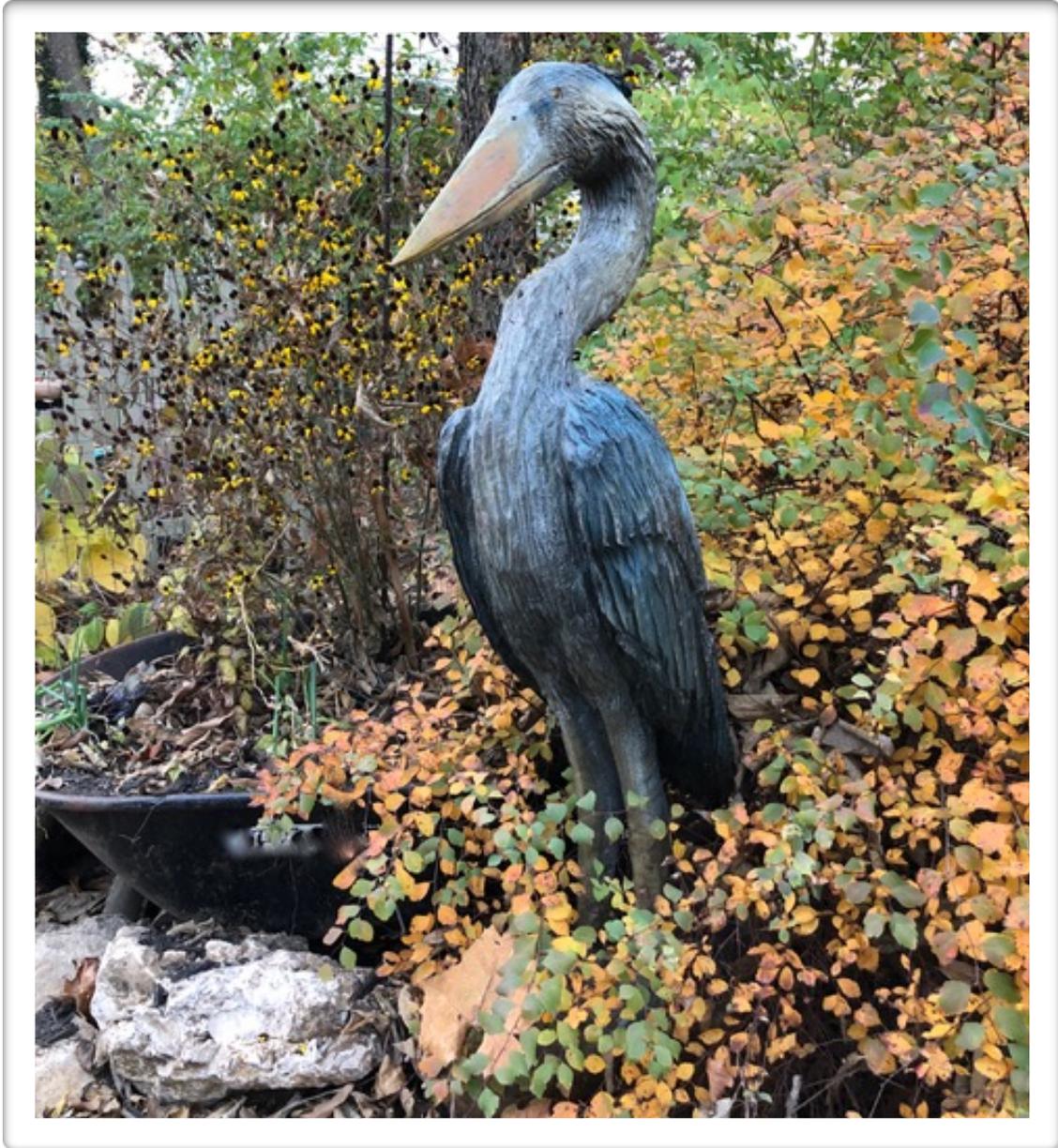


October 2022 Edition

HOUSTON LAKER



On the Corner - Sarah Farsace's front yard

 Linda Kramer

October Community Calendar Events

Oct. 1st , Oct. 8th, Oct. 15th & Oct. 29th - Saturday = Open Access Listening Session @ City Hall,
All are welcome 9am – 10am with coffee and donuts

Oct. 5th, Oct. 19 & Oct. 26th – Wednesday = Open Access Listening Session @ City Hall,
All are welcome 7pm to 8pm.

