



## Why Your WPNA Membership Matters

by Stephanie Murrell and Greg Madden, WPNA Membership

The WPNA is a volunteer group of residents and businesses working to improve the neighborhood in which we all live, headed by a dedicated group of Board members who devote their time and energy on behalf of the entire neighborhood. The WPNA's operating budget is funded mostly by membership dues of West Plaza residents. Your financial support makes possible the many initiatives the WPNA accomplishes, including the bi-monthly newsletters, the bi-annual neighborhood cleanup events, the neighborhood safety watch, the community garden, and neighborhood improvements.

By supporting and being active in the West Plaza Neighborhood Association, you can:

- **get informed:** stay up to date with the political, civic, and social issues affecting the neighborhood
- **get connected:** network and meet your neighbors and local business owners
- **get involved:** learn about volunteer and advocacy opportunities within our community

Here's a brief look at some of the areas in which the WPNA makes a difference for the West Plaza.

**Neighborhood Safety.** Keeping our streets and homes safe is essential to building a strong and vibrant neighborhood.

- The WPNA maintains a strong relationship with the Kansas City Police Department. A member of the KCPD updates us on criminal activity in the West Plaza at each of our general meetings.
- WPNA members recently replaced old, rusty Crime Watch signs and added 14 new ones.
- The neighborhood Watch Program is an active and successful initiative of the WPNA. The West Plaza Watch Facebook page currently connects almost 300 neighbors who are all looking out for each other. You can become an active and watchful eye by joining the group, which is dedicated to neighborhood safety and lost and found pets. To join, go to [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com), search "West Plaza Watch," then click the "request to join" button in the upper right corner.
- Many neighbors receive a daily crime report and other important safety information from the Central Patrol Division. Email Officer Schriever at [james.schriever@kcpd.org](mailto:james.schriever@kcpd.org) to join that mailing list.

**Relationship with the City and Public Officials.** The WPNA represents the neighborhood at meetings and at City Hall when there are issues that concern us as a neighborhood, such as zoning changes and building permits. We submit annual PIAC (Public Improvements Advisory Committee) applications for infrastructure improvements such as the drinking fountain and lights in Westwood Park.

**Green Space and Neighborhood Improvements.** Green space, whether it is a small pocket park or expanse of open lawn, is a welcome break from the paved expanses that cover much of our neighborhood.

- The West Plaza Garden at the intersection of Roanoke Parkway, Jarboe, and 46th Street – a piece of land formerly the home of litter and scraggly brush – is a source of pride for the entire West Plaza. Created and maintained by volunteers, it now hosts a large variety of tended flowers as well as an identifying monument, which was also built by volunteers.
- Last year the WPNA worked with the City and Bridging the Gap to obtain free street trees, and with the help of volunteers, planted 60 of them for our neighbors.
- The current initiative is to repaint the West Plaza's 127 fire hydrants in the city colors of orange and black.

**Here's How You Can Get Involved.** This year a major focus for the WPNA is to get the word out about our organization and grow our membership. The more members we have, the bigger impact we can make as a group.

- **Attend general meetings:** WPNA meetings are a place to exchange ideas, decide on projects and priorities, propose solutions, and make other plans affecting the neighborhood. General

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## Your Membership Matters Continued from p. 2

meetings are held on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months. The WPNA Calendar is shown on page 7.

- **Volunteer** to help distribute newsletters, assist the membership committee, and help with annual events such as the cleanups, the picnic, the yard sale, and the Free for All. Contact Greg Madden (913-526-6956) to volunteer for any of our activities.
- **Become a paid member.** Complete the form below and mail it in with your annual (calendar year) dues. If you have questions, contact Greg Madden (913-526-6956) (senior/household membership) or Stephanie Murrell (913-526-1091) (business membership).

**Annual Membership Dues: \$7 for seniors, \$12 for households, and \$25 for businesses. It is a small amount of money that makes a HUGE impact on the neighborhood you live in.**

**Without your involvement in the West Plaza Neighborhood Association, your investment in your home, business, and neighborhood may never grow to its fullest potential.**

**We look forward to seeing you at the next general membership meeting on November 20 at Immanuel Lutheran Church.**

**THANK YOU!**

## 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](http://www.westplaza.org) • Facebook: West Plaza Neighborhood Association

Check One: New  Renewal

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

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Business Member Contact Name:  
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I would like to help the neighborhood with:

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Yard Sale  Neighborhood Clean-up

Crime Prevention  Meeting Refreshments

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[November-December 2012]

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## Feral Cat Program Progress Report

Since the WPNA Feral (outdoor) Cat Program was started in April 2012, more than 20 cats (and several possums!) have been trapped. The cats are neutered or spayed and also receive medical care such as rabies and other vaccinations, and flea and intestinal worm control. They get their left ear clipped, which is a universal sign that the cat has been neutered. After the cats are released to their home area, they are returned to their original caregiver within two or three days. Outdoor cats don't survive well unless humans feed them—thank you to all who help our community cats!

