



# Uptown Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Uptown Neighborhood Association, Inc.

April, 2004

[www.simplyneighbors.com/Kansas/Wichita/Uptown](http://www.simplyneighbors.com/Kansas/Wichita/Uptown)

## Your UNA Officers

### President

Paul Oberg 687-0949  
chancyo@earthlink.net

### Vice President

David Franks 685-2030  
david.franks@cox.net

### Recording Secretary

Katie Murdock 685-2030  
chautauqua@cox.net

### Treasurer

Lynn Wasinger 618-4945  
dalynta@prodigy.net

### Director of Communications

Lori Lawrence 688-1484  
lorilawrence@cox.net

### Central, Douglas, Grove and Hillside

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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

**April 1**, 7:00pm, Meeting.

**April 4**, Park Clean-Up 2p.m.

**April 11**, 1pm-4pm, Easter Party

**April 17**, 9am-1pm, Clean-Up

**May 1**, Rummage Sale 9am-5pm

**May 6**, Uptown meeting, 7 pm

**June 5**, Summer Picnic, 10 - 3pm

Call for more information:

**688-1484**

*"Monthly meetings are always  
the first Thursday of the month."*

**Deadline for Uptown Newsletter  
Information April 11**



## Uptown Neighborhood Clean-Up

**Saturday, April 17, 2004**

**9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**



Once again the Office of Central Inspection is subsidizing the removal of unwanted trash throughout Wichita. Place unwanted items at your curbside by 9:00 Saturday morning and volunteers will toss them into trash compactors provided by the City. Please remember that trash polycarts will not be emptied. This annual effort has a great impact on the appearance of our neighborhood and brings immediate satisfaction to all who participate.

In addition to three trash haulers, a tire truck will begin making the rounds at 1:00 a.m. All who help with the curbside pick-up are invited for pizza afterwards at College Hill United Methodist Church. Darrell Davilla is the coordinator for this year's volunteer effort (686-1109). Give Darrell a call or just show up at the church at 9 a.m. on the 17th.

Thanks to our community police officer, Valerie Shirkey. She is helping to pick up the saleable items on Friday night and she will make sure we have at least 2 officers to help with the clean-up on Saturday.

### TIRES

Tires are to be set at the curb, separate from other trash, prior to the start of the cleanup. There is a limit of 4 tires per household. Tires with rims attached are acceptable.

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

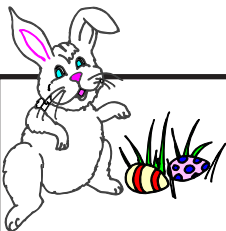
No household hazardous waste (pesticides, paint, cleaners, paint thinners, oil etc.) or appliances with refrigerants (air conditioners and refrigerators). Be sure that crank cases and gas tanks on motors, lawnmowers, etc. have been thoroughly drained or they will be left behind.

**REQUIRED TREATMENT OF BRUSH AND LIMBS:** Brush and limbs should be cut to 4' maximum lengths and bundled together. This is for ease of handling and loading into the packer trucks. If you choose not to cut to 4 foot lengths or bundle your brush, it will not be picked up. On Monday, the city will come out and clean it up for you. They will give you a ticket and you will be required to pay a fine.

La Asociación de Vecinos Uptown (UNA) ha fijado una fecha para recoger basura por la vecindad (entre Douglas al sur, y Central del norte, Grove del oriente y Hillside al este) el Sábado 17 de Abril, 2004 a las nueve de la mañana hasta la una de la tarde (9:00am—1:00pm). Además de las tres camiones de basura, más tarde en la mañana pasará un camión especial para jalar llantas. Pónganse la basura y las llantas deshechas al reborde del camino frente a su casa para recoger el día 17 de Abril. Esperamos que nos ayuden y solicitamos voluntarios para cargar las camiones en aquél día. A fines del esfuerzo, se les invitamos a todos que nos ayudan a almorzar pizza a la iglesia, College Hill United Methodist. Llámen a Darrel Davilla, quién es encargado de los voluntarios a 686-1109, o al Presidente de UNA, Paul Oberg, (quien habla español) a 687-0949. Busquen un aviso en las noticias mensuales del Uptown Neighborhood News.

