



WHAT'S NEW?

This is a publication for residents of Red Oak Hills to keep us up to date on our community and to provide a forum for sharing information.

APRIL 2011 ISSUE



SPRING GARAGE SALE THIS WEEK-END

Clean out the garage. Get rid of all the winter clutter. **The Red Oak Hills Spring Garage sale will be Friday, April 29th and Saturday, April 1st.**

Jack Kirkham is coordinating the spring sale. If you have not already done so, please let Jack know if you will be participating (913-523-5009). The timing is perfect because Tidy Town, Shawnee's large item pickup day, is Saturday, May 7.

THE SECRET OF HAPPINESS IN RETIREMENT

BY PHIL FEIL

Actually there are no secrets but there are several strategies that are well known. You can find advice at many places like AARP. I'd like to share my own experience with you because I'm having so much fun and I hope that my discoveries might be of help to you.

When I was contemplating retirement I knew I had to find some volunteer activity that was challenging, fun, and rewarding. I didn't want to be paid for my contributions because I didn't want to be obliged to stick with something I might not enjoy. Here's what I discovered. First I found an online clearinghouse that listed hundreds of opportunities (no longer available, unfortunately). There was always a brief description of responsibilities and the name and number of a contact person.

The first thing I tried was b o r i n g! I never had so much fun quitting a "job". I next found my way to Shawnee Town Museum. The museum is in the process of developing a very different experience for visitors and getting in close to the beginning was particularly rewarding. I get to do some historical research and I do a lot of the photography at various events at the museum throughout the year. I get more thank you's from the folks at the museum than I got my entire professional career. How happy is that! I haven't found a person I don't like!

The museum has outlets for so many passions. If you want to work with children, you can do that. If you like sewing or gardening, they want your skills. There are opportunities to help with events, guided tours, and if you're a singer or play a stringed instrument, a new group is just now forming. And there's much, much more. Check out the website at <http://www.shawneetown.org> or contact Susan Tolleson, Volunteer Coordinator, at 913-248-2360 or stolleson@cityofshawnee.org.

And if that doesn't suit your fancy here's some web links where you might find something else.

<http://www.volunteermatch.org/search/index.jsp?l=64101&k>

<http://servenet.org/tabid/128/default.aspx?zip=64101>

Also, you can simply Google “volunteer opportunities in Shawnee”. You’ll get lots of hits.

TIPS ON YARD WASTE

Deffenbaugh has added a third truck working our neighborhood to pick up yard waste. (The other two handle material to be recycled and household waste.) .

Yard waste should not go into either the recycle cart or the HH waste cart. Yard waste is destined for Deffenbaugh's compost pile. Do not use plastic bags for yard waste (grass clippings, etc.). Use the large paper bags that will decompose or bundle branches.

BOARD MINUTES ON LINE

Couldn't make the Board meeting? We will soon post minutes of board meetings on the ROH website. This is in keeping with the spirit of the new Kansas legislation, HB 2472 that is effective Jan 1, 2011. The new law spells out the basic relationship between homeowners and boards.

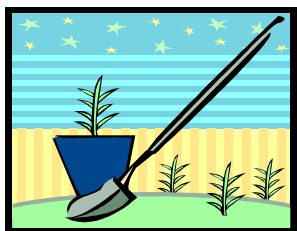
BOARD VACANCY

Jane Ford is the Board's Secretary and responsible for the minutes of meetings. She has a new job that has prompted to her to resign in August after one year of her term. If you are interested in the Secretary position, please contact Gary Turner. We can put your talents to good use!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR SIGNS

We are still searching for a person to place signs at the entrances to Red Oak for various events. This would take 45 minutes a month. Please contact Gary Turner if you can provide this service.

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG



With the warmer weather arriving many of us may be planning landscape projects or installing a fence and with these types of projects comes plenty of digging. April is National Safe Digging Month, which serves as a good reminder for everyone to call Kansas One Call by simply dialing 811 a couple of days before digging to identify the approximate location of underground utility lines.

Utility services that your family depends on, such as gas, electric, cable TV, high-speed Internet, landline telephone, water and sewer are buried underground in our community. Striking one of these lines can result in harm to yourself or someone else, inconvenient outages for entire neighborhoods, and repair costs.

When you call 811 a few days before you plan to start your project, a local one-call center representative will collect your information and notify the affected local utility companies of your intent to dig if lines are located in your area. A professional locator will then visit the dig site to mark the approximate location of all underground utility lines

with paint, flags or both. Once your site has been marked, it is safe to begin digging around the marked areas.

