

WEST PLAZA

Neighborhood Association



Mark Your Calendar ☒

Upcoming General Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 7-8 p.m.

**New Location! Swinney Dual Language
Elementary School 47th & Holly Street**

**Board Nominations - Guest Speaker TBA
Drawing for \$25 Quik Trip Gift Card**

We are pleased to announce that the WPNA has been invited by Swinney School to hold our general meetings at their facility, and we have accepted their invitation. Enter by the door on the west side of the building, pass through the cafeteria, and follow the signs to the library.

Many thanks to Mike Flaherty, who has allowed us to meet at The Point Annex for the past two years.

Our program will feature nominations for next year's Officers and Board members. If you would like to participate in planning and executing neighborhood activities, this is your chance! We will also have a presentation by a city representative (TBA), and a door prize for a lucky neighbor. ■

2008-2009 Events & Meetings

WPNA general membership meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of odd numbered months at Swinney School, 47th & Holly.

Schedule:

General Meetings: Nov. 18, Jan. 20 (Election of Officers & Directors), Mar. 24 (fourth Tuesday to avoid St. Patrick's Day!), Sept. 15, Nov. 17

Spring Cleanup & Picnic: May (date TBA)

WPNA Garage Sales: July 11 ■

Neighborhood Cleanup Successful

By Joe Montanari

Many thanks to all who helped with the Neighborhood Cleanup on October 11. We managed to fill both dumpsters to the brim with trash and yard waste, making our homes, yards, and streets a little cleaner in the process. A most sincere thank you to Constance Tate, who directs the Kansas City Public Works Department's Neighborhood Cleanup Assistance Program. The City generously subsidizes 2/3 of the cost of the dumpsters, while West Plaza Neighborhood Association contributes 1/3. This represents a very good value for West Plaza residents.

Thanks to our volunteers: Joe Padilla, the hardest-working man in West Plaza, who was at the park *before 6 a.m.* to meet the driver who delivered the dumpsters, and stayed to help until after noon. To John Toms, who showed up early and stayed late, and loaded lots of stuff into the dumpster. To Marlene Toms, who kept me organized, wrote the checks, and provided drinking water for the workers. To Julie Tenenbaum, who chased everyone around with a clipboard to make sure they signed in (to meet the city's requirement). To Ed O'Donnell, who manhandled leaves and brush all day, and filled the dumpster practically by himself. To the refreshment angels: Marne Gipson, who showed up just in time with cookies and muffins for the crew, and Maureen, our neighbor on Wyoming, who brought us coffee. To Dave Paarman, who came by to drop things off, then stayed to help.

A special thanks to Master Patrol Officer Jim Schriever, who supervised a crew from the Municipal Correctional Facility, who swept,

raked, and bagged up debris from our neighborhood streets, curbs, and sidewalks.

And thanks to all our neighbors along the 4700 block of Wyoming, who put up with the noise and traffic congestion, especially at 6 a.m., when things began thumping loudly into the dumpsters.

We are surely fortunate to live in a neighborhood where we care enough about each other to work so hard to make our community a little better each day.

Editor's Note: Joe Montanari is much too modest to acknowledge the many hours of work he put into the cleanup, so we'll do it for him. Thank you, Joe. ■

New Rules for Bulky Item Pickup

The Public Works Department has announced that as of Sept. 1, bulky item collections only will be available by appointment, with a 15-item limit per appointment.

Residents can schedule an appointment by calling the 3-1-1 Action Center, a division of the City Manager's Office, at 311 or 816-513-1313.

Bulky items include refrigerators, stoves, freezers, dishwashers, dryers, sofas, desks, tables, doors, lawn mowers and carpet. The City does not consider an item to be bulky if it can be accommodated by regular trash service. Bags, boxes, vacuum cleaners, small electric appliances, and fans are not bulky items. Residents with debris from remodeling and construction projects should contact a private solid waste company.

For a complete listing of the City's rules on bulky item collection or for information about regular trash, recycling, and solid waste collection, visit www.kcmo.org/trash. ■

The Scrap Metal Man

We were pleased to welcome Jesse the "scraper" to the Fall cleanup this year. He collects and recycles scrap metal, thus helping minimize the amount of debris that would otherwise go into the landfill. If you need to discard anything made of metal – washers, dryers, water heaters, etc., and would rather recycle it than add it to the landfill, call Jesse at 913-321-5764. ■

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
Edited by Julie A. Tenenbaum
Address: 4401 Genessee, KC, MO 64111-4359
Phone: 816-931-2276 email: jatkc@aol.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles or association activities to Julie at her email address. You must include your name and your contact information 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.

