

# WARD PARKWAY WORD



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## HOLIDAY HOMES CONTEST

ONCE AGAIN, the weather is cooling off and it's time to start thinking about the holidays! Does your To-Do list include "install your outdoor home decorations?" Have you and your neighbors wanted to do more to meet your fellow street mates? Talk with your neighbors about making your street stand out this year! Prizes are awarded for best lighting displays of individual homes and best block or "cluster of homes." 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!

\*Please be sure to leave your decorations lit from dusk til 10:00pm during judging weekend (Friday - Sunday Dec 10-12).

\*Ensure that your house number is visible, especially in the dark.

\*Remember that we must have received payment for your WPHA dues for 2010-2011 by December 1st to win individual prizes.



**TO:** Ward Parkway Homes Association Residents  
**FROM:** Frank Haar, President  
**SUBJECT:** Membership

It is with a heavy heart and great trepidation that I write this memo to you good folks that reside within the boundaries of our great association. We have a proud tradition going back to 1927.

Shortly after our tradition began in 1927 times got very tough, and unfortunately times are tough again. As we begin our fiscal year, it has been drawn to my attention that memberships are not coming in at their usual pace. I know that we all will have to cut things from our budgets that we do not want to give up. I also know that WPHA is an easy target. However, before you rule us out completely, I ask you to consider the following:

- 1. Dues are only \$40.00 per year. There are many associations where the fees are much higher and are mandatory.**
- 2. We allow a \$5.00 reduction for Senior Citizens and another \$5.00 reduction if you take newsletters by email.**
- 3. We represent the neighborhood before all areas of city government, keeping your issues before them.**
- 4. We sponsor neighborhood social events where you can meet and interact with your neighbors.**
- 5. We provide public service events such as dumpster days, food drives, crime prevention training and self defense training.**

Within the last year we have undertaken the additional responsibility and expense of the Security Patrol. This places off duty, uniformed police officers in our area several hours each day to help keep you and your loved ones safe and secure. To offset the cost of this service we ask each homeowner to pay an additional \$50.00 per year. Folks, this is a bargain. I know it has been said, "We don't see any police in the area". Well, that's the point. Sometimes, the officers are not in uniform and not driving marked police cars. Also, the hours that they are on duty are not the hours that we are home or are awake.

The annual budget for the Homes Association itself is almost \$10,000.00. The Security Patrol costs us another \$12,000.00 a year.

Please do me a favor, and sit down with your family and your budget and ask why you simply can't afford not to take advantage of these bargains. Then write that check to WPHA for \$80 or \$90 dollars and mail it to P.O. Box 140083, Kansas City, Mo. 64114. You owe it to Yourself, Your Family and Your Neighborhood.

Special thanks to all of you who have paid!

## HOLIDAY CAROLING

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS for a fun evening of caroling and revelry on December 19th, from 5:00 pm until we can't sing another note! We will be bringing cheer to the 72nd St. block this year... on the west side!!! 72nd Street is located between Ward Parkway and State Line. "Kids" of all ages are invited to join and no talent or experience is required.

For those living there, please keep an ear out and come to your doors on December 19th. It's a lot more fun if we can find neighbors at home to enjoy our songs. If you know a special neighbor who would enjoy being caroled to, email their name and address ahead of time to Alison Baker. Weather permitting, we will try to go to as many houses as we can.

For those wanting to sing, please RSVP still. We will confirm starting location and post cocoa party location only to those who participate. Song books and jingle bells are provided and we usually have a couple of strolling musicians who accompany us (and we welcome more). If you would like to join in the fun, call Alison Baker (leave message at 816.822.2006 or email: acey518@juno.com).



## WPHA RESIDENTS STEP-UP!

**M**ANY “thanks” to the following WPHA residents who have agreed to take on a neighborhood volunteer opportunity for the 2010-2011 year. We have had such a great response to our request for various volunteer positions. WPHA Residents ROCK!

- ★ Bryan Messick and Susan Hill - Created 2 new WPHA holiday homes best block signs
- ★ Marilyn Woods –2010 WPHA Holiday Homes Judge
- ★ Debbie Allmon – Coordinator of WPHA Fourth of July Party

CORRECTION: Debbie McShane & Chris Meier have volunteered to coordinate the Easter Egg Hunt

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**RESIDENTS ARE NEEDED** to fill some open volunteer positions. 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](mailto:president@wphakc.org).

**1 2011 Home of the Month Chair** – Responsible for selecting home of the month and submitting an article about the house for the monthly newsletter. First home selection is targeted for March or April 2011. Approximately 7-9 homes are selected each year.

