



**NEWS
AROUND
THE
NEIGHBORHOOD**

September, 2009

Good-bye Summer, Hello Fall!

Summer is almost over and many, many things have been done within our community to enhance the environment we call home. Painting, driveway sealing, waterfall repairs, planting and pruning in our public areas, lawn maintenance and irrigation, community garage sale and ice cream social. All that you see is done as a result of a conscientious effort and the energy of your Board of Directors and Committees, who are also your friends and neighbors within Briar Cove.

Granted, we have maintenance services and a management company that provide these services, but with the monitoring and positive input from the residents, we transcend from just a place to live to a place with a heartbeat we want keep strong and vibrant.

Now, here's what's going on in the neighborhood:

Sealcoating Update

Seal coating of the drives has been completed for this year. 162 driveways have been completed. The project will be completed next year.

Painting Update

We are pleased to announce that we are down to our last four units to paint for this year, and they may have been already painted by the time you receive this Newsletter.

As you may recall, Phase 1 consisted of 45 paired cottages (90 individual homes) to be painted. Despite the loss of about 12 days due to weather, we were able to paint an additional nine paired cottages (18 individual homes), bringing the total to 54 paired cottages (108 individual homes).

Sprinkler/Rain Sensors

As you know, new sensors were installed this summer. The sensors were installed on each unit that houses the control for the sprinklers. When it rains, the sensor gets wet and sends a signal to the sprinklers not to come on. Most problems encountered after the installation were a result of other issues in the irrigation system that have since been corrected. Again, we ask all residents to call Peter if something appears broken or off schedule (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays).

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Since we are approaching the end of the season, the back flow certifications will start soon. Once completed, those of you with sprinkler controllers in your home will receive a notice to shut off your water valves.

Landscaping and Beautification Committee Update

A couple of things planned for this year:

Installation of a "Welcome to Briar Cove" sign for the Ludington entrance. They hope to have the sign in place within the next couple of months.

They have already thinned out the center island and may transplant some of the day lilies into the common areas. Mastercuct is doing the actual work, but they are overseeing the work and providing direction on the project.

Social & Welcoming Committee Update

Christmas Party-Save the Date. The Rockwell Clubhouse has been booked again for December 6, 2009. Although there are seating limitations, getting the venue at no cost and having the flexibility of bringing food in or having the party catered is definitely a plus. More info to come later.

Briar Cove Directory. To date more than half of the directories have been delivered. If you submitted your info for the directory, you will be receiving a copy. If you would like your info to be included in the next update, please contact Cheryl Warshaw at 322-9082. If you are currently listed in the directory but did not list your e-mail address, please call

Cheryl and give her your e-mail address. She will be able to save a few trees and e-mail any corrected pages.

Garage Sales/Ice Cream Social. There were about 30 garage sales this year and although the weather was a bit chilly, the buyers were abundant. Unfortunately, attendance at the second annual Ice Cream Social was somewhat affected by the weather.

Regardless of the weather, special thanks go to the members of the Social and Welcoming Committee for planning this event: Carmen Ware, Cheryl Warshaw, Betty Bryan, Beverly Perotti, Karen Davis, Nancy Lysenga, Joanne Smith and Dee Niven.

The pictures are on our Website (sorry if we missed anyone).

Ed Adamski in the News!

Ed Adamski was featured in an article in The Times on August 5, titled "Schererville Veteran appears in documentary on war dog." Ed appeared in a documentary on The Military Channel entitled "War Dogs of the Pacific" which aired on August 5. Ed also spoke at the Lake County Public Library on September 16, and the library aired the documentary that night. You can view the article on our Website in the Alerts section.

We are all very proud of you, Ed!

Emergency Contact Information

Several weeks ago, a resident's security system indicated that a fire was occur-

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ring in his home. He was not home. The Fire Department arrived, did not see any external evidence of a problem and went to the neighbors to seek a key. The neighbor didn't have a key, so they had to break in. Fortunately it was a false alarm.

This situation brings up the issue of emergency contact information. Our rules (item 13 on page 44-45) require that homeowners provide the Association with emergency contact information. Attached is an Emergency Information form which, if you haven't already, should be completed and mailed to 1st American. This form is also on our Website now in the "Management" link. You can mail this with your next monthly assessment payment or, if you are computer savvy, complete the form, scan it and e-mail it to 1st American.

If at all possible, leave a key with a close neighbor, preferably your connected neighbor. If you have a garage access keypad, you can also make sure a neighbor knows the code.

Annual Meeting – Save the Date

Our annual meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 19, 2009**, at 7:00 p.m. at the St. John Community Center, 1515 Lincoln Highway, at 7:00 p.m.

As you know, elections will take place at our annual meeting, and there are three

open positions on the Board. If you haven't submitted your name, or nominated a neighbor (with their consent), please get your name and a short bio to Peter no later than **October 1, 2009**. Nominations are also accepted from the floor during the meeting.

If you do not attend the regular board meetings, please be sure to attend the annual meeting. Not only will you have an opportunity to ask questions, you will hear a "State of the Association" address from our President, and a report on our budget from our Treasurer.

If you cannot attend the annual meeting, please be sure to mail in your ballot when you receive it in the mail. As a reminder, each address can submit one ballot. Since there will be three positions open, you may choose any three people on the ballot. You cannot cast more than one vote per person.

Board Meetings

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, **October 15, 2009**, at the Lake County Public Library, Schererville-Dyer Branch, 1001 West Lincoln Highway.

The date, time and location of board meetings will now be posted on our Website in the "Board of Directors" link.

www.briarcovehomeownersassociation.com