

SPRING LAKE ESTATES NEWSLETTER

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NEXT BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, May 19
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: RVC Main Campus, Woodward Training Center, Room 117 / 119 / 121
Agenda: Child Safety, Clear-cutting of trees on Spring Brook Rd, By-laws, Lake update
Guest Speakers: Detective Sgt. Wilson, Loves Park Police
Officer Liz Hughes, Rkfd. Community Service
Alderman Carl Wasco

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is one topic I wish I didn't have to write about. With the onset of summer and the rising reports of sexual predators preying on our children, we must develop ways to keep them safe from harm. To assist us with this, we have invited Detective Sgt. Wilson of the Loves Park Police, our alderman Carl Wasco and Liz Hughes our Community Service Officer to attend our meeting on Tuesday. **IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT ALL PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, OR THOSE INVOLVED IN CHILD CARE ATTEND.** We have ordered an extra capacity room for this. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do not think that it couldn't happen to your family. It can and it does. Last summer a neighborhood child was stalked by a predator. This year other issues have arisen. With the clear-cutting of trees on Spring Brook Road, the swimming pond is now visible to all who pass leaving our children vulnerable.

We spent a delightful two weeks in Georgia visiting the grandkids, but returning to the clear-cutting on Spring Brook was disheartening. It looked like a tornado or microburst hit the area! I received no prior notification from the city regarding this. I have met with the city and with our landscaping people to discuss what can be done. In the interim I have hired EBR Lawn Care to install privacy slats in the fence until a permanent solution can be reached. A meeting is to be scheduled with all concerned.

Another issue is garage sales. Residents, please note only two garage sales are allowed per year. This is not an association rule, it is a city ordinance. The only exception is the annual sale where the entire subdivision is encouraged to participate. This is considered a sponsored event. Those found to be violating the ordinance will be reported to the city and cited.

This year marks the new building committee with Tom McNeeny (chairman), Richard Gassmann and Carl Walthall. All plans for fences, sheds and additions must be submitted to the committee for approval prior to construction.

On a sad note, the association lost a good friend and lake champion, Dave Johnson. Due to Dave's efforts, David Lynch chose making our boat dock handicap accessible as his Eagle Scout project. In addition, Dave was a true friend and sportsman who started many on the road to fishing. He will be missed.

On a personal note...this is my last year as President of the Association. Through the efforts of many fine people we have turned around a system that let dues and assessments slide to one of proactive collections. To a Board in which many residents felt they had no voice to one that actively seeks input from all. Carol and I want to enjoy some extended time away and I think it is time for new blood and fresh ideas. So for all of those who have said "If I were President".....here's your chance!

Thank you to all who have helped us through these four years. It was and is an experience that I will not soon forget nor will I ever want to. I'm not done yet, tho. There are still several things I would like to accomplish such as amending the by-laws to reflect ONE class of residents instead of the "A" and "B" classes, and Carol is working on publishing a new directory this year.

Remember – don't neglect your dues. Payment plans are available for those who need help.
Summer is coming (trust me, I saw it on the calendar!) **WATCH FOR CHILDREN!!!**

Bob

President: Bob Neumann

E-mail: bobneumann@ymail.com

Phone: 815-904-9429

BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

President:

Bob Neumann
815-904-9429

bobneumann@ymail.com

Vice-President:

Chuck Hummel
815-636-9322

Treasurer:

Ray Nilles
815-633-0836

Secretary:

Pam Long
815-282-2083

CLASS A:

Tom McNeany
815-282-4016

Amy Weteska
779-423-0706

CLASS B:

Jim Milne
815-877-8087

Mark Sullivan
815-877-4441

COMMITTEES

ARCHITECTURAL

Tom McNeany
815-282-4016

Richard Gassmann
815-633-9882

Carl Walthall
815-708-0520

NEWSLETTER

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815-540-6810
preiter1228@yahoo.com

LUMINARY

Wendy Higgins
815-282-3988
higginsdoobiz@higginshomeinspection.com

GARAGE SALE

Pam Osborne
815-979-5491
chefwyf@chefrons.com

SAVE SPRING LAKE

George & Judy Goldman
815-654-1288
4cures.org

LAKE PATROL

Matt Macias
282-3556

BLOCK CHAIRPERSONS

AREA 1

**Chandler/Youngfield/
Thatcher**
Susan & Ray Nilles
5950 Thatcher
815-633-0836
r.nilles@att.net

AREA 2

Clarendon +2 on Raintree
Kathleen Slade
5802 Clarendon
815-654-8389
no e-mail

AREA 3

Conover +7 on Haddon
Larry Hoffman
3335 Conover
815-877-9032
larryhoff@comcast.net

AREA 4

Fawnridge
Terri & Patti Bomkamp
3333 Fawnridge
815-282-4758
pbomkamprd@comcast.net

AREA 5

Haddon (E of Fawnridge)
Joyce Zartman
3571 Montlake
815-877-3615
joyce.m.z@juno.com

