

Uptown Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Uptown Neighborhood Association, Inc.

February 2009

Midwest Printing is not responsible for content of newsletter

www.simplyneighbors.com/usa/Kansas/Wichita/Uptown

Your UNA Officers

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leslieharvey@sbcglobal.net

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chancyo@att.net

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dalynta@yahoo.com

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raylynda.racobs@att.net

Director of Communications

Lori Lawrence 688-1484
lorilawrence@cox.net

Uptown boundaries

Central, Douglas, Grove and Hillside

If you live, work or own property in Uptown, you are a member!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 2, 6:30 p.m. District Advisory Board meeting at Atwater Center, 2755 E. 19th St. (at Volutsia)

Feb 5, 7 p.m. Guest speaker, Councilwoman Lavonta Williams. Uptown meeting at 2930 E. 1st (CHUM) in basement

Feb 7, 8 a.m. District One Coalition Breakfast at All Occasions located at 21st and Oliver

March 6, 7 p.m., Guest Speaker Mayor Carl Brewer, 2930 E. 1st (CHUM) in basement

March 22, Park Clean-Up, look for more details next month

April 4, 8:00 a.m. Neighborhood Clean-Up for all of Uptown. Look for more details in future newsletters.

May 7, 2009, Naturalist Jim Mason from Great Plains Nature Center will bring more Kansas Native animals to meet us! More details later.

Recycling Opportunity in UPTOWN!

What: Recycling

When: Third Sunday of the Month 9:00am-11:30am

Where: College Hill United Methodist Church (CHUM) NW corner of the church parking lot

A trailer-full of recyclables will be loaded, and hauled-off (to PRO-Kansas/Miller Recycling Center) each Sunday morning from the northwest corner of the CHUM parking lot off Erie Street. Uptown residents are welcome to participate.

Plastics: Please separate lids (mixed plastic)

#1 Clear bottles - soda, water, ketchup, peanut butter

#2 Cloudy jugs - milk, water, juice, vinegar (w/seam on bottom)

#2 Solid Color - laundry detergent, bleach, shampoo (seam also)

Mixed 4,5,7 (No #3's PVC or #6 Polystyrene foam) Margarine tubs, yogurt cups, produce clamshells, convenience containers

Plastic bags - grocery sacks, no crunchy liner bags with seam down back

Paper:

Corrugated cardboard - heavy, clean and flat - Brown paper bags

Office paper-white and pastel, envelopes, stationary and reports

Mixed paper/Junk mail, shoe/cereal boxes, TP/paper towel tubes, phone books, shredded paper, gift wrap

Magazines/Catalogs - shiny/glossy pages, no newspaper inserts

Newspapers - with inserts and ads

Books - hard or soft back no metal or plastic bindings

Glass:

All colors, labels need not be removed (lids separate in tin can area)

No mirrors, windshields or light bulbs

Metals:

Aluminum - rinsed out cans, pie pans, and clean pieces of foil

Tin/Steel - cans and lids, labels need not be removed

Miscellaneous:

Batteries of all kinds - no leaking ones - Ink Cartridges

Eye glass frames - Lions Club - Cellular phones working or not - YWCA

BIG NOs:

Glass not originally a food or beverage container - PVC and Styrofoam

None-container plastics - toys, vinyl, hoses, siding, pipe

Dirty items or with food in it

Hazardous wastes - take to Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 801 Stillwell, Wichita 660-7464

Now's your chance!

Come to the meeting on Feb. 5th and meet our City Council Member. She may not stay long so bring your questions and come on out!

UPTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MINUTES

Leslie Harvey, Association President, brought the January 8, 2009 meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Lynn Wasinger was the only association board member not present. Harvey asked for a motion to accept the November 2008 minutes as published in the January newsletter and provided by Secretary Ray Racobs. Vice President Paul Oberg made a motion, on behalf of Treasurer Lynn Wasinger to amend the association's account balance from \$2,570.00 to \$2,570.48.

The motion was seconded (Margaret Hyden), voted on and accepted.

Oberg went on to provide the Treasurer's Report for Wasinger. Beginning balance as of 11/01/2008 was \$2,570.48. Receipts were: \$122.39 from the Halloween Bake Sale and \$14.50 from bake sales at the November meeting. Expense for the period was the \$150.00 paid to Mary Dewing for the reimbursement approved in November for Halloween decoration lights. Ending balance for 1/1/09 \$2,557.37. A motion was made, seconded (Margaret Hyden/David Franks) and passed by vote to approve the report as presented.

Harvey introduced Wichita's Fire Chief Ron Blackwell. He introduced Station Five Lieutenant Tom Benefil and Division Chief Joe Couey. Four other Station 5 firefighters in attendance had to leave for two separate duty calls. Chief Blackwell offered a short bio on his fire service career and some statistics about Wichita's nineteen stations and Uptown's Station 5, who, in 2008, responded to 264 calls within the boundaries of Uptown.