### Sick of Secondhand Smoke? Ready to Act?

The mission of the Tobacco Free Wichita Coalition is to protect the citizens of Wichita and Sedgwick County from the adverse effects of tobacco use. To do so, Tobacco Free Wichita is promoting smoke free environments and advocating for a local effort to prohibit smoking in restaurants, workplaces and public places. If you are interested in learning more about Tobacco Free Wichita or supporting its efforts, visit [www.tobaccofreewichita.org](http://www.tobaccofreewichita.org) for more information. If you would like to join the Coalition and receive Action Alerts, you may do so through the website ([www.tobaccofreewichita.org](http://www.tobaccofreewichita.org)), by emailing [tfwcoalition@tobaccofreewichita.org](mailto:tfwcoalition@tobaccofreewichita.org) or by calling (316)616-6519.



# UNA

## 5th Annual

### Easter Egg Hunt 2004

Spring is in the air

The Easter Bunny is coming

Mark your calendar for April 11th, Sunday  
Chautauqua Park - 3rd & Chautauqua  
1:00 - 4:00 p.m. - 3 hours of fun



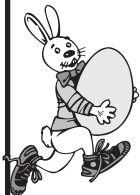
The egg hunt is for ages 10 and under but there will be games for all ages. We will have 2 piñatas filled with candy and one prize drawing - get a ticket when you get there. This will also help us know how many people came.

Teenagers are welcome - we will have Bingo with cash prizes. The cost is only 25¢ per card with a 2 card limit.

We will have a 3 legged race, an egg race and more so come and have fun with us.

Donations of money or candy would be appreciated. Volunteers are also needed to help with the games. If anyone has a bunny costume that we can use or if you can help with anything else please call Mary at 688-1797 or 650-9263.

Please come to your neighborhood events. Let's make our neighborhood the best ever!



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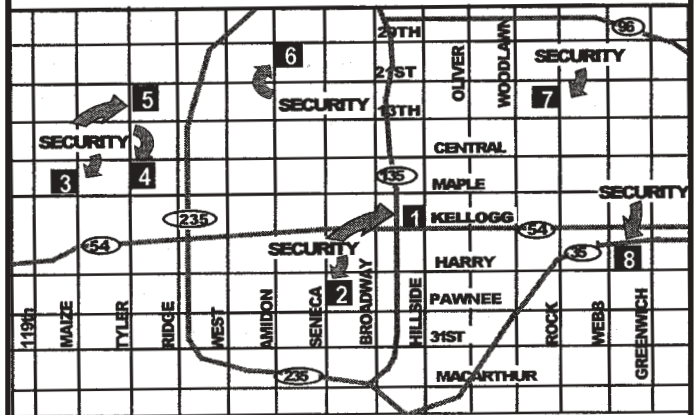
#### Avoid Hassles

24-Hour Access  
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Convenient Location  
Climate Controlled Available\*

#### Expect the Best!

Industry-Leading Service  
Brick Construction  
Gabled Roofs (it matters!)  
Handy Sizes (5x5 & up)

## SECURITY SELF STORAGE



1. Hillside & Kellogg (405 S. Hillside)\*... **681-2256**
2. Seneca & Pawnee (2010 S. Seneca) **262-4180**
3. Maize & Maple (111 N. Maize Rd.)\* **773-9303**
4. Central & Tyler (550 N. Tyler) ..... **722-8330**
5. 21st & Tyler (8631 W. 21st) \* ..... **721-2666**
6. 29th & Amidon (2940 N. Amidon)..... **838-6811**
7. 17th & Rock (1701 N. Rock Rd.)\* ..... **634-0098**
8. Harry & Webb (9750 E. Harry)\*..... **683-3390**

**Climate Controlled Available\***

**FREE RENT**

This coupon entitles you to receive your second month free on any size unit at any Security Self Storage location.



Not valid with any other offers.

**24 HR ACCESS / NO EXTRA FEES**

### District Advisory Board Notes

The District One Advisory Board meets on the first Monday of each month. The next meeting will be April 5 at 7 p.m.

At the March 1st meeting, we heard from the Kansas Children's Service League about their Black Adoption Fair and the need for minority families for foster and adoptive parenting of African American children (look for more information in another article). We also heard about the new design for the Fire Station that will be built on 21st St. at Chautauqua. It will replace the little old station at 17th & Grove. The new station was designed by NE Magnet students and their instructor and the artwork was drawn by these students. Really will be a neat looking structure!

