

The Block



The Newsletter of the Hereford/Highland Area Block Watch, Inc.

Fall 2010

Summer Events Enjoyed By All

We started our summer with our annual *Potluck in the Park*, a great way to kickoff what turned out to be an unusually hot summer. Our *Independence Day Parade* must have coincided with some vacations this year because it was a smaller crowd than usual (though we still had some creative costumes!). Several people suggested we hold next year's parade on the 4th of July and so we will. We hope that means a larger, more festive turn out. *Caribbean Night* had perfect weather and Rolando and his band brought a tropical vibe to our park. Our last gathering was the *Ice Cream Social*, which was a huge hit, thanks to great weather and tunes by neighborhood band, Tofu Fighters. We would like to thank everyone who helped make these summer events a great success, especially Stephanie and Mark Bailey, Phyllis and John Mascolo, Amy and Adam Grom, and flyer deliverers Melissa Yovichin, Shelley Haas, Mary Pat Doorley and Michelle Hujar. We appreciate everyone's help.

Budget Cuts For Events

As some of you may know, the City has decreased our operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We have been reduced from \$6,000 to \$4,000. We have been able to negotiate with the city in regards to how we spend our money on professional fees, which are used for the reindeer and horse drawn carriage that we all enjoy at our *Holidays in the Park* event. This budget cut will affect our ability to mail out newsletters and extra events we have held in the park in the past. When the Block Watch first began we depended

on the contributions and donations of our neighborhood members. As time has gone by we have requested donations instead of an entry fee for some of the events. Now that we have experienced this budget cut we, as a community, will need to donate when we can to the *Holiday's in the Park* and *Spring Egg Hunt, 4th of July* and the *Fall Fun Run* in order to help cover our costs. We know that times are hard for everyone, so if you are unable to give please do not feel like you have to in order to join our events. We all love our neighborhood and enjoy our neighbors and park events so we want to make sure we have funds to ensure we can continue them. Thank you all in advance for your generous contributions to help make our neighborhood great!

Mutt Mitt At Kiosk

We have an additional feature at the park kiosk: the Mutt Mitt. The Mutt Mitt is a handy, biodegradable bag for pet waste. Cleaning up after your pet is important not just because it keeps the neighborhood clean, but leaving it behind can be a health hazard for other animals as well as a pollutant for our drinking water. Sonia Dial suggested the Mutt Mitt at a Block Watch Meeting a couple of years ago and after some research, she and the captains decided on the Mutt Mitt. A special thanks to Tim Edgar for installing the Mutt Mitt. Please use the Mutt Mitt to keep the park and the neighborhood clean and free from dog droppings. Please feel free to contact the Block Watch if you notice the dispenser is out of bags.

Call for Volunteers

We are seeking people, especially during the summer months, who are willing to take about five hours a month to work on coordinating events. Even events such as 4th of July are fairly easy to put together, but it helps to have one person to be the main contact. Rest assured, you will receive a lot of support and help; you won't be left to do this all on your own. Getting involved is a great way

to get to know your neighbors, feel connected to your community and find babysitters, pet sitters, or maybe a running partner! Contact us at *hhs.block.watch@gmail.com* or come to a Block Watch Meeting. Any talent you have: crafts for kids, flyer design, or finding musical talent would be welcome. And even if you're not ready to volunteer, come to a meeting to find out what's happening in the neighborhood.

We Have a Website!

We are proud to announce that we now have a website! We hope that our new website will serve as a convenient place to find information relating to the Block Watch and our neighborhood. We will also keep a calendar of upcoming neighborhood events on the site, so be sure to keep an eye on it. You can find our site at www.hhablockwatch.org. Feel free to sign-up for our email list while you are there if you aren't on it already!

The website was built by one of our neighbors, Brian Kall. If you have any questions or comments about the site, you can email him at brian@hhablockwatch.org.

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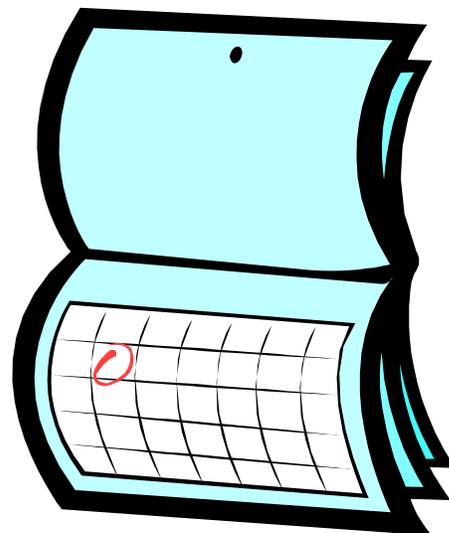
Contributors: Michelle Byrne, Danielle Edgar, Amalie Hofbauer, and Brian Kall.

