

MPNA GRAPEVINE
APRIL/MAY, 2010 EDITION
BI-MONTHLY
MAPLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4937 N. FREMONT
KANSAS CITY, MO 64119
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The MPNA meets the third Tuesday of every month. The April 20 and May 18 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 Fall Clean Up

Maple Park Neighborhood Association will hold it's Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 24th. It comes a little later this year, but so did the Spring like weather. We are no longer able to take tires, but we will have one dumpster for trash and one for brush. It will be held in the Maple Park School parking lot as usual. The time is 8:00 am till noon. Volunteers will be on hand to assist you. The timing ties in nicely with the Kansas City's brush pickup and Northland Neighborhood's A.B.O.P.T. event which will be held June 5th, 2010.

Beware, Banking Scam

I received a notice from my bank this month I thought was worth sharing. There is a "vishing" scam operating in our area. It works like this. Individuals are receiving phone calls informing them that their debit card has been deactivated. The person is then given a phone number to call to reactivate the card. Please do not respond to this or any similar messages. This is not a message from your bank. These scams are being aimed at various banks in the area so please inform friends and family not to respond to these messages.

Your bank does not contact it's customers to request information such as account number, password or PIN. Never give this information over the phone.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your bank directly.

Computer Help

Just a short note. There have been many times when people have asked me about computer problems with their home computer. Many times I have visited homes to work on computers as a favor to friends and neighbors. I have been glad to do this when I can help. But, I am a web person who maintains many websites, including the MPNA Website, www.maplepark.org. There are times that I don't do well with some hardware and operating system issues.

But there is really good news. I had an occasion to help some of

Maple Park Leaf and Brush Pick Up

Leaf and Brush collection in our area will be on Friday, April 23rd. Here are the rules: Curbside by 7:00AM-20 sacks or bundles limit-paper sacks only-Brush bundled 4' x 2' with twine only-No duct tape-No trash. Call 311 within 24 hours if it is not picked up Hours are 7 am to 7 pm on weekdays and 8 am to 5 pm on weekends.

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computer help continued

my friends at Blue River Watershed Association (www.brwa.net) with a computer. I could not find the problem. I decided to take the computer to our nearby small business, Northland Computer in Claycomo. I was surprised and delighted. He will diagnose your computer at no charge. I was ready to toss this computer. He found a problem with the operating system and hard drive. No charge for the information. I asked him to complete the repair and found it was probably cheaper than I could have done it myself. If you have home computer problems, I highly recommend you call or take your computer by and let him look at it. He is very knowledgeable and best of all, fair. 452-0350 - www.northkpc.com
Larry Houser, MPNA Webmaster

May Election Meeting for the MPNA

May is the most important month of the year to MPNA. At the May meeting you elect the officers who will be running MPNA for the next year. This organization is essential to the neighborhood. It is the coordinator for all community service. It is the contact between all city services and the community. It is the center of communication with our residents

codes enforcement continued


BRIGHT and enthusiastic about his responsibilities, eager to help and sincere. He proved my observation correct by sending me an e-mail before 8:00am Thursday telling me he had already contacted our Code Enforcement Officer, Tamera Mills and instructed her to contact me. She did, that day. I gave her the four or five worst spots off the top of my



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Richard Nigro, President

through this newsletter and our web site, www.maplepark.org. MPNA has removed tons of trash from our streets, open spaces and yards. We have removed hundreds of unsightly signs blighting our views, and we need to do that again now. We have helped countless residents with chores they could not do themselves. We hold two major cleanups every year (see related article) and make Maple Park a better place to live in countless other ways. We are a self funded 501(c)3 charitable organization. Not many other neighborhoods in the Kansas City area can say that.

This years election is very important to the future of this organization. Maple Park needs talented people to step up and volunteer their valuable time and energy to

head and promised to follow up with an e-mailed list of the rest. She can be reached at Tamera_Mills@kcmo.org or if you prefer 816-719-0644. Their phones are handheld phones, so don't worry about them not being in the office. If Tamera is unable to help you try Ray Herzog at Ray_Herzog@kcmo.org or 816-719-8982, but that shouldn't be necessary. I truly believe we can now bypass that whole 311 mess and get results quickly on our codes violations. The Officers serving the Northland are housed at NNI (as they have been) and we were encouraged to call them directly rather than through 311. I believe this current crop is far superior to the last one. We met Codes Officer Christina Carroll who told us that she had just added 33 cases to her file that week. Christina can be reached at Christina_Carroll@kcmo.org or 816-335-5685. Code Violation notices should be mailed to homeowners within one week of the violation. Even if you just have a question about what is legal and what isn't please call her and ask. I will be inviting these people to our neighborhood meetings in the near future depending on their schedules. If you have any questions always feel free to contact the MPNA information number, which you all know by now, 816-452-6096, or call me anytime, which you already do, at 816-510-1910. Larry Knudson MPNA.

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this institution. I am asking all of the residents who have been so crucial to MPNA in the past to examine their conscience and decide that they do have some time available to help at this juncture. All of you who receive this letter are welcome to attend this meeting and get involved as are all residents. If you live in Maple Park and are over eighteen years old you are a member of MPNA and those of us who attend the monthly meetings speak for you. Please come and speak for yourselves.

KCMO Codes Enforcement in Maple Park

Ron Baldrige and I attended a very interesting meeting on Tuesday March 23rd. It was a Roundtable discussion with Nate Pare. Nate is the Division Manager Neighborhood Preservation Division for the City Of Kansas City. Simply put Nate IS the "Codes Guy". If there is anything amiss in our neighborhood that has anything to do with "codes" it's his. I found him

I hope most of you read the letter to the editor in the KC Star last week from a longtime resident of the Northland. She pointed out that the deterioration of neighborhoods north of the river has accelerated in recent years. This opinion concurs with all that I am hearing from my neighbors. The writer asked that we show the newer residents by our example what the northland can look like. Where this doesn't work we can speak to our neighbors, express our concerns and ask how we may help. Only when these efforts fail should we get in contact with the Codes Officers listed above.

If you have exhausted all of the options listed above and are still nowhere with your issues phone Nate at 816-513-9018 or e-mail at [Nate Pare@kcmo.org](mailto:Nate_Pare@kcmo.org) and your problem will go away.

- Calendar:**
 Apr. 23—NKCS D 1/2 day early release.
 Apr 24—MPNA Fall Clean Up
 May. 7—NKCS D 1/2 day early release.
 May 19—NK commencement
 May 20—WHS commencement
 May 21—OP commencement