

*How Beautiful
Houston Lake is!!!*



Houston Laker September 2012

Houston Lake
is a beautiful place.



2012



Community Events

Sept. 3rd, - **Labor Day**
★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★

Sept. 6th, - *Thursday Trash Pick-up*

Sept. 10th, - *City Council Meeting*
7:30p.m. – City Hall

Sept. 13th - *Neighborhood Watch Program*
6:30p.m. – City Hall

Sept. 19th, - *Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Board Meeting – 6:30p.m. – City Hall*

Sept. 22nd, - 
**First Day
of Autumn**

Sept. 26th, - *Recycling Day*

Found very identifiable ring, Houston Lake beach. Call 816-876-9025.

Editor Note: I want to “thank” Everyone for letting me take pictures of the beautiful flowers in their yard. And again “thank” Andy Spottswood for printing this months front cover.

“Be Alert”

Calls are being made here on Houston Lake telling the person that they are sending you a new Medicare card and they need your name, address, social security number and bank information. If you give them this information they will empty your bank account. If you get a call “just hang up the phone”, do not give them information, it is not Medicare, it is a scam.

CITY OFFICIALS CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE

Mayor

Michael Hallauer
816-215-9138
(mayor@houstonlake.net)

City Clerk

Marsha Duncan
816-419-5051
(cityclerk@houstonlake.net)

City Collector

Joyce Kullman
816-547-8173

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Jean Anderson
816-326-8562
(Sw1-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)

Rick Cowan
816-741-3199
(Sw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Phil Otte
816-741-5477
(Nw1-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)

Dan Coronado
816-584-2667
(Nw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Municipal Judge

Greg Dorsey
816-785-4284

Court Clerk

Sharon Brandt
816-785-4284

Codes Enforcement Officer

Mitch Kelly
816-651-6295
(mkelly@houstonlake.net)

VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION

President

Nick Jackalone
816-587-0028

Vice President

Keith Carey
816-746-4472

Treasurer

Jan Jackalone
816-587-0028
(Lake Tags)

Secretary

Gary Halterman

Board Member

Bill Winton
913-963-7535

Houston Lake Watershed Management Committee

Michael Hallauer
816-215-9138

Registrar

Editor – Houston Laker

Mary Head
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Sewer Grinder Pumps

Marsha Duncan
816-419-5051

**For more City and Homes Association Info
go to**

Houstonlake.net

F Y I

ARTICLE II. PERMITS

SECTION 500.100: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED

All persons desiring to construct, erect, alter or add to any building, boat dock, fences, road or drive or any structure in the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, **must first obtain a building permit** for such construction, alteration or addition from the Board of Aldermen of said City. (Ord. No. 282 §2, 10-14-02)

SECTION 500.110: PERMIT APPLICATIONS

All persons desiring to obtain such a permit shall submit an application with the complete plans and specifications and plot plan for such construction showing sizes, estimated cost and details of such proposed construction and the location of such construction upon the plot of land. No new dwelling construction or property line fence construction will be permitted until after certified surveys have been filed with the Board of Aldermen. Certified surveys will be required on all additions to old dwellings where the new construction will be closer to the property line than the old dwelling. (Ord. No. 282 §3, 10-14-02) Applications for a building permit may be obtained by leaving a message at City Hall, contacting your Alderman or calling City Clerk at 816-419-5051.



Important Notice

Trash Pick-up Day



Blue Lid Trash Cart

Your recycling day will also be on a Wednesday once a month.

**Trash carts must be curbside by 7:00 am the day of pick up.
Be respectful and remove your cart from curbside when finished.
Items must be inside the cart (Not on the ground, not on top – INSIDE).
If you need an extra cart, please notify any city official.**

The holidays that Allied Waste observe are New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. When any of these holidays fall on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, your trash pick up will be on Thursday of that week.

