



WEST PLAZA

NEIGHBORHOOD • ASSOCIATION

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Mark Your Calendar

West Plaza Neighborhood Meeting

A bi-monthly meeting for
West Plaza residents and businesses

Tuesday, March 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Social Half-Hour Begins at 6:30
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Luther Hall
1700 Westport Road

or via Zoom @ <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82850878576>

~ Log on Early to Check Connection ~

We invite all of you to join us for our next WPNA General Meeting on Tuesday, March 17. Come grab a coffee during our social half hour and say hello! This is the perfect opportunity to hear updates on neighborhood projects, discuss World Cup preparations, and connect with the people who live right next door. Crucially, we will also be discussing public safety at this meeting. We'll cover local initiatives, current crime trends, and how we can work together with law enforcement to keep our streets secure as the city grows busier this year.

We will also hear from a KCMO representative who will talk about the upcoming earnings tax (e-tax) vote.

The meeting will end with a raffle prize. We hope to see you there! ■

Inside:

President's View -----	2
Relaunch of TNR Program -----	2
Forks & Rakes -----	3
Membership Minute -----	4
How to Give a Presentation -----	5
Business Members -----	6
Prints with a Purpose -----	7
Membership Form -----	8

2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

West Plaza Neighborhood Meetings

Locations Will Vary
Please visit our website, westplaza.org, for
the most recent information

Also via Zoom

Third Tuesday of odd-numbered months:
March 17 ~ May 19 ~ July 21 September 15 ~
November 17

BOARD MEETINGS

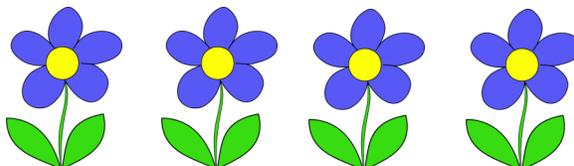
First Tuesday of each month
March 3 ~ April 7 May 5 ~ June 2 ~ July 7
August 4 ~ September 1 ~ October 6
November 3 ~ December 1

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Monday following board meetings of even-
numbered months

EVENTS

- April 4: Eggstravaganza, Westwood Park, 3-5 pm (Saturday)
- May 22: Litter Patrol, 6-7 pm (Friday)
- May 23: Spring Cleanup, Westwood Park, 8 am-12 pm (Saturday)
- June or July (Date TBD): West Plaza Yard Sales (Saturday)
- September: Art in the Park, Westwood Park, 11 am-4 pm (Date TBD-Saturday)
- October 23: Litter Patrol, 5-6 pm (Friday)
- October 24: Fall Cleanup, Westwood Park, 8 am-12 pm (Saturday)
- November 28: Holiday Open House, (Saturday)



President's View: Rooted in Service, Ready for the World

by Ken Williams

As the first signs of spring begin to touch the West Plaza, there is a real sense of anticipation in the air. 2026 is shaping up to be a historic year for Kansas City, and our neighborhood is right in the heart of the excitement.

The World is Coming to Our Doorstep

With the FIFA World Cup 2026 activities beginning to ramp up this spring, our city is preparing to welcome the world. Kansas City will host six matches at Arrowhead Stadium, but the celebration extends far beyond the pitch. Just down the road from us, the National WWI Museum and Memorial will host a massive 18-day FIFA Fan Festival. It will feature a 65-foot-tall heart-shaped entrance and nearly 4,500 square feet of video boards—including a primary 45' x 25' screen—ensuring that all 25,000 fans in attendance can catch the biggest matches and watch live performances.

To help you plan ahead, here is the official match schedule for Kansas City:

June 16: Argentina vs. Algeria (Group J)
June 20: Ecuador vs. Curaçao (Group E)
June 25: Tunisia vs. Netherlands (Group F)
June 27: Algeria vs. Austria (Group J)
July 3: Round of 32 (Match 87)
July 11: Quarterfinal (Match 100)

The Power of Being of Service

While the global spotlight is exciting, the true strength of West Plaza remains in the quiet moments of service between neighbors. Being a registered non-profit gives us a stronger platform to give back, but the heartbeat of our association is people. Service starts with simple acts: helping a neighbor clear a walkway, checking in on those who live alone, or volunteering for a neighborhood cleanup.

I've always believed that a neighborhood isn't just a place you live; it's a community you build together. If you've been looking for a way to give back, please visit our website at www.westplaza.org to see our list of committees and volunteer opportunities. ■

Relaunch of Neighborhood Feral Cat/TNR/Lost Pet Program!

by Grace Snyder

We have recently relaunched the West Plaza Neighborhood Feral Cat Program! As part of this effort, we have purchased two pieces of equipment that are available for any resident to utilize: a spring-loaded cat trap and a microchip reader. To request use of these, please call or text 913-229-6371.

