

Talk About the Walk

The City of Overland Park was busy in our HOA recently, replacing a section of sidewalk along Rosehill Road, near the small park.

In some areas, the sidewalks are deteriorating. If you have a section of sidewalk needing repairs, don't hesitate to contact the City.

You can find more information about city services at their Web site: <http://www.opkansas.org>.

Subdivision Signs' Dual-duty



This subdivision sign at Gillette and 123rd Street easily identifies the subdivision (see inset) while doubling as an HOA message board.

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The new signs are up, bringing HOA residents the latest news.

The new subdivision announcement signs have been installed at all three entrances, at Rosehill Road at 119th Street, Gillette and 119th Street and at Gillette and 123rd Street.

As well as identifying the

subdivision, the signs serve as HOA news boards.

The signs on both ends of Gillette are located on the island, while the Rosehill sign is located on the grassy easement on the right-hand side of the outbound lane, approaching 119th Street.

Many thanks to Brad Knox for single-handedly managing

the task of having the signs built and installing them.

It's been a longtime request by some residents to have subdivision-specific signs and the HOA board is pleased to have them in place.

The subdivision sign on 123rd Street does not replace the future monument sign planned for that island.

Coming up:

- Sept 14/15 - Garage sale
- Sept 17 - Board meeting
- Sept 23 - First day of autumn
- Sept 29 - Overland Park Fall Festival, 81st St./Santa Fe Dr.

Fall Garage Sale Coming Soon

The fall garage sale date is rapidly approaching: Friday and Saturday, Sept. 14 and 15.

Newspaper ads will be placed on behalf of the three subdivisions, Foxfield, Foxfield Estates and Bedford Downs.

Banners will also be hung

in the day or so preceding the event at the two 119th Street entrances.

Residents are encouraged to post their own signs on street corners and in front of their homes, directing incoming traffic to their sales.

As always, please remove the signs when the sale is closed.

Participating homeowners can open and close for business at their convenience and can have the sale on either or both days.

Clear Water and Easy Swimming

It's been a great pool season this year, but the fun is coming to an end. The last day the pool will be open is Sept. 9.

Usually pool-goers enjoy the last day on Labor Day, but this year, several residents requested an extended close date and the board agreed to keep the pool open for another week.

It costs the association just under \$100 a day to operate the pool during swim season.

This year, the pool expenses have been minimal. There has not been any major acts of vandalism nor trespassing



issues.

Plus, the swipe card system appears to be helping keep unauthorized people

from accessing the pool.

Mike Benson, the pool maintenance contractor, extends a personal thanks to all of the pool-goers this year for helping keep the area clean.

According to Mike, the pool grounds have been exceptionally clean – a sign that everyone has been doing their part keeping the facility looking great.

A big thanks to everyone for their help.

Rash of Suspicious Solicitors

During the past month, the HOA neighborhood has had a number of reports of suspicious solicitors in the neighborhood.

One homeowner reported having two solicitors come to his house in one day.

In both cases, the solicitor claimed to be selling a product. However, neither person was carrying anything, such as a product or paperwork, to show to the homeowner.

With the first salesperson, after the homeowner declined the sales pitch, the solicitor asked for a glass of water. The homeowner gave the young man a bottle of water and he left.

After the second solicitor came to the home, the resident called police.

Where the first pranks were irritating but harmless; "egging" a home has crossed the criminal line to property damage.

In what may have been an unrelated incident, several other homeowners reported being approached by a man collecting donations, who claimed his mother lived in the subdivision.

The man did not provide a name or address and described his mother as a white-haired woman with small dogs.

And yet in other reports, a couple
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Pet-tique

With school back in session and children playing on the school grounds, it's even more important than ever to pick up the mess canine companions sometimes leave. And don't forget about the yards along walking routes that may become pet-potty spots too.

Lost pets—It's a pet owner's nightmare. Increase the chances for a happy reunion with prevention and

preparedness.

Keep dogs leashed when walking and train them to not bolt through open doors.

Most pets are found within a 2-mile radius of home, so recruit help and do an immediate thorough search.

Have a flyer pre-made ready to distribute with Fido's detailed descrip-

tion, a clear color photo and complete contact information.

Call the local animal shelter, humane society, animal control and veterinarians. Also if Fluffy is a purebred, call breed-specific rescue groups. And follow-up with daily calls.

For more tips, visit Robin's Pet
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Fox & Downs Onboard

Q: When is the next large item pick up occurring in our neighborhood?

A: The City of Overland Park offers one free, large-item pick up every year. They provide the service to alternating sides of the city each year, designating the two areas by those east and those west of Antioch. Our area (west of Antioch) is scheduled for a large item pick up in 2008.

Just about any item that will fit in their compactor trash truck and that two people can lift, will be picked up. Collected items include appliances, car parts (no fuel tanks or engines), 4-foot long railroad ties, furniture, prop-



erly bundled tree limbs, etc.

There are some items that will not be collected; these include more than one refrigerator per

house, tires mounted on wheels, large volumes of concrete, liquid waste (or hazardous materials) and compressed gas cylinders.

For the complete do's and don'ts for the pick-up service, visit the City's Web site (www.opkansas.org/_Res/City_Services/Trash_and_Recycling/large_item.cfm), e-mail (health@opkansas.org), or call them (895-5160).