No matter the type of project - installing a mailbox, putting in a fence, planting trees or shrubbery, building a patio or deck, or excavating a new garden area - make sure to call 811 several days prior to digging to have your site properly marked. Remind any contractors or handy-men that you hire as well as your friends and family to do the same. Always call 811 before you dig and know what's below.

CURB REPAINTS

Winter takes a toll on curb addresses. Chris Owen will be repainting this spring. Please call Gary Turner or send an email to gturner2@kc.rr.com if you would like your address repainted. Chris will offer this service at the same price as last year-\$20.

ROH HELPS MILITARY FAMILIES

BY LAURA SHAMHART

Thank you to those who have come by my house and dropped off unwanted and expired coupons to be mailed to military family members. Together this month, we sent a total of \$3,316.53 in coupons to those families!! We had so many, I had to get a bigger envelope! This is fantastic! If you would like to contribute to this effort, I have a plastic tub on my front porch at 17233 W 70th Street that you can drop the circulars into any time/day. I will also be happy to stop by and pick up what anyone may have. Please just drop me an email at laura.shamhart@att.net. You may view additional information about this program at www.ocpnet.org.

TREE CITY USA

Shawnee was recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry. Shawnee has earned this national designation for 14 years.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. Shawnee has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

We commend Shawnee's elected officials, volunteers and its citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest," said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees provide numerous environmental, economical and health benefits to millions of people each day, and we applaud communities that make planting and caring for trees a top priority."

Communities that earn Tree City USA recognition not only have taken the time to meet the four standards, they know that trees:

- Promote healthier communities by filtering the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles.
- Moderate climate, conserve water and provide vital habitat for wildlife.
- Reduce the heat island effect in urban areas caused by pavement and buildings.
- Increase property values and reduce energy use and add beauty to our homes and neighborhoods.

More information about Tree City USA can be found at www.arboday.org/TreeCityUSA.

DIRECTORY

To maintain the accuracy of the directory, please send any changes to Cindy Ralston at cralston@everestkc.net or call 913-268-7422. Thank you.

CLASSIFIEDS

If you are a resident and have something to sell or you have a service like babysitting or lawn mowing, you can send an e mail to Gary Turner for possible inclusion in the next newsletter.

Babysitter Baili McPheeters is offering babysitting services. Baili is 16 and goes to SMNW and loves to babysit!! Call [766-6862](tel:766-6862) if you need a sitter!!! 😊

Audi A4 Silver w gray leather interior. Beautiful 2005 car with 56,000 miles. Five speed and all the bells and whistles. \$14,000. The car can be viewed in the driveway at 17712 w. 67th. Contact Lmitchell@Kauffman.org

Red 1989 Blazer 1989 Red Blazer, 6 cylinder (4.3 L) engine, 205,000 miles, 4 wheel drive, new tires, a few rust spots, always garaged, for sale @ \$1,750. Great car with plenty of life left. Parked in driveway at 6638 Red Oak. Call Chuck Bailey [913-962-1989](tel:913-962-1989) to inspect.

1966 Ford Mustang 306 Cubic inches, 68 block bored .030 over, 5.0 crank, 5.0 rods, KB Hyper pistons, Hastings rings, Clevite 77 P rod & main bearings, Durabond cam bearings, Blueprinted pump with ARP shaft, ARP front, flexplate and head bolts, FelPro gaskets, SFI flexplate, Original interior, springtime yellow paint, asking \$5000. Please contact Jeff Taylor, 17820 W. 68 St., 913 268-9321.

ROH RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Have a favorite recipe you want to share? Email nkoporc@att.net and you may be published. This recipe was contributed by Sharon Adams.

CHINESE COLE SLAW

1 pkg cole slaw mix
1 cup sunflower seeds
1 cup almonds (toasted for 5 minutes at 350 degrees)
1 pkg Ramen noodles – any flavor
½ cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup vinegar
½ cup sugar (for diabetics, replace the sugar with ½ cup sugar substitute and it still tastes great)

Combine the vegetable oil, vinegar, and sugar along with the seasoning packet from the Ramen noodles and set aside. In a large bowl, combine the slaw mix, sunflower seeds, and toasted almonds. Crush the dry Ramen noodles and then add to the slaw mix. Pour the oil mixture over the slaw mix and stir well. Cover the bowl and refrigerate overnight, allowing time for the noodles to soften.