(Continued on Page 7)

UPTOWN TRASH

Uptown Neighborhood Association has a special rate for trash. Trash service for only \$45 for 3 months! If you want to add bi-weekly recycling it is only \$6 every 3 months. An additional cart is only \$18.50 for 3 months too. If you are disabled and cannot bring your cart out to the street, house-side service is available. For \$5 per month or \$15 for 3 months you can have them carry out your cart and then return it to your house if you are not physically able to do this. Anyone that has Residential service can take advantage of these rates. That includes any businesses within our boundaries.

If you want this rate to continue, tell all your neighbors to call **Lies Trash Service** today at **522-1699**. If you rent, tell your landlord so s/he can get the rate. If you are already a Lies customer, simply call them and ask for the Uptown rate and that will be the charge on your next bill. Call TODAY!

I am going to print this article, or one similar, in every newsletter until next summer. As you know if you have been reading the newsletter, Uptown is required to get 90% of the neighborhood signed up with Lies or they won't continue to do it. Please be sure everyone on your

block has started with them. If you need the complete article to print and give to them, email me and I will email it to you. If a new neighbor moves in next door or down the block, go meet them and tell them about it before they sign up with someone else!

Tax Time AGAIN!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE don't fall for the Quick Refunds that the tax preparers will try to sell you! It is a RIP OFF! They are stealing your money! Have a check sent to your home, not to the preparer. There is no reason they wouldn't do that if they are legitimate. This is a scam that even H & R Block is using (they did last year, anyway). Don't fall for it!

Don't wait until the last minute. As soon as you have all your W-2s and your tax info from all your other sources, make an appointment and GO! The earlier you get them figured the sooner you will get your refund.

Quit Smoking Help

Make the call. Thanks to a new smoking cessation helpline, getting support in your struggle to quit smoking is now just a phone call away. The California Smoker's Helpline (1-800-662-8887) links people nationwide to counselors who will give one-on-one support to those trying to give up cigarettes. The counselors can also connect callers to free or low-cost support groups in their areas.

~From Diabetes Forecast Magazine, Nov 2008

Thank You!

Thanks so much to Adrien Prechtel! She has delivered the Uptown Neighborhood News for a long time and now has to say "goodbye". No she's not moving away from Uptown, she's just going to school and working and won't be able to continue delivering the newsletter. So...I'm asking for your help. I now have a route open and I need someone to help out.

If you can assist, please call me at **688-1484**. I really need someone I can count on to help with this. It's only once a month and there will be lots of people depending on your efforts. And I will be very grateful! Please call.

~Lori

24-years experience
Reasonably priced
Karen M. Rowland
ROWLAND TAX SERVICE
Call for appointment
316-440-6430

New Business Review

My name is Karen M. Rowland and I moved into this area in July 2008. I enjoy the monthly newsletter and have used it as a reference a couple times.

The first time was when I read about 'THE NEW CHIROPRACTOR' in the neighborhood. (Even though the phone number was wrong, I stopped by the office and got the number from his office window.) 425-0386. I have since been getting treatments from Dr Jeffrey Howell, throughout the month of Dec. 2008.

I want to say this man is very skilled...and his skills are wide ranged in the adjustments I've received. He is very attuned to the body and how it works and what causes pain and he knows how detect the painful places and he knows how to treat the root causes instead of just the symptoms.

His mannerisms are of the most gentle and professional kind and I'd like to recommend him to everyone. I know some people aren't fans of chiropractic, but we must realize our body is 100% connected from head to toe. The Doctor of Chiropractic is well versed in all types of illnesses. And believe it or not most all illnesses are treatable with Chiropractic Care.

Again, I would love for my letter to be printed in our Neighborhood Newsletter, because I think this young man can help each and every one of us. I am 64 years old and have had treatments off and on for over 50 years and I've been treated by many different Chiropractors. So I've had a variety of types of treatments. I come out of his office feeling better each time and with patience I know the good Dr Howell will have me up and running once again.

Thanks for introducing Dr Howell to me, and now I hope to introduce him to more neighbors.

HEALTHWAVE

After calling a dozen places, I was finally able to track down the number for Healthwave. If your kids are without health insurance, Healthwave will cover them. It is a branch of Medicaid and does have some income guidelines but they are very broad since they WANT to make sure all children in the state of Kansas have coverage. They will also cover pregnant mothers. Give them a call if your family has a need. The number is 1-800-792-4884 and I think I have the actual number here. Be sure to have a pen and paper handy in case I didn't write down the final number. If not, this is the closest one I could find.

~Lori

Call NOW!

