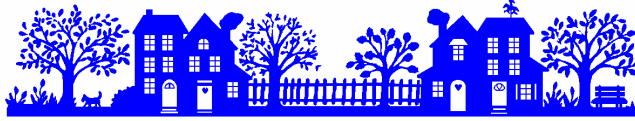


WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Next General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.
Swinney Elementary School Cafeteria
1106 West 47th Street

The main topic at our next meeting will be a presentation on rain gardens.

Judy Robinson of the Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau will tell us about the benefits of a rain garden and how we can incorporate this feature on our property.

What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is basically a shallow bowl about six inches deep that is planted with native plants that are accustomed to this area's soil and weather conditions and can absorb rain water through a deep root system.

Native plants are drought-resistant and attract butterflies and birds. A list of such plants is available on the 10,000 Rain Gardens website, www.RainKC.com

These gardens serve to capture runoff from roofs and roads during storms, cleaning the water of pollutants as it percolates back into the ground that's held in place by the roots of the rain garden.

Designed to process water within a day, rain gardens serve as mosquito death traps, since

mosquito eggs need more than 48 hours to grow into larvae.

Rain gardens can have a powerful cumulative effect in reducing pollutants in our rivers and streams, such as fertilizer and pet waste. Native plants are drought-tolerant, require no fertilizer, support wildlife, look great and their deep roots help water to infiltrate into the soil instead of into the storm water system.

Earlier this year the City of Kansas City launched a public advertising campaign to announce the "10,000 Rain Gardens" initiative and to encourage voluntary action by citizens and businesses to participate in the program.

At the March WPNA meeting our speaker will help us some of the following questions on rain gardens:

- Where should my rain garden go?
- What should I do before digging? (always call 1-800-DIG-RITE)
- How do I determine the size of a rain garden?
- What kind of plants should I use and how should they be planted?
- How much maintenance does a rain garden require?

Please plan to join your neighbors at the March 21 WPNA meeting!

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
Edited by Boyd Williston
Home Address: 4410 Fairmount, Kansas City, MO 64111-4354
Phone: 816-931-0194 (home)
e-mail: boyd01wpna@kc.rr.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles or association activities to Boyd at his e-mail or postal address (e-mail is preferred). You must include your name and how to contact you 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.

Production of this publication was made possible through support from the KCMO Neighborhood Development (Community Block Grant) and the Missouri Department of Economic Development (Neighborhood Assistance Program)

Advertising rates (display ad other than listing in business membership):

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

Julie Tenenbaum
816-931-2276
JATKC@aol.com

John Toms
816-531-8251
jtoms@kc.rr.com

Please express your appreciation to these individuals for volunteering to serve neighborhood. If anyone is interested in volunteering for an upcoming neighborhood event or has a question, please feel free to contact any of the board members.

2006 WPNA Board Members

At the January meeting, we elected new officers and at-large board members. They are:

President – Bob Crutsinger
816-797-3126
bob_Crutsinger@hotmail.com

Secretary – Paul Minto
816-756-2180
pminto@urbanprairiekc.com

Treasurer – Marlene Toms
816-531-8251
jtoms@kc.rr.com

Membership – Boyd Williston
816-931-0194
boyd01wpna@kc.rr.com

At-Large Members

Delois Moore
816-665-3999
moore_delois@hotmail.com

Ed O'Donnell
816-531-4692
a2delno@netzero.com

Upcoming Events

Here are some events that WPNA will be sponsoring soon. Keep these in mind as you plan your schedule for May and June.

Neighborhood Cleanup

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2006
Location: Wyoming Street south of 47th Street,
(East side of Westwood Park)
Time: 8:00 a.m. till the dumpsters fill up.
An easy way to dispose of bulky items and yard waste. Come early! The dumpsters fill up quickly.

The Annual WPNA Picnic

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2006
Location: Westwood Park
Time: Noon to about 2:00 p.m.
Plan on bringing a side dish or dessert to share.

Annual WNPY Yard Sale

Date: Saturday, June 3, 2006
This has become one of our most successful events. If you are thinking about a yard sale or garage sale this spring at your house, set this date aside and take advantage of the free advertising for your goods. WPNA membership is **not** required to participate!

KCMO Action Center Extends Hours

In a continuing effort to improve service delivery for citizens, the City's Action Center is extending its hours on Saturdays. As of Feb. 11, the Action Center is available for telephone, fax and e-mail assistance Saturdays from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

In October 2005, the Action Center expanded its hours to include Saturdays, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. The Monday through Friday hours will continue to be from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. until March 1, 2006, when they will be extended to 7 p.m.

Walk-in service is provided Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Action Center, a division of the City Manager's Office, provides information about City services and helps resolve situations with those services. When making service requests, citizens should provide the following information:

- The exact address or location, or as much information as possible to help staff identify the exact address
- Length of time the current situation or condition has existed
- As many details about the situation or condition as possible.

