



# CITY OF WESTWOOD, KANSAS

# NEWSLETTER

October through December 2013 4700 Rainbow Blvd, Westwood [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

**THANK YOU:** To Westwood's dedicated elected officials, staff and volunteers. Without these committed people, it would be virtually impossible to create new opportunities, diversify revenues and become the best place to live and work in Northeast Johnson County. Many thanks to our newest team members; Tony Atchity, LEED certified architect on Planning Commission and Kumud Pyakuryal, Ph.D., Project Manager Tetra Tech Inc. on Westwood Foundation. Also kudos to the Public Works department and KCPL for their efforts following the terribly damaging storm on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Joe D. Dennis Park:** Work continues with Indigo Consulting (<http://indigoparks.com/>) to review possibilities about upgrading our City Park. Special consideration is being taken for the Westwood Christian Church located immediately south of the park property. The church and its proximity to the park and Westwood View make it a critical linkage in that corner of Rainbow. Discussions have begun with your Council and Planning Commission about the possibility of acquiring the property for the benefit of Westwood and its residents.

**City Comprehensive Plan:** 2014 will serve as a very important year. Westwood will be working on revising and updating the Comprehensive Plan and the public's voice will play a vital role. Please watch for future meeting notices and plan to attend and participate in the process. The Comprehensive Plan is your plan for the future of the City.

**Westwood View Elementary School:** There have been multiple meetings with the new Superintendent Dr. Jim Hinson of the Shawnee Mission School District (SMSD). He appears to offer a refreshing value-based approach to school operations. Dr. Hinson and I have had preliminary discussions about the future of WWV and the Church property adjacent to the school. Dr. Hinson has offered to engage in conversations about the possibilities of joint planning between the District and Westwood (City and School). We expressed to SMSD that the City cannot properly plan without knowing the future of WWV and the SMSD.

**Woodside Village Phase I:** New proposed TIF Plan. In 2011 the development agreement was approved. However, since then there have been several delays.

Typically these types of setbacks occur in projects of this scale (traffic considerations with the KCK staff, contracts for cell towers on the YouthFront building, and access roads to the club on the KCK side). Now that these have been remedied Tanner & White is ready to close on YouthFront property. This represents a significant investment and commitment by the developer. They are asking the Council to restart the 20 year TIF clock with a new plan. Your Council will be considering this action at the October 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Other Johnson County projects that have had to re-assess planning due to delays include the IKEA store in Merriam and the Prairiefire development in Overland Park.

**Midwest Transplant Network:** MTW is planning a \$12 million addition to their building. They are seeking a tax abatement and PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) for a 10 year period. Negotiations are under way in an effort to support the building addition while retaining MTW as a successful employer in Westwood.

**2014 Budget:** the Budget for 2014 was completed, approved and submitted to the County. Your Council worked diligently to diversify revenues while decreasing the Mill Levy. Changes include a Storm Water Fee (detailed in this newsletter); increased sales tax revenues, Equipment Reserve and Capital Improvement funds. The City is also considering purchasing its street lights which have historically been leased from KCP&L. This would give the City an estimated annual savings of \$42,000 per year.

**City Council Seat:** By now you have heard about the open seat on City Council. I have considered a nomination of an individual who most have come to know and trust, former Mayor Steve Stubbers. I realize the unusual nature of this decision but given the work load over the next six months, it made sense to have someone who could step in and fill the seat with experience and knowledge of all the projects before the City. The Council will consider Steve's nomination at its October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. I have confidence that Steve will serve this community proudly (once again).

For information on any of these topics please feel free to contact any of your Council members or staff at City Hall. As always, it is an honor to serve you.



## **STORMWATER UTILITY FEES EXPLAINED**

*Article by Fred Sherman, City Clerk*

### ***What is Stormwater?***

Stormwater is water from the rain. As rains falls it is either absorbed into the ground or runs downhill and is collected and managed in the City's stormwater infrastructure. Impervious surfaces, such as rooftops and pavement, prevent water from absorbing into the ground and causes runoff. Unmanaged stormwater runoff threatens public health and safety as it can carry contaminants such as garbage, heavy metals and other pollutants.

The City of Westwood has stormwater infrastructure to manage runoff, but the pipes and structures are aging and will be in need repair or replacement in the near future. The City of Westwood also operates an annual leaf pick-up program in the fall, which also helps in the management of the City's stormwater system.

### ***Why a Stormwater Fee?***

This stormwater infrastructure is expensive to repair and replace. In previous years, maintenance of the City's storm drains and storm sewer system as well as operation of the fall leaf pick-up program was paid out of the City's General Fund, which is primarily revenue from property and sales taxes. Since the General Fund pays for a wide variety of City services, the storm sewer system often does not receive the necessary funds to make the needed improvements and maintenance.