Several people have called me to ask about the help for fixing up your house and never did notice the WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM info. There is a lot they can do for you if you meet the income guidelines. I am not reprinting the entire article. If you would like to

read it, go to the Uptown website printed on page 1 and look up the December 2008 newsletter.

Weatherization is a grant program, which means you do NOT have to pay it back, paid for 100% by United States government and State of Kansas funds. This program has staff that will do all the work. You do not have to do anything. The program works on homes to reduce energy use and to make sure households have a safe furnace to use.

These are the things that weatherization pays for:

1. Attic Insulation
2. Wall Insulation
3. Crawl space insulation
4. Repair broken windows
5. Install weather-stripping on doors
6. Install compact fluorescent lamps in place of light bulbs
7. Replace furnaces

How to Apply:

Fill out application, provide proof of income for the last 3 months and get landlord's signature (if necessary). Call 262-7035, Christy or Brian, to get an application.

Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches

BY BILL WILSON

January 8, 2009

The Wichita Eagle

Wichita's third Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches is scheduled to open May 1 at 517 N. Hillside, near Wesley Medical Center. And it's not the last store Matthew Brane's Bushwood Investments plans to open in Wichita. Brane said three more stores are on the drawing board for the next 18 months.

Site preparation is done, and work should begin soon on a 1,300-square-foot freestanding building with a drive-through on Hillside, Brane said. The new Jimmy John's joins other east-side stores at 3300 N. Rock Road and 340 N. Rock Road, near Central. And more are planned, despite the national credit crunch. "It's caused me a few nights of tossing and turning," Brane said.

Menus will be similar at all stores, and each will employ about 20 people, Brane said. Each store will offer delivery to its surrounding area and will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Bushwood began in Wichita in May 2007. It operates 17 stores in Wichita, Lawrence and Manhattan, with Texas locations in Austin, the Dallas area and Lubbock.

Reach Bill Wilson at 316-268-6290 or bwilson@wichitaeagle.com.

To advertise in the Uptown Newsletter

Call: Midwest Printing - 262-7347

midwestprint0809@sbcglobal.net

Uptown Recipe (from Holiday Dinner)

Corn & Bean Salad

2 Cans of corn, drained
2 Cans of black bean, rinsed
1/2 Red Bell Pepper, Diced
1/2 Green Bell Pepper, Diced
1/2 Red Onion, Diced
1 Bunch of Cilantro Chopped
1/8 Cup or more of Extra Virgin Olive Oil
1/8 Cup or more of Balsamic Vinegar
Salt and Pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients and chill.

The Answer to the Trivia Question is: TWIGS, that place burned down if you all remember.

EARTH DAY 2009

The date for Earth Day 2009 is April 22. In Wichita it will be celebrated at the Sedgwick County Zoo, financed by Boeing, on Thursday, April 23. Boeing says, "Students will learn about pollution, endangered species, emergency preparedness, weather, the 3R's (Reduce, Re-use, Recycle) and much more." Our group, the Waste Control & Recycling Coalition, will plan to participate and hopes that Boeing will take a much more active role in recycling than in prior years.

A GREEN NEW DEAL

A collection of 29 environmental groups has presented a detailed report to the president-elect about their green vision for the future. It includes greenhouse gas emissions, reducing dependence on foreign oil, reinstating off-shore drilling restrictions, investing in clean energy and moving toward 100% renewable energy for electricity. Some projects could be initiatives like widespread weatherizing of homes, mass transit, infrastructure projects and "smart meters" to monitor and reduce home energy use.

Waste News, December 4, 2008

WM FINED FOR TRUCK IDLING

Waste Management has been fined \$27,200 for excessive truck idling in 3 Massachusetts cities.

Waste News, November 10, 2008

Job Corps

I heard about this on the radio. They help young people get their GEDs and then help them find living wage jobs. You must be between 16 and 24 years old to participate. The phone number is 1-800-733-JOBS.

Neighborhood Improvement Services

When I got several requests from people for help with their homes after the last newsletter, I forwarded all the requests to LaShonda Porter, our neighborhood assistant in District One. She gave me a number that many of you may need in the event of an emergency. I was told that an emergency would be something like the water, sewer or gas line rupturing and needing replaced or the furnace breaking down when it is below freezing. It is not for little things like broken windows or leaking drain pipes.

There are income guidelines that must be followed but don't assume that you make too much money. Many people can be working full time and still qualify. If you believe you may qualify, or would like to ask questions, give them a call. The number is **462-3712**. This is also the number to call for the Free Paint Program after April 1st. This program can provide enough paint to paint your entire house.

Good luck! ~Lori

ROTTEN WOODEN COLUMNS?

Have you noticed that the columns on your front porch (or any of them inside your house too!) need to be replaced? Were you planning to buy some 4x4s to replace them with? Did some idiot do that to your house before you bought it and you are ready to put it back the way it should be?