Oct. 10th - City of Houston Lake Council Meeting @ 7:30pm - City Hall or Virtually.
Video conferencing will use “Google Meet.” It has dial-in option. You can email (cityclerk@houstonlake.net)
to receive the link.

Oct. 12th - Recycling and Trash pickup day

Oct. 12th - Last day to register to vote in the Nov. 8th General Election

Oct. 12th - Venetian Gardens Homes Association **Special Meeting - Wednesday** @ 6:30pm - City Hall
Members will vote on proposed Restriction Agreement, Amended By-Laws & Regulations

Oct. 22nd - Venetian Gardens Homes Association **Annual Meeting - Saturday** @ 1:00pm. - City Hall
Members will vote on Budget for 2022/2023, Lake Assessment dues for 2023, 3 new Board Members for a two
year term, and vote for President and Vice President for one year.

Oct. 26th - Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail for the Nov. 8th General Election.

Oct. 31st -



Nov. 8th - General Election @ the Heartland Church of Christ, 6120 NW Prairie View Road,
Kansas City, Mo. 64151. Time 6:00am to 7:00pm
Any questions please call: Platte County Board of Election 816.858.4400

Applications for a **Building Permit, Open Burning Permit** for recreational purpose and **Dumpster Permit**
may be obtained by downloading the application on our website houstonlake.net, you can call and leave a
message at City Hall 816-741-0644 or contact your Alderwoman. **Note: Please submit all applications for
permits 10 days prior to the meeting for consideration. Applications can be deposited in the mail box at
the front of the building.**

CITY OFFICIALS
CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE

Mayor Chuck Stone = 816-305-3196
(mayor@houstonlake.gov)

City Clerk Sarah Schofield = 816-741-0644
(cityclerk@houstonlake.gov)

Sewer Grinder Pumps
Sarah Schofield = 816-394-8828-text only

City Collector - Kathryn Kreider
(taxcollector@houstonlake.gov)

Alderwoman (Ward 1 So.)
Ashley Fugelstad
(sw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov)

Alderwoman (Ward 1 So.)
Sarah Farsace = 816-863-2412
(sw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov)

Alderwoman (Ward 2 No.) Mayor Pro-Tem
Teena Walker-Robin = 816-769-6082
(nw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov)

Alderwoman (Ward 2 No.)
Annemarie Murphy = 913-222-4705
(nw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov)

Codes Enforcement Officer
Cathy Grove 913-701-7142
(codesenforcement@houstonlake.gov)

Platte County Circuit Court Clerk
Kim Johnson = 816-858-2232

Platte County Sheriff
Non emergency 816-858-3521
For emergencies please call 911
Fire Dept. Dispatcher = 816-741-1191
Fire Dept. Admin. = 816-372-9024

VENETIAN GARDENS
HOMES ASSOCIATION (HOA)

President = Joe Briones
(president@venetianguardenshoa.org)

Vice President = Brendan Brousseau
(brendan.brousseau@gmail.com)

Public Relations Officer = Brendan Brousseau
(hoacommunication@venetianguardenshoa.org)

Secretary /Treasurer/ Lake Tags = Susan Hodges
816-786-2377 (hodges.susan@outlook.com)

Board Member = Kerry Hallowell
816-695-4100 (hallowellkerry2020@gmail.com)

Board Member = Mary Head
816-741-5639 (maryjewel40@gmail.com)

Registrar/Editor - Houston Laker = Mary Head
816-741-5639 (maryjewel40@gmail.com)

Water Quality Officer = Brendan Brousseau

Dam/Watershed Officer

Aerator Maintenance = Brendan Brousseau

For more City and Homes Association Info
and the Houston Laker Newspapers go to
www.houstonlake.net

City of Houston Lake City Hall (816)741.0644

WHAT IS BUSH HONEYSUCKLE?

The Missouri Master Naturalists are inviting you to join us for this region-wide project that gets communities involved in learning about and removing invasive bush honeysuckle.

Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), also known as Amur honeysuckle, is one of the most destructive invasive species in the Missouri state region. The Missouri Department of Conservation is working to increase public awareness of this issue and encourage citizens of our region to take notice and take action.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Woodlands and communities invaded by bush honeysuckle have dramatically reduced diversity and abundance of native plants. This means a reduced food web for birds, animals, AND humans. Bush honeysuckles exhibit allelopathic (poisonous) tendencies by producing a chemical that inhibits other plants from growing in its vicinity. This chemical comes from the red berries - when they fall to the ground, they destroy everything around the, allowing only invasive bush honeysuckle to grow.

A recent study by researchers at Washington University in St. Louis

FLOWERING IN THE SPRING



found that ***bush honeysuckle infestation increases human exposure to Lyme disease and Ehrlichiosis*** (a tick-borne bacterial infection) by increasing the activity of the tick host, white-tailed deer. Another recent study from the University of Illinois found that ***bush honeysuckle altered water chemistry, which caused an increase in survival and abundance of the common house mosquito, the vector for West Nile Virus***. Lastly, the berries of bush honeysuckle are reported to be ***poisonous to humans, particularly children***.

Because it is the first to leaf out in the spring and the last to drop leaves in the fall, its long life cycle also gives it a competitive advantage by shading out other plants.

While attractive to birds, bush honeysuckle berries are high in

RED FALSE BERRIES IN LATE FALL



carbohydrates but low in fats and nutrients that migrating birds need to complete their journeys. Hence these berries are considered “junk food” for wildlife. Bush honeysuckles reproduce and spread quickly because the berries have numerous seeds and have help dispersing from the birds that eat them.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Bush honeysuckles are aggressive and often it takes a two-year commitment to fully eradicate them from an area; one year to take out the bulk and the second year to remove any re-sprouts or new seedlings. Cutting the trunk low to the ground with a hand tool or chainsaw and applying a 20 percent glyphosate or tordon herbicide on the cut limbs is one of the most effective treatments for

Volunteer Programs Funded In Part by:



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



Missouri Department
of Conservation



bush honeysuckle removal when done properly. Bush honeysuckles are often compared to hydras, many-headed serpents in Greek mythology - when you cut one limb, several more grow in its place, which is why chemical is necessary to properly remove it. However, careful application of the herbicide is necessary to prevent unwanted effects to surrounding environment, and re-sprouting may occur if herbicide is not accurately applied.

HAND-PULLING

Small seedlings can easily be pulled in early spring when the ground is moist.

DIGGING

Because the roots are quite shallow, simply digging up the roots can be effective even for larger plants. However, this method is not recommended for widespread removal of large thickets due to the scale of land disturbance it may cause.

FOLIAR SPRAY

This method uses a 2 percent glyphosate spray over the entire plant, but is only recommended in early spring or late fall when native plants have dropped their leaves or have not yet sprouted. Wind direction and speed should

always be considered to prevent herbicide from reaching non-target vegetation. The unhinged invasive capabilities of bush honeysuckles will require a strong voluntary effort in order to reduce its spread. Proper identification is also extremely important, as many native plants can easily be mistaken for bush honeysuckle. You can use a plant ID app such as iNaturalist, PlantSnap, or Planta to help identify trees, shrubs and plants in your community.

WHAT TO PLANT INSTEAD

There are many beneficial, natural alternatives to bush honeysuckle. Once you've successfully removed the bush honeysuckle from your area, the soil may need some time and organic matter to regenerate conditions to plant alternatives. The University of Missouri - Extension offers soil testing to help you ensure quality soil, free of bacterial contamination or allelopathic chemicals. The examples to the right are just a few of the many beautiful, natural, native shrubs that can be planted in place of honeysuckle, which will help reduce their chances of returning to your area after all your hard work to remove them.

For more information, visit WWW.MDC.MO.GOV.



