

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 7-8 p.m.

Social Half-Hour begins at 6:30

Immanuel Lutheran Church

1700 Westport Road

Speaker: Jan Marcason, City Council

Jan Marcason, 4th District City Councilperson, will be our guest speaker at this meeting. She will talk about current happenings at City Hall and will take your questions.

Our annual election of officers and board members is also on the agenda. All current members (both 2013 and 2014) are eligible to vote. All nine current board members are running again for the coming year:

Joe Montanari, President
Marlene Toms, Treasurer
Greg Madden, Membership
Stephanie Murrell, Secretary

At large candidates are:
April Porter, Harold Scott, Julie Tenenbaum, John Toms, and Dennis Walter

According to the by-laws of the Association, the Vice President will be elected by the Board from the at-large members. There is one additional open position on the board, and nominations will continue until December 31. If you are interested in running, contact Julie Tenenbaum (816-931-2276).

If you have not joined the WPNA or have not yet renewed your membership for 2014, you may do so at the meeting. We accept cash or check.

A raffle for a door prize (all 2014 members are eligible to enter) will end the meeting.

Please join us for the social half-hour with complimentary food and beverages at 6:30 p.m. ■

It's That Time of Year Again:

Join or Renew Your 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 spend their time and energy on behalf of all the residents of West Plaza. The WPNA's operating budget is funded mostly by membership dues. **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 safety, 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 ways 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 safety issues in the West Plaza at each of our general meetings.
- The neighborhood Watch Program is an active and successful initiative of the WPNA. The West Plaza Watch Facebook page connects almost 500 neighbors who are all looking out for each other. You can become an active and

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Slowing Down the Burglar: Door Safety



One technique used by burglars is the “smash and grab,” and doors are their first choice of entry into a home. Some residents leave exterior doors unlocked, which gives a burglar free access. In other cases, the burglar simply breaks a door or

a side light and reaches around to unlock the door.

There are some steps you can take to strengthen your exterior doors.

Exterior doors should be solid core (wood, not composite materials) or steel; 2-3/4" thick is preferred. If you have hollow core or wood panel entry doors, they can be easily broken. Such doors, however, can be reinforced by attaching at least 20-gauge (approximately 1/32" thick) sheet metal onto the exterior side of the door. If this method of strengthening the door is used, attach the sheet metal with carriage bolts, spaced no further than 16" apart, around the perimeter of the door.

If an exterior door is equipped with glass within arm's length (about 40") of the door lock, break-resistant polycarbonate glazing material (similar to plexiglass) can be attached to the inside of the door around the sides, which will provide considerable more difficulty for the burglar.

Entry doors should fit their frames tightly, with no more than 1/8" clearance between the door and the frame. Door frames should be solidly anchored to the rough opening. There are often spaces left between the rough opening stud at a point midway up the door jamb. These spaces create poor anchorage for hardware, making the door easy to kick open. If possible, the door molding should be removed, and these spaces should be filled or “shimmed” prior to mounting any new lock strike plates.

If you have solid entry doors, they should have wide angle (180°) door viewers in them to permit the occupant to see who is there without opening the door. Such door viewers are inexpensive and easy to install.

The strongest door is useless if you willingly open your door to a stranger. Though we wish it were different, it is better to err on the side of caution than to wish you hadn't opened the door to someone you don't know. ■

It's Time for Those New Year's Resolutions!

by Harold Scott

Since the time of the Babylonians, people have been making and breaking New Year's resolutions. The success rate for keeping resolutions is estimated to be about 12%. I don't know about you, but I tend to fall into the 88% who are not able to keep their resolutions. I promised myself that I will try harder in 2014 to be successful. (I suppose that will be my first resolution.)

Listed below are some of the most popular subjects for resolutions. Maybe you can find something in the list that will be helpful to you in 2014, and you will be able to join the successful 12% this coming year.

- Improve physical well-being: eat healthy food, lose weight, exercise more, eat better, drink less alcohol, quit smoking, stop biting nails
- Improve mental well-being: think positive, laugh more often, enjoy life
- Improve finances: get out of debt, save money, make small investments
- Improve career: perform better at current job, get a better job, establish own business
- Improve education: improve grades, get a better education, learn something new (such as a foreign language or music), study often, read more books, improve talents
- Improve self: become more organized, reduce stress, be less grumpy, manage time, be more independent, watch less television, play fewer video games
- Volunteer to help others, practice life skills, give to charity, volunteer to work part-time in a charity organization
- Get along better with people, improve social skills, enhance social intelligence
- Make new friends
- Spend quality time with family members
- Settle down, get engaged/get married, have kids
- Try foreign foods, take a trip, discover new cultures
- Be more spiritual

All of them are admirable goals. Good luck, and happy New Year! ■

Forks & Rakes by Stephanie Murrell

Recipe: Flu Fighter COOKIES!

