

HIGHLAND ACRES/LAKESIDE HEIGHTS HOMES ASSOCIATION

Spring, 2010 NEWSLETTER

HA/LH Homes Association, P.O Box 28294, Kansas City, MO 64188-0294 816-734-5546
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General Meeting Update

The annual meeting was held Thursday, March 4 at Nashua Elementary School. The Community Building by the Fire Station is no longer available for our meetings as it will become the location of the MAST Ambulance personnel after the merger with the KCFD. The Board will investigate other locations for meetings. Residents in attendance approved expenses and minutes from 2009. Board Members were elected for 2010. Expanded information on other topics discussed is included in this newsletter.

Payment of your homes association dues should reach the HA/LH PO Box 28294 by April 30. The dues for 2010 are \$45 and include the following services:

- ✓ Park: mowing, trimming, trash removal, parking lot upkeep, liability insurance, and electricity
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Playground and park equipment
- ✓ Garage sale advertisements for spring sale
- ✓ Vacant lot mowing for non-resident owners
- ✓ Mosquito Control (see additional article)
- ✓ Administrative Expenses
- ✓ Paid Part-Time Secretary--**Homes association phone—Calls should be made between 9 am and 8 pm. The phone is in her residence and consideration should be given for her family. Attempts to return calls are made within 48 hours; however, if the resident does not have an answering machine or if the return call(s) are not able to be completed (line busy, etc.), residents should call back if the need is still present.**

Neighborhood Signs

New signs will be mounted at the boundaries for HA/LH Homes Association.

2010 Officers & Board Members

Secretary: Nancy Flynn

Treasurer: Linda Espeer

Board Members: Theresa Bird, Steve Espeer, David Harris, Lori Kindle, Kathryn Pieper, Jessica Ratzloff, Bobby Verhulst, Fritz Waske, Heather Waske, and Tina Windsor

Treasurer's Report for 2009

Income

Dues	\$23,966.59
Advertising	45.00
Interest	<u>48.56</u>
Total Income	\$24,060.15

Expenses

Utilities (electric, phone, water)	\$1,422.23
Insurance	285.00
Mowing/Park Maintenance	3,440.00
Playground Equipment	796.60
Mosquito Control	10,937.00
Administrative Expenses	1,354.41
Secretary	4,980.00
Newsletters	829.67
Transfer to Savings	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$28,044.91

Mark your Calendars

(articles follow to explain)

Monday, April 19..... Leaf and Brush Pickup

Tuesday, April 20, 8:30 am.....NNI *

1st District Problem Solving Meeting

Monday, April 26, 6 pm.....NNI*

Meet Your Councilperson

1st District—Deb Hermann & Bill Skaggs

2nd District—Ed Ford & Russ Johnson

Saturday, May 8.....Spring Garage Sale

Friday, May 28.....Mosquito Spray Begins

Saturday, June 5, 8 am – noon..... A.B.O.P.T

(*NNI is located at 3015 NE Vivion Road)

Curbside Leaf & Brush Pickup April 19 -- 7 am

The spring pickup of leaves and brush for our area is scheduled for April 19. Paper sacks of leaves and bundles of branches should be at the curb by 7 am. Leaves must be in paper, not plastic, bags. Branches of less than 3 inches in diameter must be in bundles no longer than 4 feet and no wider than 2 feet. If wet weather is forecast, cover the sacks/bundles with clear plastic. If items that meet specifications are at the curb by 7 am and are not picked up on April 19, call the action center (311 or 513-1313) within 24 hours to report it.

Leaves and Brush Drop-Off Sites are open on Saturdays from 8 am to 6 pm. Two sites are provided for the convenience of city residents:

1. 1815 N Chouteau Trafficway—just south of the Missouri River
2. Raytown Road Site—just south of I-470 on the east side of Raytown Road

Sites are attended, and are currently free for KC residents. Rules include:

- Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or water bill is required)
- Only leaves, yard waste and brush are accepted (no grass clippings)
- Leaves should be in paper yard-waste bags sealed with masking tape only.

1st District Problem Solving--NNI

Tuesday, April 20, 8:30a.m.

Councilwoman Deb Hermann and Councilman Bill Skaggs will be hosting the next First District problem solving forum on Tuesday, April 20, 8:30a.m.

If you have any questions please contact: Terri Wolfe, Administrative Assistant to Councilwoman Deb Hermann at 816-513-1624.

Park Improvements

The playground at the HA/LH Homes Association park (located between 112 Terr & 113 ST, east of Charlotte & west of Tracy) has the new sling swings, a new tire swing, and a trapeze bar for the neighborhood kids to enjoy. New

basketball nets were installed last year, while repairs were made to the toddler toys.