The trap will be available to catch community cats for medical care/TNR purposes. Ideally, every cat in our neighborhood will be fixed. Doing so will ensure better quality of life for the cats and reduce unnecessary cat and kitten deaths.

The microchip reader is to help more quickly assess if a found animal is a pet or not and if so, reunite them with their family much faster. If your pet is not microchipped, we would encourage you to do so. If your pet is microchipped, we would encourage you to make sure the microchip is registered with your information (most vets don't do this).

We also want to continue the work of creating a list of pets that live in our neighborhood, as well as known community cats. This is with the goal of reuniting lost pets and preventing outdoor cats or community cats from being accidentally taken. This list will not be shared publicly but will be available for a select number of people to consult should someone report finding an animal. The goal is not to advertise your animals to others, nor will this list ever be used to punish anyone for the number of animals they have. Please fill out the pet info form by scanning the QR code.



In addition to bringing the two neighborhood equipment items, our volunteers will be available to schedule appointments ahead of trapping, help transport trapped cats, guide neighbors on the process of trapping cats, bring lost pets to their owners, and anything else that might pop up! ■

FORKS & RAKES by Stephanie Murrell

Starbucks-Style “April Showers” Refresher (Copycat)

What it’s like: A bright, lemonade based refresher with berry flavor and a light, fizzy finish—served over lots of ice.

Serving: 1

Ingredients:

- 6 oz lemonade (store-bought or homemade)
- 2 oz berry syrup (or quick muddled-berry sweetener)
- 2–4 oz sparkling water (to taste)
- Ice
- Lemon wheel (optional garnish)

Instructions:

Fill a 16-oz. cup with ice.
Pour in lemonade (6 oz).
Add berry syrup (2 oz).
Top with sparkling water (2–4 oz) and stir gently.
Garnish with a lemon wheel and serve immediately. ■



To-Do List for Spring

Got spring lawn care on your radar? If you’re already set—gold star. If not, here’s your quick Kansas City game plan:

- Tune up your gear (February–early March): Sharpen mower blades, swap filters, change oil, replace spark plugs.
- Tidy the yard (February–mid-March/after snow): Clear leaves, sticks, and winter junk to avoid dead spots.
- Stop weeds before they start (mid–late March-ish): Apply pre-emergent when soil temps hit 57–64°F (sweet spot: ~59°F).
- Aerate (March–April): Loosen compacted soil so water + nutrients actually get in.
- Feed the lawn (start in April): Kick off fertilizing, then stick to your plan (usually 4–6 more rounds).
- Go organic (ASAP): Try a hybrid organic/synthetic approach now, then gradually lean more organic over time.

Your lawn’s about to have its main-character spring! ■

CityWise

Did you know Kansas City invented the crime of jaywalking? This QR code will take you to the recent KCUR article, “KC Invented the Crime of Jaywalking.”



West Plaza Home of the Month

The Home of the Month program is going great. This year’s Home of the Month winners are displayed on our website, westplaza.org, under the Home of the Month tab.

For the upcoming awards, let us know if you would like to nominate a house that fits the monthly themes listed on the website.

The program will continue in 2026. Visit the website for details.

West Plaza Home of the Month
is sponsored by
Veronica Jaster & Zachary Kelly
of ReeceNichols Plaza Office



Conveniently located on the Country Club Plaza

Martha Childers
Licensed Professional Counselor

www.ChildersCounselingService.com
Martha@ChildersCounselingService.com
816-892-0803

Membership Minute

by Julie Jennings, Membership Director

Our new membership year, which runs from January to December, has begun. If you haven't renewed yet, please do so now. As of today, we have 171 members in 94 households on the 2026 roster; 551 previous member households have not yet renewed for this year. So far in 2026, we have 39 renewed and new business members; 78 additional business members are not current for 2026. If you are a business located in West Plaza and have not renewed or been a part of the WPNA, please take the time to join. We value your membership and urge our members to support the businesses that support the neighborhood.

I will be calling folks who volunteered to help with neighborhood improvement projects at the Volunteer Forum meeting in January. At that meeting, 41 members joined us. We are working on plans for more traveling meetings held at West Plaza businesses to make the meetings fun and productive.

By the time you're reading this, we will have held our annual Volunteer Thank You event we sponsor each February for members who help at any of our events or our year-long projects, such as delivering this newsletter. We appreciate each and every person who offers their time and energy to make West Plaza a friendlier, more inviting place to live and work.

The annual Eggstravaganza will be held on Saturday, April 4 from 3 to 5 in Westwood Park. Check in at the handicapped accessible shelter (north of the main shelter) by 3:45 to take part in the race for eggs at 4 p.m. Games and activities will begin at 3 o'clock.

Please look at the events list in this newsletter and on the website at westplaza.org and put them on your calendar. You don't want to miss any of the programs and events we host! Come to enjoy or come to help. We'd love to see you there, either way.

