

Houston Laker

Community News

Top O' The Morning To You!!!



March 2012





Community Events

March 11th - Daylight Savings Time Begins
2:00 a.m.

Remember to move your clocks forward 1 hour



March 12th - City Council Meeting
7:30p.m. – City Hall

March 14th - Recycling Day

March 15th - Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Board Meeting – 6:30p.m. – City Hall

March 17th - St Patrick's Day



March 20th - First Day of Spring





**HOUSTON LAKE
INDEPENDENCE
DAY
FIREWORKS
DONATIONS
REQUEST**

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S SUPPORT AT THE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION MEETING ON 1/26 REGARDING THE ESCALATING EXPENSES TO PRODUCE THIS EVENT EACH YEAR AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE.

IF YOU, TOO, WISH TO HELP LIGHT UP THE SKY THIS SUMMER, YOU CAN GIFT ANY AMOUNT, IN THE FORM OF A PERSONAL CHECK, IT CAN BE LEFT IN THE MAIL SLOT OF THE DOOR AT CITY HALL AND MARKED TO MY ATTENTION RICK COWAN. THE CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "PREMIER PYROTECHNICS".

I APPRECIATE THE FINANCIAL AID PROVIDED BY THE CITY, VENETIAN GARDENS HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION AND, OF COURSE, YOU...IT'S SPECIAL RESIDENTS AND CITIZENS.



Community Garden Fund Raiser

“Casserole Cook-off”

1st Place Winner

Angela Gay



Chicken Tortilla Casserole

1 can Rotel (I used mild)
1 can cream of chicken soup
1/4 cup cream cheese
2 cups cooked diced chicken
4 corn tortillas
4 to 6 oz shredded cheddar cheese
tortilla chips

Stir together Rotel, soup, and cream cheese over mid heat until blended add chicken. Layer 2 corn tortilla on bottom of casserole spread 1/2 chicken mixture top with 1/2 cheese Layer 2 more tortillas top with remaining mixture top with crunched chips and cheese.
Bake at 350 for about 30 min.



Community Garden Update



A huge "thank you" goes to the many people for making the Community Garden Fund Raiser dinner a wonderful success.

We had seven casserole entries, and all of them were fantastic dishes. The judges had a hard time

as the scoring was only one or two points from one another.

First Place went to Angela Day for her Chicken Tortilla Casserole, Kelli King came in second with her Apple –Cherry Cobbler and Bob Riley with his Jalapeño Creamed Corn. All of them were absolutely delicious. I will be publishing each entries recipe in the upcoming Houston Lakers.

We also were very honored to have the landscaping team from Homestead Landscaping join us. Elwood Trotter, Kris Jackson and Adam Blundell gave us some helpful advise on gardening and soil matters .They also donated the first prize, a \$25.00 gift certificate to Homestead Landscaping.



Thanks for all your donations and support to your Community Garden. It could not happen without you!!!!

Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Monthly Meeting
February 23, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance Nick Jackalone, President; Keith Carey, Vice President; Al Horine, Secretary; Jan Jackalone, Treasurer and Bill Winton, Board Member.

A very special Thanks to Larry Haines for attending the monthly meeting. He had no trouble selecting the "Best Seat in the House"!

President Nick brought up the project of deepening the horseshoe and placing rock along its bank. It was agreed that dirt from the bank was constantly falling into the lake and adding to the dirt that was coming in before the foot bridge. On the morning of February 23, President Nick and Secretary Al Horine met with Stinnet Construction to get a bid on the horseshoe and rock, using the rock on the peninsula and a separate bid for cleaning up the rock damn near the silt pond. It was agreed by the Board that the priority was the horseshoe. Deepening the silt pond is still a project that needs to be done, but cleaning up the rock damn should help the flow of water into the silt pond. President Nick hopes to get the bids back before the March meeting.

