



CITY OF WESTWOOD, KANSAS

NEWSLETTER

January through March 2014 4700 Rainbow Blvd, Westwood www.westwoodks.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

George Bernard Shaw once said, "Progress is impossible without change." Westwood is progressing in a healthy manner. We are financially strong, unyielding in protecting Westwood View, and encouraging new business development. All of this is forming an environment welcoming families to our City.

THANK YOU: Thank you to Chief Wells for more than 38 years of tremendous service and to Lieutenant Don Brooks for serving during the interim with professional leadership. Thank you to Councilmembers Jones and Day who went the extra mile in vetting new candidates for Chief Wells's replacement, it was a challenge to find the right person to lead the Police Department going forward. Also, thank you to former Mayor Stubbers for once again serving on the Council during a time of need.

Westwood Christian Church: Your Council has approved entering into a real estate contract for the acquisition of the Church property adjacent to Westwood View and the Joe Dennis Park. This represents a significant investment opportunity that will affect development and support housing as well as the school. Financing structures are being negotiated and the Westwood Foundation and Planning Commission will be critical in shaping the vision for the future of this property.

Westwood View Elementary: "The odds of Westwood View being closed are slim to none." Many of you may have read this quote by SMSD Superintendent Jim Hinson in the Prairie Village Post. This marks tangible progress in working toward the sustainability of WWV; one of the cornerstones of the City's success. It was also announced recently that WWV won the Governor's Achievement Award for the 2012-2013 school year; proof that WWV Pythons are some of the best!

Councilmember Weber Resigns: Katy Weber and her family have moved outside the City limits which required her resignation. I intend to recommend Cami Savage as Councilmember Weber's replacement during the February Council meeting. Her approval would mean bringing continuity to the remainder of Katy's term, which ends in April. Cami's previous experience serving on the Council as well as the Planning Commission makes her the ideal candidate.

Woodside Village: The Youthfront property has been acquired by the development company and negotiations are being finalized on the installment of temporary cell towers on the South portion of the Woodside property. Soon we anticipate the abatement of the Youthfront property, which will lead to the demolition and beginning of Phase I. Stay tuned for more updates as they become available.

Communications: We are continuing to refine communications and our efforts to be open and attentive, please help us by joining our email list. You can sign up under the Stay Informed section on the City's website. Regardless if we have your email or not, follow our updates on our website, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. We want to stay in touch.

Block Captains: It will be the goal of the Council to reorganize and reconstitute the block captain initiative during 2014. Communication and availability have never been more important, and your City Hall is here to serve. If you are interested in becoming part of this very important leadership group please contact our Assistant City Clerk Abby Schneeweis at 913.362.1550 or abby.schneeweis@westwoodks.org.

Public Safety Sharing of Services: On February 8th there will be a meeting between the Cities of Westwood, Fairway, Mission, Mission Woods, Roeland Park, and Westwood Hills to discuss possible sharing of Public Safety services and collaborative departments. Watch for details on this initial joint effort.

2013 was an amazing year with new challenges and opportunities. Westwood is becoming the Pride of Northeast Johnson County and a leader in the region. We anticipate continuing on our journey in 2014 and welcome you to become involved in its success.

As always, it's an honor to serve you.

John M. Yé
Mayor



2014 CITY LICENSES

All owners of pets, businesses, residential rental property, and those who rent out rooms in their homes are required by City Ordinances to apply for a license on a yearly basis. All licenses issued in 2013 expired on January 15, 2014. Applications for all City licenses are available at www.westwoodks.org under the Forms section, located at the top of the webpage, and at City Hall. If you have any questions you may contact Abby Schneeweis at abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org or 913.362.1550.

WESTWOOD WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. at City Hall. Dessert is served followed by a program and then a short meeting. On February 19th Connie Yukon, floral department manager at the Hen House in Fairway will give tips on floral arranging. Sara Kurtz from the Landon Center for Aging will speak on March 19th on "Managing Health Care Issues". Guests are welcome to attend the meetings and any Westwood resident is encouraged to join. If you have questions contact Linda Horn at 913.677.4389.