If so, I have found a website that sells exactly what we have on all our bungalows. If you are planning to paint them, the PVC ones are perfect. They also can make them in wood for you if need (like for inside the house). Just give them a call and ask about it. The PVC ones aren't even that expensive and are certainly cheaper than wood ones.

The website has some great photos of what they offer if you look under Bungalows. The web address is www.columns.com. Their phone number is 1-800-486-2118. Please give them a call instead of putting up the horrible 4x4s! It is cheap and it shows! To keep the value of your home, you need to have the columns that were meant to be there.

~Lori

District One Breakfast

21st & Oliver, Saturday, February 7

You are invited to have breakfast with our Councilwoman Lavonta Williams on the first Saturday of the month at the All Occasions Events Center in University Plaza, 21st & Oliver. The buffet line opens about 8:00 am, and Williams starts the information session about 8:40. Join your neighbors in District One for conversation and questions for our representative on the City Council and invited guest speakers on February 7. Cost of breakfast is \$7.44.

Uptown Emergency/PayDay Payoff Loans

The membership voted to accept the proposed Loan program for Uptown residents at the January meeting on the 8th. If there are no insurmountable objections, this small loan program will begin on March 1, 2009. Uptown members (anyone who lives, works or owns property in Uptown) are invited to give feedback, objections and opinions on this program to any of the Uptown officers before the February 5th meeting. Officers' phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the front cover of this newsletter.

Below are the Terms and Conditions of the loan program followed by a rationale or additional requirements for each.

UPTOWN EMERGENCY SHORT TERM LOAN & PAY-DAY PAYOFF LOAN PROGRAM TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Uptown resident must join the Great Plains Federal Credit Union, and must open a share account that has a payroll direct deposit.
2. Borrower must provide verification of employment or a steady income, with no gaps in employment or benefits, for a period of no less than one (1) year.
3. Borrower must provide verification of no less than six (6) months at current address in Uptown.
4. Maximum loan amount is \$250.
5. Normal term of loan is 30 days (flexible term of 60 days under special circumstances for long term residents). Maximum of two (2) payments fall due within the 31 days following the loan date.
6. There can only be one (1) outstanding loan of this type to any Uptown household at any given time.
7. Borrower must attend Financial Counseling and budget assistance before this loan is granted.

EXPLANATIONS:

1. In order to keep Uptown from losing all the money someone might borrow, any person that gets the loan must establish an account with **DIRECT DEPOSIT** of their pay checks or other benefit check (Social Security, SSI, SSDI, etc.) or the loan will not be granted. There are no other options on this one. Plus who doesn't want to bank **CLOSE** by?
2. You will need to provide pay stubs or a letter from your employer or your Benefit Statement from Social Security to show how long you have been getting that money. If you do not work or have no income, go ahead and call and we may be able to provide you with some other resources. You will not qualify for an Uptown Loan.
3. You will need to provide a bill or some other proof of your residence inside of Uptown. Our boundaries are the north side of Douglas, between Hillside and Grove, the south side of Central (there are no houses there so no one should have that address) between Hillside and Grove, the west side of Hillside (no houses or apartments here either) between Central and Douglas and the east side of Grove between Central and Douglas (there are no buildings of any kind along there so no one

lives there either). Anyone living anywhere inside these boundaries is eligible.

4. These are **SMALL LOANS**. If you need more than **\$250**, call and we will see if we can give you some other resources. There may be other options for you besides a Pay Day Loan.
5. This just explains what may happen depending on how many days there are in the month you take out the loan. It is a **30 day loan**, regardless.
6. Only one person at any address can take out an Uptown Loan at any time. We will not approve anyone else living at your address while you still have one loan out. No exceptions.
7. **Financial Counseling** is a requirement of getting a loan. The financial counseling could continue if desired and would have to be taken again if you apply again after 6 months. If you are not willing to do the counseling and budget assistance, do not apply for the loan. We have 2 resources for this counseling, either at a neutral site in Uptown with a person who does not live here or a possibly more flexible meeting with the Uptown treasurer who would work with you under the auspices of Community Housing Services.

Notes from Fire Chief Ron Blackwell

The most common place for a fire to happen is in the kitchen. Usually these occur around the stove because someone wasn't paying attention to their cooking. The most important rules to remember if there is a fire are:

1. **STAY CALM**
2. **CALL 911**

The biggest hazard people face is when they try to put the fire out themselves. The Chief says, if the fire is inside the oven, **DO NOT OPEN THE OVEN DOOR**. The oven is designed for high temperatures and though your stove may be ruined you do **NOT** want to invite the fire into the rest of your kitchen. Turn off the oven and call 911 if it doesn't go out.

