

April 2020 Edition

HOUSTON LAKER



Mother Goose and her Gosling

Photo by Jay Kennel

April 2020 Community Calendar Events

March 31st – Recycling Day

April 7th/June 2nd - Election Update:

Pursuant to Governor Parson's Executive Order 20-03: The General Municipal Election has been postponed and will be held June 2, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact the Platte County Board of Elections at (816)858.4400

April 12th - 

April 15th - Venetian Gardens Homes

Association Semi-Annual Meeting, will be a virtual meeting. If you wish to attend, please email in advance:

hoacommunications@houstonlake.net.

If you need your 2020 HOA Wristband contact Susan Hodges, Treasurer @ 816.786.2377.

April 20th - City Council Meeting, has been canceled.

April 25th - Houston Lake Clean-up day is scheduled at **9:30am**, with everyone meeting outside of City Hall.

April 28th - Recycling Day

Attention Cat and Dog Owners, Proof of Vaccinations due May 1, 2020



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 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. (Section 205.020: Vaccination)

Arts Circle

Art, Life & Folks: Houston Lake

Arts Circle Annual Exhibit

This year's art theme is "Layers of the Lake" Exhibit opening August 8, 1:00 to 4:00 pm let's start creating!

Children's Workshop

June 6, 1:00 to 3:00 pm Print making with foam and blocks from other materials using water based inks on paper. Children will bring home a piece of their own creation.

"To All Residents of Houston Lake"

If any resident needs a **trash container** or a **recycling container**, call City Hall 816.741.0644 and leave your name, address, phone number and the containers will be delivered to your home. Republic trash has asked that residents not put anything on the curb that cannot fit into your blue trash containers. They are trying to keep their people safe while picking up your trash.

Republic's large item pick up is currently closed, they will resume as soon as they can.

Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake "2020 Wristband" when fishing!!

Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2020 Wristband in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2020 Wristband. **No Fishing in the Beach Area.**

To get your 2020 Wristbands call Homes Association Treasurer, Susan Hodges at 816.786.2377. The Wristbands are FREE if your Homes Association dues are paid. Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2020 Wristband with them when they are on or around the lake and on Homes Association property.



COVID-19 Response in Houston Lake

With information rapidly changing, we want to take a moment to give our citizens a few resources specifically related to Houston Lake:

If you need assistance in any way – whether that is assistance to get food, medical supplies or other resources, please reach out to Mayor Freese at 816-726-4455. We are here to help and have several resources available to you.

Meetings: Please note that in the immediate future our City Council meetings will need to go to an online forum as we work to comply with the Governors mandate of limiting contact with large groups. This is for the safety of all residents. Staying in compliance with Sunshine Laws, notice shall be posted at City Hall as well as online platforms. More information will come as we work to develop a plan.

Missouri has established a COVID-19 hotline through the Dept of Health and Senior Services: 877-435-8411 to answer your questions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

More information can also be found via the Platte County Health Dept: plattecountyhealthdept.com or the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov

At this time, Park Hill Schools are closed until April 5th. Please check the district website for information about meals being provided to those in need. If you need help accessing these meals, please contact Mayor Freese at 816-726-4455

Reminder: We have FREE access to public Wi-Fi at City Hall. While City Hall will remain closed, it can be accessed by parking near the building.

Spectrum is also offering free internet services to households with students aged K-12 for the next 60 days – call 1-844-488-8395

For the most up to date information – please follow Houston Lake on Facebook – information regarding meetings, cancellations and other resources will be posted here as the situation continues to change.

Please remember the basic prevention steps (as outlined by the CDC)

Clean your hands often – wash with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands

Avoid contact with people who are sick

Help protect others by staying home if YOU become ill

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Clean surfaces daily

Do you like getting the Houston Laker paper delivered to your house?

Call me 816-741-5639

Email me maryjewel40@gmail.com

Or put this questionnaire in the mail slot that is on the front door of City Hall, a simple yes or no will do.

Thank You Mary Head, Editor

Mary Head – Editor of the Houston Laker

Please put your address down if you vote yes, so we make sure you get the Houston Laker paper.

