



Neighborhood News

2008 Holiday Lighting

By Sherry Martin Unified Government

The 2008 Downtown Holiday Lighting Festival was a big success. Hundreds of people gathered to enjoy the festivities which included Mr. & Mrs. Claus, goodie bags for the kids, holiday movies, moonwalk, crafts for the children, and trees decorated by Neighborhood Groups. Entertainment was provided by Washington High School Marching Band, Native American Dancers, Ballet Folklorico of Kansas City, Gateway High Steppers, Salvation Army Brass Ensemble, Tamburitzans, JFK Drill Team, All City Children's Choir, Bishop Ward Choral Ensemble, Transfiguration Vocal Ensemble, and KCK Community Orchestra.

Winners of the neighborhood group tree decorating contest were also announced at the event. Grand Champion Oak Grove NHG, Most Festive Block Hawks NHG, Most Unique Historic Westheight, Most Fun Prescott NHG, and Best Representative of a Neighborhood Neighbors Who Care. Twenty-three neighborhood groups decorated trees, the trees will be on display until January 2, 2009, you may also view the trees on Liveable Neighborhoods website at wycokck.org.

Your Meeting Information

Unified Government Neighborhood Awards Luncheon

Liveable Neighborhoods and Community Policing will sponsor the UG Neighborhood Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at Trinity United Methodist Church 5010 Parallel, Luncheon begins at 11:30 am. Program at 12:00 pm. Due to limited seating this event is by invitation only.

Guest Speakers will be Mayor and CEO Joe Reardon, Commissioner Mark Holland

Entertainment will be provided by The Singing Eagles-Eisenhower Middle School.

First Floor First Friday

Mayor Reardon's First Floor first Friday will be Friday, December 5, in the City Hall Lobby 701 N. 7th 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Citizen wishing to speak with the Mayor will have five minutes.

News and Notices

"Christmas Tree Drop Off"

Parks and Recreation will offer a Recycling "Christmas Tree Drop Off" program again this year at the following locations:

- City Park, 26th and Park Drive
 - Alvey Park, South 49th and Metropolitan
- The Wyandotte County Park, 126th and State Ave. (ballfield parking lot) Please observe the following requirements for the recycling program:

- No plastic or metal trees will be accepted,
 - Remove all tinsel,
 - Remove all ornaments and hooks, and
- If you wrap your tree for transport, please remove the covering at the drop site.

Drop off locations will be open from mid December to the end of January.

Source: UG News

Unified Government Television

Everyday at 10am, 3pm and 8pm, citizens can watch "Community Focus with Mayor Joe Reardon," and "Around the District," featuring UG Commissioners. At 7pm every night, an original show called "Wyandotte County Tour" is airing. Also during the 7pm hour, viewers can watch programs about the Hard Rock Casino Resort, Victory Junction Gang Camp to be built in KCK, and a several shows about Wyandotte County economic development projects and successes.

Throughout the rest of the day, UGTV offers information screens about Unified Government programs and services, interesting facts and trivia and listings of public officials and how to contact them. Live news and sports headlines run 24 hours a day across the bottom of the screen. UGTV is aired on Time Warner Cable channel 2 and Sunflower Cable channel 25.

Source UG News



Join Keep America Beautiful (KAB), Operation Brightside Inc. Sprint and ReCellular in recycling old cell phones in celebration of America Recycles Day.

Together, we can help recycle the 130 million cell phones sitting unused in drawers and closets across America.

The goal of the Round-up is to raise awareness about cell phone recycling and collect retired cell phones. There are postage paid recycling envelopes in which you can place your old cell phones and batteries. Pick up your envelopes at Liveable Neighborhoods Inc. 4601 State Ave. or call 913-573-8737.

GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP

Mental Health for the holidays

Stacy Davis with the Mental Health Association of the Heartland will give the presentation.

The program will be held Monday, December 8, 2008

Dinner 6:00 pm

Program 7:00 until 9:00 pm .

Kansas City Kansas Community College, Jewell Center Lounge 7250 State Kansas City, Kansas. The Grassroots Leadership meetings are sponsored by the Regional Prevention Center of Wyandotte County.

