

MPNA GRAPEVINE
APRIL/MAY, 2009 EDITION
BI-MONTHLY
MAPLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4937 N. FREMONT
KANSAS CITY, MO 64119
VOLUME 15, ISSUE 3

The MPNA meets the third Tuesday of every month. The April 21 and May 19 meetings are at Maplewood Elementary School and the Board of Directors meet first Tuesday of each month at the Tower View Baptist Church.

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THE MPNA GRAPEVINE

Local Businesses

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The May meeting is MPNA Board of Director s Election

As you all know by now May is the end of the current term for officers and board members of MPNA. The president, treasurer and secretary are all at the end of their second year of service. This means we need new leadership. You or your friend or neighbor may want to serve on the MPNA Board. New ideas and help on the board are important to the MPNA. If you or someone you know would like to serve on the Board, contact the MPNA Nominating Committee or any board member. The election meeting for the Board of Directors is the general membership meeting on May 19. The election process (MPNA Bylaws) for the election of MPNA Board member is as follows:

- To be nominated to the Board a person must be 18 years or older.
- To be nominated to the Board a person must be a resident of Maple Park for at least 30 days.
- Beginning the day after the April meeting, any member of the MPNA may nominate another member to serve on the Board of Directors by presenting the nomination in writing (electronic or hardcopy) to an existing MPNA Board member, or the webmaster of the MPNA web site.
- Members may be nominated to the Board at the May general meeting (May 19) before the Election Process is called to order.
- Only members of the MPNA who have consented to serve if shall be eligible for nomination, whether by Nominating Committee or MPNA general membership. For information regarding the nominating process or if you would like to nominate someone, contact a board member

MGE working in Maple Park

You may have already noticed that the Missouri Gas Energy company has private contracting companies working in Maple Park. Most of the work thus far has been on Fremont Avenue. They are replacing natural gas lines from the street to some of the houses. Usually, it is not necessary to dig up the yard. The new line is usually ran inside the old line. Use some caution on these roads until the work is complete.

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or a member of the nominating committee. Teresa Glynn chairs this committee working with Ruth Hunnicutt and Fern Brashear. Teresa may be contacted at 455-0135.

The membership elects the Board of Directors. Within two weeks after the May elections, the new Board of Directors elects the MPNA officers. We are hoping there will be several new members for the Board of Directors. If you or a neighbor would like to serve, please join us.

Neighborhood Safety: from the "Creek Report"
Shoal Creek Division, KCPD

In 2008 there was a total of 461 Burglaries (381 Residential and 80 Non Residential) in Shoal Creek. The first 2 months of 2008 there was 46 (39 Residential and 7 Non Residential). The first two months of this year, there has been 57 burglaries (47 Residential—21% increase and 10 Non Residential—43% increase). 21 homes were entered by

Calendar:

April 3—Missouri Arbor Day
April 4—NKCS D ACT Test Date
April 16—Easter
April 22—Earth Day
April 24—National Arbor Day
April 25—Oak Park and NKC Prom
May 1—NKCS D half day release—May Day
May 3—9—Be kind to animals week
May 16—Armed Forces Day
May 20—Winnatonka Baccalaureate
May 21—Winnatonka Commencement

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unlocked or open doors or windows, the remaining 36 were by force. As you can see 21 of the burglaries can easily be fixed by securing the doors and windows, but how can we make the force entry more difficult?

- ◆ Check your doors to find if they fit too loosely to the frame and if the door is a solid wood or metal. A loose door can be pried or easily forced.
- ◆ Reinforce door frame with door jamb brace. www.jambbrace.com/videos.html. The jamb brace is now required by city code in new construction by several metropolitan cities. The website will show how to install, the strength of the product and where it can be purchased. If you decide not to get a jamb brace, place 3 inch screws in door hinges and to the striker plate.
- ◆ Purchase a good deadbolt lock, meaning not a \$9.99 deadbolt lock. Your family, you and your property is more valuable than \$9.99. Practice using the deadbolt lock only for security (Tip: used with solid door and door frame). Using the deadbolt only will accomplish two things: 1. You will always lock the strongest lock on the door 2. You will never lock your keys in the house.
- ◆ Have an alarm system use it and use your exterior lights at night time.

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Chinese Garden Restaurant

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Neighborhood Safety, Continued.

- ◆ Out of town, have a reliable and trustworthy person pickup mail, newspaper and mow lawn.
- ◆ Keep bushes trimmed lower than 4', trees should be trimmed up at least 4' and any landscaping should be looked at to see if it limits visibility or gives a place to hide.
- ◆ If you like landscaping around your house, it is recommended that around ground level windows that you plant thorny bushes to keep intruders away.
- ◆ Valuable items should not be visible or near windows. IMPORTANT: Items of value in your house should have serial numbers recorded or pictures taken for the purpose of identification. Lacking this information makes the recovery of such items very difficult.
- ◆ Be a good neighbor and watch out for one another and call the police on suspicious activity.

This information is from the KCPD Shoal Creek Division Report Newsletter "The Creek Report" Provided by:

P.O. Markus Smith, Community Interaction Officer, (816) 413-3440, E-mail: markus.smith@kcpd.org

Maple Park Neighborhood Clean Up day scheduled.

The Maple Park Neighborhood clean up is scheduled for May 16, 2009, 8am until Noon. The event is held in the Maple Park Middle School parking lot. There will be two dumpsters provided, one for brush and one for trash. Beware, even though it lasts until noon, the dumpsters sometimes fill up BEFORE noon. The City (Kansas City provides the dumpsters for a fee) will not permit us to stack brush or trash above the top of the dumpster. When they are full, we must stop loading. Large items such as appliances or other items which qualify for large item pickup will not be accepted. No tires or hazardous materials please.

Leaf and Brush Pickup is May 8

Leaf and brush pickup for Maple Park will have a set out date of Friday May 8th. Set out all stacks and bundles by 7:00am on that day. Twenty sacks or bundles limit. Paper sacks only. Brush bundled 4'x2' with twine only. No duct tape. NO TRASH. Call 3-1-1 within 24 hours for any service related issues. Hours are 7:00am to 8:00pm weekdays and 8:00am to 5:00pm weekends. kcmo.org/trash is the web site. There was no mention of whether we needed an appointment or not.



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Congratulations to one of our finest:

Stephen Brashear

Stephen Brashear in one of the fine young men who live in Maple Park and attend Winnetonka High School. Stephen is a senior this year and will graduate from Winnetonka High School this May. Stephen comes to all of our meetings and is always there with a smile and a helping hand whenever we ask him to assist us with projects. He was great at keeping the weeds out of and trimmed around the big Maple Park sign on 48th Street all last summer. In years past, when asked about helping with new neighborhood programs (lawn care and other jobs), he not only offered his help, but offered to work to involve other young people. Stephen has always been there for the MPNA. We appreciate his efforts and cooperation in Maple Park and want him to know that we do. Thank You Stephen and CONGRATULATIONS in May!

(if you have other neighborhood news, contact us and help us highlight the good efforts of our many neighbors.