



LONGFELLOW HERALD

Newsletter of the
Longfellow Community
Association

November 2008

Mailing Address: LCA, 909 E. 30TH St.
Apt 12, KC, MO, 64109

Web site: www.longfellowkc.org

Meeting Place: New Ronald McDonald House, 25th St. and
Cherry, first and last Monday of every month.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A new committee is forming for the neighborhood to increase the participation in area activities and business. Our focus will be:
How do we build a stronger, more engaged membership?
How do we build upon our strengths?
What are our weaknesses?
If you have ideas, **SHARE THEM!!** We need your input and we welcome your advice!!
JOIN our membership committee or just sit in the meeting.

WHEN: Monday, Nov 17th, 6:30-7:30pm

WHERE: 2641 Charlotte St, (NE corner of 27th & Charlotte)

WHO: Andre DuBroc, 816-645-1591

adubroc1968@hotmail.com

LEAF/YARD WASTE PICK UP

The final city pickup of yard waste is December 1, Monday. They will pick up a total of 20 paper sacks of leaves, etc., (no grass) and bundles of limbs (4x2 feet, limbs 3" or smaller).

SOLID WASTE CHANGES

The city has changed how they will handle solid waste: bulky items and yard waste. Bulky items are now picked up by appointment only. Call 311 to schedule your day. Yard waste pick up at the curb will still be provided as scheduled by the city throughout the year. If you want to drop bags off at the Chateau site, there are new rules. You can make 2 visits each calendar year for free of up to 5 bags or a pickup truck bed-level amount per visit. Any more will cost you \$1.00 per bag. The neighborhood provides dumpsters as well to help keep waste picked up and for your convenience.

CITY SERVICES CHANGED FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

An informational meeting was held for neighborhood leaders. Discussed were the changes to services provided by the city to neighborhoods. Neighborhood Preservation will not fill any vacancies and they carpool to save money and time. Solid waste made changes to leaf pickup and bulk item disposal. Parks and Recreation stated they have reduced mowing, frozen staffing level, and cut out overtime. They have begun partnerships with areas and organizations. In the

GRANT FOR REPAIR EQUIPMENT

Longfellow has received a grant from NSHF, through United Way, for \$1911.00. This money is for lawn and repair equipment. The items will be available to residents who need equipment for yard work. Plans include buying a 40-foot ladder and a mower. More details and information will follow when it becomes available.

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

After two years of hard work by many people, the development district, also known as the tax abatement plan, is going in front of the city council this month. It should pass planning and zoning and go to the full council by January 2009. We will keep you informed.

FESTIVALS

The recent neighborhood festivals were a big success. Thank you to all who supported the endeavors and shared in the fun.

RECENT CRIME

The neighborhood has had an increase in car thefts and burglaries. The CAN Officers assigned to our area have been pulled to other areas, or so it has been reported. It is very important that we, as a neighborhood, pull together and watch out for each other. If you see anyone walking through the backyards who shouldn't be there, anyone looking in windows, anyone circling the block, etc, please call the police at 911. They actually

encourage it. It also helps them to know where the crime is and schedule appropriate staffing.

DUMPSTER MIX-UP

A city employee did not order the dumpsters scheduled for October 18th. Several attempts were made to remedy the situation that day but to no avail. They did appear the next weekend. We apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused.

EXTRA TRASH PICK UP

Mark Monday, December 29th on your calendar. The city will pick up an unlimited amount of trash, due to the holidays, without needing trash tags.

NEIGHBORHOOD WEB SITE

If you have not visited the neighborhood web site, we encourage you to do so. There is an abundance of information available for residents. There is a safety section available for residents to enter information for their neighbors to read about suspicious activity in the area. There is a main page with upcoming events posted. There are sections for tax abatement, a calendar of scheduled meetings, past and present Herald editions, downtown planning information, and Neighborhood Preservation. Several sites are still under construction but will be up and running soon. If you think of anything you would like to see on the site, please let us know. It is there for all of us to strengthen our community.

HOLIDAY SEASON INFORMATION

With the upcoming Holiday Season approaching us, we would like to review some safety tips for all of us.

Fire: If you enjoy the scent of a real tree, remember that the lights on them get hot. Keeping your tree adequately watered will greatly reduce the chance of fire. Unplug your tree, real or artificial, when you are not home. Keep them away from drapes and check your cords for frays and exposed wiring.

When did you last have your fireplace inspected or swept? Chimney fires are common after a year of not being used. Several reputable companies can help reduce your risks.

Safety: Thieves love the holidays. Packages left in plain sight are an invitation for a break in. Keep packages out of plain sight, and instead put them in the trunk. When returning home, do not overload your arms with sacks. Look for people watching you, even a block away. An opportunistic thief can run to your front door in a matter of seconds. Stand on the curb and look at your home like a burglar would. Can you see your packages under the tree? They can too!

When shopping: As you walk to your car, look under it to see if anyone is hiding. It happens. Again, do not overload your arms. Parking lots and garages are prime spots for purse and package thefts. If you ever feel uncomfortable, do not push it aside. Go back to the store and ask a security officer to walk you to your car. They are there to help you be safe. Women, be careful parking next to a van when the van door opens on your driver side. Several abductions have occurred

by women unlocking their door and the van door suddenly opening.

Trash: Turn your boxes inside out and cut them down. Our trash identifies what's in the house. If they see a box for a camcorder, plasma TV, x-box, etc, they will know where to hit.

We wish everyone a safe year's end and look forward to a new and exciting year ahead. We strongly encourage and desire increased involvement in neighborhood activities and meetings. We are here to serve you. Please consider attending a meeting in the future.

Please be kind to our dedicated postal workers and keep your sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

Next newsletter: January 2009.