

WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



ü Mark Your Calendar ü

General Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 7 p.m.

The Point Annex (911 W. 44th Street)

Guest Speakers:

**Detectives Tim Mountz
and Chad Herriman, KCPD**

Door Prize: \$25 Gift Card to Jimmy John's

Safety in the West Plaza: Our guest speakers at March's meeting will be Detectives Tim Mountz and Chad Herriman of the Kansas City Police Department. They will discuss recent criminal activity in and around the West Plaza and steps they're taking to counteract it. They will also present strategies to avoid becoming a victim of crime. There will be a Q&A period, so if you have concerns or questions about safety, police procedure, or any other related topic, please plan to attend this meeting.

And bring a friend with you!

2008 Board Members Elected

Elections for 2008 officers and Board members were held at the January 15, 2008 general meeting. Results are as follows:

President: Boyd Williston

Treasurer: Marlene Toms

Membership: Julie Tenenbaum

Board: Joe Montanari, Kevin Pinkowski,
Sara Clark, Ed O'Donnell, John Toms

At the first board meeting following the election, Joe Montanari was elected Vice President, and Ed O'Donnell and Julie Tenenbaum agreed to share the duties of Secretary.

New Recycling Location

Midtown recyclers will need to burn a little more fuel to drop off recyclables that are not allowed in curbside pickup. If you haven't already heard, the Midtown Recycling Center at 48th Street and Forest has closed. The operator of the center, Bridging the Gap, attempted to open a new location in Brookside, but for various reasons was not able to. Since recycling is an important way to reduce our dependence on landfills (see the Talkin' Trash article), West Plaza residents are encouraged to use the Three Trails Recycling Center located at 91st Street and Hillcrest Road. We will keep you posted when one closer to us is opened.

If you are unsure what items are eligible for recycling, here is a quick guide.

Curbside recycling accepts:

- § Aluminum cans and other metal cans (wash but leave labels intact)
- § Plastic bottles with a neck such as water and soda bottles, milk jugs and detergent bottles (look for a 1 or a 2 inside a triangle on the bottom of the bottle)
- § Office paper, junk mail, newspapers, phone books, catalogues and magazines (staples are okay)
- § Cardboard (thick corrugated and thin cereal box-type)

Three Trails Recycling Center accepts:

- § Glass bottles and jars
- § Household batteries, cell phones, CDs and cases
- § Bikes and athletic shoes
- § Much, much more – for more information, visit www.bridgingthegap.org and click on Recycling Information.

P.O. Box 32826 Kansas City, MO 64171-7826
January-February-March 2008

Meet Your Neighbor: Sara Clark

Sara Clark is a new board member, elected for the first time this year. She has lived in the West Plaza since 2004 and joined WPNA shortly after she moved to the neighborhood. Sara is a transportation engineer for TranSystems, a local transportation consulting firm.

Sara lives with her husband and son in one of the West Plaza's many bungalows and is especially interested in preserving the original character of the neighborhood. Sara enjoys knitting and gardening and is a Royals fan.

Be sure to say "hi" to Sara when you see her at a general membership meeting or other neighborhood activity.

Renew Your Membership in the WPNA!

Now is the time to renew your membership in the West Plaza Neighborhood Association. Whether you join as a business, a family, or a senior, renewal of your membership means strengthening the voice of the association with the City as well as allowing us to continue to provide community-building activities and services to our neighborhood. Your membership will be valid through the end of the 2008 calendar year.

Please join now. Fill out the application on page 5 of this newsletter and send it in!

BLESSING OF PALMS

All are invited to join four neighborhood churches for an ecumenical prayer service on Palm Sunday, March 16, at 10:15 am at Guardian Angels parking lot, 1310 Westport Road. Epworth-Roanoke United Methodist, Guardian Angels, Immanuel Lutheran, and River City Churches will have a common blessing of palms. After this service, members of each congregation will process to their particular church for the rest of their Palm Sunday service. Visitors are welcome at all the churches.

For more information, call Rev. Glenn Mueller, SJ, Guardian Angels Church, 816-931-4351.

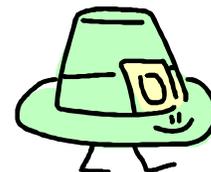
Talkin' Trash

At our January General Meeting, Michael Shaw, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented information on the future of Kansas City's solid waste management. Trash doesn't have a bright future in our city. We learned that our area landfills are reaching capacity much sooner than planned and that the process to approve and construct a new landfill can take 10-15 years. Without careful planning, we may soon find that we are creating trash faster than we can find space to put it.

Our city provides one of the most cost-effective trash and recycling collection services in the country - spending \$18.35 million annually or about \$7 less per household than the national average. We even offer unique programs like front-door pickup for elderly or disabled residents who cannot carry their trash to the curb. However, keeping costs down and continuing these unique services takes a partnership between the City and its residents. According to the EPA, up to 75% of trash in an average garbage can is recyclable, but typically only 32% gets recycled. It is going to take an effort by all residents to increase the amount of recyclables and reduce our dependence on landfills.

