

# Red Oak Hills May Newsletter

## *Community News*

**Save the date**-ROH Community Garage Sale Friday, June 10th and Saturday June 11th from 8am-5pm.



**Kids, Balls and Dogs**-Nice weather brings neighbors, fun and friends (especially the furry ones) outdoors, please be mindful of speed and the blind hills.



**Graduation Season**-Please submit anyone you want to celebrate for graduation to [jbonham94073@gmail.com](mailto:jbonham94073@gmail.com) for a shoutout in our June newsletter.



## **Overnight Fishing at Shawnee Mission Park**

Grab your fishing pole and lantern for the first overnight fishing opportunity of the season!

On Saturday, May 7, the park will be open for fishing only and park police officers will be on duty throughout the night. Before fishing, anglers ages 16-74 will need to have a valid Kansas fishing license, JCPRD fishing permits, and all appropriate boat tags, if applicable. For more information or to purchase permits, visit [JCPRD.com/permits](http://JCPRD.com/permits).



## **Birding in the Kansas City Area**

Did you hear the Barred Owl in Red Oak Hills during the daytime in early spring? A compilation of bird lists from local nature conservation areas and parks indicates that approximately 355 species of birds have been sighted in the Kansas City area. This includes common as well as uncommon, occasional, rare and accidental visitors in all seasons. Of the approximately 355 species, 119 are considered common, which means that they are certain to be seen in their habitat during the seasons that they are in the area. Birding is always good in the area, as different species come and go each season. Mid-April through mid-June is a great time for birding in the Kansas City area. In the spring, approximately 200 species return to the area to nest or pass through on migration. Visit <http://kcbirdingwalks.com> and find links for a list of birds that are here each season, photos of each species, and trail sites where they can be seen.



## WORDLE...have you heard of it?

**W**ordle is the new word game that has you trying to remember every 5 letter word you know. The [New York Times](#) publishes only one game board a day. The objective is to get to the 5 letter word of the day in 6 attempts. Here is how it works:

For every letter that is in the word and in the correct position-the square is green.

For every letter that is in the word and in the wrong position-the square is gold.

For every letter that does not appear in the word-the square is gray

The keyboard at the bottom corresponds to the letters guessed and the respective colors.



\*Hint-if a letter appears more than once in the word it still only shows green in the guess, unless you guess it more than once.

Consider yourself warned-everyday I am excited to see if I can guess the word in less than 3 attempts. Good Luck.

## Vacation Bible School/Day Camp

Let us know by May 25 if your church is hosting a vacation bible school or day camp this summer. We will include a list in the June newsletter.



## *Al Chile Taco Shop*



In 2021, Al Chile Taco Shop opened in Shawnee next to City Hall. This little restaurant survived the pandemic due to a thriving online order business of delicious food. The executive chef, Alejandro Martinez, won the top prize in The Culinary Fight Club's 2017 taco contest. Highly recommended are the Grilled Chicken Taco, Shawnee Burrito and Shawnee Street Taco. Support this local business located at 11200 Johnson Drive.

# Frozen Banana Cereal Pops

## Ingredients

3/4 cup strawberry yogurt

2 cups Fruity Pebbles Cereal  
(or cereal of choice)

4 medium bananas cut crosswise

8 wooden pop sticks



## Directions

1. Place yogurt and cereal in separate shallow bowls. Insert pop sticks through cut side of bananas. Dip bananas in yogurt, then roll in cereal to coat. Transfer to waxed paper-lined [baking sheets](#)
2. Freeze until firm, about 1 hour. Transfer to airtight freezer containers; seal containers and return pops to freezer
3. Enjoy these sweet treats as the weather warms.

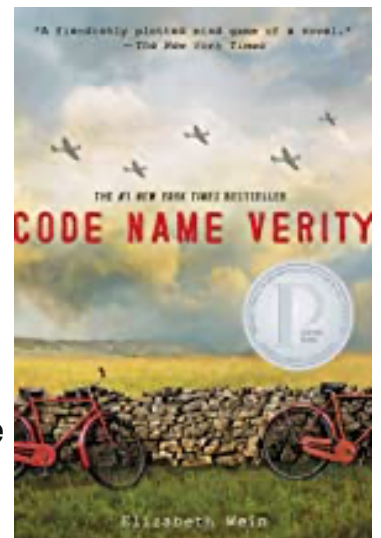
*\*Feel free to modify with nuts, dark chocolate, sprinkles and other toppings*

## Book-Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein

Oct. 11th, 1943—A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun.

When “Verity” is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution.

As she intricately weaves her confession, Verity uncovers her past, how she became friends with the pilot Maddie, and why she left Maddie in the wrecked fuselage of their plane. On each new scrap of paper, Verity battles for her life, confronting her views on courage, failure and her desperate hope to make it home. But will trading her secrets be enough to save her from the enemy?



## Meet the Mwangi Family

Chasity and Maina Mwangi moved to Red Oak Hills from Lenexa, Kansas, in the summer of 2015 with their three amazing kids that they adore and love seeing grow into strong and confident young adults – Shehara (20), Mattie (17), and Brennan (13). It took them over two years to find their dream home in Red Oak Hills, and it was certainly worth the wait - every day they are in awe of the beauty that every season brings to their lovely neighborhood! They enjoy getting to know ROH neighbors and being a part of such an amazing community.

Maina is originally from Nairobi, Kenya, and came to the USA in 2002 for graduate school at Central Missouri State, now UCM, and he has worked for John Deere since his graduation. Many of you may know Maina for his friendly nature, working in our gardens, his love and labor on his beloved Koi pond, the transformation of their beautiful backyard, or you may have met him on a Water Garden Society Tour. Maina is super social and thrives on connecting with people – especially our neighbors!

Chasity grew up in Shawnee Mission, Kansas and is a native to the Kansas City area. She absolutely loves connecting with new people but at times, don't get to meet our neighbors because her work as a director in senior living calls her to be super dedicated to helping families in navigating the mercy waters of a Alzheimer's/dementia diagnosis. She enjoys spending time with family, traveling, and three nights of Latin dancing with the hubby! Also, she really enjoys when she's able to participate in neighborhood events and likes working on the neighbor features for the ROH Newsletter as it allows her a way to connect since she doesn't get out much.

Don't be a stranger - if you see the Mwangi family out and about, please stop by for a chat or even a cup of Kenyan tea! Some of you have been curious as to how we pronounce Mwangi – and Chasity likes to say, "It's like *blowing a kiss* (Mwah-n-ghee)!"

Cheers to knowing more of our neighbors!



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*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](mailto:annissalh@me.com).*

Jana Bonham, Jessica Horine, Chasity Mwangi and I (Annissa Freeman) are putting together this monthly newsletter for our Red Oak Hills community members.

Why? We love our community to be published 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.