

The Barrington Heights Herald

Newsletter of the Barrington Heights Neighborhood Association

May 2016 Edition

www.BarringtonHeights.net



A Note from the Board

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 7, 2016 at Rao's Bakery on Dowlen Road. The Association will provide some goodies and beverage selections and you are welcome to purchase anything extra. Two weeks prior, look for our reminder signage at the mail kiosk. 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.

Sometime this month you will be receiving an invoice from our Association management group for your annual assessment. Your timely remittance of payment would be much appreciated. Late payment of dues will incur late fees and can potentially cost the Association and/or the owner through additional management and legal fees. The Association budget for 2016-2017 is posted on our website.

Hope to see you all at the Association meeting!



Join us for our Annual July 4th Parade and Picnic

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

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday - June 7, 2016 - 7:00 pm
Place: Rao's Bakery Meeting Room
4440 Dowlen Road
(across from Parkdale Mall)
Coffee and Rao's goodies served!!!

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, are conducted within the first 60 days of each year.

Neighborhood Notes

- 1) Crime is unfortunately on the increase in our immediate area. Reports of home break-ins, vehicle break-ins, and an attempted armed car-jacking recently in Westchase Village. Patrols by the Beaumont Police Department have been increased and residents are encouraged to be proactive if any suspicious activity is observed. The BPD non-emergency line is 409\832.1234. Officers will be present at our Annual Meeting to discuss criminal activity in the area, specifically in the Barrington neighborhood, and answer any questions residents may have. Their presentation will be in follow up to the BPD meeting at Rogers Park, Wednesday, May 11th from 6-8 p.m.
- 2) The Board has not had any recent complaints regarding dogs running loose in the neighborhood, however, residents should be aware that the City of Beaumont has an adopted Ordinance (Article 4.03, Sec 4.03.001) which prohibits dogs from being at large and requires that all dogs be on a leash. Enforcement of this Ordinance falls under Beaumont Animal Services, a division of the Beaumont Police Department. Complaints should be filed directly with Beaumont Animal Services at 409\838.3304.
- 3) The Board continues to get complaint from residents disgusted with having to clean up dog poop from their lawns. Please show some consideration for your neighbors and the neighborhood by being responsible for cleaning up after your pet. Grabbing a paper towel and plastic bag when going out for a walk with your pet only takes a minimal effort on your part and would be much appreciated by your neighbors.
- 4) Concerns regarding vehicles exceeding the speed limit and running through stop signs have again been called to the attention of the Board. 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.
- 5) Our lawn service recently completed their Spring Refresh, adding mulch and seasonal flowers at the two entries and the mail kiosk. At the kiosk, new lantern lights were installed on the backside of the kiosk last month to replace the rusted out original units that were installed in 2000. Please help us in keeping the kiosk free of debris and discard your unwanted mail at home.
- 6) Our Management group has actively been reaching out to neighborhood residents requesting E-mail addresses for communication and informational purposes. Currently, out of 315 residents, all but 64 have provided their contact info. Certainly, not a requirement, but with the goal of keeping all residents informed while saving time and postage cost.
- 7) Below is a Spring Cleaning Checklist that was submitted for interested residents.

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

2016 Board of Directors

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

Spring Cleaning Checklist

Living and Dining Areas

- Open windows
- Dust light fixtures and ceiling fans
- Remove and launder curtains, throw pillows, and blankets
- Dust and clean blinds
- Vacuum sofas and chairs including under cushions
- Spot-clean furniture
- Dust shelves, furniture, décor (including wall décor)
- Clean lamps and lampshades
- Dust electronics, clean remotes
- Wipe down doors, knobs, switches, trim, and baseboards
- Wash windows and screens including window sills
- Vacuum all flooring
- Shampoo/steam clean carpets and rugs
- Mop hard floors
- Wash vent covers, vacuum out vents if necessary
- Dust ceiling corners, vents, curtain rods
- Sort and donate unneeded magazine, books, board games, DVDs, kids toys, etc.



Kitchen Areas

- Empty drawers and cabinets, wipe down exterior and interior
- Organize and declutter as you refill
- Wash cabinet doors and knobs
- Clean and organize pantry
- Clean oven and stovetop
- Wipe down microwave inside and out
- Clean and organize fridge and freezer
 - Wipe down exterior
 - Dust off top of fridge
 - Remove everything inside and wipe down
 - Throw out expired foods
 - Reorganize the interior
 - Change water filter in fridge if necessary
- Vacuum under fridge and coils on back of fridge
- Remove everything from countertops; sanitize counters
- Wipe down backsplash
- Clean out dishwasher
- Deep clean sink, clean drain
- Dust décor and light fixtures
- Wipe down switches, trim, and baseboards
- Sweep and mop flooring
- Wash windows including sills
- Remove cookbooks and other items from shelves, clean and reorganize
- Discard old spices
- Soak coffeepot, clean tea kettle
- Wipe down all appliances



Bathrooms

- Empty and wipe down all cabinets and drawers
- Organize cabinet and drawers when refilling
- Dust light fixtures
- Clean mirrors and frame
- Clean down and sanitize counters and sinks
- Clean tub and drain
- Change shower curtain liner
- Clean showerhead
- Clean toilet inside and outside
- Wipe down doors, knobs, switches, trim and baseboards
- Clean and shine all hardware
- Sweep and mop floors



- Reseal grout lines if needed
- Wash bath mats
- Wash toothbrush holder
- Wash bath toys

Laundry Room

- Wipe down washer and dryer exterior
- Clean and vacuum lint trap
- Wash inside of washing machine
- Clean behind washer and dryer
- Sweep and mop floors
- Clean cabinet interiors and exteriors
- Clear out cabinets, reorganize and restock



Bedrooms

- Clean out dresser drawers; sort, donate unneeded items, and put back kept items neatly and organized
- Clean closet floors and organize clothes
- Store off-season clothing
- Tidy and organize shoes
- Flip mattresses if needed
- Wash pillow and duvets, and mattress pad cover
- Air-out mattress pads
- Dust light fixtures and ceiling fans
- Wipe down doors, knobs, switches, trim, and baseboards
- Wash window and window sills
- Launder curtains
- Dust and polish furniture, décor and wall art
- Wash vent covers, vacuum out vent if necessary
- Vacuum and mop flooring
- Shampoo carpets

Pets

- Wash or replace bedding
- Soak and wash plush toys in hot water
- Sanitize hard plastic bones/toys
- Empty and clean cages, crates, kennels, aquariums, etc.
- Wash water and food bowls
- Clean eating area thoroughly
- Wash litter boxes thoroughly as well as pee pads, etc.

Home Office/Command Center

- Dust and clean computers
- Dust bookshelves; Dust and polish furniture
- Clean out and organize drawers and files
- Shred unneeded paperwork
- Update home inventory
- Review and update insurance policies

Entry and Outdoor Areas

- Wash baseboards
- Clean walls, light fixtures, light switches
- Clean furniture and décor
- Wash windows
- Wipe down doors
- Clean rugs
- Replace light bulbs if needed
- Clean out and organize entry closet
- Vacuum entry closet
- Clean hard floors and carpets
- Wash thresholds
- Sweep porches, patios, and walkways
- Clean doormats
- Clean sliding/French door tracks
- Power wash siding and driveway