Red Buckeye



Downy Serviceberry



Black Chokeberry



American Beautyberry



Flowering Dogwood

Volunteer Programs Funded In Part by:



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



Missouri Department
of Conservation

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday October 12, 2022

6:30pm – City Hall

Members to vote on Restriction Agreement, Amended By-Laws
and Regulations

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

2022 Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday October 22, 2022

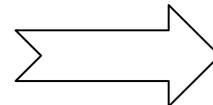
1:00pm – City Hall

5417 N. Adrian Ave., Houston Lake, Mo. 64151

- **Voting on approval of 2022/2023 Budget**
- **Voting on Lake Assessment dues**
- **Voting on 3 new Board Members**
- **Voting for President and Vice President**

The Homes Association fiscal year starts October 1, 2022 and ends September 30, 2023

Please turn page over to the back side for more information



Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots will be furnished upon request to any association member in good standing from the Secretary. These ballots must be returned to the Secretary before scheduled Special Membership Meeting Wednesday October 12, 2022 by 6:30pm and for the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday October 22, 2022 by 1:00pm on the day of the election in order for the ballot to be counted and valid. The Board shall be responsible for controlling the method absentee ballots are furnished to ensure that each absentee ballot can only be counted one time.

Ballots having an incorrect identifier or a duplicate identifier will be considered invalid and will not be counted.

To request an absentee ballot contact Homes Association Secretary Sue Hodges by email at hodges.susan@outlook.com or call her @ 816.786.2377

Proxy Vote information

For those of you who may not be able to attend the meeting, you may give your proxy vote to a Venetian Gardens Homes Association member of your choice. The member of choice must be in good standing, both parties must sign the proxy document in the presence of a current board member and the proxy must be received by the Secretary of the Board no later than the day before the scheduled Special meeting or the Annual meeting.

REQUEST FOR MISSOURI ABSENTEE BALLOT

I, _____, do hereby request an absentee ballot for the
Printed name

_____ Election.
Election Date

For identification purposes, the last four digits of my social security number are: _____.

If this is a primary election, please print the name of the political party ballot you wish to receive: _____.

Reason for requesting an absentee ballot:

- _____ Absence on Election Day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which I am registered
- _____ Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including caring for a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability
- _____ Religious belief or practice
- _____ Employment as an election authority or by an election authority at a location other than my polling place
- _____ Incarceration, although I have retained all the necessary qualifications for voting
- _____ Certified participation in the address confidentiality program established under sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of safety concerns.

Address where I am registered to vote:

(Street Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

Address where ballot is to be mailed:

(Street Address or PO Box)

(City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone number: _____
(Include Area Code)

I do solemnly swear that all statements made on this application are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Registered Voter

Date

Mail this completed form to your local election authority. Addresses can be found [on the Missouri Secretary of State's website](#). Missouri law requires that requests for absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday prior to Election Day if the ballot is mailed. The deadline for absentee voting in person in the office of the election authority is 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election. If you registered by mail and this is your first time voting, you must provide a copy of either: (1) an ID issued by the Federal Government, state of Missouri, or a local election authority; (2) ID issued by a Missouri institution (public or private) of higher education; or (3) a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that contains your name and address.

City of Houston Lake City Council Meeting - August 8, 2022 Held in person at City Hall and virtually via Zoom - Final Minutes

Mayor Stone opened the meeting at 7:32pm Roll Call: Present - Mayor Chuck Stone, Alderwoman Teena Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Annemarie Murphy, Alderwoman Sarah Farsace, Arrived Late Virtually - Alderwoman Ashley Fuglestad; Absent - None

Motion to Approve the Agenda For August 8, 2022 with the amendment of 5436 Venetian Drive Bldg Permit: 1st Motion Alderwoman Murphy, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Farsace; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderwoman Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None; **Motion Passes**

Motion to Approve the Minutes from 07/18/2022 *Rescheduled from July 11, 2022: 1st Motion Alderwoman Farsace, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderwoman Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - None; **Motion Passes**

Emergency Management:

Fire Department not present no report

Sheriff Report Deputy Black - report stolen car made it home and domestic unfounded

Codes Report July 2022: Report Presented by Cathy Grove, Codes Enforcement Officer - 1 new violation in July, 1 violation abated and there were no abatements carried over from June.

