

# Fox & Downs Connection

## Board Officers Named

The newly composed Homes Association board met for its regular meeting Feb. 19 and elected officers for the upcoming year.

This year's board officers are:  
 President-Brad Knox  
 Vice president-Otis Sanders  
 Treasurer-Michaela

*(Continued on page 3)*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Garage sale slated	2
Chairs named	2
Pool contract signed	3
Safety program	3
Pothole repairs	4
PDFs online	4
Sub signs frozen	4

### What's happening around the block

- Mar 11 - Daylight Savings Time
- Mar 19 - Board meeting
- Mar 21 - First day of Spring

## Wintery Blast



Icy stalactites cling from a tree's branch in Bedford Downs as our February weather teased us with freezes, thaws and refreezing. Let's hope the worst is behind us!

## You Snooze, You Lose... Time

Snoozing until the usual wake-up time on Sunday, March 11, will lose you an hour of daylight.

It's Daylight Saving Time again, when most will reset their clocks one hour forward.

The idea behind

the time switch is to stretch the day's natural light into the evening hours.

The extended evening hours, while nice for summertime activities, is also an energy saver. Energy consumption drops as more folks participate

in outdoor activities and use home appliances and lights less.

The notion of extending our daylight hours was the brainchild of Benjamin Franklin. He introduced the theory in his 1784 essay, "An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light."

*(Continued on page 3)*

# Cashing out the Clutter

Bookmark Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5, for our annual spring garage sale.

The association will handle the newspaper advertising and posting entrance banners.

Participating residents are encouraged to post directional signs at street corners and in front of their homes (just remember to pick up signs at the close of your sale).

Opening and closing times are left up to the



individuals; however most homeowners open for business at 8 a.m.

This year's date was moved back to May at a resident's request; the past several years, the sale has been plagued

with rain.

The board also tried to accommodate traditional May events, such as Mother's Day and the many graduations slated that month.

If you don't have enough items for a sale, partner up with some neighbors and tag-team the sales duties.

If you have any questions about the sale, e-mail us, [committee@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:committee@bedforddownshomes.com).

## Garage Sale Tips

- Start collecting items now, stashing them in a box in the basement or closet
- Put prices on top of items. It's easier to read & buyers won't keep asking "how much?"
- General pricing rule: price items about 1/4 to 1/3 of the new cost
- Price items in 25-cent increments; making change will be easier
- Baby/kids clothes are hot sales items - not so with adult clothes
- Displays: think clean, neat and orderly; borrow tables if necessary
- Put away items that aren't for sale to eliminate misunderstandings
- Be ready to make change with coin/small bills
- Have on hand grocery bags for sold items & newspaper to wrap breakable items
- Use a calculator
- Let the kids open a lemonade/cookie stand, or let them work their own table of toys & games
- Be ready to show appliances work, have extension cords available
- Don't use a cash box; keep money with you at all times in a fanny pouch or wear a utility apron
- Donate leftovers to a charity
- Place high-interest items where they will be visible from the street to encourage buyers to stop
- Play easy-listening music for an inviting atmosphere
- Don't allow strangers in your home; if they ask to use the restroom, give directions to a nearby restaurant
- If you have a long driveway, use it.
- As tables become picked over, rearrange items to fill in the gaps

- Compiled from The Dollar Stretcher ([stretcher.com](http://stretcher.com)) 'Get Rich Slowly' ([getrichslowly.org](http://getrichslowly.org)); HGTV ([hgtv.com](http://hgtv.com)); Mommy Savers ([mommysavers.com](http://mommysavers.com)).

## Committees Getting Their Groove On

With the formation of the 2007 board, new committee chairs have been named.

- *Architectural*: Otis Sanders, chair. This committee reviews property improvement applications.
- *Insurance and Legal*: Otis Sanders, chair. This committee reviews HOA-related legal or insurance issues.
- *Landscape*: Michaela Ballou, chair. This committee oversees the

common grounds maintenance.

- *Safety*: Teresa Brown, chair. This committee oversees the Neighborhood Watch program.
- *Social*: Patty Lang and Sheri Teaford, co-chairs. This committee organizes social events and garage sales.
- *Pool*: Michaela Ballou, chair. This committee oversees the pool maintenance.
- *Public Relations*: Judy Stewart, chair. This

committee creates the annual resident directory, publishes the Web site and newsletters.

The committees always welcome new volunteers to their ranks.

If you would like more information about volunteering, let us know. E-mail [committee@BedfordDownsHomes.com](mailto:committee@BedfordDownsHomes.com).

In addition to an online volunteer application, full committee descriptions are online ([BedfordDownsHomes.com](http://BedfordDownsHomes.com)).