Not sure why they fight flu...but there's sure a lot of good stuff in there...

Ingredients

2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/4 tsp baking powder
3/4 tsp baking soda
3/4 tsp ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp freshly grated nutmeg
Pinch of ground cloves
1/4 tsp salt
1 stick unsalted butter, at room temperature
1 cup packed dark brown sugar
2 large eggs
1/4 cup molasses
1/4 cup low-fat plain Greek yogurt
1 tsp freshly grated ginger
2 tsp finely grated lemon zest (about 1 lemon)
1/2 cup old-fashioned oats
1 1/4 cups each: golden raisins, dried cranberries, roughly chopped walnuts, toasted

Directions

- Line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper. Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and salt in a medium bowl.
- Beat the butter and brown sugar in a large bowl with a mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, 3 minutes.
- Beat in the eggs one at a time, fully incorporating each before adding the next.
- Add the molasses, yogurt, ginger, and lemon zest and beat until smooth, scraping the sides of the bowl as needed.
- Reduce the mixer speed to low and beat in the flour mixture to make a sticky batter (do not overmix).
- Fold in the oats and half of the raisins, cranberries, and walnuts.
- Mix the remaining dried fruit and nuts in a small bowl and set aside.
- Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Drop heaping tablespoonfuls of batter onto the prepared baking sheets. Top each with some of the reserved dried fruit and nut mixture and chill for 30 minutes.

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Winter Car Safety

Now is not the time of year for rakes, so I'm covering the subject of winter car safety. This seems like a long list, but everything on it would come in handy in a road emergency.

Blankets are the most important thing you can have with you. If you bury your car in a snow-drift and it won't start, the ability to keep yourself warm is absolutely vital. Blankets are the best way to do this. Keep a few **hand warmers**, too.

A spare charged cell phone will allow you to call 9-1-1. Keep it wrapped up in the blankets so that it'll be likely to survive a crash.

Flares will help rescuers see you. If they're searching and all they can see is white, a flare will make all the difference in your discovery.

A wind-up radio lets you keep tabs on the weather if you don't have electricity in your car. A simple winding will let you know the state of the roads and when conditions have improved.

A first aid kit will be vital if someone is hurt in an accident.

Extra winter clothes will help you keep warm, especially if you need to leave the vehicle. Layers are key—the more layers of clothes you can put on, the warmer you'll be at the surface of your skin.

Jumper cables come in handy on cold mornings when your car doesn't start. Quite often, it's the result of a battery that became overly cold overnight, and the car can be started with the help of another vehicle.

A bag of sand or cat litter not only adds weight to your car (improving traction) but can be spread to help you get traction if your car gets stuck in a bad position.

An ice scraper—preferably one with a brush to help remove snow—is handy throughout the winter to keep your windows cleared.

Dried foods such as beef jerky and granola bars are perfect for this type of situation, as they're energy dense. Don't keep water or other liquids in your car—they'll explode if stored below freezing for a long period, and you can

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Renew Your Membership (cont'd from p. 1)

watchful eye by joining the group, which is dedicated to neighborhood safety and lost and found pets. To participate in the Watch, go to 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 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 recently installed water spigot in the West Plaza garden.

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. Maintained by volunteers, it now hosts a large variety of tended flowers as well as an identifying stone monument, which was also built by volunteers.
- Volunteers recently repainted 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 plans affecting the neighborhood. General meetings are held on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months. The WPNA calendar of meetings and events is shown on p. 7.

- Volunteer to help distribute newsletters, assist the membership committee, or help with events such as the cleanups, the picnic, and the yard sale. Contact Greg Madden (913-526-6956) to volunteer for any of our activities.
- **Most importantly**, become a paid member (membership is for the calendar year). Complete the form on page 6 and mail it in with your check. If you have questions, contact Greg Madden, membership director (913-526-6956).

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

We look forward to seeing you at the next General meeting on Tuesday, January 21. ■

.....
Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to happen, It's not. — Dr. Seuss
.....