Many cities have created stormwater utilities to maintain and repair existing storm drainage system components (storm sewer pipes, street inlets, curb drainage, etc.) and to fund costs associated with compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act. Stormwater utilities have been used in Kansas cities since 1990.

The stormwater system in Westwood has both immediate and long term needs for repairs and maintenance. To finance this investment the City is implementing a stormwater service management fee, which will generate about \$95,000 in revenue annually. Revenue from the fee will only be used to fund stormwater improvements such as replacing stormwater pipes, inlets, curbs and gutters, and the operation of the annual leaf pick-up program.

### ***How Does The Stormwater Fee Work?***

A stormwater utility and the assessment of a stormwater fee is an attempt to spread the costs of maintaining the City's infrastructure across all entities and properties that both contribute to the drainage issues and benefit from storm drainage improvements and system maintenance. Because the stormwater drainage system's challenges are directly attributable to the amount of impervious surface, the stormwater management service fee will be based on the amount of stormwater run-off that comes

from each property in the City.

A stormwater management service fee is not a tax; as such the new fee would spread the payment across all properties – even those that are tax exempt, such as the properties owned by The University of Kansas Hospital Authority, or the Shawnee Mission School District, as well as church-owned properties and City-owned properties.

The fee is calculated based on the square footage of a property's impervious surface area. Impervious surface area includes buildings, patios, pools, driveways and other surface areas. Yard areas with grass and plants and other previous areas where rain water can soak into the ground is not included in the fee calculation. Measuring the impervious surface of individual properties is the most equitable way to determine stormwater runoff volume. The stormwater utility fee will appear on each property tax bill, just like a fee currently appears on the property tax bill for residential trash service.

### ***How Much Is The Stormwater Fee?***

Each property will pay an annual fee based on the total amount of calculated impervious surface area. The larger residential structures and those properties with extensive driveways and patios will be charged a higher rate than properties with houses that have a smaller footprint and/or minimally sized driveways. The stormwater management service fee rate is set at \$1.00 per month for every 500-feet of impervious surface area as established by Resolution No. 36-2013.

As an example - a residential property in Westwood with between 2,000 and 2,500 sq. ft. of calculated impervious surface area will be assessed a \$60.00 annual stormwater service management fee. The non-residential properties are calculated on the amount total amount of impervious surface area.

More information about Westwood's stormwater utility fee can be found at [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org) under the Resident Resources section. If you have any questions about stormwater utility fees you may contact Fred Sherman at [fred.sherman@westwoodks.org](mailto:fred.sherman@westwoodks.org) or 913.362.1550



### WESTWOOD VIEW CARNIVAL NIGHT

Westwood View Elementary will hold its annual Carnival fundraising event on Saturday, October 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join the fun!

### HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY IS DECEMBER 5TH

The lighting of the Mayor's Holiday Tree will take place on Thursday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m. on the grounds of City Hall. A visitor from the North Pole will be in attendance and will hear holiday wishes in the Community Room after the tree has been lit! Refreshments will be provided as well as holiday music. The City will provide more information about this event once details are confirmed. Come celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with friends and neighbors!

### WESTWOOD FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Westwood Foundation Merit and Continuing Education Scholarships will be available on the City's website and at City hall starting in December. If you have any questions about the application, you may contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or [abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org](mailto:abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org).

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### WESTWOOD LEAF PICK-UP PROGRAM

*Article by John Sullivan, Public Works Director*

Leaf pickup is scheduled to begin on November 4, 2013 and will continue throughout November with completion anticipated by December 6, 2013. Starting on October 28th, 2013, we will be sweeping the streets and gutter lines. Any homeowners found to have leaves raked into the street or gutter in front of their residence will be in violation of City Ordinance No. 13-111 and will be cited by the Police Department.

While there will be no regular pick-up scheduled street-by-street, we will begin at West 51st Terrace and work our way north to West 47th Street.

We will be making at least three complete passes through the City. Once we have passed your residence, we may not be back for at least three to six days depending on the amount of leaves to be gathered, the weather, and/or mechanical difficulties with the equipment.

Residents may still use Town & Country Disposal's compost program through January 8, 2014 if they do not want loose leaves lying about, subject to wind, rain, etc., between pick-up days. We certainly encourage its use.

After the leaf pick-up concludes, we will sweep the

### NEW DMV HOURS

The Johnson County DMV has expanded its hours to Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding designated holidays. Johnson County has two office locations for vehicle titling and registration services; 782 N. Ridgeview Road in Olathe and 6000 Lamar Avenue in Mission.

