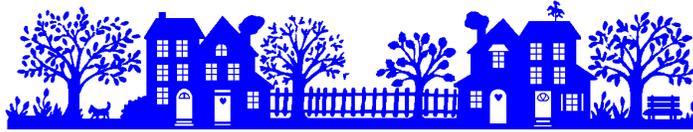


WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, 2013, 7-8 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

1700 Westport Road

Guest Speakers: Kansas City Sustainable Development Partners

Kansas City Sustainable Development Partners (KCSDP) has requested an opportunity to update the neighborhood on its plans for redevelopment of the Swinney Elementary School. The school is currently under contract, and the developer is into its inspection period. Members of KCSDP, a local development group, include Bob Berkebile, David Brain, Michael Knight, Butch Rigby, Lou Steele and E. F. Chip Walsh.

The annual election of WPNA officers and board members will take place at this meeting. Nominees who are currently on the board are:

Joe Montanari (President)

Julie Tenenbaum (Vice President)

Marlene Toms (Treasurer)

Stephanie Murrell (Secretary)

Harold Scott

John Toms

Dennis Walters

New nominees for positions are Greg Madden, who is interested in taking on membership responsibilities, and April Porter, a business member. Both 2012 and 2013 senior, household, and business members are eligible to vote in this election. Please join us on the 15th and help guide the future of your neighborhood.

And speaking of 2013, if you have not yet renewed for 2013, you may do so at the meeting. Don't forget to bring your checkbook!

A raffle for a door prize will end the meeting. ■

Lighten Up!

by John Toms

As everyone knows, we are no longer under daylight savings time, and it is getting dark early. Busy schedules do not allow time to walk, ride or run during daylight hours, and I see many of our neighbors out walking and riding bikes at the usual time, but now it is dark.

Extensive research has established that well-designed reflective clothing can increase your recognition by motorists 75%-100% compared to non-reflective clothing. Reflective materials, such as tape or clothing, highlight movements as well as silhouettes of bicyclists, pedestrians and runners. Clear definitions of direction and rate of travel give drivers up to three times more time and distance to react to your presence and to avoid collisions.

Everyone who uses the road or walks at night should wear some type of reflective clothing in order to communicate more effectively with motorists, increase their visibility, and avoid accidents. The most effective safety clothing has reflective tape on the arms and wrists that will display a movement pattern. When these features are not included, night-time visibility to motorists and therefore your safety are greatly diminished.

Just about every sporting goods store or department store offers this type of safety clothing. Please use it for your own benefit and for all who use West Plaza streets. Be careful out there! ■

Unless someone like you
Cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to happen,
It's not.

— Dr. Seuss

CityAge Comes to Kansas City

by Brad McCormack

A major focus of Kansas City's Mayor and City Council is to continue the growth of Kansas City and bring in new ideas about how to improve. KC experienced an example of this on December 3-4 as CityAge: The New American City came to Kansas City for a small convention. CityAge is a group that brings together civic leaders and businesses to create new and exciting ways to keep cities vital in the 21st century.

Over the two-day period, numerous speakers from across the country, both elected officials and business experts, discussed what all cities need to do to continue to improve their cities. Kansas City has come a long way (we can all remember how depressing Downtown was just a decade ago), but the city has a long way to go. With Google Fiber soon transforming our city into a high-speed superhighway, CityAge provided the city leaders with new ideas about how to use that asset to partner with business as we move forward.

CityAge could have chosen any number of cities across America as its venue for this meeting, so it's a testament to the city and the leadership at City Hall that it chose Kansas City. Events like CityAge will continue to promote Kansas City as a vital hub for those wanting to see the business community and city government work together toward common goals. ■

Telephone (816) 561-9847

Fax (816) 931-0074

CARLA A. KING, D.D.S.
Fabrication of sleep apnea appliances

Office Hours
By Appointment

315 Nichols Road, Suite 217
Kansas City, Missouri 64112

Kirke
a salon

hair, makeup, fashion, interiors

1719 Westport Rd. 816-785-8020

WPNA Feral Cat Program Seeks Donations and Volunteers

by Dennis Walters

Most WPNA members and those non-members who receive the bi-monthly newsletter know about the neighborhood feral cat TNR (trap-neuter-release) program that the WPNA initiated and has been funding for the past year. If a feral cat problem is not addressed, 10 or 12 cats can turn into more than one hundred cats in less than 18 months. To date, Sharon Martin, our volunteer Feral Cat Program manager, has taken thirty cats to a clinic for neutering and spaying. Sharon has been heading up and doing almost all of the very considerable work for the program.

