

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



It's time for the Annual West Plaza Neighborhood celebrations in Westwood Park. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 14th. Rain or shine, that's the day for the Spring Clean Sweep and the Picnic.

It's our annual picnic. Come to the Westwood Park shelter and join in the fun and food. The activities start at noon.

WPNA will supply food (hot dogs and condiments) and drinks (cold soft drinks and water). Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

About 1:00, we'll have games (some for kids, some for adults) and draw for door prizes. Note, to be eligible for the door prizes, you must be a member of WPNA and be present when your name is drawn.

The Spring Clean Sweep starts at 8:00 a.m. We'll have two dumpsters on the east side of Westwood Park, one for yard waste and one for bulky items. Come early, because once the dumpsters are full, we close down.

Yard waste should be in paper bags (no plastic) or small bundles 3 feet or less in length, tied with twine (no plastic or metal). We can accept loose material.

We cannot accept refrigerators, a/c units, batteries, tires, solvents, paint or any hazardous waste.

The Clean Sweep is open to ALL residents of West Plaza, but ONLY West Plaza residents. Please be ready to prove your residence (a valid driver's license or recent utility bill will do).

Our next scheduled general membership meeting will be in September. We'll post the agenda in a future newsletter, so watch for it.

Have a happy and safe summer.

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):

Business card size	\$25 per issue
Quarter page	\$35 per issue
Half page	\$50 per issue
Full page	\$100 per issue

NECK/SHOULDER PAIN? LOWER BACK/HIP PAIN?

Massage therapy is a recognized and effective treatment for these problems.

I am an experienced, licensed massage therapist specializing in these areas. My deep yet gentle techniques have gotten positive results.

Don't live with pain...call today!
 Phone **(816) 729-6208** for an appointment
 \$10 off your first appointment
 Evenings and Saturdays Available

Well Grounded
 Massage Therapy Center

1615 W 45th St., KC MO
 Donna Farber, Licensed Massage Therapist
 Member Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals

("Appeal Process", from page 4)

and ask for "A Review of Your Assessment" to schedule an informal hearing. This must be completed by May 13th (so time is running out). You may be asked to fill out a form, and at a specific date you will meet with the Assessor to have your property reappraised and to discuss how the

assessment was done. If you are not satisfied you may then schedule an appeal with the Board of Equalization (BOE).

- 2nd Step - Appeal to the Board of Equalization (816-881-3309). Timing for the appeal is very specific (starting first of May/ending June 20th 2005). They will ask you to fill out a form to schedule a hearing. If you are not satisfied with the BOE hearing, you may then schedule an appeal with the State Tax Commission.
- 3rd Step - Appeal to the State Tax Commission of Missouri. The BOE will inform you of how to proceed with the State Tax Commission, and the appeal to the State Tax Commission needs to be within 30 days after your BOE Hearing.

Statement of Accounts for West Plaza Neighborhood Association, January 1 to December 31, 2004

WPNA Operating Account
 Beginning Balance \$5,671.47

EXPENSES

1. Newsletter	(\$228.22)
2. Neighborhood Picnic	(\$222.66)
3. P. O. Box Annual Rental Fee	(\$58.00)
4. Westport Crime Prevention Commission 2004-2005	(\$270.00)
5. Liability Insurance Annual Premium	(\$312.00)
6. Nonprofit Annual Fee	(\$15.00)
7. Dumpsters (4) (5-22-04 and 10-23-04)	(\$200.00)
8. Garage Sale	(\$119.68)
9. KCNA Luncheon Tickets (3) 11-16-04	(\$90.00)
Total Expenses	(\$1,515.56)

INCOME

1. Membership	\$1,571.00
2. Donations	\$418.00
3. Advertising Fees	\$240.00
Total Income	\$2,229.00

Operating Account Ending Balance \$6,384.91

Neighborhood Self Help Fund 2001
 Beginning Balance \$3,252.88

EXPENSES

1. 50 Neighborhood Banners	(\$2,375.00)
2. Mutt Mitts-Westwood Park	(\$653.89)
Total Expenses	(\$3,028.89)

Self Help Fund Ending Balance \$223.99

Total Money On Hand \$6,608.90

Preventing Theft of Vehicle License Plates and Renewal Tabs

Vehicle License Plates:

1. Make sure license plates are securely fastened to your vehicle.
2. Get in the habit of checking your license plates before you drive.
3. Place a few drops of solder on fastening bolts.
4. Blur the threads that fasten license plates
5. Invest in custom or after market license plate fasteners, frames, and clear covers.
6. Epoxy license plate to vehicle, then tighten fasteners.

Do not remove license plates and place them inside your back window – you could be ticketed for illegal display of the license.

License Plate Renewal Tabs:

1. Invest in a clear license plate cover.
2. The Division of Motor Vehicle and Drivers Licensing recommends that motorist place their new and renewal license plate tabs in the MIDDLE of their license plates to help prevent tab theft. If you have current tabs on the corners of your license plates, they recommend that you do not attempt to remove them in order to place them in the middle.
3. Use a razor blade to slash renewal sticker several times, this will prevent tab from being removed in one piece.

