

MAPLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

The next meeting - Tuesday, January 17 at 07:00PM will be in the Maple Park Middle School Computer Library.



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December/January newsletter combined

The news staff was as busy as everyone else in December. So the decision was made to combine the Dec/Jan issues as one.

We hope you enjoy it all the more.

Sincerely: THE STAFF

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Looking to the New Year

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years Holiday. The December MPNA meeting was on December 20th and was a fantastic event. We all visited and laughed together while enjoying excellent food and entertainment. Many people agreed to, and worked with the committee to provide supplies, workers and food for this event. I hope it will become an annual MPNA event. I would like to thank all those who helped make it possible. There were so many people who did so much; I cannot mention them all here. Thank you so much for all your help. I would like to also thank our singing group "Spare Parts" for their fine music. If you ever need a ladies quartet to sing for an event, let me know and I will put you in contact with them. They were very good. Also, I would like to thank the members of Tower View Baptist Church for supporting the event by helping and coming to visit with us. We were also glad to see Ron Mann's Tuesday night worship study class there. Thank you!

Thanks to the generosity of the MPNA residents, the MPNA and the Maplewoods PTA were able to purchase two complete holiday dinners for two families in our area! Larry Harris picked up the dinners at Target and delivered them to both families just before Christmas. Both families were very kind and thanked all of you for your kindness.

And now for the New Year. Look for dates and events both in the MPNA Newsletter and on the MPNA website. The date for the Spring Picnic and the Spring Cleanup are already set. The planning meetings for the Snake Parade have already begun. The MPNA Sign Committee has received approval from the Parks Department for the sign location and are working on the design and construction. The Maplewoods Elementary School has raised the money to replace the destroyed equipment. IT IS A NEW YEAR! Some things have already improved!

Look to the spring and come on out as we sponsor events for our residents. We invite you to come to the MPNA meetings. There is always some type of food or refreshments, punch and coffee. And it is always free for you. Come to hear about changes and improvements in Maple Park. The theme of the January Meeting is "Breaking the Ice." Come and visit with other Maple Park residents. In January and February we will focus on Personal Safety tips and training provided by the Shoal Creek Police Station personnel. We hope to see you there. It is your neighborhood association!

Larry Houser, MPNA President

Bienvenido a la Sociedad del Barrio de Maple Park

El MPNA es un buen recurso para buscar ayuda y información sobre su Barrio. El sitio web para MPNA es www.maplepark.org. El sitio web escribiría en español pronto (con optimismo en un mez). Tambien, el siguiente Sociedad de Maple Park limpia sería el 29 de Abril, 2006. La primavera picnic es fijado por el 6 de Mayo, 2006. El 13 de Mayo es la fecha de lluvia para esto acontecimiento. Nuestro siguiente reuniones son cada tercer Martes del mez en la biblioteca de la escuela media de Maple Park a las 7:00 por la noche. Si se puede, venga por favor.

Juli Houser, MPNA intérprete 816-255-0636

<<HOME WEATHERIZATION WORKSHOP>>

Join residential energy experts from

- The Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency
The Metropolitan Energy Center and
The City of Kansas City, Missouri's Weatherization Assistance Program

AT Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.

5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway

For a hands-on experience to learn the basics of energy use in your home and how to control potentially high utility cost.

Homeowners and Renters alike will learn

- Low cost measures that you can accomplish on your own
Basics of energy use in homes
Cutting energy use without spending money
And many more topics

