

# HOUSTON LAKER

SINCE MARCH 1957 - EDITION #67

## CITY COUNCIL NEWS

City Council meets the second Monday of the month at City Hall and virtually. Meetings start at 7:30pm/ Next meeting is Monday, April 8th

## VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOC

Meetings have been moved to the third Monday of the month. Join us on Monday, April 15th at City Hall. Meeting starts at 6:30pm

## LAKE CLEAN UP DAY

VGHA is hosting a Lake Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 20th. Meet at City Hall at 9am. If you are not able to make it contact an HOA member.

## MAYOR STONE RESIGNS

Hello All,

I don't have the patience to sit through city council meetings with meaningless topics forced onto the agenda. Also, the vacancies in the following positions added more stuff for me to do that I didn't sign up for.

1. City Clerk
2. Codes Enforcement Officer
3. Maintenance/Grounds Keeper.

Before the 2023/2024 budget meeting, I tried to offer a bill to the city council to vote on. It included pay raises for all three of these positions. two didn't pass and the ground keeper's hourly wage was increased to what the Code Enforcement Officer was making. She and Kay, the city bookkeeper have worked for the city longer than any current employees and elected officials. All the staff's wages are not competitive enough.

After the February meeting, I thought about the time I spent there that I would never get back. My girlfriend, Laura, suggested I resign. She's almost always right about things. So, I have resigned.

Chuck Stone

## ARTS CIRCLE

The Houston Lake Art Circle's regular meeting will be held at City Hall on the last Saturday of the month from 10 – 11 am. Please join us, for casual conversations about arts events in the area, our own art activities, planning art events for Houston Lake, showing our latest works, etc.



## Houston Lake Community Garden News

By the time you read this we will have had 39 bags of compost distributed between the three raised beds in the garden. Thanks to Ethan, Tony and Mike for all their hard work and also a “thank you” to all that donated to make this happen. The garden was indeed in need of new soil.

April 10th is generally the last frost date for the grow zone we are in. Last year we planted the green bean seeds on April 17th. I’m hoping that we can plant them around the same time. We have all the bush bean seeds we need for that and also we have plenty of pole beans seeds to start our season. Towards the end of April we will start planting kale, lettuce, spinach and sugar snap peas. I’ll keep you posted on the dates.

I’ve started the sweet and hot pepper plants by seed and they are doing great. I plan on starting by seed some special tomato plants called Peron Sprayless. They are a semi determinate plants which means they yield fruit all season. They were developed in Argentina in the 1950’s and named sprayless because of their resistance to disease. It will be interesting to see how these work out.

We plan on having another meeting sometime in May with a possible guest speaker thanks to Victoria Grace. This may be a great time to bring the plants you started from your house plants for an exchange. I have several that I can give away.

See you at the Garden and have a Happy Spring!!



# Riverside Survival Supply:

2412 NW Vivion Road Riverside, MO 64150  
 (816) 584-8500  
 RiversideSurvival.com

## Store Hours:

Tuesday-Saturday  
 10:00-18:00  
 Closed Sundays & Mondays

- Camping Gear
  - Survival Gear
  - Long-term Food Storage
  - Fire-starting
  - Water Purification
  - Ammo
- First Aid
  - Hunting
  - Fishing
  - Knives
  - Security Gear
  - Resource Books

Riverside Survival Supply was started in 2014 by Rick Hedgecock and Brenda Martin. November 2022, the store was purchased by a new family of avid outdoorsmen. Today, it continues to be ran by outdoor enthusiast, preppers, survivalist, and adventurers.

## April

### Calendar Of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Average Joe Wednesday: 10% Off All Purchases!	11	12	13 6:30-Game Night!
14	15	16	17 Average Joe Wednesday: 10% Off All Purchases!	18	19	20 6:30-Movie Night: Grid Down, Power Up
21	22	23	24 Average Joe Wednesday: 10% Off All Purchases!	25	26	27 11:00- Prepper Meetup
28 KC PrepperNet Meeting	29	30				



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 Coupon  
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 any  
 purchase!

Exp.: 5/1/2024

### 10% Off Everyday

- Military
- First Responders
- Veterans
- UAW Ford

Greetings from your VGHA Board,

This month the board has been busy at work.

Frank met with MODOT in regards to the flume next to the spillway. He is working with them for a plan to repair the damage done to the base of the spillway.

An egg addling crew has been created to locate goose nests and addle eggs to prevent overpopulation of the geese at the lake. To join the crew, notify us of a nest or request a nest on your property not be disturbed please notify Frank Wilson at [pakepalani@gmail.com](mailto:pakepalani@gmail.com).

Dredging work is complete at the silt pond and preparation work has begun on the peninsula for the next phase.

Sue and Mary have been making progress with Platte County to have VGHA property renamed in their systems to reflect proper ownership.

The Oversight Committee which Wendy sits on is ready to present the new by-laws proposal to the board. An update will be given at the semiannual meeting on April 15.

Lake clean up day is scheduled for 4/20/24. Work will begin at 9 am. Please join us at City Hall to volunteer for the morning if you're available. Breakfast will be provided.

The HOA loves all the volunteer projects happening. Please note, if you are unable to complete a project through completion, the HOA needs to be notified ahead of projects taking place so we may assist or find volunteers to help. Thank you!

Kindest regards,  
The VGHA Board

## **VGHA DUES COLLECTION**

The 2024 member dues should have been paid by March 1, 2024.

