

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

APRIL 2010



April showers bring May flowers (finally)!

Your neighborhood information can be placed here.

If you would like newsletters, please contact our office  
at (913) 573-8737.



## 2010 Burn Permit Process

Residents are allowed to apply for a burn permit at any of the Fire Stations currently staffed by the Kansas City, Kansas Fire Department. The burn permit does not include commercial or business sites. If you operate a business out of your home you are classified as a business and cannot participate. The burn permit is valid for up to 3 days during the month of April 2010 and from October 16 through November 15, 2010. Applications must be received and approved at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of burning. Open burning with a permit is allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## 2010 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days Set

The schedule for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection days for Wyandotte County residents has been set for 2010. The site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, and October 16. The site is located at 2443 South 88th Street in Kansas City, Kansas. (South on 88th Street from K-32) or (East of I-435 using Woodend exit near Kaw River)

When bringing items to the collection site please label or identify all items. Items accepted include tires (limit of 10 tires and rims need to be removed), motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, degreasers, paints, varnishes, solvents, lawn & garden insecticides/pesticides, and household cleaning products. For additional information call 573-5400.

Source: Operation Brightside

## Grassroots Leadership

Monday April 12th

6pm dinner and

7pm presentation

Please RSVP to (913) 288-7685



## Celebrate Youth!

Thursday April 16, 2010

6:00pm - 7:30pm



Harmon High School

2400 Steele Road

Come and enjoy local youth performances,  
Mad Science, drawings for prizes and  
information tables.

Bring the Whole family!



April is Child Abuse  
Prevention Month



Communities In Schools  
HELPING KIDS STAY IN SCHOOL AND PREPARE FOR LIFE

## April Calendar of Events

**4/3/2010**

**Bridal Fair**

Hilton Garden Inn 520 Minnesota Ave  
913-342-7900

[www.hiltongardeninn.com](http://www.hiltongardeninn.com)

Free

Vendors and giveaways.

**4/9/2010**

**KCK Second Friday Art Walk**

Downtown KCK (multiple venues)  
913-371-0024

[www.kckartsnetwork.com](http://www.kckartsnetwork.com)

5:00 pm- 8:00 pm

Free

A celebration of art, art spaces and art lovers in downtown Kansas City, Kansas. Several galleries will be included in the art walk.

**4/17/2010**

**Community Baby Shower**

Jack Reardon Convention Center 520 Minnesota  
913-371-9298

10:00am - 2:00pm

Free

This event is sponsored by the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County and the Kansas Health Consumer Coalition. There will be wellness activities, family fun, free gifts, classes on family nutrition, budgeting, emotional wellness and more! You can find more information on Facebook and MySpace.

**4/19/2010**

**Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Event**

Sponsored by Parks and Recreation  
Reagan Field 26th and Park Drive  
(913) 573-8329

9:00am

Free

Aquafina and MLB join to provided boys and girls age 7-14, the opportunity to showcase pitching, hitting and running ability. Winners can advance through 4 levels of competition, all the way to the national finals at the MLB All-Star game. Register with parks and recreation at (913) 573-8329.

**4/20/2010**

**Kansas Landlord Forum**

Sponsored by the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission

[www.kc-crime.org](http://www.kc-crime.org)

Donnelly College

6:00pm-8:00pm

Free

**4/27/2010**

**Speaking Out: Empowerment Through Spoken Word**

Sponsored by MOCSA and the YWCA

The YWCA of Greater Kansas City 1017 North 6th Street

For information call (913) 573-8645

7:30pm-9:00pm (reception at 7:00pm)

Free

This event is an opportunity for local spoken word artists to share their reflections of violence in our community.

**Would you like a FREE checkup of your child's health and your home?**

To qualify, all you need is to:

- Live in the Kansas City Metro area.
- Have a child between 2 and 17 years of age, with asthma, allergies, sinus problems, constant cough, or other constant health problems.
- Your child stays at your home at least 4 nights per week.
- Own your home, or have lived in the same rental unit the last 6 months and plan to be there the next 12 months.
- Meet the HHP Median Family Income Guidelines

**The FREE home checkup includes:** checking indoor air quality and ventilation, dust and allergen levels, moisture and mold, a household chemical survey, a home maintenance survey, and a home safety check up. All families will receive a Healthy Home Cleaning Kit that includes a HEPA Vacuum, high quality furnace filters, and a set of healthy home cleaning supplies.

