

RED BRIDGE HOMES ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – SPRING - 2014



RED BRIDGE GARAGE SALE...

GET US ON YOUR CALENDAR...

RED BRIDGE will hold its annual Garage Sale this year on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7 from 8am to 5pm. This is a chance to sell all those treasures you have accumulated over the years, but no longer need. Signs will go up at our major neighborhood entrances on the "Red Bridge" markers. We will advertise on Craig's List and in the KC-Star. So haul it out, dust it off and get ready for the big day(s).



VOLUNTEERS FOR RED BRIDGE...

Do you have time to occasionally help out on a project? Could you spare the time to help put up and take down a Red Bridge Garage Sale sign this year? Greet new neighbors? Pass along information about Nextdoor Red Bridge? Join the Red Bridge Trash Walkers who patrol our streets and sidewalks to keep Red Bridge clean? Would you like to help out with code enforcement? Or organize a neighborhood pot-luck lunch or dinner? Do you have a special project or activity in mind? If you would like to help out from time to time, please call Larry at 943-6371, email him at lmash@nd.edu or just join the group, "Volunteers for Red Bridge" on Nextdoor.

SPRING PAINTING...

A fire hydrant near you is being repainted by a dedicated, hard-working Red Bridge Homes Association board member who in his modesty asked not to be identified. But when you see his blue truck and him busy repainting a fire hydrant, please smile and wave to encourage him. With one-hundred and twenty fire hydrants to paint, instead of spending time at the beach, he will be busy sweating it out all summer long at this tedious job. Another board member contacted the KCMO Water Department with our proposed project asking for guidelines and paint requirements. To our surprise, the department also provided and delivered directly to her home, the special paint and later provided a color-coded map of Red Bridge fire hydrants.

ISLANDS & MARKERS ON RED BRIDGE STREETS AND TERRACES...

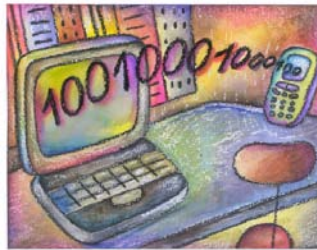
Haven't the tulips in the Red Bridge Markers looked lovely this spring? All our thanks go to Jim Wright, formerly our Director of Markers, who had them planted late last fall. Jim had the foresight to have the bulbs planted deep. This means that they should come back and bloom again next year, and probably the year after that. Since it costs \$500 to plant the bulbs, and another \$500 to dig them up (and throw them away) each spring, this will save our homeowner's association a considerable amount of money. The tradeoff is that we won't be planting anything in the Markers until the tulips die back. That will take several weeks.

For the islands, the board is considering redesigning one or two this year. Our goal is to eliminate the weekly mowing; again, in an effort to save money over the long run. One possible new island design might feature native plants, which require less maintenance once established. Another island may have fruit trees planted for the enjoyment of the local homes. Any fruit that goes unpicked would be harvested by Giving Grove, part of the Kansas City Community Gardens.

If you have an idea for an island design, or would like the island near you considered for a makeover, please contact me at blucht@gmail.com.

GOOGLE FIBER

The local fiberhoods have been undergoing construction and residents will be sent an email to schedule each in-home installation. You are asked to regularly check the email address you provided when you signed up for Google Fiber. That is how you will receive your installation appointment. Remember, if you need to contact Google for any reason, you can call them at 866-777-7550 or visit the site, fiber.google.com/help.



RED BRIDGE SHOPPING CENTER

You can help revive the Red Bridge Shopping Center. A shopping center that goes downhill with more and more empty stores will not help Red Bridge property values. When you have a choice, why not patronize our local businesses here in Red Bridge? No one wants to see the Glenwood Theatre or SunFresh market closed up. If you want some exercise, why not try Curves, The Pulse, Integrity Martial Arts (Karate) or Bene-Fit Health & Fitness. Look great for a date with your mate by visiting Quality Nails, Toni's Salon or the Barber Shop. Deal with money matters at US Bank, Edward Jones, Shelter Insurance or the American Coin Shop. Satisfy your hunger at China Dragon, Homer's Coffee House or the Daily Limit Cafe & Pub. Don't forget the Invisible Fence, the Chiropractor and the Christian Science Center. These are businesses and services that help our community stay viable and are so close to home, we could walk to them, including a lovely library.--Not many communities could say that about where they live. We are very fortunate.

NOTE:

...We asked Councilman John Sharp to see if the Fall leaf pickup could be pushed back in Red Bridge to have at least one pickup in December.

...For administrative questions, please contact the Homes Association of Kansas City, HA-KC (913-385-2440).

NEXTDOOR FOR RED BRIDGE...