No money has been moved from the checking account into a CD or Money Market account yet. We may need to have a special vote depending on the cost of the upcoming projects. Also, the first Dredge Fund CD is renewing in April and there was some discussion about how to get some higher interest. Al Horine mentioned that the City of Gardner, KS was offering municipal bonds. They require a five year commitment and a 10% return. He was going to check into it some more and Bill Winton was going to check on a bank in Leavenworth that was offering some good rates. Further discussion will be done in our March meeting and hopefully we can make a decision at that time.

The Board also discussed getting trees removed along Edgewater Trail and a few dead trees that had fallen into the lake. Bill Winton suggested getting a rate based on a full day of work. President Nick will call Whitley Tree Service.

New Business - There will be some fertilizer and grass seeding done on the peninsula after the rocks have been removed. It was brought up that the peninsula was also being used after dark by some "guests" of a member. They were fishing complete with boombox and a large cooler. This was around

midnight. Our lake regulations state no swimming after 9 PM, but does not restrict activities on association property after dark. It is probably time to update the regulations that were done in 1986. We will bring this up at the semi annual meeting in April.

Treasurer Jan gave the February Balance Sheet information. She reported that of the 26 members that are delinquent on their dues, four had paid and two have made arrangements to make installments. There are currently three properties in foreclosure. The Treasurer will continue to work on these accounts. Understanding the current economic situation, Jan will be more than happy to work on installments to get these accounts up to date.

Please make a note of the new time the Board will have their monthly meetings. **Next meeting will be held March 15 at 6:30 PM.**

March 12, 2012
Council Meeting Agenda
City of Houston Lake – City Hall 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Session

2. Public Discussion

3. Minutes

4. Building Permits

5. Treasurer's report - Collector's Report - Budget

6. Paybills – Resolution No 03-12-12

7. Emergency Management

8. Police Report - Codes Report

9. Reports from Aldermen

Mr. Cowan

Mr. Otte

Mr. Coronado

Mr. Davis

10. Old Business

- a. Copier Proposal

11. New Business

- a. Streetlight – 5380 NW Edgewood Trail
- b. Budget Revision
- c. Mill/Overlay CD

12. Mayors Report

13. Closed Session

a. A motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal issues, RSMo 610.021(2) for Real Estate (purchasing or selling) and RSMo 610.021(3) for Personnel issues.

14. Re-enter Open Session

15. Adjournment

City of Houston Lake
Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting
February 13, 2012

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on February 13, 2012 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Phil Otte, Rick Cowan, Perry Davis and Dan Coronado.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

Public Discussion

None

Minutes January 9, 2012

The minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

Treasurers Report

Alderman Coronado moved to approve the 2-13-12 treasurers report, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed.

Resolution 02-13-12 (paybills)

Alderman Cowan moved that we accept Resolution 02-13-12, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed

Collectors Report

City Collector, Joyce Kullman gave her monthly report to the Council. Total deposits for the City of \$68,264.45 were made for the period ending 1-31-11.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

A report from 1-1-12 to 1-31-12 was submitted to the Council from the Platte County Sheriff's Department.

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Director, Dan Coronado told the Council he spoke with Mike O'Neal, head of the Platte County Sheriff's Department Emergency Management about a training class for "Response Team Training" in March. This will be a free, 2 day training class. Alderman Coronado would like his Houston Lake response team to attend or anyone else that would like to attend. He will put a notice in the Houston Laker regarding this class. He also spoke with Greg Sayers on the cost of purchasing new barriers for the City.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – No report

Alderman Otte – No report

Alderman Coronado – No report

Alderman Davis – No report

Old Business

None

New Business

a. Mayor Hallauer submitted to the Council several bid proposals from the Copier Shop and Office Machine Mart for new copy machines and service contracts. The City's service agreement expires at the end of this month. A decision on whether to purchase a new machine will need to be made, as the current machine is wearing out. The Homes Association President, Nick Jackalone agreed to continue with splitting the cost of the maintenance and usage with the City. The Council agreed to sign another service contract with the Copier Shop until a decision is made to purchase another machine. This service contract would rollover to a new machine.

