

Barrister's Keepe Newsletter

Volume 18 No. 2

September 2015

BK HOA Board Meeting

The September Annual HOA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8th, at 7:30pm at Woodson High School, Room D116. Please use Entrance 3. The Annual Meeting will be preceded by our annual **Ice Cream Social** which will start in Room D116 at **7:00PM**. This is always a well-attended event and a very nice opportunity to meet with and catch up with your neighbors.

Grounds Committee Updates

With the end of summer and the beginning of fall approaching, the grounds crew at CLS will be very busy.

They'll be in the neighborhood routinely to maintain the grass and common areas. There will be turf fertilization, grub and weed control and lime, aeration of the soil, preparing it for winter.

The fall mulching will take place, flowers will be changed and leaves will be falling. CLS comes in at least 5 times for leaf removals and clean ups.

Late in the fall they will be doing tree and shrub trimming, but that is not until late November, early December. We will put out a notice before this takes place.

Covenants Committee News

Thank you to all homeowners who have addressed the issues found by the covenants committee. We appreciate your hard attention to those items that keep your home looking cared for and our community looking beautiful. Our homes are now at the age when we must clean the cement most years, so a special thank you to CLS and the grounds committee for offering the opportunity to have our power washing done at such a low cost.

We have a few homeowners who have notified us that they are still working on issues found on their homes. We will conduct a follow walk around at the end of September to identify those items not yet addressed, and reach out

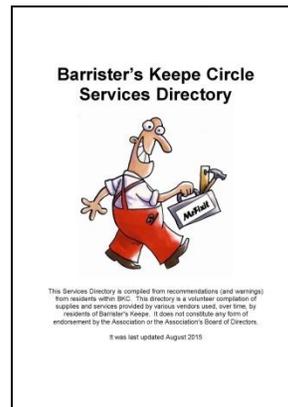
personally to the homeowners. We are happy to report that the most egregious findings have been taken care of, some of which the homeowner was not yet aware.

As always, we welcome new members on the covenants committee. Please contact Annie Patenaude anniepva@aol.com, if you would like to join covenants.

Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Summer is almost gone despite what your deck thermometer is telling you! Can you believe it? Soon the kids will be back in school, the leaves will begin to fall, and we'll all be making plans to travel to a warmer climate once winter really gets here. Bonnie and I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer vacations wherever you went. I also want to thank everyone for their diligence in taking care of issues around the house based on the Covenants Committee's walk-through. For the most part, things are taken care of.



The BK Service Directory

As you know, I put out an updated version of the BK Service Directory along with a call for any volunteers to keep it updated. I got two! Thanks to Madan Gera, and Nancy Webster for

stepping up to the plate to keep this document current. They will be taking over the reins sometime this fall when they return from travel. In the meantime, if anyone wants to provide

new input or update something you have already submitted; please let Madan and Nancy know. I know for Bonnie and me, this has been a great start point when looking for contractors or companies

The Enclave

This project, which we have talked about periodically for the past several months, goes back to the City Council again on September 8th! Unfortunately, that's the same night as our Annual Meeting. So, if you are for or against and want your voice heard, you should plan on sending a note to the Mayor and/or any of the City Council members. The developer has done a lot to mitigate the concerns expressed by the surrounding communities. For our part, the developer is offering to proffer a sign that has the posted speed limit along with a radar sign that posts your actual speed limit. This came after it was determined that a signal could not be installed at either of the entrance/exit points for the development. We had also expressed a concern about parking and the number of vehicles/unit their market studies show can be expected for this type of development. They are planning 1.6 vehicles per unit (or a total of 128 spaces) with 70 spaces under the buildings and the remainder on the surrounding internal streets. As a result of community concerns, they have formally arranged with the owner of The New School and the Mantua Professional Center to allow parking in those spaces after hours. One final concern shared commonly by us, Pickett's Reserve, and the Mantua Civic Association was the view shed. For us, it was the view from Pickett. For Mantua, it was the view from their homes on the opposite side of the development. So, did you see the balloons that were flown this past weekend (Friday and Saturday, August 28 & 29)? Neither did I! I drove down into the center to see them and there they were. You couldn't see them driving by on Pickett but there is somewhat of a false impression because the site hasn't been cleared. We can't be sure what trees will remain to screen the buildings from the road. However, in my humble opinion, while we will know the buildings are there (assuming the project is approved) there won't be a dramatic visual impact from Pickett Road – famous last words!

Severe Weather

It's September and the weather outside is far more like July & August than it is the beginning of fall! But, even though winter comes as no surprise each year, many of us are not ready for it when it gets here. Here are a few helpful hints as taken from the Center for Disease Control's web site



Take these steps for your home.

Many people prefer to remain indoors in the winter, but staying inside is no guarantee of safety.

- Winterize your home.
- Check your heating systems.
- When you do venture outside, wear appropriate outdoor clothing: layers of light, warm clothing; mittens; hats; scarves; and waterproof boots.

Don't forget to prepare your car

- Service the radiator and maintain antifreeze level; check tire tread or, if necessary, replace tires with all-weather or snow tires.
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer.
- Prepare a winter emergency kit to keep in your car in case you become stranded. Include: blankets; food & water; jumper cables, flares, tire pump, and a bag of sand or cat litter (for traction); compass and maps; flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries; first-aid kit; and plastic bags (for sanitation).

Equip yourself in advance for emergencies

Be prepared for weather-related emergencies, including power outages.

- Stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers.
- Always ensure your cell phone is fully charged.

- When planning travel, be aware of current and forecast weather conditions.
- Keep an up-to-date emergency kit, including: Battery-operated devices, such as a flashlight, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and lamps; extra batteries; first-aid kit and extra medicine; baby items and cat litter or sand for icy walkways. Also be prepared to check on family and neighbors who are especially at risk from cold weather hazards.



Rock the Block

Bonnie and I have attended the last 2

of these events and they're a lot of fun. The new Town Square is a tremendous addition to the City. We urge you to check out the last one that will be held September 25th.

Town