

WARD PARKWAY WORD



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CURBSIDE LEAF AND BRUSH PICK-UP RULES

FALL IS HERE and the leaves will be falling soon. For our area, the city curbside leaf and brush pick-up will be November 12th and December 16th. Here is a reminder of what will be accepted and how to prepare it for pick-up:

- No more than 20 sacks and/or bundles per household are allowed.
- Sacks and bundles must not weigh more than 40 pounds each.
- Use only paper lawn debris sacks.
- If you seal sacks, use masking tape only; do not use plastic or duct tape.
- No grass clippings and no trash!
- All branches must be bundled. Branches must not be more than 3 inches in diameter.
- Bundles of branches must not be more than 2 feet in diameter or more than 4 feet long.
- Use twine or jute rope to tie bundles; do not use wire or plastic tape.
- If wet weather is forecast, cover sacks/bundles with clear plastic.
- Sacks and bundles must be curbside by 7 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection. If not picked up on the scheduled day, you must call the Action Center at 311 or (816) 513-1313 within 24 hours to report it.



SEPTEMBER 2010 HOME OF THE MONTH

7105 WASHINGTON STREET
THE WILLIAMS RESIDENCE



Susan Williams loves her home, her yard, and her neighborhood – and it shows. Susan's home was nominated for WPHA Home of the Month by several of her neighbors on the 7100 block of Washington, in the northeastern corner of the Association's boundaries Susan will receive a \$50 Soil Service gift card in recognition of her efforts.

Susan returned to the Midwest over a decade ago, after having spent many years living and working in New York City. She chose this area for its charm and convenience and thought it would be a place pets would enjoy (Susan is an animal advocate). Susan set about making her house a home.

Over the past few years, her progress has been remarkable. Landscaping, in the front and back yards, was just the beginning. The garage got a new roof, doors and paint job; the house was outfitted with new windows, shutters, and window boxes. The back yard received the best upgrade of all – a beautiful and relaxing in-ground swimming pool complete with temperature control, lighting, and lush landscaping. Susan's Kansas City backyard retreat has become a vacation destination of sorts, frequented by the likes of her friends from her New York days!

Susan, your home has been deserving of this honor for years, but better late than never!

DUMPSTER DAY SATURDAY OCTOBER 9TH

9 UNTIL NOON

WARD PARKWAY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IF YOU'VE PAID YOUR DUES for 2010/2011 in the last few weeks and have leaf and brush debris or bulky items you'd like to get rid of, come to Dumpster Day. On the south lot of Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church, we'll have two dumpsters available for your items. Absolutely no hazardous waste, such as oil, batteries, paint, tires etc. This is just the items that are on the approved list to leave curbside for pickup from KCMO or leaves and brush (but no grass clippings).

Bring proof of ID and your check-book if you haven't already paid by the date of the event and our team will check you in. Please remember that the event is only three hours OR WHEN THE DUMPSTERS ARE FULL. If you wait till noon and the dumpster's full, you're out of luck. We cannot put leaves and brush in the bulky dumpster or vice versa. Remember traffic on Mercier is one way southbound only.

WPHA would like to thank our volunteers working this event who are Eric Gapsch, Tom Probasco, Mark Reynolds and our coordinator, Denny Moser. Thanks, guys!



FIRST BLOCK PARTY IN 20 YEARS A SUCCESS!



THE 7200 block on Belleview held their first block party in 20 years this month. It was a huge success with most neighbors attending. Fun, good food, and a fire truck made this party something to remember. The firefighters turned the hose on low, let the kids try it out and then turned the hose on the kids. They were ecstatic!

Note to all WPHA blocks: Fall is a great time to have a block party. Having the fire department come is always a good source of entertainment.



FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS



PUMPKIN DECORATING

On Sunday October 17, 2010 join us at Waldo Pizza's back room from 3-5pm for the 6th Annual WPHA Pumpkin Decorating Event. This is a family event for WPHA families. (kids and adults of all ages). We'll have pie sized (individual) pumpkins for each person to decorate and take home. We provide yarn, glue, pipe cleaners, stickers, foam shapes, markers and other art supplies. **NO CARVING** of pumpkins. Snacks and sodas will be provided. No RSVP required but please plan to come early enough to complete your pumpkin by 5pm.