2012 Holiday Schedule:

Pick-up Day

**New Years (Sunday 1-1-12)
Memorial Day (Monday 5-28-12)
Independence Day (Wednesday 7-4-12)
Labor Day (Monday 9-3-12)
Thanksgiving (Thursday 11-22-12)
Christmas (Tuesday 12-25-12)
New Years (Tuesday 1-1-13)**

**Wednesday
Thursday 5-31-12
Thursday 7-5-12
Thursday 9-6-12
Wednesday
Thursday 12-27-12
Thursday 1-3-13**

2012 Recycle Schedule



**Yellow & Green Lid
Recycling Cart**

January 18
February 15
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 6
July 5
August 1
August 29
September 26
October 24
November 21
December 19



Items must be inside the cart (**Not on the ground, not on top – inside**). If you need an extra cart or would like to recycle, please notify any city official.

Recycle carts must be curbside by 7:00 am the day of pick up. Be respectful and remove your cart from curbside when finished.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



The Neighborhood Watch Program Needs You!

Got your attention, didn't I? Made your turn this page sideways and hopefully you'll read it.

There are over 200+ residents on Houston Lake. So, how does news get around?? Usually neighbor to neighbor or through the Houston Laker. Gone are the days of the "party line phone" - *remember that?* Sure there is email and snail mail, but not everyone reads their email or opens their mail on a timely basis. So, whatcha gonna do?? Call Platte County Sheriff's Dispatch **and /or** Neighborhood Watch !!!!

Remember, our motto is "We look out for each other."

There are a few of us who are doing just that. Block Captains are the critical part of "keeping our residents informed". But we sure could use two or three more. Someone who would take on the responsibility of spreading the news, gathering resident's information, like work phone numbers, or what kind of car should be parked in the driveway.

What if your neighbor saw a U-Haul truck pull into your driveway and started packing it up with your stuff?? Would you appreciate a call to your office or cell number to see what's up? I sure would. I would be very grateful. But it can't be done without that information being given to a Block Captain.

So, here is what I'm asking:

Consider being a Block Captain.

You'll get to know 10-15 families that you'll spread the news to. The more Block Captains we have the smaller amount of time and contacts they will have to make. We're not asking you to call your list because of school closings due to bad weather, we're asking you to call your list because there is a risk to someone (like a suspicious person walking), some property issue (like the U-Haul) or you haven't seen your neighbor in a while and he/she didn't mention being away on vacation. Do you know why the newspaper doesn't print the address of the deceased? They use to. It's because while everyone- family-neighbors-friends were at the funeral, someone robbed the poor soul's house!! They had at least a couple of hours to do it !!

Consider giving your personal information to a Block Captain.

I know, I know! We don't want your Social Security Number. We just want enough information, that if we have to, get in touch with you ASAP! I'm even giving you a copy of what is being collected. Look it over and fill it out. Make a copy and give it to close relatives. Does your co-worker or boss have easy access to who to call if you don't show up and haven't called in? Hold on to it and your Block Captain will be visiting with you about it.

Our Next meeting is September 13. That's a Thursday at 6:30 PM.

Really give it some thought.

It's your home, it's your neighborhood, it's your community !

Jan Jackalone 816-587-0028

NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH INSTITUTE FAMILY DATA SHEET

As part of the process of making our Neighborhood Watch work effectively, we are compiling this profile of our neighbors. This data will prove valuable in emergencies and allow us to say, **"We Watch Out For Each Other!"** Each neighbor, and no one else, will receive a copy of the completed sheets for their use. Participation is voluntary. Provide only information you are comfortable sharing and return it to our Block Captain or bring it to our next Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Information provided will be used to create the Family Data Summary Sheet, Block Map and Telephone Tree.

FAMILY NAME			ADDRESS NUMBER			
COLOR AND STYLE OF HOUSE						
NAMES OF OCCUPANTS						
THEIR AGES						
HOME PHONE			ANY OTHER PHONES? IF SO, GIVE DETAILS:			
WORK PHONE						
CELLULAR PHONE						
BEEPER NUMBER			E-MAIL ADDRESS			
WORK SCHEDULES						
SKILLS YOU ARE WILLING TO SHARE? (IE. TELEPHONE, COMPUTER, WRITING, ETC.)						
VEHICLES: YEAR, MAKE MODEL, COLOR			LICENSE PLATE NUMBER			
ROUTINE HELP AND THEIR SCHEDULES (CLEANING, GARDENING, POOL, ETC.)						
SPECIAL MEDICAL INFORMATION:						
ANY SENIORS OR INVALIDS?						
KID'S DOCTOR AND PHONE NUMBER						
KID'S SITTER OR AFTER-SCHOOL CARE AND PHONE						
PETS (ESPECIALLY DOGS)						
ALARM SYSTEM						
COMPANY NAME AND PHONE NUMBER						
EMERGENCY CONTACTS: NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS						



BOOK REVIEW

Maybe you're thinking we are going to start a Book Club, but actually we need three volunteers to review the check book and other financial records for the Venetian Garden Homes Association.