The program involves a lot of time, work, and money. When Sharon is made aware of a specific feral cat or multiple cat problem at a certain location, she gets permission from the property owner to address the problem. Next she baits and sets one or more traps at the location. She checks the traps frequently, sometimes for several days. If a cat is trapped at night, she will take the cat home for the night. The next day she takes the cat to one of several facilities to be spayed or neutered and to be given the appropriate inoculations. Following the surgery, sometimes (depending on the situation) the cat needs to rest and recuperate indoors before Sharon returns it to the location where it was trapped. When a feral cat is neutered, one of its ear tips is clipped to indicate that it is no longer able to reproduce.

Unless cats are returned to their outdoor home, other feral cats – who are more than likely not neutered – will come in to take their place (the “vacuum effect”). And then the problem of unchecked reproduction would continue. With an effective TNR program, eventually the cat population will stabilize and then decrease.

WPNA would like very much to continue funding this program, but the funds available are limited. We also need volunteers to help Sharon, who has contributed a huge amount of time and energy to the program.

If you want to help, contact Sharon Martin at 913-302-2115. If you would like to donate so that the program can continue, send your donation to WPNA, P.O. Box 32826, Kansas City, MO 64171-7826, Attn: Feral Cat Project. ■

10 Ways to Winterize Your Home

Just in case it ever really becomes winter in Kansas City (as of this writing, it has been in the 60s for the last week or so, but the forecast is for cooler temperatures), it would be a good idea to prepare your house for the cold months ahead.

1. Clean the gutters. Remove leaves and debris from your home's gutters by hand or with a good hose rinse so that winter's rain and melting snow can drain. Clogged drains can form ice dams, in which water backs up, freezes and causes water to seep into the house. Make sure the downspouts are carrying water away from the house's foundation, where it could cause flooding or other water damage. The rule of thumb is that water should be at least 10 feet away from the house.

2. Block the leaks. One of the best ways to winterize your home is to block obvious leaks around your house, both inside and out. To find the leaks, on a breezy day, walk around inside holding a lit incense stick to the most common drafty areas: recessed lighting, window and door frames, and electrical outlets. Buy door sweeps to close spaces under exterior doors, and caulk or apply tacky rope caulk to drafty spots. Outlet gaskets can be installed in electrical outlets that share a home's outer walls, where cold air often enters.

3. Insulate. Another item that costs a little money but pays for itself quickly is adding insulation to the existing insulation in the attic. Regardless of the climate conditions you live in, you need a minimum of 12 inches of insulation in your attic. A tip: If you're layering insulation atop other insulation, don't use the kind that has a paper backing. It acts as a vapor barrier and can cause moisture problems in the insulation.

4. Check the furnace. Turn your furnace on before the coldest weather descends to make sure it's working. A strong, odd, short-lasting smell is natural when firing up the furnace for the first time; simply open windows to dissipate it. But if the smell lasts a long time, shut down the furnace and call a professional. It's a good idea to have furnaces cleaned and tuned annually. Costs will often run about \$100-\$125.

5. Get your ducts in a row. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a home with central heating can lose up to 60% of its heated air before that air reaches the vents if ductwork is not well connected and insulated, or if it must travel through unheated spaces. That's a huge amount

of wasted money, not to mention a chilly house. Ducts aren't always easy to see, but you can often find them exposed in the attic, the basement, and crawlspaces. Repair places where pipes are pinched, which impedes flow of heated air to the house, and fix gaps with a metal-backed tape (duct tape actually doesn't stand up to the job over time). Ducts also should be vacuumed once every few years, to clean out the abundant dust, animal hair, and other gunk that can gather in them and cause respiratory problems.