AREA 6

Lansdale
Deena Hergert
3320 Lansdale
815-494-9650
deenak987@comcast.net

AREA 7

**Montlake (N of Weymouth)/
Chadbourne**
Paula Reiter
5702 Chadbourne
815-540-6810
preiter1228@yahoo.com

AREA 8

Montlake (S of Weymouth)
Ed Cunningham
3259 Montlake
815-282-6154
ed@cunningnet.com

AREA 9

Old Millstone/Suffolk
Carol Bachhuber
5935 Old Millstone
815-877-8894
clsbach@comcast.net

AREA 10

Springbrook – Condos
Jim Stewart
5548 Springbrook #206
815-637-2785
jcstw1@aol.com

Dixie Simons
5548 Springbrook #202
815-877-6549
no e-mail

AREA 11

Springbrook – Duplexes
Barb & Tim Koons
3220 Springlake
815-708-6627
fishmed@netzero.com

AREA 12

Springlake
Judy Goldman
3132 Springlake
815-654-1288
judy@4cures.org

Steve Ferrall
3156 Springlake
815-986-6723
steveferrallrealtor@comcast.net

AREA 13

Twin Orchard/Snowberry
Susan & Ray Nilles
5950 Thatcher
815-633-0836
r.nilles@att.net

AREA 14

**Weymouth (E of Lansdale)/
+2 on Raintree**
Kathy Harms
5880 Weymouth
815-877-8320
kaharms54k@aol.com

AREA 15

Weymouth (W of Lansdale)
Elizabeth Russo
5732 Weymouth
815-877-4657
russo@comcast.net

BLOCKCHAIR COORDINATOR

Carol Neumann
5898 Weymouth
815-904-9428
ceneum@ymail.com

2009 QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, Feb 21, 2009 2:00 pm
2009 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2009 6:30 pm

Tuesday, Aug 18, 2009 6:30 pm

Tuesday, Nov 17, 2009 6:30 pm

Saturday, Feb 27, 2010 2:00 pm

The meetings will be held at Rock Valley College with building and room number assigned prior to each meeting.

ALDERMAN – FOURTH WARD

Carl R. Wasco
815-282-1635
cwasco2155@aol.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

Officer Liz Hughes
815-987-8276
liz.hughes@ci.rockford.il.us

ADDITIONAL POLICE NUMBERS

Emergency 911
Non-emergency 815-966-2900
Community Standards 815-987-5566
(Property and neighborhood violations)

2009 Board Members

Please welcome our new Board Member, Amy Weteska. The returning board members are: Bob Neumann, President Chuck Hummel, Vice-President Pam Long, Secretary Ray Nilles, Treasurer Tom McNeany Jim Milne Mark Sullivan

Richard Gassmann and Carl Walthall now serve on the Architectural Committee along with Chairman Tom McNeany.

ACTIVITY PASSES

The activity passes will be distributed by the Block Chairs to those residents who are current on their association dues or are on payment plans.



Backyard Wildlife: Black Squirrels

One of the things I love most about the Spring Lakes neighborhoods is all the wildlife here. In the past two years since my family moved in, we've seen the following animals in our backyard: turkeys, raccoons, opossums, mallard ducks, foxes, coyotes, countless songbirds, woodpeckers, hawks, and of course, squirrels. There are two kinds of squirrels common to our area – the larger fox squirrels and the smaller grey squirrels. But you have probably also noticed a third type of squirrel in the neighborhood – dark brown or black squirrels. These dark squirrels are actually grey squirrels. They have an abundance of dark pigment (melanin) in their fur – a condition known as “melanism”. This is a genetic trait. The exact way that this trait is inherited in squirrels is unknown. Populations of black squirrels are native to the U.S. and were here when the first Europeans arrived. They are more common in the eastern and northern states and are extremely common in many parts of southern Canada. Populations of black squirrels have also been introduced into other areas where they are non-native, including western states and parts of the UK. In many towns and cities, local populations of black squirrels are viewed with pride and are promoted as tourist attractions. There are even several college campuses that have adopted the black squirrel as an official or unofficial mascot, including Kent State and Harvard. In Rockford, there are a few isolated pockets of black squirrels, including a population in Aldeen park and our neighborhood bunch. Some folks believe that these black squirrels are more aggressive than their grey counterparts and will drive the “normal” squirrels away. Currently there are no reliable data to support this. In fact, based on what we've seen in our yard, which is full of feeders which at times are visited by as many as eight squirrels at once, the black squirrels are chased away just as often as they are the chasers. Some evidence suggests that black squirrels survive better in urban areas where there are fewer predators, since their dark color may cause them to be more easily spotted when they are out in the open. In any event, Spring Lakes Estates is lucky to have its own population of these unusual squirrels. I hope you enjoy them as much as my family and I do.

Submitted by Deena Hergert



POND

The pond will open on Saturday, May 24.

The rules for the pond are posted on the gate. Please adhere to them to ensure a safe and fun summer. As always, be sure your children are properly supervised.

Guests must be accompanied by a resident.



