

HIGHLAND ACRES/LAKESIDE HEIGHTS HOMES ASSOCIATION

Spring, 2018 NEWSLETTER

HA/LH Homes Association, P.O Box 28294, Kansas City, MO 64188-0294 816-734-5546
Email: halhhomes@aol.com Website via www.nni.org

Annual Meeting Update

The annual meeting was held Thursday, March 15, 7 pm, at the KCPD Shoal Creek Station. Residents in attendance voiced concerns about standing water, improvements to the park, and city codes enforcement. Topics discussed at the meeting appear in this newsletter

Payment of your homes association dues should have reached the HA/LH PO Box 28294 to avoid 10% late penalty. The dues for 2018 remain at \$45 and include the following services:

- ✓ Park mowing, playground, parking lot
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Vacant lot mowing for non-resident owners
- ✓ Mosquito Control (see additional article)
- ✓ Administrative Expenses
- ✓ Neighborhood Events
- ✓ Paid Part-Time Secretary--**Homes association phone—Calls should be made between 9 am and 8 pm Monday-Friday. The phone is in her residence and consideration should be given for her family. Any messages left on the answering machine should be brief with specific question and contact number. One message per request is sufficient.**

Treasurer's Report for 2017

The report includes January, 2017-February, 2018 due to a change in tax reporting for the association, The full report distributed at the meeting is available on the homes association website.

Income:

Dues	\$33,759.61
Advertising	<u>20.00</u>
Total Income	\$33,779.61

Expenses

Utilities (electric, phone, water)	\$2,547.16
Insurance	208.00
Mowing/Park Maintenance	3,853.73
Mosquito Control	11,757.00
Administrative Expenses/Liens	1,095.90
Secretary	6,650.00
Newsletters	358.56
Storage Unit	<u>947.88</u>
Total Expenses	\$27,418.23

Current Savings Balance \$25,948.57

2018 Officers & Board Members

President: Steve Espeer
Vice President: Bobby Verhulst
Secretary: Nancy Flynn
Treasurer: Linda Espeer

Other Board Members: Pat Flynn, Roger Hutchcraft, Russ Kieslich, Martha Olivarez, and Amie Veach

Mark your Calendars

Saturday, May 5Spring Garage Sale
Friday, June 1Mosquito Spray Begins
Saturday, Sept 15Fall Garage Sale

Spring Garage Sale

Saturday, May 5

8:00 a.m.

Advertising for the neighborhood sale will be on several online sites including Craig's List, Nextdoor Neighbor, 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.

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.(NNI) HA/LH Homes Association Website

Check the website, www.nni.org, for meetings, events, and resources available for northland residents. The **HA/LH Homes Association free website** is accessed through the NNI website under the Member Organizations tab and will contain timely information periodically that cannot appear in a printed newsletter. The Pages & Links section will elaborate on details for such events plus include forms or other topics, including the Homes Association Declaration and ByLaws.

Neighborhood Relations Committee

At least one HA/LH board member represents the homes association at the quarterly meetings held at Northland Neighborhoods (NNI). Amy Justis representing Councilman Fowler, KCPD Community Interaction Officers (CIO), and other city officials are usually in attendance. Board members work with the KC city codes officers and police to address concerns of residents. The 311 system seems to be working well with fines imposed for violations or court appearances

required on second offenses. NNI will also assist neighborhoods for chronic problem areas where cases are opened and closed for the same offense. Residents may report code violations directly to the 311 system or notify the homes association to register a complaint.

Northland Crime Watch Meetings

Northland Crime Watch is a Crime Preventive Program that enlists the participation of residents, in cooperation with the KC Police Department to reduce crime, improve the quality of life, and establish a sense of well-being by watching out for one another in our neighborhood. The Northland Crime Watch meeting will provide crime prevention education and awareness, through training, to give our neighborhood the basic skills to start our own Community Crime Watch. After the first meeting April 9 at NNI, open to all residents, future Crime Watch Training will be conducted upon registration through NNI.