Bids will be taken for resurfacing the parking lot and driveway. Any repairs needed for playground equipment, basketball court, tables and benches, or grills should be reported to the Homes Association (734-5546). The park closes at 10 pm.

Spring Garage Sale Saturday 8:00 a.m. May 8, 2010

Advertising for the neighborhood sale will be on several online sites including: Craig's List, www.fox4kc.com/garagesales and the Northland Neighborhoods website, www.nni.org. Signs will be at entrances of the neighborhood, but it is recommended that individuals list their address on Craig's List and mark their yards the day of the sale if participating in the event.

Mosquito Spraying

Why we need mosquito control programs?

Without control programs the mosquito population would flourish and cause potential health and comfort problems. From a health standpoint, mosquitoes are known carriers of encephalitis, malaria, and the yellow fever and dengue viruses. Mosquito-borne diseases cause more than one million deaths each year around the world. Mosquito bites can also infect a pet with the deadly canine heartworm.

To allow residents to enjoy the outdoors, your Homes Association will purchase neighborhood mosquito spraying provided by Hasty Mosquito Control again this year. Spraying of Permanone (EPA Reg #4816-755) will begin **May 28** and continue for 20 applications to be made 6 to 10 days apart, depending upon the rain and wind factors. Applications will extend until approximately **October 8**. **Spraying is usually done late on a Friday night with yellow lights flashing on the truck indicating the application. DO NOT go outside to watch during the spraying as Hasty will discontinue the application in that area where residents are outside.**

The spray will eliminate the majority of the mosquito problems; however, it is the responsibility of each homeowner to maintain their property and to purchase additional supplies to avoid attraction of the pests. Check at your local garden center or Hasty Mosquito Control.

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots, and other water-holders on your property.
- Drill holes in recycling containers.
- Keep roof gutters clean and make sure they drain properly.
- Turn over plastic wading pools when not in use or empty twice a week.
- Aerate ornamental pools and water gardens.
- Maintain swimming pools and drain pools that are not being used.
- Use landscaping to eliminate standing water on your property.
- Change the water in your bird baths at least twice a week.
- Cover boats and wheelbarrows or store them upside down.

RecycleFIRST

Be sure to secure items put at the curb to withstand windy conditions. Recycling is also available at Metro North Community Recycling Center at the location north of the Macys Store, in the

northwest corner of Metro North's parking lot. **Hours of operation are: Wed-Sat 9:00 AM to 5 PM.**

Area schools are still collecting magazines, newspapers, paperboard, and other items in bins in the school parking lots. The schools have different items collected, so be sure to dispose of proper items in the appropriate locations.

Frequently asked questions about recycling are answered on the KC website, www.kcmo.org

Bulk Item Collection

As mentioned in the winter newsletter, the city has made a major change in the pickup of bulk items. Residents must call the Action Center (311 or 512-1313) to schedule an appointment for pickup of bulk items. No more than 15 approved items must be included on a list to submit when the appointment is made. Items not on that list will not be picked up. Our area pickup for appointments is the third trash day; however, if that month is full, appointments will be made the next month. **No items should be put at the curb unless approved pickup is scheduled for the following day.**

Additional information regarding what items will be accepted by the bulky item pickup can be found on the KC website, www.kcmo.org.

Homes Association Management

Requests were made at the annual meeting to investigate the possibility of using a management company for the Association. The company that handles Fairfield was contacted to obtain information regarding their services and prices. The services now provided by the Board would cost approximately \$14,000/year plus the cost of subcontractors, newsletters, insurance, park maintenance, and other expenses we currently incur. A fee would be charged

for a webpage and information would still need to be furnished by the Board. Several services require interaction with a Board of Directors. With the information and our current dues, the Board voted to NOT use a management company at this time. The current Board, especially Nancy, handles the issues of the neighborhood very efficiently for much less money. Volunteers for the Board or projects are always needed.