YES _____ **address** _____

NO _____ **address optional** _____

The Houston Laker Paper is posted online = www.houstonlake.net

You name optional _____

Your Email optional _____

VENETIAN GARDENS HOMES ASSOCIATION NEWS

April 15th - Venetian Gardens Homes Association Semi-Annual Meeting.

The April 15th meeting will be a virtual meeting. If you wish to attend, please email in advance: hoacommunications@houstonlake.net. You will receive an email with a link. You may join through video & audio on your Smartphone or laptop. Or, you may call in by way of phone. The number & pass code will be in the email as well.

Members can pick up their 2020 wristband from Susan Hodges, Treasurer by calling first at 816.786.2377. The wristbands are FREE if your dues are paid. Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2020 Wristband with them when they are on or around the lake and on Homes Association property.

April 25th, 2020 - The SPRING LAKE CLEAN UP

day is scheduled at 9:30am, with everyone meeting outside of City Hall.



LOOK



If you see any geese nesting please call or email the location to one of the following Homes Association Board members:



President Kerry Hallowell 816.695.4100 (hallowellkerry2020@gmail.com)

Vice-President Jeffrey Lister 573.645.7393 (hoacommunications@houstonlake.net)

Secretary/Treasurer Susan Hodges 816.786.2377 (hodges.susan@outlook.com)

Board Member Mary Head 816.741.5639 (maryjewel40@gmail.com)

Board Member Teresa Olson (teresaaolson@hotmail.com)

PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE GEESE.

Why we do not feed the geese...They become reliant on human food and abandon their natural nutrition sources, which may cause health issues. In addition they become accustomed to human activity and will use the park and beach as their restroom.

PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE DUCKS OR GEESE

Why We do not feed the ducks or geese ...

They become reliant on human food and abandon their natural nutrition sources, which may cause health issues. In addition, they become accustomed to human activity and will use the park as their restroom.



Feeding geese and other waterfowl bread and crackers is a common pastime for many adults and children, but many people do not know that this can be harmful to the birds, as well as the environment. Here are several reasons why you should not feed geese and other birds.

Bread, crackers, popcorn, and other high-carbohydrate foods are like junk food to birds. They provide very little nutritional content, and birds that fill up on them will not seek out other, nutritious food. This can cause the birds to become malnourished, which can contribute to a host of health problems for both adults and babies.

Even though you may only choose to feed geese and other birds small amounts of bread or other foods, other families may be doing the same thing. The result could be that the birds' diet consists primarily of unhealthy foods.

If an abundant supply of food is readily available from humans, the geese population will grow because the birds will be attracted to the handouts. This can cause the area to become overcrowded. A supply of easy-to-acquire food will also lead the birds to lay more eggs, which can further contribute to overpopulation.

Feeding geese bread can also contribute to the spread of disease. A diet rich in carbohydrates will cause the birds to defecate more, which can spread bacteria that can contribute to disease. Moldy bread that is not eaten and left on the ground can cause aspergillosis, a lung infection that can be fatal to waterfowl. In addition, rotting bread can attract pests, such as rats, mice, and insects, which can spread disease.

Feeding geese can also pollute the environment. Uneaten bread is unsightly. It can rot and release noxious odors, and it can also lead to the growth of algae, which can clog natural waterways and endanger the health of fish and other wildlife.

Geese and other birds that rely on humans for food lose their natural fear and may place themselves in dangerous situations, such as crossing roads in search of food. They may also become aggressive toward humans who do not provide them with the food they want.

While you may think that you are helping geese by providing them with food, you can be jeopardizing the health of the birds, other animals, and humans, as well as polluting the environment. Wild geese have plenty of healthy food in their habitat to sustain them. Let the geese find food on their own so that they and other animals in the environment can stay healthy.



So, if you are at the beach with children, you can point out geese feces to them with instructions to stay away, and can tell them not to place their hands or fingers into their mouths while they are playing on the beach. Also, they need to wash their hands after leaving the beach and, even more importantly, before eating.