Forks & Rakes (continued from p. 3)

Cookies

- Bake the cookies until dark golden but still soft, 10 to 12 minutes; cool on a rack. Store in an airtight container for up to a week. ■

Winter Car Safety

probably get plenty of liquid in a blizzard—just look outside.

Emergency tire sealant can enable you to get to the next town in a pinch rather than being stuck beside the road with a flat tire.

Flashlights allow you to see what's going on and also aid in signaling help. Get one with a bright bulb, and make sure it's charged. And don't forget extra batteries.

A shovel—if you have room in your car or truck—will be helpful if you need to dig out.

A small tool kit can allow you to fix minor car problems yourself. Make sure you have everything you need to (at least) change a tire and loosen or tighten some bolts. ■

Looking Back: The Loretto

by Joe Montanari

Traveling east or west on 39th Street, on the southwest corner of 39th and Roanoke Road, one notices a handsome old building known as “The Loretto.” It’s a little tricky to see out the car window as you drive by, but if you approach from the north, coming up the hill on Roanoke Road, you can get a wonderful panoramic view. This lovely building, dedicated in 1904, was designed by architect Thomas P. Barnett, who won the gold medal for architecture for designing the Palace of Liberal Arts for the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. After working on the Loretto, Barnett went on to design the Cathedral Basilica in St. Louis and a number of other important structures, before becoming an accomplished impressionist painter in later years. His paintings may be seen at both the Missouri State Capitol and the St. Louis Art Museum.

Today, with meeting rooms and dining halls, the Loretto serves as a venue for wedding receptions and parties and other functions. For its first eighty years, however, the building and grounds were the home of the Loretto Academy, “a boarding and day school for girls.” The school was named after the Sisters of Loretto, a community of Catholic nuns, who came to Kansas City from Hardin’s Creek, Kentucky, in 1899 at the invitation of Bishop John Hogan. Ordained in St. Louis in 1852, Father Hogan had begun his religious career as a missionary to slaves working the lead mines in Potosi and Old Mines, Missouri. The order of the Sisters of Loretto was founded in 1812, for the purpose of “bringing education to the poor children of the frontier.” The order shared Bishop Hogan’s sense of social justice and later established a mission to the Osage Nation in Oklahoma.

That sense of social justice was sorely tested in September of 1947, when Loretto Academy admitted its first black student, Carmen Forte, the gifted 15-year-old stepdaughter of attorney (later Judge) Lewis Clymer. Clymer wanted his daughter to attend college, but the school she attended was unaccredited. On her first day at Loretto, Carmen and her stepfather walked up the front steps, only to be confronted by a small group of angry parents. Twenty-five students were removed from Loretto that day, five years before the historic *Brown v. Topeka* case desegregated schools once and for all. Carmen went on to

graduate from Loretto in 1949 and had a successful career with the Carter Broadcasting Company.

By the 1960s Kansas City’s suburbs were drawing the population south, and the school moved to 124th and Wornall, where it remained until it closed in 1984. The old school building went through a series of owners and foreclosures, but fortunately was added to the National Historic Register in 1983. Beautifully restored by its current owners in the 1990s, the stately building on 39th Street reminds us of a hardy band of dedicated pioneer women dedicated to education, human rights, and the empowerment of women.

Sources: Marty Denzer and the *Catholic Key*, the Kansas City Public Library Missouri Valley Collection, and Wikipedia. ■

Winter Pet Care

by April Porter

Help your pets remain happy and healthy during the colder months by following these simple guidelines

Don’t leave dogs or cats outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs—and all cats—are safer indoors. No matter what the temperature, wind chill can threaten a pet’s life. Regardless of the season, shorthaired, very young, or old dogs and all cats should never be left outside without supervision. The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet’s feet. Wipe all paws with a damp towel after a walk before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.

A dog or cat is happiest and healthiest when kept indoors, but if your pet is outdoors much of the day, he must be protected by a dry, draft-free shelter that is large enough to allow him to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.

Outdoor cats, either strays or ferals (of which there are many in West Plaza) need protection from the elements, as well as food and water. If you are able, provide them with an outdoor

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Winter Pet Care (continued from p. 5)

shelter. Animals who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter, because keeping warm depletes energy. Routinely check their water dish to make sure the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, a pet's tongue can freeze to metal.

Warm engines in parked cars attract cats, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.

Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals. Wipe up spills and store antifreeze out of reach. Antifreeze made with propylene glycol is less toxic to pets, wildlife, and family.

The best tip for the cold months is to keep your dog or cat inside with you. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise but kept inside the rest of the time. The cold affects everybody, whether animal or human. Your animal friends deserve to live indoors with you.

Source: www.humanesociety.org ■

Don't Wear It Anymore?

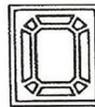
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**NOTICE! WPNA Membership runs on the calendar year, from January 1 through December 31.
If you have not renewed for 2014, please do it now.**

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 2014]

2014 WPNA Calendar

General Membership Meetings (7-8 p.m.)
30-minute social "hour" begins at 6:30

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 21, March 18, July 15, September 16, November 18.

Annual Picnic & Spring Cleanup: Sat., May 17
Yard Sales: Saturday, June 7
Fall Cleanup: Saturday, October 11

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



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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

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.



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West Plaza Watch

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2014 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, which is sent as a pdf to a 300-name email list and hand-delivered six times per year to 1,100 homes in the West Plaza neighborhood.

<p>AAA BUYS HOUSES 913-832-5105</p> <p>ACT II 1417 W. 47th St. 816-531-7572</p> <p>ATLAS GLASS 913-735-6116 Damon@atlasglasskc.com</p> <p>AUTOBAHN MOTORS 1111 Westport Road alex@autobahn-usa.com</p> <p>BANGS SALON 1115 W. 47th St. 816-756-1422 bangskc@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>BEFORE & AFTER BRICK RESTORATION www.brickproblems.com 816-924-4966</p> <p>BOOTLACE DESIGN & BUILD 4807 Mercier 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>CORRELL REAL ESTATE CO. 816-753-3418</p> <p>DANIE DUNN DESIGN 1801 Westport Road 816-561-7771</p> <p>DRAW ARCHITECTURE + URBAN DESIGN 4800 Mercier 816-561-8970</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 816-931-3535</p> <p>HAIR STYLE 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p>	<p>HOTEL SORELLA COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA 816-480-4444</p> <p>JENNINGS TREE & LAWN CARE 4504 State Line Road 816-931-3399</p> <p>KANSAS CITY CHIROPRACTIC 4510 Belleview 816-753-4600 Kansascitychiropractic.com</p> <p>KANSAS CITY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS 816-808-2556</p> <p>KATHE KAUL ESTATE SALES 816-960-1947</p> <p>KC HOME TEAM Sherri Connolly-Hansen 816-223-4619 www.KCHomeTeam.com</p> <p>KIRK: A SALON 1719 Westport Road 816-785-8020</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p>LADNER ASSOCIATES, CPA 4808 Belleview Ave. 816-561-7580</p> <p>LAW OFFICES OF CHARLES W. GOTSCHALL 4700 Belleview, Ste. 215 816-561-2300 www.lawyers-kc.com</p> <p>LAW OFFICES OF KRIGEL & KRIGEL 4550 Belleview 816-285-6012 Krigelandkrigel.com</p> <p>LEGALSHIELD Caldwell Independent Associates Caldwell53@legalshield.com 816-914-5719</p> <p>LIAM PORTER STATE FARM INSURANCE (816) 753-4334 www.sfplazaagent.com</p> <p>LOTUS SKIN CARE STUDIO 3900 Pennsylvania 816-561-0555</p> <p>MARSH'S SUNFRESH 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>OLEANDER AESTHETICS 1703 W. 45th Street 816-974-3338 www.oleanderaesthetics.com</p> <p>ORGANIZE ME 816-529-6901 www.organizemeinkc.com</p> <p>PLATINUM REALTY/KAREN RAMOS 816-853-4506</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>SCOTT BURNETT Jackson County Legislator Burnett.scott@gmail.com</p> <p>SHANNON BASHAM, BA, E-RYT www.shanyogakc.com shanyogakc@gmail.com 816-810-3623</p> <p>SHEEHAN'S IRISH IMPORTS 1412 Westport Road 816-561-4480 www.sheehanirish.com</p> <p>SHELTON TRAVEL SERVICE 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888 www.sheltontravel.com</p> <p>STEPHANIE HENRY PIANO STUDIO 816-753-4039 shenry24@kc.rr.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>TWIN CITY TAVERN 1815 Westport Road 816-531-2141 www.twincitytavern.com</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 785-235-1386 Downtown Topeka www.wolfes.com</p>
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