A.B.O.P.T. Saturday, June 5 8:00 a.m. – Noon

Northland Neighborhoods, the City of KC, and Antioch Center will provide residents an opportunity to safely dispose of household waste in the east parking lot (Chouteau Trafficway side) of Antioch Shopping Center. Information about the event will be available on the NNI website or questions can be answered by Janet Schaffer at NNI, 454-2000. **ABOPT** is a first come-first served opportunity to dispose of environmentally sensitive materials, such as antifreeze, car and household batteries, automotive/cooking, or heating oil, paints and paint related chemicals such as strippers, thinners, varnishes, and spray paints. Electronic recycling with a fee and Take Back event for prescription drugs will also be available. **Shred It** trucks will also be on site to shred papers. There will be a tire (with or without rims) drop off, and a metal recycling bin for steel & iron items, aluminum cans, old metal bikes & toys, structural beams, electric motors, stainless steel and rebar. Leaf and brush dumpsters will be available for Kansas City Residents Only. Leaves must be in paper bags, not plastic. Proof of residency will be required. *Residents unable to utilize the June 5 drop off for Household Hazardous Waste may also make an appointment (816-784-2080) for a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday drop off at the 4707 Deramus site.*

Neighborhood Safety

Speed Limit 25 mph

With the warm weather, more residents are walking, riding bikes, jogging, and children are out in the street. Please advise all drivers in your household to maintain proper speeds on our streets. Some areas of concern reported to the Homes Association will be referred to the police department for radar control.

There was concern expressed at the general meeting regarding the number of four-wheelers on the streets and in the park. Vehicles not licensed for street use should not be used on our neighborhood streets or on park property.



Officer Markus Smith is the liaison between community and police from the Shoal Creek Patrol Division.

It is important for residents to be aware of surroundings and report suspicious activity when noted. Call 911 for emergencies or if in doubt, but he also included his phone number and email as a source to obtain answers. A new website, www.crimereports.com, allows residents to check specific crime incidents or crime patterns in the area. HA/LH area is low in crime relative to the entire city, but to maintain this status residents need to be watchful and observe certain safety tips, including:

- Lock all cars in driveways.
- Lock doors and windows when you leave.
- Take all valuables out of the car in the driveway (including phones, CD players, laptops, & garage door openers).
- Do not put outgoing mail in your mailbox with the red flag up. This is a prime source for identify theft.
- Notify neighbors when you are going on vacation and have someone pick up mail.

Animal Control

With the children outdoors more, it also reminds us to keep our pets in a fenced yard or on a leash. Be sure all licenses and shots are up to date for your pets.

Abnormal behavior of wild animals should also be reported to animal control. Animal control officers will investigate animal bites and dangerous animal situations, pick up strays, and investigate cruelty complaints 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Kansas City Missouri law requires all dogs, cats, and ferrets over 4 months old kept within the city limits to be licensed annually. Furthermore, licenses are to be worn by the animal when outside the residence. The license fee is \$10 for a spayed or neutered animal and \$33 for animals that have not been altered.

There are three ways to license your pet: City's Animal Shelter at 4400 Raytown Rd, your veterinarian, or Pet Data online at the www.kcmo.org website.

City Ordinances

Our neighborhood experiences less new construction, therefore, the problems are more of home use and maintenance. The Homes Association residents need to comply with the City of Kansas City Nuisance Codes and Property Maintenance Codes. **Members of the board will do periodic checks throughout**

the neighborhood to insure these codes are followed to maintain property values in our area. As a reminder, some of these restrictions are:

- No off-street parking of vehicles except on approved parking space.
- No wrecked, damaged, or disassembled vehicle shall remain on the premises unless in a private garage.
- No motor vehicle without current state license plates may be parked, stored or located on a premise unless in a private garage.
- Litter, trash, refuse, lumber scraps, vehicle parts, tires, boxes, etc., are forbidden on exterior property.
- Interior and exterior house condition shall not be unkempt. Codes are too extensive to highlight all the restrictions in this area; however, the Kansas City website (www.kcmo.org) lists all codes.

Any complaints may be directed to the city codes action phone number, **311** or **513-1313**, or the homes association.

Snow Plowing

Bids for snow plowing were presented to the residents in attendance at the annual meeting. After extended discussion of the pros and cons of contracting someone to do plowing at a cost of approximately \$3000 per session, the decision was tabled until a special meeting in the fall. City services eventually plow the roads but do so on a complaint basis to the Action Center (513-1313).

Fall Picnic/Meeting

A fall picnic in September is planned with more discussion on snow plowing for next winter to be discussed by residents in attendance. Details will be in a summer newsletter.

Advertising

Ads may be provided for printing in the next newsletter. Call the Homes Association office at 734-5546 to place an ad. Payment is due when the ad is submitted. Make checks payable to HALH Homes Association. Ads submitted for the newsletter are paid ads and do not represent any endorsement by the homeowners association.

Business Card Ad.....	\$15.00
One Quarter Page Ad.....	\$30.00
Half Page Ad	\$50.00
Full Page Ad.....	\$100.00

Coming Soon: The Highland Acres/Lakeside Heights Homes Association webpage through Northland Neighborhoods, www.nni.org, click on membership and the link to the page or check the **Facebook** page.

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