

THE MIDTOWNER

June / July
2007

The Official Newsletter of Historic Midtown Citizens Association

Benefit Gala a Success - Community Center Benefits



"Guests check out auction items." Photos courtesy of Randy Allen Photography.

Historic Midtown Citizen's Association hosted the ninth annual benefit gala for the Midtown Community Resource Center on Saturday, April 28. A great time was had by more than 100 people.

The gala raised nearly \$8,000 for the Center. The event featured food, wine, music and a silent auction. Newspaper cartoonist and musician Richard Crowson and his wife Karen entertained guests during dinner with their bluegrass music.

This silent auction offered dozens of items, along with some special features, including a Halloween dinner for six at the historic (and haunted!) Pratt/Campbell mansion, an autographed banner signed by Larry Johnson of the Kansas City Chiefs, a hand-quilted baby blanket by City Council Member Sharon Fearey, and a Kansas Statehouse desk chair from Representative Nile Dillmore.

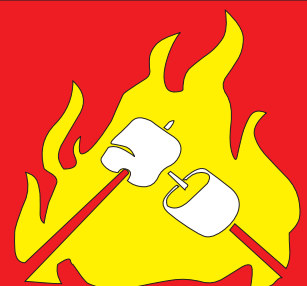
A cadre of volunteers provided food, served beverages, washed dishes and more. We couldn't have done it without them! Thanks so much to everyone who attended, donated, volunteered, and purchased!

Historic Midtown Citizens Association thanks these generous donors:

Debbie Allen, The Alley, The Artichoke, Brian Bailey, Sandi Baird, Terry and Mae Behrendt, Bill's Gutter Cleaning, Botanica -The Wichita Gardens, Brandon Michael Photography, Mayor Carl Brewer, Mike Briley, Chipotle Grille, City Arts, City of Wichita, Charlie and Cindy Claycomb, Joan Cole, Complete Landscaping, Countryside West Lanes, Michelle Davis, Nile Dillmore, John and Kathy Dittmer, Fazoli's, Alan and Sharon Fearey, Troy and Anne Fitzgerald, Mike Grager, Parker Habery, Hatman Jack's, Heart's Desire, Hotel at Old Town, It's a Miracle Painting, Jazzercise - Kara Kuehnel, Johnny Carrino's, Johnson's Garden Center, JR Koontz, Kansas Cosmosphere, Rollin and Patti Karg, Janie and Steve Krull, LaChinita, Lucinda's, Monica's Bunt Cakes, Moore Flowers, Cathy Landwehr, Mosley Street Melodrama, Janet Miller, Music Theater of Wichita, Old Mill Tasty Shop, Sonja Ottaway, Origins, Panera Bread, Mandy Peterson, John Quintanar, Quizno's, Red Bean's Bayou Grill, John Redwine, Riverside Café, Riverside Cup of Tea, Riverside Hair Station, Riverside Perk, Salon at Happiness Plaza, Sedgwick County Zoo, Tickle Your Fancy, Mary Tomlinson, Shirley Walker, Wichita Art Museum, Wichita Greyhound Park, Wichita State University, Wichita Wranglers, Wilborn's, Xenon, The Yard, YMCA



**TRI-NEIGHBORHOOD
PICNIC TIME
SATURDAY, JUNE 16
AT MINISA PARK**



Gala Benefits Community Center



"Food and beverage was plentiful."



Photos courtesy of Randy Allen Photography.

"Volunteers determine highest bidders."

Parks Plan Needs You Take the On-line Survey

Wichita is developing a new 20-year plan for our community's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) system. To make sure the plan reflects what's important to us, we need to voice our opinions.

We need to let planners know what kind of parks and recreational opportunities we want, what we think the current problems are, and what changes we would like to see made. For example, do we need more soccer fields, fewer basketball courts, more connected bike paths, more frequent park mowing? Are the recreation centers and neighborhood swimming pools important to you and your family? Or should we let another entity - like the YMCA - for example, assume responsibility for community recreation and fitness centers and discontinue the City's operations of those facilities? What facilities and parks do you use most/least and why?

