

# westheight news

The Newsletter of the Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association



## Westheight Celebrates its 100th Birthday!

Join us for a Neighborhood Homecoming Saturday, October 24, 2-7 p.m. Triangle Park (3 Corner Lot) 22nd & Washington Blvd and St. Paul's Church Kansas City, KS 66102 Join Westheight neighbors, friends and former residents as we celebrate 100 years of Westheight! We will have food and beverages in the park, turn of the century games for children, tours of St. Paul's Church and a display of memories. Reconnect and meet new neighbors as we reminisce and share our pride for a neighborhood that is still a wonderful place to live after 100 years. For questions or more information, contact Susan Maier at 913.321.5425.



**Next Bi-monthly  
HWNA meeting  
Wednesday, Oct. 14.  
6:30 p.m.**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
1300 N 18th St, Kansas City, KS 66102



*Jim and Meredith Schraeder's Louis Curtiss home, the Jesse Hoel House, is the oldest modern home in Westheight, 1916. It is located at 2108 Wash. Blvd.*

## Timeline of the Jesse Hoel House

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1915      | Opening of Westheight Manor; Beginning of Construction   |
| 1916      | Besse & Jesse A. Hoel, a developer – first family to own residence   |
| 1935      | Hoels move to Excelsior Springs, Mo.; Loan Corp. foreclosure   |
| ~1938     | Loan Corp. rents residence to Coehn family   |
| 1940      | Loan Corp. sells residence to Ruth & Carl V. Rice, an attorney & entrepreneur – second family to own residence   |
| 1940's    | Kitchen updated (1940)<br>Dining Room enlarged into Butler's Pantry (1940)<br>Bedroom porch converted to Master Bath (1942)<br>Basement converted to Rec Room & Bedroom suite (1944)<br>Garage lengthened (1947)<br>(Contractor: Walter Klassen, K. C., Ks.)                                 |
| ~1954     | Tennis Court installed east of residence   |
| 1955-1956 | Entry stairs and entry converted to Music Room;<br>Southeast screened porch converted to new Entry / Sun Room;<br>Hot water radiator system updated<br>(Contractor: Robert M. Armstrong, K. C., Ks.;<br>assisted by architects Jack Crute & Ray Byers, J. E. Crute & Associates, K. C., Ks.) |
| 1962      | Screened back entry enclosed (Contractor: V. E. Manigold, Merriam, Ks.)  |
| 1967      | Carport constructed (Contractor: V. E. Manigold, Leawood, Ks.)   |
| 1968      | Death of Ruth Rice   |
| 1975      | "Contributing Structure" to National Register Historic District  |
| 1978      | Carl marries Virginia, widow of former Kansas Governor George Docking  |
| ~1988     | Rices vacate residence   |

Continued on page 2

## Inside This Issue

- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- Timeline of the Oldest Modern Westheight Home
- President's Message
- Fire Prevention Tips
- Did You Know?
- Fall Family Activities
- Directory

# Message from the Chairman

Now that October is upon us, we have many autumnal chores to consider. There is the endless yard care and leaf clean-up, garage and basement reorganization, and festive preparations for Halloween and Thanksgiving.

In addition, Daylight Saving Time ends on November 1. When you change your clocks, remember to change the batteries on your smoke alarm, too. Remember to keep the following aspects of general fire safety top priorities as well:

- **Safely dispose or store flammable liquids** (gasoline, charcoal starter fluid, etc.) for summer.
- Create an **escape plan** from each level of your home
- Identify a **place outside** the home to gather to make certain all family members (and pets) are safe
- Leave an **emergency set** (phone, keys, glasses, essential medication) near where you sleep or by an exit door
- Keep an **emergency pet kit** (leash/harness, some food and water, small bowl, blanket, medication) in a handy quick-exit location

Pam Jasinskis, HWNA Chairman

**Keeping Your Home Safe**  
**Fire Prevention**

**CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS**

- 20% of homes have smoke detectors that **do not** work or are missing batteries.
- Working smoke alarms can **double your chances of survival** in a fire.
- Replace batteries **twice a year** and keep alarms free of dust.
- Smoke alarms should be installed on **every floor** of your home.

**KNOW THE RISKS**

- 10 There is a house fire **every ten seconds** in the U.S.
- 30 Home fires can spread in as little as **thirty seconds**.
- Make sure that your family has a **fire escape plan** for your home and practice it regularly.
- Cooking is the **leading cause** of house fires.
- More than **15,000** fires a year are started by clothes dryers. Clean the vents at least once a year.
- Remember:** If there's ever a fire, **GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL** for help.

