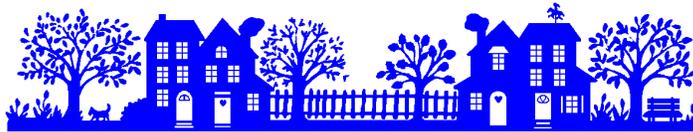


WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Mark Your Calendar

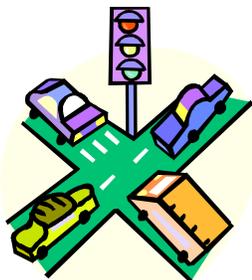
Upcoming General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 7-8 p.m.
Immanuel Lutheran Church
1700 Westport Road
Topic: Brush Creek Improvements
Guest Speaker: Carol Grimaldi

Major flood control and beautification improvements were made to Brush Creek in the 1990s. Ongoing public meetings and discussions are underway regarding the segment between Roanoke and State Line, which was not included in the original plans. Carol Grimaldi, Executive Director of Brush Creek Community Partners, will discuss current proposals and answer residents' questions about them.

Please join us on the 20th for this interesting discussion. A raffle for a gift certificate will end the meeting. ■

Southwest Trafficway & Westport Road Intersection Design Meetings

by Matthew Nugent



Over the last several months, the City of Kansas City has been working on a variety of designs to improve the intersection at Westport Road and Southwest Trafficway. In June, the Westport Traffic Study team held the second of two meetings to discuss

improvements to the intersection.

Planning for the change began with individual interviews of several dozen residents, business owners, and others who were concerned about the intersection. West Plaza was an active

participant in those discussions. Members of the neighborhoods around the intersection then gathered to share ideas and prioritize potential design features at a December 2010 meeting at which six priorities were identified to be incorporated into any new design concepts.

The priorities for design concepts include:

- Reduced speed on Westport Road and Southwest Trafficway
- Enhanced traffic flow
- Honoring the historical significance of Westport Road
- Increased walkability; enhanced visual green space
- Reduced driver confusion

At the recent June meeting, community members reviewed five preliminary design concepts for the intersection and voted on designs that they would like to see move forward for further exploration. The two most favored designs, "The Braid" (which is too complicated to be explained here—Google "diverging diamond intersection" for an explanation) and "Grade Separation" (an underpass that would route Southwest Trafficway under Westport Road) will now undergo more detailed design, 3-D rendering, and initial cost estimation.

When these more detailed—but still preliminary—designs are completed, which is anticipated this Fall, they will again be presented to the entire community for comments at a public meeting. It is then anticipated that a single concept will be taken forward into final design. West Plaza will continue to be an active participant in these meetings.

If you have questions or comments or would like to attend the next meeting, email us at wpnack@gmail.com. ■

13th Annual Dance in the Park Saturday, September 10, 2011

The 13th annual Dance in the Park will be presented on Saturday, September 10, in the tranquil setting of Roanoke Park. DITP showcases the exciting performances of a host of the Kansas City region's unique dance companies. This free event invites you to gather with your neighbors and others from around the city and enjoy some truly fine dancing. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. with a free dance class, during which audience members of all ages will be invited onstage for a lesson with professional dancers. The show will start at 7 p.m. Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, a picnic, and the whole family!

DITP is produced by City in Motion Dance Theater with support by the Volker, Roanoke, Valentine, Coleman Highlands, and West Plaza neighborhood associations.

If you would like to volunteer to help with parking control (Joe Montanari could use some backup!), greeting patrons (Julie Tenenbaum will share her programs with you), or other simple duties, please contact:

Andrea Skowronek
andreasowronek@yahoo.com
816-210-1192 ■

Fall Cleanup: Sat., Oct. 8, 8 a.m.

East side of Westwood Park on Wyoming ▪ leaves & brush ▪ large household items ▪ no hazardous waste, paint, computer parts, or tires. Want to help? Call Julie 816-931-2276.

My mission is to help you manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected, and realize your dreams.



STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES
HOME OFFICES- BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

DAVID G. ALLEN
Agent

1414 West 47th Street Bus. Phone: 753-4334
Kansas City, Missouri 64112 Res. Phone: 753-6536

Stop by for a free gift with your quote!

Attention Business Owners of the West Plaza!

The West Plaza Neighborhood Association invites you to attend our bi-monthly general meeting, and welcomes you to set out your business's promotional material for our members to view. To advertise at meetings, you must be a paid business member of the WPNA.