We're always looking for volunteers. We have a great many one-and-done activities as well as projects and monthly or bi-monthly tasks that need extra hands and feet and brains!

I've said it before and I'll say it again...a strong community builds a safe and enjoyable community. If the WPNA isn't doing what you think it

needs to be doing, volunteer, be a voice, and help us.

I want to remind you that the WPNA is a 501c3 organization, and any donation above your dues is tax deductible. The link on the membership application on page 8 will allow you to renew online with PayPal—and you're always welcome to renew or join at any WPNA activity or event. ■

BUSINESS MEMBER ADVERTISERS:

**THIS SPACE COULD BE
YOURS!**

\$50 per issue

OR

\$250 for 5 issues

~May 2026 through January 2027~

BUSINESS MEMBER ADVERTISERS:

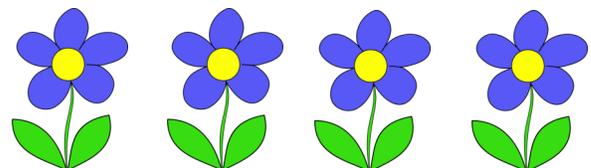
THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

\$35 per issue

OR

\$175 for 5 issues

~May 2026 through January 2027~



How to Give a Presentation

by Martha Childers, EdSpec, LPC, LCPC

When I started my psychotherapy practice and during my previous profession as a librarian, I did as many presentations as I could. Now, since my practice is established, I no longer do this. It takes a lot of time and practice to prepare a presentation! But I would like to share with you some valuable tips that I picked up along the way that helped me when I was giving presentations.

- Tell 'em what you're about to tell them; tell them what you're going to tell them; tell them what you told them.
- Keep your presentation a bit shorter than the time allowed. Do not go over.
- Prepare concepts in groups of three.
- WIFM—What's In It For Me—meaning, think of the audience and give them something useful.
- People who have taught a Speech class will be particularly helpful. Ask them to help you.
- Remember—the audience wants you to succeed.
- The feeling of fear before a presentation is physically the same as excitement. Think you're excited rather than fearful.
- If you need a moment alone, a bathroom stall is a safe place.
- Give your audience your contact information.
- If you're using a PowerPoint, use a dark blue font. The headings need to be in a different font from the content.
- Offer to share the PowerPoint with the audience.
- You can further share your PowerPoint on <https://www.slideshare.net/>
- Prepare, prepare, prepare!

Another tip—When I audited a class at Harvard Law School, the teacher had won some big award for his writing. I asked him what his secret was, and he said he always writes so that his grandmother will understand.

Referrals Welcome. For more tips on living, visit: <http://www.childerscounselingservice.com/> ■

Help Keep West Plaza Safe

See Something, Say Something: If you observe suspicious activity, don't hesitate to report it to the KCMO Police:

911 Emergencies

816-234-5111 Non-emergency Number

816-474-8477 Anonymous Tip Line

You can also call City Services at 311.

Looking for an easy way to help WPNA? You can help people get to our meetings.

We have meeting reminder signs you can put in your yard the Friday before the Tuesday General Meeting (third Tuesday of odd-numbered months) and then bring it back inside after the meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 17

To claim your sign, call Julie Jennings, 816-215-1388 or email wpnageneral@gmail.com

Newsletter edited and formatted by:

FINAL DRAFT SECRETARIAL SERVICE

816-931-2276

Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com

✓ Since 1985 ✓

Editing-Proofreading-Typing

Student-Business-Personal

Dissertation Formatting is Our Specialty

West Plaza Neighborhood Association Newsletter
Edited by Julie A. Tenenbaum
Phone: 816-931-2276 (landline)
Email: jatkc@aol.com

Submit suggestions for newsletter articles to Julie Tenenbaum at the email address above. You must include your name and your contact information for your suggestion to be considered. Articles may be edited for length, accuracy, and grammar.

Display Advertising Rates (WPNA members only):

Business card \$35
Quarter page \$50

Thank You to All Our Business Members who Have Renewed!

Support the businesses that support our neighborhood!

Accurso Law Firm
4646 Roanoke Pkwy.
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-820-5308
www.accursolaw.com

Andy's Frozen Custard
1200 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
www.andys.com

Autobahn Motors Inc.
1111 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-531-3399
www.autobaun-usa.com

Bell Law, LLC
2600 Grand
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-698-5204
www.bell-law-kc.com/

Childers Counseling Service
330 West 47th, Ste 217
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-892-0803
childerscounselingservice.com

Donutology
1009 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-298-5222
tera@donutology.com

Douglas J Hannah Properties
johannah@kansascityrealty.net

Fat Plant Society, LLC
4508 Genessee
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-933-9509
www.thefatplantsociety.com

Final Draft Secretarial Service
816-931-2276 (landline)
www.Finaldraftsecretarialservice.com