## Fox & Downs Connection

The Bedford Downs Homes Association newsletter is published electronically monthly. It is distributed on the HOA's Web site, [www.BedfordDownsHomes.com](http://www.BedfordDownsHomes.com), and by e-mail to those residents requesting it. Subscription requests may be submitted to [newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com). Subscriptions may be canceled at anytime by sending an e-mail to the same address with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. All newsletter-related correspondence should be e-mailed to [newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com). Subscriber e-mails will only be used for HOA-related business and will not be disclosed to anyone else. For HOA contact information, please visit [www.BedfordDownsHomes.com](http://www.BedfordDownsHomes.com).

# Pool Maintenance Contract Awarded

## New security system planned

With pool season rapidly approaching, the board unanimously approved Feb. 19 a maintenance contract renewal with Benson & Sons.

This will be the second season Benson has provided pool maintenance for our HOA. His services include general pool water maintenance, cleaning the pool and opening and closing the



grounds daily.

The association pool is expected to open on Memorial Day weekend.

This year, the board is planning to have a new security system installed and operating before opening day.

A swipe-card system will replace the existing pin-code gate lock, eliminating changing and issuing codes annually.

Watch for more details about the system in upcoming Fox & Downs issues.

## Board Officers

*(Continued from page 1)*

Ballou  
Secretary-Teresa Brown

Every year following the annual meeting, board members elect officers and organize committees for that year.

Ten board members are elected to serve two-year terms. Elections are staggered with five board members elected every year.

Residents may contact any member of the board through Barnds Brothers Management or by e-mail. Contact addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are available online at the HOA Web site ([www.BedfordDownsHomes.com](http://www.BedfordDownsHomes.com)).

# Safety Program to Launch

In response to homeowner concerns raised at the annual meeting, the HOA is organizing a Safety Committee to oversee our participation in the Overland Park Police Department Neighborhood Watch

**Let's be safe—Join the Watch**  
E-mail  
[admin@BedfordDownsHomes.com](mailto:admin@BedfordDownsHomes.com)  
to learn more about the  
**Neighborhood Watch Program**

program.

Through the program, we'll work in coordination with the police to help make our community safer

from vandalism, theft and other crimes.

A presentation by an OPPD police officer will be scheduled sometime in March or April. If you would like to attend, let us know, and we'll provide you with meeting information.

You do not have to attend the meeting to join the Watch.

# Clocks are Springing Forward

*(Continued from page 1)*

In an effort to conserve fuel, the United States first put the theory into practice during World War I.

The plan was used off and on again with inconsistencies from state to state until Lyndon Johnson

signed the Uniform Time Act of 1966, standardizing the start and end of Daylight Saving Time, allowing exemptions for any state not wanting to participate. Under that law, DST began on the last Sunday of April



and ended on the last Sunday of October.

Since then, laws affecting DST have been tweaked, resulting in our newest change effective this year, moving the start to the second Sunday in March and

ending it on the first Sunday in November.

But don't expect this latest change to be permanent. Congress maintained its right to revise the dates if the extended duration of DST is unpopular or doesn't produce significant energy savings.

Bottom line: set your clocks forward March 11!

## Peeved at ...

The City of Overland Park is on a “hole-y” mission... to fill and repair potholes.

And they’re asking our help finding them.

If you have a pothole on your street, or know of one, contact the city and report the sighting.



## Potholes?

While the City gives high priority to the major thoroughfares in Overland Park, they report their average response time for a pothole patch is three to five days on residential streets.

You can report potholes by e-mailing the location to [potholes@opkansas.org](mailto:potholes@opkansas.org), or call their 24-hour hotline, 895-5010.

## Docs a Click Away

For those who may not know yet, the association’s entire homeowner packet is available online, a click away.

Some residents who moved in years ago may have misplaced their originally issued document set, while others new to the neighborhood may not yet have received theirs.

Either way, you’ll find a complete set for your subdivision (Foxfield, Foxfield Estates or Bedford Downs) in our online Document Center.

In addition to maps of each subdivision, the online documents include HOA by-laws and restrictions as well as blank home improvement applications for your home



projects, such as painting, or installing fences, basketball goals, decks and re-roofing.

To go directly to our Document Center, visit [www.bedforddownshomes.com/PDFs.html](http://www.bedforddownshomes.com/PDFs.html).

## Stone Cold

The ground still continues to be too frozen to allow for installation of the subdivision signs created a couple months ago.

Specifically built for each subdivision (Foxfield Estates, Foxfield and Bedford Downs), the three signs are completed and ready to go when the grounds thaw.

The signs will be located on the entrance islands on Rosehill Road and 119<sup>th</sup> Street, Gillette and 119<sup>th</sup> Street and 123<sup>rd</sup> and Gillette streets.

Once installed, the signs will not only identify the subdivision, they will also serve as resident announcement boards.

Keep watching for the signs. As soon as Old Man Winter releases his bitter grip, we’ll get the signs in place.

Got a fun photo you’d like to share?  
Send digital photos to [newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com).