

Westwood Park Homes Association

NEWSLETTER

September 2024



Your August Update: Fall Events and Neighborhood Happenings

As summer winds down and fall is right around the corner, it's the perfect time to bring you up to speed on what's happening in our neighborhood. With cooler days ahead and plenty of community events on the horizon, we've packed this edition with everything you need to know to stay connected and ready for all the fun fall brings. Grab a cup of coffee, settle in, and take a look—there's something for everyone this season!



Great News for Our Senior Neighbors: Property Tax Freeze Expanded

Big news for homeowners in our neighborhood who are 62 and older: Missouri has just made it easier to freeze your property taxes at 2024 levels, thanks to a new law that expands the senior tax freeze program.

Applying is simple: You can fill out the application online, mail it in, or drop it off at one of the county offices. All you need is proof of age, residency, and that you're responsible for your home's property taxes. For more information you can check out the Jackson County website or call them at this number: jacksongov.org (816) 881-3232



Love Our Fountains? Here's How You Can Help Maintain Their Charm

Our neighborhood fountains and monuments are part of what gives our community its unique charm. These shared spaces bring beauty and character to our streets, making our neighborhood feel truly special. If you'd like to pitch in, please reach out to Ann Nixon or Margaret Smith.

And while you're out enjoying the fountains, just a friendly reminder: please avoid wading in them or letting your pets take a dip! Human and canine splashes can cause damage to the lights and pump equipment, and we want to keep everything running smoothly for everyone to enjoy.

We'd like to offer a special thanks to Martha Negley, Jeff Wissinger, Kara Deel and Johathan Hill for their help with our islands and monuments

Got a story idea? Let us know!

Is Your Insurance Prepared for Potential Water and Sewer Line Issues?

Many Westwood Park homes are still connected to original water & sewer lines, nearly 100 years old. While the Kansas City Water Department maintains the water lines from the main to the curb stop, homeowners are responsible for costs and upkeep from the curb stop to the house and for sewer lines, you own the connection from your home to the sewer main.

The bottom line: as homeowners, we're on the hook for some repairs. Here's two tips to consider to minimize your risk. Keep wipes, grease, and non-soluble items out of drains to avoid problems

Consider adding a rider to your home insurance or purchasing an exterior service line policy to cover potential repairs or replacements.



Thanks Van Tomasic!

A huge thank you to Van Tomasic for his many years of dedicated service to Westwood Park.

For more than four years, every single Thursday evening, Van braved everything from sweltering summer heat to icy winter conditions to make sure the dog waste basket at the fountain was emptied. Now, after graduating from Rockhurst High School in May, Van is heading off to college. We'll miss you, Van! Best of luck at Pitt State—you've earned it!



Helpful Election Resources for Jackson County Voters

The KC Media Collective, in partnership with The Kansas City Star, has pulled together some really helpful, free resources specifically for Jackson County voters. It's all laid out in simple, easy-to-read language to help you make sense of the issues that matter most.

Voting in local elections is one of the most powerful ways you can help shape our community for the better.

Here's where to find the KC Voter Guide - kcur.org/kcvoterguide2024

The general election is November 5. The last day to register to vote is October 9. Questions about voting? Try KCEB.org

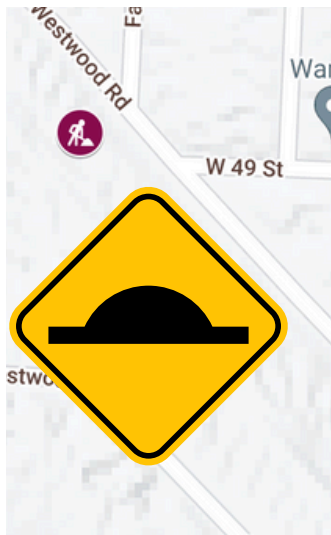


Make plans for the KC Plaza Art Fair

Friday, 9/20/24: 5 pm — 10 pm
Saturday, 9/21/24: 10 am — 10 pm
Sunday, 9/22/24: 11 am — 5 pm

Featuring 240 artists, the Plaza Art Fair is a top- ranked, national art event with three live music stages and over 20 featured restaurant booths.

Make plans to enjoy Kansas City's unofficial welcome to the fall season.



New Speed Humps Coming to Kansas City — and we made the list!

Good news for our neighborhood: Kansas City is making streets safer by installing 100 speed humps at 50 locations citywide—and Westwood Park is on the list! This new traffic calming measure is part of the city's Vision Zero initiative, which aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2030.

Two new speed humps were installed across Westwood Road near 49th and Wyoming. It's important to note that the city, not the Homeowner's Association, chose these locations based on safety data and proximity to high-risk areas. The goal is to create safer streets, especially near schools, parks and accident-prone areas. Keep an eye out for these changes, and let's all do our part to keep our neighborhood safe.

Save the Dates

First Fridays at the Fountain

Friday 9/6 & 10/4 5-6:30 pm

Catch up with familiar faces and meet new neighbors at the fountain. BYOBeverages

Westwood Homes Association Annual Picnic

Saturday 9/28: 5-7:00 pm

Join us at our neighborhood annual picnic at Westwood Park. Come enjoy Bay Boy sandwiches & Andy's Frozen Custard.

\$10 for adults & \$5 for kids
Cash only, please!

Please RSVP to psteele@ha-kc.org

West Plaza Art & Music in the Park

Saturday 9/21 11 am - 5 pm

Spend the afternoon with local artists & musicians, sponsored by the West Plaza HOA.

Fall Dumpster Day

Saturday 10/26: 9-Noon

Take advantage of this chance to clean up!
Note: no hazardous waster, appliances or mattresses.

Dumpsters will be near the fountain. One dumpster will be provided for yard waste and another for other unwanted items. Metal recycling will be available.

Pembroke School Activity Dates

Upcoming events at Pembroke School that might impact neighborhood traffic

September 13th
Varsity Football Game

September 20th
Varsity Football Game

October 1st
Soccer and Volleyball

October 4th
Varsity Football Game

October 18th and 19th
Upper Class Fall Play

October 25-26
Alumni Weekend

October 29th
Soccer

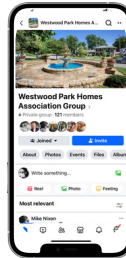
November 7-8th
Middle School Fall Play

Westwood Park Home Owners Association Board

Margaret Smith, President	margaretjosmith@gmail.com	816.651.6125
Ann Nixon, Vice President	ann@reecenichols.com	816.289.7341
David Evans, Treasurer	sammyjan68@gmail.com	816.547.4897
David Belpedio, Secretary	davidbelpedio@gmail.com	913.653.8203
Mackenzie Bromley, Social Media	mackenziedavidson22@gmail.com	816.251.4464
Julie Tozier, Newsletter	julie.tozier@gmail.com	816.509.0023
Steve Weneck, Events	steveweneck@gmail.com	816.914.1977
Betty James, Member at Large	bettytjames@gmail.com	816.573.8665
Todd Wilson, Member at Large	tandrewilson@gmail.com	816.206.9102



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