



THE DELANO DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELANO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Published by Der Printing Haus at no cost to The Delano Neighborhood Association.

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October 2005

Presidents' Comments

By the time you receive this we will know whether we made or lost money with our fundraiser at the Delano Fall Fair. Donations for the booth were not near as many as I had anticipated, however, I do thank each and every one of you who donated items, volunteered to man the booth and involvement in any other way. Thanks! We will do our best to give the details of the outcome in the November Dispatch.

As I travel about the neighborhood, I observe many alley/easements which could use some attention. It was brought to my attention one particular easement. At one time it was an alley, but it has been blocked on one end by Kellogg right of way and on the other end by a building. As a result the City will not trim the trees or cut the weeds. It has almost grown over with brush, tall weeds and poison ivy. My suggestion to the person who talked to me about it was to see if he could organize the property owners and tenants on both sides of the easement for a clean-up this fall and winter, then the debris could be disposed of on the annual clean-up. I know there are similar situations through out our neighborhood and I would suggest if you live in such a situation that you, also, organize your block to do the same. If the residents will take responsibility for the block they live on, we will have a much cleaner neighborhood which will help cut down on criminal activity and help eliminate wild animals and it could contribute to keeping the power on during storms. If you need assistance in organizing and/or equipment in getting your alley/easement cleaned up, give me a call at 265-4896. While on the clean-up subject, I would like to remind you, again, to take full advantage of your weekly trash service so we will have time and room to take care of the before mentioned situation on our annual clean-up.

Another situation which I have been contacted about by two different residents, is problem tenants. One was concerning the signs of a "drug house" and the other was domestic violence. It seems in both cases the one who talked with me was reluctant to call the police. I tried to impress upon both of the individuals not to hesitate to call 911 any time they see or are suspicious of illegal activity. For us to have a safe, law abiding neighborhood, we must get and keep involved.

Because of a family situation, it was necessary for me to miss two important meetings, however, I did attend the

WIN meeting on Thursday evening September 8th. A very interesting meeting with the Judge of Environmental Court as Guest Speaker. He talked about many items of which one we are all aware of. That is the elderly and disabled who are not physically or financially able to keep their property up to code. He asks for the Neighborhood/Home Owners Association to become involved with helping these people. There was a lengthy discussion concerning volunteers and materials to help those less fortunate.

Several months ago at a Delano Clergy Association meeting, I informed those in attendance, when I was asked what the Clergy Association could do to help the Neighborhood Association, that I would like them to poll their congregations to see if there were any who would volunteer to be put on a roster to help those less fortunate. I know several of the churches are in a transitional period, and their meetings have been suspended until stability returns, which I am sure has contributed to the lack of response. Anyone who would be willing to give a few hours to help a neighbor, please, give me a call and we will take your name and telephone number. As soon as we get a sufficient number of volunteers, we will organize a work-day to help a neighbor. I hope to see YOU at the October meeting.

General Meeting September 20, 2005

Wayne Wells

We had a very interesting Guest Speaker, Mr. Bill Meek, with Deputy Tonya Buckingham. Mr. Meek is the Register of Deeds and gave an overview of what the office is responsible for. There was a total of twenty-two, including our guests. We had seven "first time" attendees. The DNA is moving forward. Thank you to all who are getting involved. The Neighborhood needs you. For those of you who have never attended a meeting, whether homeowner or tenant, we encourage you to consider getting involved. Everyone is welcome.

**THE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18
DNA MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
7:00 P.M. AT WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN
CHURCH, 1816 W. DOUGLAS**

Delano Neighborhood Association Officers

- Wayne Wells - President
265-4896
- Barbara Hughes - Vice President
945-4227
- Leandra Baker - Secretary
262-5358
- Larry Brown - Treasurer
269-2515

DNA District Directors

- #1 District Director - Harlan Derifield
943-0775
- #2 District Director - Lee Webster
263-4051
- #3 District Director - Angie Davis
265-2574
- #4 District Director - Larry Brown
269-2515
- #5 District Director - Mim Wilkey
942-6428

Delano Neighborhood Association Committees

Hospitality Chairperson

Sue Greeley - 265-0581

Fundraising Chairperson

Kristin Edwards -390-2095

Clean-up Chairpersons

Rod and Angie Davis - 265-2574

If you would like to serve on one of these committees call the chairperson or any committee member or the President.

