

MPNA GRAPEVINE
October/November EDITION
BI-MONTHLY
MAPLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4937 N. FREMONT
KANSAS CITY, MO 64119
VOLUME 13, ISSUE 6

The MPNA meets the third Tuesday of every month. The October and November 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.

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We mail this newsletter to about eight hundred and seventy of you every other month. I know that many of you look forward to and enjoy it. I know this because you tell me. What I wonder is how many of you simply throw it into the trash. Better yet, I hope

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you recycle it. What I need to know is how to reach THIS group. We would love to put out a monthly paper. What we need is material. Any of you can submit an article any time and we wish you would. Just go to the web sight www.maplepark.org and proceed as directed. While you are there peruse the many useful bits of information contained within. If it's easier for you phone me and I'll help you write it.



We have ten board members, four of whom are officers, who attend at least two meetings a month. They also spend hours working as volunteers to make Maple Park a better place for you to live. What we need is to hear what YOU want us to do. We have only so many ideas. We do what we think is good for MPNA. We SPEAK for YOU. We need your help. At our last membership meeting we had 48 attendees. This is good for us. What I want to see are 480. I would be happy with 100. We continue to look for ways to get MPNA members involved in our meetings. We had Sherise Anderson, from

codes enforcement speaking to us about ridding the neighborhood of code violations. She was excellent. Wish all of you could have heard her.

MPNA has applied for PIAC funds to put sidewalks around Maple Park and Maple Woods Schools. We also requested a water line to our sign on 48th street near Fremont. We are cautiously optimistic (hopeful) that both requests will be granted. We are in the process of building five wooden signs identifying Maple Park to be placed at the various entrances to our neighborhood. We have appropriated the money to build these. We are very proud of these accomplishments. What we need to know is, are YOU proud of them? What would YOU like us to do with our time and money? What does this neighborhood REALLY need and how can we fill that need?

For those of you who don't know me, and unfortunately that's most of you, my name is Larry Knudson. I have been involved with this organization for a couple years now. I became president in May of this year. I thought long and hard about whether I wanted this job or not. I wondered whether I could do this job or not. I decided I did want it and could do it. I am committed to making this a better place to live, to own property and to raise your families. I am will-

ing to talk to any of you at any time about any thing pertaining to Maple Park. My cell phone is 816-510-1910 and email is president@maplepark.org. I will answer all e mail. I am out and about in the neighborhood all the time. Just stop me to talk or ask questions any time you see me. I need and want your opinions, and I really want to get to know more of you. Thank you, Larry

SELF DEFENSE COURSE

To those interested in a class on Self Defense, contact Larry Knudson at: 510-1910. This will be similar to the course that was offered to Maple Park residents several years ago. Just before the Christmas shopping season is a great time to learn what makes people more likely to become a victim to predators.

How Can I Submit an Article to be Published in the MPNA Newsletter?

We are always glad to learn about our neighborhood. If you have information of interest (historic, good things about our neighborhood or our neighbors, health or safety tips), you may want to share it with your neighbors. This is a great place to share information! You may submit an article for the News-

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letter by filling out the form on the MPNA website at www.maplepark.org. Using the menu on the left side, select "MPNA Newsletter" then select "Submit an Article." Or if you prefer, you may contact Larry Knudson by calling 510-1910.

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The MPNA Picnic

The MPNA fall picnic was held on September 15th. It was a huge success. We met many new friends and visited with many more old ones. There were lots of children there and they had a ball. Games were played and food was eaten. As you know, we had a silent auction of the old neighborhood tools. Between that and the donation jar we raised over \$800.00. Be sure to attend the next MPNA general membership meetings and help us decide how to spend these funds. It's your money after all. Major Jan Zimmerman of the Shoal Creek Police Station was there with several of her staff.

The new ATV squad was there. They talked to the children about safety and other subjects. KCFD, station 14, was there with a fire truck. They taught fire safety to these same kids. Wayside Waifs was represented. Children and adults were taught care for pets and the responsibility of pet ownership. We had Sherise Anderson of codes enforcement. Cathy, the postal worker that brings you your newsletter, was there too.

Even with all these folks in attendance we had enough food left over to grill hamburgers at the following membership meeting on Tuesday. We gave quite a bit of food away at that meeting as well. We still have an unopened box of hotdogs that we plan to cook at the MPNA cleanup on October 20th.

MPNA Board Notes

I am pleased to announce two changes to the board of directors of MPNA. At the membership meeting on 9-18-2007 Keely Golden was named to fill the open slot on the board of directors. She was nominated by the board and accepted by the membership. We are very happy to have Keely on our team. We have already put her to work as the chair of this years annual x-mas dinner. Keely will need lots of volunteers to assist her and I know you will all be there for her.

I promised you two changes. Here is the other. Leslie Knudson was nominated for and approved as treasurer of MPNA. Since this makes Leslie and I both officers, in an unusual move, I made a stipulation that even as treasurer, Leslie will not be able to sign MPNA checks. The other three board members can and will fulfill this duty. This will prevent any conflict of interest or perception of a compromise of integrity. Leslie is excited about her new job, and looking forward to learning the bookkeeping method MPNA uses. She has kept all of our personal books for years and is very proficient at it.

CLEAN UP -- CLEAN OUT!!

The Maple Park Neighborhood Association will sponsor a clean-up for its residents on Saturday, October 20, from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Maple Park Middle School parking lot. Please take this opportunity to clean up your yard and home. There will be two dumpsters: one for trash and one for leaves/brush. Large items will not be accepted ~ KCMO bulky item pickup is November 5th. No tires or hazardous waste. Call 454-2391 or 510-1910 for questions or assistance. Picnic at the shelter house will follow.

Calendar:

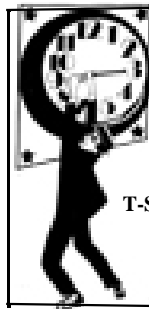
October 16 - MPNA Meeting at Maplewood Elementary School.

October 18 - MPNA Director's Meeting, Tower View Church

October 20 - MPNA Cleanup (see article).

November 6 - MPNA Directors meeting, Tower View Church.

November 20 - MPNA Meeting.



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Richard Nigro, President

The KCPD Speaks at the MPNA Meeting

We were lucky enough to have three of the KCPD officers who patrol our neighborhood speak with us at the last membership meeting. One of the issues that several residents raised was what to do about the many ATV's and dirt bikes that the kids insist on riding throughout Maple Park. These are not street legal vehicles. Many are underage drivers. Sgt Price told

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us to call the police immediately. Don't wait until the subject has been out there for an hour driving you nuts. Call when you first see them. Call back if no officer responds. The more calls the police receive the quicker they respond, so everybody should call.

The other advice we were given was to pound Kansas City's new 311 number. Whenever there is a "city" issue involved call 311. Get the name of the person with whom you speak. Call back often. Ask for that person's boss if a second call is required. Ask for the boss's boss on the third call. Mr. Ryan mentioned some "no parking" signs that seem to "get legs" whenever they are replaced. This is an example of the problem that 311 is there to solve.