

Fox & Downs Connection

Garage sale coming soon

Our annual spring garage sale is slated for Friday and Saturday, May 4-5.

Advertising in several local newspapers will be placed and we'll hang entrance banners to encourage traffic to come into our subdivisions. Stake your signs for a sale on one or both days.

If this sale isn't timed right for you, another one will be planned in the fall.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pool opens	2
Look around town	2
Swipe card quick facts	3
Homemade cleaners	3
Neighborhood watch	4
Marketplace	4
HOA online	4

What's happening around the block

- May 4-5 - Garage sale
- May 21 - Board meeting
- May 26 - Pool opens/swipe cards handed out

Swipe 'n swim

There's something new coming this year at the pool and we think you'll like it.

We're eliminating the old pin-code security system at the pool facility gate and have installed a swipe-card system.

From our volunteer-labor standpoint, the new system will be easier to administer and we won't have to have an annual opening weekend round-up distributing pin codes every year.

For liability reasons, we'll still need to collect signed acknowledgement forms from those who want access to the pool.

The cards will be permanently assigned to specific households,



Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-28
Noon-4 p.m., Saturday
10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday and Monday
At the swimming pool on 119th Terrace
Avoid the wait! Sign up online
(www.BedfordDownsHomes.com) and your card
will be waiting for you at the pool or bring your
signed release to the pool to get your card.

allowing you to keep your swipe card from year to year. In the future, acknowledgement forms will be filled out online or mailed in before opening

day. Another advantage to the swipe card is we can accurately assess

(Continued on page 3)

Directory updates continue

While we are still collecting updated information for our annual resident directory, we hope to have a new edition out by the end of

summer.

The later publication date was set to try to include as many new residents moving into the HOA this summer

as possible.

Updates can be submitted on our Web site (www.BedfordDownsH

(Continued on page 4)

Making a splash!



Get your flippers on - the pool will be opening for its regular season on May 26.

The facility will be open every day from 10 a.m. and will close at 9 p.m. through Labor Day.

As in the past years, the rules and regulations remain the same.

There is no life-guard on duty and everyone must be diligent

for their own safety.

No children under 14 years old are allowed at the pool without adult supervision.

Guests are

welcome when sponsored and accompanied by an adult member of the household.

Proper swimming attire is required. Please no cut-off shorts, T-shirts, tank tops, etc.

Please respect that our pool facility and grounds are

a no-smoking area.

This facility belongs to all of us. Every adult has the responsibility to police the pool grounds.

Please treat the grounds as if it were your home: clean up after yourself.

For complete rules and regulations, visit www.BedfordDownsHomes.com/pool.html.

Taking a look around town...

To the market we go

The Farmer's Market is open for the season again.

The market, located at 79th Street and Marty Street, is open every Wednesday and Saturday through to October 28.

With live music from 10 a.m.-noon, sales begin at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday and at 6:30 a.m. on Saturdays, and continue until sell out.

A post on compost

You can do your part in reducing refuse by recycling your grass clippings, leaves and tree trimmings and reap the reward.

The City of Over-

land Park offers an easy way to compost your clippings through their

Curbside Composting program. It costs only \$2.95 a month. All you have to do is bag and mark

your compostable clippings and leave it by the

curb. The city will pick it up and take the material to a central location, where they do their composting magic.

When you're ready to do your gardening, you can pick up the finished compost at no cost.

It doesn't get any easier than that!

You can sign up online at www.opkansas.org/_Res/City_Services/Trash_and_Recycling/curb_composting.cfm.



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, and by e-mail to those residents requesting it. Subscription requests may be submitted to 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. 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.

Cleaning naturally

It's spring-cleaning time, but don't pack your cabinets with cleansers, sprays, detergents and cleaners.

You don't need a variety of specially purchased cleaning products for every surface in your home.

In fact, you probably already have everything you need in your cupboards right now.

Here are a couple common cleaning solutions that you can make at home.

The cleaning recipes are from Consumer Reports' *How to Clean Practically Anything* (Fourth edition).

