

Waldo Homes/Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Waldo Homes Neighborhood Association – February 2007

P. O. Box 8573 ♦ Kansas City, MO 64114 ♦ www.waldohomes.org

President: Tammy Gay ♦ 333-4410 ♦ president@waldohomes.org

At the Last Meeting – by Tammy Gay

As you noticed, there was no newsletter in January. As explained in the phone tree message prior to the last meeting, the newsletter was the topic for discussion. I explained the tasks to get the newsletter produced, printed, and distributed, and who does those tasks. I also explained that I just cannot continue to be the sole contributor to articles for the newsletter. We had a huge brainstorming session on what needs to be done and it got a little technical at one point when we discussed software and electronic processing. The solution we arrived at was we need a WHA Newsletter Committee. Several brave souls stepped up to serve! Jen Lewis agreed to be the coordinator beginning in April after she is settled into her new job. Martha Dromey agreed to be on the committee and to serve as the interim coordinator. Jodi Faustlin volunteered to write a monthly article on home and energy hints and tips. Larry Arnold agreed to be on the committee as a technical consultant. Tim Gordon will continue to manage the mailing labels and annual membership dues reminders. Anne Kurtenbach and Ritchie Zeller volunteered to help with folding and mailing. Michael Donegan will be providing articles, and as the President, I will continue to set the agenda and provide the “At the Last Meeting” article as well as other information I find that might be of interest to the group.

We are still calling for all of the membership to provide information and articles. We would like to be able to let folks know what is going on in the neighborhood. If you know of an event at a school or church that is open to the community, let the committee know.

How to provide information to the Newsletter Committee

Information and articles for the monthly WHA newsletter should be provided to members of the committee. An email address will be established for the newsletter editor. Meanwhile, please submit articles directly to committee members. Information needs to be received by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month’s newsletter.

Remember, you are not required to send items electronically. A handwritten article is as helpful and important as a typed one or one that is emailed. It does, however, need to be a written article, not just a phone call with a suggestion or a list of information. The Newsletter Committee coordinates publishing and distribution of the newsletter. The people on the

Agenda for Next Meeting:

February 9th – 10:15 am

Waldo Library – Room B

Welcome – T. Gay	10:15
Minutes – A. Kurtenbach	10:20
Treasury Report – T. Gordon	10:25
Announcements – T. Gay	10:30
Old Business – T. Gay	10:35
Newsletter Committee Update – Needs	
New Business – T. Gay	10:45
Adjourn Business Meeting /	
Refreshments Setup	10:55
Speaker – Airick Leonard West Candidate for KCMO School Board	11:00

Newsletter Committee are not responsible for creating and/or finding all of the news/information.

Meet Airick Leonard West – A Candidate for Kansas City Missouri School Board – by Tammy Gay

Airick Leonard West is a young man who is consistently involved and active at the grassroots level in our city. He has decided to run for the KCMO School Board At-Large position that will be voted on in April. His campaign is called “Kansas City United for Educational Achievement” (KCU4EA). His goals for the district include the redevelopment of neighborhood schools, unity with political leaders around Kansas City and regaining accreditation by nine of the 14 state benchmarks. He hopes to integrate charter schools and neighborhood schools to create a unity he believes is missing among Kansas City public schools.

Airick says, "We must clearly recognize that the economic development needs of the city and educational achievements of the youth are inextricably intertwined. One cannot succeed without the other and, when we fulfill one, the other will come along with it."

Airick will be our guest speaker at the February WHA meeting. We will conclude our business meeting by 11:00 then serve refreshments. From 11:00 a.m. to Noon, we will have a casual, candid conversation with Airick Leonard West about the KCMO School District. If you want more information before the meeting, see the campaign website at <http://www.kcu4ea.org> or his personal website at <http://www.airick.com>.

Let's Talk Trash – by Jen Lewis

In the next seven to ten years, Kansas City will lose its landfill space. One site closed last year, three years early. The City is currently re-evaluating its long-range plans. Any input would be appreciated. Call 816-472-1930 or visit www.kcmo.org/trash for details and meeting sites. In the meantime, here are some tips to lower waste:

- Most waste is paper that can be recycled. Remove personal information, scratch through it or shred it before recycling.
- No bin? No problem! The City will provide each household with a free bin. Call 816-561-1090 or 311 for the voucher.
- Not sure what can be recycled? Call the Center at the above number to ask or call 816-513-1313. A guide is also available at the Waldo Library (free).
- South Broadland Church has paper recycling available in the parking lot at all times. Any paper, but not cardboard, can be dropped off at 79th and Holmes. Other area churches and schools also have paper recycling.

Library Events – Jen Lewis

A calendar of events is always available at the front desk. Some highlights:

- Chess Club every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
- Computer Basics class second and third Saturday of every month at 10:15 a.m.
- Internet Basics - check schedule
- First Friday Classic Movie free at 2:00 p.m.

Reading Tutors Needed – Jen Lewis

Family Health Care Services is looking for adult tutors for adult students. Hours are flexible for tutors and their students for two 1-1/2 hour (3 hours total) sessions per week. Fifteen hours of training will be provided free. Contact the Center at 913-722-3100 or literacy-swbfhcs@hotmail.com.

Looking Forward to Spring – by Martha Dromey

The City's leaf and brush pick-up for the Southland will be April 23 if your regular trash day is Wednesday and April 24 if your regular trash day is Thursday.

Assistance Available for High Utility Bills - by Jodi Faustlin

According to *Missouri Gas Energy* and *Kansas City Power & Light*, assistance to pay your bill is available for low-income households. For MGE, one-time grants are available from:

- United Services Community Action Agency - 816-358-6868
- United Way Information Referral Hotline - 816-474-5112

Information such as, but not limited to, proof of income, picture identification, and utility bills is required to apply.

If you get behind with your MGE bill, they recommend contacting the MGE offices as soon as possible. They can set up payment plans, assist with budgeting, and they also have an energy assistance program. Call 816-756-5252 or visit www.missourigasenergy.com to learn more.

KCP&L's Cold Weather Program begins November 1 and runs through March 31, and is set up to help customers with delinquent accounts avoid loss of power. It is available for those 65 years old or older, disabled persons that rely on electricity for health or life support, disabled persons that receive government disability benefits, and elderly or disabled with a household income that is at or less than 150% of the federal poverty level. More information can be found by calling 816-471-5275, or at www.kcpl.com


If you want to help others in need of assistance paying their bills, there are also programs available. "Dollar-Aide," administered by the Mid-America Assistance Coalition, helps people with gas, electric, and water bills, and can be reached by calling KCP&L, or by sending checks directly to the fund at:

Dollar-Aide ♦ c/o US Bank
8600 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Suite 105
Merriam, KS 66202


To provide assistance for MGE customers, they offer gift certificates, year-round contribution opportunities, or one-time checks can be sent to:

Neighbors Helping Neighbors ♦ c/o Missouri Gas Energy
PO Box 412662
Kansas City, MO 64141-2662

February 2008
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Primary Election	6 Ash Wednesday	7	8	9 WHA 10:15 Library
10	11	12  CPAC 4 PM	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16
17	18 Presidents' Day	19	20	21 Delayed Wed Trash Pick-up	22 Delayed Thur Trash Pick-up	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

March 2008
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Bulky Item Pick-up	4	5	6	7	8 WHA 10:15 Library
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins	10	11  CPAC 4 PM	12	13	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 First Day of Spring	21 Good Friday	22
23 Easter	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					