CITY OFFICIALS
CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE

Mayor = Pam Freese 816-726-4455
(mayor@houstonlake.net)

City Clerk = Megan Micek 816-741-0644
(cityclerk@houstonlake.net)

Sewer Grinder Pumps
Megan Micek 816-629-8566

City Collector = Jean Anderson
(taxcollector@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.), Mayor Pro-Tem
Chuck Stone 816-305-3196
(nw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

Alderman (Ward 2 No.)
Phil Otte 816-741-5477
(nw1-alderman@houstonlake.net)

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

Alderman (Ward 1 So.)
Nick Jackalone 816-587-0028
(sw2-alderman@houstonlake.net)

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

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

City of Houston Lake City Hall = 816-741-0644

VENETIAN GARDENS
HOMES ASSOCIATION (HOA)

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

Vice President = Jeffrey Lister
573-645-7393

Public Relations Officer = Jeffrey Lister
(hoacommunications@houstonlake.net)

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

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

Board Member = Teresa Olson
(teresaaolson@hotmail.com)

Registrar/Editor - Houston Laker = Mary Head
816-741-5639 (editor@houstonlake.net)

Water Quality Officer = Sharron DeLaFuente

Dam/Watershed Officer

Aerator Maintenanc

For more City and Homes Association Info
go to www.houstonlake.net

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)

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 816.741.0644 or contacting your Alderman.

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 city hall and leave your name and phone number. 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.

Note: Please submit all applications for burn permit or building permit to City Hall 10 days prior to the meeting for consideration. Those applications not received 10 days prior to a meeting will not be considered until the following months City Council Meeting.

**Applications can be deposited in the mail box at the front of the building.
Thank you for your consideration.**

Fire Danger

Over the years, Kansas City has issued several Red Flag Warnings to alert residents against starting fires. Please pay attention to the local news and refrain from starting any fires.

ELECTIONS UPDATE

Pursuant to Governor Parson's Executive Order 20-03:

The General Municipal Election on April 7, 2020 has been postponed and will be held June 2, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact the Platte
County Board of Elections at (816) 858-4400

City Council Meeting - February 20, 2020

5417 NW Adrian, Houston Lake, Mo. 64151

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on February 10, 2020 at 7:30pm at
City Hall – 5417 NW Adrian Ave Houston Lake, MO 64151.

Opening Session: Mayor Freese called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

The following members were present: Alderman Jackalone, Alderman Sarah Farsace, Alderman Phil Otte,
Alderman Chuck Stone, Mayor Pam Freese

Public Discussion – None

Minutes 01.13.2020 -

Motion to approve minutes to 01.03.2020 and approve tonight's agenda made by Alderman Otte, Second by
Alderman Stone. Yes: Otte, Stone, Jackalone, Farsace No: None Motion carries.

Burning Permits – TL – 5444 NW Venetian Dr – Renewal – Motion to approve the renewal burn permit for above listed
made by Alderman Farsace, second by alderman Otte. Motion passes. Burn permit is approved.

Building Permit - None

**Note: Please submit all applications for burn permit or building permit to City Hall 10 days prior to the meeting for
consideration. Those applications not received 10 days prior to a meeting will not be considered until the following
months City Council Meeting. Applications can be deposited in the mailbox at the front of the building.**

Treasures Report

Motion to accept treasures report for February 10, 2020 made by Alderman Otte, second by Alderman Stone.
Yes: Jackalone, Stone, Farsace, Otte No: None Motion carries

Collectors Report: City Collectors report is included with the official packet

County Collectors report is not available

Paybills – Resolution 02.10.2020

Motion to approve Resolution 02.10.2020 made by Alderman Stone, second by Alderman Farsace
Yes: Otte, Stone, Jackalone, Farsace Motion carries

Emergency Management

Fire Department – Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Taylor –Unavailable, no incidents to report.

Sheriff's Department – Deputy was present, report is included with the official packet. No incidents

Codes Report – No write-ups in the month of January

Venetian Garden Homes Association Report – No meeting upcoming – pay your dues

Old Business : Replace City Hall Computer – Has been replaced and installed – however our current city hall printer will not install with new computer. Board discussed specs of the two printer options between black and white and color

Motion to purchase Kyocera M5526cds (Color Printer) from Copier Shop made by Alderman Stone. Second by Alderman Farsace.