NEW STREET SIGNS TO FOLLOW UPDATED FEDERAL STANDARDS

Article by Fred Sherman, City Clerk



An example of the new street sign, all signs will be green in color.

Why are the street name signs in Westwood being replaced?

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) which has been administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) since 1971, is a compilation of national standards for all traffic control devices, including road markings, highway signs, and traffic signals. It is updated periodically to accommodate the nation's changing transportation needs and address new safety technologies, traffic control tools and traffic management techniques. The MUTCD is adopted formally by each State Transportation Department, including the State of Kansas, in order to continue to receive Federal Highway Dollars. New standards say cities and states must improve the reflective abilities of words on road signs so they are clearer when headlights shine on them at night and increase the size of the letters and the style of the letters to make them uniform and more legible from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

What are some of these new standards?

These new rules in MUTCD are applicable to even the most basic signs such as stop signs and other street signs. As per the new federal regulations the mounted signs that need to be attached to a pole shall be at least seven feet high from the ground level to the bottom for the traffic

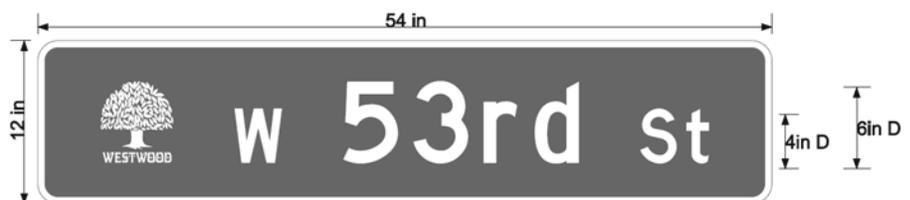
sign. Moreover, there exist even new rules for the street signs as per the speed limit in the relevant traffic zone that requires installation of the signs. If the speed limit is less than 30 mph, then the street sign needs to be eight inches in height from top to bottom along with 4 inches tall lettering on it. If the speed limit is 30 mph or greater, then the sign needs to be 12 inches in height with 6 inches tall lettering. As a result, the street name signs along Shawnee Mission Parkway, Rainbow Blvd, Mission Rd, State Line Rd and 47th Street in Westwood will be replaced with larger street name signs than those currently in place.

What about the street names?

The federal regulations also call for street-name signs to switch from all capital letters to upper and lower case; they can no longer be in ALL CAPS.

Will all street name signs look the same everywhere?

No, the new street name signs in Westwood will now include the Westwood city logo. Other near-by municipalities have included city specific markings on street names signs which helps demarcate the boundary of each city. For example, the City of Fairway includes their city's leaf logo on Fairway's green street name signs. The City of Roeland Park's street signs have a blue background; while Prairie Village's street name signs include their city 'Star' logo on blue signs. Both Westwood Hills and Mission Woods also have street name sign designs and colors unique to their city.



After 37 Years in Westwood, Chief Wells Retires; Greg O'Halloran takes over Police Department

Chief Carlos "Corkey" Wells announced his retirement from service effective the end of 2013. Chief Wells has been the epitome of professional law enforcement with over 42 years of public service, 38 of those years have been devoted to serving Westwood.

We want to wish Corkey well for the beginning of the next phase in his life. He will remain welcomed in Westwood always. Westwood will forever be grateful for the sacrifices and service that Chief Wells has graced us with.

This is not only a tremendous change for Chief Wells, but a dynamic change for the City. After a thorough search and careful vetting of many highly qualified and respected candidates, the Westwood City Council unanimously approved appointment of Greg O'Halloran as Westwood's new Chief of Police.

Chief O'Halloran comes to Westwood after 31 years of service at the Olathe Police Department, where he rose through the ranks from patrol officer to detective sergeant, patrol sergeant, public information officer, lieutenant, captain and major. His assignments included patrol, narcotics, gang, tactical support (SWAT), communi-

ty outreach, training and human resources.