**MAINTAIN YOUR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**

- Electrical fires can be caused by:** broken wires, wire insulation drying out, loose switches or receptacles, and overheating caused by dirt and oil.
- Get your electrical system checked by a licensed electrician **every four years**.
- Faulty wiring is the number one cause of electrical fires. **The warning signs?** Flickering lights; breakers that always trip; fuses that blow; a burning smell when you plug in appliances; outlets and switches that spark; and discolored wall outlets.

Timeline: Continued from page 1

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1989 | Estate sells residence to Mary & Curt Cutting, artists & educators – third family to own residence                                     |
| 1992 | Water garden and pond replaces tennis court  |
| 2006 | Cuttings sell residence to Meredith & Jim Schraeder, an architect – fourth family to own residence; Central air conditioning installed |
| 2007 | Kitchen enlarged; Dining Room returned to original size (Contractor: Owens Remodeling / Michael Owens, Shawnee, Ks.)                   |



*Interior of residence (file, undated)*  
Visit [historicwestheight.org/history](http://historicwestheight.org/history) for more information.

# DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Corporation Commission oversees the provisions of the Cold Weather Rule for all Kansas utility companies, which states: A utility shall not generally disconnect a customer's service from November 1 through March 31 when the local National Weather Service forecasts that the temperature will be below 35 degrees within a 48-hour period. Learn more at [KansasGasService.com](http://KansasGasService.com)



## Fall KCK Activities for the Family

The 2015 **Great Midwest Balloon Fest** will feature dozens of hot air balloons from all over the country during its stop at the Ag Hall of Fame, October 23-24. See balloons soar, glow, fly and perform tasks from the air throughout the weekend. Select festival events are FREE! Visit [MidwestBalloonFest.org](http://MidwestBalloonFest.org) for more information.

**Kansas City Renaissance Festival:** Travel back in time and partake in a Kansas City Tradition since 1977. Pay heed to the exploits of Jousting Knights on thundering steeds, roam the village shops for unique crafts, delight in comedy, music, magic and more on



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20 stages of non-stop entertainment, and feast on delicious food and drinks from the far reaches of the globe! There's something for the whole family in an enchanted 16-acre village. Open Weekends through October 18 and Columbus Day. Visit [KCRenFest.com](http://KCRenFest.com) for more information.

The **Kansas City Kansas Public Library** offers FREE family activities throughout the year. Join a Book Club, attend homework sessions for youth, join neighbors and children for LEGO Club on Wednesdays or sign up for an online library card to enjoy e-books, magazines and other resources from the comforts of your home. Download a full calendar of Library events at [KCKPL.org](http://KCKPL.org).

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## NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH



If you see suspicious activity or people

# CALL 911

*Harry G. Miller residence, 2204 Washington Boulevard (1920-21, documented.) Louis Curtiss' final major project prior to his death in 1924*

# Westheight News

Westheight News is the newsletter of the Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association, a nonprofit volunteer organization established to improve life in the Historic Westheight Manor Neighborhood.

**HistoricWestheight.org**



Find us on facebook under  
Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association

## 2015 HWNA Board of Directors

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**Rick Yarnell** 913.206.6863  
[ryarnell@wans.net](mailto:ryarnell@wans.net)

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Community Policing 913.573.6120

Police (non-emergency) 913.596.3000

For a crime in progress **911**

Drug Enforcement 913.573.6280

Traffic Enforcement 913.596.7004

Unified **311**  
Government [wycokck.org](http://wycokck.org)

General  
Codes Enforcement 913.573.8600

Service Request Center 913.573.8790

Deffenbaugh Trash 913.631.3300

Animal Control 913.321.1442

## Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association 2015 Membership Form

Please print clearly.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alternate phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10 per adult. Both dues and donations are tax deductible.

Dues enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check or money order payable to HWNA or cash, preferred. Please send to Rick Yarnell, 2424 Nebraska Court, KCK 66102

## Thank you for being part of our neighborhood!

Westheight is a great place to live, and as a resident or friend of the Westheight neighborhood, you know that. The goal of the Historic Westheight

Neighborhood Association is to preserve Westheight's status as a vibrant and active neighborhood that maintains its historic character. Membership in HWNA is voluntary, and your dues are used to help maintain the beauty and livability of the neighborhood, and to promote the historic character of the Nationally Registered Historic District that is Westheight Manor. Membership is open to anyone who shares our goals.