Roll Call Vote: Alderman Jackalone: Yes, Alderman Farsace: Yes, Alderman Otte: Yes, Alderman Stone: Yes

Motion Passes – City will be purchasing new copier

New Business

Ordinance #371- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCES TO CHANGE REFERENCES THEREIN FROM KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT (KCP&L) TO EVERGY

Roll Call Vote: Alderman Jackalone: Yes, Alderman Farsace: Yes, Alderman Otte: Yes, Alderman Stone: Yes

Ordinance #371 passes

Flood Plain Manager – Alderman Farsace will take the roll of Flood Plain Manager.

Alderman Reports

Alderman Jackalone – Thank you to Al Horrinc

Alderman Farsace – Recognizes the state of the roads. Notes road is in poor shape, interested in when the City will start contacting to fix.

Alderman Otte – Discussion on city funds – putting money aside for our Sewer Funds and Road Funds. Municipal Court fund - \$519.17 has been sitting there and needs to be looked into. Exceeded budget amount for snow removal by \$200.

Alderman Stone –Put up two new NO OUTLET signs as discussed. Wagon Trail Cir and Wagon Trail Rd – street sign is at an angle. Suspect it's been run into by a large vehicle. Will look into securing it as it gets warmer.

Mayors Report

Contractor for Evergy is working in the area replacing electrical poles as necessary. They should be out by mid-February. She spoke with them regarding road closures.

April Meeting – Mayor Freese will be out of town. Alderman Stone will step in as Mayor Pro-Tem for the meeting so as not to move the date.

Adjournment - Alderman Jackalone motioned to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Farsace second, Yes: Jackalone, Stone, Otte, Farsace, Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm by Mayor Freese.

Next Meeting will be held Monday March 9, 2020 at 7:30pm

Houston Lake Holistic Life

Staying healthy and sane during this time at home.

I am streaming YouTube classes for Tai Chi, QiGong and Yoga. The exercises are good for breathing, relaxation and/strengthening. Tai Chi for Beginners with Dr. Daniel Hoover is an excellent series.

YoQi is a lovely combination of Yoga and QiGong.

If you want a very challenging Yoga hour try Yogagoa.com. Even if you can't keep up with the class it's amazing to watch.

Stay safe and healthy and keep calm.

I will not be seeing clients until May 1.



Gwyneth Jones. HHP
913-424-0609

Kitchen Fun

When it's cool and damp, I feel like having warm comfort foods.

Slow cooking a pot of chili or soup keeps the kitchen warm and savory aromas are calming.

Also nice having satisfying small plates. There is a tendency to eat more when we are bored or stressed.

I gravitate towards creamy cheesy lactose-free. The following recipe is sliceable!

Cashew Mockzerella

1/3 cup soaked raw cashews

2 Tablespoons nutritional yeast

1 clove garlic

1 cup water

Pinch of sea salt

2 Tablespoons tapioca starch

Blend all but the tapioca starch until very smooth. Pour into a saucepan, on medium heat. Stirring constantly so it will not burn nor stick to the pan. Sift in the tapioca starch. The "cheese" is ready when it is gooey and slowly rolls off the spoon. Pour into a glass bowl or loaf pan and refrigerate to "set".

A sliceable "cheese" great on a sandwich or cut into chunks to enjoy with cherry tomatoes, basil and a drizzle of olive oil.

Stay safe, healthy and happy.



from

The Works by Marlene

816.587.1550

by appointment only

*A Licensed Salon with Convenient Hours
For Your Busy Schedule*

“On Going and Current Education”

Free Consultations!

*Color, Color and More Color!
Highlights, Lowlights, Grey Coverage,
Corrective Color or Just for Fun Color!*

*Haircuts, Blow-Dries,
Special Do's for Special Occasions,
Wash and Wear Styles that are Fast and Easy
Just for You!*

Many Types of Perms to Fit Your Needs...

Paraffin for Dry Skin, Waxing and More!



*Best wishes,
Marlene*