

Houston Laker

Happy St. Patrick's Day & Happy Easter



March 2016



Community Calendar Events

March 8th - Recycling Day

March 13th Who is ready to “Spring” forward? Daylight savings time begins at 2:00am. Remember to move your clocks forward 1 hour.



March 14th - City Council Meeting
7:30pm. – City Hall

March 15th - Presidential Preference Primary
Election Day at Wexford Place



March 16th - Venetian Gardens Homes Association
Meeting, 6:30pm. – City Hall

March 17th - 

March 20th - First Day of Spring

March 23rd - Houston Lake Arts Circle, 7:00pm – City Hall
Election of Officers and plans for our next Art Show

March 27th - 

April 5th - General Municipal Election Day
at Wexford Place



April 5th - Recycling Day

DO NOT FEED THE GEESE



Feeding The Geese

- Feeding attracts more than the area can support naturally.
- Human food is not good for the geese! Bread is awful for geese. They fill up on the wrong nutrients and don't consume the proper food they need to grow flying feathers, making it more difficult for the geese to migrate when they are supposed to!
- Someone who starts feeding just two geese can quickly turn those numbers into 50 geese!
- Geese in high concentrations are more likely to get diseases and parasites.
- Geese droppings harbor parasites that can cause human health problems.
- Goose droppings increase algae growth that, in turn, results in fish kills.
- Goose droppings are unsanitary, unsightly, and contain parasites irritating to humans.
- Geese eat plants needed for ground cover and erosion control.
- Goose-management costs taxpayers money.

Did You Know?

About 12 or so years ago, there was no management of the geese and so by some well-intentioned hand feeders, they were fed and multiplied as well as those who came by way of migration and decided to stay. Before we knew it, you couldn't walk to the mailbox without side-stepping goose droppings. The MO Dept. of Conservation was called in and they allowed us to start a program to control the population. At that time, there were some 120 plus geese on and around the lake. Today, **thanks to volunteers**, the population remains under control. Please help and not feed the geese.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

2016 is a

Red Wristband Year !

Please be considerate and pick up your lake wristbands if you have paid your dues on Wednesday, March 16th, 2016 from 6:00pm –6:30pm at City Hall. Wristbands are required to be worn on Homes Association Property such as the Beach, use of Shelters, Boating and Fishing.

Come meet the Board Members before the Homes Association meeting at 6:30pm. All paid members are welcome to attend Homes Association meetings.

There will be copies of the Homes Association By-Laws and Rules and Regulations available.



Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License
and a Houston Lake 2016 Red Wristband!!

Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2016 red wristband in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2016 red wristband.

To get your 2016 Red Lake Wristbands call Homes Association
Treasurer, Jan Jackalone 816-587-0028.

The Wristband is FREE if your Homes Association dues are
paid.

Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2016 Red
Wristband with them when they are on or around the lake.

**NO trout lines, jug lines, seine net, gillnetting or
unattended fishing lines.**

NO FISHING IN THE BEACH AREA.

Free Dock



Call Loren 816-560-1593

Leave a message and I will call you back.

2016 Recycle Schedule



**Yellow & Green Lid
Recycling Cart**

January 12
February 9
March 8
April 5
May 3
May 31
June 28
July 26
August 23
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 13



Items must be inside the cart (**Not on the ground, not on top – inside**). Recycle carts must be curbside by 7:00 am the day of pick up. Be respectful and remove your cart from curbside when finished. If you need an extra cart or would like to recycle, please notify Joyce Kullman -816-547-8173 or Melinda Cook 816-352-8401.



Important Notice

Trash Pick-up Day



Blue Lid Trash Cart

Your recycling day will also be on a Tuesday 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 Joyce Kullman - 816-547-8173 or
Melinda Cook - 816-352-8401.**

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 Wednesday of that week.

2016 Holiday Schedule:

Pick-up Day

New Years (Friday 1-1-16)

Tuesday 12-29-15

Memorial Day (Monday 5-30-16)

Wednesday 6-1-16

Independence Day (Monday 7-4-16)

Wednesday 7-6-16

Labor Day (Monday 9-5-16)

Wednesday 9-7-16

Thanksgiving (Thursday 11-24-16)

Tuesday 11-22-16

Christmas (Sunday 12-25-16)

Tuesday 12-27-16

New Years (Sunday 1-1-17)

Tuesday 1-3-17

February 2016

Houston Lake Art Circle News:

Artwork for the spring show was hung the 20th. If you have a theme idea for our next show of this year contact one of our members or attend our next business meeting during evening Wednesday March 23 at 7:00 pm in City Hall. Election of officers and plans are in order.

Our last event, The Process Painting Workshop At Stephanie Gray's on February 6, was a great opportunity for all involved. The silent peaceful atmosphere, beautiful colors of paint and time within her studio allowed each of us to enjoy and express for ourselves freely. A love offering from the participants was made to Stephanie for hosting and leading with her professional skills. This is Stephanie Gray's website: CREATIVENECTARSTUDIO.COM Stephanie is willing to offer this again next Fall or Winter.