The Red Bridge Homes Association invites you to join our Red Bridge private online neighborhood network. Get updates on crime, garage sales, neighborhood events, luncheons, cookouts, street repair, trash pickup, et cetera. Share recommendations on everything from lawn care to home repair. Find your lost dog or cat. Meet new neighbors. Red Bridge is not just a neighborhood, but a community of friends. Login at redbridgekc.nextdoor.com.

CURRENTLY we have on this electronic communication service 261 Red Bridge Neighbors—when we first reported on Nextdoor, we had 42 residents online. In addition we now have connection with 10 nearby neighborhoods with a total of 580 individual signups. Again, it is easy and it's free. It is a private network. Only residents of Red Bridge homes may join Nextdoor Red Bridge.

RULES FOR POSTING ADVERTISEMENTS ON NEXTDOOR RED BRIDGE...



NEXTDOOR IS GROWING IN RED BRIDGE—

To make sure our neighborhood website, Red Bridge Nextdoor, remains usable for all and does not turn into an advertising bulletin board, the Board of Directors of the Red Bridge Homes Association has approved some rules for all of us to follow.

...1. No advertisements are permitted in the General newsfeed. Advertisements for Local Services and products may be posted ONLY in the "Local Services" group. New Nextdoor members are automatically added as members of "Local Services," but they may press the "leave group" button at any time if they decide they don't want to see ads for local services. This arrangement makes restricting ads to "Local Services" reasonable without forcing people to see ads they don't want to see. However, this creates a venue for ads, but people may opt out. If you see an ad in the general newsfeed, first check to see if it was posted under "Local Services" or not. If it is not labeled "Local Services", please click on the down arrow to the right of the reply button to flag the posting as "commercial" and the overseer of the site will check on it.

...2. If a person has no financial interest and no relative or friend with a financial interest and the organization is a community organization such as a garden club plant sale or church craft show, bake sale or fish fry open to everyone, then they are welcome to post that to the general newsfeed without going through "Local Services." ."

...3. If anyone is posting anything you do not like for any reason, you can always click on their name to go to their page and then click on "MUTE." No one will know that you muted them; everyone else will still see their postings, but their postings will no longer show up on in your newsfeed.

PLEASE USE THIS DISCLAIMER WHEN ADVOCATING SERVICES OR A PRODUCT IN THE GENERAL NEWSFEED OF NEXTDOOR: "I have no financial interest, nor any relative or friend who has a financial interest in this non-profit organization."

DO YOU ENJOY WALKING THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

OUR SIDEWALKS vary in state of repair. The bad news is that under the Code of Ordinances, Sec. 64-243, each property owner is required to pay for the repair of any sidewalk abutting their property. Failure to repair a hazardous sidewalk could result in corrective action by the city. In the event of an accident, "homeowner negligence" may or may not be covered by your insurance. The good news is that we can get the sidewalks at intersections repaired by the city for free. To report a dangerous sidewalk or an intersection sidewalk that needs to be made "disability friendly" call 816-513-8700. The City dispatcher will have an inspector verify the hazard.



WANT SUMMER FUN??

When I was a kid we loved to spend the summer at our local swimming pool. There wasn't much to it, just a pool and a snack bar, but it was a great place to stay cool and meet your friends. Did you know that South Kansas City has a similar destination, called "The Bay"? The Bay has several pools for fun in the sun. The Leisure Pool featuring a huge lazy river with rockin' waves provides an endless array of gentle spins, twirls and pure relaxation. There are two giant tube slides, or you can race down into a large plunge pool. A first for the Kansas City area is a giant swirl bowl slide which drops you into the ultimate plunge. The Play Pool is perfect for either fine tuning your strokes, swimming laps for a great workout, shooting hoops with friends or laying around on our floating lake animals. This pool has something for everyone, including a ramped entrance. The Family Play Pool is a huge water playground that includes several slides, kid-controlled sprays and fountains, and a huge dumping bucket. A giant family waterslide provides a great opportunity for a slippin' good time. Kids have a safe, exciting time playing and socializing with other little ones while parents can closely supervise their activity.

Just added this year is the BayRider, the only surf simulator in the middle of the Midwest, located at a public facility. This exciting new attraction allows the rider to stand up like surfing or kneel like boogie boarding on a sheet of thin water. The best part? The Bay Water Park is having a Friends & Family Night on Friday, May 23, 5-8 PM, the day before they officially open for the summer. Admission is completely free for your entire family. You can try out all the water features, including the amazing BayRider! The Bay Water Park is owned by the City of Kansas City and is located at 7101 Longview Road (the intersection of Longview Road and Blue Ridge Blvd), just minutes from Red Bridge. For more information, visit www.thebaykc.com.

Article provided by Brad Lucht, BOD

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This newsletter is brought to you by the Board of Directors of the Red Bridge Homes Association.