



RED OAK HILLS Newsletter

Red Oak Hills April Event



Please join us for the Red Oak Hills Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 8th at 4:00 PM** in the greenspace at the center of Red Oak Hills! Please note this is a time change! See the link below for more information and how you can participate. Please note if it rains or is too muddy we will not reschedule but will find a way to distribute eggs!

[Red Oak Hills Easter Egg Hunt](#)

Reduce Your Carbon Footprint-RECYCLE

If it uses a power cord or runs on batteries, chances are good that Midwest Recycling Center (MRC) can recycle it. Located at 2000 E. 19th St in Kansas City, MO, MRC has a lengthy list of items that can be recycled. Check it out at <https://mrcrecycling.net/list>.



Charles Staubus (former ROH resident) Pays Tribute to WWII

Our former neighbor, Charles Staubus, has recently recorded a profile feature detailing some of the history of his World War II service in the 101st Airborne Division. Patriot Features honors veterans of America's conflicts with a professionally produced, short documentary of their service story. In addition to the veterans' service story, each Feature focuses on who the veteran is, telling the story of their family, career, and pursuits.

Their mission is threefold:

- A gift for the veteran and their family
- An education for future generations
- An archive for the Nation

Specifically, these short documentaries are given to the veteran and their family at no cost, and with no strings attached. Each Feature is also made available to schools, universities, museums, and many other events/requests for the purpose of education – again, at no cost. In this way, they serve as a historical reminder of the veteran's contribution to our great country, and the sacrifices required to secure and maintain our freedom.

Visit www.patriotfeatures.org to view Charles' profile feature and learn more about this organization. Scroll over each picture to see the veteran's name. Charles has a color photo and is near the bottom of the WWII profiles. Charles' email address is charles.staubus01@gmail.com if you would like to contact him.



PATRIOT ★ FEATURES

Meet the Nguyen's

The Nguyen's, are new neighbors and this is their captivating story of how they came to ROH. If you haven't had the chance to meet Hue and Un Nguyen yet, we highly recommend taking a moment to get acquainted with them.

Hue's story of how he came to the USA is one of determination and tenacity, which runs deep into his veins. Born in Vietnam, Hue dreamed of escaping communism and living a life of freedom. He and a friend worked at the harbor, repairing ships as a mechanic, and they began gathering information on where the ship was headed and how long it would take to get there. With this information, they planned their escape.

In 1979, at the young age of 22, Hue and his friend stowed away on a Greek ship headed first to the Philippines, then Singapore, then to Italy. They were discovered by the captain two days into the journey but, unable to return Hue to Vietnam, the captain advised him not to get off the ship in the Philippines, where the refugee camps were not good, but to disembark in Singapore instead. While in Singapore, it would have taken over 48 hours to receive the necessary paperwork, so Hue had to remain on the ship, heading to Italy. After 70 days in Italy, Hue received the paperwork to come to the USA, where he landed in Kansas City with just \$35 in his pocket.



Hue recognized that to succeed in his new country, he required two essential things: communication skills and means of transportation. He enrolled in an English language school to learn the language, and meticulously saved penny by penny to purchase his first car, a Maverick, for which he paid \$1200. Unfortunately, the car turned out to be defective, but being a mechanic himself, he repaired it sufficiently to use it for commuting.

Hue met his wife Un while attending English school in Kansas City, where Un had come to visit her aunt from South Korea. They quickly hit it off, bonding over their shared experiences as immigrants in a new country and their strong work ethic. Despite coming from different cultural backgrounds, they found they had a lot in common and their relationship grew stronger over time. Eventually, they decided to get married and start a family together. Hue bought a small house in Wyandotte county where they raised their two children, a son who is now 31 years old and a daughter who is now 24 years old. Today, they have been happily married for 36 years.

The Nguyens made the decision to purchase their forever home in Red Oak Hills after residing in their Wyandotte County neighborhood for over 33 years. They have been living in Red Oak Hills since March 2022. Despite the considerable amount of work needed for the house, Hue's optimistic attitude allowed him and Un to see its potential, and they have poured their hearts and creativity into making it a cozy and beautiful home.

Midland Drive Improvements

The City Council discussed the Midland Dr. project during their February 27 meeting. Click on <https://shawneemissionpost.com/2023/03/02/midland-drive-shawnee-195174/> for a summary of the meeting or visit cityofshawnee.org to read the full minutes from the Council Committee meeting.

From Our Neighbor Rick Bush....

I wanted to thank the great folk of Red Oak Hills for supporting the clothing drive for the street population in Kansas City.

There is a great need and the generous donations of clothing, supplies, blankets and sleeping bags filled our front porch and soon our home. We have now distributed all the warm clothing and helped our street friends get through this past brutal weather. Typically the donations in the second year of any drive tails off but our Red Oak Hills family were even more generous. I am proud to call Red Oak Hills home.



Spring Cleaning Tips

1. Clean windows-To get streaks off windows and other glass surfaces, squeeze about two tablespoons of lemon juice into an empty spray bottle. Add about a tablespoon of white vinegar and a cup of hot (but not boiling) water. Shake the mixture well and apply to whatever needs cleaning.

2. Freshen up the garbage disposal-If there's a funky smell coming from your kitchen sink, try throwing a few lemon wedges or peels into the disposal and chase them with some cold water.

For particularly potent odors, add some baking soda to the mix.

3. Kill weeds-If you're not thrilled at the idea of keeping harsh chemicals in reach of children or pets, a little lemon juice can serve as a functional weed killer. Be careful how much you use and where you apply it, as the acidity in the lemons can damage plants you want to save and even change the pH of the soil.

7. Remove stains from your plastic containers-If you've ever put spaghetti in a plastic container, you know how easily tomato sauce can leave an unappealing tinge. Rather than throw it out, fill the container to the top with lemon juice and let it sit for a few hours. Pour the juice out, then scrub the item thoroughly to get rid of the stain.



The Book Thief



The Book Thief is a [historical fiction novel](#) by the Australian author [Markus Zusak](#), set in [Nazi Germany](#) during [World War II](#). Published in 2005, *The Book Thief* became an international bestseller and was translated into 63 languages and sold 16 million copies. It was adapted into the 2013 feature film, *The Book Thief*.

The novel follows the adventures of young Liesel Meminger. By personifying "[Death](#)" as a tangible being who narrates the story, the novel presents a unique perspective into the world of the victims of the war. There are many tangible themes throughout the entire story.

If you have a significant life event you would like to share with the neighborhood such as a birth, wedding, adoption, graduation, anniversary or loss, please send to annissalh@me.com.

About Us

Jana Bonham, Jessica Horine, Chasity Robinson Mwangi and Annissa Freeman contribute to putting together this monthly newsletter for our Red Oak Hills community members.

Why? We love our community and want us all to stay connected not just for fun and

sharing but also for help. The newsletter is to share news, events and fun things with one another. This newsletter will only be in electronic format however feel free to print and share with friends and family.