Gorny Dandurand, LC
4330 Belleview Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-756-5071
www.gornylawfirm.com

Hampton Inn & Suites
4600 Summit
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-448-4600
www.hilton.com

Holistic Planning
1901 West 47th Place, Ste 103
Westwood, KS 66205
816-791-0900
www.holisticplanning.com/kansascity

Jim Hamilton, Realtor
816-844-2140
jhamrealty@gmail.com

JJRE
1321 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
573-310-3876
jneff573@hotmail.com

Kamba Fit
1409 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
913-269-4257
www.kambafit.com

Law Offices of Maggie L. Anderson
4501 Fairmount
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-313-2375
www.andersonfamilylawkc.com

Liam Porter State Farm Insurance
816-753-4334
www.sfplazaagent.com

Oleander Aesthetics
1703 West 45th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-974-3338
oleanderEmma@gmail.com

Organic Salon
1515 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
www.theorganicsalonkc.com

Plaza Legacy Properties II, LLC
4645 Belleview Ave
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-820-5308
accurso@accursolaw.com

Porto Law Firm
1616 West 45th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
913-302-7945
nporto@portolaw.com

Steve Tate
ReeceNichols-Fisher Hiles Team
913-488-3770
state.reecenichols.com

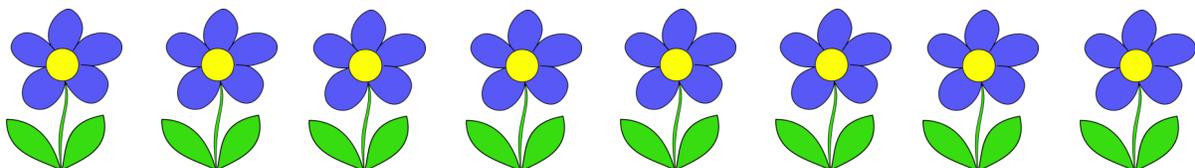
The Fontaine
901 West 48th Place
Kansas City, MO 64112
913-424-7659
www.thefontainehotel.com

Two Sugars
1412 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-838-4701
twosugarskc@gmail.com

West Plaza Bodega
1702 West 45th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
913-205-7464
www.blackholebakery.com

Westport Ultra Properties
4310 Pearl Street
Kansas City, KS 66103
816-304-8096
potterti@sprintmail.com

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE! SUPPORT THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND WPNA FOR ONLY \$25 PER YEAR.



March 11 & 13

PRINTS WITH A PURPOSE

3:30pm to 6:00 pm

Snacks and Ghanaian 🇬🇦 food
will be served



Sign up through
the QR code

This is a free event for students to earn a market value asset, and share their creative skills with the community. You will sign up to attend the event and be taught either t-shirt screen printing or Ghana style batik. A student will teach you how to create the art piece and walk you through the process. You have to attend the 2 sessions, but you get to keep your t-shirt or Ghana Adinkra cloth. Limited spaces are available. Sign up!

Join Your Neighbors in the WPNA!

Join the WPNA online via our website, www.westplaza.org, or if you would like to mail in a check, fill out this form and mail it with payment to P O Box 32826, KCMO 64171-7826. Membership runs January through December each year and is prorated after July.

Household (\$15): New [] OR Renewal [] Member Name/s: _____ _____ Kids: _____ Pets: _____ Address: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email/s: _____ _____	Business (\$25): New [] OR Renewal [] Business Name: _____ Contact Name: _____ West Plaza Address: _____ Mailing Address: _____ <div style="text-align: right;">Zip</div> Phone: _____ Email/s: _____ Website: _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: Dues _____ + Donation _____ = \$ _____	

Volunteer Area(s) of Interest (use numbered list below):

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Block Parties
2. Codes & Zoning
3. Kids Club – Moms & Dads Club
4. Meeting Refreshments
5. Membership Activities – Events – Happy Hours
6. Membership Initiatives – Survey | 7. Neighborhood Cleanup
8. Neighborhood Improvement Project
9. Neighborhood Watch
10. Newsletter Distribution
11. Pet Group
12. Senior Outreach
13. Yard Sales |
|--|--|

- WPNA is a 501c3 organization. Donations over and above membership dues are tax deductible.
- Bi-monthly newsletters are emailed to members via Mail Chimp. In addition, notifications are sent periodically to announce neighborhood meetings and events.
- We will not share your contact information with any other individual or entity. Check here if you DO NOT wish to receive notifications via email.

March-April 2026

Join us for the

West Plaza Eggstravaganza!

Saturday, April 4, 3 to 5 p.m.

Westwood Park (Wyoming and 47th Street)

\$5 per child or FREE to members (dues are \$15/year...you can join that day)

Games and activities begin at 3 ~ Egg race starts at 4

Please bring your own basket