

Stepping Up

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2007

Next Meeting:

Feb 20
7:00 PM
Argentine
Community
Center
2810
Metropolitan

Agenda:

- Discuss your ideas for Next MCSP project
- Discuss your ideas for small projects to be funded by the Neighborhood Self-Help Fund
- Find out how to get "the Club" anti-theft device for your car for only \$10
- First time attenders get a **free** long lasting, energy saving light bulb

Contacts:

Shay Lewis, President
281-3421
Kevin Terry, Community Police
573-8728
Lora Ferguson, Codes
573-8652
Animal Control
321-1445
Graffiti Hotline
573-8790

Neighborhood Self-Help Fund

The Neighborhood Self Help Fund (NSHF) builds strong neighborhoods by providing grants for small projects identified by Kansas City Metropolitan grass roots neighborhood groups (like ours) to help accomplish neighborhood goals. Grants support crime prevention, youth activities, minor home repairs, neighborhood clean ups, house painting programs, identifying neighborhood assets and other projects based on NSHF Criteria.

*Should we apply
for this grant for
your small project
idea? Share your
idea at Tuesday's
meeting.*

Launched in 1983, the NSHF is administered through the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance (KCNA). KCNA leads the fund raising effort working with the NSHF Funders Committee to secure support from a broad range of businesses and foundations. More than \$3.2 million has been awarded through over 1000 grants for a variety of neighborhood improvement initiatives in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

Citizen Academy Starts March 1st

The KCK Police Department's Citizen Police Academy will provide community members with an inside look at local law enforcement. During the academy, students will be introduced to Community Policing, Laws of Search and Seizure, Patrol Procedures, Building Searches, Defensive Tactics, Investigative Procedures and more.

The 40 hr Citizen Academy's curriculum is similar to the traditional Police Academy which is a part of police training. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with members of the Police Department and exchange their ideas and concerns.

To attend you must be at least 21 yrs old, approved by the Academy staff, and live or work in KCK. Learn more at the meeting!

Good Neighbor Training Feb. 23rd

The Unified Gov't of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas offers the **Good Neighbor Training Class** through it's Liveable Neighborhoods department at the Neighborhood Resource Center in the Indian Springs Mall.

This is a day-long class (lunch provided) that explains what different departments at the city do for us as a neighborhood. The class includes an overview of the Graffiti Abatement Program, Demolition and Abatement Program, Animal Control, Code Enforcement, the Blue Card Program, Health Department, Building Inspection, and Rental/Licensing Inspection. Talk to Shay Lewis at Tuesday's meeting for information on attending.

Spring Cleaning

The promise of spring brings anticipation of warmer weather and a chance to spend some time outdoors. Spring is a great time to do a little spring cleaning *outside* our homes. Try to stand at the edge of the yard, or in the street and view it as your neighbor might see it.

The house exterior can usually use a good washing by this time, and perhaps it's time to think about painting the trim, or even the house itself. Spring would be a good time to repair broken windows and to clean debris from the yard. Some things are hard to let go of – or hard to get rid of – so they tend to accumulate in our yards. Our old treasures can start to look like “junk” to our neighbors and detract from the overall beauty of our area. According to the city, appliances, (without doors) or other large items can be picked up, if arrangements are made in advance. To arrange a pick up of larger items, or to receive further information, call 631-3300.

Did you know that the city requires all vehicles parked in

residential areas to be tagged and in working condition? We can't park on unimproved surfaces, such as the yard, either.

The city also bans the parking of tow trucks, dump trucks, semi-tractors and trailers, back hoes, high loaders, or other types of heavy dirt moving equipment in a residential neighborhood. If you have any questions or complaints about any city service or responsibility, you may call The Action Center at 573-5190.

Have you noticed that we have a number of houses for sale in our neighborhood? When we work together to enhance the beauty of our area, perspective homeowners will see that we take pride in our neighborhood and we will attract more homeowners like ourselves who are responsible and caring people.

Did you know that the city requires all vehicles parked in residential areas to be tagged and in working condition?

Block Leader—See Who's New

North of Gibbs		South of Gibbs	
S. Valley-Ball-Sprghrn-Lawton-Gibbs	Open*	S 12 th Terr & Oak Grove	Open*
S 13 th St. & Lawrence	Jimmie/Willie Ferguson w/ help from Shay Lewis	S 13 th St.	Open*
S 14 th St.	Wes/Mary DeCaigny	S 13 th Terr	Huy Nguyen
S 15 th St.	Teresa VonHagel	S 14 th St. & all roads West to 18 th St Exp	Open*
S 16 th St.	Crystal/Ron Shaver	* Please consider volunteering for your street, or a nearby street. Call Shay @ 281-3421 for info.	
S 17 th St.	George/Carol Montiel		

Metropolitan Community Service Program (MCSP)

MCSP is an organization that supervises offenders who are court ordered to complete community service. The offenders provide cost free labor for neighborhood beautification and litter removal projects. Just last month, a crew of about 25 men and women cleaned up one of our neighborhood's vacant lots on S. 13th St., removing over 50 discarded tires. They also collected about 40 bags full of litter from along Springhorn and Ball. Our Commu-

nity Policing Officer, Kevin Terry, and two other policemen supervised the work on that cold day while a neighbor, Ty Lewis, provided hot chocolate and coffee.

*Do you know of an area that could benefit from the services of MCSP? Come to our next meeting where we will be deciding on the next MCSP project site. Where do **you** think we need to clean up most?*