UPCOMING EVENTS—Mark your calendar

Halloween: Trick-or-Treating will take place Saturday, October 30th, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. — the same night as the city wide event. Please note that instead of having doughnuts and cider in the park after trick-or-treats, you can join us for the...

Fall Fun Run and Park Clean Up: On Sat, Nov. 20th at 9 AM, we will once again sponsor a one-mile fun run and afterwards enjoy cider and doughnuts while we rake the fall leaves. Please remember to bring rakes, tarps, leaf blowers and anything else to help get the park ready for the winter season and to make the spring clean up easier. Look for registration forms in early November. This year we will have t-shirts (while supplies last) for runners and medals for race winners!

Holiday in the Park will be Sunday December 12 from 2 – 5 p.m. We will have Springdale Farms at the park again with their reindeer and the horse drawn carriage. We will have some carolers, cookies, cocoa and maybe a special visitor! If you are able to donate a dozen cookies please contact the Block Watch.



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*To be added to our email list,
please email Secretary Michelle
and make a request!*



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



Clip and Post

FIRE - POLICE - MEDICAL EMERGENCY: 9-1-1
POLICE—Non-emergency: 330-375-2181
CITY SERVICES EXCEPT EMERGENCY: 3-1-1
(To call 3-1-1 from a cell phone, dial: 330-375-2311)
POISON CONTROL CENTER: 800-872-5111
ANIMAL WARDEN: 3-1-1
SEWER PROBLEMS: 330-375-2666
SNOW CONTROL: 3-1-1
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING: 3-1-1
WATER PROBLEMS: 330-375-2420
NUISANCE COMPLAINTS: (Junk Cars, Graffiti, Weeds): 3-1-1
NORTHWEST FAMILY RECREATION CENTER: 330-375-2849
HIGHLAND SQUARE LIBRARY: 330-376-2927
KEEP AKRON BEAUTIFUL: 330-375-2116
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE: 330-375-2256

Important or Useful Websites

Hereford/Highland Area Neighborhood Block Watch:

www.hhablockwatch.org

Sheriff/Registered Sex Offenders:

www.co.summit.oh.us/sheriff/sexoffenderdisclaimer.htm

City of Akron: www.ci.akron.oh.us

Highland Square Business Association:

www.highlandsquare.org

State of Ohio: www.state.oh.us

State of Ohio Prisoner Search/Inmate Information:

www.drc.state.oh.us

Summit County: www.co.summit.oh.us

Clerk of Courts: www.cpclerk.co.summit.oh.us

Akron Municipal Court/ Clerk of Courts:

www.courts.ci.akron.oh.us

Congratulations, Barb!

Barb White, the beloved former manager of our local Highland Square library, is now the General Manager of Branches for the Akron-Summit County Public Library system. Many of us in the neighborhood loved seeing Barb's smiling face and enjoyed her great wit over her 15-year tenure at the Highland Square branch. Prior to coming on board at Highland Square, Barb worked at the Fair-lawn-Bath and Main Library branches and in Mobile Services.

Barb was born and raised in New York City. She has three children, ages 13-20. Barb enjoys traveling to New York and to Reggio Emilia, Italy, to study the Reggio Emilia early learning approach with the city's educators and policymakers. Barb used the Reggio Emilia approach in her wildly popular children's and family programs at Highland Square, and at preschools and learning centers around Summit County.

Barb's household is a pet-friendly one, and includes: a guinea pig, a parakeet, fish, frogs, a scorpion, garden centipedes, several spider species, and the latest addition, a Brazilian Pink Salmon Birdeater Tarantula, which can grow to the size of a basketball! That's one large tarantula.

Sophie, a five-year-old Highland Square resident, says, "I like Barb because she's nice and funny and her story times are fun. She lets us get creative and messy!"

Barb would like to convey that she is, "eternally grateful to the families of Highland Square for teaching me so much about community and collaboration." ***Thank YOU, Barb, for all you've taught us, and thank you to the staff at the Highland Square branch for creating a welcoming, engaging***

The Block
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