

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



✓ Mark your Calendar ✓

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 7 p.m.

The Point Annex (911 W. 44th Street)

Speaker: The Wet Weather Solutions Program

Doorprize: \$25 Quik Trip Gas Card

New Meeting Place

The beginning of a new year often brings changes, and this holds true even for the West Plaza Neighborhood Association. The first meeting of the year, finally held on January 30th after being delayed because of weather, was at a new location, The Point Annex. Located at 911 West 44th Street, the Point Annex is next door to the new Point Grill, both owned by Mike Flaherty.

For many years, Swinney Elementary School provided the space and amenities needed for the neighborhood meetings. However, with the tentative closure of the school, another location was needed, and Mike Flaherty offered this meeting space to the WPNA. The Point Annex has comfortable seating, lots of close, off-street parking, and good bathroom accommodations; in summary, a cozy new place for WPNA meetings! (If anyone is interested in renting out this space for private parties during the week, contact Mike Flaherty at 816-561-7660).

Meet Julie Tenenbaum, President of the WPNA

“To love what you do, and to feel that it matters. How could anything be more fun?”

This is Julie’s favorite quote, spoken by Katharine Graham, long-time editor of the *Washington Post*. Julie has been doing what she loves, running her home-based

secretarial service, for more than twenty years. She also loves cats, gardening, yoga, reading, and her husband, though not necessarily in that order. Another more recent passion is offering her skills several days a week to WaterPartners International, a local nonprofit whose goal is to ensure clean drinking water for everyone in the world (water.org on the web).

Another interest is treading lightly on the earth; she helped introduce curbside recycling to Kansas City as a speaker for that program, Recycle First, at neighborhood meetings. She is an avid recycler and bus rider.

Connecting people with other people is another hot item for Julie. She loves it when someone says to her, “Do you know anybody who can help me with ...?”

Julie is a native Kansas Citian. She and her husband have lived in the West Plaza neighborhood since 1989, in “the old Cunningham house,” as some people refer to the bungalow on the corner of 44th and Genessee. Other people know that corner because of the big orange cat, Tiger, who used to run down the steps to greet them as they walked by, throwing himself at their feet and insisting that they pet him.

Julie is a great proponent of getting involved with neighborhood activities. For many years she had no interest in participating in events or interacting with her neighbors, but she sometimes felt that something was missing. She gradually became involved in neighborhood activities by attending an occasional general membership meeting, and in 2005 she volunteered to serve on the Board. She is very happy to be enjoying her neighbors and contributing time and energy to the life of the neighborhood.

Julie is married to Kristopher (Fattah) Kriner, the Singing Baker of the Fairway Hen House.

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

the ATM is well lit, and be aware of any people "loitering" in the area. Do not go to the ATM by yourself.

- At home, before answering the door, check the peephole or side window to make sure you know your visitor.
- Keep your doors locked when driving your car. If someone approaches your car while you are stopped, be prepared to step on the gas.
- Don't carry your purse hanging loosely from your shoulder. Clutch it tightly under your arm or, better yet, avoid carrying a purse and keep a wallet in your pocket instead.
- If you are robbed, obey the robber's instructions. Keeping your cash in a separate money clip or pouch will allow you to hand it over without sacrificing your credit cards, identification, and personal papers. Try to memorize your robber's physical features, clothing, motor vehicle, and direction of flight. Call 9-1-1 immediately.

Street Robbery Prevention

by John Toms, WPNA Board member and retired KCMO police officer

There have been four armed robberies in our neighborhood in a recent five-week period. The first occurred between January 20th and the week of February 10th. Three were just after midnight and one was around 7:30 p.m. There is no suspect information yet, but information is being sought from the Police Department. Follow these suggested tips to help keep you from becoming a victim:

- Avoid walking alone on the street after 9:00 p.m. If you must walk alone at night, use well-lit streets with as much car traffic as possible, and walk near the curb.
- When streets are relatively empty, make eye contact with everyone you pass, and keep yourself an arm's length away from them. Walk briskly and confidently.
- At night, avoid public parks, vacant lots, and areas with a lot of trees and bushes.
- When waiting for a bus or for a ride, if the area is deserted, keep your back against a wall in a well-lit section.
- When walking to your car at night, have your keys in your hand and be ready to open the door.
- Try to avoid using ATMs late at night. If you must use one, choose an ATM in an attended location, such as a supermarket. At the very least, make sure

The Annual WPNA Yard Sale

Our annual yard sale is still a while off (put it on your calendar – Saturday, June 2), but now is a good time to start planning.

Here is how this works. The Association pays for a newspaper ad to attract buyers. Every home that has registered their sale with WPNA is included on a flyer that shows a map of the neighborhood and lists sale addresses and items for sale. A stack of flyers is given to each registered address.

Anyone who stops by one home can find the things that are of interest to them on the list and receives directions to all the other sales. The more homes that are registered, the more attractive this neighborhood yard sale is to buyers.

The sale is also advertised by signs put up around the neighborhood a week before sale day.

If you are considering having a yard (or garage or porch) sale this spring, join your neighbors on June 2 and increase traffic and buyers to our neighborhood. If you hear of neighbors who are planning to have sales this summer, encourage them to participate on that date, too.

The more of us there are on the list, the more successful we will all be! To register your sale, call Boyd Williston at 816-931-0194.

These are the businesses that support our neighborhood both by their membership in the WPNA and by underwriting or contributing to our activities. Show them you appreciate their support by patronizing them whenever you have the opportunity.