6. Face your windows. Fall was the time to take down the window screens and put up storm windows, which provide an extra layer of protection and warmth for the home. Storm windows are particularly helpful if you have old, single-pane glass windows. But if you don't have storm windows, buy a window insulator kit; it may not be pretty, but it's inexpensive and it's extremely effective.

7. Don't forget the chimney. Don't put off your chimney needs before using your fireplace. A chimney doesn't need to be cleaned annually, but should at least be inspected before use each year.

8. Reverse ceiling fans. By reversing the fan's direction from the summer operation, it will push warm air downward and force it to re-circulate, keeping you more comfortable. (For winter use, the blades should be turning clockwise.)

9. Wrap the pipes. To prevent burst pipes caused by a winter freeze, make certain that the water to your hose bibs is shut off inside your house (via a turnoff valve) and that the lines are drained. Next, look for other pipes that aren't insulated or that pass through unheated spaces, pipes that run through crawlspaces, basements, or garages. Wrap them with pre-molded foam rubber sleeves or fiberglass insulation, available at hardware stores.

10. Finally, check the alarms. Check the operation and change the batteries on your home's smoke detectors. Detectors should be replaced every 10 years. Test them with a small bit of actual smoke, not just by pressing the "test" button. Check that your fire extinguisher is still where it should be and that it still works. Also, invest in a carbon monoxide detector; every home should have at least one. ■

Thanks to MSN Real Estate for the content of this article.

'Tis the Season to be . . . Frauding and Scamming

by Master Patrol Officer Jim Schriever, KCPD

During the holiday shopping season, I heard from several community partners who had fallen victim to credit card fraud or holiday season scams.

Although they could not confirm how their credit card information was collected, a great possibility we see is the use of skimmers, which are electronic scanners that record the financial and personal information that is stored on the magnetic strip on the back of credit/debit cards.

Skimmers come in all forms, shapes, sizes, and colors. See actual images at <http://www.bing.com/images/searchq=credit+card+skimmers&qpvf=credit+card+skimmers&FORM=IGRE#x0y0>

With today's technology, many are even wireless and can fit in your pocket. While these devices are legal, they have also been used either by employees during a financial purchase (for example, when a bill is being paid at a restaurant) and also when attached, illegally, to the front of an ATM.

If you discover that you are the victim of a financial crime, there are several things you need to do immediately:

- Notify the bank or financial institution where the affected account is located. The financial institutions have procedures for victims to follow. This can include completing affidavits disputing the fraudulent transactions, closing the affected account, and opening a new account.
- Notify the Police Department. Based on the type of financial transactions that have occurred, the Clerk or Officer will determine the exact classification of police report that should be completed.
- Obtain a copy of your credit report. Many times when a financial victim discovers they have a fraudulent transaction on an account, they will look further into their finances and find that other transactions have been made or even that new financial accounts have been created.
- If fraudulent accounts are discovered, notify the financial institutions where these accounts originated.

Continued on p. 5

There's a new Thrift Store in Town!

WELCOME TO

RAINBOW THRIFT

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



THRIFT, VINTAGE, COLLECTIBLE & ANTIQUE • New and unique items brought in daily.
4501 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103 • (913) 432-5561

Clip & Save: Trash Rules in KCMO

by Harold Scott

As people move into our neighborhood, it is good to review, from time to time, the basic trash pickup guidelines for Kansas City.

Regular trash days:

All eligible households receive one collection of residential trash each week, and each neighborhood is assigned a regular collection day, Monday through Friday. Collection for the northern part of West Plaza occurs on Mondays; collection in the southern area is on Fridays.

Trash must be placed at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on the collection day, **but not before 3 p.m. on the previous day.** For example, if your trash day is Monday, trash must be placed at the curb before 7 a.m. on Monday, but not before 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Crews begin collecting trash at 7 a.m. on each collection day. Sometimes crews have to deviate from their usual schedule, so trash may be picked up later in the day.