The biggest group was there from the Timbers, an apartment community for people with disabilities (wheel-chairs) on 21st across from the old Kmart. The subject was the Recertification of Paratransit Eligible Passengers. Currently the city provides special vans with lifts to transport passengers who are unable to get to the regular buses and their pick up stations. The recertification will determine which of those passengers is capable of riding the regular fixed route buses and provide training for them to learn how to do so, IF POSSIBLE. Many of the riders will continue to use the specialized transportation vans but there are also many who could ride regular buses now that all buses are equipped with lifts or ramps. The motion to recertify all riders and to require an in person interview to determine usage was passed unanimously.

The only other issue raised was a report from DAB member Lois Tully-Gerber. She is on the Fireworks Task Force and stated that it has been a difficult group due to the strong opinions on the issue.

-Lori



## Crystal's Clubhouse

Crystal Winter - licensed daycare

**652-9272**

1832 S. Estelle, Wichita, Ks. 67211

**M - F 1st shift (flexible hours)**

**Fun & Safe environment,**

**Nutritious meals, activities**

**And lots of TLC!**



**Come join the Fun!!!**

### Clean Up Collection

Since our Uptown Rummage Sale will be on May 1st, we ask that when you put your trash out the night before the clean up, put any items you think we might be able to sell out by the curb and we can pick up your donation before dark on Friday, April 16th.

It may not be something you want anymore but to someone else it might be a treasure! If you have large items that need to be picked up, please call Mary at 650-9263 and let her know. We will have someone come by your home to take it away.

**Next meeting**  
**Thursday April 1, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Don't miss it!**  
**at**  
**College Hill United Methodist Church**

**Kid's Kingdom Preschool/Daycare**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**925 N. Waco**  
**263-2433**

**Immediate Openings - Downtown location**

### Commonly Requested Numbers

Accident Reports	
Within 48 hours .....	268-4131
Over 48 hours .....	268-4261
Animal Control .....	268-8473
Auto Tags/Title .....	383-7331
Birth Certificates .....	(913) 296-1414
Bus information .....	265-7221
City Council/Mayor/s Office .....	268-4331
County Information .....	383-7400
Driver's License .....	942-0723
Election Commissioner .....	383-7101
Employment Hotline .....	268-4537
Garage Sales (license) .....	268-4553
Property Taxes .....	383-7414
Real Estate Ownership .....	383-7691
Small Claims .....	383-7761
Street Maintenance (24 hours).....	268-4071
Traffic Fines .....	268-4611
Voter Registration .....	383-7101
Weed Mowing:	
Private property .....	268-8422
Public property.....	337-9225
Zoo .....	942-2212
Commonly Requested Websites:	
City of Wichita.....	www.wichita.gov
Sedgwick County, .....	www.sedgwick.ks.us
Chamber of Commerce.....	www.wichitakansas.org
Convention & Visitors Bureau,	www.wichita-cvb.org

### Black Foster Care and Adoption Fair

Saturday, April 3, 2004

12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Atwater Neighborhood Center

2755 E. 19th Street

Keeping the Hopes and Dreams Alive for Many Minority Children Who Are Patiently Waiting for a “Forever Family” of Their Own

The Kansas Children’s Service League is looking for African American couples who are willing to foster or adopt black children. They also have biracial children they are looking for mixed race couples to adopt.