The Solid Waste Division is considering many exciting options for managing trash in our community. Some of the programs being considered include building a local glass recyclable processor that would allow residents to recycle glass at the curb. New technologies to automatically separate trash into recyclable and non-recyclable materials are also being investigated.

Stay tuned, as trash talkin' is an important topic to the bright future of our neighborhoods!



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Low-Cost Spaying & Neutering Promoted by No More Homeless Pets-KC

Each year approximately 25,000 healthy dogs and cats are euthanized in the greater Kansas City area. No More Homeless Pets KC is a non-profit coalition of local shelters, animal welfare groups, and individuals dedicated to solving the homeless pet overpopulation problem by promoting spay and neuter programs, adoptions, and responsible pet ownership. The goal of HMHPKC is to make Kansas City a no-kill community by 2012. "No-kill" is defined as a 0% euthanasia rate for healthy, safely-adoptable animals.

According to the Humane Society of the United States,

- § Spaying and neutering helps dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives.
- § Spaying and neutering eliminates the risk of uterine, ovarian, and testicular cancers and reduces the risk of many other diseases.
- § Spaying and neutering can make pets better, more affectionate companions and decrease heat cycle and territorial marking behaviors.
- § Spaying or neutering is good for the community – communities spend millions of dollars to control unwanted animals.

For more information, go to www.NoMoreHomelessPetsKC or call 913-541-3588.

More about Our Animal Friends

Spay and Neuter of Kansas City is sponsoring The Chain of Reality at Union Station March 17-22. The event features a chain of dog and cat collars over one mile long, representing the 15,000 dogs and cats euthanized in Kansas City last year. The purpose of the chain is to bring a visual perception to the reality of pet overpopulation.

While the chain of collars will serve as a tribute to the animals that died last year, the rest of the event will have an empowering theme of simple ways each of us can save the life of at least one cat or dog.

For more information, contact Spay-Neuter Kansas City at 816-353-0940.

Thanks to the Mystery Snow Blower

All through this cold, snowy winter, an unidentified Good Neighbor has trundled his (her?) way along the sidewalks of 44th Street in the vicinity of Genessee and Wyoming streets, guiding a snow blower into the drifts to clear a path for dog walkers and cabin-feverish neighbors. We don't know who you are, but we are grateful! Thank you, Mystery Snow Blower!



And Speaking of Spring...

While we're all dreaming of spring, don't forget to mark your calendars for the Annual West Plaza Picnic on Saturday, May 17. As always, we will have hot dogs, hamburgers, games and fun for the kids, music, door prizes provided by our terrific business members, the Picnic Pass-along game, and perhaps a surprise or two.

The Spring Cleanup usually happens on the same day as the picnic, but that has not yet been firmed up as of this printing. We will let you know the date of the "dumpster event" as soon as we know it, either in the next newsletter, or by telephone alert (provided to members who have opted in to this service).

For those who are really thinking ahead, the West Plaza Yard Sales will take place on Saturday, July 12. Plan now to have your sale on that date, and take advantage of our ad in the Star!



WPNA 2008 Budget

Following is a list of expenses incurred in 2007 and the budget approved by the Board for 2008.

	<u>2007</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2008</u> <u>Budget</u>		<u>2007</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2008</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>Association Operations</u>			INCOME		
Post office box rental	\$62.00	\$62.00	Membership dues	\$1,462.00	\$1,500.00
Sec of State	\$15.00	\$15.00	Donations	\$507.00	\$700.00
General insurance	\$312.00	\$312.00	Newsletter ads	\$105.00	\$100.00
	\$389.00	\$389.00	Banner installation	\$240.00	n/a
			Investment interest	\$141.75	\$150.00
				\$2,455.75	\$2,450.00
<u>General Membership</u>			NET INCOME OR		
<u>Meetings</u>			(LOSS)	\$(1,659.45)	\$(21.00)
Beverages	\$31.06	\$30.00	Assets	<u>12/31/07</u>	
Door prizes	\$75.00	\$100.00	Checking Account	\$629.83	
	\$106.06	\$130.00	Money Market	\$7,141.75	
				\$7,771.58	
<u>CleanSweep</u>					
KCMO Dumpsters	\$200.00	\$200.00			
	\$200.00	\$200.00			
<u>Picnic</u>					
Food	\$71.36	\$75.00			
Music	\$100.00	\$100.00			
Piñata	\$96.92	\$50.00			
	\$268.28	\$225.00			
<u>Yard Sale</u>					
Star ad	\$45.95	\$25.00			
	\$45.95	\$25.00			
<u>Recognition</u>					
Volunteer brunch	\$225.60	\$250.00			
Recognition awards	\$393.00	\$250.00			
	\$618.60	\$500.00			
<u>Office Expenses</u>					
Toner cartridges	\$39.00	n/a			
Other postage	\$78.00	\$82.00			
Postcards	\$36.00	n/a			
Phone calling minutes	\$14.50	\$100.00			
	\$167.50	\$182.00			
<u>Newsletters</u>					
Postage	\$306.46	\$320.00			
Formatting	\$91.00	\$400.00			
	\$397.46	\$720.00			
<u>Miscell Expenses</u>					
Banner installation	\$1,750.00	n/a			
Dance in the Park					
Sponsorship	\$100.00	\$100.00			
Paint, supplies for signs	\$72.35	n/a			
	\$1,922.35	\$100.00			
EXPEND TOTALS	\$4,115.20	\$2,471.00			