Have a concern or question? Send it in for a response in our Fox & Downs Onboard column, where the association's board answers your questions. Questions can be e-mailed to newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com. (www.BedfordDownsHomes.com)

Winter Fun Plans Underway

The Social Committee is in its planning stage for the HOA's annual winter event. The event is scheduled to occur sometime in December.

Last year's event was a horse-drawn sleigh ride and Santa Claus visit held on Dec. 3 in the Pleasant Ridge Elementary School parking lot.

It was an enormous success and the committee is hoping to match the hit with another horse-drawn ride this year.

If anyone is interested in helping the committee organize the event, contact the social chairs, Patty Lang and Sheri Teaford. The committee is planning a meeting this month.

E-mail committee@bedforddownshomes.com.

Keep watching for more news about the event!

Pet-tique

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Tips, Partnership for Animal Welfare (www.paw-rescue.org).

The City of Overland Park has sent a reminder that residents must license their dogs and cats with the city.

The City's municipal code was established to ensure that pets are properly vaccinated for rabies.

Licensing pets will also help determine ownership if the pet should be lost.

The process is simple and inexpensive. In addition to the application, a copy of the animal's rabies certificate is needed.

Fees are \$6 if the animal is spayed or neutered and \$10 if it is

unaltered. Animals must be registered between Jan. 1 and June 30 to avoid the \$20 late-registration penalty.

The application package can be submitted online, by mail, or in person.

For complete information, visit the city's Web site, www.opkansas.org/_Res/Pets/Animal_Licenses/index.cfm.



Summer is in full blossom, like these back yard geraniums. If only they looked this good all winter too!



Bedford Downs Homes Association
c/o Barnnds Bros.
10000 W. 135th St.
P.O. Box 26385
Overland Park, KS 66225

Phone: (913) 897-2340
Fax: (913) 897-4965
E-mail: bd@bedforddownshomes.com
newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com

BEDFORD DOWNS HOMES ASSOCIATION

*Representing the Foxfield, Foxfield
Estates and Bedford Downs
subdivisions*

We're online!

www.BedfordDownsHomes.com

The Fox & Downs Connection, the Bedford Downs Homes Association newsletter, is published electronically every month. 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 by sending an e-mail to the same address with UN-SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

All newsletter-related correspondence should be e-mailed to newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com.

Privacy assurance: Subscriber e-mails will only be used for HOA-related business and will not be disclosed to anyone else.

Bedford Downs Homes Association represents homeowners in the Foxfield Estates, Foxfield and Bedford Downs subdivisions. HOA-business correspondence may be mailed to P.O. Box 26385, Overland Park, KS 66225.

Contact e-mail:

Board president: president@bedforddownshomes.com

Business office: bd@bedforddownshomes.com

Committee: committee@bedforddownshomes.com

Newsletter: newsletter@bedforddownshomes.com

Suspicious solicitors

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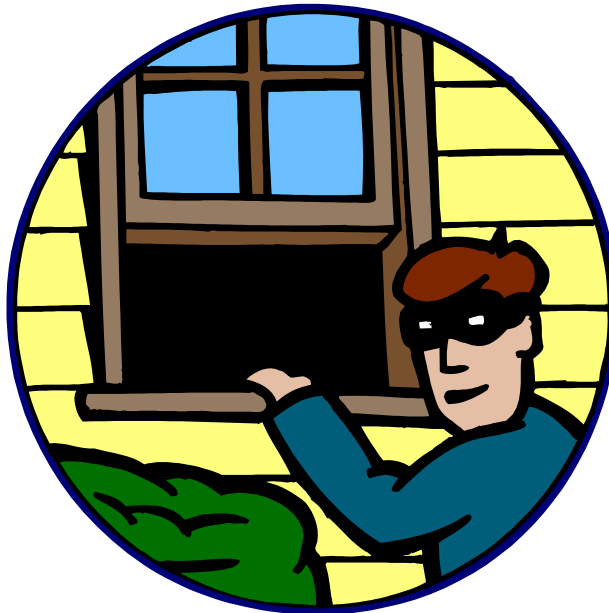
of homeowners said they were approached by a young female.

All of the reports stated that the solicitors were not carrying anything and all claimed to be either fundraising or selling a product.

In the past, the police department has warned residents about criminals who scout residences for easy targets.

The crooks will approach a home and knock on the door. If no one answers, that home turns into a potential burglary target.

While these solicitors may be legitimate, their continued presence was enough to make neighbors nervous. If anyone comes to your home and makes you nervous, do not hesitate to call the police.



In an unrelated vandalism incident, a homeowner reported his home has become a target for vandals.

The incidents began as a door-bell-ringing prank. The door-bell is rung and by the time the homeowner answered the door, the prankster had run away to hide. The pranks recently escalated to throwing eggs at the home.

The neighbor has reported the vandalism to police.

There has also been several other unconfirmed reports of homes that were "egged" in the HOA.

Where the first pranks were irritating but harmless; "egging" a home has crossed the criminal line to property damage.

If anyone sees suspicious activity, take the time to follow up on it, and if necessary, call the police.