**  
4806 Belleview  
913-526-7457

**LADNER ASSOCIATES CPA**  
4808 Belleview  
816-561-7580

**GARY JENKINS**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
204 W Linwood  
816-931-3535

**CATHY'S CLIPS & CURL SALON**  
4301 Wyoming  
816-561-2331

**Judy Klemm**  
**REMAX PREMIER REALTY**  
3515 W. 75 St.  
913-529-1408 (or 406-9204)

**Penelope Cox**  
**PRUDENTIAL KANSAS CITY**  
**REALTY**  
8101 College Blvd  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
913-661-8545

**RICH YOUNG**  
**ASSOCIATES INC**  
4501 Fairmount  
816-931-4724

**HOME SOLUTIONS**  
**RYAN INVESTMENTS, LLC**  
**WE BUY HOUSES!!!**  
816-682-3998

**PRECISION OPTICS OF**  
**WESTPORT**  
4181 Broadway  
816-756-3577

**FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL**  
**SERVICE**  
4401 Genessee  
816-931-2276

**PRINT TEKK PRINTING**  
**AND MAILING**  
4312 Terrace  
816-931-4122

**WELL GROUNDED MASSAGE**  
**THERAPY**  
1615 W. 45th  
816-729-6208

**TRILOGY DEVELOPMENT**  
**COMPANY LLC**  
4600 Madison, Suite 1500  
816-756-0640

**WESTPORT LAUNDROMAT**  
1409 Westport Road  
816-531-8889

**HAIR STYLE**  
4500 Bell  
816-531-4545

**GREENWICH WEST**  
1801 Westport Rd.  
816-561-8411

**KATE'S CANINE RESORT**  
207 W 31<sup>ST</sup>  
816-753-4188

**DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM**  
**INSURANCE**  
1414 W 47<sup>th</sup> Street  
816-753-4334

**BERGAMOT & IVY, INC.**  
1713 Westport Road  
816-561-5599

**JENNINGS TREE CARE**  
4505 State Line  
816-931-3399

**WESTPORT-PLAZA DENTAL**  
**ASSOCIATES**  
801 W 47<sup>th</sup> Suite 408  
816-561-6150

**VALLEY VIEW BANK**  
4550 Belleview  
913-381-3311  
  
Mark Carey  
**MORTGAGE LENDERS OF AMERICA**  
7301 Mission Rd Suite 219  
913-262-5711

**PLAZA CHIROPRACTIC**  
1507 West 47<sup>th</sup> Street  
816-931-4601

**ACT II**  
1417 W 47<sup>th</sup>  
816-531-7572

**BALSANO'S**  
**Gourmet Coffee Company**  
1811 West 45<sup>th</sup>  
816-931-4010

**GROTTO DELICATESSEN**  
1517 Westport Rd  
816-531-6775

**CURVES**  
1010 Westport  
816-753-5707

**DOG'S WORLD OF FUN**  
1220 W 31st  
816-931-5822

**PC SOLUTIONS**  
In Home Computer Repair  
**816-756-5811**

**SUNSHINE FLOWERS**  
4509 Rainbow Blvd  
913-384-5034

**Your West Plaza Real Estate Agent  
Penelope Cox**

This section of your Newsletter is a service for you to help provide you with answers to questions you may have about real estate here in our neighborhood. Just e-mail me what you would like answered and your questions will be anonymously covered in this section of upcoming issues.

Send your questions to: pcox@KansasCityHomes.com with the subject matter addressed to: **West Plaza Real Estate Agent.**

**Credit Scoring**

**Dear Penny: Can you give me some facts about Credit Scoring? What kind of information is included in a person's Credit Score?**

**A:** Understand that there is NO single factor like a late payment or even a bankruptcy that will be the sole cause of an unacceptable credit score. Your Credit Score is a "snapshot" that sums up what your past payment performance and current usage of credit say about your level of credit risk to the lender. Your Credit Score is based on data stored by a credit repository that covers your credit history and payment patterns. Scoring models are used that cover the following:

- \* **Past Payment Performance** (which is 35% of your credit score's weight)
- \* **Credit Utilization** (which is 30% of your credit score's weight)
- \* **Credit History** (which is 15% of your credit score's weight)
- \* **Types of Credit in Use** (which is 10% of your credit score's weight)
- \* **Inquiries on Your Report** (which is 10% of your credit score's weight)

I'll cover more in following Newsletter Issues, but meanwhile I invite you to go to [www.MyFICO.com](http://www.MyFICO.com) for

more information. Or, feel free to email me and I'll be glad to mail you free my tri-fold on the subject. Just ask for my "Consumer's Guide to the Facts & Fiction About Credit Scoring and Its Role in Lending."

*(Source: NAMB National Association of Mortgage Brokers)*

**Steve's West Plaza Home  
Maintenance Service  
816-531-4234**

**Super Integrity is my Guarantee**

**General Repair - Maintenance  
Exterior-Interior Painting  
Gutter Cleaning and Repair  
And Much More**

**Visit my Web Site at  
<http://tinyurl.com/5oarb>**

**WPNA Membership Cards**

Thanks to the generous contribution of PrintTekk (4312 Terrace), membership cards are being provided to those who have joined the WPNA in 2005. The cards proudly display some of the benefits of being a WPNA member. For each who has already renewed for 2005, a membership card is included with the mailing of this newsletter.

Benefits include: Newsletter by mail/e-mail (often with member-only inclusions); phone alerts and e-mail alerts; access to the Westside Housing Organization tool library; eligible for door prizes at the annual picnic.

To join, and get these (and other) benefits, just complete the form below and mail it in with your dues for the year 2005.

**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 2005 Newsletter)