



CITY OF WESTWOOD, KANSAS

NEWSLETTER

July through September 2016 4700 Rainbow Blvd, Westwood www.westwoodks.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Friends & Neighbors,

Westwood is the best community in which to raise children, retire comfortably and live peacefully with loved ones. Its future will be built on optimism, perseverance and success. In today's world there are plenty of reasons to be negative or have doubt, but not here. Here, we have all the reasons in the world to celebrate life and be happy.

As I began my new term in April, alongside two new council members; David Waters and Margaret Bowen, I once again felt humbled and privileged to serve the people of Westwood. Our culture begins with the recognition that we are 'servants'. We are here to serve, first and foremost.

Westwood is home and yet it has the same challenges that all cities in Johnson County are confronted with. Of the challenges we face, one of the most important is to craft a delicate balance between long-term diversified revenues and protecting our first-rate, walkable community. With the help of our Community Affairs committee, we will be organizing an effort to enhance communications and build a much more open and inviting relationship with residents, businesses and stakeholders. Please know, you are welcome to participate; this is your community.

Woodside Village Phase II: As many of you have heard, Phase II Woodside Village and the Woodside Club renovations are gearing up to begin. A team of consultants has been working with Tanner & White Development on a recommendation for a revision to the finance plan (including TIF & CID) for Phase II which is located south of 47th Place. These elements already exist in the current agreement. Post-recession valuations, originally estimated in 2011 are actually much higher and construction costs have increased considerably. We anticipate a public hearing in August, so watch for notices. We need to remember that we are already partners with Woodside Club and Woodside Village. One of many considerations which are continually addressed is whether the plan will ensure long term success of the Club and be of long term benefit to the city. To assist us

with these questions, the city works closely with a consulting team of development experts and lawyers who routinely work on these types of projects. The cost for these consultants continues to be paid for by the developers so that there are no out of pocket costs to the city.

Comprehensive Plan: Much work has been done with multiple public meetings, steering committee meetings, interviews and Council work sessions. There will be yet another Council work session and another installment of public input, please plan on attending. We want to hear from you. You can catch all the updates on the website at <https://westwoodtomorrow.com/>.

Lulu's Coffee Shop: Recently, the owner of Lulu's had a revised site plan approved which allows them to install a neighborhood coffee shop at the old house just West of Lulu's.

Westwood Village: Conroy's Public House is now open in at 4730 Rainbow Boulevard. Residents are already raving about the food.

Westwood View: SMSD purchased the Entercom property in May with the intent to construct a new Westwood View Elementary. However many items will impact those decisions, including the State's ever constant debate over the school funding formula. Whether or not the school will really be built is yet to be known, but your City's leadership works closely with the school board and its superintendent. Some people have inquired about utilizing the greenspace for community access, but at this point the District has made no such concession to the public. Discussions have been had regarding this and will continue.

Westwood Christian Church: The City is looking at possibilities of refinancing the note on the Church at 5050 Rainbow. Decisions about the Church building, possible lease activity and future utilization have been discussed at Master Planning sessions and will continue to be addressed during the Comprehensive Planning.

47th Street Overlay District: 1889 Pizza is now open! This along with Lulu's, Gus's Fried Chicken, Taco Republic and Joe's KC BBQ is making our City a "destination location".



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Joe Dennis Park: The Park along with the Church is one of Westwood’s distinct major decisions. How, when and to what degree it is renovated depends on other factors including whether or not a new school is built and the future of the Entercom space. Our options are many and we want to make sure the decisions for the community are openly shared and communicated before anything is done.

2017 Budget Planning: Budget planning is upon us. We will do our very best to be good stewards of the taxpayers’ money and eliminate waste. And we will budget to maintain or improve the services the community has

come to expect and deserve. Our budget is due to the County in August. Should you have questions regarding any of these please contact City Hall.

Lastly, we keep the families and public safety officials of Orlando and across the country in our thoughts and prayers. This is not the time to be divisive, but come together. We are one country, one state, one city. We are Americans and we are Westwood. Take care of each other and enjoy your Summer!

As always, it is an honor to serve you

**WESTWOOD FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP
AWARDEE ANNOUNCED**

During its June meeting, the Board of Directors awarded the \$5,000 per academic year scholarship to Cassandra Roque. Cassandra is a 2016 graduate of Shawnee Mission East and the daughter of Gloria and Guillermo Roque. Cassandra is a member of the National Honor Society and during her time at Shawnee Mission East she participated in Robotics Club, Environmental Club, and Ceramics Club, Art Club, and spends time volunteering at SME’s Creative Colab. Outside of SME Cassandra is a member of Latinas of Tomorrow, a graduate

and mentor of Bizfest, and she volunteers at Shawnee Mission Medical Center and Fiesta Kansas City. Cassandra will be attending Pittsburg State University this fall, where she plans to study communications. “Cassandra and her parents can be proud of her credentials and accomplishments. Westwood is fortunate to have such a bright, young individual as part of its community. We hope the Westwood Foundation Merit Scholarship will play a significant role in Ms. Roque’s future efforts and successes,” said Mayor Yé, who also serves as the Chairman of the Foundation Board of Directors.