Venetian Gardens HomeOwners Association Report - Meeting No August Meeting

Public Discussion -

- Kathryn Stauckbauer - Concerned about the Spire repaving that another lake community did not get paving done after road work, now it's a lawsuit. MODot fixed the fence and mowed along Houston Lake Drive
- Sharon Delefuente - Would like the large city road sign returned to I29 and Houston Lake Drive. Asked for clarification on the rental agreement, are existing owners grandfathered in? Is there a budget for taking this to an attorney? Would like to know ahead of time about the roadwork in front of her house. Rental agreement is \$35 a year, still in the planning stage. Will the city be able to keep up on the regulation and chasing fines if a homeowner does not comply. How much money will it take to go to the attorney and how much money to chase down the violations. This is not something the city really needs, we've never needed it before.
- Pam Freese - Thank you for your service, it can be a thankless job at times. Would like an update on the Spire and American Water projects. Mayor Stone addressed this AM Water will be filling with concrete and will be finished this week hopefully. Spire wants to dig at the spillway bridge to run a gas line under the bridge. Permits would be required and that would take about a month, may change to replacing the pipe under the bridge or running a line through the existing pipe. Will have more information tomorrow afternoon. Possibly 2-3 more weeks for Spire to finish.

- Marlene Cliburn 5308 NW Edgewood trail - Is there any news about the bridge being opened? Mayor Stone addresses that there is a grant that will be awarded in September to repair the bridge for cars. Thought it was a historical site. Cathay Grove addressed this that we should check the Secretary of the Interiors database and it would complicate the process of repairing it and using it.
- Pam Freese - Is there a matching piece for the city, yes 20% and would possibly do a municipal bond. In September it would be a special election as it requires a vote. It would wait until November for the scheduled election vote.

Permits

No Burn Permits to Approve

Motion to Approve Building Permit at 5436 NW Venetian Drive - Shed: 1st Motion Alderwoman Farsace, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Murphy; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderwoman Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - Alderwoman Fuglestad; **Motion Passes**

Motion to Approve Building Permit at 5436 NW Venetian Drive - Electrical: 1st Motion Alderwoman Murphy, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Walker-Robin; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Walker Robin, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderwoman Farsace; Ney - None; Abstain - Alderwoman Fuglestad; **Motion Passes**

Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report: 1st Motion Alderwoman Walker-Robin, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Murphy; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - Alderwoman Fuglestad; **Motion Passes**

Motion to Approve Resolution Number 08.08.2022: 1st Motion Alderwoman Murphy, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Farsace; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - Alderwoman Fuglestad; **Motion Passes**

Old Business

- Rental Permits Concern from council and residents that if we place regulations then who will regulate them and how will it be done? What would the purpose of a registration be if it is only on a trust basis and no one double checks it. **Vote on City creating a Registration process for properties that are leased or rented:** 1st Motion Alderwoman Walker-Robin, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Murphy; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Fuglestad, Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderwoman Walker-Robin; Ney - None; Abstain - None; **Motion Passes**
- Spillway Bridge Maintenance and Grant Update - already covered in previous conversation, grant is filed and September 17th we would find out if the grant is approved. The grant is for a bridge for transportation with vehicles

New Business

- Allocation of funds for contract work on culverts - Alderwoman Murphy worked with a contractor that gave an estimate to work on the culverts. \$11,000 would come out of the road fund. Could be a matching grant for stormwater control. Denisons Excavation would not go over the \$11,000 but it could be less if there is less work such as Am Water replacing the culvert at Edgewood and Edgewater. **Vote to approve spending \$11,000 on culverts** 1st Motion Alderwoman Farsace, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Murphy; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Fuglestad, Alderwoman Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - N one; **Motion Passes**

- Plan to modify funding for Fire Suppression - Fire Suppression levy is listed at .78 higher than our property tax putting it all into the fund with an excess that we can't touch because it is in the fund. 4 year in 2021, sunset in 2025, spoke to the county to see if we could create an ordinance to put it on the November ballot on August 15th, so we won't be making a change this year. Attorney working on changing the funding form a percentage to set amount. Alderwoman Farsace asked about using it for trimming trees and fixing roads with the money to help with access for fire suppression. Mayor Stone will check with other city Mayors on how they are handling their excess funds.

Motion to Adjourn 1st Motion Alderwoman Farsace, 2nd Motion Alderwoman Murphy; Vote: Aye - Alderwoman Walker-Robin, Alderwoman Fuglestad, Alderwoman Farsace, Alderwoman Murphy; Ney - None; Abstain - None; **Motion Passes**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:53pm

Final Minutes Approved

Sarah Schofield

City Clerk 09/12/2022

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Brow Shaping

Best wishes to you,
Marlene