

The Orchard News

The newest oldest neighborhood in Fishers

Issue 3

April 2009

OCA Mission Statement

To ensure a positive living experience for all our neighborhood families, to protect the value of our community and homes, and to further enhance the overall quality for our family's and neighbor's lives.

Spring is in the air

It's great to see everyone begin to emerge from winter hibernation and the children once again frolicking throughout the neighborhood. As a reminder, please pay extra attention to your speed and keep an extra watchful eye out for those energetic youths. Also, keeping sidewalks clear of ice, debris, encroaching shrubs and trees and cars are the practical and legal responsibility of the homeowner within the Town of Fishers. Please do your part to keep our streets safer for cyclists and motorists by keeping our sidewalks safer for joggers and pedestrians.

Special points of interest:

- Annual Meeting & Elections
- TOF Updates
- Summer Picnic
- Annual Garage Sales
- Tree Replacement Program
- Duke Energy Update

Vacant?

Jerry Stevens was compelled to resign his position as Treasurer. We are most grateful to Paul Piltz, who immediately rolled up his sleeves to help out. Paul completed his efforts of packaging up the accounting work and transitioning it to Steve Myers, who has expressed an interest in the post and is currently acting as Interim Treasurer. Steve and his family have been long time residents here in the Orchards and we all welcome his active participation and support.



Holiday Decorating Contest

The OCA Landscape committee met at the home of Shirley Lopes, Chairman, on December 19th 2008 for the final run to determine the winners of the 2008 Contest.

There were so many to choose from this season. The displays are getting better and better each year. It is great to see the lights of the season as we drive through the area.

Our local Do-it Center, once again, provided the gift certificates for the 1st (\$75.00) and 2nd (\$25.00) prize.

It is the hope of the OCA Landscape committee to have more prizes next year for honorable mention(s). The contest is open to OCA members only, but our hope is that more neighbors will be encouraged to participate as we all get to enjoy our spirited neighborhood efforts and beautification.

First Prize goes once again to the Hawkins Family of 119 Goldenrod Lane, as they added even more color to their splendid display this year. Thank you for all your hard work and spirit of the season!

Second Prize goes to the Jackson Family of 63 Apple Tree Circle for the lovely color lighting and window treatment.



Holiday Decorating Contest Cont...

Honorable mentions to:

7682 Prairie View	The Reese Family
114 Northland	Resident
7696 Ensley Ct.	Resident
7699 Ensley Ct.	The West Family
106 Lake Vista	Resident



Notice of OCA Annual Meeting and Elections and a note from your OCA President

Date: 5/04/09

Location: Fishers Train Station

Time: 7:30PM

As comes spring, so does the time for the OCA Annual Meeting and election of officers.

As I stated during last year's meeting, the OCA Officers which you elected for the 08/09 term would not be the same OCA Board you could elect for the 09/10 term. All of your current OCA Officers have expressed a desire for new leaders to emerge from our community and **Step Up**.

As we have seen, a few energized leaders and some active, engaged volunteers can accomplish great things for our neighborhood. You don't need property management, legal or political science backgrounds or HOA (Home Owner's Association) experience to serve as an effective OCA Board member. Aside from the ByLaws requirements, you simply need to have genuine regard and consideration for your neighbors and the community in which you live.

Before I was asked to become involved via Cell Towers and other such remarkable events, I was simply a guy mowing his lawn largely oblivious to the OCA and anything related to HOA's. Well, the wife tells me it's now time I get back to mowing the lawn and we need new leadership going forward. The current OCA Board members will remain engaged to transition and mentor the new leaders. We have worked very hard at revamping infrastructure services, processes and procedures so that virtually any neighbor who wants to serve his or her community can step up and forward and do just that.



Orchard Boulevard Tree Replacement Program

Often times from unfortunate events, something positive can be found. As many residents are aware, one of our nicest Apple Trees was destroyed by a speeding motorist last year. After pursuing the issue for nearly a year, resolution is now at hand with a "pilot" replacement tree set to arrive this month. It is hoped that if the tree is a "match" we will finally be able to begin filling in the gaps which have existed for so many years.

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated – no experience necessary. Please just reach out to one of your OCA Board members.



Annual Garage Sales 2009

The Spring Sunblest Garage Sale is right around the corner. What better way to clear out the clutter and make space for another car in your garage than to have a garage sale! For your planning convenience, the OCA plans and conducts the Spring and Fall Sunblest Garage Sale at the same time every year – The Saturday following Memorial Day and the Saturday following Labor day.

May 30, 2009

And

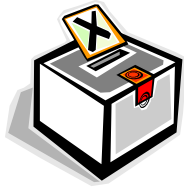
September 12, 2009

And conducts the Spring and Fall Sunblest Garage Sale at the same time every year – The Saturday following Memorial Day and the Saturday following Labor day.