To reserve the picnic area at the pond, call Paula Reiter at 815-540-6810. Please call as far in advance as possible in order to secure the date. Last year this area was in almost constant use. Also, please make sure that the picnic area is picked up and cleaned of refuse after your party. If the refuse can is filled, please do not leave your bags on the ground next to them. (This only encourages the wildlife in the area to have their own party! Only they don't clean up after themselves!) Bring your bags with you and dispose of them at home. As always, the swimming area will always be available to residents regardless of any ongoing parties.

Pets are not permitted in the pond and beach area. Loose animals found in this area will be removed by Rockford animal control.

Make sure you have your activity pass with you at the pond. The passes will be delivered shortly.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE



Saturday, June 6
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
No participation fee

Pam Osborne is the Garage Sale Chair. She will be putting together an area map listing the locations of all the participating homes. Copies of this map will be placed at strategic points along the route. If you will be participating, please call Pam at [815-979-5491](tel:815-979-5491) to let her know your address. If possible, she would also like to include a general listing of the items you're planning on selling as an encouragement to the shoppers.

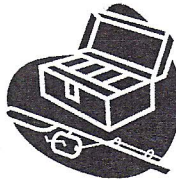
There will be an ad placed in the Rockford Register Star newspaper to run Tuesday thru Saturday and signs will be placed on the corner of Mulford and Weymouth; the corner of SpringBrook and SpringLake; the corner of Mulford and Pepper; and the corner of Pepper and Lansdale. The Royal Harbour Condos will also be participating.

DIRECTORIES

We're doing it again. The association directories will be updated this summer. To ensure that the listings are correct, I am asking the block chairs to contact everyone in their areas for verification of information. If you wish your phone unlisted, please let your block chair know.

LAKE

FISHING: A fishing license is required to fish in the lake. You can keep what you catch if it falls within the limits of the guideline:



- 3 bass per day, catch & release only
- 3 catfish per day, 14 inches or longer
- 3 walleye per day, 14 inches or longer
- unlimited panfish (bluegill, sunfish, etc.)

Except for the boat dock pier, pond and Weymouth Park, the area surrounding the lake is private property. This includes the berm/dam behind the duplexes and condos. Fish in the designated areas ONLY (the boat dock pier or from your boat).

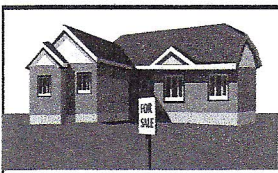
BOATING: Your boats must carry a current boat registration number issued by the state. Please notify the Association president of this number.



SWIMMING: Swimming is not allowed in the lake. The lake is not treated to maintain sanitary or safety conditions and is occasionally treated for algae and other weed control.



THE ONLY DESIGNATED SAFE SWIMMING AREA IS AT THE POND.



HOMES FOR SALE

3203 Youngfield Drive
Realtor - Justis Properties 815-378-9700

3319 Conover
Realtor - Tom McKiski, Larry Petry 815-885-3637

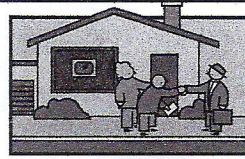
5548 Spring Brook Road #303
Realtor - Dickerson & Nieman, John & Diane Dowd 815-381-6881
815-381-6882

5548 Spring Brook Road #312
By Owner, Jeff Jones 815-282-3997

5895 Old Millstone
By Owner 815-742-2943

5905 Clarendon
Realtor - Keller Williams, Sally Faber 815-262-3203

5965 Suffolk Place
Realtor - Whitehead, Tracy Conway 815-262-1312



WELCOME TO OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Maureen Barrett, Scott & Heather Ashcroft 3161 Raintree Lane

Scott Warner & Sarah Burnell 3422 Lansdale Drive

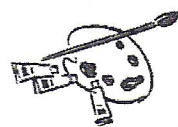
Geoff & Kim Carlson 3447 Lansdale Drive

James & Joanne Smith 5548 Spring Brook #211

Dave & Kristy Schmidt 5791 Clarendon Drive

Chad Bradham 5937 Twin Orchard Drive

Place your business card ads here. \$10 per newsletter or \$40 per year. With the yearly rate you are guaranteed placement in 4 newsletters with extra issues at no additional charge. Call Carol at 815-904-9428.



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BROKER ASSOCIATE

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jamesbarbagallo@aol.com

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Karen Barbagallo

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www.dickersonnieman.com
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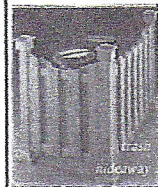
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Large projects: decks & remodeling

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Patrick Durbin
815.703.8094



www.firstaveautos.com

Richard Warner

Owner- (815) 243-3925

1620 Broadway

2020 Broadway

Fax:

815-387-8864

815-397-7200

815-397-7222

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KIMBALL HIGGINS
Licensed Home Inspector

5855 Old Millstone Road

Rockford, IL 61114

Phone: 815-621-5511

Fax: 815-282-3989

Email: Kimball@jahiggins.com