A business membership also ensures that your contact information is printed on the back page of every issue of the newsletter, which is distributed to the 1,100 homes in the West Plaza and emailed or sent by U.S. mail to our 150+ members.

To join, fill out the membership form on page 6 and send it with your annual dues of \$25 to the address shown on the form.

We appreciate your support, and we look forward to supporting your local business. See you at the next general meeting! ■



Simply Grooming by Gia

*Full-service grooming,
all breeds, all ages
Gentle, individual care.*

**912 W 39th St,
KCMO 64111
816-277-7348**



West Plaza Garden Report

by Ed O'Donnell

The garden news this month is a mixed bag. The good news is that the southern junipers are looking great because of the skilled work of Sharon Pendleton, who pruned and trimmed them. The monument is looking sharp because Joe Montanari has created a rock "apron" in front of it. Thank you very much, Sharon and Joe.

Despite the heat, some of the plants are thriving. The butterfly weed, little bluestem, and liatris are healthy. Even the ground plumb and golden Alexanders planted this Spring are holding their own. The sunflowers that survived are providing food for the goldfinches.

And that brings me to the less-than-good news. In my Spring article, I made a special point about the sunflowers, and I was hoping to tell everyone about the wide variety that were blooming this time of year. Well, a lot of seeds did not germinate, and a lot of them did not survive July's heat and drought. Many other plants did not survive either, but most of the perennials will come back next year.

One odd result of the weather is the current state of the carrots. If you notice a blossom that looks like Queen Anne's Lace, it is actually a carrot that was so stressed by the weather conditions that it went to seed this year instead of next year. FYI, Queen Anne's Lace is in the carrot family; hence the identical blossom.

On Tuesday nights about 6:00, I head down to the garden to pull weeds and remove dead plant material. I invite you to come hang out with me there, and bring your tools!

On Sunday, August 28, 1 p.m. till finished, we will have an **Iris Dig and Divide**. The **Fall Garden Clean-Up** is Saturday, November 19, 9 a.m. till noon (I suspect there will be a lot less to remove this Autumn than there has been in past years.) Please mark your calendar and join me in the garden! ■

Pest-Proofing Your Home

by Stephanie Murrell

Each year as the weather begins to cool, we start to hear about the importance of weather-proofing our homes to conserve energy. What we often overlook is pest-proofing our home to prevent overwintering spiders, insects, and rodents from joining us inside. Just as you want to stay warm in the cooler weather, so do cockroaches, flies, lady bugs, spiders, stink bugs, and mice.

While invading insects and rodents may seem harmless, they are capable of causing extensive damage, and some of these pests pose a health risk. Cockroach droppings and saliva can trigger asthma attacks, especially in children. Rodents carry Salmonella and Hantavirus and cause structural damage. They can also chew through electrical wire and insulation.

Protect your home and family with these pest-proofing tips

- Store food in airtight glass containers
- Install door sweeps
- Inspect and repair door and window screens
- Add or repair screen vents to chimney openings
- Seal cracks in your foundation
- Replace weather stripping around basement windows
- Move firewood at least 20 feet from your home, and keep it off the ground
- Keep all shrubs and trees trimmed so they do not form a "bridge" to the house
- Caulk or patch cracks or gaps in the walls around electrical outlets

If you suspect that you have pests, contact a local pest control company for assistance.

Link to directory of pest control businesses:
<http://www.pestcontrolexterminator.info/locations/missouri>

Thanks to Pest Control & Exterminator Directory for article content. ■

Looking Back:

The Mighty (Muddy) Mo

by Joe Montanari

Silent yet powerful, the Missouri River is Kansas City's greatest geographic feature, and its importance to our city cannot be overstated.

Geologists believe the Missouri River was formed when three separate rivers were realigned by the great glacial icecap formed during the last Ice Age. From its headwaters in southwestern Montana, the Missouri wends a circuitous route southward until it is joined by the Kaw (Kansas) River in Kansas City. It continues its journey eastward to St. Louis, where it discharges into the Mississippi. At 2,541 miles long, the Missouri is the fourth longest river in the world, draining over 530,000 square miles, roughly one-sixth of the area of the U.S. As a tributary of the Mississippi, the combined Missouri-Mississippi is the longest river on earth—stretching more than 5,000 miles from western Montana to New Orleans, which is 1,000 miles longer than the Nile.