For more information

Contact: Janet Shaffer at 816-454-2000

~~CALLING ALL CLASSIC CAR OWNERS~~

~~~~WAX AND SHINE!~~~~

I would like to invite you to participate in the 1st annual, Maple Park Classic Car Show. It is planned for May \_\_, 2006. This will be held in conjunction with the Maple Park Spring Picnic.

If you would like to enter your classic car, or would enjoy helping serve on the committee, or just want more information, contact me, Jeff Simmons, at 816-452-4302, or email me at, jpsimford@juno.com.

\*\*\*\*\***Spring picnic set for may 6<sup>th</sup>**\*\*\*\*\*

If we get rained out we'll try again May 13<sup>th</sup>  
Always a popular event, this year we hope to have a classic car show (see above article).  
Watch for further info at [www.maplepark.org](http://www.maplepark.org) or in your newsletter.  
The committee is not set for this event so get online or call a board member and volunteer to help organize it.

**[[[BEWARE OF THIS IDENTITY]]]**  
**[[[THEFT SCAM]]]**

Here's a new twist scammers are using to commit identity theft: the jury duty scam. Here's how it works: The scammer calls claiming to work for the local court and claims you've failed to report for jury duty. He tells you that a warrant has been issued for your arrest. The victim will often rightly claim they never received the jury duty notification. The scammer then asks the victim for confidential information for "verification" purposes. Specifically, the scammer asks for the victim's Social Security number, birth date, and sometimes even for credit card numbers and other private information - exactly what the scammer needs to commit identity theft.

So far, this jury duty scam has been reported in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, Arizona, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington state. It's easy to see why this works. The victim is clearly caught off guard, and is understandably upset at the prospect of a warrant being issued for his or her arrest. So, the victim is much less likely to be vigilant about protecting their confidential information. In reality, court workers will never call you to ask for social security numbers and other private information. In fact, most courts follow up via mail and rarely, if ever, call prospective jurors.

What can you do to stop this from happening to you? Never give out your Social Security number, credit card numbers or other personal confidential information when you receive a telephone call or email. It doesn't matter why they are calling - all the reasons are just different variants of the same scam.

**AWARDS for HOLIDAY DECORATING**

Each year we are blessed with a wonderful display of lights and other decorations in our Maple Park Neighborhood. This year was exceptional. Our award committee was having difficulty deciding on a winner, so they decided to make more winners.

**This years winners in random order are:**

- 5137 Baxter**
- 5330 Cambridge**
- 4806 White**
- 4957 Freemont**
- 5017 Beacon**
- 5102 Bristol**

**4834 White**  
**5202 Bellaire**  
**5705 NE 48<sup>th</sup> ST**  
**6633 NE 49<sup>th</sup> ST**

Thanks to everyone for the displays. It was great driving through our neighborhood and seeing them all.  
And thanks to the committee that had to make the hard decisions.

**<<<<<<<Scrappin'>>>>>>>>**

Scrapbook committee met and scrapped the end of November. We had a very productive session. Special thanks for Pat Foyles, and Christy Harris, for sharing some Maple Park history information with us, so we can better journal our photo's.

If you have not viewed the current scrapbook in progress, make a special point to be at the next meeting, where we will have the book displayed. (January 17, 7:00PM, at Maple Park Middle School) If you can't attend, go to our web page, [maplepark.org](http://maplepark.org), you'll find us there.

Until next time - *Peg. Simmons*

**:-}MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY{-:  
PLAYGROUND FIRE**

**Most of the neighborhood residents were shocked to wake up to the news report that someone had destroyed the playground area at our elementary school. Here are some facts about the playground that we should know.**

- 1. The North Kansas City School district staff, Maplewood PTA, and others worked about three years with local residents and businesses to purchase the playground equipment.**
- 2. The playground was in use about two years.**
- 3. It was purchased with money from fund raisers and contributions.**
- 4. The playground area which was destroyed has a replacement cost of approximately \$25,000.**
- 5. Again, the school staff and the PTA have organized to raise money to replace the equipment.**
- 6. With the help of the School District insurance, the destroyed equipment can be replaced for approximately \$10,000.**

The fundraising began December 2, 2005 with the **Cougars Night Out Against Crime**. It was from 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm there was food, movies and entertainment for the students.

There were individual donations and corporate donations that culminated in more than achieving the goal.

**{:-Thanks to all who participated:-}**

**PERSONAL SAFETY SEMINAR**

**Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.  
5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway**

This is your chance to learn valuable tips on how to assess the situation. Information about things which affect your safety in different locations, from those who know. This is a presentation by the **(KCPD) Shoal Creek Station officers**. Also includes the padded officer so you can practice your jabs and punches they have taught you. For more info contact: **NNI 816-454-2000**