b. A sales quotation was presented to the Council from Ball's Power Equipment L.L.C for the repair of the city's 8 year old mower. The mower's left turn is broke and the cost to repair this would be \$1620.00. Also in the proposal was a quote for a new mower. The list price of a Ferris mower is \$7398.00. Ball's would give the city \$1613 for the old mower. The cost would then be \$5785.00. After much discussion the Council approved the purchase of a new mower.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer said that the next vote for the Fire Protection Levy will be in 2013.

b. There's been a request for a street light at 5380 Edgewood Trail. Mayor Hallauer asked the Council to research that area. This will be on the agenda for next month's City Council meeting.

c. The Council discussed changing the locks on City Hall as they have not been changed for several years.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm

Please take a moment to fill out the questionnaire below. This information is vitally needed to insure that you and your family have the maximum support from your City and Platte County Emergency Management Officials in the event of a disaster. All information will be "highly confidential" and shared with no one. Please place this in a sealed envelope and deposit in the "black" mail box to the left of the City Hall front door.

Name:

Address:

Daytime phone No.

Evening phone No.

Cell phone:

Number of adults (18 and older):

Number of children:

Names and ages:

Names and ages:

Number of dogs:

Number of cats:

Is there anyone in the household who requires special medical attention?

If so, who and please provide details (oxygen, wheelchair, walker)

Is there anyone in the household who depends on insulin for diabetes?

If so, who and how much medication is needed daily.

Is there anyone in the household that suffers from heart disease?

If so, who and please provide details (pacemaker, a trial fibrillation, etc.)

Is daycare or adult daycare provided at this residence?

If so, what are the hours of operation?

How many in attendance?

Is there anyone in the household who cannot speak English?

If so, who and what language is used?

If you decline to provide this information, which is being gathered to assist local authorities in the event of a disaster, you may be jeopardizing your health and well being. For this reason, we ask that you sign the waiver below and return this form to City Hall.

I understand that I will not and cannot hold the City of Houston Lake, its Officials or Platte County Emergency Management and its Officials responsible for my welfare in the event of a disaster whether man made or weather related.

Signature

Date



Arugula – Sow seeds in the garden as soon as soil can be worked in spring. They will germinate in about 7 days and are ready to harvest in 3 to 4 weeks. For a continuous harvest, sow seeds every 2 weeks until temperatures heat up.



Beets – Sow seeds in early spring as soon as the soil can be worked. Beets prefer a well-drained, sandy soil. Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers as this will encourage top growth at the expense of root development. As with all root crops good soil aeration is key to uniform, robust development. Consistent moisture is also important. Keep areas weed free to avoid competition for nutrients.



Broccoli – Broccoli seed can be sown directly in the garden 4 weeks before the last frost date in your area or set out transplants 2 weeks before the last frost date. The ideal day time temperature for broccoli is between 65 and 80 degrees. Feed the plants 3 weeks after transplanting into the garden. Use a low nitrogen fertilizer.



Cabbage – Start seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before the last front date or plant transplants in the garden 2 weeks before that date. Direct sow in the garden immediately after the last frost date. Cabbage plants are heavy feeders that require fertile soil rich in organic matter and consistent moisture.



Carrots – Sow seeds in spring about 2 weeks before the last frost date. Carrots need deep, loose soil to form a robust root. Keep the bed weeded to avoid competition for nutrients from other plants. Too much nitrogen will result in forked roots. When the seedlings are about 2-inches tall, thin them so there is about 1 to 4-inches between them. Cover the shoulders with mulch or soil to keep them from turning green and bitter.



Collards – Collard transplants can be planted 4 to 6 weeks before the last frost date in your area. Plant in fertile, well drained soil with a pH of 6.5 to 6.8. Rich soil encourages rapid growth and tender leaves, which are the best tasting collards.



English Peas – Direct sow in the garden 4 to 6 weeks before the last frost date in your area. They will germinate in soil temperatures as low as 40 degrees F. Seedlings will survive a late snow and short periods of temperatures down to 25 degrees F.