If the fire is in a pan on top of the stove, **DO NOT PICK IT UP**, cover it with a plate, cookie sheet or lid, turn off the heat and call 911 if needed. Do not touch the pan and **NEVER** try to pick it up or put water on it. Moving the pan only spreads the fire, don't touch it.

Valentines Day Celebration!
♥ at The Flying Pig Boutique ♥
Saturday, February 7th 10 am - 6 pm
**Prize Drawings, Specials,
and Refreshments!**



**Play our Couple's Trivia
Game to win a free Valentine
gift from Cupid's goodie basket!**

Registered Offenders

Each month we will run the most current list of offenders to be found in Uptown. This includes people who have committed a variety of crimes, not only sex offenders. This is no guarantee that someone has not moved in since the newsletter went to print or moved out. If you want to check for offenders, look at: <https://www.accesskansas.org/ssrv-registered-offender/zip.do>

We will include pictures of any new offenders that move into Uptown. Also check to see if the one who was there last month is still on the list the following month.

From the KBI website: **“Any person who uses information obtained through this website to threaten, intimidate or harass another, or who otherwise misuses the information may be subject to criminal prosecution and/or civil liability.”** This is true of any person, ex-offender or not.

NEW



LEWIS EDWARD CAULEY,
SEX OFFENDER,
256 N. Estelle,
White Male, Date of Birth 07-04-1983.
 Registered since: **10-24-2007,**
 Offense: **AGGRAVATED CRIMINAL**
SODOMY; SODOMY WITH A CHILD <14.

CORDER, KENNETH LESLIE,
SEX OFFENDER,
317 N ESTELLE,
White Male, Date of Birth: 10/23/1972 .
 Registered Since: **9/4/2001,**
 Offense: **AGG IND SOLICITATION OF CHILD;**
<14 TO COMMIT/SUBMIT TO SEX ACT

PICKETT, RICHARD EUGENE,
SEX OFFENDER, 151 N POPLAR,
White Male, Date of Birth: 11/16/1953.
 Registered Since: **9/4/2003.**
 Offense: **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A CHILD**

POST, MITCHELL NEAL,
SEX OFFENDER,
428 N CHAUTAUQUA,
White Male, Date of Birth: 3/31/1958.
 Registered Since: **9/12/2001.**
 Offense: **AGGRAVATED INDECENT SOLICITA-**
TION OF A CHILD

VASQUEZ, JOHN MICHAEL,
SEX OFFENDER,
433 N CHAUTAUQUA
White Male, Date of Birth: 4/10/1978,
 Registered Since: **7/13/2007.**
 Offense: **AGGRAVATED INDECENT**
SOLICITATION OF A CHILD and AGGRAVATED
INDECENT LIBERTIES W/CHILD
YOKOM, ANDREW RONALD,
SEX OFFENDER,

110 N ESTELLE ST NO 105,
White Male, Date of Birth: **12/6/1970.**
 Registered Since: **10/13/2006**
 Offense: **AGGRAVATED INDECENT LIBERTIES**
W/CHILD; >14<16; FONDLING/TOUCHING

ZAPIEN-GUZMAN, ADRIAN GABRIEL,
SEX OFFENDER,
2523 E 2ND.
White Male, Date of Birth: **7/21/1988**
 Registered Since: **5/9/2008.**
 Offense: **AGGRAVATED INDECENT LIBERTIES**
W/CHILD; >14<16; INTERCOURSE

Commonly Requested Numbers

Officer John Ryan 688-9545
 jtryan@wichita.gov
 City Council Member Lavonta Williams . .268-4331
 lkwilliams@wichita.gov
 Karen Hamlin, OCI Representative312-5998
 Lies Trash Service 522-1699
 Dillons Grocery 681-6830

Neighborhood Action Line

For any neighborhood problem 529-9999

Accident Reports

Within 48 hours 268-4131
 Over 48 hours 268-4261
 Animal Control 268-8378
 Auto Tags/Title 660-9110
 Birth Certificates (913) 296-1414
 Bus Information 265-7221
 City Council/Mayor's Office 268-4331
 County Information 660-9000
 Driver's License 821-9920
 Election Commissioner 660-7100
 Employment Hotline 268-4537
 Garage Sales (license) 268-4553
 Graffiti on private property 268-4481
 Graffiti on public property 268-4035
 Office of Central Inspection/Health Dept./
 Weed mowing-Private Property 268-4481
 Potholes 268-4060
 Property Taxes 660-9110
 Real Estate Ownership 660-9200
 Small Claims 660-5790
 Street Lights Out of Order 383-8600
 Street Maintenance (24 hours) 268-4071
 Traffic Fines 268-4611
 Voter Registration 660-7100
 Zoo 660-9453

Weed Mowing:

Public property 337-9225
 Weed Mowing (additional number) 268-4463

Commonly Requested Websites:

City of Wichita www.wichita.gov
 Sedgwick County www.sedgwickcounty.org
 Chamber of Commerce www.wichitakansas.org
 Convention & Visitors Bureau - www.wichita-cvb.org

Uptown Minutes (Continued from Page 2)

He broke the volume down as follows: 169 were medical calls or in support of EMS; 33 were good intent calls; 18 were false alarms; 18 were service calls; 13 were hazardous condition responses; and only 13 were fire calls of one sort or another.