Of the cats that were trapped and neutered, four kittens and two adult cats were adopted. It is not always feasible to adopt out feral felines, but if kittens are caught early enough to be socialized, they can become house pets.

One female cat can lead to a population of 50 cats in one year. Female cats can have litters of 2 to 8 kittens at 8- to 10-week intervals. These female kittens can have babies as early as four months old. The WPNA program has thus successfully reduced the potential cat population by a

relatively large number of cats; but more feral and stray cats are out there.

The WPNA has allocated funds to sponsor this program. We welcome your donation, mailed to P. O. Box 32826, Kansas City, MO 64171, to help extend the reach of the program. Please see [www.feralwpna.org](http://www.feralwpna.org) for more information on the feral cat program and how you can help our community cats. ■

## Sign Ordinance

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If you wish to learn what you can do to help, or if you have questions about how the new ordinance affects you, mark your calendar. At the upcoming WPNA general meeting on November 20, our guest speaker will be John Parks from Kansas City's Neighborhood and Housing Department. Mr. Parks will explain how the new ordinance works and how concerned West Plaza citizens can make our neighborhood an even better place to live. The meeting will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 7 p.m. Bring your questions, concerns, and enthusiasm! ■

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## Are You Wasting Energy?

by Harold Scott



Let's say you have volunteered to stop and pick up 4 dozen bagels for a West Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting. When you get there, you discover most of them fell out of the bag as you rushed to the meeting, and now you only have 20 bagels for your neighbors.

That is what happens to our nation's energy supply every year. We actually use only about 42% of the energy we start out with, whether or not we realize we are wasting 58% of it. Some of the loss is difficult to avoid because of the energy required to transform one source of energy, such as coal, into a more useable energy, like electricity. That accounts for about half of what is lost. But a large part of that total 58% loss is waste that we create ourselves in using the energy that's delivered. It is estimated that about 20-25% of the energy we buy to heat and cool our homes, refrigerate our food, and operate appliances and electronics is needlessly lost because of wasteful habits or lack of knowledge.

The Metropolitan Energy Center (MEC), a 30-year-old nonprofit organization, has been working to help Kansas City area residents put the brakes on energy waste, both in buildings and transportation. For the past five years, MEC has been offering incentives and services to homes and businesses through utility and government programs. The latest effort, EnergyWorksKC (EWKC), combines new incentives and financing from a federal grant to the City of Kansas City with incentives from Missouri Gas Energy and Kansas City Power and Light to make your home or business less expensive to operate, more comfortable, and healthier. It's the best deal in town.

Here's what EWKC brings to the table:

- Energy experts to help you put together the best plan for your home or business
- A diagnostic assessment of your home's or business's specific energy waste and solutions
- Free energy assessments for low-income participants
- A work and financial plan to achieve the needed improvements

- Incentives in the form of rebates for the cost of much of the work that is done
- 0% to 3% financing to pay other project costs from energy savings

Any property located in Kansas City, Missouri is eligible for most of these program incentives. Renters may also participate in EWKC. In order to qualify for the incentives and financing, participants must complete energy efficiency measures that achieve a 15% savings on their total annual energy cost. In most cases, the rebates double when energy savings hit 30% or higher, and 0% financing is offered for multiple years as the savings increase. This program will be available only through mid-2013, so West Plaza residents should find out more about it now by calling the Metropolitan Energy Center at 816-531-7283 and speak to an EWKC energy expert, and/or visit [www.EnergyWorksKC.org](http://www.EnergyWorksKC.org) to register.

WaterWorks!, a component of the EnergyWorksKC program, is a water conservation and education program provided through Bridging The Gap with the goal of reducing energy use and increasing energy efficiency improvements in existing buildings ([www.bridgingthegap.org/waterworks](http://www.bridgingthegap.org/waterworks)). Kansas City, Missouri residential property owners and renters are eligible for a \$100 rebate after the purchase and installation of a WaterWorks!-approved high efficiency toilet. By participating in this rebate program, you could save approximately 6,000 gallons of water per year, while at the same time knowing you are doing your part to conserve water for our community.