Chief O'Halloran is a graduate of the 119th Session of the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Benedictine College and is a Shawnee Mission South Alumni. Chief O'Halloran and his wife Cheryl have been married over 25 years and reside in Olathe.

Regarding Westwood, Chief O'Halloran has said he "loves the feel of the city." It has "the feel of a smaller hometown cities, but is progressive in the right ways". "All of the people I've met have been very welcoming and seem committed to their community."

At his core Chief O'Halloran believes that "the Police Department only exists to serve and protect the community". However, he notes that "if we are to be successful in that mission we must get to know, interact and work alongside our citizens to prevent, reduce and solve crime with the ultimate goal of providing the safest community we can."

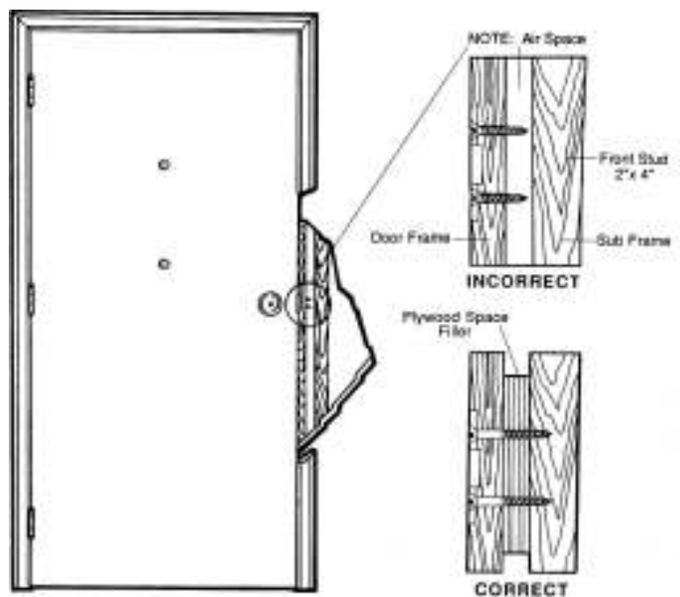
Chief O'Halloran said "I'm excited to be in Westwood". The Chief finished with "we will build on the already good relationship between our citizens and department"

PROTECT YOUR HOME

An Article by Greg O'Halloran, Chief of Police

Over a week's time frame there were two burglaries in our area, one in Westwood and one in Westwood Hills. In both incidents the front door was forced open, the suspect(s) made a quick entry into the residence, removed an item or two of value and fled the area. These occurred in the daytime hours. No one was home at the time of the incidents. Unfortunately, there have been a few burglaries around the metro and here in northeast Johnson County where the front doors have been forced open in the daytime. We cannot say these events are connected.

We are actively pursuing the investigation. Crime Scene Investigators came out and processed the scene. We have an ongoing dialogue with our law enforcement partners in Johnson County and metro area to exchange up to date information. This is not a rash of burglaries, but we want to get out in front of any crime. Working together I believe we can prevent, reduce and solve crime. I would ask that if you see something unusual please don't hesitate to call us at: 911 for emergencies, 913.362.3737 and or the Johnson County Sheriff's Dispatch at 913.782.0720 for non-emergencies. To the right is a prevention tip that might help reinforce your exterior doors. Let me know if you we can help you.



Door Frames and Subframes

The door frame is the decorative soft wood, usually 3/4" thick, that surrounds the door, often with an air space between the frame and subframe, which consists of 2" x 4's. It is not unusual for 3/4" screws to be used to attach the hinges and strike plates of a door to the frame. This presents a situation where moderate force used against the locked door will splinter the frame, causing the strike plate to give way and allowing entry to be gained.

Measures can be taken to reinforce the frame. Check to see if there is an air space between the frame and subframe. If there is, fill that space with a piece of plywood that needs to extend only 2 or 3 inches above and below where any screws will be attached to the frame. Then use 2 to 3 inch fully threaded screws to secure the strike plate and hinges to the frame. This will anchor the hardware to the subframe and effectively enhance its ability to withstand force (see diagram).