Thank you to those of you who have paid. For those of you who have not paid, you have a legal responsibility to pay. You also have a moral and ethical obligation to your Houston Lake friends and neighbors that do pay.

The board has adopted a new lien policy. Any dues outstanding on August 31, 2024 will result in the filing of a lien against your property.

I repeat,  
**LEINS WILL BE FILED ON ANY PROPERTY OWING DUES AT AUGUST 31, 2024.**

Susan K. Hodges, Treasurer  
VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION

## **CITY DIRECTORY IS OUT!**

We are pleased to announce that The Houston Lake Directory 2024 is finished and has been out for delivery over the last couple weeks. Every resident should have one! Because of recent weather conditions, the new booklet was not left on doorsteps or between doors. So, if you did not receive one, please call or text Marsha Duncan at 816-419-5051. She will get it to you in the most convenient way possible. Many volunteers helped to put this directory together and were careful about gathering information and proofreading it before going to print. However, mistakes can happen. So, if a correction needs to be made in your listing, please send that information to Wendy Thompson at [wlaughinghorse@cs.com](mailto:wlaughinghorse@cs.com). An insert page will be printed after the election in April with the new Houston Lake city officials, as well as any other changes or corrections that are necessary.



# **GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

April 2nd, 2024 - General Municipal Election

Cast Your Official Ballot of the  
"General Municipal Election"

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024 at the

Heartland Christian Church  
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

## UN-CLASSIFIED ADS

Full Page \$20.00

1/2 Page \$10.00

1/4 Page \$5.00

1/8 Page \$2.50

Pricing is per month & includes a listing on the city website [houstonlake.gov](http://houstonlake.gov)

To place an ad, email [editor.houstonlaker@gmail.com](mailto:editor.houstonlaker@gmail.com)

## LIFE ON THE LAKE - FROM SOMEONE WHO LIVES ON THE LAKE

Sue and Dennis Hodges moved to Houston Lake in 1973. The research and development company Dennis worked for was planning on moving to Los Angeles, so they figured they would only live here for about a year. The company ended up selling out and Dennis went to the Kansas City School of Watchmaking and Jewelry. Sue graduated from Parkville University with a degree in accounting and on the Dean's National Honor Roll her senior year. She accomplished this while raising a five kids! The Hodges rented a house on Houston Lake for nearly 25 years before finally buying it. Houston Lake is lucky to have the Hodges as part of our community.

## DREDGING PROJECT

Dredging continues and the dirt on the peninsula is rising. Please do not play on or around the dirt.

## HOUSTON LAKE COOKBOOK

2nd Edition of the City Cookbook is available for \$3. Limited number of copies, contact Mary Head at [maryjewel40@gmail.com](mailto:maryjewel40@gmail.com)

## FREE BOOK LIBRARY

Do you have books you would like to donate to the Library at City Hall? The Library is in need of repair or replacement. If you're handy at fixing things and want to give it a go...contact [cityclerk@houstonlake.gov](mailto:cityclerk@houstonlake.gov)



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## 2023 TRASH & RECYCLING DATES

City trash and recycling services are handled by Republic Services. For assistance with your receptacles, issues with pick-up or questions about large items contact customer service at 816-254-1470 or RepublicServices.com.

Trash is picked up every Wednesday. Receptacles need to be at the curb/edge of street by 6am. Leave room for the arm of the truck to pick up and return the receptacles without causing damage to vehicles, fences, etc.

### 2024 Recycling Dates (2nd Wednesday):

January 10  
February 14  
March 13  
April 10  
May 8  
June 12  
July 10  
August 14  
September 11  
October 9  
November 13  
December 11

### 2024 Holidays:

January 1st New Years Day - Pick up changed to Thursday January 4th

May 27th Memorial Day - Pick up changed to Thursday May 30th

July 4th Independence Day - No Change pick up will be on Wednesday July 3rd

September 2nd Labor Day - Pick up changed to Thursday September 5th

November 28th Thanksgiving - No Change pick up will be on Wednesday November 27th

December 25th Christmas - Pick up changed to Thursday December 26th

## EMERGENCY -

In case of a Police, Fire or Medical Emergency - Dial 911

**Platte County Sheriff Non-Emergency & Animal Control**  
**816-858-3521**

**Riverside Fire Department Non-Emergency**  
**816-372-9024**

**Grinder Pump Alarm or Backup**  
**Text 816-305-3196 with Name & Address**

## HOA Officers -

President Pam Freese 816-726-4455  
venetian.gardens.homes.assoc@gmail.com

Vice President Wendy Thompson 816-225-1018

Secretary Frank Wilson 509-939-6811  
lmua62@gmail.com

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

Board Member at Large Mary Head 816-741-5639  
maryjewel40@gmail.com

## City Officials -

Mayor Chuck Stone 816-305-3196  
Mayor@houstonlake.gov

City Clerk Open Position  
cityclerk@houstonake.gov

### South Ward Alderwomen

Ashley Fuglestad  
sw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov

Sarah Farsace 816-863-2412  
sw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov

### North Ward Alderwomen

Teena Walker-Robin 816-769-6082  
nw1-alderman@houstonlake.gov

Annemarie Murphy 913-222-4705  
nw2-alderman@houstonlake.gov

Codes Enforcement Open Position  
codesenforcement@houstonlake.gov

As most of the HOA Officers and City Officials have full-time jobs as well, phone calls may not be answered or returned as quickly as a text or email.

City Hall is open during meetings, Listening Sessions, events and by appointment.

# THE WORKS by MARLENE

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Best wishes to you,  
Marlene