

Words of Windham

WWW.WINDHAMPARK.ORG

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

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13118 Grandview
897-1291

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OPEN—This could be YOUR
NAME here!!

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685-3521

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402-0859

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402-8693

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www.windhampark.org

From the Board President, Jim Baird

As I was pulling the borrowed wagon, filled with gloves, trash bags, t-shirts and bottled water, I thought to myself this would be a long two hours at the park if no one showed up for the Park & Stream Cleanup event. Well, I didn't see too much trash along the trail so maybe it wouldn't be too noticeable if no one did a Fall cleanup. I got to the park and set out the supplies, and waited. But not for long! Within a few minutes neighbors started showing up, both adults and youngsters alike.

Even with the KU – KSU game on there were still around 30 volunteers that pitched in and dragged out many bags of debris on Saturday Oct. 6th. From small children to visiting grandparents (Husker fans from Pennsylvania, explain that!?) we had an excellent turnout.

Another pleasant surprise was there seemed to be less trash in the park. Though based on the number of balls that always seem to be found I do wonder if there are trees that grow tennis balls, or maybe the park is where dogs take them when they tire of playing fetch. That's still easier to explain than the nearly-new hoe that was found (call if you are missing one). All in all a very successful event, thanks to a great group of neighborhood volunteers!

Our 2008 budget is shaping up, and like with everything else it appears our operations costs will increase. In fact we will be to the point where for 2008 we will likely operate in a deficit position. The good news is that our contingency fund is in excellent shape and therefore we can go at least another year without raising dues.

Here's a sobering thought: In 2011 Windham Park will turn 20 years old! So what?

Well, because of the developer's construction of our neighborhood association's by-laws and covenants, we have only through 2008 to vote in any changes to the documents, otherwise they will automatically lock-in for another 20 year period. For any changes to go through a vote will have to be held where at least 50% of all homeowners approve the modifications. The Board is working on changes and will post the recommended modifications in the next couple months to the neighborhood web site (www.windhampark.org).

Now I would like to ask a few of you to consider stepping up to help the neighborhood. At the annual neighborhood meeting in January we will again look to fill a few board and committee positions. Several of your neighbors have served on the board for multiple terms. Some because they really enjoy making a contribution to their community, and some because of need for more persons to volunteer. Also at the annual meeting we will open for discussion the proposal of incentivizing homeowners to volunteer to serve on the board by giving a dues discount to board members (beginning with dues paid at the end of 2008). Please consider stepping up and making a difference. It's less messy than picking up trash in the park!

Outstanding Neighbor Award: Carol Elder

Congratulations to this issue's winner of the Outstanding Neighbor Award. Carol will receive a Target gift card as a token of the neighborhood's appreciation. The following is from the e-mail nomination for Carol Elder:

"She embodies the true Christian spirit to ensure that neighborhood families support all families in need of assistance. By being aware of neighbors in need of assistance, she has had an instrumental influence in the positive outcome of numerous collective efforts within our neighborhood.

For merely one example, without naming names, she organized efforts to maintain a neighbors' yard while both husband and wife were deep into cancer treatment and not capable of taking care of yard work. She single-handedly took the initiative to get the entire neighborhood involved in assisting these neighbors and their family in this time of need. Although these neighbors were new to the neighborhood, and none of us really knew them, she made it a point to make them feel accepted and an important part of our close knit community. Virtually every family in the neighborhood pitched in to alleviate some of the stress that could have easily overwhelmed them in their time of need. That is what Carol Elder is all about ... People and their needs. It's her natural personality and I know that she never gives her efforts a second thought. She's just that kind of a person. Her entire family upholds these values as well as we see them consistently make contributions to our community.

She is truly a diamond within the confines of our neighborhood and embodies the true "neighbor" spirit without expecting anything in return! We need people like her to keep our spirit of helping and giving at the forefront."

Please submit your Outstanding Neighbor Award nominations to
info@windhampark.org

Mom's Council

Submitted by: Anita Roberts and Sharon Murdock

Halloween in the Park

We'd like to thank Beth Bevil, Andrea Leavitt, Katie Scheibel, and Barbara Butler for all their help in planning and running the Halloween Parade. Also, a special thanks to US Toy for their generous discount and donation to the parade!

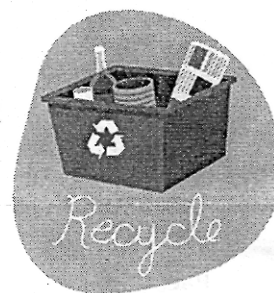


New Recycling Center in Overland Park!

Wondering what to do with all your glass containers? Take them to the new Overland Park Community Recycling Center! Located at 119th and Hardy, behind the fire station, the center is open Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 to 5:30 and Saturdays, 8 am - 4 pm.

The new center accepts a wider range of materials than ever before in Overland Park. Volunteers will play an essential role in the center's operations by assisting and educating recyclers. To volunteer or for more information, please call Bridging the Gap at 816-561-1090.