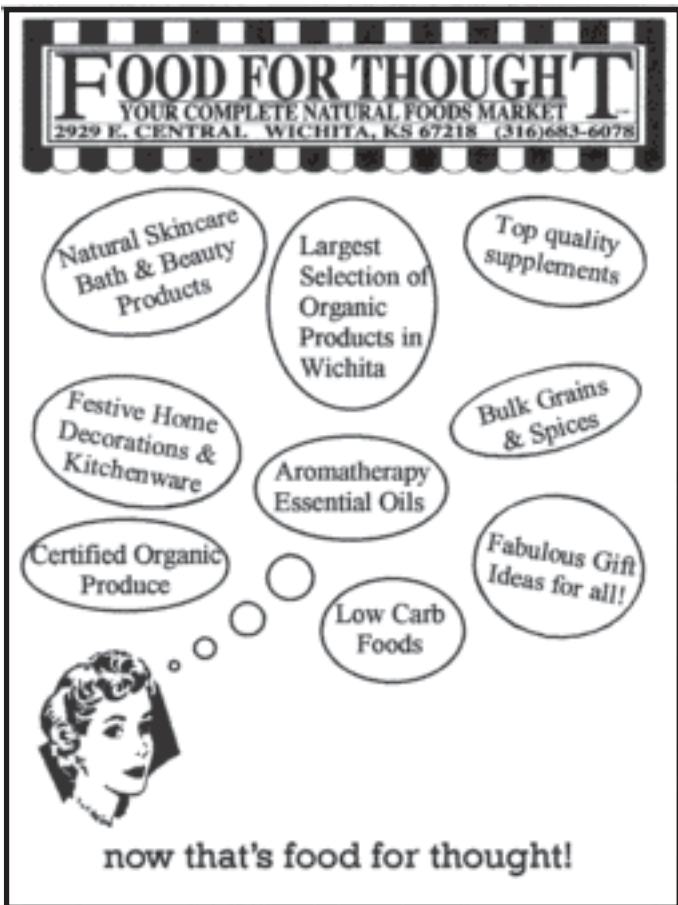
If you are interested in this program and would like to meet with the Children’s Service League people, please attend the fair and offer to help out kids who need loving homes and caring parents.

If you have any questions, please contact Nina Shaw-Woody at 942-4261 ext. 263 or by email at nwoody@kcsll.org.

Pizza Provided at UNA Activities Courtesy of



Clifton Phang  
General Mgr. 686-7272  
5231 E. Central



now that's food for thought!

### What’s New in 2004 @ www.Wichita.gov

The City of Wichita recently unveiled a new service that makes communications with citizens and businesses even Easier! Simply sign up for your own personal information requests through the new E-Subscription Service and city information will be delivered to your email account. The new subscription service found on the City's web site (<http://www.wichita.gov/mywichita/>) will allow users to easily subscribe to the information that is of interest. By entering only an email address and password, a user can select the items they want to receive (an opt-in subscription). The simple web interface allows a user to modify these selections at any time.

Why is this unique? Instead of the City sending you a monthly e-newsletter with information that you may not be interested in, YOU can determine what and when you receive information from the City. If you subscribe to City Council agendas, for example, as soon as the new agenda becomes available, you will be notified with an email. No more checking the web site, no more phone calls to see if it is available. At 3:00pm daily the site will scan all folders in the subscription listing, those that have new documents posted will automatically send an email (with links only, to conserve email inbox space) to the users that have subscribed within that listing. This can be a great time saver for you in acquiring information from City Hall.

Some of the new pages to look for in 2004 are:

**Accident Reports:** Find a copy of any accident reports online in March.

**Citation and Parking Ticket Payments:** Pay without a trip to City Hall. Enter your citation number and get it paid online in May!

**Water Bills:** If you would like to look up consumption or want the flexibility to pay your water bill online with a credit card or ACH, look for this application in March.

**E-Permits:** This new site is a powerful, flexible and secure solution for enabling citizens to access construction information. You will be able to check status of applications, permits and cases, comment on proposed work to be performed and review case, permit and parcel information.

And there is much more you can learn by checking out the city website. Enjoy!

-Lori

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## Breakfast with Brewer

At the March 6th breakfast, councilman Brewer was out of town so our county commissioner Carolyn McGinn lead the meeting.

She spoke about the difference between city and county services. City services include things like streets, water, sewer and etc. Infra-structure issues take care of by the city. The county does Human Services like ComCare, the Health Dept. and trash.

This issue received MUCH discussion. Carolyn said that there is a 50/50 chance we will get a landfill here again. The FAA will have to make a decision on the safety for Raytheon and the Ks. Dept of Health and Environment will decide whether the site is suitable. It also will depend on whether it can be supported by trash haulers. Waste Connections has 70% of the trash market in Wichita and they refuse to use a local landfill. There may not be enough to use the landfill to make it worth doing. She also believes in the Recycle/Reduce/Reuse philosophy and thinks that should be an important part of any trash plan.

Franchising was also discussed and she said there are NO plans to franchise trash service in Wichita. In other cities, they divide the space into grids and offer each hauler a chance to bid on each grid. They do not allow any one hauler to bid more than a certain percent of the city. That could save the smaller companies since they would be able to compete against the big haulers and would be guaranteed work. It would also greatly save on our streets and we wouldn't have trash trucks driving through every day, just once a week.