This year's dates:

5/30/09 & 9/12/09. Good luck! and enjoy!

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated – no experience necessary. Please just reach out to one of your OCA Board members.



Notice of OCA Annual Meeting and Elections and a note from your OCA President Cont...

Our next OCA Organizational Planning and Board meeting will be 4/9/09 7:30PM at the Pizza Hut on Allisonville Rd (11722 Allisonville Rd.) and we welcome those willing and interested in serving to join us to explore what this means to you.

If you have any questions about the time, effort and rewards involved, please simply reach out to a current OCA Board member. The OCA Annual Meeting and elections are less than 2 months away so time is running short. **So please, help your neighbors and help yourselves.**

Proxy Ballots have been including in this mailing and the potential officers will be list on our website at www.orchardatsunblest.org. If you are unable to attend in person, please take a moment to complete the Proxy Ballot and either mail it back to the OCA at P O Box 463, Fishers, IN 46038 - or you may also simply drop it in the Topics Tube of either the OCA Secretary or President if you wish.

The Budget and Minutes are also included for your voting approval.

***"A charitable man is like an apple tree -
he gives his fruit and is silent;
the philanthropist is like the hen"***



Duke Power & Sun Communications in The Orchard— Rehabilitation Update!

Now that the thaw of spring is here, so comes the continuing efforts of the rehabilitation work of

Duke/Sun. Jeff Ashlock, Project Lead for the infrastructure revamp and rehabilitation efforts, has announced that crews are now returning to The Orchard At Sunblest to resume and conclude the rehabilitation efforts they began early last winter. Please join us in welcoming them back to lay soil, seed and straw to return our landscape esthetics to a more beautiful site to see. Again, please contact Jeff directly only if you feel you have a specific problem which can not be resolved without is personal involvement.



Joint OCA & LVA Summer Picnic Makes A Comeback!

It has been many years since the OCA – (Orchard Civic Association) and the LVA (Lake Vista Association) have held a Summer Picnic. Let's all fix that!

LVA has agreed to a date of **Saturday June 20, 2009 (with a 6/21/09 "rain-out" day, if needed)** and we're all invited to the lake! Let's plan on a nice relaxing day of fun in the sun with some simple hot-dogs, a little fishing and boating, maybe some volleyball and perhaps a roasted marshmallow or two. The OCA and LVA have been hard at work the past 2-3 years rehabilitating the Heady Cemetery area and the Common Area around the lake. Let's all get together for a nice, friendly neighborhood picnic and enjoy the fruits of those labors together.

Date: 6/20/09

Time: 1PM-ish

Location: Lake Vista Common Area

Required: Covered dish, cutlery and an appetite for fun!

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated – no experience necessary. Please just reach out to one of your OCA Board members.



TOF (Town Of Fishers) Meetings & Updates

Your OCA Board members have been working hard with the TOF on your behalf this term to address some long outstanding issues. A few specifics:

- Signage: Apparently, we have had some street signs which were misspelled when they were installed. Thanks for bringing this to our attention. This 30 year old issue has now been resolved and street signs with the correct spelling have been deployed.

- "Ponding" and Drainage issues off of Allisonville/Orchard and 126th St/Ensley: TOF is conducting an analysis which it expects to conclude no later than 6/30/09. Moreover, Duke/Sun is planning on offering some continuing aid to the 126th St/Ensley area effort.

- Sidewalk Repair and deployment: While maintenance and care of sidewalks are the practical and legal responsibility of the homeowner, TOF can be encouraged to lend aid. TOF is compiling a list of which homes within the Orchard At Sunblest should expect to receive aid and should conclude this aspect of the effort by 5/31/09.

- Parking Issues inhibiting Emergency Vehicles: The majority of responding residents expressed a desire for signage to protect their neighbors where necessary and we, the OCA Board, have made those wishes known to TOF. Efforts are currently underway to clarify which specific areas are "at risk" as well as follow-on actions required. Anticipated conclusion of this effort is 5/31/09.

If you have any questions about the items above, please reach out to one of your OCA Board members.

Orchard Civic Association (OCA)

P.O. Box 463
Fishers, IN 46038

BOARD MEMBERS

President: David R. Lawson (842-8749)

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

Secretary: Kay Langlois (841-2809)

Landscaping Committee chair: Shirley Lopes

Editor: (To be determined)

OCA Web page: www.orchardatsunblest.org

OCA Yahoo Group:

***<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OrchardAtSunblest>**



Fishers, IN 46038

P O Box 463

Orchard Civic Association

