

The Barrington Heights Herald

Newsletter of the Barrington Heights Neighborhood Association

December 2016 Edition

www.BarringtonHeights.net



A Note from the Board

Seasons Greetings from the Barrington Heights Board of Directors. The Board would like to invite all owners and residents to the Annual meeting which is scheduled for June 6, 2017. Due to the larger than anticipated attendance at the meeting this past year, we are currently looking into new venue options for the upcoming meeting this year. As usual, the Association will furnish some snacks and beverage selections. As soon as the meeting location has been booked, we will post the location on the Barrington website. Also, around Memorial Day, look for our Annual Meeting reminder signage at the mail kiosk and at intersections around the neighborhood. We hope to see you there!

The Annual meeting provides members of the Association (Owners) an opportunity to meet each other and the Board Members, and to listen and discuss any issues facing our neighborhood. Additionally, we hear presentations from the Beaumont Police Department regarding crime statistics and safety issues, and normally, the meetings are attended by one or more City Council members who give us information about what's going on in City government and around town.

Thanks to all of you who paid your annual assessment this year in a timely manner. Unfortunately we still have some homeowners that have not paid. Late payment of dues will incur late fees and can potentially cost the Association and/or the owner through additional management and legal fees.

Have a safe and Happy New Year!



**Mark your calendar for the next
Owner's Association meeting:**

ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday - June 6, 2017 - 7:00 pm
Place: To Be Determined

Protecting your Community

No matter where you live, your neighborhood directly affects your welfare. It takes only a little time and attention to:

*Get to know your neighbors and discuss your concerns about the neighborhood and community. Share information.

***OBSERVE, OBSERVE, OBSERVE!** Trust your instincts. If something looks like it doesn't fit, it probably doesn't.

***ALERT POLICE** to suspicious activities, note license plate numbers, vehicle colors, and description of the person driving. These details can mean putting criminals where they belong.

* **Dispatch's number is: 409-832-1234.** You may want to put this number in your home phone and cell phone speed dial.

*Learn about crime prevention and agree to look out for each other's safety and property.

*Report non-working street lights, missing street signs, and other problems to the agencies responsible. How can they help if they don't know there is a problem?

Many of us work from home frequently or are stay at home parents. This gives us more of a chance to recognize the schedules of our neighbors and the vehicles in the neighborhood. If you see something that just doesn't seem right or a vehicle that seems to be circling the block, contact the police. The worst that could happen is it turns out to be a false alarm. On the other hand, you could save someone from being a victim.

Restriction Reminders

*The following section addresses some of the most common complaints from neighbors regarding alleged restriction violations. **Please be a good neighbor and be familiar with and have respect for the Barrington Heights Restrictive Covenants.***

Lawn/Yard Maintenance

There are more than a few homes in our subdivision whose yards need some immediate attention. The deed restrictions (**Article VI, Section 1**) state that each homeowner shall regularly mow and maintain, and keep in a neat and attractive condition, the grassed and landscaped areas of his yard and the unpaved portion of the street easement abutting his lot.

As a homeowner, it is your responsibility to maintain your yard. Please help protect the investment of each homeowner by keeping your yard neat and attractive, this includes weeding your flower beds. If you are not able to maintain your yard there are several lawn care services available, just look around your street on any given day.

Signs

Article VIII, Section 11 – Signs – No sign of any kind shall be displayed to public view on any Lot in the Addition, except (1) sign of not more than five feet (5') square advertising a property for sale or rent or used by Declarant or a Builder to advertise the property during the construction phase or sales period.

*Exception to the Signs restriction – State law prohibits the restriction of political campaign signs within 90 days prior to and 10 days after an election.

Garbage and Refuse Disposal

Article VIII, Section 15 – Garbage and Refuse Disposal – No Lot shall be used or maintained as a dumping ground for rubbish, trash, refuse or other waste materials. Trash, garbage and other waste shall be kept in sanitary closed containers pending collection thereof; and **garbage cans and other receptacles shall (except when placed on a private drive for regular collection purposes) be hidden or screened from public view.** No lot shall be used for the open storage of any materials whatsoever, except for materials used or to be used in the construction of improvements upon any Lot, and then only for so long as such construction progresses. Upon completion of the improvements, any remaining materials, together with all rubble, rubbish, trash and debris shall be promptly removed from such Lot.