Your input is critical to ensuring the future of our parks, recreation and open space. Planners are making it easy for us to share our thoughts. An on-line survey is posted at www.wichitaPROSplan.org. There is both an adult and youth version of the survey. Please take a few minutes to complete this important survey.



wild hair salon

Celebrating 8 Years

~

Your Summer Style
Headquarters

~

Call for an Appointment
1950 W. 13th 264-1414

Summer Meal Program Breakfast and Lunch for Kids

USD 259 Nutrition Services is offering free meal programs to children this summer. Any child 18 years of age and under may participate. There is no fee or registration. Adults may purchase meals for \$3.00.

Breakfast will consist of milk, cereal/bread, and fruit or fruit juice. Lunch will consist of entrée, fruit, vegetable and milk.

Various sites are available around the city. In Midtown, sites are located at Park Elementary (breakfast and lunch) at 1025 N. Main and St. Paul Lutheran Church (lunch only) at 925 N. Waco.

Visit www.HistoricMidtown.org



John Schlegel, Wichita / Sedgwick County Planning Dept.

HMCA Hears 21st Street Revitalization Plans

John Schlegel, Director of the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department, presented information about the 21st Street Revitalization Plan at the April HMCA general meeting.

Those in attendance heard about plans for the new Nomar International District, the Mercado, the re-design of the 21st and Broadway intersection, and the widening and improvement of 21st Street from Broadway west to Waco.

Participating in development of the plans have been residents and business owners of the area, El Pueblo Neighborhood Association, 21st Street Business Association, the 21st Street Community Development Corporation, the City of Wichita, Greteman Group, and Wilson Darnell Mann Architects.

Details of the plans can be found at www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AP/NR/21stStNorthPlan.htm

Helpful Telephone Numbers

Alley Maintenance Needed	268-4060
Animal Control	268-8378
Building Permits	268-4461
Evergreen City Hall	303-8042
Gang Activity Report Line	267-7228
HMCA Information	264-2988
Housing Assistance Programs	462-3700
(weatherization / emergency repairs / other)	
Midtown Community Resource Center	264-4636
Neighborhood Action Line	529-9999
Neighborhood Inspector (housing)	268-4481
(To report deteriorated properties)	
Neighborhood Inspector (environment)	268-8351
(To report trash / junk / tall grass)	
North Police Station & Community Police	688-9500
Park Department	268-4361
6 th District City Council	268-4331
Storm Sewer Stoppages	268-4090
Street Lights Not Working	268-4448
Street Maintenance Needed	268-4071