ELECTION 2016

A Primary Election will be held on August 2, 2016, and the General Election will be held on November 8, 2016.

Election of National Officials

- President and Vice President - 4 Year Term
- United States Senator - 6 Year Term
- United States Representative (District 3) - 2 Year Term

Election of State Officials

- State Senators (Districts 6 - 11, 21, 23, 37) - 4 Year Term
- State Representatives (Districts 8, 14 - 30, 38, 39, 43, 48, 49, 78, 121) - 2 Year Term
- District Attorney (District 10) - 4 Year Term
- State Board of Education - District 2 - 4 Year Term
- Supreme Court Justices (November General Election only) - 6 Year Term
- Kansas Court of Appeals Judges (November General Election only) - 4 Year Term
- 10th Judicial District Judges - Divisions 2-6, 8, 12-13, 15 -19 - (November General Election only) - 4 Year Term
- District Magistrate Judges, 10th Judicial District, Positions 1, 2, 3 - (November General Election only) - 4 Year Term

Election of County Officials

- County Commissioner - Districts 2, 3, 6 - 4 Year Term (non-partisan)
- Sheriff - 4 Year Term
- Precinct Committeeman (August Primary Election only) - 2 Year Term
- Precinct Committeewoman (August Primary Election only) - 2 Year Term
- Township Trustee - 4 Year Term
- Township Treasurer - 4 Year Term

- July 12:** Last day to register for August 2nd Fall Primary
- July 13:** Advance voting by mail begins
- July 18:** Advance voting in person begins
- August 1:** Advance voting in person closes (12 noon)
- August 2: FALL PRIMARY ELECTION**
- October 18:** Registration books close
- October 19:** Advance voting by mail begins
- October 24:** Advance voting in person begins -
- November 7:** Advance voting in person closes (12 noon)
- November 8: FALL GENERAL ELECTION - Polls open at City Hall from 6am to 7pm**



**A 14% POPULATION INCREASE FOR WESTWOOD,
CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS**

All northeast Johnson County municipalities have larger population estimates since 2010

New population estimates released today from the Census Bureau reports that Westwood’s 2015 population stands at 1,719 people. That’s an increase of 213, or 14% over the town’s 2010 population count of 1,506.

To produce population estimates for cities and towns, the Census Bureau first generates county population estimates using a component of population change method, which updates the latest census population using data on births, deaths, and domestic and international migration. This yields a county-level total of the population living in households. Next, updated housing unit estimates and rates of overall occupancy are used to distribute county household population into geographic areas within the county.

The population estimate for Westwood may reflect the fact that the 91 new residential units for the first phase of the Woodside Village development was permitted for construction in November of 2014, according to Westwood’s Chief Administrative Officer, Fred Sherman.

The Census Bureau’s estimated growth in population for Westwood may also be due to other demographic changes.

“Clearly, the demographic trends are reversing,” stated Westwood Mayor John M. Yé. “A decade ago Westwood was struggling to retain residents long term.”

Census Bureau

Population	Count		Estimate	
	City	2010	2015	2015
Fairway		3,882		3,970
Merriam		11,003		11,288
Mission		9,323		9,491
Mission Hills		3,498		3,601
Mission Woods		178		182
Prairie Village		21,447		21,877
Roeland Park		6,731		6,827
Westwood		1,506		1,719
Westwood Hills		359		364
Johnson County		544,179		580,159

Families were not staying in Westwood with Sprint’s departure and move to Overland Park, and demographic studies conducted for the Shawnee Mission School District projected a decline of enrollment at Westwood View Elementary. Instead, student population at Westwood View has increased.

“Westwood is the place to be!” reports Mayor Yé. “Westwood is now a highly sought after area for families to drop stakes and stay long-term”.

All of the municipalities located in northeast Johnson County reflect larger estimated populations since the last 2010 Census population count was taken. The Census

**VOTERS TO DECIDE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY
ISSUES NOVEMBER 8**

Johnson County voters will be asked on November 8 to vote on a quarter-cent public safety sales tax to fund a new courthouse to address safety and security issues for victims, families, and jurors; accessibility challenges, and overcrowding due to the growing population.

The sales tax will sunset in ten years. It will also fund a coroner facility. Currently, the county pays to use a lab in Wyandotte County.

The current courthouse design makes it difficult to keep inmates separated from victims, jurors and

families. This leads to close contact between victims and their alleged perpetrator in hallways and courtrooms, and between jurors and inmates during trial and deliberation. Numerous remodels and renovations have been completed to try to address these issues in the 64-year old courthouse, built for a population of 63,000 and now serving 575,000.

A new courthouse is less expensive than renovation and expansion of the current courthouse due to the significant design changes needed to improve security and accessibility and plan for growth. Renovating and expanding the existing building will



cost approximately \$34 million more than a new courthouse. Over the next 20 years, operating and maintaining the current courthouse will cost an estimated \$155 million more than a new courthouse due to the aging building and its inefficiencies.

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A new coroner facility would provide an accredited location to evaluate evidence and prevent cross-contamination of evidence. It would ensure autopsies are done in a timely manner.