As required by the By-Laws, an audit of the books must be completed prior to the Annual Meeting which will be held on October 24, 2012. It is not an overwhelming task, probably an hour or two.

The President and Treasurer, Nick and Jan Jackalone, would be glad to meet at City Hall or at their home to get this job done.

So would you like to help out the Homes Association? And if you have done an audit before, you can offer your services again!

Call Nick or Jan at 816-587-0028 and offer your services. It would be greatly appreciated.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Monthly Meeting
August 15, 2012

In attendance Nick Jackalone, President; Keith Carey, Vice President; Gary Halterman, Secretary and Jan Jackalone, Treasurer and Bill Winton, excused. Members present were Ron and Sue Haines, Mary Head, Larry Haines, Mike Hallauer, Janette Boehm, Joe Chepren, and Bill Gay. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

President Nick welcomed Gary Halterman as Secretary to fill out the term vacated by Al Horine.

There was a maintenance item which needed to be discussed. Pres. Nick was asked by Mayor Mike to look at the spillway on Houston Drive. The cement has been damaged by water rushing over during heavy rains over the past years. Mayor Mike said the spillway was put in place by volunteers a long, long time ago. Since the water level has dropped because of the drought this summer, it would be in the Association's best interest to repair it before the lake level rises again.

Pres. Nick got two contractors to come out. One gave an estimate for \$4500. We are still waiting on the other. And a third contractor has yet to look at it. Joe Chepren asked if we had a scope for the work proposed and we did not. He suggested we get one so that it is very clear what the contractor is suppose to do.

Also, Pres. Nick said Stinnett has not yet contacted us about the horse shoe project. Vice President Keith suggested that since we are not in contract with Stinnett we should get some other bids. Joe Chepren said he would be glad to offer his services since he has knowledge of several cement contractors and would help us with the bids we get on our projects.

Janette Boehm wanted to know if the horse shoe project was not going to be done or just pushed back. Pres. Nick answered that the money was in place for the horse shoe, but it was not a priority because the repair of the spillway was the main priority. And since the lake has something growing in the water, the Board wasn't sure if it needed more grass carp. Mayor Mike said it was primrose growing and that it should disappear when the water rises.

Janette Boehm also wanted to know why a light was put up at the Mayor's Park.

Pres. Nick told her that drugs were being used and/or sold and the light shines into the shelter and back into the wooded area and has helped alleviate the problem. Janette wanted to know how the board was able to go into contract with KCPL without members approval. Since the annual cost is under \$500, there is no member approval. Jan Jackalone also stated that a Board member talked to KCPL when they looked at the City light and KCPL suggested, if the Association wanted one, KCPL could place one. The City light had to shine on the street was the only restriction. Janette said that the taxpayer and association member was paying for the two lights. Mayor Mike said the City decided to take down their light.

Pres. Nick said there are two vacancies for the Board term in October. The terms are for two years. The vacancies are for President and Secretary. **Anyone interested in becoming a Board Member, please complete the application on the following page and return to any Board member by October 1, 2012.** Also Board Member Bill Winton has expressed his desire not to continue on the Board in October, so we have a vacancy there. Pres. Nick asked Gary Halterman if he would consider staying on and Gary said that the benefits were so fantastic being a Board member that he would have to think about it !!!

Pres Nick also thanked Bob King for his help cutting down a bush at the beach and helping Nick fill in the holes along the cement wall so that anyone walking on the wall, could not slip and hurt themselves. Mayor Mike was also thanked for letting the Association have the gravel from its stock pile to fill in the holes.