Two bags per week per eligible household are picked up without trash tags. If you have more than two bags, buy a tag for each additional bag. Buy tags for \$2 each at designated Westlake Ace Hardware and Price Chopper [locations](#).

Acceptable materials:

- Food waste and packaging (some packaging can be recycled instead)
- Small appliances, toys, and tools (donate reusable items to charitable organizations)
- Rubbish associated with normal home maintenance
- Small automobile parts that can be bagged, such as spark plugs, brake shoes, and shock absorbers

- Building materials bundled with twine or wire, including wood and wood products, plaster, or wallboard
- Boxes of shingles, empty paint cans, and similar small items generated during routine maintenance and minor home repair
- Boxes of stone and masonry

Items that require special preparation:

- Animal and human excrement: Must be double bagged (a bag within a bag).
- Sharp items: For the protection of sanitation crews, broken glass, needles and other sharp objects must be clearly labeled and wrapped in layers of paper or placed in a separate container.
- Hypodermic syringes should be clearly labeled and placed in a hard plastic container.
- Liquids: Trash must not contain liquids. Pour liquids such as soft drinks, water, and juice down the drain.

Unacceptable materials:

- Items weighing more than 40 pounds
- Items longer than four feet in length
- Large quantities of construction debris (more than 500 pounds)
- Non-hazardous liquids
- Hazardous materials
- Car batteries
- Waste tires
- Yard waste, including grass and other clippings, leaves, and brush

To help you keep your house and yard free of debris, the West Plaza Neighborhood Association sponsors two cleanups per year — one in the spring and one in the fall — at which you can drop off both household trash and yard waste. It's a good reason to become a member and support the WPNA, the organization that supports the West Plaza! ■

Frauds & Scams Continued from p. 4

- Document everything. Keep accurate records of who you talk to, when you talk to them, and the details of the conversation.
- Keep copies of all bank statements, checks, credit card receipts, bills and invoices, and letters from creditors.

Our Kansas City Missouri Fraud Unit is following current scams. Everyone is encouraged to be cognizant of the following methods of theft.

- New Trash Scam
- Skimmers / Cash Back Scams
- Utility Scams
- Bond Scams
- Foreign Lottery Scams
- Employment Scams
- Work from Home Scams

For more information about these scams and to receive email updates on safety and crime, join my email list by contacting me at james.schriever@kcpd.com ■

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

Simply Grooming by Gia



Full-service cat & dog grooming.
7 days a week, by appointment.
Gentle, individual care.

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



facebook.com/SimplyGrooming

**NOTICE! WPNA Membership runs on the calendar year, from January 1 through December 31.
If you have not renewed for 2013, please do it now.**

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-Discussion Group

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 []

Membership [] Feral Cat Program []

[January-February 2013]

2013 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:

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

The remainder of the 2013 calendar will be determined at the January board meeting, which will take place after the newsletter has been distributed. Stay tuned! And watch your email for an update.

Feral Cat Issues?

Contact Sharon Martin

816-931-1194

Feral_WPNA@kc.rr.com



To help WPNA sponsor this program, send your donation to P.O. Box 32826, KCMO 64171-7826



EYE CARE OPTICAL

4233 Roanoke Road
(816) 753-2020

www.eyecare-optical.com

Doug Scheelk

A.B.O. Certified Optician

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

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.

Display advertising rates for members:

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

Display advertising rates for non-members: Add \$20.



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

Family Dentistry
4746 Belleview Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64112

www.drmingos.com

"Your Neighborhood Dentist"

**New Patient Exam and Cleaning
Includes Digital X-rays**

\$88.00

Call and make an appointment today!

Ask about our referral program

(816) 531-8740

Offer expires February 28, 2013

Contact the WPNA

Website:

www.WestPlaza.org

Facebook:

West Plaza Neighborhood Association-Discussion Group
West Plaza Watch

Email:

wpnacc@gmail.com

U.S. Mail:

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

FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE

Editing · Proofreading · Typing
Student · Business · Personal

(816) 931-2276

www.Foragoodtype.com

2013 WPNA Business Members

* New Member this Month

Please support the businesses that support your neighborhood.

