

Greenway Fields

HOMES ASSOCIATION NEWS • KANSAS CITY, MO 64113 • 2Q 2015



Blooming Tulips – 801 W Meyer Blvd

President's Letter

Welcome spring! Greenway Fields is brimming with beautiful colors and new beginnings. My name is David Slawson and I am President of the Greenway Fields Homes Association through 2015. I look forward to meeting many of you and getting to know even better the people I have already met.

My wish for Greenway Fields is that the whole year feels like spring. A year filled with promise, new partnerships, new adventures and a renewed dedication to our lovely area. We have a lot we can do. We can plant our home gardens and our park and green spaces. We can develop our relationships with our local merchants. We can clear out and make room by being involved in our community garage sale in May. We can share a meal at the neighborhood picnic in June. We then celebrate our country's birth and our beautiful children's faces with our Popsicle parade in July. As summer and fall fade, we will then light our homes and decorate for an inspired season of joy.

Maybe because I am a romantic at heart, spring is with me year round. Spring is not just a season, it's a feeling. A hopeful, happy feeling that is enhanced by having good neighbors, a manicured landscape, and a sense of contentment from being comfortable in the community. I look forward to our *spring cleaning*, revitalizing some needed areas, and helping the Board and all my neighbors in Greenway Fields create an even stronger sense of community.

Calling all Articles

Have an idea for a newsletter article? Send your submissions or ideas to board@greenwayfields.org

Upcoming Events



Neighborhood Yard Sale

Fri & Sat, May 15–16,
8 AM–4 PM

Clear out your closets, basement, and attic and join your neighbors in this well-publicized annual spring-cleaning opportunity.



Neighborhood Picnic

Sat, Jun 6, 5–7 PM

Strawn Park

Come visit with friends and meet new neighbors! We will provide BBQ, water, lemonade and utensils. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and feel free to bring your own drink, a picnic blanket or chairs and stay for awhile.



Popsicle Parade

Sat, Jul 4, 10 AM

This fun event has been a GFHA tradition for more than 50 years.

Whether you're a kid or just feel like one, ride your bike or walk in this short parade.

Commences at 635 W Meyer Blvd.

Join our facebook group



www.greenwayfields.org



Meyer Blvd Fountain

About Town

Spring is a great time to live in Brookside! As you spend more time outdoors, enjoying longer and warmer days, come explore Brookside. The first outdoor art show of the year in Kansas City, this year's **30th Brookside Art Annual**, will be May 1st–3rd. Support local and visiting artists at this must-attend event at 63rd and Brookside Boulevard. **Foo's Fabulous Frozen Custard**, 6235 Brookside Plaza, is open for business. See their newly renovated space while enjoying that favorite flavor you have been craving. **Brookside Farmers' Market** at 6321 Wornall Road will begin its 2015 season April 18th, with Saturday hours 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The out-

BY JEANETTE LEPIQUE
door market for local growers and producers of organic and non-GMO food sells vegetables, herbs, flowers, eggs, meat, cheeses, breads and baked goods, as well as handmade products. Bring the family to enjoy live music, children's activities, and demonstrations. **BKS Nails** will be opening in May at 6246 Brookside, in the former Hallmark space. **Brookside Business Association** has mailed a *Spring Savings* card to area residents with coupons for many local shops and services that can be redeemed during April. You can find a complete listing of shopping, dining, and services in the Brookside Shopping District, including maps and an event calendar at www.brooksidekc.org

Spring Home Care Tips

BY NOLA DEVITT
Spring is here and before you know it, summer will be, too. It's a perfect time to complete some quick home maintenance tasks that will save you time and money before the temperature rises.

- **Screens & Seals:** Keep your energy bills down by checking for rips or tears in window or door screens. Open windows in mild weather are a great green alternative to constant A/C. Check the caulk in the same areas for cracking.
- **Roof Check:** Check for loose or missing shingles. Remember, you can use binoculars if ladders make you queasy.
- **Dryer Vent:** Particles of lint can build up, decreasing the efficiency of your machine. Unchecked, this lint easily catches fire.
- **Asphalt, Concrete & Stucco:** The constant freezing and thawing cycles of winter can cause cracks in these composite materials. Repairs are pretty easy if done as soon as cracks appear.

Source: *ReeceNichols Real Estate*

Green Living 🌸 Washing Your Car

With spring in KC comes a lovely coating of pollen, and while you may think you're doing your car (and your wallet) a favor by hand-washing it at home, it's actually the opposite. According to the International Car Wash Association, automatic car washes use less than half the water than home washing. The average home wash uses 80–140 gallons of water while the commercial average is 45 gallons. Plus, many commercial car washes reuse or treat their runoff

BY CADY SEABAUGH
before it goes into the sewer system. If you're set on washing your car at home, here's how to keep the impact to a minimum:

- Park on gravel or grass so soapy water soaks into the ground, becomes filtered, and recharges groundwater.
- Avoid soaps with labels that say *harmful, danger or poison*.
- Turn off the hose when you're not using the water, or use an auto-shut-off sprayer attachment.



KC's Parks & Boulevards: *the Enduring Legacy of August Meyer*

BY SCOTT KAISER

Running through the middle of Greenway Fields is Meyer Boulevard, a lovely street lined with mature trees and stately homes. Meyer Boulevard is the east-west equivalent of 64th Street, and runs from Ward Parkway's Meyer Fountain to Swope Park.

Kansas City is famous for its park and boulevard system. The design for this beautiful system was drafted by August Meyer and George Kessler and presented in *The 1893 Report of Park and Boulevard Commissioners*.

In 1892, Meyer became the first president of the Commission of Parks. Before that appointment, Meyer was a leading advocate for urban parks. He traveled throughout the country and Europe to study park systems and led the effort to amend the city charter to establish a park and boulevard board.

As the leading advocate for the parks movement in Kansas City, Meyer told the Commerce Club (the early Chamber of Commerce):

City building is a science and a business, not an accident. Cities need parks, also whatever else is needed to maintain the health and comfort of the people and to permit their full development in the enjoyment of all human faculties—as well as providing for material well-being...those cities will grow in population, power and wealth that offer the greatest advantages, and that most quickly and fully meet the demands of the times and of civilization.

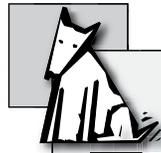
The driving principle behind Meyer's support of the park and boulevard system was the City Beautiful movement, which was the focus of the 1893 World's Fair, held in Chicago. The core principles of the City Beautiful movement: parks and boulevards,

making art accessible to the public, and instilling civic virtue through urban beautification. Examples of this philosophy are evident throughout Greenway Fields—with its parks, contouring streets, and architecturally relevant homes—as well as in Washington DC, the Riverwalk in San Antonio, and Coral Gables, FL.

In the late 1870s, Kansas City had only one park, which had previously been a 2-acre cemetery. By the time Meyer died in 1905, Kansas City had 26 miles of boulevards and drives, and more than 2000 acres of parks.

Meyer Boulevard is named in honor of August Meyer. The beautiful park system that we enjoy today—in Greenway Fields and throughout Kansas City—would not have been possible without Meyer's leadership.

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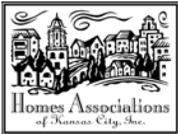
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