The Treasurer's report was read and last month's report was corrected because of a duplicate entry. Pres. Nick mentioned one house is being sold on the Platte County Courthouse steps August 23 so we will also be getting their back dues since an Association lien was placed on the house.

VERY IMPORTANT:: The books need to be audited before the October Meeting. If interested, please call Jan @587-0028.

Meeting adjourned at appx. 7:00 PM. Next meeting will be September 19, 2012 at 6:30 PM. ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE October 24, 2012 with a potluck dinner at 5:30 PM. Please plan on attending.

PS. Sharron DeLaFluente took fecal samples from the beach and peninsula area and the water is safe for swimming.

VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION BOARD APPLICATION

NAME _____ DATE OF FILING _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

1. Are you currently a paid up member of the Homes Association?
2. What is your experience serving on previous Boards?
3. List activities/experiences that you have been involved with at Houston Lake that may give you an advantage serving on the Board?
4. What work or outside experiences can you draw from that will help you serve effectively?
5. What areas/issues do you consider most important for the future of the Homes Association?
6. Tell why you would like to serve on the Board of Directors of the Venetian Gardens Homes Association.

September 10, 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 09-10-12

7. Emergency Management

8. Police Report - Codes Report

9. Old Business

- a. Bill No. 081312-2 (Grinder Pump Maintenance Fee)

10. New Business

11. Reports from Aldermen

Mr. Cowan
Mr. Otte
Mr. Coronado
Ms. Anderson

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
August 13, 2012

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on August 13, 2012 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Phil Otte, Jean Anderson, and Rick Cowan. Alderman Dan Coronado was excused.

Opening Session

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

Public Discussion

Nick Jackalone spoke to the council about a house at 3409 NW Edgewater Trail that was in bad disrepair. This house will be auctioned at the county courthouse. Mayor Hallauer told Mr. Jackalone that the City could not do anything about this problem until this property had an owner. The Mayor also noted that the Homes Association was informed of the property's foreclosure status.

Mayor Hallauer introduced Eric Pendell who is running for State Representative in District 14, our district. Mr. Pendell spoke about himself and how he would serve this community if elected.

Minutes June 11, 2012

The minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

A Notice to Condemn was presented to the Council for 5426 NW Venetian. No one was present for representation and the Notice to Condemn will proceed.

The council, by general consent, approved 2 building permits at 3520 NW Edgewater Trail for phase I & II (permit extension) and Phase III (grading-driveway and erosion control).

Treasurers Report

Alderman Anderson moved that we accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Alderman Cowan. Motion passed.

Resolution 08-13-12 (paybills)

Alderman Cowan moved that we accept Resolution 08-13-12, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed

Collectors Report

City Collector Joyce Kullman reported deposits for month of July 2012 at \$4,419.61.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

A report from 7-1-12 to 7-31-12 was submitted to the Council from the Platte County Sheriff's Department.

Codes Enforcement Officer, Mitch Kelly submitted his report for the months of July/August, 2012.

Emergency Management

No report

Old Business

a. Mayor Hallauer spoke to the Council about Municipal Code 205 (Animal Regulations). Code Enforcement Officer Mitch Kelly sent out a letter to residents regarding animal vaccination certificates being on file. Mayor Hallauer pointed out that this law is not new and has been in the City Codes since 1961. It was decided by the City and Mitch Kelly to pursue this matter as the City has done so in previous years. 42 letters of advisement were sent out with 26 residents voluntarily complying. The remaining 16 residents will get a second letter of advisement. After much public discussion regarding different Animal Regulations this law comes down to responsible or irresponsible pet owners and public safety. It was agreed that portions of this law (breed specific) need to be reviewed.

New Business

a. The City Council held its Public Hearing on the proposed tax rate for the year 2012. There was no public discussion.

b. The City Council was presented Bill No. 081312-1 setting the new 2012 tax rate. Alderman Cowan moved that we place Bill No. 081312-1 on its first reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Otte.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 081312-1 by title only.

Alderman Anderson moved that we place Bill No. 081312-1 on its second reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Cowan.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 081312-1 by title only.

Alderman Otte moved that we place Bill No. 081312-1 on its final passage, seconded by Alderman Anderson.