A \$25 Business Membership includes your name and contact information in each WPNA newsletter, which is distributed six times per year to 1,100 homes in the West Plaza neighborhood.

<p>ACT II 1417 W. 47th St. 816-531-7572</p> <p>AMERICAN BEAUTY 4436 State Line Road 913-236-0008 www.AmericanBeautyKC.com</p> <p>ATLAS GLASS 913-735-6116 Damon@atlasglasskc.com</p> <p>BOOTLACE DESIGN & BUILD 816-935-7916</p> <p>BOOZEFISH WINE BAR 1511 Westport Road 816-561-5995 www.boozefish.com</p> <p>BROOKFIELD'S GREAT WATER 2500 West Pennway 913-648-1234</p> <p>CARLA A. KING, D.D.S. 315 Nichols Road, Suite 217 816-931-0074 Carla5626@gmail.com</p> <p>CATHY'S CLIP & CURL SALON 4301 Wyoming St. 816-561-2331</p> <p>CHOP TOPS 611 West 39th Street 816-753-2467 Choptops.biz</p> <p>DANIE DUNN DESIGN 1801 Westport Road 816-561-7771</p> <p>DOGS' WORLD OF FUN 1220 W. 31st St. 816-931-5822 www.dogsworldoffun.com</p> <p>DOWNBEAT COFFEE 4706 Holly 816-533-5446 downbeatkc@gmail.com</p> <p>DR. COMPUTER 4706 1/2 Holly 816-226-8991 drpck@gmail.com</p> <p>DRESSQUEST 1807 West 45th St. 816-361-4696 DressQuest.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>GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW 816-868-3565</p> <p>HAIR STYLE 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p> <p>JAMES HOFFMAN Bookkeeping & Tax Preparation 4400 Roanoke Parkway 913-486-2630</p> <p>JENNINGS TREE & LAWN CARE 4504 State Line Road 816-931-3399</p> <p>JOHNNIE JO'S PIZZERIA 1209 W. 47th St. 816-401-4483</p> <p>KATHE KAUL ESTATE SALES 816-960-1947</p> <p>KIRK: A SALON 1719 Westport Road 816-785-8020</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p>LAW OFFICES OF CHARLES W. GOTSCHALL 4700 Belleview, Ste. 215 816-561-2300 www.lawyers-kc.com</p> <p>LIAM PORTER STATE FARM INSURANCE (816) 753-4334 www.sfplazaagent.com</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>MIKE SHARP Jackson County Sheriff sheriffsharp@gmail.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>PINTAIL REAL ESTATE SERVICES 816-457-4649 www.PintailRealEstateServices.com</p> <p>POLSINELLI SHUGHART PC 700 W. 47th Street 816-753-1000</p> <p>PRINT TEKK PRINTING & MAILING 4312 Terrace 816-931-4122</p> <p>RAINBOW THRIFT & MORE 4501 Rainbow Blvd. 913-432-5561</p> <p>SANTA FE INVESTMENTS, LLC 4739 Belleview Ave. 753-2600</p> <p>SCANDINAVIAN CO-OP LLC 4027 N. Main 913-206-1738</p> <p>SCOTT BURNETT Jackson County Legislator Burnett.scott@gmail.com</p> <p>SHANNON BASHAM Registered Yoga Alliance Teacher WITS Certified Personal Trainer AHA Certified CPR Trainer 816-810-3623</p> <p>SHELTON TRAVEL SERVICE 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888 www.sheltontravel.com</p> <p>SOIGNE PROPERTIES 662-380-3595 Soigné.managebuilding.com</p> <p>STEVEN C. MINGOS DDS & ASSOC 4746 Belleview Ave. 816-531-8740 www.drmingos.com</p> <p>SUNSHINE FLOWERS 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p>VALLEY VIEW BANK 4550 Belleview Ave. 913-381-3311</p> <p>*VAN TRUST REAL ESTATE 4900 Main Street 816-480-4444</p> <p>WOLFE'S CAMERA SHOPS 786-235-1386 www.wolfes.com</p>
--	---	--