Official Appointed Consultant

Toni Timpy - 644-7202

Editor

Lee Webster - 263-4051

Newsletter Design and Layout

Der Printing Haus - 755-1291

The Master Gardener's Corner

By *EMG Chuck Guenther*

Transplanting Perennials. Perennials need to be transplanted for various reasons. Some have overgrown their spot in the garden or the gardener is opting for a newer variety or different plant in place of the one occupying the space. The sun exposure may have changed because of growth of trees near the garden, or weeds may have infiltrated the area, and the garden needs to be renovated and reestablished. For whatever reason, it is an opportunity to amend the perennial bed by adding organic matter for good drainage, get a soil test done and begin again. Transplanting should be done in early autumn, allowing enough time for the plants to reestablish root systems before winter. Spring is an ideal time to move plants, when new growth is just emerging. This sometimes causes a problem with late starters, especially if you forget where they were planted.

Begin by laying down a tarp to protect the grass and provide a place to set the plants to be moved. The plants can be stored in flat boxes if more time is needed to hand weed, amend the soil or spray an area overrun by grass and weeds using a nonselective herbicide. If several days are needed, keep the dug plants moist, cool and in the shade. If transplanting is done in the fall, cut the tops back to reduce the amount of plant area the roots must support. Generally, a little more than half way will suffice for most plants. Dig and lift the plants with a potato fork or spade starting about a foot from the outside edge of the clump. Work around the clump loosening and lifting, being careful not to damage the plant or its roots. Smaller plants can be dug with less of a root ball. Once the plant is lifted from the bed, the clump can be divided using a sharp saw, knife or two spading forks placed in the middle of the clump and pulled apart from opposite directions. The tool used to divide the plant will depend on the type of plant. Tubers need to be cut while open centered plants are best divided with the spading fork. Although 3 to 5 bud eyes or shoots are adequate for a division, the smaller divisions may delay blooming and establishment. Larger divisions work better in the fall. Clean dead or damaged plant and root parts. Reset the plants at their original depth. This is very important on peonies and iris, as planting too deep results in a failure to bloom. After amending the soil, dig an adequate size hole for the root system, spread the roots out evenly in the hole and reset the plant. Avoid compacting the soil, but rather water the newly set plant well and let the soil melt in around the roots. Small divisions may need protection from sun and wind for the first few days. After the perennial has been reset for about two weeks, fertilizing with a liquid feed will benefit the plants. Granular fertilizers at planting could

continued...



SPECIAL MEMORIES

1725 W. Douglas
Wichita, KS 67213
262-4030

Tue. Sat.; 10:30 am - 5:00 pm
British - American Antiques

... continued

burn the roots if they come in direct contact. Apply a 2-inch layer of organic mulch to help the soil hold moisture around the roots and insulate the soil, allowing time for establishment before winter.

Gardening Don'ts. Don't fertilize trees, shrubs or other landscape plants during the late summer. The reason is simple: when you fertilize landscape plants, you encourage new growth and that new growth is extremely susceptible to freeze damage, which may not be apparent until the following spring. Besides, plants have been busy growing for several months, and by late summer, they're ready for a rest and to prepare themselves for dormancy.

Do fertilize the lawn, especially in late summer to early fall while the grass is still green. In fact, fall is the best time of all to fertilize the grass. Turfgrasses have the ability to store carbohydrates which they are able to produce in large quantities, thanks to fertilizer throughout the winter months. Then, when spring rolls around, they have the nutrients they need to produce a lush green lawn. But avoid products high in nitrogen because that's not the nutrient turf grasses need most during that time of year. Instead, use a balanced fertilizer.

Gardening Questions? Call the Sedgwick County Extension Center at 722-7721 and ask for the Hot Line.

Why?

Wayne Wells

While attending a recent meeting there was an item discussed which somewhat troubled me.

On June 25, 2005, the Delano Business Association sponsored a "Make-A-Wish" Car Show, which brought in a considerable amount of money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In before mentioned meeting it was stated that they would not be back in 2006. Specifics were somewhat scarce. Words such as "a moot subject", "a dead horse", "no way" were used concerning a return. The best I could figure out from the discussion that someone or someones along Douglas had complained. From the turn out on June 25th, I got the impression everyone was enjoying the show, both those showing and those observing. I enjoyed it very much and was looking forward to one in 2006.