Driving across Missouri on the interstate, past thousands of acres of corn and soybeans, one would hardly imagine that the countryside was once densely wooded, crisscrossed only by a few Indian trails. For Native Americans, the rivers were the super highways. In fact, Missouri derives its name from a Sioux Indian tribe of that name, which means “canoe people.”

Among the first Europeans to arrive in Missouri were the French explorers Marquette and Joliet. Starting from Quebec in 1673, they crossed the Great Lakes and then canoed down the Mississippi to the mouth of the Missouri, mapping the course of the river system and establishing the French claim to the Louisiana Territory. More French adventurers soon followed, attracted by reports of the abundance of fur-bearing animals available to supply a voracious European market. In 1821, brothers Cyprien and Francois

Chouteau traveled upstream on the Missouri River to the Kansas City area, to establish a warehouse and shipping depot here as well as trading outposts further up the Missouri and Kaw rivers. The Chouteaus' operation was located on an island in the Missouri River that would have been one-half mile east of the old Paseo bridge.

Although accounting records are scant, the North American fur business was the equivalent of a billion dollar a year industry, and in the years preceding the Civil War, roughly one-fourth of that passed through the Chouteau warehouse and was shipped downriver in keelboats and barges to St. Louis, down the Mississippi to New Orleans, and then on to Europe.

The Missouri River remained a vital transportation route throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The first steam powered riverboat, the *Independence*, arrived here in 1819. By 1858, there were more than 130 paddle-wheeled steamboats operating between here and St. Louis, making our town the West Port, or the gateway to the West.

The fur industry is no more, and the westward migration is over, but the Missouri River remains a vital transportation route for the shipment of wheat, corn, soybeans, cement, sand, coal, agricultural chemicals, and other products too bulky or heavy to ship by rail or truck.

More importantly today, the river is an abundant source of water. Many large American cities (e.g., Los Angeles, Phoenix, Houston, Denver, and Orlando) face serious water shortages and are rightfully envious of the plentiful water resources we enjoy here in Kansas City. The water that pours freely from your kitchen faucet is consistently ranked among the best in the country for purity, taste, and overall quality. Here in River City, we are indeed fortunate, for thanks to the mighty Missouri River, our “City of Fountains” will have plenty of precious water for the foreseeable future. ■

New WEST PLAZA WATCH Facebook Page

The WPNA Board is pleased to announce that we have a new presence on Facebook for the sole purpose of Watching Out for Each Other (our neighborhood motto, if you weren't aware of it, is just that: We Watch Out for Each Other).

West Plaza Watch is a discussion group on which you can post any safety concerns and receive feedback or information from others in the group. You can also comment on others' posts. Our intention is to use it **ONLY for SAFETY CONCERNS and LOST PETS**. You can post information, questions, or concerns about any other issues on our main FB page, West Plaza Neighborhood Association.

Many thanks to the Volker Neighborhood Association, whose Volker Watch is the model upon which this page is based, and whose members are enthusiastically joining us in the group so that we can promote safety in both of our neighborhoods.

To join the group, go to Facebook, search for West Plaza Watch, and click on the Join Group link in the top right-hand corner. Because this is a closed group (which means the postings can be seen only by members of the group), you will need to be approved (which happens very quickly), and then you are free to post.

As a new member, please read the Document shown in the Docs listing on the right side of the page entitled *Purpose of the West Plaza Watch*. To help keep this group the venue for civil discussion that it is intended to be, please also read the Document about Netiquette (a brief review of manners in cyber space).

This FB group will not replace the safety emails that we send out; it is an additional venue to allow discussion among neighbors. The Board is pleased to provide this new service, which we hope will enhance communication, promote relationships, and make our community a safer place to live and work. ■

West Plaza Representation to Change

by Brad McCormack

A special committee of the Missouri General Assembly is meeting to redraw district lines for State Representatives in Missouri. This process is a result of the 2010 U.S. Census and is required every 10 years by the Missouri Constitution. The West Plaza is in the 39th District, which does not currently have a Representative because our previous representative, Jean Peters-Baker, was recently appointed as the Jackson County, Missouri Prosecutor. While a map has not been finalized, some proposals include reducing the size of the 39th District, if not completely eliminating it.

The City of Kansas City, Missouri is also examining a redistricting plan for City Council seats based on the U.S. Census. The West Plaza currently is in the 4th District. While the boundary lines of the 4th District will be changed, this will not affect the West Plaza, as it will continue to sit squarely within the 4th District confines. ■

Hi, I'm Maddie Myers. Come visit me for a great new HAIR STYLE



You'll seriously love this place!