WPNA Business Members

<p>ACT II 1417 W. 47th St. 816-531-7572</p> <p>BERGAMOT & IVY, INC. 1713 Westport Road 816-561-5599</p> <p>BOOZEFISH WINE BAR 1511 Westport Road 816-561-5995</p> <p>CATHY'S CLIP & CURL SALON 4301 Wyoming St. 816-561-2331</p> <p>CURVES 1010 Westport Road 816-753-5707</p> <p>DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURANCE 1414 W. 47th St. 816-753-4334</p> <p>DOG'S WORLD OF FUN 1220 W. 31st St. 816-931-5822</p> <p>EDDIE DELAHUNT'S CAFÉ & 1811 West 45th St. 816-753-3322</p> <p>FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE 4401 Genessee St. 816-931-2276</p> <p>FITNESS TOGETHER 4802 Belleview Ave. 816-841-5129 www.fitnessstogether.com</p> <p>GARY JENKINS ATTORNEY AT LAW 204 W. Linwood 816-931-3535</p>	<p>GREENWICH WEST 1801 Westport Road 816-561-8411</p> <p>HAIR STYLE 4500 Bell St. 816-531-4545</p> <p>JENNINGS TREE CARE 4505 State Line 816-931-3399</p> <p>JUDY KLEMM REMAX PREMIER REALTY 3515 W. 75th St. 913-529-1408 (or 406-9204)</p> <p>KATE'S CANINE RESORT 2823 Main St. 816-753-4188</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview 816-531-2070</p> <p>LADNER ASSOCIATES CPA 4808 Belleview Ave. 816- 561-7580</p> <p>MONTANARI FINE ART JEWELERS 4810 Belleview 816-531-0750 www.montanarjewelers.com</p> <p>ORGANIZE ME 816-529-6901</p> <p>PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC 4600 Madison, Suite 1500 816-756-0640</p> <p>PENELOPE COX Keller Williams Realty Key Partners, LLC Direct Office: 913-825-7582 Cell: 816-728-3154</p>	<p>PLAZA CHIROPRACTIC 1507 W. 47th Street 816-931-4601</p> <p>PRECISION OPTICS OF WESTPORT 4181 Broadway 816-756-3577</p> <p>PRINT TEKK PRINTING & MAILING 4312 Terrace 816-931-4122</p> <p>QUIK TRIP 301 Westport Road 816-931-6886</p> <p>SHELTON TRAVEL 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888</p> <p>SUNSHINE FLOWERS 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p>WEST PLAZA DELI 4806 Belleview Ave. 913-526-7457</p> <p>WEST PLAZA SALON 4804 Belleview Ave. 816-931-0303</p> <p>WESTPORT LAUNDROMAT 1409 Westport Road 816-531-8889</p> <p>VALLEY VIEW BANK 4550 Belleview Ave. 913-381-3311</p> <p>YOUR NAME HERE! SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!</p>
---	---	--

On Being a Good Neighbor

Recently, a West Plaza resident called one of the board members to relate how helpful someone had been. She was so very grateful that an unknown person had been tossing her newspaper onto her porch.

That may seem like a small thing to do. But the caller recently had had back surgery, and it was very difficult for her to step off the porch and into the yard to get her newspaper. Having the newspaper thrown onto the porch made it much easier for her to retrieve it. (continued on page 4)

New WPNA Officers and Board Members

The brave folks who slogged through the ice and snow on January 30 to meet at our new location, The Point Annex (911 West 44th Street), elected the following officers for 2007:

President	Julie Tenenbaum
Director of Finance	Marlene Toms
Director of Membership	Boyd Williston
Secretary	Paul Minto

The five at-large Directors are Joe Montanari, Ed O'Donnell, Kevin Pinkowski, John Toms, and Shelley Zimmerman.

The Board later elected Paul Minto to hold the office of Vice President this year.

The new board are an enthusiastic bunch who would like to invite you to join them in activities this year, either at the old favorites – the bi-annual clean-ups, the picnic, and the yard sales – or by assisting them in the new projects they're going to dream up. Some areas of interest are zoning/city issues, recycling and trash, the new telephone alert system, installation of our West Plaza banners (yes, we intend to get those up this year!) and graffiti cleanup. We would also welcome newsletter article submissions, if you have an urge to share information or ideas.

Members of the board can be contacted by phone:

Paul Minto	816-756-2180
Joe Montanari	816-531-0750
Ed O'Donnell	816-531-4692
Kevin Pinkowski	913-486-7043
Julie Tenenbaum	816-931-2276
John Toms	816-531-8251
Marlene Toms	816-531-8251
Boyd Williston	816-931-0194
Shelley Zimmerman	816-756-2834

Board members are volunteers who donate their time and energy to keep the neighborhood a good place to live. We welcome participation by anyone who shares that goal.

Good Neighbor (continued from page 3)

The caller was grateful for this small act, and it had helped convince her that West Plaza was a great place to live.

There are many things that make a neighborhood strong. But you can often do a lot by doing just a little. You never know when some small act of kindness may make a big difference for someone else.

Watch out for the opportunity to perform some "random act of kindness or senseless act of beauty." You never know how much you may help a neighbor.



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

Check One: New Renewal

Check One: Household (\$12) Senior (\$7) Business (\$25)

Check if you **DO NOT** want to receive phone reminders and messages from WPNA:

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 Newsletter distribution

Refreshments for meetings