<p>Wood furniture cleaner ½ tsp. light olive oil ¼ cup white vinegar</p>	<p>Ammonia glass cleaner (for dirty windows) ½ cup sudsy ammonia 1 pint rubbing alcohol 1 T hand dishwashing liquid water Stir ammonia, alcohol and dishwashing liquid together. Add water to ingredients to increase liquid to one gallon</p>
<p>Lemon glass cleaner (for lightly soiled windows) 4 T lemon juice 1 gallon water</p>	

Swipe cards

(Continued from page 1)

pool usage hours. During the last couple of years, we've had a request from folks who want exclusive adult-only pool hours and also counter-requests from those who don't. With this system, we can pinpoint peak usage hours as well as non-use hours and find an acceptable compromise for both requests.

The card will be the resident's responsibility. The first card issued to a

household is free, but all subsequent cards will cost \$35. This non-refundable fee is the same regardless if the homeowner is requesting a second card or is replacing one that was lost, stolen or damaged. The fee will cover the cost of the card as well as administration.

Watch for the complete pool packet that will be hand-delivered to everyone's home in May. The packet will include the complete rules and regulations, a

blank acknowledgement form and a general information page about the cards.

If you don't receive your packet by May 25, call Lisa at 897-2340, or e-mail commit-tee@bedforddownshomes.com.

You can expedite your card pick up at the pool by signing up online. (www.BedfordDownsHomes.com) now. Sign up in advance and we'll have your card waiting for you at the pool on opening weekend.

Swipe card quick facts

- It's a new security system. The card replaces using pin codes.
- Each card is uniquely numbered and assigned to a specific household in good standing who completes and returns a signed acknowledgement form.
- The first card is issued for free. Additional cards are available for a \$35/per card non-refundable fee.
- You keep the card and use it every year.
- An acknowledgement form signed by adult homeowners must be on file to receive a card (or have it activated). Each year, upon receipt of a signed acknowledgement form, cards are activated.
- Lost, stolen and damaged cards are the residents' responsibility. Replacement cards are available for a \$35/per card non-refundable fee.
- Reported lost, stolen or damaged cards will be permanently disabled.
- Swipe-card access maybe temporarily suspended for delinquent dues or pool rule violations.
- If a resident sells his/her home, we request that you return your card(s) to the HOA or destroy it, as assigned cards will be disabled when the new resident moves in.
- You may apply for swipe cards throughout the year online (www.BedfordDownsHomes.com). Only adult household members can sign for and pick up the cards.

Stay connected online

It's all online. If you ever have question or want to see what's new, check out the HOA's Web site (www.BedfordDownsHomes.com).

The site has our entire homeowner packet, from covenants and restrictions, to maps, to blank forms ready to view, save or print at your convenience.

Plus, you'll find a regularly updated calendar of HOA-related events, HOA contact information and more. It can be a great way to stay current on neighborhood happenings

Fox & Downs Marketplace

Dynamo Foosball Table—\$300. Excellent condition. Normally retails for \$700-\$1000. If interested, contact Brad or Vicki Knox at 913-897-1689 or 913-302-1351.



Directory updates

(Continued from page 1)

omes.com) anytime, even after the directory is published.

Even though the online update form will be available year-round, corrections submitted after the directory goes into its print phase will not be included in this year's edition; those changes will be reflected in a later issue.

Neighborhood watch meeting set

We're taking our first steps to keeping our neighborhood safe with the launch of our Neighborhood Watch program.

We are springing off with an orientation meeting presented by an officer from the Overland Park Police Department.

The meeting is tentatively slated for 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 7.

If you'd like to attend, e-mail Teresa at

newtbrown11@sbcglobal.net for the meeting location.

If you can't attend but want to stay in the loop, e-mail her and she'll add you to an e-mail alert list.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 7

E-mail for meeting confirmation and location:

newtbrown11@sbcglobal.net

The meeting will be brief and will help us establish our watch program.

Our neighborhood is safe, but like all areas, we've had our share of vandalism, speeders

and nuisance issues.

If we are proactive with our program, we can keep our neighborhood a safe place for our families to live and play.