Harvey introduced Elizabeth Ablah and Jack Brown from the KU Med Center, Wichita. They asked those gathered to make notes about environmental issues that were of a personal concern to them. Quite a list of topics were provided from water quality underground to housing conditions on the ground to second-hand smoke in the air. Uptown was the first of about 20 groups that the team will speak to as part of the EPA CARE Grant.

OLD BUSINESS – Uptown signs - Neighborhood signs were again discussed, without any decisions being made. The idea was tabled with the intention of some to contact Paul Gunzelman, the individual in charge of signage in the city and to give Lori Lawrence some direction on what type of sign would be suitable. More to come at next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS – Uptown Loans at Great Plains Credit Union – After some discussion on the matter for Uptown to provide \$1,000 to GPCU to be made available to Uptown residents, a motion was made, seconded (Cathie Rayes/Anne McCartor) voted on and passed.

Although there was no verbal opposition when a vote was called on the Uptown Loan Program, Mike Barushok voiced an objection immediately following the vote. He contended that ample Uptown participation was not present to vote on the matter. He asked that Leslie make a ruling to overturn the vote due to inadequate membership attendance. Mike felt that the organization's meeting dates, times and place are not adequately noted in the newsletter for the membership of the area to respond to a vote. Several individuals in attendance did not agree with his view on the matter. Harvey said that the motion would stand as approved, but information on the topic would again be put out in the February newsletter and be open for discussion again at the next meeting, since it would be March 1st before the Uptown Loan Program could begin.

Police Officer Ryan, of the East Side Precinct, was in attendance, but had to depart near the end of the meeting, before being able to speak to the group.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08, after a motion to do so was received, seconded (Dale Wasinger/Stormy Johnson) and passed by a vote.

The next Uptown meeting will be held on **Feb 5, 2009**, 7:00 p.m. in the basement of the College Hill United Methodist Church, 2930 East First, Wichita.

Submitted by Ray "Grizzly" Racobs

New Labor Secretary is Brown and Green

From greenforall.org

President-elect Barack Obama got it right when he announced Representative Hilda Solis as his pick for the next secretary of labor. Headlines are heralding her as the first Latino to hold the post. But the green jobs movement is jumping for joy not only because she's brown. It's because she's green. Through Solis, Obama makes clear his commitment to creating green jobs to lift the nation out of its current economic crisis.

We're thrilled that Hilda Solis shares the green jobs vision. In fact, she's already helped make it real. Rep. Solis was the original author of the Green Jobs Act, and our Green For All team worked closely with her in 2007. During that year's Congressional session, she worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle and was instrumental in getting that hallmark legislation passed. Her work demonstrated her commitment to a socially responsible, clean-energy economy that will create millions of good-paying jobs and save our environment. She is the right secretary of labor to take advantage of a great opportunity not only to make America's economy stronger by making it greener, but also to make Americans living in poverty part of a revitalized middle class.

As Obama raises his right hand on inauguration day, he should be signing new green jobs bills with his left. Early next year, Green For All will join a coalition of groups advocating for the Clean Energy Corps. The Clean Energy Corps is a combined service, training, and job-creation effort to combat global warming, grow local and regional economies, and demonstrate the promise of the clean energy economy.

You'll hear more from Green For All in the upcoming year. We're a national organization dedicated to building an inclusive green economy, strong enough to lift people out of poverty. By advocating for local, state and federal commitments to job creation, job training, and entrepreneurial opportunities in the emerging green economy -- especially for people from disadvantaged communities -- Green For All fights both poverty and pollution at the same time. For more information, please visit our web site .

Green for All | 1611 Telegraph Avenue , Suite 600, Oakland , CA 94612, | 510-663-6500 | info@greenforall.org

Green Home Living

For information on Green products for your home, check out www.greenhomeguide.com. They suggested a recycled newspaper insulation to blow into my attic and it is easily done yourself with a free rental from Home Depot if you buy 20 bags or more of insulation.

It was MESSY but easy and fun. We were done in 3 hours! It does take 2 people, you cannot do it alone. Only cost about \$200 to fill up my attic.



THE MASTER GARDENER'S CORNER

By EMG Chuck Guenther

Tomatoes are the most popular vegetable grown by home gardeners in the United States, and with good reason. They are productive, relatively easy to grow and taste good. There are several types of tomatoes including slicing, cherry, paste, oxheart and beefsteak. However, most of the breeding work has been done with slicing types.