Kale – You can plant kale in early spring, about 3 to 5 weeks before the last frost date. Cover with frost blankets during severe cold. Similar to collards very fertile soil is ideal to encourage rapid growth and tender leaves.



Kohlrabi – Kohlrabi is similar to a turnip, but is actually related to cabbage. Set plants out 4 weeks before the last frost date. Protect young plants from freezing temperatures with a frost blanket. Cool temperatures enhance the sweet flavor.



Lettuce – Sow lettuce any time in spring when the soil is workable. Lettuce is more sensitive to cold than other cool season vegetables and should definitely be covered during cold snaps. The ideal day time temperature is between 60 and 70 degrees. Fertilize with fish emulsion, which is high in nitrogen. Lettuce will grow in partial shade and actually appreciates the shelter from intense late spring sun.



Onions – Onions can be grown from sets, small bulbs, or transplants, which look like scallions and come in a bundle of 60 or so. Either method should be planted in early spring as soon as the soil is workable. Long-day varieties are suitable for Northern gardens and short-day varieties can be planted in the South. Place time release fertilizer in the planting hole so that it is close to the roots. Follow the fertilizer's label directions.



Potatoes – Greening of grass is a good indicator of when to plant potato sets, dried potato pieces with 2 to 3 eyes. In my zone 7 garden that occurs in March. Soil should be loose, fertile and well drained. As the tubers mature, cover with soil to prevent burning.



Radish – Sow radish seeds in the garden about 4 weeks before the last frost date in your area. No feeding necessary, but soil should be fertile and well drained. They are quick to mature so check them regularly. They are ready to harvest as soon as they are of edible size.



Spinach – Spinach seeds can be sown over frozen ground to germinate as the soil thaws. Transplants can be set out 4 weeks before the last frost date in your area. Fertilize when the plants are about 4 inches tall. Spinach prefers very fertile soil to encourage rapid growth and tender leaves. Once the days get long and warm it will bolt, meaning that it grows tall, blooms and becomes bitter tasting. For grit-free leaves select plain leaf varieties such as Giant Nobel and Olympia.



Swiss Chard – Swiss Chard is one the more beautiful vegetables in the garden. Bright Lights and Ruby are favorites for adding color to the garden and the dinner table. Plant or sow seeds 2 weeks before the last frost date in your area. Thin to 6-inches apart when seedlings are 3-inches tall. Water regularly.



Turnip – Plant 2 weeks before the last frost date. Any well-drained soil will do. Consistent moisture is key for healthy root development. Although it is not necessary, the greens will be the most tender if you plant in a fertile soil.

HOUSTON LAKE RESIDENTS

Cast Your Official Ballot of the
“General Municipal Election”

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

at

WEXFORD PLACE

6500 N. Cosby Ave.

From I-29: west on Hwy 45 (64th St.) to N. Cosby Ave. Turn right on N. Cosby Ave., then left into the entrance to Wexford Place. The poll site will be set up in the Stafford Room, just past the reception desk.

Time 6:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.

Platte County Board of Election (816) 858-4400

Any Questions please call:

City Clerk – Marsha Duncan = (816) 419-5051

Editor – Mary Head = (816) 741-5639

VOTER REGISTRATION SITES PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI

Are You Registered to Vote? All residents of Houston Lake whether you are Owner or Renter can register and VOTE. You must be 18 years old or older to register. You can register at any of the sites below.

Houston Lake City Hall, 5417 NW Adrian, (816)741-0644 or
Registrar Mary Head (816)741-5639, call for an appointment.

Mid-Continent Public Libraries:

Boardwalk, 8600 N. Executive Hills Blvd, Kansas City: (816) 741-9011

Parkville, 8815 NW Hwy 45, Parkville: (816) 741-4721

Riverside, 2700 NW Vivion Rd, Riverside: (816) 741-6288

NOTE: In addition, Missouri Voter Registration Application postcards can be completed at any license bureau.