WaterWorks! has also delivered in-home water-efficiency kits, free downspout disconnections, rain barrel workshops, and installation of rain gardens in targeted neighborhoods. Contact Bridging The Gap at (816) 561-1061 to find out more, or visit [www.bridgingthegap.org/waterworks](http://www.bridgingthegap.org/waterworks)

The Mid America Regional Council (MARC) is also contributing important elements to the EnergyWorks KC comprehensive stable of programs, including workforce development and regional expansion of EnergyWorks KC. West Plaza residents may be especially interested in an informative website called Beyond The Bulb ([www.beyondthebulb.org](http://www.beyondthebulb.org)), which is loaded with energy-saving tips and resources. ■

## Code for America Partners with Kansas City, MO

by Brad McCormack

We've all heard about Google Fiber coming to our neighborhood and many (me included) are excited about the internet speed and new gizmos for our televisions. But the City government in KCMO is thinking bigger. KCMO and KCKS have what some believe to be the 21st century equivalent of striking gold. And with this new resource, the City is exploring its options to get new businesses into town. A major step towards this goal will be KCMO's partnership with Code for America.

Code for America a not-for-profit organization that partners with cities across the country to help them find innovative ways for businesses to set up shop and thrive. Usually, the City is responsible for mostly the licensing and code aspect of business growth, and as many small business owners in WPNA know, the City of Kansas City has never been known for its efficiency and speed in handling licensing issues with companies. Code for America seeks new ways for the City to partner with companies, especially tech companies, to foster growth. The addition of high-speed fiber optic internet will become a catalyst for new companies to locate in in Kansas City.

Recently I was told Kansas City is receiving a new nickname – The Silicon Prairie. With the help of Code for America, the City is hoping to capitalize on this and bring exciting new businesses and people to the City, which will help transform it into a true 21st century leader for America. ■

## Goodwill Industries Will Take Your Used Electronics

It is not well known that Goodwill Industries accepts all types and brands of electronic equipment in any condition, at no charge. Donated items are shipped to their main offices, where they are disassembled by employees in their Extended Employment Services program. There are two drop-off stores in our area: 8929 Wornall (816-444-5776) and 1817 Campbell (816-842-7425). A partial list of accepted items includes: monitors and scanners (working or broken), computers (desktop and laptop), hard drives, printers, speakers, power cords, USB cables, ink and toner cartridges, software, mice, and keyboards. For more information, visit [mokangoodwill.org](http://mokangoodwill.org). ■

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## Don't Wear It Anymore?

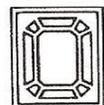
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### 2012-13 WPNA Calendar

**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 on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months.

2012 Meeting: November 20

2013 Meetings: January 15, March 19, July 16, September 17, November 19

West Plaza Garden Cleanup: Sat., Nov. 17, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

### Feral Cat Issues?

Contact Sharon Martin  
816-931-1194

[Feral\\_WPNA@kc.rr.com](mailto:Feral_WPNA@kc.rr.com)

To help WPNA sponsor this program, send your donation to P.O. Box 32826, KCMO



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Printing of the 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.

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](mailto: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.

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### Contact the WPNA

**Website:**  
[www.WestPlaza.org](http://www.WestPlaza.org)

**Facebook:**  
West Plaza Neighborhood Association-Discussion Group  
West Plaza Watch

**Email:**  
[wpnacc@gmail.com](mailto:wpnacc@gmail.com)

**U.S. Mail:**  
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## 2012 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.  
 \* New member this month