One of the characteristics that is important for home gardeners to understand is the difference between determinate and indeterminate varieties. Actually, there is also a third category known as semi-determinate though this is somewhat of a nebulous term and is more of a sub-category of determinate.

Determinate tomatoes produce small vines and stay bushy and compact. They will produce fruit at the end of the branches after the plant has finished most of its growth. The harvest season is short, usually only two to three weeks. Many of our very early tomatoes are determinate types. Examples of determinate plants include Pik-Red, Red Rocket and Bush Early Girl. These will produce a large harvest early in the season and then virtually nothing after.

Indeterminate plants will continue to grow throughout the season. This means the plants will grow much larger than determinate types but they also have the capability of producing fruit throughout the season. However, like all tomatoes, extreme heat can stop flower pollination and therefore fruit production during summer. These will need some type of support unless you have plenty of space to let them sprawl. Common means of support include cages made of wire mesh such as concrete reinforcing wire or stakes. Staked tomatoes are normally pruned. The most common indeterminate tomatoes recommended for Kansas is Jet Star. Better Boy, Brandywine and most of our BeefSteak types are also indeterminate.

Many of our newer varieties are listed as determinate though they are more of a balance between the determinate and indeterminate types. I have seen tomatoes in this category described as semi-determinate, tall determinate, strong determinate and large determinate. They will produce over a longer period than true determinate types but not all season like the indeterminates. These plants often have other desirable characteristics such as multiple disease resistance, uniform ripening and smaller, more easily controlled growth. Though a cage is beneficial, it will not need to be as tall as what you would need for an indeterminate. Examples would include Celebrity, Mountain Fresh, Mountain Spring, Mountain Pride, Daybreak, Sun Master and numerous others.

So, which do we grow as home gardeners? Actually, it is often best to grow a mix. Try a determinate to get those

early tomatoes, a semi-determinate for a large number of fruit for canning and an indeterminate for late-season tomatoes. You can also stretch the season by staggering planting dates for the semi-determinate types. How many of each you plant will depend on space and the amount of fruit you want. (WU)

Gypsum and Clay Soils

A popular misconception is that gypsum (calcium sulfate) will improve clay soils by making them more friable and increasing water infiltration. Research has shown that gypsum will not have an effect on either of these qualities unless the soil contains excess amounts of exchangeable sodium (a sodic soil). Sodic soils have extremely high pH readings - above 8.5 to as high as 10. In most areas, sodic soils are rare.

The sodium in a sodic soil has caused the internal structure of the soil to collapse, thereby reducing water infiltration rates and friability. The calcium in gypsum will replace some of the sodium and allow structure to reform. The soil should be kept moist to allow the gypsum to work and then leached with irrigation water (unless you have plenty of rainfall) to wash out the sodium.

There is another scenario where gypsum will prove beneficial. Soils that are deficient in either calcium or sulfur can have those nutrients added through gypsum. Most soils in Kansas are derived from limestone (calcium carbonate) and are therefore extremely high in calcium. We also do not often see sulfur deficiencies. But adding gypsum will not hurt anything and can be used if you suspect a deficiency.

A better way to increase tilth and the water infiltration rate is by adding organic matter. If you will be planting soon after adding organic material, be sure the organic matter is decomposed. Organic matter that is still breaking down may burn young plants. A common recommendation is to add a 2-inch layer of organic matter and till it in. (WU)

Information provided from Kansas State University.

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

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Dr. Jeff Howell

Sebelius says energy plan will create jobs

BY JEANNINE KORANDA

Posted on Sat, Jan. 10, 2009

The state's top executives unveiled a proposal to boost renewable energy and attract "green jobs" Friday, trying to broaden an energy debate dominated by discussion of coal-fired plants in western Kansas.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius described her plan as a bridge that could carry the state until clean coal technology is a reality. Senate President Stephen Morris, R-Hugoton, said he supports many of the ideas but that coal needs to be part of the mix to meet the state's future energy needs.

The four-point legislative plan would:

- Allow Kansas consumers to generate their own electricity and, through net metering, sell any surplus back to power companies.
- Make mandatory a voluntary program started in 2006 to have 20 percent of the state's energy come from renewable resources, such as solar and wind, by 2020. A goal of 10 percent by 2010 already has been met.
- Require that new state buildings or leased buildings meet energy-efficiency standards.
- Create a bond program, similar to the package used to lure Cessna to build its new business jet in Wichita, that would help attract solar and wind manufacturing jobs to Kansas.

"The energy crisis that our country faces is really a tremendous opportunity for Kansans," said Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson, a Democrat.

By making the right decisions now, Kansas could become a leader in producing renewable power for the state and country while attracting new jobs, he said. The state has had tremendous success with a voluntary standard for increasing renewable energy, he said. A little more than a year ago, the state had 385 megawatts of renewable electricity, or about 3 percent of the capacity. Just last month, it started generating more than 1,000 megawatts.