### WESTWOOD WOMEN'S CLUB

The Westwood Women's Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. Dessert is served followed by an interesting program and then a short meeting. On October 16th Tom Dix from the Shawnee Indian Mission Foundation will show proposed renovations for the West Building. On November 20th there will be a floral arrangement presentation featuring holiday decor. A December meeting will not be held due to busy holiday schedules. Guests are welcome to attend the meetings and any Westwood resident to encouraged to join. The Westwood Women's Club fundraiser is a Christmas Tree Sale with Boy Scout Troop 192 and it is currently underway. This is the first joint fundraising effort between the two organizations. If you have any questions about the Westwood Women's Club contact Linda Horn at 913.677.4389.

streets and gutter lines a final time, beginning the second week in December.

To aid in the efficient removal of your leaves, please remember the following:

- No sticks or trash - only leaves
- Piles containing an abundance of sticks will be left until the sticks are removed
- Please rake leaves into as narrow a pile as possible
- Please avoid raking the leaf piles directly under low hanging trees, our equipment gets tangled in the low overhanging limbs. We need a minimum of 14 feet in height, from the ground to the lowest limb, to operate the equipment. If this condition is found to exist, your leaves will be left until the pile is moved to a location that is accessible
- Rake just to the curb or edge of the sidewalk, not onto the sidewalk which forces pedestrians into the street, and not into the streets or gutters, this clogs our storm drains and this is strictly prohibited by ordinance 13-111
- For a daily update on our leaf pick-up route, please call 913.432.1550 and listen for the recorded information or check the City's website at [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org).

We again thank you for making this project a success and we appreciate your patience and cooperation.



**TOWN & COUNTRY HOLIDAY PICK-UP**

This is a reminder that Wednesday, December 25th and Wednesday, January 1st will be Town & Country pick-up days. Town & Country does not deviate from their schedule due to holidays. Also, holiday trees may be left out for pick-up until January 8, 2014. If you have any questions about Town & Country pick-up days you can call Town & Country at 816.380.5595 or City Hall at 913.362.1550.

**CITY HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES**

The Thanksgiving holiday will be observed Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th. The Christmas Holiday will be observed Wednesday, December 25th. The New Year's Holiday will be observed

on Wednesday, January 1st. Westwood City offices will be closed on these days. If you need emergency assistance, dial 911 or call the Johnson County Sheriff's dispatch at 913.782.0720.

**CITY ISSUED LICENSES**

Owners of 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 City licenses issued in 2013 expire on January 15, 2014. Applications for these licenses can be found at [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org) under the Forms section. If you have any questions regarding obtaining a City license, contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or [abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org](mailto:abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org)

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**2014 DOG & CAT LICENSES**

Dogs and cats over six (6) months of age are required to be licensed on a yearly basis in Westwood by January 15th. Please complete, detach and return the application below to 4700 Rainbow Boulevard, Westwood KS 66205 with the appropriate fees and a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination certificate. Your pet's license(s) will be mailed to you along with your paid receipt. If you have any questions regarding pet licensure, you may contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or [abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org](mailto:abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org). The City of Westwood thanks you for your cooperation in keeping your pets healthy and safe!

Fees:

\$3.00 for altered dogs and cats

\$5.00 for unaltered dogs and cats

No charge to senior citizen pet owners age 60 and over

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2014 DOG & CAT LICENSE APPLICATION

Owner name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the appropriate boxes and calculate fees

Dog or Cat	Male or Female?	Altered/ Unaltered	Name	Breed	Color	Fees
Total Fees Due						





# October 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	 2	3	4 Municipal Court 8:30am	5
6	7 Planning Commission 7:00pm	8 WW Foundation 6:30pm	 9	10 City Council 7:00pm	11	12
13	14	15	 16	17	18 Municipal Court 8:30am	19
20	21	22	 23	24	25 Municipal Court 8:30am	26
27	28	29	 30	31		

Westwood City Hall  
4700 Rainbow Blvd  
Westwood, KS 66205

Phone: 913.362.1550  
Fax: 913.362.3308  
Public Safety: 913.362.3737  
Website: [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org)

Animal Control: 913.782.0720  
Kansas Gas Service Co.: 1.800.794.4780  
KCP&L: 816.471.5275  
Emergencies: 911



# November 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Municipal Court 8:30am	2
3 Planning Commission 7:00pm	4	5	 6	7	8 Municipal Court 8:30am	9
10	11	12 WW Foundation 6:30pm	 13	14 City Council 7:00pm	15 Municipal Court 8:30am	16
17	18	19	 20	21	22	23
24	25	26	 27	28 City Offices Closed	29 City Offices Closed	30