Roll call:

Cowan – Aye

Anderson - Aye

Otte – Aye

Coronado - Excused

Bill No. 081312-1, Ordinance No. 337 was passed.

c. Mayor Hallauer submitted to the Council Bill No. 081312-2, a bill establishing a new grinder pump maintenance fee. After much discussion this Bill was tabled in favor of further research regarding an opt out/opt in clause.

d. Mayor Hallauer presented the Council with an e-mail correspondence between the Mayor and Brad Rudler from KCPL regarding the removal of a street light at Houston Drive and NW Edgewater. The Homes Association contracted and purchased a light at the same location which makes 2 lights at the same location. The City has been paying \$18.00 per month to KCPL. The cost to remove this light is \$400.00 (+/-). The council approved the removal of the light, by general consent.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – No report.

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte mentioned that the fire extinguishers at city hall need to be inspected. Alderman Otte will see that this is done.

Alderman Coronado – Excused

Alderman Anderson – Alderman Anderson noted that she liked the patching done on Edgewater Trail. She also mentioned the FEMA National Flood Insurance program (NFIP). Houston Lake residents are not in a flood zone but are relatively close to the zone according to flood maps. FEMA allows any community to participate at no cost. She advised that we consider getting involved in this program if it does not present any burden. She volunteered to look into the requirements.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer received an e-mail from a resident that wanted to donate a nice Oak tree to the City Park. They will pay for all costs and the maintenance. The Council approved this generous gift.

b. Mayor Hallauer received and shared a “Thank You” card from the family of Jeff Courtney. This was in response to the City Council sending a card of condolence.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 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

From the Desk of the City Clerk:

Jean Anderson and I have been given the task of updating our Houston Lake City Directory. The last update was in 2009 and since then we've had many new residents that need to be added to our directory.

Our City Directory has been a great tool for residents through the years. Not only listing names and numbers of our neighbors, but needed emergency and general information of our City Government and State as well.

This directory will not be posted on our website as this is for Houston Lake residents only. After this update has been completed, a copy will be delivered to every household on Houston Lake

Please take a moment and fill out the information form below. You may drop the completed form at City Hall through the door mail slot or you may give it to myself, Marsha Duncan or Jean Anderson.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 816.419.5051 or e-mail me at mduncannkc@aol.com.

Thanks for all your help!!!

.....

Last name:..... First Name.....

Spouse's name:.....

Address:.....

Phone number that you prefer listed:.....

Composting is easy!

To make compost, just follow these simple steps:

1. Add three parts "browns"...

Fall leaves, straw, salt marsh hay, shredded paper and cardboard (newspaper, paper towels, paper plates, paper bags), chipped brush, sawdust, pine needles (pine needles should not make up more than 10% of total material in pile).

...and one part "greens"

Grass clippings, weeds (not laden with seeds), vegetable and fruit wastes, seaweed, eggshells, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, manure (horse, cow, rabbit, chicken, goat, gerbil, etc).

2. Mix or layer materials.

After every 12" or so, add a few shovelfuls of rich soil or compost.

3. Keep it damp and aerated.

Wait a few months, and voila...black gold!

For best results, and to keep out odors and pests,

DO NOT ADD:

- ◆ Meat, bones, fat, grease, oils
- ◆ Peanut butter
- ◆ Dairy products
- ◆ Cooked foods with sauces or butter
- ◆ Dog and cat manure
- ◆ Diseased plants
- ◆ Weeds gone to seed
- ◆ Weeds that spread by roots and runners (vines)





Houston Lake

2nd Edition Cookbook

All of the recipes in this book are from local folks here on Houston Lake. There are 257 delicious recipes in the book.

The Cookbook would make a wonderful Hostess gift, Birthday, Christmas, Thank You and for the Beautiful Bride-to-be.

This is one of a kind gift. Cookbooks are passed from one generation to the next generation, and are forever treasured.

Prices for the 2nd Edition Cookbooks are:



3 = Cookbooks for \$10.00

2 = Cookbooks for \$8.00

1 = Cookbook for \$5.00



*To purchase
call Mary Head*

Thank You



*your Cookbooks please
816-741-5639 or e-mail
maryjewelh@aol.com.*



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Gift Certificates for All Occasions!

***Best Wishes
Marlene***