Another topic of discussion was the jail. The county jail's 1000 beds are currently full plus they county is renting bed space for 200 other inmates. In 10 years, 30% of the county budget will be spent on jails alone.

She asked us Who are we afraid of? And Who are we mad at? Among offenders, those we are afraid of need to be in jail. But those who have committed crimes that they should have to pay for but are not dangerous, could be allowed to live somewhere else and do other type of work or pay fines to satisfy their sentences. Many of those in jail now are mentally ill or need drug treatment. Without help, these inmates will be stuck in the system and unable to get out of it.

The African American Museum was also discussed. Carolyn is on their board of directors and they are still looking for a new place to locate the museum. The greatest fear is that they will lose the Gordon Parks collection if they don't move soon. They are hoping the city will buy land from Westar near the river across from the Veteran's Memorial near the Reflecting Pool and then sell it to the county (I guess...). Unfortunately the city had not moved on this until recently and is now waiting for the appraisal so they can make an offer.

The next District One Coalition Breakfast is April 3rd at 8 a.m. at Cisro's restaurant on 21st and Oliver. Please join us!

## Benefit Fashion Show for Literacy Resources

*Sponsored by GM Clotheshorse and Literacy Resources*

**Thursday, April 1, 2004**

Noon Luncheon

\*Hats and Gloves Welcomed at

Wichita Country Club

8501 E. 13th St.

\$35 per person

featuring "Yesterday's Retro Is Today's Chic"

Door prizes and more!

Reservations needed in advance!

Contact **Literacy Resources** at **973-5120**,

412 S. Main,

Wichita KS 67202

# The Spice Merchant

1300 E. Douglas

(Douglas at Cleveland)

**263-4121**

- ★ Coffee roasted in the store
- ★ Kitchen Utensils
- ★ Gifts & Gift Baskets
- ★ Herbs & Spices
- ★ Coffee Mugs & Coffee
- ★ Fragrances
- ★ Spices, Teas, Pastas
- ★ Perfume & Essential oils
- ★ Specialty Food Items
- ★ New Items arriving daily!

**Hours: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.**  
**8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday**  
**Lunch Served 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.**

## Donald Betts Jr.

Born in Wichita, Kansas, on February 8, 1978, Donald Betts Jr. attended elementary school in the Wichita area, where he spent much of his childhood. His political career began in the 2nd grade, when classmates elected him as the class representative at Hyde Elementary School.

At the age of ten, however, he moved with his mother and younger brother to North Las Vegas, an inner city community atypical of the images so often associated with Las Vegas's neon lights sparkling along downtown's famous strip. Betts grew up outside all the glitz and glamour, in what he describes as a "poverty stricken, drug-infested neighborhood, where to witness scenes of prostitution, drive-by shootings, and other violent criminal activity were not uncommon occurrences."

Betts grew up in a single-parent household headed by his mother, Charmaine Betts. She struggled to provide for her two children and keep them on the "straight and narrow." She remained a full-time parent for nearly ten years, which kept her dependent on various forms of public assistance. When the boys were older, she worked at Macy's, in a telemarketing firm, and even as a movie extra in such films as Vegas Vacation and Casino.

At the age of thirteen, Betts began the start of a career in public service by working with the Doolittle Tutorial Program, helping elementary school students with their homework. He later attended Clark High School, where constant gang activity forced a focus not only on education, but also on security. The threat of violence went so far as to create the need for metal detectors and security cameras. Violence was not limited to the school building, however, but also occurred on the school bus. Betts eventually rode the city bus to school. Despite these problems, he remained very active at his high school, where he served on the drum squad and played bass violin.

Betts later transfer to the Las Vegas Advanced Technologies Academy (ATA), where a new and innovative approach to secondary education was developed. With the goal of becoming an attorney like his uncle Wendell, Betts graduated from the program with an emphasis in law. He was also a recipient of the Principal's Award.

After graduation, on a visit to his extended family in Wichita, Betts felt at home and decided to move back to Wichita to attend Friends University. While an undergraduate, he was involved in football, the NAACP, a vocal group (the "Singing Quakers"), and several bands, in which he played the bass violin. He also became a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, the nation-wide fraternity that sponsored the Kappa Leadership League, including the chapter in Las Vegas.