Historic Midtown Neighborhood Boundaries

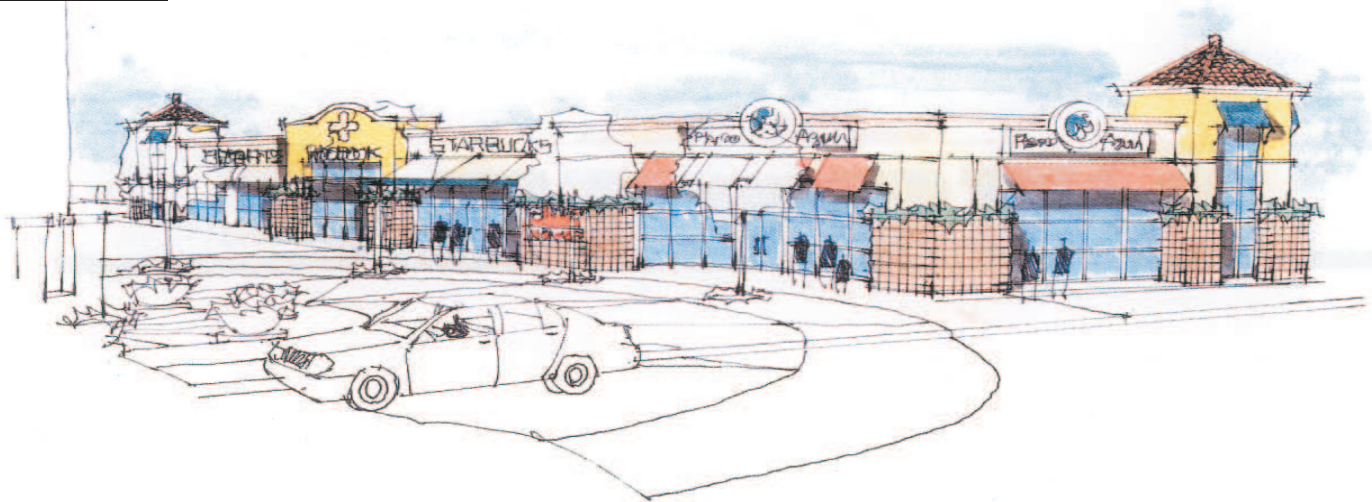
The neighborhood boundaries are 21st Street on the north, Santa Fe railroad tracks on the east, Central Ave. on the south, and the Little Arkansas River on the west.

Midtowner Newsletter Information

Janet Miller, Editor . . . 264-2988

Articles may be submitted to:
1102 Jefferson Ave. Wichita, KS 67203
or e-mailed to editor@historicmidtown.org

Call 990-2134 for Advertising Rates
or e-mail advertising@historicmidtown.org



One of the Proposed Retail Areas in NOMAR International

Drawings by the Greteman Group + WDM Design

Homeless Need Your Help First Saturday of the Month

There are a number of items that are needed by the homeless on a regular basis. If you can help, I hope you will.

Items will be given out on the first Saturday of the month, at Fairview Christian Church, during the breakfast, which is offered to our neighbors, both homed and homeless. Come and join us - we serve from 8:30 to 10 a.m. - and it's a good breakfast! (and sometimes there's live music!)

You can bring donated items to the next North Riverside Neighborhood Association meeting, or you can call Eli Hess at 262-0540 (leave a message), and I'll be glad to pick items up.

Items needed (mostly for men) include: backpacks, long underwear (for winter), coats, jackets, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, lotion, new briefs, jeans, t-shirts, new socks, belts, shoes. Thank you for your support!

Submitted by Eli Hess of Fairview Christian Church

**REMEMBER TO USE
OUR ADVERTISERS**

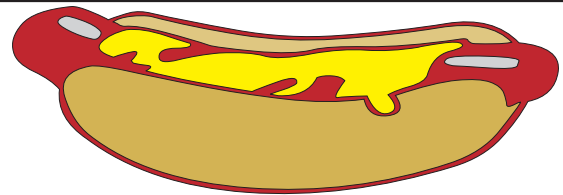
Thanks to HMCA

Midtown Community Resource Center would like to thank Historic Midtown Citizens Association for the annual Benefit Gala it hosted on April 28 to benefit MCRC. What a wonderful evening!

As always, the food was spectacular (HMCA knows how to put out a spread, let me tell you) and the company enjoyable. We got our toes tapping with a wonderful musical performance by Richard and Karen Crowson, and the silent auction was terrific: lots of great goodie baskets, decorator items, and gift certificates. Special thanks, too, to the HMCA auctioneer extraordinaire, Nile Dillmore, for his skills at bringing home the bacon at the close of the night.

Again, MCRC appreciates HMCA for all its hard work in putting on this annual event; without you, the vision of MCRC would be an unfulfilled dream.

*Submitted by David Cullen
MCRC Board President*



Tri-Neighborhood Picnic Time Saturday, June 16th

Bring a dish and come hungry! The annual tri-neighborhood potluck picnic is the place to be Saturday, June 16 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Minisa Park Shelter, 13th and Jeanette. The evening promises to be lots of fun with good food, friends, and door prizes. Residents of Midtown, Riverside, and North Riverside are invited to attend. Remember to bring your own table service, too. Children welcome!