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 816-352-8401

From the desk of the City Clerk:

“To All Residents of Houston Lake”

1. If any resident needs a trash container or a recycling contact the following people for a timely response and to avoid any confusion. Please leave your name, address and a phone number and the containers will be delivered to your home.

**Mayor Joyce Kullman –
816.547-8173**

Or

**City Clerk Melinda Cook –
816.352-8401**

2. According to Ordinance 334, Section 230.025

Open Burning for Recreational Purposes

All residents of Houston Lake wishing to apply for an open burning permit can do so by downloading the application on our website Houstonlake.net or you may call 352-8401. After you have filled out the form, please slip it through the mail slot on the door at City Hall for review and approval by the City Council.

Attention Cat and Dog Owners
Proof of Vaccinations Due May 1, 2016

SECTION 205.020: Vaccination

The owner or keeper of any dog or cat in the City of Houston Lake is hereby required to have such animals vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian and to procure a certificate of such vaccination from the veterinarian and to present such certificate to the City Clerk on or before **May first (1st) of each year**; and the City Clerk shall register such certificate, which registration shall remain in force until the April thirtieth (30th) next following said registration. It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog or cat to permit such animal to remain in the City of Houston Lake unless vaccinated as above provided.

City of Houston Lake Job Opening

The City of Houston Lake is seeking a Codes Enforcement Officer. The primary purpose of the Codes Enforcement Officer is to coordinate and manage the nuisance code enforcement program and the animal code enforcement program within the City of Houston Lake to protect public health, safety and welfare, prevent and prohibit conditions on property within the City which reduce the value and degrade the character of public and private property by enforcing Municipal Ordinances set forth by the City of Houston Lake, Missouri.

Qualifications Required. Any combination of education, training or experience providing the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

1. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent.
2. Must possess a valid Missouri driver's license.
3. Must possess solid investigative and research techniques, attention to detail and accurate record keeping skills, the ability to document case investigations using accurate written and photographic records that are legally admissible for prosecution.
4. Must have the ability to work with and communicate effectively with the public and with courtesy, fairness and tact, often dealing with situations that can be emotionally charged or controversial while professionally representing the City in public hearings, meetings or court actions involving compliance activities.
5. Must be able to perform as a member of a team in carrying out the City's mission. "The City of Houston Lake exists to provide services to the citizens of the community." The quality of life in the City of Houston Lake depends upon the services provided by the City, and the quality of the City's service depends on how well we do our jobs. Employee is required to present themselves in a professional manner, displaying the utmost integrity, discretion, courtesy, cooperation, discipline and behavior.

To request a complete job description and an application, please email Melinda Cook, the City Clerk: cityclerk@houstonlake.net

City of Houston Lake
Official Minutes of the Council Meeting
January 11, 2016

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on January 11, 2016 at City Hall. The following members were present: Mayor Joyce Kullman, Aldermen Phil Otte, Dan Coronado, Jean Anderson and Rick Cowan.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Kullman.

Public Discussion

Resident Larry Haines expressed his opinion of the snow removal.

Resident Larry Haines brought to our attention that there are a lot of loose dogs running around the neighborhood, and suggested that we put a notice in the Houston Laker, reminding residents that we do enforce the leash law.

Minutes October 12, 2015

The October 12, 2015 minutes were approved.

Minutes December 14, 2015

The December 14, 2015 minutes were approved.

Building Permit

The City Council approved a renewal for a burning permit at 5509 NW Adrian.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$320,449.99.

The Treasurer's report was approved by the Council.

Resolution 1-11-16 (paybills)

Three additional bills were added into Resolution 1-11-16, after much discussion, the City Council approved Resolution 1-11-16 unanimously.

New Business

- a. City Administrator Joe Chepren provided a copy of his 2015-2016 Winter Events Report.
- b. City Administrator Chepren stated, weather permitting he still has ongoing projects including the drain issue across from city hall and collecting information in preparation to conduct road surveys for road repair when the weather is better.
- c. Mayor Kullman and Alderman Cowan thanked City Administrator Chepren for presenting his detailed 2015-2016 Winter Events Report.
- d. Alderman Cowan inquired about missing city equipment that belongs to our CERT Team. Alderman Coronado stated that one member is no longer participating on the CERT Team, but still has the city equipment in her possession. Alderman Coronado stated he has already reached

out to her via email, with no response. He and Mayor Kullman will work with the resident to get the city's equipment returned or city reimbursed for the equipments' cost.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

The Platte County Sheriff's Department submitted a police report for the month of December. No Codes report.

Emergency Management

None

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – No report

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte thanked City Administrator Chepren for all his hard work. Alderman Otte stated that we continue to have issues with missing mail. After much discussion about this issue, Alderman Coronado made a motion to rekey City Hall and the garage, seconded by Alderman Cowan.