"Now it is time to make it mandatory," he said.

Rep. Don Myers, R-Derby, who sits on the House Utilities Committee, said the standards should remain voluntary. He equated telling power companies how to produce their energy to telling aviation companies how many airplanes to build. Parkinson said codifying the voluntary standards could attract jobs from companies that manufacture wind turbine or solar equipment. One of the other proposals aims to give those companies a financial incentive to build their products here.

The plan would allow the companies to use state bonds, which would be repaid with employee withholding taxes. The proposal would not cost extra money, since the state would not have those taxes without the new jobs, Sebelius said. Morris, who helped craft the Cessna package, supported that idea. "It's not the only way, but I think it is a way of attracting business," he said. But Morris said coal needs to be included in any comprehensive energy plan. "We will continue to need more and more electricity," he said. "We cannot put our heads in the sand and say we have plenty of power, because we don't."

Much of the legislative last session focused on coal power -- specifically lawmakers' efforts to push through permits for two new coal-fired power plants near Holcomb. Some components of this year's proposal from the governor's office were attached to the coal plant proposals last year. Lawmakers passed three, and Sebelius vetoed each bill and with them the "green" components. House Assistant Minority Leader Jim Ward, D-Wichita, said he hoped that not everything would be "run through the coal filter" this year and the ideas would be allowed to pass or fail on their own merits. "Don't hold up good energy ideas because you don't get the piece that you want," he said.

The legislative components are part of Sebelius' comprehensive energy strategy. She will discuss additional aspects of the plan in her State of the State address scheduled for 7 p.m. -Monday.

Invitation from College Hill United Methodist

College Hill United Methodist Church, 2930 E. 1st, will again be serving a free meal to residents of the Uptown Neighborhood from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11.

Enter the church from the parking lot, through the doors marked Office. Walk straight ahead, turn right, and go down the hall to Fellowship Hall.

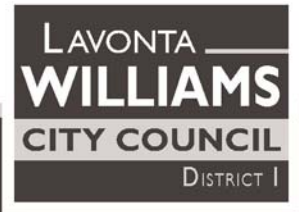
What's the catch? There is none. Honest. What will we do? We'll greet you at the door, maybe ask your name. There's nothing to fill out, we won't try and convert you. We might invite you to church. If you want to attend, fine. If not, that's fine too. The Agape Sunday School class is providing the meal as a service project.

We hope to see you there!



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Lavonta Williams is an engaged neighborhood and community leader, in touch with the needs, dreams and aspirations of the people of Wichita.

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Prairie Land Food

This program is running great guns once each month in Uptown! Check out the info below and see if it might work well for you and your family.

PRAIRIE LAND FOOD, "OUR MISSION"

Prairie Land Food's mission is to provide a nutritious food package at a low cost to help stretch food dollars. Although that is an important aspect for many, that isn't the only mission that Prairie Land Food wants you to be aware of. In addition to the saving for great food each month, Prairie Land Food has plans to give back to the communities. Grants will be awarded to Prairie Land Food sites for community projects. As Prairie Land Food grows one of the community give back programs is a scholarship program, which is anticipated to be developed in the future.

HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR & SAVING MONEY GO HAND IN HAND

Your time & your talent, can benefit you and your community.

Do you volunteer as a 4-H leader or a soccer coach, sing in the church choir, teach Sunday School, or volunteer in the church nursery. Do you pick up trash on your daily walk, say a prayer for those in need, visit a homebound friend, or give of your time in some other way? Each month Prairie Land Food offers a nutritious grocery package which includes a wide assortment of

frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables. Packages are offered at a low cost, helping you to s-t-r-e-t-c-h your food dollars.

PRAIRIE LAND FOOD is not a government program; there are no financial requirements needed or asked for Prairie Land Food is for all levels of income.

PRAIRIE PAK - \$23.50 and 2 hours of volunteer service includes frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables
MEAT ONLY PAK - \$13 and one hour volunteer service *Add an extra serving of the meats in the Prairie Pak*

FRUIT & VEGGIE PAK - \$11 and one hour volunteer service *Add an extra serving of the non-meat items in the Prairie Pak*

SPECIALS - Cost varies and one hour volunteer service
SMART SHOPPING!

*Once a minimum of one Prairie Pak is purchased, there are no limits to the number of additional packages that can be added.

*Orders can be paid by cash, check, or EBT/food stamps.

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accepting Debit Cards and Bank Draft

For more information contact Leslie Harvey at 305-5240 or go to the College Hill United Methodist Church Office. 9:30am to 3:30pm / Monday thru Friday and Sunday mornings. You can order and pay for your food at the office too!