HOLIDAY CAROLING

Join your neighbors for a fun evening of caroling and revelry in December. "Kids" of all ages are invited to join and no talent or experience is required. Look for more details to come next month!

HOLIDAY HOMES CONTEST

Once again, the weather is cooling off and it's time to start thinking about the holidays! Talk with your neighbors about making your street stand out this year! Judging will occur the weekend of December 10-12th (Friday- Sunday). Talk to your neighbors and get those creative juices flowing! Before you know it we will be hearing those bells jingle! More details to come in the October newsletter.

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| Dumpster Day | Saturday October 9th |
| Kansas City Marathon | Saturday October 16th |
| Annual Meeting | TBD |
| Pumpkin Decorating Day | Sunday October 17th, 3-5 pm @ Waldo |
| City Leaf & Brush Pick-up | November 12th |
| Food Drive for Harvesters | November TBA |
| Holiday Lights Contest | December 10th – 12th |
| City Leaf & Brush Pick-up | December 16th |
| Holiday Caroling | December - TBA |

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have a few hours you could volunteer around the homes association? We depend on residents stepping up to take a turn at welcoming neighbors, serving on the board, helping at events, organizing block parties and more. Here are some opportunities where you might help. If interested in any of the positions or volunteer opportunities listed below, see the contact listed or phone any board member or send an email to president@wphakc.org.

1 Board Meeting Secretary – Do we have any administrative assistants out there who are used to taking minutes from meetings and writing a recap? We could sure use your help at our monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. Shorthand is not required, just the ability to summarize the key points discussed and send out a reminder for next month's board meeting. This is a great way to stay informed about our community!

2 Food Drive Volunteer – Can you assist with picking up neighborhood donations for the Thanksgiving food drive? Multiple volunteers are needed to pick up food donations on assigned streets one day in November. This is a great opportunity for a family service project or for high school kids in need of service hours. If you can't do that, can you save your empty egg cartons for Harvesters to be picked up during the food drive?

3 HOM Chairman – We need a new person or team to select the homes of the month winners in 2011. If you love all the interesting architectural styles we have in WPHA and would like to reward those who both pay their dues and keep their property looking terrific, this is the job for you. You choose winners from the

nominations received or can nominate your own, based on established criteria for these awards. You take a photo of the winning home, write a short article or assist the homeowner to write their own (which many prefer to do) and move the sign from yard to yard as winners change. Hint: the sign is heavy so it wouldn't blow over or be easily stolen. Most women need a helper to move it. Please consider this volunteer opportunity. It's fun and can give you many great ideas for your own home!

4 Board Members – Due to attrition this past year, there are four openings on the WPHA board of directors. Our by-laws require a minimum of eight members which we still have, but we want to fill all twelve seats. More great minds make for great results! If you have an interest in shaping the direction for the homes association and are willing to attend most monthly meetings and be involved in a committee or project, please let us know.

5 Easter Egg Hunt Coordinator – Could you, perhaps with the assistance of another family in the neighborhood, organize the Easter Egg Hunt next spring? We have lots of information of what's been done in case you want to repeat a successful formula, or plan something on your own the kids will enjoy. All the kids really look forward to this spring event!



QUICK HITS

- ✿ BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER, the printed newsletter will only be available to WPHA members who have paid their homes association dues for the coming year and have not supplied their email address. Email version of the newsletter is available to anyone. PLEASE BE SURE THAT WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. You may provide it to president@wphakc.org
- ✿ Billing for membership dues for 2010-2011 has been sent via email. Please submit your payment asap. Thank you.

~ DOOR TO DOOR SOLICITORS ~

OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS, there seems to be an increase in door-to-door solicitation. In recent years, the door-to-door sales of magazine subscriptions have become a common and easy vehicle for fraudulent activity in the United States. While many companies that employ this marketing technique are legitimate, professionals and their families should be aware of a large number of businesses that may be taking advantage of consumers.

