

# The Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017



*Checking it twice- Board member Lorenza Snyder goes over a bingo card to make sure it's a legitimate win.*

### Residents enjoy soup and bingo

More than 100 Benjamin Hills and Pleasant Valley residents and friends gathered on Nov. 12 for the 5th annual Turkey Bingo and Soup Supper. Volunteers served two roasters full of chili and two full of homemade chicken noodle soup.

Families with grandparents and grandchildren played bingo together, and a church group made this their night out. Winners of each of the 12 bingo games won Butterball turkeys. Runners up got gift cards to local restaurants.



*Let the games begin- Brothers are excited to play bingo.*

### Upcoming events:

#### **NO January 2017 General Meeting**

Because of holiday schedules and unforeseen circumstances, the board decided to cancel the January meeting. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

**Neighborhood Cleanup FYI** - We have asked the city for one of the first two Saturdays in April. We will confirm the date in the March newsletter.



*Souper supper- Gayle Devine serves chicken noodle soup to neighbors and friends attending the 5th annual Turkey Bingo and Soup Supper. Chili was also served, as well as an assortment of desserts.*

*Coveted card- The first bingo winner holds up a turkey card, which was exchanged at the end of the evening for a frozen Butterball turkey for Thanksgiving dinner.*



### **Mission:**

The mission of the Association and the purpose for which it is organized shall be: In all its activities and relationships to seek to enhance the quality of life of the residents and to improve the appearance and safety of the neighborhood.

## Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association Highlights

*Talking turkey-*

### Reflections from the losers' table

"Surely someone will win this time," I said after the seventh or eighth game and still no one at our table had been able to call bingo.

Lori had been one number away several times. I'd had a few games when I was marking numbers with every call, but they had not aligned in the coveted five in a row.

Felicia recalled last year, when friends at her table won a turkey and several gift certificates.



*Karen Franklin  
Editor*

But the next game passed with no bingo from our circle. Then the Davis' table right next to us won AGAIN. According to the rules, they couldn't get another turkey (only one awarded per family group), but they got a gift certificate.

And then another.

And we got: nuthin'.

When all 12 games were played, no one at our table had won a thing. I think we were probably the only table that didn't.

"Let's take a 'Losers Table' picture," I said, before packing up our stuff and heading home.

They good-naturedly complied.

Although we would have all loved the thrill of bagging the Thanksgiving bird or scoring a restaurant gift card (I was hoping for the one from DeFazio's), there were no losers.

After all, how could we be losers? We all had a free meal! (I thought the homemade chicken noodle soup was excellent. The chili looked good too).

We'd had fun playing bingo. Some games went long, and we'd enjoyed the suspense of crossing out yet another number, marveling that no one had yelled, "Bingo!" hoping that this would be our chance.

And some games were impossibly short, with someone calling "Bingo!" with barely five numbers on the board (maybe they used their free space). Always, up until the last, there was the

chance that this card might be the lucky one.

We had enjoyed our table conversation. Felicia Goodwin is a long-time friend of mine from church, but I don't see her as much since we now attend a sister church that was started three years ago.

I hadn't met Lori Harding before, but I am pretty sure I'd seen her around North High events, and I know I'd seen her daughter Carrie perform with North's dance team.

I've seen Gail Devine over the years helping out with neighborhood association events, but this was the first chance I'd had to visit with her.

We had all brought a donation of canned goods or coats for Operation Holiday, so people in need benefitted from our night out, plus we had the good feeling of knowing that we had done our part to help out.

So I'd say we were a table full of winners.

(But you can bet I'll be trying for that turkey next year!)



*Losers table- Felicia Goodwin, Lori Harding, her daughter Carrie and son Andy, and Gayle Devine show how disappointed they are at not winning a turkey or a restaurant gift certificate. Not pictured: Karen Franklin*



*Generous donations- People attending Turkey Bingo brought a table full of canned goods and non-perishable items.*

## Wichita's Original Gourmet Coffee Roaster

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# Board Shorts

*A brief glance at the activities of your neighborhood association and its board*



## Interested in dabbling in city government?

Our association is looking for a rep from our area to be on Councilwoman Janet Miller's District VI advisory committee. Contact John Van Walleghen for more info 838-5730 or [jvanwalleghen1@cox.net](mailto:jvanwalleghen1@cox.net).

