



A Message from the Board President

Spring is almost here so it is time for our spring newsletter with important information about neighborhood activities coming up in the next few months. Be sure to mark your calendars with the dates listed in the calendar section of this newsletter. The stream cleanup and garage sale are coming in April. I always enjoy the stream cleanup and the park area always looks great afterward.

We had a good time at the Nottingham Downs Homes Association annual dinner last November. We enjoyed a great meal and the Royals decorations were a great way to celebrate an exciting fall for our hometown baseball team. If you did not attend the meeting I would encourage you to make a point to do that this year. It is a good opportunity to get to know some of your neighbors. We elected three new board members to fill vacancies due to moves and members rotating off the board. I am very pleased with the board makeup. We have a group with diverse and interesting backgrounds. The range of talent and experience will certainly help us work through issues that may come up.

Spring is a great time to spruce up landscaping along with taking care of maintenance and updates on your home. Keeping up the curb appeal and taking care of home maintenance are great ways to maintain and even improve the value of your home. We have seen homes for sale in our neighborhood sell quickly and for good prices. By keeping up the look of the neighborhood we can help continue to have a desirable place to live. If you are planning on making changes to the exterior of your home, be sure to fill out the

change request form. See information in this newsletter for a link to the form. If you have questions about any changes you are considering, feel free to contact any board member.

Spring is also a good time to work through your family's emergency plans in case of a natural disaster or other crisis situation. There are many good resources for information on preparing for a variety of emergency situations. Be sure to discuss with your family some basic emergency plans such as where to go and how to meet up in case you are separated. Review what to do in case of a fire, a tornado or other natural disaster. Prepare a small bag of essentials in case you have to leave your home quickly. At the very least make of list of things that you would need to get together. This list should include contact information for family, doctors and other important contacts; medicines, spare glasses, hearing aids and batteries and other similar supplies. Remember that it is possible that your phone may not work - so paper lists should be available as a backup. We hope to never need these things but being prepared can help you get through a crisis.

Have a great spring and I hope to see many of you at the picnic in May.

Aaron Dirks
Board President

NOTTINGHAM DOWNS HOMES ASSOCIATION

Spring 2015 Newsletter



Recipe Corner

Vodka Pasta - recipe from neighbor

Cara Langer

3 T Butter

2 Garlic Cloves, minced

4oz Prosciutto, thin cut

28oz can Italian Peeled Tomatoes,
drained and chopped

½ t Crushed Red Pepper Flakes

½ C Heavy Cream

¼ C Vodka

1 lb Bowtie Pasta

½ C Parmesan Cheese, shredded

Boil and drain pasta, do not rinse with water. In a skillet, over medium heat melt butter and cook garlic 1 minute. Stir in prosciutto and cook 1 minute. Add tomatoes and red pepper flakes, simmer for 5 minutes. Stir in cream and cook 1 minute. Add vodka and cook 2 minutes. Season with salt. Add pasta and cheese to skillet, stir and serve.

Nextdoor Website

Need to share some news quickly (like a lost dog or cat)? Do you have a home business you would like to advertise? Would your kids like more babysitting or yard work? Put your message on Nottingham Downs' Nextdoor Website (www.nottinghamdowns.nextdoor.com). Your posting reaches beyond your immediate neighbors and you control the privacy settings that allow your messages to reach adjoining neighborhoods.

It's Picnic Time

We've put in a request for perfect weather and scheduled the picnic for May 30th with a rain date of June 6th. Meet in the park at the picnic tables at 5:00 p.m. and enjoy the fun and fellowship with old friends and new ones. The meats, drinks and paper goods are provided by the homes association, residents bring their favorite picnic dishes to share. Last year, several lawn games provided additional fun... teams, anyone?



Property Change Requests

As spring approaches, thoughts turn to yards and “fixing stuff”. As you consider your projects, please remember that changes to the exterior of your home, including major landscaping changes, need to be submitted for approval. The Property Change Request form is easily accessed on the Nottingham Downs website (http://www.nottinghamdowns.com/downloads/ND_Property_Change_Request_Form.pdf) or can be obtained from any board member. It can be submitted via email or hard copy, whichever is easier for you.

Stream Clean Up

Our annual Stream Clean-Up will take place on Saturday, April 11th. We will meet at the picnic tables in the park at 9:00 a.m. Wear waders or rubber boots if you have them and want to work in the creek. Otherwise, hiking boots or work boots and heavy leather or garden gloves will be just fine. The city supplies a limited number of trash bags for this event; if you have some you would like to contribute, please bring them along. Bring the kids, come out to the park and join the fun.



Annual Meeting

Deer Creek Golf Club was once again the site of our Annual Meeting last November. If you haven't attended meetings in the past, check the schedule on the last page of this newsletter and put November 6th on your calendar. In addition to a great meal, it is a pleasant setting in which to make new friends and to find out what is happening in the neighborhood. Last year's agenda included discussions about the AT&T Fiber project, the Nextdoor website and the election of new board members. The meeting ended with the distribution of door prizes. The cost of the event is included in your annual dues, so plan to be there this year!

AT&T Cable Project

Are they done yet? We think so... but they said they would be back to handle "landscaping issues." Some neighbors had bigger holes than others and some still have mud slicks where a lovely lawn used to be... If your lawn looked like Swiss cheese and it doesn't recover as the spring thaw comes along, you can call Heartland Midwest at 913 208-8159 to report that additional work is still needed.

Contributions welcome...

If you would like to contribute an article, recipe or something similar for our next newsletter we would be glad to receive your contribution. Maybe a student would like to interview a neighbor who has an interesting job or hobby. This could be a good way to fulfill an assignment or get some writing credits. If you are an original Nottingham Downs homeowner, perhaps you'd like to share your historical perspective on how the neighborhood has changed over the years.

Clean It Up, Move It Out!

The neighborhood garage sale has been scheduled for April 23, 24 and 25. Take advantage of this opportunity to shed some light on those dark corners of the basement and on those shelves in the garage and create treasures for someone else's home!

2015 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President, Aaron Dirks
Vice President, Brenda Mills
Secretary, Susanne Jenner
Treasurer, Eve Nuti
Garage Sale - Kathy Sobba and Amelia Cierpiot
Overland Park Liaison – Michael Raupp
Picnic – Julie Walstrom and Eve Nuti
Newsletter - Susanne Jenner
Stream Clean Up – Dan Mathews and Aaron Dirks
Website - Brenda Mills and Lon Amick
Directory – Michael Raupp and Susanne Jenner
Yard of the Month – Amelia Cierpiot and Julie Walstrom
Welcoming – Tony Moore and Dan Mathews
Annual Dinner - Brenda Mills and Amelia Cierpiot
Collections - Eve Nuti
Next Door Website - Lon Amick
For contact information, please go to www.Nottinghamdowns.com





Calendar Items/Events

Stream Clean-Up – April 11th (set by the City), beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Garage Sale – April 23, 24 and 25

Picnic – May 30 with a rain date of June 6

Labor Day – Deffenbaugh pick up will be Thursday, Sept. 10th

Large Item Pick Up – September 26th (set by the City)

Annual Meeting – November 6th



**NOTTINGHAM DOWNS HOMES
ASSOCIATION**

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