Action Center staff can be reached at (816) 513-1313, (816) 513-1303 (fax), and actioncenter@kcmo.org. The office is on the first floor of City Hall, 414 E. 12th St.

KCMO Leave and Brush Drop-Off Sites

Two leaf and brush drop-off sites are provided for the convenience of city residents. Please remember that these sites are closed for the winter from Jan. 15 to March 15, 2006. The site locations are:

Environmental Campus - 4707 Deramus Road, just east of Chouteau Trafficway
Open Saturday only, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Jan. 15 to March 15

Raytown Road Site - just south of I-470 on the east side of Raytown Road
Open Saturday only, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Jan. 15 to March 15

WPNA Business Members

SHELTON TRAVEL

4800 Belleview Ave.
816-753-4888

FITNESS TOGETHER

4802 Belleview Ave.
816-841-5129
www.fitnessstogether.com

LE NAIL'S SALON

4804 Belleview Ave.
816-931-0303

YING'S COFFEE AND DELI

4806 Belleview Ave.
913-526-7457

LADNER ASSOCIATES CPA

4808 Belleview Ave.
816-561-7580

CATHY'S CLIP & CURL SALON

4301 Wyoming St.
816-561-2331

DOG'S WORLD OF FUN

1220 W. 31st St.
816-931-5822

BOOZEFISH WINE BAR

1511 Westport Road
816-561-5995

CURVES

1010 Westport Road
816-753-5707

SUNSHINE FLOWERS

4509 Rainbow Blvd.
913-384-5034

ORGANIZE ME

1105 W. 37th St.
816-561-6901

Judy Klemm REMAX PREMIER REALTY

3515 W. 75th St.
913-529-1408 (or 406-9204)

WESTPORT LAUNDROMAT

1409 Westport Road
816-531-8889

HAIR STYLE

4500 Bell St.
816-531-4545

GREENWICH WEST

1801 Westport Road
816-561-8411

DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURANCE

1414 W. 47th St.
816-753-4334

BERGAMOT & IVY, INC.

1713 Westport Road
816-561-5599

JENNINGS TREE CARE

4505 State Line
816-931-3399

VALLEY VIEW BANK

4550 Belleview Ave.
913-381-3311

PRECISION OPTICS OF WESTPORT

4181 Broadway
816-756-3577

PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC

4600 Madison, Suite 1500
816-756-0640

QUICK TRIP CORP.

5724 Foxridge Dr.
Mission, KS 66202
913-362-3700

FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE

4401 Genessee St.
816-931-2276

ACT II

1417 W. 47th St.
816-531-7572

Recycling: Bigger and Better!

Julie Tenenbaum

The big blue bins on the curb on Monday and Friday mornings are now a common sight in the West Plaza. We have become accustomed to the convenience and simplicity of tossing our recyclables into our bins. Personally, I find it quite a thrill to see all the bins at the curb on trash day!

But for some of us, it's not quite enough. We'd like to reduce our contribution to the landfill even more. Did you know there's another way to recycle? The Kansas City Community Recycling Centers, operated by Bridging the Gap, accept not only everything that is recyclable curbside, but also less common, harder-to-recycle materials.

The first list shows items that can be recycled curbside. The second list shows additional items that are accepted at the Recycling Centers.

Curbside Recycling

- Aluminum cans
- Corrugated cardboard
- Magazines
- Office paper
- Newspaper
- Paperboard
- Phone books
- Plastic bottles & jars, #1, #2
- Tin/steel cans

Community Recycling Centers

All of the above, PLUS

- Aluminum foil & pie pans
- Athletic shoes

- Cell phones & pagers
- Clothing donations
- Computers
- Egg cartons
- Electronic media (floppy disks, CDs, VHS tapes, cassette tapes, 8-track tapes, and their plastic cases)
- Household batteries
- Glass bottles & jars
- Plastic newspaper sleeves
- Shredded office paper
- Small, usable household items
- Styrofoam blocks (must be VERY clean!)
- Styrofoam packing peanuts
- Scrap metal
- Toner & inkjet cartridges

It takes a little more effort to pack the car and take things to the center, but it can be done at your convenience. And the benefits are huge. Some items are reused (egg cartons are given to Harvester's for reuse in food distribution) and others are sent for remanufacture into new goods. And every bit of it stays out of the landfill.

The Recycling Center nearest our neighborhood is at 48th and Forest (one block east of Troost, one block south of Emmanuel Cleaver II Blvd.) Hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have questions about recycling or would like more details about the Additional items now accepted at the center, call the recycling information line at 816/561-1090 or visit the website at www.bridgingthegap.org.

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

New Renewal

Household (\$12) Senior (\$7) Business (\$25)

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

I would like to help the neighborhood with:

Picnic Property Maintenance/Zoning

Yard Sale Neighborhood clean-up

Crime prevention Distribute newsletter

Refreshments for meetings

(March 2006 Newsletter)