For a list of materials accepted at the center, visit www.bridgingthegap.org.



Holiday Open House



When: FRIDAY, November 23, 2007 10 AM - 3 PM

Where: Fontainebleau Club House

12701 Grandview Street
(West of Antioch & 127th Street)



Vendors include:

Creative Memories, Mary Kay,
Premier Jewelry, Tastefully Simple and
Woodland Creek Primitives
(handmade furniture, seasonal & home
décor, antiques, & collectables)

Holiday Discount: This ad good for 50% OFF one single Mary Kay item at this Open House.

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Pool News

Submitted by: Lee Hasty, Pool Chair

Hats Off to the Umbrella Patrol!

I would again like to thank the volunteers who helped with the umbrellas this year. If it were not for you we wouldn't be able to keep our umbrellas: Sharon Murdock, Sherry Smith, Beth Bevil, Mike Glynn, Joyce Tenold, Marcy Langhofer, Laura Riehl, Rachel Raile, Kristen Ellefson.

Pool Furniture

I took a look around the pool area after it closed. All pool furniture was accounted for. We will be purchasing another table next spring to replace the one that was broken by vandals this year. There are several other minor things that will be repaired or replaced next spring.

Request for Feedback on Swimming Lessons

I haven't heard from anyone regarding swim lessons that were offered by Jeff Kelly. If you took lessons from his company this year, please let me know and give me some feedback. We may not allow him to offer them next year if no one is interested.

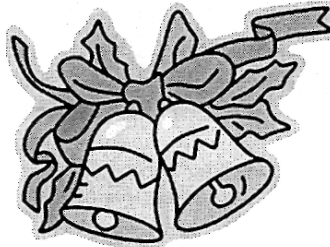
Pool Keys

We will be using new pool keys next year.

If you have any comments or suggestions about the pool, please pass them along to me.

Salvation Army Bell-Ringing

Can you spare just two hours of your time over the holiday season to help those less fortunate than yourself? The Salvation Army operates a homeless shelter in Olathe less than 15 minutes from our homes and over 90% of the funds they raise from holiday season bell ringing are used in our local area.

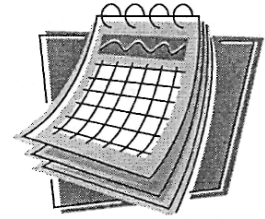


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We three Windham Park residents are working together to enlist the help of people to be bell-ringers for the Salvation Army at the 135th & Antioch Hy-Vee this holiday season. We need volunteers every day from November 9th through December 24th except for Sundays and Thanksgiving Day. Bell-ringing is in two-hour shifts -- 10am-noon, noon-2pm, 4-6pm and 6-8pm. On Saturdays in addition to those hours we will also have bell-ringing from 2-4pm. We will particularly need morning and daytime volunteers during the work week since many people are available more during the evening and Saturdays.

If we haven't already called you and you would like to volunteer your time, please call one of us. And if you know of any group or organization (work, school, church, scouts etc) who might want to help, have them call us as this opportunity is not limited to Windham Park residents.

Lee Hasty 897-3298
Marcy Langhofer 897-5508
Melisa Gum 681-8513



Mark Your Calendars!

December 2: Holiday Hayride, 5:30 - 8pm (See enclosed flyer.)

December 20: Newsletter content deadline for January/February issue.

January 1: HOA dues are due.

January 14: Annual meeting at the Heartland Elementary Commons at 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

The Windham Park Board met on October 8.

To read the meeting minutes, go to www.windhampark.org, then click on the link for "Windham Park Homeowners Assn. Newsletter", the minutes are listed AFTER the newsletters.



Annual Windham Park Christmas Hayride

*Sunday, Dec. 2nd
5:30 – 8:00 PM*

Windham Park Pool Parking Lot

\$5.00 per Family

*Please come according to
the first letter of your last name:*

A – E: 5:30 PM

F – J: 6:00 PM

K – N: 6:30 PM

O – S: 7:00 PM

T – Z: 7:30 PM



*Please remember to turn on your outdoor lights!
We'll have lots of hot chocolate and cookies to keep you warm.
Don't forget your camera for pictures with Santa!*

Gifts for friends, family and YOU!

Holiday Open House

When: Friday, December 7, 2007
6:00pm - 9:00pm

Saturday, December 8, 2007
10:00am-3:00pm

Where: Sue Fiorito's House
12820 Grant Street



Vendors include:
Mary Kay, Premier Jewelry
and Tastefully Simple (Friday only).

Holiday Discount: This ad good for 50%OFF one single Mary Kay item at this Open House.

Premier Designs: Receive 25% off One Jewelry Item. Other Discounts will be available. Free Gift with any purchase! "Pay and carry."

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Thinking of Moving.....?

Call Your Neighborhood Specialist
and Windham Park Resident:

Mike Schepis

Associate Broker



Cell: 913-221-6881

Office: 913-239-2051

mikes@reeceandnichols.com

schepis.reeceandnichols.com

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