



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.

MAY- JUNE 2011 ISSUE

ANNUAL ROH PICNIC



The much anticipated Annual ROH Picnic will be June 18th this year at the Knights of Columbus Park in Shawnee. The picnic starts at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday. Drinks, hamburgers, and hot dogs will be provided. We ask odd numbered homes to bring vegetables or salads and even numbered homes to bring a dessert. Join your neighbors for fun and good food.

FOX ISSUE

Gary Turner

Last week you received an e mail concerning the Fox Problem. A fox or foxes apparently has a litter and has begun to eat cats. It appears that the rabbits are gone and the squirrel population may be dwindling also. Animal Control and Kansas Wildlife has been contacted. Once the loose or feral cats are eaten, the concern is that the fox may go after small dogs. The animal control officer doubted that foxes would eat dogs of any size. The [Kansas Wildlife](#) biologist has a list of companies that will attempt to trap the fox but foxes are very smart and they end up trapping dogs, cats, raccoons, and opossums.

Last Sunday a fox got a cat just south of 67th Terrace between Vahalla Ct and Millcreek. According to the eyewitnesses, when the fox was confronted by a resident, the fox dropped the cat, the cat scratched or bit the female resident, then the fox picked the cat up and ran off to the south in the retention pond area.

There were 35 e mail responses to the red oak warning about foxes. 14 respondents were in favor leaving the foxes alone, 6 respondents are concerned and consider the foxes a problem, and 15 respondents are neutral and have not seen foxes.

Residents who live in the Millcreek, Vahalla Ct and Dr, and 68th Street area have had the most unpleasant experiences. We will continue contacting the experts at Kansas Wildlife and/or Animal Control.

TIPS ON RECYCLING

Julie Coon of the Johnson County Environmental Department recently gave a presentation at Green Drinks, a group of citizens concerned about the environment and recycling efforts. If you would be interested in joining Green Drinks, contact Dan Wancura here in Red Oak Hills at 268-7843. Some of Julie's comments follow. Deffenbaugh has now stopped picking up yard waste that is not in paper bags. Yard waste makes up 11% of the landfill by volume and virtually all yard waste can be recycled. "Pay as you throw" makes it more expensive for you if you are not recycling everything that you can. You must have stickers for any yard waste over 6 bags or bundles of branches or anything that will not fit into your household waste cart. Stickers are available in sheets of 10 at \$1.25/sticker by calling 268-4513. You have unlimited recycling.

Deffenbaugh now has a compost pile and cannot allow plastic bags in the compost mix. Also remember that there is now a separate truck for yard waste and yard waste in plastic will not be picked up. Deffenbaugh is recycling yard waste by selling it to large commercial users.

Recycling means more than what Deffenbaugh picks up. For instance, glass can be recycled to the Ripple Glass containers. Plastic bags can be recycled at the grocery stores. Grass should be mulched. Some residents like Dan Wancura have compost piles.

GARAGE SALE SIGN

Someone removed the [Garage Sale](#) sign from the 70th Street entrance. Please contact Gary Turner if you have it.

BOARD VACANCY



Can you spend two hours every other month and become a board member? The board will meet in September, November, January, March, and May for the 2011-12 year. June is the Annual Meeting and Picnic and December is the Holiday Party.

This is a good opportunity to get involved in the betterment of your neighborhood and meet people.

VOLUNTEER FOUND FOR SIGNS

Jana Bonham has volunteered to place the signs at the three major entrances. New signs have been approved to give you reminders of upcoming events and plans such as Tidy Town, Board Meetings, Holiday Dinner, and the Annual Meeting.

CURB REPAINTS

Winter takes a toll on curb addresses. The man who did the original curb painting is back and is contacting Red Oak residents. His name is John Gray. He is charging \$10 to be paid directly to him. \$10 is a bargain.

HONOR FLIGHT

Honor Flight" is a national program to raise money to send area WW 2 veterans to Washington DC to view the WW 2 Memorial, meet with Bob Dole, and visit other sites. It costs about \$500 per veteran. Hy-Vee grocery stores collect donations at the cash register when you purchase groceries. Hy-Vee will add \$1 to whatever you want to give. Just tell the cashier that you want to donate to the Honor Flight program. WW 2 veterans are dying at the rate of 1,000 per day so this program will not go on forever. We have about 40 veterans in Red Oak Hills. If you are or know of a WW 2 veteran that would be interested in the Honor Flight, contact Gary Turner at 268-4513. Gary will contact the organizer, Gary Swanson in Leawood. Gary Swanson also interviews WW 2 veterans about their experience in WW 2. The resulting DVD is then stored in the National Archives in Independence, MO.

DO YOUR PETS RUN LOOSE?

Residents report unleashed and uncontrolled dogs and cats running through their yards and gardens. Please be considerate of your neighbors. Your neighbor may not want to offend you by complaining directly so please be sensitive and adhere to Shawnee leash laws.

TORNADO SAFETY

The recent severe weather throughout the Midwest with significant damage in both Reading, Kansas, and Joplin, Missouri, has raised the level of concern for everyone. The Johnson County warning siren system is intended to be an outdoor warning system," said Nick Crossley, Director of Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security. "Some citizens can hear the sirens inside their residences and businesses; however, due to improved building techniques as well as atmospheric conditions such as rain, thunder, and lightning, it is often difficult to hear them inside homes and businesses".

For this reason, every home and business owner should have a NOAA All-Hazards alert radio and a plan to respond to weather threats such as tornado warnings. NOAA All Hazard Radios are designed to notify those persons inside a home or business about impending threats. Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security also maintains a SMS text alert system called JOCOAlert that is available for free to local citizens. People can subscribe to the JOCOAlert text notification system by texting "Follow JOCOAlert" to 40404.

"Weather radios and text notifications are extremely important parts of Johnson County's emergency public notification strategy", continued Crossley, "since sirens provide no information on the type of threat or exact location of potential danger." Once a warning is heard, citizens and businesses should seek shelter and then determine the location and type of threat. This will allow them to take appropriate actions to protect

themselves, their families or their employees and customers.

For more information on the Johnson County Outdoor Warning Siren system, NOAA All-Hazard alert radios, or the JOCOAlert system, visit www.jocoem.org.

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.

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 Nancee Koporc.

TACO SOUP for a CROWD

2 pounds lean ground beef
1 small onion, chopped
3 cans (4 ounces each) chopped green chilies
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1 can (15-16 ounces) pinto beans, rinsed and drained
1 can (16 ounces) lima beans, rinsed and drained
1 package (1-1/4 ounces) taco seasoning
1 1/2 cups water
1 package (1 ounce) ranch dressing mix
1 can (14 1/2 ounces) hominy, drained
3 cans (14 1/2 ounces each) stewed tomatoes
1 can (15-16 ounces) red kidney beans, rinsed and drained
Shredded Cheddar Cheese, optional
Tortilla Chips, optional

In a large Dutch oven or kettle, brown beef and onion. Drain all fat. Add all remaining ingredients except the last two: bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes. Top with cheese and serve with chips, if desired. Yield: 10 servings