His start in elective office also began at Friends, when Betts was elected to the Multicultural Student Association and became the first black student body president.

He also decided to become politically active in the Democratic Party and was soon running for the Kansas State House of Representatives in the 84th District, the part of Wichita where he lived with his grandmother. He ran a small, grass roots campaign motivated by his strong personal desire to better serve and address the needs of his community. He walked door-to-door and talked with voters, put up yard signs, and learned to handle himself with the media. His efforts were rewarded in November 2002 when, at the age of 24, he was elected.

For most of the 2003 session, which ran from January through April and into May, Betts concentrated on learning the ways of the Kansas House, sharing an office with other representatives from the Wichita area and discussing bills and resolutions with his colleagues.

As 2003 came to an end, however, Betts was presented with a new opportunity. U.L. "Rip Gooch", the State Senator for the district that included all of Betts' House district, decided to retire. At first reluctant to throw his hat in the ring, Betts was eventually persuaded to give it a shot. On January 13, 2004, he was sworn in -- as the youngest Senator serving.

Thus far, Senator Betts has adjusted well to the Senate. Although he is the lowest in seniority, he is not allowing that to prevent him from pushing for issues he feels passionately about. For example, he hopes to include an amendment to the Governor's controversial proposal to expand gambling that would require casinos to invest a percentage of their profits into community improvement projects. He also is currently co-sponsoring S.B. 513 along with Rep. Ruby Gilbert that would eliminate the practice of racial profiling by Kansas law enforcement agencies.

Remembering his own humble background, Betts vows to continue his work in the Senate, not only as the representative of his constituents, but also as the voice in Topeka of those who have no other voice.

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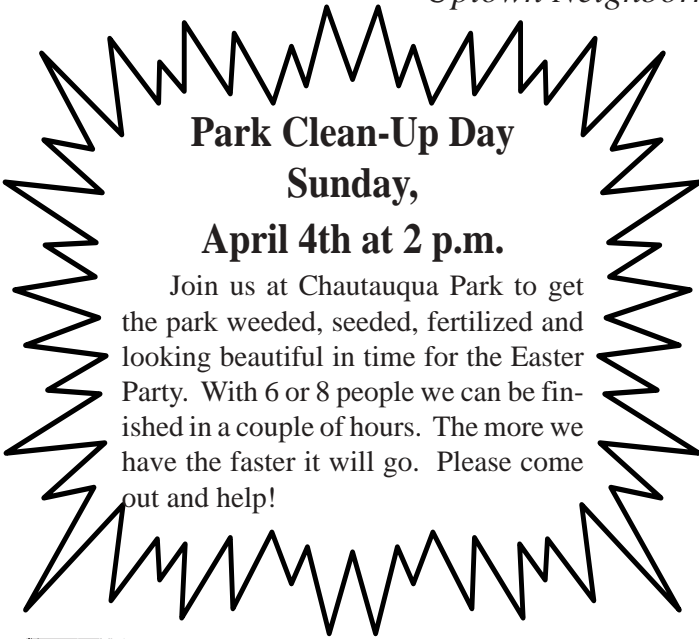
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**Park Clean-Up Day  
Sunday,  
April 4th at 2 p.m.**

Join us at Chautauqua Park to get the park weeded, seeded, fertilized and looking beautiful in time for the Easter Party. With 6 or 8 people we can be finished in a couple of hours. The more we have the faster it will go. Please come out and help!

**STOR-ALL**  
SELF STORAGE

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WINTER SPECIALS!**

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<b>SOUTHEAST</b> 4545 E. PAWNEE 681-1220	<b>WEST WICHITA</b> 13000 W. KELLOGG 773-0123

**Uptown Trivia**

**A New Record ...**

After February's record setting response, only one Uptowner responded correctly to March's trivia, which was to name the current Uptown storefront establishment in business longest at the same location. Curtis Jones correctly identified Rieger Medical Supply as the answer. He called in within a half hour of receiving his newsletter! Curtis had brainstormed with Wendell Holmes, a fellow 2nd and Erie area neighbor, before calling. So see, it really wasn't that hard! Curtis won \$5 of junk at my garage sale, which was scheduled for March 26. UT also received 2 incorrect responses.