**2 Board Members** – Need one or two volunteers to fill openings on the WPHA board of directors (eight current board members). Board meetings occur one per month. Board members are asked to attend monthly meetings and if possible, assist with one other WPHA event or committee.

## WPHA NEWSLETTER STAFF SAY “THANK YOU” TO FORMER HOM CHAIRS

**IN OCTOBER**, WPHA Residents Jonathan and Ellen Klem finally “retired” as WPHA Home of the Month Chairs. The Klems have been responsible for writing the HOM articles for the last four years! As chairs, they have awarded honors to over 20+ homes. The Klems will miss meeting WPHA home owners and getting an upfront look at all the beautiful homes in our neighborhood. Most of all they will miss the smiles of homeowners as they delivered the good news that their homes had been selected as Home of the Month.

On behalf of the entire neighborhood, the WPHA Board of Directors and the entire WPHA newsletter staff, we say a great big “THANK YOU” to the Klems for their many months of volunteerism and great articles!

If you are interested in volunteering as Home of the Month Chair, please send an email to [president@wphakc.org](mailto:president@wphakc.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Holiday Lights Contest  
Hale Cook Open House  
Curbside Brush and Leaves Pick-Up  
Holiday Caroling  
WPHA Neighborhood Night-Out

December 10th – 12th  
December 12th, 3-5 pm  
December 16th  
December 19th  
March 2011



# HALE COOK SCHOOL UPDATE

**S**INCE THE LAST update in the October WPHA newsletter, there has been great progress toward the re-opening of Hale Cook School. See the note in this article from Derek Richey, Vice President-KCMSD Board of Education. Additionally, the school district has scheduled a "meet-up" and an open house in December. See details below. Superintendent Covington and other school board members will be present at the open house to answer questions. Please try to stop by one or both of these events. Even if you do not have school-age children, it would be worthwhile to attend the "meet-up" and check out the school to show our neighborhood support. Re-opening of Hale Cook school would be a PLUS for the Ward Park neighborhood.

To prepare for the open house a volunteer clean-up weekend is scheduled for December 4th and 5th. If you can help, stop by the school and lend a hand.

## HALE COOK MEET-UP

When: Sunday, December 5th, 3pm-5pm  
Where: Waldo Taproom (next door to Waldo Pizza)  
What: This is a social event to meet other interested parents, neighbors and organizers.

RSVP on the website: [www.halecook.org/2010/11/16/hale-cook-meetup-at-waldo-pizza/](http://www.halecook.org/2010/11/16/hale-cook-meetup-at-waldo-pizza/)

FROM THE DESK OF DEREK RICHEY-

Over 100 people have registered their interest as parents and community members thus far. In order to build on the momentum, the group has created a website and Facebook page to more effectively communicate events and information. Additional content, including FAQs, will be regularly added to both sites so please sign up/join to receive future emails. Please continue to talk to your neighbors and friends about reopening Hale Cook.

1. Go to [www.Hale-Cook.org](http://www.Hale-Cook.org) to receive regular updates and

opportunities to support; enrollment forms and marketing flyers coming soon.

2. Join the Hale Cook Facebook page:

[http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=139803159387983&v=app\\_2373072738](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=139803159387983&v=app_2373072738)

3. Mark your calendar for a Hale Cook Open House on Sunday, Dec 12th from 3-5pm.

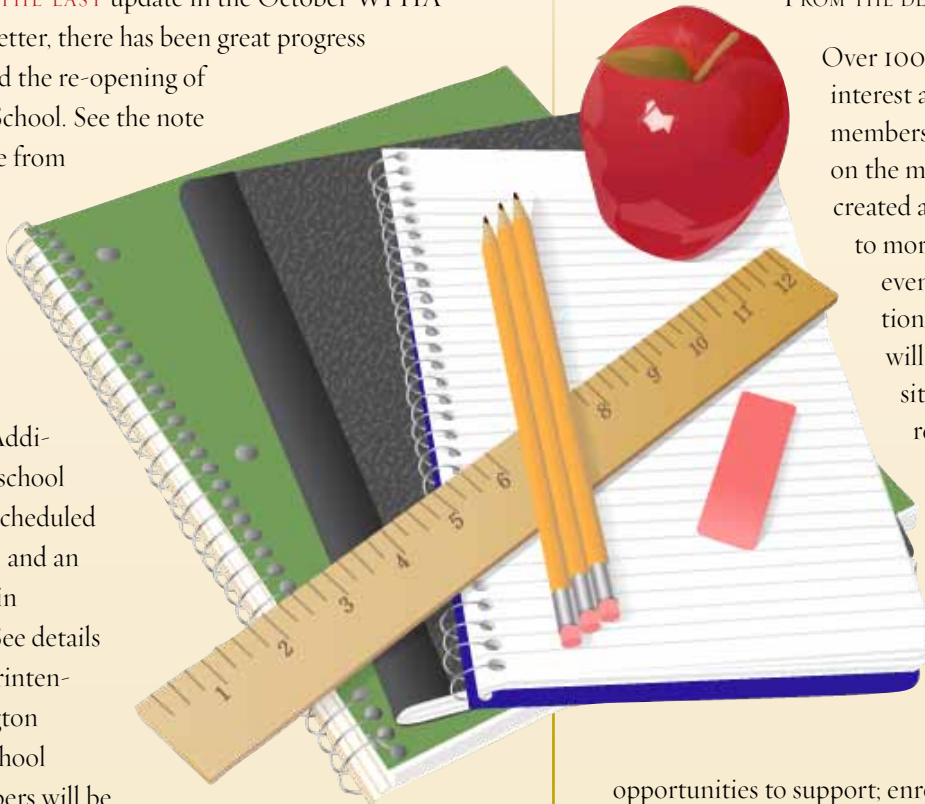
4. Share these links widely with your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with specific questions.