My hope is that something can be worked out so the show can return in 2006. If there is a problem with closing Douglas, perhaps it could be held in the Lawrence-Dumont Stadium parking lot.



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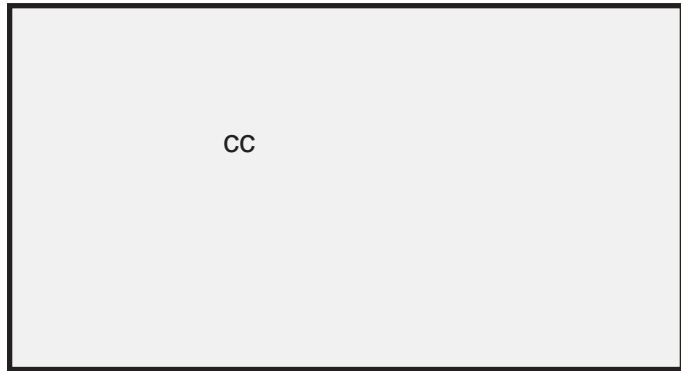
Kay's THIS N' THAT
 4730 WEST SECOND
 WICHITA, KS 67212
943-9451

Delano Crime

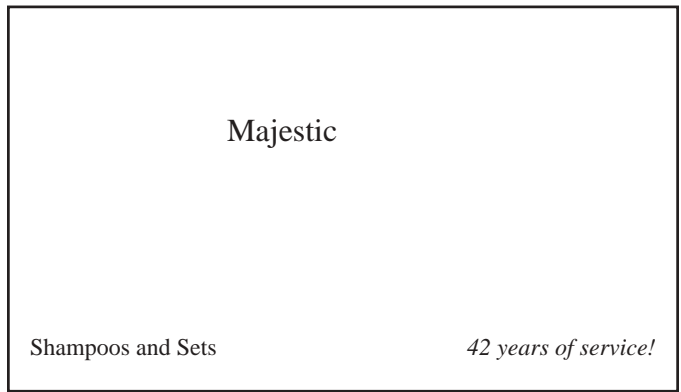
Wayne Wells

Because of residents becoming more alert, keeping valuables out of sight, removing keys from their cars and locking them, keeping garage doors closed, plus many other crime prevention techniques, crime in Delano is steadily decreasing. There was less crime in August since I have been involved with the DNA. To help further reduce crime, I would encourage each block to consider forming a Neighborhood Watch. It is very easy, and not very expensive to do. You may call me or Officer Perkins and we will assist. Officer Perkins phone number is 337-9400. If you live close to a vacant house and see any suspicious activity around it, call the Police. There were two vacant houses on South Osage vandalized recently.

Also, with colleges back in session you may see "Party Houses" springing up. If so, call the Police, they want to know.



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Tara Stout

Noise Ordinance

In the September Dispatch we included a part of the City Ordinance which deals with noise in general. Here is a portion of the Ordinance which deals specifically with vehicles. City Code: Section 11.38.830 Loud sound amplification systems in vehicles prohibited-Penalty.

a. No person operating a motor vehicle on a street, highway, alley, public park, parking lot, or driveway shall operate or permit the operation of any sound amplification system from within the vehicle so that the sound is plainly audible at a distance of fifty or more feet from the vehicle.

b. "Sound amplification system" means any radio, tape player, compact disc player, loud speaker, or other electronic device used for the amplification of sound.

c. "Plainly audible" means any sound produced by a sound amplification system from within the vehicle, which clearly can be heard at a distance of fifty feet or more. Measurement standards shall be by the auditory senses, based upon direct line of sight. Words or phrases need not be discernible and bass reverberations are included. The motor vehicle may be stopped, standing, parked or moving on a street, highway, alley, public park, parking lot, or driveway.

The complete Ordinance may be viewed or copied from the City web site at www.gov>city code>public health>noise.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Department of Environmental Health

(weeds, junked cars)

268-8351

Street Lighting (Westar Energy)

262-4343

West Patrol Substation/CPO

337-9400

Central Inspection (substandard housing)

268-4481

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**Riverside Residents Opening
The Photographers' Gallery In Delano**

Mark Your Calendars for Grand Opening on Final Friday, Oct. 28!