Contact information for the officer who works with our neighborhood: **Officer Bill Keeney, Community Interaction Officer, Shoal Creek Patrol Division, KCPD, 6801 NE Pleasant Valley Rd, KCMO, 64119 WP (816)413-3440, CP(816)679-1387, FX(816)413-8111 or email SCPD. Community@KCPD.org or William.Keeney@kcpd.org**

Neighborhood Site—Nextdoor.com

Many residents are using this website to communicate with neighbors. CIO Keeney posts information periodically regarding law enforcement information. Users of the site may post advice, concerns, items for sale, or lost pets. Be sure to check the settings preferred when using the site.

Projects in the Area

Anne Garney Park This city park has a boundary behind residents on 112th Terrace. Entry to the paved trail around the perimeter of the park is at 111th & N Harrison or from the parking lot off of N Woodland. **Respect home owners on 112th Terrace and do not trespass through their property to access the trail.** Residents are reminded that no motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail, so report that violation through 911 as a safety concern.

Storm Water Improvement The latest update from Robert Davis, Storm Water Engineering Section Head, KCMO Water Services, included notification that utilities of KCPL and ATT have now been moved and construction of the detention pond on 114th St and drainage areas where easements have been obtained should begin this spring. PIAC money was allocated several years to complete the project that has been requested since 2005.

HA/LH Neighborhood Park Any resident observing illegal behavior or vandalizing equipment at the park please call 911. Anyone with information regarding the recent defacing of toddler equipment and trash cans is encouraged to notify the homes association or Officer Keeney. A police report has been filed.

Our private park is maintained by the volunteer board members, except mowing is done by a paid contractor. He volunteers to empty trash cans but residents are asked to clean up after use and make sure all trash is disposed of properly. At the annual meeting, suggestions were made for improvements to the park. Ideas included other items for the playground. The GaGa Ball court, Hammock Park, and wood posts were donated Eagle Scout Projects. Maintaining the

basketball goals, benches, weeding, and other cleanup is done by volunteers. Recent vandalism has increased the amount of work to be done. Any resident willing to help with park projects contact the homes association number and leave your name and number for contact when projects are going to be done

July 4th Reminder: Fireworks are illegal within the city limits; however, many residents in the past have chosen to have their own fireworks displays. Many organized fireworks displays are located within the northland, so pursue that option to avoid any legal action. If residents choose to have their own fireworks, please use caution and clean up your mess whether using the parking lot at our park or city streets. **The city allows unlimited trash bag pickup at homes the week after the 4th so anyone shooting fireworks should bag their mess and set out the trash bags at their own residence. The park does not qualify for city trash pickup. Trash bins are emptied as a courtesy by the man who mows or board members. Pick up and remove your own fireworks trash.**

Mosquito Control

HA/LH Homes Association dues pay for mosquito control by Hasty Mosquito Control, Inc. This is one of the major expenses each year because without mosquito control programs, the mosquito population would flourish and cause potential health problems

Hasty Mosquito Control is licensed and insured, locally owned and has operated in the Greater Kansas City area since 1980.

An ULV (Ultra Low Volume) application method using ground equipment, the application is Perm-X' UL 4-4, EPA Reg #655-898, and will be applied 7-10 days apart depending upon rain and wind factors. Twenty applications are contracted and will continue until approximately Oct 12, 2018. These treatment techniques are safe for the environment and leave no meaningful accumulation in the soil, water or air.

The application is done by a truck with a flashing yellow light that will drive around the neighborhood and generate a fog of the chemical.

Starting June 1, applications will be done on Thursday or Friday nights after 11 pm. It is imperative that residents do not stay out in their yards when the truck approaches or the fog will be turned off in that area. A second pass is generally made in the event that residents are out, but do not try to observe an application outside. This process will help control the mosquito population, but every resident needs to eliminate areas on their own property where mosquitoes breed.

- Dispose of tires, 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. Maintain swimming pools and drain pools that are not being used.
- Use landscaping to eliminate standing water on your property and change water in bird baths at least twice a week. Aerate ornamental pools and water gardens.
- Cover boats and wheelbarrows or store them upside down
- With the open drainage ditches in our area, standing water in them may need additional treatment. Pellets can be purchased by individual home owners from Hasty (454-8115) or other lawn and garden stores to further protect your property.