Here are some facts about door-to-door sales and signs of fraud:

- Door-to-door sales is an unregulated industry. This often means the “employer” does not put the sales force through any background checks.
- Many companies selling subscriptions use high school and college students. The students are given a sales pitch and then sent to different locales. These individuals may not even realize they are part of a fraud.
- Sales personnel may present a good sales pitch, such as a contest, earning money for scholarships, school trips, etc. If you don’t know the sales person, you should beware of possible fraud.
- Beware of any offer that includes a referral sale to friends or family.



- If you do accept the pitch, get everything in writing, especially the total price and any conditions that apply.

Check Missouri’s state government Web site to find more information regarding home solicitations sales regulations.

The police offer several tips when dealing with a door-to-door solicitor:

1. Never allow a stranger to come into your home.
2. Always go to the door even if just for a few seconds to say to the people “please leave – we’re busy right now and don’t want any interruptions.” This lets them know someone is home.
3. If there are people soliciting after dark, it’s much more likely your house is being “cased” so call 911 to have the person checked out.
4. On any solicitor, you can call the police to come and make sure they have the proper license.
5. Put up a “no soliciting” sign or two. If they come to your door, you can call 911 and have them arrested.
6. Don’t give the solicitor any personal information about you, your family, your home or your neighbors.

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

FIRE AND BURN PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN

FIRE IS BOTH USEFUL AND DANGEROUS. Improper use of fire can lead to property destruction and, far worse, serious injury or death. It is especially important to teach children about the risks associated with fire, because they do not always understand the dangers posed by fire or how to respond in a situation involving fire. Here are a few tips to make homes safer for children:

- Keep hot foods and liquids away from the edges of tables and counters so that they cannot be pulled or knocked over.



- Establish a three-foot area around the stove where children understand that they do not belong and are not to enter.
- Never hold a child in your arms while preparing hot food or drinking a hot beverage.
- Teach children that hot things can hurt them.
- Be careful when using heated appliances near children; these include curling irons, ovens, irons, lamps and heaters; instruct children to stay away from these items when adults are not around.

WPHA NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL AUGUST ACTIVITY REPORT



THIS PAST MONTH our WPHA Neighborhood Security Patrol was busy protecting our “hood.” Several arrests were made and a potential burglary was prevented. In addition, the Security Patrol has seen an increase in copper theft from vacant or “homes for sale”. Please pass this information on to homeowners. Some of the perpetrators may appear as if they belong or are working at the “for sale” or vacant home. If you see something suspicious, please call 911. Our Security Patrol will respond and investigate. If you have any questions about this month’s information or our patrol, please email your concern or question to the WPHA board at president@wphakc.org.

WESTSIDE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION PATROL

	JAN 2010	FEB 2010	MAR 2010	APR 2010	MAY 2010	JUNE 2010	JULY 2010	AUG 2010
Pedestrian Checks	2	1	5	5	5	4	16	4
Traffic Violations	22	50	39	38	27	33	34	35
Traffic Tickets	13	28	22	20	11	17	20	25
Calls for Service	15	11	24	23	25	33	42	35
Residence Checks	56	34	53	75	32	108	59	32
Car Checks	6	8	7	4	9	5	13	12
Felony Arrest	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	5
Reports (incl intelligence)	3	1	2	6	4	5	9	19
Warrant Arrests**	2	1	2	3	3	8	3	6
Unattended Running Vehicles	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Open Doors	51	25	46	63	29	90	38	15

FREE CONCERTS

Looking for good music and little culture? This year the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the largest volunteer orchestra in the metropolitan area with over one-hundred members, is performing six concerts in Missouri and Kansas. All concerts are free of charge. If you would like to receive information about upcoming concerts, you can visit the website at www.KCCivic.org or you can send your name and address to me, Carl James, carlrj@swbell.net and we will mail you some information.

LABOR DAY PB&J BBQ A SUCCESS!



Thanks to everyone who donated jars of PB&J for this year’s PBBBBQ. Although we didn’t meet our goal of 300 jars, we were able to collect over 200 total jars of food to donate to Harvesters! We also had a great time together eating fajitas and getting to know our neighbors. This is a time of year when Harvesters is in great need of food for those in our community in need, and we want to say “thanks” on their behalf. We plan to make this an annual event, so plan to party with us next year and donate PB&J to charity!

—Paul and Amanda Bartel