<p><b>ACT II</b> 1417 W. 47th St. 816-531-7572</p> <p><b>AMERICAN BEAUTY</b> 4436 State Line Road 913-236-0008 <a href="http://www.AmericanBeautyKC.com">www.AmericanBeautyKC.com</a></p> <p><b>*ATLAS GLASS</b> 913-735-6116 <a href="mailto:Damon@atlasglasskc.com">Damon@atlasglasskc.com</a></p> <p><b>BOOTLACE DESIGN &amp; BUILD</b> 816-935-7916</p> <p><b>BOOZEFISH WINE BAR</b> 1511 Westport Road 816-561-5995 <a href="http://www.boozefish.com">www.boozefish.com</a></p> <p><b>BROOKFIELD'S GREAT WATER</b> 2500 West Pennway 913-648-1234</p> <p><b>CARLA A. KING, D.D.S.</b> 315 Nichols Road, Suite 217 816-931-0074 <a href="mailto:Carla5626@gmail.com">Carla5626@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>CATHY'S CLIP &amp; CURL SALON</b> 4301 Wyoming St. 816-561-2331</p> <p><b>CHOP TOPS</b> 611 West 39th Street 816-753-2467 Choptops.biz</p> <p><b>DANIE DUNN DESIGN</b> 1801 Westport Road 816-561-7771</p> <p><b>DOGS' WORLD OF FUN</b> 1220 W. 31st St. 816-931-5822 <a href="http://www.dogsworldoffun.com">www.dogsworldoffun.com</a></p> <p><b>DOWNBEAT COFFEE</b> 4706 Holly 816-533-5446 <a href="mailto:downbeatkc@gmail.com">downbeatkc@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>DR. COMPUTER</b> 4706 1/2 Holly 816-226-8991 <a href="mailto:drpckc@gmail.com">drpckc@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>DRESSQUEST</b> 1807 West 45th St. 816-361-4696 DressQuest.com</p> <p><b>EDDIE DELAHUNT'S CAFÉ &amp;</b> 4448 Bell St. 816-753-3322</p>	<p><b>EYE CARE OPTICAL</b> 816-753-2020 4233 Roanoke Road <a href="http://www.eyecare-optical.com">www.eyecare-optical.com</a></p> <p><b>FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE</b> 4401 Genessee St. 816-931-2276 <a href="http://www.Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com">www.Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com</a></p> <p><b>GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW</b> 816-868-3565</p> <p><b>HAIR STYLE</b> 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p> <p><b>JAMES HOFFMAN</b> Bookkeeping &amp; Tax Preparation 4400 Roanoke Parkway 913-486-2630</p> <p><b>JENNINGS TREE &amp; LAWN CARE</b> 4504 State Line Road 816-931-3399</p> <p><b>JOHNNIE JO'S PIZZERIA</b> 1209 W. 47th St. 816-401-4483</p> <p><b>KATHE KAUL ESTATE SALES</b> 816-960-1947</p> <p><b>*KIRK: A SALON</b> 1719 Westport Road 816-785-8020</p> <p><b>KURT AARONS, DDS</b> 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p><b>LAW OFFICES OF CHARLES W. GOTSCHALL</b> 4700 Belleview, Ste. 215 816-561-2300 <a href="http://www.lawyers-kc.com">www.lawyers-kc.com</a></p> <p><b>*LIAM PORTER STATE FARM INSURANCE</b> (816) 753-4334 <a href="http://www.sfpiazzaagent.com">www.sfpiazzaagent.com</a></p> <p><b>LOTUS SKIN CARE</b> 4300 Bell Street, Ste. 204 816-561-0555</p> <p><b>MARSH'S SUNFRESH MARKET</b> 4001 Mill St. 816-931-1639</p> <p><b>MIKE SHARP</b> Jackson County Sheriff <a href="mailto:sheriffsharp@gmail.com">sheriffsharp@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>MONTANARI FINE ART JEWELERS</b> 4810 Belleview Ave. 816-531-0750 <a href="http://www.montanarijewelers.com">www.montanarijewelers.com</a></p>	<p><b>ORGANIZE ME</b> 816-529-6901 <a href="http://www.organizemeinkc.com">www.organizemeinkc.com</a></p> <p><b>PINTAIL REAL ESTATE SERVICES</b> 816-457-4649 <a href="http://www.PintailRealEstateServices.com">www.PintailRealEstateServices.com</a></p> <p><b>POLSINELLI SHUGHART PC</b> 700 W. 47th Street 816-753-1000</p> <p><b>PRINT TEKK PRINTING &amp; MAILING</b> 4312 Terrace 816-931-4122</p> <p><b>RAINBOW THRIFT &amp; MORE</b> 4501 Rainbow Blvd. 913-432-5561</p> <p><b>SANTA FE INVESTMENTS, LLC</b> 4739 Belleview Ave. 753-2600</p> <p><b>SCANDINAVIAN CO-OP LLC</b> 4027 N. Main 913-206-1738</p> <p><b>SCOTT BURNETT</b> Jackson County Legislator <a href="mailto:Burnett.scott@gmail.com">Burnett.scott@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>SHANNON BASHAM</b> Registered Yoga Alliance Teacher WITS Certified Personal Trainer AHA Certified CPR Trainer 816-810-3623</p> <p><b>SHELTON TRAVEL SERVICE</b> 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888 <a href="http://www.sheltontravel.com">www.sheltontravel.com</a></p> <p><b>SOIGNE PROPERTIES</b> 662-380-3595 <a href="http://Soigne.managebuilding.com">Soigne.managebuilding.com</a></p> <p><b>STEVEN C. MINGOS DDS &amp; ASSOC</b> 4746 Belleview Ave. 816-531-8740 <a href="http://www.drmingos.com">www.drmingos.com</a></p> <p><b>SUNSHINE FLOWERS</b> 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p><b>VALLEY VIEW BANK</b> 4550 Belleview Ave. 913-381-3311</p> <p><b>WOLFE'S CAMERA SHOPS</b> 786-235-1386 <a href="http://www.wolfes.com">www.wolfes.com</a></p>
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