The Place: 1007 W. Douglas in historic Delano

The Date: Oct. 28, 2005

The Time: 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For more info call: 262-4634

Two long-time Riverside residents hope their neighbors and friends will come out for the gala grand opening of The Photographers' Gallery on Oct. 28. The new addition to Wichita's rich art community opens for business Oct. 24. It will focus exclusively on providing a venue to exhibit works by amateur and professional photographers of all levels, giving them a place to create and display the products of their mind's eye.

Riversiders Dave Higdon and Annie Best, owners of PhotoProse Productions, conceived their idea for The Photographers' Gallery after receiving strong response to their photographic products the last two summers at Wichita-area farmer's markets. Other photographers told them they wanted to have a place to show and sell their work, but didn't have the opportunity, knowledge or confidence to try.

This inspired Annie and Dave to create a permanent showcase and studio for Dave's growing needs that also provides six distinct exhibit bays photographers may lease in a cooperative-like environment. Exhibiting photographers also may use The Photographers' Gallery Studio

low-cost custom digital printing services so they can offer photographic works in sizes larger than most home printers support. The Gallery also plans to offer a series of workshops on digital photography and printing topics next year.

"Although many fine art galleries call Wichita home, none are devoted to solely exhibiting photographers' work," said Higdon. "Many a photographer would like to try showing their work, but are unable to mount a full solo show or inexperienced at submitting their work to a multi-artist show. The Photographers' Gallery offers them an opportunity to test the waters and sell what they show. It's a chance to use a studio, meet the public at their own photo exhibit, and enjoy the gratification that comes only when they share their work with the public."

Annie and Dave look forward to meeting fans of fine photography at The Photographers' Gallery, whether during regular weekday hours or at the shows they plan during the monthly Final Friday Gallery Crawl - starting Oct. 28.

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**THE "LAND USE GAME:"
IF YOU SNOOZE YOU LOSE**

By Elizabeth Bishop

Land use...Zoning...Conditional use permits...the Comprehensive Plan. These are all terms dealing with land use in our community. And they are guaranteed to make your eyes glaze over and your attention head for the nearest exit. It's true. Land use is dull and complex. However, that is even more reason for neighborhood leaders to persevere past the boredom and confusing acronyms to grasp a basic understanding of land use. **BECAUSE...NOTHING IS LIKELY TO AFFECT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MORE THAN LAND USE!** Recently Metropolitan Area Planning Director John Schlegel gave a presentation to a group of neighborhood leaders. The group of about 30 citizens received an excellent overview of land use processes and issues. During the question and answer session following the presentation, we heard many familiar concerns that have come up repeatedly.

1. Neighborhood plans, while difficult and time consuming, are seen as very positive and a good step in the right direction.
 2. Housing that appears to be deteriorating, dragging down an otherwise good neighborhood.
 3. Urban sprawl and infrastructure costs expended in the suburbs instead of older neighborhoods. Development patterns that encourage constant spreading out causing government services to stretch accordingly.
 4. A Planning commission that refuses to follow planning policy as stated in the Comprehensive Plan. In some instances, such as the continual approval of used car lots, this refusal amounts to a de facto amendment to the Comp Plan, even though no public review of such "amendment" has ever taken place.
 5. The pall of discouragement regarding public input into planning decisions since the 1999-2000 update to the Comprehensive Plan where many citizens turned out to indicate their concern about development patterns in Wichita-Sedwick County, only to have most of their goals whittled away by elected officials, leaving a Comp Plan that does little or nothing to curb sprawl. An important element of that plan was to have a "cost of development study" to determine whether suburban developments actually pay their way with expanded tax revenues. Many communities have conducted such studies to learn the full story about the tax equity implications of the development practices and policies. It was part of the plan when it was passed by the City Council, but seemingly disappeared soon after an objection was raised by the local builders.
 6. Is there any plan to update the policy objectives in the current Comprehensive Plan?
- The answer to that last one is a crucial point that we must acknowledge. The planning director answered that it is up to us-the citizens of Wichita-to demand changes, if we want them. It is up to citizens to ask elected officials and the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MAPC) to place an update to the Comp Plan on the agenda. No advocacy for change will come from staff. Mr. Schlegel said that, basically, we will get the land use policy and the planning commission we deserve. Boring or not, if we want something better than what we have now, it is up to us to change it.



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