Leaf and Brush Disposal Site

Kansas City residents in Clay County may dispose of **leaves, yard waste including grass clippings, and brush** at the site at 11660 N Main. The facility is open Monday through Saturday 8 am to 5 pm. Proof of residence and ID is required. Drop off is **free** on Saturday; however, a fee is charged during the week. Plastic bags and tree stumps are prohibited. Check www.kcmo.gov website for additional details.

Neighborhood Safety

Speed Limit 25 mph

With the warm weather, more residents are walking, riding bikes, jogging, and children are out near the street. Residents walking dogs must have them on a leash according to City Ordinance. All drivers should maintain proper speeds on our streets. Contact the Homes Association or individuals can report non-emergency traffic related concerns to the KCPD Traffic Enforcement Unit, 482-8174.

“See Something, Say Something”

This advice is from KCMO Police, Shoal Creek Station. In addition to suggestions to prevent crime, officers referred to an increased number of panhandlers in the northland. Residents are advised to avoid contact or giving money directly to these individuals; rather donate to an organization whose purpose is to help the homeless. Violent crimes are rare, but property crimes have occurred in our area. Suggestions to protect your property are listed below.

Your House and Neighborhood

- Lock the doors in your house and set the alarm if you have one.
- Outdoor lighting is a great deterrent. Criminals don't like being seen.
- Report streetlights that are out to 311 for repair.
- Ensure your garage door is shut and locked when you are home and when you leave.
- Check on your neighbors. Let them know if their garage door or house doors are open.
- Call 911 if you see people or vehicles in your neighborhood that are not familiar to you. Be sure to contact the officer if you call 911. Your information may be a key lead to a crime in your neighborhood.
- Mark and photograph items in your house so that it can be identified as yours in the event it is stolen. Copy the make, model and serial numbers for motorized equipment and electronic equipment and keep that information available if needed.

Your Vehicles

- Do not leave valuables in your car in plain view. If it can be seen through the window, it can be taken. If you have to leave something in your car, lock it in the trunk, out of sight.
- Use caution when keeping loose change in a cup or ash tray. It may be loose change to you, but to a criminal or a drug user, it is worth taking.
- If your car is in your garage, take the keys out and into the house with you. Never leave the keys in your car if it is unattended, even at home.
- Always lock your car and take your keys when parking and leaving your vehicle.

Property criminals look for the easy score. Avoid using your mailbox for outgoing mail as the red flag is a signal to a possible thief that information of your identity and account numbers may be available.

If someone looks or acts suspicious or you observe illegal activity, call 911. If an officer can't respond immediately, an incident report is generated for future use.

Protect Yourself from Phishing Emails

You can significantly reduce the chance of falling victim to phishing attacks by being sensible and smart while browsing online and checking your emails.

- **Watch out for shortened links**
You should pay particularly close attention to shortened links, especially on social media. Cybercriminals often use these to trick you into thinking you are clicking a legitimate link, when in fact you're being inadvertently directed to a fake site.
- **Does that email look suspicious? Read it again.**
Plenty of phishing emails are fairly obvious. They will be punctuated with plenty of typos, words in capitals and exclamation marks. They may also have an impersonal greeting – think of those 'Dear Customer' or 'Dear Sir/Madam' salutations – or feature implausible and generally surprising content.
- **Be wary of threats and urgent deadlines**
Usually, threats and urgency – especially if coming from what claims to be a legitimate company – are a sign of phishing.
- **Browse securely with HTTPs**
You should always, where possible, use a secure website (indicated by https:// and a security “lock” icon in the browser's address bar) to browse, and especially when submitting sensitive information online, such as credit card details.

Advertising

Ads may be submitted 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 HA/LH Homes Association. Ads submitted for the newsletter are paid ads and do not represent any endorsement by the homeowners association.

Business Card Ad.....	\$20.00
One Quarter Page Ad.....	\$45.00
Half Page Ad.....	\$80.00

Flynn and Son Mowing

Specializing in residential yards in the Highland Acres/Lakeside Heights area

Reasonable Prices
816-739-9461
816-734-5106



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