The Kansas City Safe & Healthy Home Partnership presents

**The Healthy Home Program**

Call the Healthy Home Program at:

**816-855-1895**

**Enroll Now!**

Logos: Northland, Children's Mercy HOSPITALS & CLINICS, Public Health

### Important Phone Numbers

- City questions and complaints . . . . . 311
- Police Non-Emergency . . . . . (913) 596-3000
- Liveable Neighborhoods . . . . . (913) 573-8737
- Community Policing . . . . . (913) 573-8720
- Code Enforcement . . . . . (913) 573-8600
- Animal Control . . . . . (913) 321-1445
- BPU . . . . . (913) 573-9000
- Deffenbaugh . . . . . (913) 631-3300
- Potholes . . . . . (913) 573-8307



### Starlight Community Tickets

Starlight Theatre donates 364 community tickets to fellow 501 (c) (3) organizations for each Broadway show performance. This program is intended to provide a professional entertainment experience to groups representing individuals who would otherwise be unable to enjoy live performances due to economic, medical or other restrictive causes. For more information contact the Liveable Neighborhoods office at (913) 573-8737 or email [yamliveable-neighbor@wycokck.org](mailto:yamliveable-neighbor@wycokck.org).

## **KCK Public Safety and Community Infrastructure Sales Tax**

Kansas City, Kansas voters will decide on April 13th whether to approve a 3/8 - cent sales tax. The new revenue raised by the tax would pay for public safety services and community infrastructure projects, including street repairs and curbs and sidewalks in neighborhoods. The dedicated sales tax will sunset in 10 years unless voters renew it.

### **What does a “YES” vote mean?**

Voting yes means there will be a new source of money to help protect the KCK Police Department and KCK Fire Department from further cuts which could weaken public safety efforts. A yes vote also means new revenue to pay for street repairs and neighborhood improvements such as curbs and sidewalks.

### **What does a “NO vote mean?**

Voting no means there won't be a new source of money to help ease the on-going budget shortfalls confronting the community. Budget cuts will be deeper, including the KCK Police and Fire Departments. Street repairs and neighborhood improvements such as curbs and sidewalk projects will continue to be suspended. The Unified Government will be forced to consider increasing the property tax rate.

### **Why is the Unified Government experiencing such severe budget shortfalls?**

The economic recession is taking a heavy toll on the revenues which pay for Unified Government services. The national collapse of the housing market caused an increase in foreclosures, a decrease in home sales and a server decline in property tax revenues. Rising unemployment and slower consumer spending created a drastic drop in sales tax collections. The Kansas Legislator is facing its own budget crisis and has had to slash millions in funding promised to the Unified Government.

- Elimination of the Machinery and Equipment Tax is costing the Unified Government

\$5.6-million annually in lost revenues.

- The drop in assessed values on residential and commercial properties has reduced

property tax revenues by \$8.1-million.

- Sales tax revenues slipped by \$2.2-million.

### **What has the Unified Government already done to cut costs?**

The 2010 Budget contained millions of dollars in cuts. Most UG employees are under a two year pay freeze and are forced to take 15 days of unpaid furlough, which amounts to a 4.5% pay cut. Most union employees agreed to waive promised pay increases. The UG workforce has been reduced by 15%, totaling more than 300 employees. All departments are operating under at least a 10% reduction in their budgets.

### **Will passage of the sales tax end furlough days for Unified Government employees?**

Passage of the dedicated public safety and community infrastructure sales tax will improve the Unified Government's financial situation, but many other factors play into building the budget. It's too soon to say for sure that there will be no furlough days in 2011, but passage of the sales tax greatly increases the chances that furlough days can be ended.

### **The new revenue will benefit the KCK Police Department, Fire Department and public works improvement projects. How will it help other Unified Government departments?**

The \$6-million in projected new revenues raised by the sales tax will help the overall budget by filling part of the budget shortfall. With those funds going to support public safety and community infrastructure improvements, the pressure on other funds will be lessened, improving the chances against deeper budget reductions in other departments.



In March of 2010, Census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

It is important that each household receiving a questionnaire fill it out and return it to the Census Bureau. We can't move forward until you mail it back.

## 10 Questions 10 Minutes

Listed below are possible ways that the Census information could be used to benefit Wyandotte County residents:

- Make certain that Wyandotte County receives its proper share of **Federal and State grants**.
- Show trends to help **attract retail and other businesses** to Wyandotte County.
- Develop **social service programs**, including programs for the elderly and disabled.
- Study **transportation and housing needs** of the community.
- Insure that Wyandotte County receives **fair representation** for Federal and State elected offices.
- Establish **job training** programs.
- Plan **school district boundaries** and future school construction.

**Your response to the Census questionnaire is**

**100% CONFIDENTIAL**

**DO YOUR PART AND BE COUNTED!!**

For further information, please contact the  
Wyandotte County Census Bureau Office at (913) 233-8400

Or visit [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov)