

# Fox & Downs Connection

## From old to sold

The countdown has started for our annual spring garage sale weekend slated Friday and Saturday, May 4-5.

If you're not ready for a sale right now, remember, we organize another in the fall. As you set

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Photo by Phillip Mailey

They're angels when they're puppies! Phillip and Lisa Mailey's "angel" is Tessa, a German shorthaired pointer with usually enough energy to fuel the space shuttle to Mars and back. But at this moment... everybody needs a break!

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## Spring project planning

Officially it's spring! And it's a time when folks are ready to get their building projects underway.

Fences are going up, house painting is being done, or maybe you want to get that new deck in before summer barbecues start firing up.

Don't forget to add to your prep list a reminder to send in your project plans to the HOA board for approval.

It's easy to do and you'll find everything you need on the HOA Web site at [www.BedfordDownsHomes.com/PDFs.html](http://www.BedfordDownsHomes.com/PDFs.html).

Some of the common building projects that require HOA approval include installing fences, basketball goals, swimming pools, outdoor spa/hot tubs, satellite dishes, exterior house painting, and re-roofing projects.

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### What's happening around the block

- Apr 1 - Watch out for April Fools!
- Apr 3 - JoCo general election
- Apr 15 - It'll be a taxing day!
- Apr 16 - Board meeting

# Lending a volunteer hand

With snow and ice rapidly becoming a memory, many of our committees are starting to take shape.

We have a couple committees that always need another volunteer hand.

As with any of our volunteer troupes, you decide how much time to give. We're a no-pressure group.

If something interests you, sign up. Or if you see

a need we're missing, help us fill the gap. You can sign up anytime online ([www.bedforddownshomes.com/volunteering.html](http://www.bedforddownshomes.com/volunteering.html)).

If you've already volunteered but haven't heard from anyone, don't worry. We've got your name and number and will be in touch.

Here's a quick recap of our action committees:

**Landscaping** – If you have a knack for gardening, here's your niche. Our

landscaping committee selects the flowers for the beds, keeps an eye on trees, shrubbery and plants that need pruning and they keep our green grounds looking gorgeous and lush by overseeing our contractor's weekly work. Put your green thumb print on our grounds!

**Swimming Pool** – It won't be long and our gates will

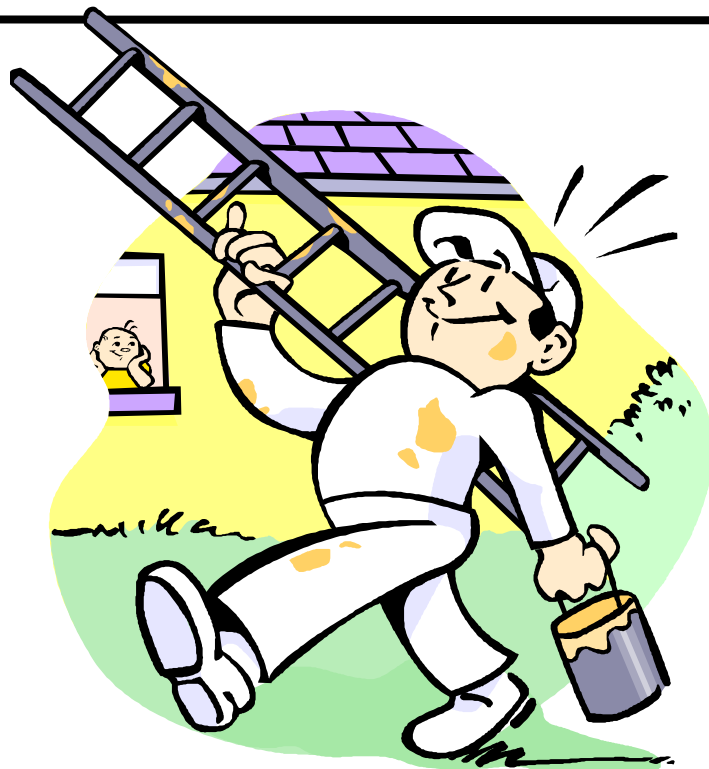
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## Spring projects

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If you're building a fence, along with your application, be sure to include a plot plan. Or if you're painting, include your color choice.

You'll find forms and instructions on the Web site, but if you have any questions about the process, call Lisa at 897-2340.



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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).

## What to do... for free

If spring fever is making you itch to get outside and do something fun, here's a couple free local parks events coming up for some family entertainment.



noeing, pedal boating, hiking, BB gun shooting and archery. If you have bait, a pole and a fishing license, you can try your hand at catch and release fishing.

*April 14*  
*9 a.m.-3 p.m.*  
*TimberRidge Adventure Center*  
*Open House.*

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The center is located at 12300 S. Homestead Lane, Olathe (856-8849, [http://jcprd.com/parks\\_facilities/timberidge.cfm](http://jcprd.com/parks_facilities/timberidge.cfm) ).

The center's climbing tower will also be open for anyone age 12 and up. Space is limited and pre-registration is required, as well as medical and liability releases. Call 856-8849.

*April 28*  
*8:30 a.m.-noon*  
*La Grande Birding Fiesta at Ernie Miller*

### Park

Children and beginning bird watchers will love this event as they take a guided bird-watching hike through the park.

With luck you'll see hummingbirds, orioles, warblers or other birds back from their winter break in South America.

The park is located at 909 N. Kansas 7 Highway, Olathe, or call for more details 764-7759.



Photo by Phillip Mailey

The gang's all here! The Maileys shared this group photo of Chance, Tanner and Tessa. Show off your furry, finned or amphibious friend! Submit photos to [newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com).

## From old to sold

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up your sale, here are some general HOA guidelines:

- Post directional signs to bring traffic your way.
- Put a sign on your street corner (get homeowner permission if necessary) and in front of your home.
- Promptly remove the signs when your sale is over.
- The HOA will han-

dle newspaper advertising and hanging entrance banners.

- There's no set opening/closing time, but most open about 8 a.m.

If you have questions, call Lisa, 897-2340, or e-mail us ([president@bedforddownshomes.com](mailto:president@bedforddownshomes.com)).

## Staying up on OP News

Stay in the Overland Park news loop. One handy feature the city offers is e-mailed delivered news about events and happenings in the city.

The news releases are sent out only when there's something to report and are often the same releases sent to news organizations.

You don't have to wait or watch the 6 p.m. news to find out what the city is doing, what highways or streets will be affected by construction, or if there's a fun event to book in your calendar.

Sign up for the news alerts on the city's Web site: [http://www.opkansas.org/\\_Res/News/Press\\_Releases/index.cfm](http://www.opkansas.org/_Res/News/Press_Releases/index.cfm).



### Lending a volunteer hand

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be open for another summer splash. Our pool committee will be meeting soon for opening day prep. We hope to have a new card swipe security system installed that will do away with the existing pin-code lock. Help us make a difference.



The HOA swimming pool committee will oversee the installation of a new security system this year - out with pin codes and in with swipe cards.

**Safety** – Join in the formation of our neighborhood watch. We're beginning this crime prevention program to help each other protect our homes from theft and vandalism. We expect to schedule a meeting with a police officer within the coming month for

guidance creating our safety program. Whether you want to attend the meeting or just stay in the loop, let us know.

**Social** – They're the party gang. Last year, they spear-headed the catered picnic and

take all the kudos for the winter sleigh ride and Santa visit. Plus, they handle organizing the garage sale days. If you're a social butterfly or have some festive ideas to share, we want to hear from you.