Crime in Midtown

In the past few months, there has been an increase in street robberies, thefts from auto, and a couple of "high profile" home burglaries in the area between 39th to 47th, Main Street to State Line. Officers and detectives at Central Patrol are aware of these crimes and are working hard to get those involved into custody. Community assistance is always needed, and the KCPD asks the following:

- § Make sure items of value, even spare change, are not left in vehicles parked on streets and outside driveways. If items of value are in vehicles, make sure they are locked in the trunk prior to arriving at the destination, and park in well lighted areas if available. In today's society, even the smallest amount of change can tempt someone needing a "fix" to break a car window.

- § During the winter months, many people start their cars to warm up and then leave them running. Simply locking the doors will not stop a thief from breaking a window and driving off. Use of a "club" steering wheel locking device will usually deter the suspect.

(Continued on page 5)

2008 Events & Meetings

WPNA general membership meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of odd numbered months at The Point Annex, 911 West 44th Street.

Schedule:

General Meetings: Mar. 18, Sept. 16, Nov. 18

Picnic: Saturday, May 17

(Cleanup may also be held May 17; TBA)

Neighborhood Yard Sales: Saturday, July 12

Dance in the Park: Saturday, September 6

Fall Cleanup: Saturday, October 11 or 18 (TBA)

Personal Safety Class

Jim Schriever, our West Plaza Police Department liaison, offers a personal safety class to the general public, and he has expressed his availability to our neighborhood. This 90-minute to 2-hour-long class consists of a Powerpoint presentation and a hands-on demo with time for questions. It is mostly geared for women, but anyone can benefit from the safety tips. The small class size allows people to attend with friends and neighbors in a comfortable setting. The class has been very popular; Officer Schriever instructed 500 people in 2007.

We would like to hold a class for the West Plaza neighborhood. A minimum of 10 participants is required. If you are interested in attending, please call Julie Tenenbaum at 816-931-2276 or email jatkc@aol.com before April 15.

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
Edited by Julie A. Tenenbaum
Address: 4401 Genessee, Kansas City, MO 64111-4359
Phone: 816-931-2276 email: jatkc@aol.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles or association activities 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. The submitter's name will be used only if permission is granted.

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

Crime in Midtown

(Continued from page 4)

§ **Always call 9-1-1.** If suspicious subjects are seen in the neighborhood, never hesitate to call 9-1-1 and report the activity. The call you make could help identify a potential subject, prevent a crime, and send a message that the neighborhood will not tolerate suspicious activity. Your call could be the one that identifies a suspect and helps police break the case.

Information obtained from Master Patrol Officer James Schriever, Central Patrol Division, KCPD

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 _____

Business Member Contact Name: _____

I would like to help the neighborhood with:

Picnic Property Maintenance/Zoning

Yard Sale Neighborhood Clean-up

Crime Prevention Newsletter Distribution

Meeting Refreshments **NEW!** Gardening

(January-February-March 2008 Newsletter)

WPNA Business Members

Please support the businesses that support the WPNA!

<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 www.boozefish.com</p> <p>CATHY'S CLIP & CURL SALON 4301 Wyoming St. 816-561-2331</p> <p>CENTURY 21 ALL-PRO 1101 Westport Road 816-753-6699 sean.kirkpatrick@century21.com</p> <p>COLDWELL BANKER ADVANTAGE MIDTOWN 1607 Westport Road 816-960-1400</p> <p>COUNTRY CLUB FINANCIAL Herman Johansen 4343 Belleview 816-360-8628</p> <p>DAVID ALLEN STATE FARM INSURANCE 1414 W. 47th St. 816-753-4334</p> <p>DESIGNER WIG STUDIO 1105 Westport Road Kansas City, MO 64111 816-444-5644</p> <p>DOGGIE STYLE BOWTIQUE 1503 Westport Road 816-561-3647 woof@doggiestylebowtique.com</p> <p>DOGS' 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 & LAWN CARE 4505 State Line 816-931-3399</p> <p>JUDY KLEMM REMAX PREMIER REALTY 2210 W. 75th St. 913-529-1408 (or 913-406-9204)</p> <p>KATE'S CANINE RESORT 2823 Main St. 816-753-4188</p> <p>KURT AARONS, DDS 4411 Belleview Ave. 816-531-2070</p> <p>LADNER ASSOCIATES CPA 4808 Belleview Ave. 816-561-7580</p> <p>MARSH'S SUN FRESH 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>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 St. 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 SERVICE 4800 Belleview Ave. 816-753-4888</p> <p>SUNSHINE FLOWERS 4509 Rainbow Blvd. 913-384-5034</p> <p>THE POINT 917 W. 44th St. 816-561-7660</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>
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