There is no charge for the dinner and program. Reservation need to be made



News and Notices

December 2008



**Kansas City
Board of Public Utilities**

Kansas City Board of Public Utilities Save Energy-Save Money Fall Workshop 2008

**Wyandotte West Public Library
1737 N. 82nd Street, Kansas City, KS 66112
Ph. (913) 596-5800
(Located on 82nd Street, south of Parallel Pkwy**

**Thursday, December 11, 2008
9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.**

Featuring speakers and information from:

**BPU Energy Solutions, Electric Metering and Water Departments
(water, electricity conservation and surge protection informa-
tion)**

Metropolitan Energy Corporation (Energy Efficiency Experts)

Ladd Service Company (heating and cooling dealer)

Westlake Ace Hardware Store (Lo-Cost Weatherization ideas)

**There will also be hands on interactive displays, followed by a question and answers wrap up session.*

New and Existing Homeowners, Senior Citizens, Neighborhood and Church Groups who care about lowering their electric and water bills should attend.

Come to the Save Energy-Save Money fall workshop and learn how to save on your energy and water bills this winter season!

Call (913) 573-9012, BPU Economic Development Dept. if you have any questions.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT & GRANT WORKSHOPS

December 9, 2008

**Kansas Historical Society, Museum Classrooms
6425 SW 6th Avenue Topeka, KS**

Heritage Trust Fund workshop at 10am & Tax Credit session at 1:30pm

Attendance at HTF workshops is not required for submission of an application, but it is strongly encouraged. At the workshops, HTF staff will discuss the application process, approaches to take to the writing of the application, and will answer questions concerning the program. There is no cost involved and advanced registration is not required. However, we encourage you to call 785-272-8681, ext. 245 if you plan to attend so we can estimate attendance and notify you in the event of inclement weather and/or workshop cancellation.

SENIOR CITIZEN

Utility Tax Rebate To Begin

Beginning January 2 thru March 31, 2009, senior citizens will be able to take advantage of a utility tax rebate. The program offers senior citizens a rebate on a portion of the amount paid for utilities during 2008. Persons applying must be 65 years of age during the entire year of 2008, live in the city of Kansas City, Kansas, and their total income not to exceed \$25,000. The maximum refund is \$300.

Applications will be taken at the Municipal Office Building East, 701 N. 7th St., Room 323, Kansas City, Kansas, in the Unified Government Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

The Area Agency on Aging, located in the First Community Bank Bldg., 1300 N. 78th St., Suite 100, will fill out applications by **appointment only** on Tuesdays and Thursdays by calling 573-8531.

Eligible persons should bring all gas, telephone, and BPU bills paid during 2008; proof of income, social security statements, interest statements, etc., and social security number. Printouts from the utility companies will be accepted. Please call the Unified Government Clerk's Office at 573-5260 if you have questions.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS!!!

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, working in cooperation with your Unified Government, can help you address Lead-Based Paint Hazards in your home for **FREE** in order to **prevent lead poisoning in young children**. A state-certified risk assessor will inspect your home and determine the services needed to stabilize the lead-based paint in your home. Types of work may include removing and replacing windows and doors, as well as painting. **All inspections and lead hazard work are FREE for Homeowners (landlords will pay a small fee).**

Owner-occupied property may qualify if:

- You own and occupy a home in Wyandotte County that was built before 1978.
- Your household income is less than 80% of the area's median income. For a family of 4, household income must be less than \$54,700.
- You have a child **6 years of age or younger** who lives in your home or visits your home often.
- For at least 5 years following lead hazard work on your property, you agree not to sell the property.

Rental property may qualify if:

- You own rental property in Wyandotte County that was built before 1978, and has no more than 4 housing units.
- All rental units are occupied by or available to families with a household income at or below 80% of the area's median income.
- For at least 3 years following any lead hazard work on your property, you agree to give priority to families with a child under 6 years of age.
- For at least 5 years following lead hazard work on your property, you agree not to sell the property.

For more information, please contact us at: Project Lead-Safe KCK

1333 South 27th Street

Kansas City, KS 66106

Phone: (913) 262-0796

Fax: (913) 262-8251

www.unleadedks.com

The **Kansas 511** Phone System, has also been enhanced over the past year, including:

- **Direction of travel** - Callers may now hear reports given in their direction of travel
- **Landmark descriptions** - New landmark descriptions should make route descriptions easier for callers to understand or locate on a map
- **Expanded menu** - Callers now select "7" for information for Nebraska or other neighboring states. Motor carrier information has also been added by selecting "4."
AMBER Alerts automated to provide more real-time information when they occur.

Source UG News



*10 Month training program helping to change the lives of.
Class begins January 12, 2009 (Ages 16-24)*

- Earn a GED or High School Diploma
- Build & rehab affordable housing
- Develop leadership skills
- Participate in community service projects
- Receive a \$ living allowance \$

An opportunity to earn a college scholarship through AmeriCorps

YouthBuild Kansas City, Kansas

1821 North 3rd Street

Kansas City, KS 66101

(913) 371-3770