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

Safety in the West Plaza

Several home burglaries have occurred recently in our neighborhood. According to the police, the crimes have occurred during both day and evening hours. Daylight Saving time is almost over, and the days will become darker earlier in the evening, so be vigilant. Make sure you have good locks on your home and use them, along with extra outside lighting. Consider installing a security alarm for your home; they are worth the money, especially if they make lots of outside noise. A dog that barks is also a good deterrent.

Please do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 if you see something suspicious or out of the ordinary.

According to Officer Schriever, our West Plaza police liaison, several neighborhoods within Central Division have experienced crimes where the suspects have been observed acting suspiciously prior to the crimes being committed, and yet no one called to report them. In his words, "These calls (to 9-1-1) are extremely important as a valuable source of information, as we are constantly reviewing crime/call statistics and deploying resources to address such issues. The 9-1-1 system also records the caller's location so if a 'suspicious' call rises to a more violent situation and the connection is lost, we have a record of where the call came from. If a situation is occurring, or you feel one is about to occur, or is even out of the ordinary, make that call to 9-1-1."

Officer Schriever urges neighbors to call (816-759-6313) or email with questions or concerns. Please note that his email address has changed to: James.Schriever@KCPD.ORG. ■

Garden Spot Renamed the “West Plaza Garden” and much more...

by Ed O'Donnell

Last year WPNA member Shelley Zimmerman presented the idea of transforming the neglected triangular-shaped island (bounded by Roanoke, 46th Street, and Jarboe) on the eastern edge of the West Plaza into a garden. When I moved to West Plaza in 1992, this land was just trees and grass. Sometime in the mid-1990s, the Parks and Recreation Department beautified the island by planting goldmound spirea surrounded by evergreen shrubs. They didn't last. A few years later the spirea was dead, and so was all but the northern tip and the southern length of the evergreen. The area had become a weed patch.

Shelley suggested that the WPNA collaborate with the city to create and maintain a garden that would showcase the community spirit and beauty of the West Plaza neighborhood. She filled out the necessary Parks & Rec paperwork, did a lot of legwork to investigate possible design elements and plantings, sketched out the design proposal, estimated a budget, and began fundraising. About \$680 has been collected to date from our generous neighbors and business members. After Shelley got it off to a solid start, she handed the project back to the Board, who asked me to manage the implementation phase.

I've been involved with the Missouri Native Plant Society for about 15 years, and my occupation is structural drafter, so I have some background for this volunteer opportunity. I drew a scaled drawing of the island showing features of the design, including a landscape boulder, a flagstone path, and a tulip tree (*liriodendron tulipifera*). The plan can be found on the soon-to-be-revealed WPNA website (see www.westplaza.org Coming Soon! below).

October workdays! On October 4, Sharon Pendleton, Joe Padilla, Joe Montanari, John Toms, Matt and Rachel Nugent, Julie Tenenbaum, and I pulled weeds, dug up the spirea that was coming back from the root, and cleaned trash from the site. Big thanks to everyone; it made a world of difference.

Two weeks later, Joe Padilla, John Toms, Joe Montanari, Craig Cotton, and I had quite a workout as we tried to till the area for future

flower planting. I am glad John knew how to run a tiller, since I didn't. Thanks for the tutorial, John. We all took turns manning it until the belt on the machine got too loose, and we had to stop. Joe Padilla dug a very deep and wide hole for the tree, and Joe, Craig, and I planted it. Big thanks to Joe Montanari for his time and the use of his truck; the day would not have been as productive without his help.

What's next?

In early November I would like to get the rest of the area tilled, the boulder placed, and after the leaves have finished falling, shred them and spread them over the garden.

In late January/early February I will call a design session of the Garden committee to finalize decisions about what to plant and where to plant it. Joe Montanari has volunteered to build the flagstone walkway in early spring 2009. We will need more funds later in the spring, since we will want to plant perennials and annuals.

From then on, we will need to pull weeds, deadhead spent blossoms, and clean up trash on a regular basis. It would be best if during the growing season volunteers would gather at the garden to do weekly maintenance. Hope you can help.

Possible (and I repeat possible) future plans include ideas like a raised bed and a permanent “West Plaza Garden” sign. Please come to the next general meeting and let me know what you think. ■

www.westplaza.org Coming Soon!

West Plaza will soon have its own website, thanks to the generous volunteer effort of new member Matt Nugent. The domain name is reserved, as well as an email address. Content will be posted soon, including our schedule, announcements, newsletters (both current and archive), links to city services, West Plaza history, and more.

Stay tuned....



Newsletter layout provided compliments of Final Draft Secretarial Service. Printing provided by Print Tekk Printing and Mailing. Both are neighborhood businesses.

WPNA Business Members

Please support the businesses that support the WPNA!

<p style="text-align: center;">ACT II 1417 W. 47th St. 816-531-7572</p> <p>AMERICAN BUDDHIST CENTER 4400 Wyoming 816-210-3378</p> <p>BERGAMOT & IVY, INC. 1713 Westport Road 816-561-5599</p> <p>BOOZEFISH WINE BAR 1511 Westport Road 816-561-5995 www.boozefish.com</p> <p>CATHY'S CLIP & CURL SALON 4301 Wyoming St. 816-561-2331</p> <p>CIRCLE TAX & ACCOUNTING 1721 Westport Road 816-753-1700</p> <p>COUNTRY CLUB FINANCIAL Herman Johansen 4343 Belleview 816-360-8628</p> <p>DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INS 1414 W. 47th St. 816-753-4334</p> <p>DESIGNER WIG STUDIO 1105 Westport Road Kansas City, MO 64111 816-444-5644</p> <p>DOGS' WORLD OF FUN 1220 W. 31st St. 816-931-5822 www.dogsworldoffun.com</p> <p>FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERV 4401 Genessee St. 816-931-2276 www.Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com</p>	<p>FITNESS TOGETHER 4448 Belleview 816-841-5129</p> <p>GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW 204 W. Linwood 816-931-3535</p> <p>GREENWICH WEST 1801 Westport Road 816-561-8411</p> <p>HAIR STYLE 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p> <p>JENNINGS TREE & LAWN CARE 4505 State Line 816-931-3399</p> <p>JUDY KLEMM REMAX PREMIER REALTY 2210 W. 75th St. 913-529-1408 or 913-406-9204</p> <p>KATE'S CANINE RESORT 2823 Main St. 816-753-4188</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p>LADNER ASSOCIATES CPA 4808 Belleview Ave. 816-561-7580</p> <p>MARSH'S SUN FRESH MARKET 4001 Mill St. 816-931-1639</p> <p>MIKE KELLY'S WESTSIDER 1515 Westport Road 816-931-9417</p> <p>MONTANARI FINE ART JEWELERS 4810 Belleview Ave. 816-531-0750 www.montanarijewelers.com</p>	<p>NICK KRIER STATE FARM INSURANCE 4806 Belleview Ave. 816-561-7770</p> <p>ORGANIZE ME 816-529-6901</p> <p>PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT CO LLC 4600 Madison, Suite 1500 816-756-0640</p> <p>PENELOPE COX Keller Williams Realty Key Partners, LLC Direct Office: 913-825-7582 Cell: 816-728-3154</p> <p>PRINT TEKK PRINTING & MAILING 4312 Terrace 816-931-4122</p> <p>SHANNON BASHAM Certified Personal Trainer & CPR Instructor 816-810-3623</p> <p>SHELTON TRAVEL SERVICE 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888</p> <p>SUNSHINE FLOWERS 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p>THE POINT 917 W. 44th St. 816-561-7660</p> <p>VALLEY VIEW BANK 4550 Belleview Ave. 913-381-3311</p> <p>WEST PLAZA NAIL SALON & SPA 4804 Belleview Ave. 816-931-0303</p>
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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

Check One: New Renewal

Check One: Household (\$12) Senior (\$7) Business (\$25)

Check if you **DO NOT** want to receive phone reminders and messages from WPNA:

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 Meeting Refreshments

Newsletter Distribution Gardening

Business Member Contact Name: _____

[November-December 2008 Newsletter]