**STAY SAFE WHILE WORKING ON
FITNESS RESOLUTIONS**

Article by Greg O'Halloran, Chief of Police

We hope your new year is going well and if you made a resolution that you are on track with it. For many that resolution often involves fitness, which means some will be hitting the streets to walk, jog, or run. With the short daylight hours of winter this brings about some safety concerns. The hours before and after an average work day are still dark enough out that drivers can't really see pedestrians very well.

In talking with Prairie Village Chief Wes Jordon I know this safety concern has been raised in their jurisdiction as well. There are ordinances in Prairie Village and Westwood that require reflective clothing be worn by pedestrians under certain conditions. As an example here is a quote from the Westwood ordinance:

"Pedestrian Reflective Clothing. Any pedestrian using the public streets for walking, jogging and/or running in the city from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and at any

other time when there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and/or vehicles on a highway and/or streets at a distance of 500 feet ahead shall be required to wear on his or her person some type of reflective apparel or materials of sufficient size and placement so as to be visible to vehicular traffic from a distance of 200 feet."

Ordinance 11-208 is available to review in its entirety in the Westwood Municipal Code, which is on the City's website under the Government section.

We don't bring this issue to your attention because your police department wants to start enforcing this ordinance; rather, we would like a chance to avoid a tragedy. If you are going to be outside exercising and it involves being in the roadway, please wear the appropriate reflective clothing.

Thanks, stay safe, and good luck with all of your resolutions.



COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE ON MAY 3RD

If your spring cleaning efforts have left you with items you wish to sell, consider participating in the Community Garage Sale that will take place on May 3rd. Anyone interested in participating can contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org to register your address and provide a list of items that you will be selling. We will be advertising this event online. Participants will be able to set their own hours of operation. Listings of participants will be posted on www.westwoodks.org and hard copies can be picked up

at City Hall. The Cities of Roeland Park & Mission will also hold their Community Garage Sales that day.

CANDIDATE FILINGS

The following individuals have filed to run for three at-large City Council seats that are up for election on April 1st.

- Jason P. Hannaman – 2502 W. 50th Place
- Sarah Page – 2921 W. 50th Terrace
- Jack Sharman – 2901 W. 49th Street
- Joe B. Whisler – 4845 Belinder Court

THE STILES GALLERY

Kathy Butler, Shirley Stiles' daughter, continues to line up exciting, talented artists who share their works with our community. Thank you Kathy for your dedication to the Gallery.

Dr. Bill Herre - January 2014

Dr. Bill Herre practiced dentistry for 40 years. During that time his hobby was wood sculpture for the home using exotic woods from around the world. Upon Dr. Herre's retirement began painting with watercolors, learning from professional artists around the world as well as artists based in the KC Metro area.

Marcia Willman - February 2014

In the past year Marcia began painting 'en plein air' in Kansas City's urban environment and concentrates on capturing folks whose jobs are the backbone of our economy and culture: house painters, baristas, delivery

men, artists, musicians and gardeners.

Sherry Seiden - March 2014

Sherry Seiden's mixed media mosaics were born in November 2008 after many years of drawing, painting and jewelry making. Each piece starts with one to three focal points and builds from there. The materials used determine the outcome of the piece, which is always a surprise. The subject matter ranges from whimsical to abstract and geometric.

Extended biographies for these and upcoming artists are available on the City's website under the Community section.