If your plates or renewal stickers are stolen, inform the police immediately. License plates frequently are stolen from vehicles to be used on stolen vehicles used in additional crimes.

Starting in January 2007, the state will begin to re-issue all license plates. By January 1, 2009, license plate year tabs will be produced in the offices and will be unique to each license plate number. License plate year tabs will only be valid on the license plate that matches the number printed on the tabs.

For more information on how to prevent license plate and renewal tab theft go to:
www.dor.state.mo.us/mvdl/motorv/tabtheft.htm

("Garden Club", from page 4)

The garden club meets on the third Sunday of each month from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. (at least during the growing season). Mark your calendars for May 15th. Since we are meeting at various members' homes, call Sandy Sanders at 816-931-7207 or e-mail her at sandy.sanders@kcmetro.edu for locations.

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

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

DOG'S WORLD OF FUN

1220 W. 31st Street
816-931-5822

BOOZEFISH WINE BAR

1511 Westport Rd.
816-561-5995

PC SOLUTIONS

In Home Computer Repair
816-756-5811

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. 31st
816-753-4188

DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURANCE

1414 W. 47th Street
816-753-4334

BERGAMOT & IVY, INC.

1713 Westport Road
816-561-5599

JENNINGS TREE CARE

4505 State Line
816-931-3399

VALLEY VIEW BANK

4550 Belleview
913-381-3311

PLAZA CHIROPRACTIC

1507 W. 47th Street
816-931-4601

ACT II

1417 W. 47th Street
816-531-7572

GROTTO DELICATESSEN

1517 Westport Rd.
816-531-6775

CURVES

1010 Westport Rd.
816-753-5707

SUNSHINE FLOWERS

4509 Rainbow Blvd.
913-384-5034

STEVE'S WEST PLAZA HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICE

816-531-4234
<http://tinyurl.com/5oarb>

TRILOGY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC

4600 Madison, Suite 1500
816-756-0640

WELL GROUNDED MASSAGE THERAPY

1615 W. 45th Street
816-729-6208

Your West Plaza Real Estate Agent Penelope Cox

This section of your Newsletter continues as a service 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.

Just like *The Kansas City Star* said, hundreds of Jackson County residents have been hit with increases in their Assessed Property Values, resulting in increases in Property Taxes. I too have been hit with phone calls regarding this issue, and asked if or how can people appeal. We covered this in the articles I wrote in our March 2004 and May 2004 Newsletters. If you still have them around, pull them out. If not and want a copy let me know and I'll email a copy to you. I don't have space here to run both articles, BUT – I will repeat facts on how to appeal.

Property Tax Assessments Appeal Process

Dear Penny: Help. Are these increases in property values for real? Can I appeal and how?

A: Yes - you can appeal. If you do appeal your focus should be on Market Value (Appraised Value); not on your Assessed Value, nor on your 19% Residential Assessment Ratio, Tax Rate, or Tax Levy. The Appeal Process is not a negotiation process. Ask yourself if your property is worth the Appraised Value. If "yes", appealing may not prove beneficial. If "no", appealing may prove advantageous if you think the Appraised Value is higher than what the sales price would be on your home.

- 1st Step in the Appeal Process - Contact the Jackson County Assessment Department (816-881-4661)
(go to page 2, "Appeal Process")

WPNA YARD SALE

The West Plaza Neighborhood yard sale will be held **Saturday, June 11th, from 8am-4pm. Are you considering having a yard/garage sale this spring? You can get a FREE listing on the WPNA yard sale flyer if you have your sale on the same day. To get on the list, call Shirley Williston at 816-931-0194 by noon, Wednesday, June 8th. Also, if you can help set up signs or distribute flyers, call Shirley.**

The flyers will only list the sale address and up to four items or types of items that are for sale. 'Types' could be tools, furniture, clothes, miscellaneous or something similar. Flyers with a map to help find the sale locations will be available at 4410 Fairmount. Additional flyers will be available at each listed sale location.

New Neighborhood Garden Club

Do you like to garden? Would you like to learn more, share what you know and meet your garden-loving neighbors? Join your neighborhood garden club! We are so new that we haven't even come up with a proper name, but we do have some ideas about what the garden club could do:

1. Provide resources - outlets for purchasing plants, community resources to help us make best use of our personal garden space, identify and invite folks who can share their expertise (composting, drying herbs, etc.).
2. Create neighborhood/community/public space gardens and offer opportunities for folks who would like a garden but haven't the resources (space, etc.)
3. Visit other gardens to get ideas for our own (Linda Hall Garden, etc.).
4. Share with like-minded gardeners - plants, ideas, food, gardens.

(go to page 3, "Garden Club")

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

(May 2005 Newsletter)