## New year exercise – let us help you stay fit.

As always, we have some newsletter routes open for delivery, due to carriers moving or changing their schedules. Get to know your neighbors and your neighborhood by delivering one hour every other month. High school students – get volunteer credit for an easy job! **Contact John at 838-5730.**

## Open delivery routes:

Clarence from 25th to 29th

Coolidge from 21st to 25th

Wilson from Bullinger to Manhattan

North side of 29th, west of Meridian

Halstead (N of 29th) and Valley Park

Meridian & McLean & Trailer court

Amidon from 25th to 29th, apartments and businesses

Coolidge from 21st to 25th

Thanks to all 40-50 of our faithful newsletter carriers!

## 2017 resolutions – choose one to help us out!

Help with the neighborhood association annual cleanup day in the spring, July swim party at Twin River Swim Club, November Turkey Bingo night, bi-monthly newsletter articles or delivery, other communications, political candidate forums, grass root area issues, or serve as a board member.

**Contact Tim Devine, 208-9590 or [thdevine@gmail.com](mailto:thdevine@gmail.com)**



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## Little free library installed on 25th east of Amidon

When the city added a nice new sidewalk on the edge of her property, Anne Sixkiller knew just what it needed.

"I added a chartered Little Free Library so that individuals in our neighborhood and those walking to the bus can access books," she says.

Anne purchased her home at 2557 N. Perry in June 2015. The street does not have access to 25th Street, but her library faces 25th to take advantage of foot traffic. It sits just a bit east of Amidon on the south side of the street.

Painted in colorful stripes, the "Little Cabana Library" (as Anne affectionately calls it) is hard to miss. She's also added some butterfly yard art to ensure you don't.

The library is one of 4 or 5 built by ICTworks and is chartered through the Little Free Library Association. A Facebook page includes maps to all the Little Free Libraries in Wichita. Check out [www.facebook.com/WichitaLittleFreeLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/WichitaLittleFreeLibrary) and [littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap](http://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap).

The library is open to everyone. The only rule for the library is to be a good steward of it, Anne says. If you take a book, please bring a book to replace the one you chose. It can be the book you borrowed after you finish reading it or it can be another book you would like to share.

Anne says she started the library with her own books, but as time has gone on, those who are borrowing books are now leaving new books, which is exactly how it is designed to work. For a while the library was running low on children's books but a nice donation came through and now it has a great selection again.

However, book donations are always welcome. People can drop them off at the little library or set them on her porch. Books for young teens, chapter books for beginning readers, picture books for young children and books in Spanish are especially welcome.

Anne says if people would like a certain type of book, like mysteries, romance, historical, self help, or a particular author, leave her a note and she will do her best to make sure those books are in the library.

Anne says she has seen seniors, teens, and elementary children use the library, and she's met a few of them.

"It is wonderful to see so many people take part," she says. "I especially hope to see parents of young children use the library. Reading to young children helps increase their vocabulary and helps them develop a love of reading."



*Little Free Library is open for lending on 25th just east of Amidon.*

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## Free recycle locations

Single stream recycling (where all recyclable items are mixed together) can still be dropped off at Leeker's on Meridian in Valley Center or at Leeker's on North Broadway in Park City. This includes newspaper, cardboard, plastic, aluminum, glass, junk mail, etc.



### Kris Sundahl

Financial Advisor


2110 North Maize Road  
Suite 300  
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**No January meeting** due to holidays. Next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1 2017. Happy New Year!



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jvanwalleghen1@cox.net	
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Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association  
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To be included on neighborhood-wide email alerts, send your address to: [bhvpna@gmail.com](mailto:bhvpna@gmail.com)

Karen Franklin, editor franklin.k.e@cox.net 838-3672

## Helpful Numbers

Evergreen Neighborhood City Hall, 2700 N. Woodland, 67204  
Council Districts 5 and 6:

Brandon Findley	bfindley@wichita.gov	303-8043
Veronica Ibarra, aide	vibarra@wichita.gov	303-8042
Janet Miller	JLMiller@wichita.gov	268-4331

**Community Policing Patrols** (our area is divided into two)

**North** (for residents north of 29th Street) **Beat 49**

Officer Juan Atondo jatondo@wichita.gov  
3015 E. 21st, Wichita, KS 67214 350-3400

**West** (for residents south of 29th Street) **Beat 11**

Officer Mike Johnson MJOHNSON@wichita.gov  
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