February 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Planning Commission 7pm	4	5 	6	7	8
9	10	11 WW Foundation 6:30pm	12 	13 City Council 7pm	14	15
16	17	18	19 	20	21	22
23	24	25 Election Day	26 	27	28	

Westwood City Hall
 4700 Rainbow Blvd
 Westwood, KS 66205
 Website: www.westwoodks.org
 913.362.1550

Public Safety: 913.362.3737
 Public Works: 913.432.1550
 JOCo Sheriff: 913.782.0720
 Emergencies: 911

Animal Control: 913.782.0720
 Kansas Gas Service Co.: 1.800.794.4780
 KCP&L: 816.471.5275
 Town & Country: 816.380.5595
 WaterOne: 913.895.5500



WESTWOOD

March 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Planning Commission 7pm	4	5 	6	7	8
9	10	11 WW Foundation 6:30pm	12 	13 City Council 7pm	14	15
16	17	18	19 	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 	27	28	29
30	31					

Westwood City Hall
 4700 Rainbow Blvd
 Westwood, KS 66205
 Website: www.westwoodks.org
 913.362.1550

Public Safety: 913.362.3737
 Public Works: 913.432.1550
 JOCo Sheriff: 913.782.0720
 Emergencies: 911

Animal Control: 913.782.0720
 Kansas Gas Service Co.: 1.800.794.4780
 KCP&L: 816.471.5275
 Town & Country: 816.380.5595
 WaterOne: 913.895.5500

Northeast JoCo Recycling Event

Saturday, April 26, 2014 @ 8am-12pm

Sylvester Powell Jr. Community Center
6200 Martway, Mission KS 66202

(Arrive via Martway St. to Beverly Ave. into the North Lot)



Recycling Vendors:

Beck Tire: Car - \$2 w/o rims, \$4 w/ rims; Truck: \$5 w/o rims, \$7 w/ rims

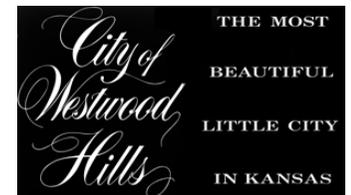
Electronics: \$10-Large PC Monitors, \$15-TV's, everything else with a cord is FREE

Pro-Shred Paper Shredding: 10 boxes per vehicle

Heartland ReStore: Furniture, home accessories, building materials and more

Shoes: Gently worn shoes of all varieties

Questions? Contact Roz Johnson
913-676-8390 or rjohnson@missionks.org





CITY OF WESTWOOD

4700 Rainbow Boulevard
Westwood Kansas 66205

E-MAIL: westwood1564@sbcglobal.net
PHONE: 913.362.1550 **FAX:** 913.362.3308
WEBSITE: www.westwoodks.org

PRST ST
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SHAWNEE MISSION
KANSAS
PERMIT NO. 359

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

- MAYOR:** John Yé
- COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Paul Day, Matt Jones,
Joe Kordalski, Steve Stubbers
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:** John Sullivan
- CHIEF OF POLICE:** Gregory O’Halloran
- LIEUTENANT:** Donald Brooks
- PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS:** Jason Abel, Gary Baker,
Chris Bishop, Cliff Chaffee & Penny Heidesch
- COURT CLERK:** Shelley Floyd
- CITY CLERK:** Fred Sherman
- BUILDING OFFICIAL:** Jim Sherman
- ASSISTANT CITY CLERK:** Abby Schneweis

MEETINGS, EVENTS, CLOSINGS, ETC.

CONTACT INFORMATION

JANUARY 2014

- 1st:** New Year’s Day - City Offices Closed
- 6th:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 9th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 14th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 20th:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - City Offices Closed

FEBRUARY 2014

- 3rd:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 14th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

MARCH 2014

- 3rd:** Westwood Foundation Scholarship Deadline
- 3rd:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 11th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 14th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

Emergencies	911
City Hall	913.362.1550
Public Works	913.432.1550
Public Safety	913.362.3737
JOCo Sheriff 24 Hour Dispatch	913.782.0720
Municipal Court	913.362.3737
Town & Country Disposal	816.380.5595
Kansas Gas Service	1.800.794.4780
KCPL	816.471.5275
WaterOne	913.895.5500
JOCo Wastewater	913.715.8587
Animal Control	913.782.0720
JOCo Information	913.715.1500
Driver’s License Bureau	913.432.2266
JOCo Election Office	913.782.3441
JOCo Appraiser	913.715.9000
JOCo Transportation	913.782.2210
Shawnee Mission School Dist.	913.993.6200