**ACCIDENT RECOVERY
TEAM, P.A.**

**Personal Injury
Worker's Compensation**

Offices: 221 South Topeka
Wichita, KS 67202

tel: 316.263.0505
fax: 316.263.2128
toll free: 1.866.263.0505

Letter from the President A Touch of Class on Broadway

If you have driven along Broadway lately you might have noticed the new benches that have been installed. People waiting for a bus will now be able to sit and relax while they wait.

Sometimes benches used for this purpose are ugly and plastered with advertisements. The new Broadway benches are very nice and in keeping with our historic neighborhood. They are steel construction with a solid black, high-gloss finish.

I have found out that we have the City's Transit Department to thank for this. They may have paid a little more for this type of bench, but it will look good for a very long time. I think it was a wise decision.

As long as I am handing out compliments for decisions that make our neighborhood look attractive, I want to mention two businesses that maintain their landscaping: Broadway Supermarket in the 1300 block, and Walgreen's at the corner of 13th and Waco. They both do a great job keeping their properties nicely landscaped.

Submitted by HMCA President Dan Fitzgerald

Gargantuan Garage Sale July 20th and 21st

The 2007 Annual Back-to-School Garage Sale is scheduled for July 20 and 21. A fundraiser for Midtown Community Resource Center, the hours of the sale will be 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday and 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The MCRC Sale Work Team is looking for donated items for the sale. Suggested items include clothing, coats, shoes, books, toys, kitchen items, backpacks, furniture, bedding, towels, music, CDs, tools, knick-knacks and working electronics. Items need to be clean and in good working condition.

Garage sale donations will be accepted at the MCRC, 1150 N. Broadway, beginning Monday, July 2 through July 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Your donation to the not-for-profit MCRC will be properly acknowledged for tax purposes.

To sign-up to work a shift at the sale, please call or email Adrienne DeGraftenreed at 264-4636 or adrienned@midtowncrc.org.

Planning for Historic Home Tour Saturday & Sunday, October 13-14

Planning is underway for the 2007 Historic Midtown Walking Tour of homes. This year's tour will be Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14.

This annual fall event features our Midtown community at its best. The tour includes five houses in an area of Midtown that varies from year to year. This year the tour will be in the Emporia Avenue Historic District

The annual Historic Home Tour is always lots of fun. There are guides in period clothing, the sounds of the organ grinder and other musicians, antique cars, and the lovely homes to see.

The Tour Planning Committee could use your help if you enjoy planning events. We also need volunteers to work in the homes on the days of the tour. Please call Rachel Schober at 262-9172 if you can work a 3-hour shift on Saturday or Sunday.



Neighborhood Clean-Up Scheduled Saturday, July 7th

Ready for some big fun that will result in a spiffy-looking 10-block area? Come join the effort!

A neighborhood clean-up has been scheduled for Saturday, July 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Co-sponsored by Historic Midtown Citizen Association and El Pueblo Neighborhood Association, the clean-up area will be within the boundaries of 15th Street to 21st Street and Waco to Arkansas Avenue.

Residents within this area will be able to haul their trash and junk to dumpsters located temporarily at St. Pat's Church. Additionally, trash trucks will be circulating through the streets and alleys to pick up trash and discarded junk. You haven't lived until you've watched a trash truck crunch up a sleeper sofa or explode a big screen television!

A tire truck will be available to pick up old tires. Hazardous waste, batteries, paint, and appliances with Freon cannot be accepted because they cannot go into the landfill.

Residents will help load their own trash and will be asked to help their neighbors load theirs as well. Volunteers are needed to help pick up trash, supervise the unloading at the dumpsters, and cut down brush and weeds in the alleys. Our goal is 50 volunteers.

We'll meet at St. Pat's at 8:00 a.m. to begin the day. Lunch will be provided following the clean-up.