Call Hair Style today to book your appointment with me for cuts, color, perms, and to choose your FREE gift:

- Full Size Shampoo (\$13.50 value!)
- Full Size Conditioner (\$14.50 value!)

Bring a friend and share the fun... see you soon!

Follow us on  

816.531.4545

Located just west of the Country Club Plaza

4500 Bell • Kansas City, MO 64111

One offer per client. One offer per visit. Please bring this ad with you to your visit.

Safety Tip from Office Jim Schriever KCPD Community Liaison

Robbery is a crime against your person rather than against your property. If someone breaks into your home or business and takes property from the premises, the crime is called a *burglary*. If you are confronted by an individual on the street or in your home, car, or business, and force is used or threatened against you, you have become the victim of a *robbery*.

When confronted by a robber, it is important to remember two things:

- Robbers want one thing—your money or property—and they want it quickly.
- Robbery is a risky business, and robbers are usually nervous. You do not want to delay a robbery in any way and increase the potential for violence. Give the robber what he or she wants and do it quickly. Do not risk your life—or another person's life—for property.

If you would like to receive daily crime reports, send me an email and I will add you to the email list: James.Schriever@kcpd.org

Contact Information: Master Patrol Officer James Schriever, CIO, Central Patrol Division, Office 816-759-6313, Cell 816-719-8350. ■

Don't Wear It Anymore?

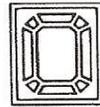
Restyle it.

Our jewelers can
reset your diamonds into

Exciting New Designs

for a fraction of the cost of new.

See us for expert jewelry repair,
restyling, and appraisal services.



MONTANARI
FINE ART JEWELERS

4810 Belleview Avenue
Kansas City, MO
(816) 531-0750
www.montanarijewelers.com

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
www.westplaza.org • Facebook: West Plaza Neighborhood Association

Check One: New Renewal

Household (\$12) Senior (\$7) Business (\$25) + Donation _____ = TOTAL _____

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

Business Member Contact Name: _____

I would like to help the neighborhood with:

Picnic Property Maintenance/Zoning

Yard Sale Neighborhood Clean-up

Crime Prevention Meeting Refreshments

Newsletter Distribution Gardening

[September-October 2011]

2011 WPNA Calendar

General Membership Meetings (7-8 p.m.)
Location: Immanuel Lutheran Church
1700 Westport Road (use the North-most door on the West side of the church)

WPNA general membership meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of odd numbered months.

September 20 January 17, 2012
November 15 February 21, 2012

***Fun in the Garden with Ed:** Every Tuesday, 6 p.m. (West Plaza Garden)

***Iris Dig & Divide:** Sunday, August 28, 1 p.m. until finished (West Plaza Garden)

Dance in the Park: Saturday, September 10, 6:30 p.m. (Roanoke Park)

Fall Cleanup: Saturday, October 8, 8 a.m. (Westwood Park)

***Garden Cleanup:** Saturday, November 19, 9 a.m.-Noon (West Plaza Garden)

*The West Plaza Garden is located at the junction of 46th Street, Jarboe, & Roanoke Parkway.



EYE CARE OPTICAL

4233 Roanoke Road
(816) 753-2020
www.eyecare-optical.com
Doug Scheelk
A.B.O. Certified Optician

Printing of this newsletter for the 1,100 residences in our neighborhood is generously provided by Print Tekk, a West Plaza neighborhood business and member of the WPNA.

FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE

Editing · Proofreading · Typing
Student · Business · Personal
(816) 931-2276
www.Foragoodtype.com



Dr. Steven C. Mingos & Associates, L.L.C.

General Dentistry
4746 Belleview Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64112

www.drmingos.com

"Your Neighborhood Dentist"

New Patient Exam and Cleaning

Includes Digital X-rays

\$81.00

Call and make an appointment today!

Ask about our referral program

(816) 531-8740

Offer ends October 31, 2011

Contact the WPNA

Website:

www.WestPlaza.org

Facebook:

West Plaza Neighborhood Association
West Plaza Watch

Email:

wpnacc@gmail.com

U.S. Mail:

P. O. Box 32826, Kansas City, MO 64171-7826

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Edited by Julie A. Tenenbaum

Address: 4401 Genessee, Kansas City, MO 64111

Phone: 816-931-2276 email: jatkc@aol.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles 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	\$25	Half page	\$50
Quarter page	\$35	Full page	\$100

2011 WPNA Business Members

Please support the businesses that support your neighborhood.