Under state statute, cities in Johnson County would split 34% of the total sales tax revenue for needed resources.

The city of Westwood would receive approximately \$ 397,000 in revenue

over 10 years.

The public safety sales tax would add a quarter to a \$100 retail purchase.

For more information, see www.jocopublicsafety.org.

UPCOMING COLLECTION EVENTS

Johnson County will be offering Saturday collection events for household chemicals, paint, and electronics. These collection events are by appointment only, which can be arranged by calling 913.715.6907. Accepted items include latex paint, automotive, lawn and garden, household cleaners, home repair, wood stains, crafts, pool chemicals and more. Charges apply for CRT TV monitors only. Event Dates are

- August 13th from 8 am to 11:30 am
- September 10th from 8 am to 11:30 am
- October 8th from 8 am to 11:30 am

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE ON SEPTEMBER 10TH

A fall community garage sale will be held on September 10th. Those who are interested in participating can contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or at ab-

by.schneweis@westwoodks.org to register their address and provide hours of operation and a list of items that will be sold. The City will be advertising this event online. A listing of participants will be posted on the City's website and can also be picked up at City Hall.

SAVE THE DATE: OKTOBERFEST IS OCTOBER 1ST

Join us on Saturday, October 1st in Dennis Park (50th & Rainbow) to celebrate the start of fall! More information about this event will be provided on westwoodks.org once details are confirmed. If you have any questions please contact Abby Schneweis at 913.362.1550 or abby.schneweis@westwoodks.org.



FEATURED SHIRLEY STILES GALLERY ARTISTS

Stiles Gallery Coordinator Kathy Butler, Shirley Stiles' daughter, continues to line up talented artists who share their works with our community. Thank you Kathy for your dedication to the Gallery and helping make Westwood beautiful! For more information on these artists and the Gallery visit www.westwoodks.org/stilesgallery

LAURA DALRYMPLE - JULY 2016

Laura Dalrymple is a native Kansan who received a Master of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Illinois in Chicago. Since then, she has traveled to over one hundred countries photographing the people and places she encountered. Laura has taught Photography, Art Appreciation, and Design at Allen Community College in Burlingame, Kansas.

Laura's exhibits highlight over 20 years of her photography and travels. Among her shows is one that features women of the world from many cultures. Another show is bicycle themed. In her many travels, Laura found that a common element of culture and transportation is the bicycle. She has enjoyed photographing the bicycle in many widely different settings around the world.

CLAUDIA TRUE - AUGUST 2016

Claudia True has been a professional artist for 16 years - after a career as a geologist in the energy industry. Clau-

dia's primary medium is acrylics and she's known for bright colors and simplified subject matter. Claudia is a native Texan and has lived in many places and now calls Overland Park her home. Claudia is very active in the local art scene, exhibits locally and in California, and teaches in her home studio. Claudia's work can be seen at Art Source & Design in Overland Park and on her website: claudiatrue.com

JEAN JANSEN - SEPTEMBER 2016

In 2012 water color artist Jean Jansen and her husband, Bill, moved to Westwood to be closer to their two daughters and their families, which include five grandchildren.

Jean Jansen was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky. In college Jean earned a Bachelor's degree in Health, Physical Education from the University of Kentucky and a Masters degree in education from the University of Louisville. Jean enjoyed teaching Physical education until she retired in 1997. Jean has always enjoyed art, so in 1998 she pursued her interest by taking classes from a local artist in the Louisville area. By 2004 Jean became involved with the Kentucky Watercolor Society and their National Watercolor Show. For 4 years Jean was the director of the show, then she became President of the KWS.





CITY OF WESTWOOD

4700 Rainbow Boulevard
Westwood Kansas 66205

E-MAIL: info@westwoodks.org

PHONE: 913.362.1550 **FAX:** 913.362.3308

WEBSITE: www.westwoodks.org

MAYOR: John Yé

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Margaret Bowen, Lisa Cummins,
Jason Hannaman, David Waters, Joe Whisler

CHIEF OF POLICE: Greg O'Halloran

SERGEANT: Gary Baker

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS: Chris Bishop, Marcus Burke,
Cliff Chaffee, Kurtis Stone, Penny Teddy

COURT CLERK: Shelley Floyd

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: John Sullivan

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Mitch Landis

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF: Richard Fatherley, James Rankin

CITY CLERK: Fred Sherman

BUILDING OFFICIAL: Eddie McNeil

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK: Abby Schneweis

NOTEABLE DATES

JULY 2016

3RD: Community Fireworks Display - Sundown

4TH: City Offices Closed

11TH: Planning Commission Meeting - 7pm

14TH: City Council Meeting - 7pm

16TH: Movie in the Park - Star Wars: The Force
Awakens - begins at dusk

AUGUST 2016

1ST: Planning Commission Meeting - 7pm

11TH: City Council Meeting - 7pm

13TH: Movie in the Park - Zootopia - begins at dusk

SEPTEMBER 2016

5TH: City Offices Closed

5TH: Planning Commission Meeting - 7pm

8TH: City Council Meeting 7pm

10TH: Community Garage Sale - All Day

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

