



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.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012 ISSUE

A NEW BABY



Nick and Jamie Kehrwald welcomed a baby girl into their family on August 20. Claire Nicole was 8 lbs 3 ozs and 21 3/4 inches and was in great health. Congratulations to the new parents.

WELCOME TO THE HEWITT'S



Steve and Amy Hewitt grew up in this area. Amy lived in Merriam and then Prairie Village as a child and Steve grew up in Lenexa. After they were married, they bought a house in Olathe, moving to Red Oak Hills for a home big enough to start a family and to have a shorter commute into the city. Amy and Steve both went to the University of Kansas (go Jayhawks!). They are teachers in Kansas City, Kansas. Steve teaches middle school band at Central Middle School. Amy teaches reading and language arts at Argentine Middle School. They have three loving dogs. Mystic, the oldest, is a Samoyed and has never met a stranger. Persephone ("Percy") was adopted as a college graduation gift for Amy from

one of Steve's students at school. She's an Australian shepherd mix of some sort. Juno, the youngest, was an adopted stray and she is a German shepherd-mix. All three are treasured members of their family.

Amy and Steve are both avid readers and gamers. They both enjoy various sports and outdoor endeavors, but rarely find time for them during the school year. They love to dance and Steve continues to play music frequently. He has recently taken to researching his family's genealogy and Amy enjoys scrapbooking. They are very pleased to be here and they are enjoying the neighborhood immensely.

BOATS AND TRAILERS

HOA restrictions prohibit boats and trailers from being stored outside a garage. If a home is not covered by HOA restrictions, city codes require that boats and trailers must

be stored on some sort of a pad and behind the set back. We have homeowners in violation of HOA restrictions and city codes. Please put the boats and trailers in your garage and help us continue to look like a neighborhood with appropriate standards.

RESULTS FROM LAST TWO BOARD MEETINGS

Directories have been distributed to ROH HOA residents. To stay within our budget, only a limited number of directories were printed. We have received a number of requests from individuals wanting a directory, The Board has decided to print additional directories but charge \$5 to those who are outside the HOA.

Chad Johnson has an estimated cost for the repair of the pipe under the dam of the retention pond. He is continuing to work with the city and an engineering firm to get as good a price as possible. If it is over \$10,000, a vote by the HOA members, formal and informal, will have to be taken per the bylaws. We have the money so dues will not be affected.

A committee is being formed to study the possibility of allowing sheds or outbuildings to be constructed in Red Oak Hills. This would require a change in the Restrictions which is difficult. However, the board has received numerous inquiries about small sheds. If you would like to be on this committee, please call Gary Turner at 268-4513. Eric Van Allen is the committee chairman.

Officers of the Board elected for the 2012-2013 year are:

- Mark Peterson-Vice President (new to the board)
- Jill Peterson-Treasurer
- Chris Loomis-Secretary and Neighborhood Watch Chairman
- Gary Turner-President

NEW MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The new Chairman of the Maintenance Committee is Neils Benberg. Neils was raised in the first house in Red Oak Hills, which is on 70th St. We appreciate his willingness to serve and ask that you report any damaged sprinklers, valves, markers, plants, trees, or other HOA property to Neils at 706-9687 or to any Board member.

RENOVATION OF THE FRONT ENTRANCE

In the most recent survey, the Board asked what you thought of the renovation of the Midland entrance. Many responses were negative, and a few positive. We are lucky to have some "Master Gardeners" in Red Oak Hills - Cindy Lance, Cindy Shultz, and Cindy Ralston. They agreed to form a committee to guide us in developing a plan for a softer look while retaining some of the elements of the original plan. With their guidance, the board approved a contract with the Earl May Garden Center to create a new look at the entrance. Hollywood may have "The Three Amigos" and "The Three Musketeers", but we have the "The Three Cindys".

RED OAK HILLS NATURE TRAIL

On page 29 of the Red Oak Hills directory, there is a map showing the location of the retention pond and the nature trail. The drought has actually made the trail more

attractive. If you want to walk in the cool shade, try the trail. One part is steep and rocky so wear good shoes. Always stay on the trail and off private property.

STOLEN YARD ORNAMENT

Someone stole a concrete rabbit from a resident's yard on Red Oak Drive. If you know of the rabbit's whereabouts, please return it.

TRASH PROBLEMS

A resident called about trash blowing around the neighborhood and residents leaving trash in their yards. Please close your recycle cart and trash cart lids. All trash in the trash cart should be in a plastic bag or a paper bag so that the wind cannot blow the trash around on trash day. Recyclables can be loose because they are picked up by a different truck using a different procedure.

ROH GARAGE SALE

We have had inquiries about the fall garage sale. It has been temporarily suspended due to low participation and attendance. We are looking for someone who can take it over and get it back to where it was. If that someone is you, please contact Gary Turner.

CITY OF SHAWNEE NOTICE

Beginning on Monday, September 10th, drivers can expect increased police presence in and around School Zones in Shawnee as the Police Department will be stepping up seat belt and child safety restraint enforcement, along with speed enforcement.

Expect strict enforcement of the Safety Belt Use and Child Passenger Safety Acts. Briefly, these acts require that all occupants must be appropriately restrained. Occupants, ages 14 and over, are cited individually. In the event that a passenger under the age of 14 is unrestrained, the driver will be cited. Children under the age of four must be secured in an approved child safety seat. Children, ages four through seven, must be securely belted into an approved booster seat unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches or heavier than 80 pounds. Children, ages eight through 13 must be safety-belted. In addition, the act prohibits persons under the age of 14 from riding in any part of a vehicle not intended for carrying passengers, such as a pickup bed.

The aim of this School Zone Enforcement Campaign is simple: to reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries that occur when unbelted drivers and passengers are involved in traffic crashes. According to KDOT's Traffic Safety section, over two-thirds of those killed in crashes are not belted in. Just as striking is the fact that about 89 percent of crash survivors who suffer no injuries at all are belted in.

MEDICARE INFORMATION

Marilyn Caldwell will be conducting a clinic and answering questions about Medicare and the Affordable Care Act on Tuesday, Sep. 18th and Sep 25th from 7 to 8pm at the Shawnee Church. Anyone nearing 65 or above should be interested in what she has to say. She cannot solicit at this meeting.

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

Do you have an idea for making ROH a better place to live in? Homes are selling well in our neighborhood with three closings in a two week span, which is remarkable in this economic time. One home on Lind Road and two on 68th have or will close shortly. More than several times I have had comments about how well homes are kept up and how beautiful the area is. If you have ideas for making Red Oak Hills even better, please contact any of the Board members. We welcome your ideas.

ROH RECIPE OF THE MONTH

PUMPKIN SPICE CAKE

1 box Spice cake mix - any brand
3 eggs
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup water
1 15oz can of pumpkin

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

1 8oz pkg of cream cheese
5 tbsp of unsalted butter
2 tsp vanilla
1 1/2 cup powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray your 9 x 13 pan with cooking spray. Mix all cake ingredients together and mix for two minutes on medium speed. Pour batter into the cake pan and bake for 32 - 36 minutes. Cool for at least 10 minutes before icing.

Cream cheese should be cold and butter should be at room temperature for best consistency. Mix cream cheese, butter, and vanilla in mixer. Gradually add powdered sugar a little at a time until blended. Frosting will have a fairly light whipped creamy texture when done. Frost cake and enjoy.