Come out and enjoy the fun and camaraderie of neighbors helping neighbors clean up! For more information, call Janet Miller at 264-2988. See you there!

WANTED

**Energetic go-getter to sell
advertising for "The Midtownner".
Must have own transportation
and a positive attitude.
Commission paid.
Call Brian at 316-990-2134**





National Night Out on August 7th Start Planning Your Block Party!

Summer is here and now's the perfect time to begin planning for a block party in celebration of National Night Out. Each year on the first Tuesday of August, National Night Out brings out neighbors all across the country to celebrate the safety and livability of their neighborhoods. Neighbors band together, turn on their porch lights, and get together for an evening of summer fun, symbolically discouraging crime from their neighborhood.

Each block party is unique and planned by neighbors who reside within one to two blocks of each other. Festivities usually include refreshments, music, activities for kids, and visits from area police and fire department personnel who demonstrate their safety equipment.

Don't miss this year's opportunity to get together with your neighbors. It's a great chance to see old friends or make new ones if you don't know the folks that live on your block.

For more information about organizing and registering a block party for August 7, call 268-4351. Registration will put your party on the list for a visit from police and/or fire personnel. If you wish to close your street for the event, indicate that request when you register.



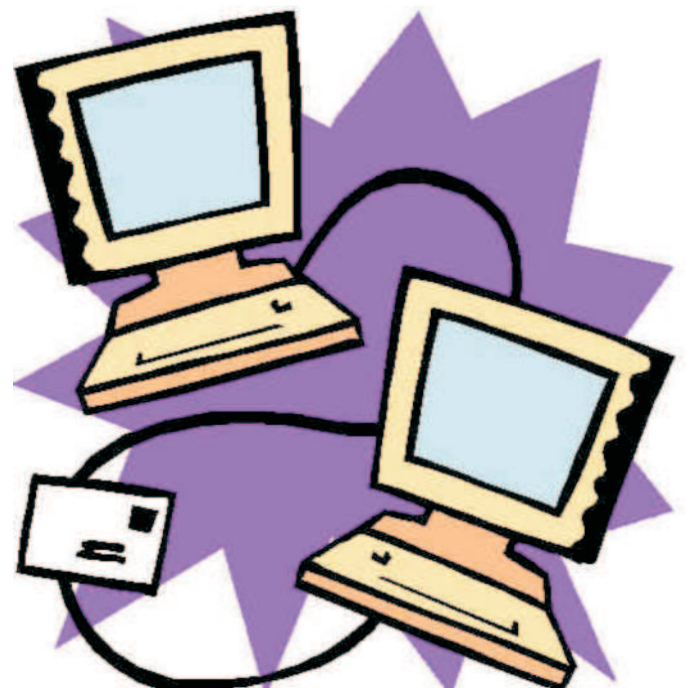
North Riverside Garden Stroll Saturday, June 23rd

Our neighbors to the north in North Riverside Neighborhood Association are hosting a fund raising Garden Stroll on Saturday, June 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit neighborhood landscaping projects.

Five gardens on Garland, Coolidge, Ferrell, and Heiserman will be featured. Tickets are just \$5.00 for all five gardens and may be purchased at Johnson's Garden Center on West 13th and Riverside Café.

For more information, call 262-0596 or 267-6080.

Visit www.HistoricMidtown.org



DOLLAR SMART *Plus*

Almost Everything \$1.00 or Less!

James Lippert - Owner ATM Inside

YOU CAN PAY YOUR BILLS FOR FREE!

Includes Westar, Best Phone, Alltel & Kansas Gas Service

Pay for over 100 other bills for a small fee.

316-263-2005

M-S: 9:00 - 7:30 SUN: 11:00 - 5:30

1750 N. Broadway Wichita, KS

Neighborhoods Lose Advocate Midtown Loses Friend

For more than half a century, Bill Fox was a mainstay in Riverside neighborhood politics. Whether it was a meeting on neighborhood associations, citywide initiatives, preservation or community corrections, Bill was there lobbying and listening.