Roll call:

Coronado-Aye

Otte-Aye

Anderson-Aye

Cowan-Aye

Alderman Coronado - Alderman Coronado expressed his concern for a home belonging to resident Jenny Tomlinson, who has passed away. The Platte County Deputy Sheriff attending the meeting said he would check the county's records to see who owns the house and report back to Mayor Kullman.

Alderman Anderson – No report

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Kullman reminded everyone that she is looking to put together a team or committee to be in charge of the 4th of July festivities, and our Community garden.

b. Mayor Kullman stated that we would be deciding in February a date to set for a March meeting concerning grinder pumps.

Closed Session

Alderman Cowan made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (3) for Personnel issues, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

HOUSTON LAKE RESIDENTS

Cast Your Official Ballot of the
“Presidential Preference Primary Election”

Tuesday, March 15th, 2016

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 – Melinda Cook = (816) 352-8401

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.

LAST DAY to Register to VOTE for the April 5th, 2016 General Municipal Election is March 9th, 2015.

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



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
- _____ (6) certified participation in the address confidentiality program established under sections [589.660](#) to [589.681](#) because of safety concerns.

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.

Official Presidential Preference
Primary Ballot
County of Platte
Tuesday, March 15, 2016

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Judges' Initials

Democratic Party

Instructions to Voters:

Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: ●

Uncommitted: A vote for "Uncommitted" indicates to the political party that you are not committed to any of the candidates on the ballot.

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.

**For U.S. President
(Vote for One)**

- Hillary Clinton
- Henry Hewes
- Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente
- Bernie Sanders
- Keith Judd
- Willie L. Wilson
- Martin J. O'Malley
- John Wolfe
- Jon Adams
- (UNCOMMITTED)

Official Presidential Preference
Primary Ballot
County of Platte
Tuesday, March 15, 2016

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Judges' Initials

Constitution Party

Instructions for Voters:

Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: ●

Uncommitted: A vote for "Uncommitted" indicates to the political party that you are not committed to any of the candidates on the ballot.

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.

For U.S. President (Vote for One)

(UNCOMMITTED)

SAMPLE

Official Presidential Preference
Primary Ballot
County of Platte
Tuesday, March 15, 2016

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Judges' Initials

Republican Party

Instructions to Voters:

Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: ●

Uncommitted: A vote for "Uncommitted" indicates to the political party that you are not committed to any of the candidates on the ballot.

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.

**For U.S. President
(Vote for One)**

- Chris Christie
- Jeb Bush
- Ben Carson
- Donald J. Trump
- Marco Rubio
- Ted Cruz
- Rick Santorum
- Carly Fiorina
- John R. Kasich
- Rand Paul
- Jim Lynch
- Mike Huckabee
- (UNCOMMITTED)

Official Presidential Preference
Primary Ballot
County of Platte
Tuesday, March 15, 2016

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Judges' Initials

Libertarian Party

Instructions to Voters:

Completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or question response of your choice like this: ●

Uncommitted: A vote for "Uncommitted" indicates to the political party that you are not committed to any of the candidates on the ballot.

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.

**For U.S. President
(Vote for One)**

- Austin Petersen
- Steven Elliott (Steve) Kerbel
- Rhett Rosenquest Smith
- Cecil Ince
- Marc Allan Feldman
- (UNCOMMITTED)

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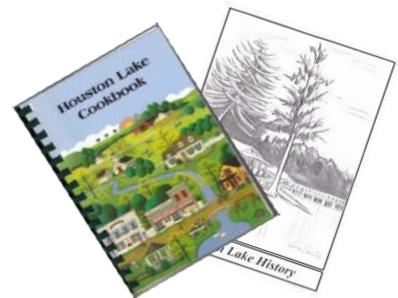
*Prices for the History Books & 2nd Edition Cookbooks
are:*



3 = books for \$10.00

2 = books for \$8.00

1 = book for \$5.00



*All the proceeds will go to the
Houston Lake Arts Circle.*

*To purchase your books please call President of the
Houston Lake Arts Circle Linda Kramer - 816.225.4110
or Mary Head - 816.741.5639.*

WHY IS IT ?

*A man wakes up after sleeping
under an ADVERTISED blanket on an ADVERTISED mattress
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
brushes his teeth with an ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
drinks ADVERTISED coffee
drives to work in ADVERTISED car
and then...
refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn't pay.
Later if business is poor,
He ADVERTISES it for sale.*

WHY IS IT ?

ADVERTISE IN THE HOUSTON LAKER

HALF PAGE \$10.00/mo. or \$100.00/year

FULL PAGE \$20.00/mo. or \$200.00/year

LAST PAGE OF HOUSTON LAKER – Sorry, already sold!

CALL Editor Mary Head 816-741-5639 for more information.



Happy St.
Patricks Day



from

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Best wishes,
Marlene