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# December 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Planning Commission 7:00pm	3	4   	5 Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting – 6:00pm	6 Municipal Court 8:30am	7
8	9	10 WW Foundation 6:30pm	11   	12 City Council 7:00pm	13 Municipal Court 8:30am	14
15	16	17	18   	19	20	21
22	23	24	25    City Offices Closed	26	27 Municipal Court 8:30am	28
29	30	31				

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# January 2014

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1    New Year's Day City Offices Closed	2	3	4
5	6 Planning Commission 7:00pm	7	8   	9 City Council 7:00pm	10	11
12	13	14 WW Foundation 6:30pm	15  	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr Day City Offices Closed	21	22  	23	24	25
26	27	28	29  	30	31	

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## NEW HOUSE CONSTRUCTION ON 50TH STREET

*Article by Fred Sherman, City Clerk*

The City of Westwood continues to experience a surge in new residential construction. A building permit was issued for a new house to be constructed at 2918 W 50<sup>th</sup> Street, which is on the north side of 50<sup>th</sup> Street between Fairway Street and Mission Road. This is the third new house to be constructed in Westwood in the past 12 months. The photo to the right is a rendering of the new house. A house is currently under construction at the northwest corner of 48<sup>th</sup> Street and State Line Road at 1902 W. 48<sup>th</sup> Street. A third new house was completed earlier this year at 3015 W. 51st Terrace.



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### SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Westwood is working to provide smooth, even sidewalks in order to promote walkability in the area. A proposal from Precision Concrete Cutting Midwest was received to eliminate sidewalk trip/fall hazards on various public sidewalks. The technique utilized to remove sidewalk panel offsets will be achieved by horizontally slicing the concrete, which leaves a very smooth and consistent texture. The criteria utilized to select which sidewalks will need to be serviced is based on the ADA maximum offset of ¼ inch and the ability to effectively remove a trip/fall hazard up to 2 inches. The sidewalks chosen for the first round of eliminating these conditions include several locations on the following streets:

- Mission Road – W. 53rd Street to W. 47th Street
- W. 47th Terrace – Mission Road to Belinder Avenue
- W. 50th Street – Mission Road to Rainbow Boulevard
- W. 50th Terrace – Mission Road to Belinder Avenue

- W. 51st Terrace – Mission Road to Rainbow Boulevard
- W. 51st Street – W. 51st Terrace to Rainbow Boulevard

To replace approximately 5,993 square feet of sidewalk panels would cost approximately \$44,500.00. The method proposed at a total cost of \$12,515.00 will be a savings of about 72% over the cost of removing and replacing the sidewalks panel sections. This sidewalk maintenance project will utilize funds designated for street repairs and maintenance.

### NEW STREET SIGNAGE

The Westwood Public Works Department is working to replace street signs around the City. Keep an eye out for signage with improved light reflection at night and custom Westwood insignia before the end of the year.

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### IN 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 hard work and dedication to the Gallery.

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#### **Deanna McNair - October 2013**

Deanna McNair has a passion for art especially watercolors, acrylics and oils. She loves bright colors and bold strokes. Whether it is a still life, landscape or abstract, Dea prefers using her own photographs for inspiration, choosing a subject with strong contrasts and values.

#### **Tom Mallot - November 2013**

Tom Mallot's love for photography started during high school in Lexington, MO. Mr. Mallot's interest in photography as a fine art increased during the last 30 years after retiring from his professions. Mr. Mallot enjoys producing fine art photography and the stories that go

with them. Field trips, self assignments, observations and a love for the outdoors are some of the ways Tom Mallot uses to stimulate his images.

#### **Bob Walkenhorst - December 2013**

Bob Walkenhorst has exhibited in national competitions at the Nelson Art Museum in Kansas City, The Albrecht Art Museum in St. Joseph and in juried exhibitions in Cincinnati and Little Rock.

*Extended biographies for these and upcoming artists are available on The Stiles Gallery webpage, it is available at [www.westwoodks.org](http://www.westwoodks.org) under the Community section.*





**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

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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

- MAYOR:** John Yé
- COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Paul Day, Matt Jones,  
Joe Kordalski, & Katy Weber
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:** John Sullivan
- CHIEF OF POLICE:** Carlos Wells
- 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**

**OCTOBER 2013**

- 7th:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 8th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 10th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**NOVEMBER 2013**

- 4th:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 12th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 14th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 28th & 29th:** Thanksgiving Holiday - City Offices Closed

**DECEMBER 2013**

- 1st:** Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 5th:** Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting - 6:00 p.m.
- 10th:** Westwood Foundation Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 12th:** City Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 25th:** Christmas Day - City Offices Closed

**JANUARY 2014**

- 1st:** New Year's Day - City Offices Closed

Emergencies .....	911
City Hall .....	913.362.1550
Public Works .....	913.432.1550
Public Safety .....	913.362.3737
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