Rieger, a family owned business, has been at 3111 E Central since 1943! Wow! Many more years than whatever would be second place! The family owned operation (get it?) originated in 1927 on west Douglas, in the building which is now occupied by Hatman Jack's. So many thanks to Rieger for being a great Uptown establishment.

**Didjano...?**

You don't have to be a business to donate a prize for Uptown Trivia!

**...nowUdo!**

**New Question:**

What college was located at Poplar and Douglas? First person to call 685 4850 with the correct answer wins:

**\$ 5 of FREE STUFF at the  
UPTOWN GARAGE SALE  
southeast corner of  
CENTRAL & GROVE  
Saturday May 1**

**Uptown's Website**

Check for the changes at [www.simplyneighbors.com/Kansas/Wichita/Uptown](http://www.simplyneighbors.com/Kansas/Wichita/Uptown) The website has been upgraded and now there are more things to do with it. Be sure to look at the newsletter page! Starting with March, the entire newsletter with the ads and everything is printed! Also look at the photo gallery. I can add new pictures at any time now and I plan to do just that. Check it out!!!

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— Ask for Larry —

## Minutes of the Meeting, March 4, 2004

This meeting took place at College Hill United Methodist Church

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting on 2/5/04 were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning Balance = \$1,814.47. Credit = \$8.00 (from cookie sales) Debit = \$0. Ending Balance = \$1,822.47.

**Neighborhood Police Officer's Report:** Merie Shirkey, Beat Coordinator for Beat 31, reported on Uptown Neighborhood concerns. Because of a rape in an adjacent neighborhood, she warned that women should always be aware of their surroundings and should not walk down the alleys. She also warned us to lock our screen doors during warm weather. She mentioned that the January/February tally by the Police Department showed 12 burglaries in Beat 31, which contains the Uptown Neighborhood. Most of these break-ins occurred during the day at a rear or side window. Neighbors brought up complaints such as trash piling up, noise from a rock band, a shed being broken into, and vehicle larceny. Officer Shirkey reported on a drug house at 415 N. Spruce (in an adjacent neighborhood) and on a prostitution sting on Central Ave. She also mentioned that people in the New Salem area would like to attend our neighborhood meetings with the goal of eventually forming their own neighborhood association. (Officer Shirkey's phone number is 688-9331. Her email address is vshirkey@wichita.gov, and she has a web page at www.wichitapolice.com.)

Paul Oberg gave a report on **housing concerns** in the neighborhood. Mr. Wong is trying to sell his property in the 200 block of N. Lorraine. A problem house on Erie was bought by a person with good credentials, and the problem house at 327 N. Chautauqua is being fixed up for resale. Two houses in the 100 block of N. Estelle have been cited by the city.

The Uptown Neighborhood **Non-Profit Status** was discussed again. Lynn Wasinger, UNA Treasurer, reported that we do have an EIN (taxpayer identification number).

Though we don't have a 5013C (not-for profit status), we can conduct business under WIN's umbrella. The UNA can own property, but the insurance costs will be a problem. Dave Winter announced that his wife doesn't want to sell the old store to the neighborhood association, so some of the problems with leasing and rehabbing the building were discussed.

The Spring **Neighborhood Clean-Up** will be held on April 17, 2004. Darrell Davilla (686-1109) is in charge.

**Easter in Chautauqua Park** will be held on April 11, Easter Sunday. Candy and volunteers are needed.

The **Neighborhood Rummage Sale** will be May 1st in front of the Guidance Center. Contact Lori Lawrence

(688-1484) for more information.

People will be needed to mow the park and help with the Summer Picnic.

The **next meeting** will be held at College Hill Methodist Church on Thursday, April 1, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.

## Hitting You Where You Live: Finding Your Dream Home

By David Franks

Americans have two dreams about homes. First, home ownership is "the American dream". Owning and occupying a bit of this great country is a worthy goal, and most people can realize it. Our nation's expansion across the continent was driven by the very idea that any citizen could have enough land to build a life on. For most people—those who have not lately been affected by personal economic reversals—it has never been as easy to realize this dream as in the past year or so. It is still relatively easy to buy a home, particularly if one is careful about selecting it.

Start your search right, and you can end it right. Even your first home can be your dream home.

If you have questions about this article, or about issues that were not addressed in this article, you can reach me at 838-0805.

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