Golf Carts

In Beaumont, there are no specific ordinances for golf carts, but the city considers them just like any other vehicle and all the same rules apply, according to Sgt. Rob Flores. You need to have a license and insurance, as well as a placard telling other drivers your vehicle is slow moving. If homeowners feel it's a nuisance and they know the address of the cart owner they can call the Beaumont police.

Exterior Christmas Lights

Article VIII, Section 18 – No exterior lights or Christmas decorations shall be erected, placed, installed, or displayed on any lot in the addition between February 1st and October 31st.

Parking or Storage of Boats, Etc.

Article VIII, Section 6 states that: No boats, trailers, campers, buses, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, trucks (except for pickup trucks or vans having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of not more than three-quarter (3/4) ton, or similar vehicles (any of the foregoing being herein referred to as a "Restricted Vehicle") may be parked or stored upon any Lot in the Addition on a Permanent Basis except wholly within an enclosed garage or other fully enclosed accessory building; nor may any Restricted Vehicle be parked or allowed to remain on a Permanent Basis on any street in the Addition. Further, no Restricted Vehicle shall be parked or left unattended on any portion of the Common area of the Addition, whether or not on a Permanent Basis."

Semi-Annual inspections of the neighborhood, primarily focusing on these restrictions, will be conducted within the first 60 days of 2017.

Neighborhood Notes

During this past year (2016) our neighborhood has had a number of incidents of vandalism and/or theft.

- 1) Last fall (2015), the Association purchased and mounted a fire extinguisher inside the mail kiosk to comply with our insurance requirements. Six weeks after installing the unit, someone broke the mounting bracket, removed the service tag, discharged the extinguisher, and threw it in the flower bed. The safety pin was recovered in the parking lot and the extinguisher zip-tied back in place. In January, the Association will purchase a new bracket, have the extinguisher recharged and tagged, and remount the unit in the kiosk. If anyone has information about this incident or sees someone removing the extinguisher, please notify our Management group.
- 2) In the spring of this year, a couple of builders reported that someone had scribed initials in the fresh concrete of a driveway for a new residence. If anyone has information or sees someone trespassing on these new construction sites, please notify our Management group or the police if applicable.
- 3) Two of our neighbors reported damage to a window and garage door from pellet or BB guns. If anyone else has had issues with pellet or BB gun damage please notify Management and/or the police.
- 4) Tampering with the timers on our irrigation systems at the Dowlen entry and mail kiosk have resulted in some very expensive water bills on the Association's nickel. Reports of sprinklers running for 4 or more hours have been confirmed. The Association recently purchased and installed secure box enclosures for the irrigation timer controls as well as for the electrical controls. If you see anyone tampering with the boxes or note any excessive watering at the entrances or the mail kiosk this spring. Please notify our Management group.
- 5) Recently, one of our neighbors had the console in his truck ripped out. The console unit was later recovered in one of the new homes under constructions. Residents that leave their vehicles outside, particularly at night, are advised to be diligent in locking your unattended vehicle. If your vehicle is broken into or vandalized, please report this incident to the police.
- 6) Concerned residents continue to report vehicles in the neighborhood exceeding the speed limit and running through stop signs. Most residents recognize Barrington as a family oriented neighborhood, and in the interest of safety, the Board asks that everyone adhere to slower speeds and observe posted intersection stops.

If you are interested in submitting an article of interest to residents (residents only), please contact Ashley Fillips, BHOA Management, via E-mail at ashley@koopcpa.com.

2015-2016 Board of Directors

Frank Coffin, President - Ellington Drive
Matt Gilby, Treasurer - Caffin Drive
Joe Pattie, Secretary - Windrose Drive
Rodney Landry, Director - Charleston Lane
Mike Thibodeaux, Director - Prescott Drive
Craig Messer, Director - Truxton Lane
Lane Lostak, Director - Claybourn Drive

How to Contact Us

If you have a question, complaint, or suggestion you would like the Board of Directors to address, or if you need to submit an architectural review application, please send your correspondence to BHOA Management:

Email: ashley@koopcpa.com (Ashley Fillips)
Website: www.Koopcpa.com
Phone: 409\ 860.4663 Fax: 409\ 860.9093
Mail: P.O. Box 12382 Beaumont, Texas 77726