

MPNA GRAPEVINE
DECEMBER/JANUARY, 2009 EDITION
BI-MONTHLY
MAPLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4937 N. FREMONT
KANSAS CITY, MO 64119
VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

The MPNA meets the third Tuesday of every month. The December 16 and January 20 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

The businesses you see advertising in our newsletter pay the postage to make mailing our publication possible. Support their business and mention you saw their ad in our Neighborhood Newsletter. Their support is important to us and our support is important to them. They provide excellent products and services. We encourage you to support these businesses near Maple Park. We want them to be successful and to stay with us. It really does make a difference where you spend your money.

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MPNA Annual Christmas Dinner

MPNA annual Christmas bash will be held on December 16th. We will hold it at Maple Park Middle School due to the larger accommodations. We will start at 6:30 pm instead of the usual 7:00.

Christy Harris has been generous enough to chair the dinner committee. She and her team have been working hard and meeting often to put this event together. MPNA will provide ham and turkey. The complimentary dishes will be provided by volunteers. If you would like to contribute please call Christy at 452-2391 to see what she needs to complete her menu. Desserts are always welcome.

This will be a social occasion with business suspended until January. There will be Christmas music and lots of surprises. It should be a good time for all. You are invited whether you are regular attendees of our meetings or not. We will have guests from KCPD and other guests.

As always MPNA is hoping to bring a little joy to some of our less fortunate neighbors this season. We will be donating Angel Food boxes to as many families as we can. We get the names from the community resource specialist at Maplewood School, so we are sure these folks need our assistance. We are accepting donations but we need to get this done soon. The boxes are \$30.00. You can donate one box or several. If you can't afford \$30.00, and a lot of us can't, we will take \$5.00 or \$10.00 or even a dollar or two. We will combine these and I will make up the difference. Please call Leslie Knudson at 516-0852 to donate.

All of the food that's left over from this dinner will be donated to City Union Mission. MPNA has been collecting the little soaps, shampoos, lotions, toothbrushes etc. that you find in your motel rooms when you travel. These are welcome gifts to those who have none. If you have any of these items laying around please bring them and they will go to CUM with the food. We are also asking that everyone bring one can of food to be donated

as well. Please remember MPNA is a 501(c)3 charitable association so your donations are tax deductible and we will give you a receipt upon request.

Come one and all to our party and enjoy the company of your old friends and meet and make new ones. Neighbors being neighborly is what we are all about. See you there.

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MPNA Chili Dinner

On Tuesday, January 20th 2009 MPNA will be having a chili dinner. This will be held at our regular membership meeting at Maplewood Elementary School. It will be a fundraiser for MPNA. As you know by now we have no source of income except what we raise ourselves. We will offer all you can eat chili for \$5.00 per person. Due to the dinner the meeting will start at 6:30 rather than the usual 7:00pm. This is a great opportunity for people who have never attended a meeting to come, meet your neighbors, see what we are all about **and** get dinner for \$5.00. What a deal. See you there.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December seventh is "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day", a day to commemorate the sacrifice of more than two thousand citizens of the United States who were killed and more than one thousand citizens who were wounded when the Imperial Japanese Navy and Air Force attacked units of the armed forces of the United States stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. It is a day to remember the selfless sacrifice made by those who gave their lives for their country in the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Nelle Belle's Diner Home-Cookin'

150 NE 69 Hwy
Claycomo, Missouri

Dixie Edwards
Owner

Precautions during the Christmas Season

I know that this newsletter is very late this month and it's my fault. For that I apologize. I hope these tips get to you before anyone experiences a loss. During the Christmas Season the bad guys are doing their holiday shopping just as you and I are. The difference is they don't buy their gifts. They steal yours. This is an annual reminder of some safety tips we should all be aware of. Ladies, don't carry that big purse. Put some cash along with your Id and one credit card (only if you are going to use it on THIS trip) in your front pocket. If you really need that purse (and you don't) be sure to secure it with the strap over your shoulder and

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the purse under your arm. Never set it in the shopping cart. In the parking lot, carry it over the shoulder nearest the parked cars where no one can run past you and grab it. Only carry the credit card you are using now. Leave the rest in the safe. Ask the cashier for help take your purchases to your car. They won't offer, but they will help if asked. Never leave gifts or anything else in the part of the car that can be seen. Use the trunk. If you make several purchases take them home before you go elsewhere to shop. And never ever carry your checkbook outside your home. I had a lady tell me just last week that she has carried her checkbook everywhere with her since before I was born, and that's a long time. I believe she has, but it's time to stop. The times, they are a changing. Not for the better. All of the old careless habits we have grown comfortable with need to be broken. If you need a check take a check that's already made out except for the amount. You will never be sorry. Last but not least, unless that car is safely parked in your locked garage never leave the remote garage door opener in your car. This was a hard one for me to learn, but it's worth it. They break one window and they are in your house with you. It's a little harder to protect yourself after they gain access than before. Have a happy and safe holiday season all of you. Larry Knudson, MPNA President



Please Print

Door Prize Coupon

MPNA General Meeting
October 21 and November 18

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL (optional): _____

Please Sign: _____

Benefit Concert Sponsored by MPNA

On November 7th MPNA held a fundraiser for the new ballpark at Maplewood School. A concert by Emily Wyatt and "Compass North" was held at Tower View church. The music was thoroughly enjoyed by 27 paid attendees. The cost to hire the band was \$200.00. Due to the very low turnout one member, Kevin Foiles, donated his share back to the cause. This left \$140.00 for Maplewood ballpark. Pat Foiles made a motion at the last membership meeting to donate \$130.00 from MPNA coffers to offset the band fees. The motion passed. MPNA donated a total of \$270.00 to the baseball fund, leaving MPNA with very little money in our account and NO funding source at this time.



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Richard Nigro, President

CALENDAR

- December 7- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- December 16 - MPNA Annual Christmas Dinner
- December 19 - NKCS D Early Release day K-12
- Dec 21-Jan2 - NKCS D Winter Vacation—NO SCHOOL
- December 21 - First day of Winter
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- January 1 - New Years Day
- January 5 - NKCS D No School—Teachers work day
- January 6 - NKCS D Second Semester Begins
- January 20 - MPNA General Meeting/Chili Dinner \$5 donation
- January 16 - NKCS D Half day release—Staff Development
- January 19 - NKCS D NO School—Martin Luther King Holiday

Thanks for the help from Festival Foods

As he always does whenever we ask him, Larry Heng, of festival Foods, contributed greatly to our Christmas Dinner event. Festival Foods is a great place to shop. They provide good products at excellent prices along with the best service in the area. Their deli is the best and I haven't even mentioned their meat department. When you shop there ask to speak to Larry and tell him yourself that you appreciate his generous support of MPNA. We really appreciate his support and he has shown over and over that he appreciates ours.

Call of the Wild in Maple Park

Ron Baldrige called to tell me that a Bobcat was caught at Maplewood School the other night. This is good for us to know because Bobcats can kill your small pets. Please be advised to keep an eye on your furry friends when you let them out these days. It is always tragic to lose a pet, but it would be so much worse at Christmas time.

Angel Food Donations

Anyone wanting to donate to the angel food dinners MPNA is giving away this Christmas must do so right away. Leslie needs to get the money for them right away. The boxes are \$30.00 each, or you can donate any part of this amount. Call her at 516-0852 to contribute.