"No one will ever fill his shoes for Riverside, no matter how hard we work," said Lucy Burnett, former Sedgwick County Commissioner. "We will mourn, we will move on, but there will always be that void."

Bill served as president of the Riverside Citizens Association and was for years chairman of the north Central Citizens Participation Organization. He was instrumental in helping start the city's Neighborhood Initiatives Programs.

In 1991, Bill and Joan Cole helped form Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, an umbrella group of neighborhood associations. His involvement in the Riverside Citizens Association earned him the most name recognition. The group started an annual pancake and sausage fundraiser, an annual chili supper and a neighborhood watch program.

Through the years, Bill was often called upon by other Wichita neighborhoods to help create neighborhood associations, such as Northeast Heights, Planeview, and North Riverside.

Bill died April 16 following complications from a November fall. He was 76.

Reprinted from April 18, 2007, The Wichita Eagle



Summer Christian Concert Series Featuring Latino-flavored Music

Every Saturday evening through September 1, a local Spanish-speaking church congregation will offer a Christian music concert. Concerts will be held in the parking lot of the historic Nomar Theater located at 21 and Market.

Co-sponsored by El Pueblo Neighborhood Association and 21 Business Association, the concerts are free and open to the public. Concerts will feature Latino-flavored musicians, both individuals and groups. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Concerts begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.

Come out and enjoy the summer evenings and some really great music!

Flip Out with Pancakes! Wednesday, July 4th



Bring the family and join your friends and neighbors at the annual Riverside Citizens Association Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast in Central Riverside Park. You won't want to miss the entertaining (can you say "catch"?), and delicious Chris Cakes fare and flippers!

Served up at the Riverside Pagoda, breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and continues through 11:00 a.m. Registration for the free children's parade and prizes will be from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., with the parade beginning at 10:00 a.m. Children are invited to bike, "trike," "wagon," or walk in the parade. Holiday colors, costumes, and decorations are encouraged, but not required. Prize drawings will follow the parade.

Breakfast tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children age 10 and under. For more information, call Kathy Dittmer 262-6165.



**BUY 1 MEAL
AT REG. PRICE
GET 1 MEAL FREE**

1 Drink Min. Required

**739 W. 15TH ST.
262-6703**


FREE

**Breakfast, Lunch
or Dinner Entree**

With this Coupon

**Not Valid with
any other offer.**

Free Meal of Equal or Lesser Value



HISTORIC MIDTOWN

LIVING HISTORY • CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

The Mission of the
Historic Midtown Citizens Association
(HMCA) is to preserve, develop, and promote Wichita's
Historic Midtown neighborhood as a unified, vital and
diverse residential community.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Meetings are held at Midtown Center, 1150 N Broadway, at 7 P.M. unless otherwise noted.

No General Meetings in June, July, August.

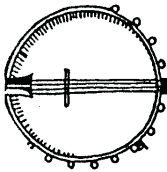
Join us at these events instead:

June 16 Tri-Neighborhood Picnic, Minisa Park Shelter, 5:30 p.m.

July 4 Pancake Breakfast in Central Riverside Park, 7:00 - 11:00 a.m.

August 7 National Night Out (plan your own block party)

Deadline for August / September *Midtownner* is July 17, 2007.



Banjo Lessons

5-string • 4-string
Guitar • Mandolin

*Flexible Scheduling
Experienced Teacher*

Call Dan Fitzgerald 265-7178

TRIGGER POINT THERAPY

Relief of back and neck pain
through Trigger Point Therapy.
It really works!
Call for Information

316-390-6533

Randal G. Allen/Photography



Seniors, Engagements,
Weddings, and
Construction Photos

(316) 264-1642

Midtownner Supporter

THE MIDTOWNER
1150 N. Broadway
Wichita, KS 67214

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, KS
Permit No. 923

