

# Waldo Homes Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Waldo Homes/Neighborhood Association – August 2008 Issue

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## **At the Last Meeting – Tammy Gay**

The July 12 meeting was very well attended and included lots of discussion about forming block watch groups, the proposed dog park at Sunnyside Park and an alternative solution for placing a dog park on the west side of South Oak Park. Jason Kander, a candidate for State Representative in our district, was our guest speaker. He gave us his background and explained his views and what he sees as important.

## **An Alternate Proposal for a Dog Park in Waldo – by Tammy Gay**

After the regular meeting, many of us stayed to discuss my proposal that the part of South Oak Park that is west of the drainage in the wooded area and behind the Hope Care Center would be an ideal place for an off-leash dog park in Waldo. The reason for my proposal to our group was to see what you thought and whether or not I should pursue the proposal. Here's the scoop: The W.O.O.F. group has submitted a proposal to the KCMO Parks & Recreation Department that a bit over 2 acres of the southeast corner of Sunnyside Park (behind the McDonalds on Wornall) be fenced to become an Off-Leash Dog Park. Because Sunnyside park is already so heavily programmed with baseball diamonds, a basketball court, a tennis court, playground equipment, picnic areas, and a new spray park, I am concerned that the last area of passive use/open space in the park will be fenced off from everyone else looking for open space to be in a park in the Waldo area. There is a piece of South Oak Park that is somewhat disconnected from the main area of our small park by a drainage area. It lies west of the drainage line and just behind Hope Care Center. I think the terrain and the trees and the location are perfect for a dog park and not so useful or easily accessed for other open space activities in South Oak Park.

Much discussion took place and most folks agreed that this would be a good use of that space and a good solution overall for all Waldo neighborhoods and parks. I will keep you posted as I present the idea to the KCMO Parks and Recreation Department and on what I hear back from them.

## Agenda for the Next Meeting

August 9, 2008 10:15 AM - Waldo Library

- |                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| • Welcome – T. Gay                | 10:15 |
| • Minutes – A. Kurtenbach         | 10:20 |
| • Treasury Report – T. Gordon     | 10:25 |
| • CPAC Report – D. Harris         | 10:30 |
| • Announcements – T. Gay          | 10:35 |
| • Block Watch Discussion/Training | 10:40 |
| • Adjourn                         | 11:30 |

## **WHA ANNUAL PICNIC**

### **SOUTH OAK PARK - 83 & OAK STREETS**

Plans are being made for our annual picnic which will be held on Saturday, September 13, from 4:00 PM until ??? The picnic is a celebration of our neighborhood, our Association and our friendship. Please invite your friends and neighbors. WHA will supply the meat and beverage (probably fried chicken and lemonade) and dinnerware. In order for us to plan the quantity of meat needed, we request your reservations with the number of people attending. A reservation sheet will be available at the August meeting.

You Supply:

- A side dish or dessert with serving utensils
- Lawn chair or blanket
- TV tray if you would like a table to eat from
- Games

Please RSVP to Martha at 816-444-5724 by Saturday, September 6, with the number attending.

## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME**

The 25<sup>th</sup> National Night Out Against Crime is Tuesday, August 5. Communities across the nation will be observing NNO with various activities. While WHA does not have a planned activity, each of us individually can observe the night with the traditional "lights on" and front porch vigils. Our August 9 meeting will be specifically dedicated to Crime Prevention and guidance on forming block watches within our neighborhood.

## **WALK ON THE WILD SIDE**

Every Wednesday at 9 AM the Zoo is open to senior Friends of the Zoo to walk undisturbed for 1 hour before the opening to the public. As milestones are reached, you can get free passes and perks. It's a great way to start your day.

## **SENIOR CITIZENS NEEDED!**

The Massage Therapy Training Institute at 92<sup>nd</sup> & Ward Parkway needs folks above the age of 65 to receive massages from 9:00 AM to about 10:30. We need volunteers to come on August 11. You only need to be in fairly good health and be willing to get a 1 hour massage from students. No major heart, kidney, diabetic and/or blood pressure issues please. It will be supervised by an instructor while you are there. There is no cost aside from a bit of gas and your time. You can contact Jen Lewis at 816-523-1450 to answer any questions you may have. If you know of a mother-to-be, we need the same type of volunteer on August 4 from 9-10:30 AM.

## **HEALTHY HEART WARNING**

It's summer again with lots of heat and activities. Be sure to keep your heart healthy with plenty of fluids and limiting your salt, even when it's added to food. But just in case of emergencies, here's a few facts to help you figure out what is happening. Be sure to call 911 or EMS for help if one or more of these occur:

### **Stroke:**

- Sudden trouble seeing
- Sudden numbness/tingling on one side
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking/understanding
- Sudden trouble in balance/coordination or dizziness
- Sudden severe headaches with no cause

### **Heart Attack:**

- Nausea
- Light headedness
- Shortness of breath
- Cold sweat for no reason
- Pressure, squeezing, or tightness in center of chest

Remember: it's safer to call 911 and be wrong rather than "wait for it to go away" and be right. Be safe.

## **WALDO HOMES ASSOCIATION-BLOCK WATCH**

As presented at the last WHA meeting, this list of recommended actions sets the foundation for an effective

Block Watch within the Waldo Homes Association area. Completion of these steps will assure your block of obtaining at least one of the newly designed Block Watch signs.

If you have questions about guidelines or for help setting up a Block Watch, please contact one of the members of the committee: Michael Donegan, Laura Scott, or Larry Arnold.

An effective WHA-supported Block Watch means more than posting a Watch sign. It depends on:

1. Holding an organizing and planning meeting to identify:
  - a. Number, status (vacant?) and occupants of houses on block
  - b. Who are already members of WHA?
  - c. Who are most likely to join the Block Watch?
  - d. Who will contact Community Outreach Officer John Trainor about speaking dates?
  - e. When, where to hold educational/formation meeting and how to promote attendance?
2. At the educational/formation meeting, have ready:
  - a. Sign-in sheet (determine how many households represented)
  - b. Handout materials/KCPD Community Outreach Officer
  - c. Map of WHA area (available from membership committee)
  - d. Contact Information sheets
  - e. Engraving tool
  - f. Inventory sheets
  - g. Crime Prevention materials/video/pertinent websites
3. At the educational/formation meeting the occupants of the houses, a majority, agree to participate in the program and choose a Block Watch Captain who will:
  - a. Inform the WHA committee of the watch formation and contact information
  - b. Ensure every block member knows contact information
  - c. Determine block members' preferred way to be notified of crime events.
4. Exchange of Contact Information
5. Set date for block's annual meeting

For help in understanding the program essentials, you are welcome to contact one of the membership committee members: Michael Donegan, Laura Scott, or Larry Arnold.

**August 2008**  
Waldo Homes Association

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2					1	2 ABOP Collection
3	4	5 Election Day/ National Night Out Against Crime	6	7	8	9 WHA 10:15 Library
10	11	12 CPAC 4 PM	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**September 2008**  
Waldo Homes Association

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 CPAC 4 PM	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13 WHA 4:00 PM South Oak Park
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Waldo Fall Festival
21	22 First Day of Autumn	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				