Any questions call

Platte County Board of Elections
2600 NW Prairie View Road
P.O. Box 560
Platte City, Missouri 64079

Phone number (816) 858-4400

Official Ballot
 General Municipal Election
 Platte County, Missouri
 Tuesday, April 3, 2012

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Judges' Initials

#17

Instructions	Park Hill School District
<p>Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>If you do not see the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote, darken the oval opposite the write-in line and print the name of the candidate on the write-in line provided.</p> <p>If you are in favor of the question, completely fill in the oval opposite "YES". If you are opposed to the question, completely fill in the oval opposite "NO".</p> <p>NOTE: The ballot reading device in use is designed to only record votes cast as a filled in oval. Use only the special marking pen provided. There can be no erasures, stray marks, checkmarks, or crossouts on the ballot. If you make an error marking the ballot, see an Election Judge to receive a replacement ballot.</p>	<p>For School Board Member (Three Year Term. Vote for Two.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fred J. Sanchez</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chris Seufert</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Edward Stephens</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Allison Wurst</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Casey Beane</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in _____</p>
	Metropolitan Community College District
	<p>For Trustee - Subdistrict 1 (Six Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Ashcroft</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Trent Skaggs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in _____</p>
	Parkville Benefit Assessment Special Road District
	<p>For Commissioner (Three Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Norman Beeman</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Frank M. Korosac</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in _____</p>
	City of Houston Lake
	<p>For Alderman - Ward 2 (Two Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Dan Coronado</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in _____</p>

Official Ballot
 General Municipal Election
 Platte County, Missouri
 Tuesday, April 3, 2012

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Judges' Initials

#23

Instructions	Park Hill School District
<p>Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>If you do not see the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote, darken the oval opposite the write-in line and print the name of the candidate on the write-in line provided.</p> <p>If you are in favor of the question, completely fill in the oval opposite "YES". If you are opposed to the question, completely fill in the oval opposite "NO".</p> <p>NOTE: The ballot reading device in use is designed to only record votes cast as a filled in oval. Use only the special marking pen provided. There can be no erasures, stray marks, checkmarks, or crossouts on the ballot. If you make an error marking the ballot, see an Election Judge to receive a replacement ballot.</p>	<p>For School Board Member (Three Year Term. Vote for Two.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fred J. Sanchez</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chris Seufert</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Edward Stephens</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Allison Wurst</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Casey Beane</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____ Write-in</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____ Write-in</p>
	Metropolitan Community College District
	<p>For Trustee - Subdistrict 1 (Six Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Ashcroft</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Trent Skaggs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____ Write-in</p>
	Parkville Benefit Assessment Special Road District
	<p>For Commissioner (Three Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Norman Beeman</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Frank M. Korosac</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____ Write-in</p>
	City of Houston Lake
	<p>For Alderman - Ward 1 (Two Year Term. Vote for One.)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jean Anderson</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____ Write-in</p>

To apply for absentee ballot: print this application form, complete and mail to Platte County Board of Elections, PO Box 560, Platte City, MO 64079 or FAX to 816-858-3387

REQUEST FOR PLATTE COUNTY ABSENTEE BALLOT

I, _____, do hereby request an absentee ballot for the _____ Election.

For Identification purposes, the last four digits of my social security number are _____.
If the election is a primary election, please print the name of the political party ballot you wish to receive _____. If you registered by mail and this is your first time voting you must provide a copy of current valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows your name and address.

Reason for requesting an absentee ballot:

- _____ (1) Absence on Election Day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which registered to voter;
- _____ (2) Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;
- _____ (3) Religious belief or practice
- _____ (4) Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than your polling place;
- _____ (5) Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained

Current Residential Address:

Address where ballot is to be mailed, if different than above:

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

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

Signature of Voter

Date

Mail completed Absentee Ballot Application to **Platte County Board of Elections, PO Box 560, Platte City, MO 64079, or FAX to 816-858-3387**. All requests must be received by the Board of Election's office no later than 5:00 p.m., the Wednesday prior to election day.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

from

The Works by Marlene

by appointment only

816.587.1550

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Your neighbor,

Marlene