A \$25 Business Membership includes your name and contact information in each WPNA newsletter.

<p>ATLANTIS DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS 4618 Wyoming 816-960-1552</p> <p>ANGER ALTERNATIVES 1216 W. 38th St. 816-753-5118 913-341-2120 www.anger.org</p> <p>AUTOBAHN MOTORS INC. 1111 & 1200 Westport Rd. 816-531-3399 www.autobahn-usa.com</p> <p>BANGS 1115 W. 47th St. 816-756-1422 bangskc@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>SHANNON BASHAM Registered Yoga Alliance Teacher WITS Certified Personal Trainer AHA Certified CPR Trainer 816-810-3623</p> <p>*BERGAMOT & IVY 1713 Westport Rd. 816-561-5599 Brian@bergamotandivy.com</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>COSTCO WHOLESALE 241 E. Linwood Blvd. 816-216-0014</p> <p>DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INS. 1414 W. 47th St. 816-753-4334</p> <p>DANIE DUNN INTERIOR DESIGN 1801 Westport Rd. 816-561-7771</p> <p>DAVISON ARCHITECTURE + URBAN DESIGN 4800 Mercier 816-421-2138</p> <p>DOGS' WORLD OF FUN 1220 W. 31st St. 816-931-5822 www.dogsworldoffun.com</p>	<p>DYNAMIC VOICE STUDIO Suzanne Blanch, Cert. Vocal Coach 816-786-8751 www.DynamicVoiceStudio.com</p> <p>EDDIE DELAHUNT'S CAFÉ & 4448 Bell St. 816-753-3322</p> <p>EYE CARE OPTICAL (816) 753-2020 4233 Roanoke Road www.eyecare-optical.com</p> <p>FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE 4401 Genessee St. 816-931-2276 www.Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com</p> <p>HAIR STYLE 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p> <p>GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW 816-868-3565</p> <p>THE JOHANSEN GROUP herman@thejohansengroup.com 816-308-7974</p> <p>JAMES HOFFMAN Bookkeeping & Tax Preparation 4400 Roanoke Parkway 913-486-2630</p> <p>KATE'S CANINE RESORT 2823 Main St. 816-753-4188</p> <p>LAW OFFICES OF KRIGEL & KRIGEL, PC 4550 Belleview Ave. 816-756-5800</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p>LOTUS SKIN CARE 4300 Bell Street, Ste. 204 816-561-0555</p> <p>MARSH'S SUNFRESH MARKET 4001 Mill St. 816-931-1639</p> <p>McCOY'S PUBLIC HOUSE 4057 Pennsylvania 816-960-0866</p>	<p>STEVEN C. MINGOS DDS & ASSOC 4746 Belleview Ave. 816-531-8740 www.drmingos.com</p> <p>MONTANARI FINE ART JEWELERS 4810 Belleview Ave. 816-531-0750 www.montanarijewelers.com</p> <p>ORGANIZE ME 816-529-6901 www.organizemeinkc.com</p> <p>PICASSO DOG GROOMERY 1811 West 45th St. 816-569-4361 Picassodoggroomery.com</p> <p>PRINT TEKK PRINTING & MAILING 4312 Terrace 816-931-4122</p> <p>PRYDE'S OLD WESTPORT 115 Westport Rd. 816-531-5588 www.prydeskitchen.com</p> <p>RUDY'S TENAMPA TAQUERIA 1611 Westport Road 816-931-9700</p> <p>SADER LAW FIRM 4739 Belleview Ave., Ste. 300 www.saderlawfirm.com</p> <p>SCANDINAVIAN CO-OP LLC 4027 N. Main 913-206-1738</p> <p>SHEEHAN'S IRISH IMPORTS 1412 Westport Rd. 816-561-4480 www.sheehansirish.com</p> <p>SHELTON TRAVEL SERVICE 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888 www.sheltontravel.com</p> <p>SUNSHINE FLOWERS 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p>VALLEY VIEW BANK 4550 Belleview Ave. 913-381-3311</p>
---	--	---

City Launches KCmomentum.com

The City of Kansas City wants to hear from residents, business owners, members of community organizations, and anyone else interested in making Kansas City better. To facilitate the process, the City has launched KCmomentum.com, an interactive website that allows public input from home, office, or anywhere else an Internet connection is available.

The innovative website went live on Tuesday, August 2. Since then, many residents have discovered the site and are contributing ideas to improve the City.

To learn more about this new way of interacting with the City of Kansas City, visit KCmomentum.com ■