Regards,

Derek

Derek Richey  
KCMSD Board of Education  
Vice President  
[dricheykcmsd@gmail.com](mailto:dricheykcmsd@gmail.com)



## WPHA FOOD DRIVE IN NOVEMBER

ONCE AGAIN, WPHA showed its generosity in 2010 with their bags of food donations for Harvesters. Thanks to all WPHA residents who participated. Your contributions are especially welcome and needed during this



Christmas season. A special "thanks" to all the volunteers who helped distribute bags and collect food items. None of this could be done without you!!!

## PLEASE CLEAN THE STREET GUTTERS

While you're out raking the leaves in your yard that come from all those big, beautiful trees that make our neighborhood so special, why not spend a few minutes more to clean the street gutter in front of your house?

Leaves, twigs and trash make an unsightly mess in the street, especially when they get mixed into the ice and snow that will soon be upon us. That slushy mess can cause accidents from cars sliding on wet leaves.

While your family is out walking the dog or just having a stroll in the neighborhood or along the Trolley Trail Track, please be a good neighbor and take an extra bag along and pick up a few pieces of trash, won't you?

It takes so little trash to make things look awful, and luckily just a little effort to correct it again.

Thank you!



## LAST CURBSIDE LEAF AND BRUSH PICK-UP FOR 2010

The last city curbside leaf and brush pick-up for 2010 is on 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 of collection, you must call the Action Center at 311 or (816) 513-1313 within 24 hours to report it.



# WPHA NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL OCTOBER ACTIVITY REPORT

**DURING OCTOBER**, our security patrol continued to keep our streets and neighborhood safe. Crime activity in our neighborhood and those adjacent remains relatively low. In October, the patrol did see and respond to some increased activity at Southwest High School. The KCPD and our patrol continue to focus on policing the school and surrounding areas.

With the cold season coming, there will be a natural increase in “warming up our vehicles”. Our security patrol would like to remind us that this can be a risky activity – even if it’s in our own driveway. A number of cars are stolen each year.



Additionally, a little known fact is that Kansas City Missouri has a city ordinance declaring this activity illegal. At any point the KCPD could enforce this ordinance by writing tickets. Although this is unlikely, it may be something that occurs for some of us unlucky few.

Remember, if your car is stolen, that isn’t all the bad news. We all keep things in our cars of value that will be taken along with the vehicle. Things like additional keys to the house or office, garage door openers, books, documents, computers, etc.... Be Smart... wear a coat and warm up your car with you in it!

CLARIFICATION: The information in the security report represents the total patrol effort for several neighborhoods that include Ward Parkway Homes, Romaneli West, Stratford Gardens, and Greenway Fields.

## WESTSIDE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION PATROL

	JAN 2010	FEB 2010	MAR 2010	APR 2010	MAY 2010	JUNE 2010	JULY 2010	AUG 2010	SEPT 2010	OCT 2010
Pedestrian Checks	2	1	5	5	5	4	16	4	10	8
Traffic Violations	22	50	39	38	27	33	34	35	44	45
Traffic Tickets	13	28	22	20	11	17	20	25	18	25
Calls for Service	15	11	24	23	25	33	42	35	41	27
Residence Checks	56	34	53	75	32	108	59	32	45	63
Car Checks	6	8	7	4	9	5	13	12	15	7
Felony Arrest	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	5	1	3
Reports (incl intelligence)	3	1	2	6	4	5	9	19	11	7
Warrant Arrests**	2	1	2	3	3	8	3	6	1	12
Unattended Running Vehicles	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Open Doors	51	25	46	63	29	90	38	15	13	9