

HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

Community News



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503-684-8294
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MAY 2024

HOA BOARD MESSAGE

Spring is here and the dandelions and solicitors are popping up everywhere. This is a reminder to: 1) never open your door to strangers (but we all remember that don't we?); 2) commercial solicitation (businesses wanting to sell you something) is prohibited – there are signs at both entrances to the Highlands; and 3) political, faith-based, and non-profit representatives (think Girl Scouts) have the right to go door-to-door, protected under First Amendment rights. If a commercial solicitor insists on continuing, please call King City Police – they are there to help “explain” to a solicitor why they should move on.

A shout-out to recent special events – the St. Patrick's day dinner entertainment was fantastic with 90+ community attendees and the recent lasagna dinner was well attended with great food and conversation and Ed's “stories” which always entertain. Thank you to the hosts and volunteers that make these opportunities note-worthy.

As noted in previous messages, with a community 30+ years old there are some significant repairs and maintenance in the works. That entails budget impacts, some of which will be included in the upcoming budget discussions and some which will impact the current budget. To better understand how your annual fees are being used, please attend a Finance Committee meeting (held Tuesday nights before the monthly Town Hall and Board meeting) or attend Town Hall and ask questions. The Finance Committee, budget workgroup, and Board work hard to ensure the Highlands maintains excellent fiduciary responsibilities and as owners, you have the right to ask for clarity, transparency, and accuracy.

Last, a shout-out to Bonny Chown and Judy Baese for stepping up to monitor kitchen necessities so kitchen users have the soap, paper towels, etc. when needed. Thank you both.

Thank you to all the community volunteers that make Highlands a great, and active, place to call home.

Mike Dahlstrom, HOA president
president@kchighlandshoa.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

HIGHLAND'S TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY MAY 18 AT 5PM

Attention all Trivia Fans:

Let's get together for an exciting, fun night of mental challenges, puzzles, and conundrums. You can take this chance to reveal your trivia awareness and proficiency.

There will be 3 rounds with 10 to 12 brain-teasing questions and riddles of general knowledge. Teams will be made up of 4 to 6 people.

This event is free of charge. Please bring a snack to share and a beverage for yourself.

The names of the winning teams will be published in the June Highland Highlights.

Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in advance.

For more information contact:

fredclark2002@gmail.com

loriclark2002@gmail.com

SIP AND SAUNTER

SATURDAY June 29

Sip & Saunter Through Open Gardens is coming back to the Highlands this year by popular request. The event this year will be Saturday, June 29. All Highlands residents are encouraged to participate in exploring any or all of the open gardens from 2-5 pm on June 29..

If you would like to open your garden to our neighborhood for this event please contact either Elaine Sobel at elaineankersen@gmail.com or 503-703-3200 or Crystal Compese at crystalcompese@gmail.com or 818-456-7265. You can also sign up on the Clubhouse bulletin board beginning May 1.

We ask that if you open your garden for this event that it be easily accessible and that you provide something for participants to drink: water, lemonade, ice tea, wine or your drink of choice. Also we will ask everyone participating to bring a non-breakable container to drink from.

Even if you think your garden won't be at its best or you won't have all the weeding done, gardening is a journey. Let us enjoy the journey with you. We hope you'll consider opening your garden to us. We are not looking for the perfect garden or a weed-free garden; we would just like to see how you are choosing to use your outdoor space.

Houses with open gardens will be marked by helium balloons that will be given out at the Clubhouse from 10-10:30 am on June 29.

A list of participating addresses will be sent out in the June issue of Highlights as well as on HighNet. Paper copies of the address list will be available in the Clubhouse on Saturday, June 29.

Those hosting an open garden will have a sneak peak from 11 am to 1 pm when hosts will explore all the open gardens as a group.

We hope you will join us on June 29 for our third annual Sip & Saunter Through Open Gardens.

Please contact Elaine or Crystal if you have questions.

Thank you,

Co chairs:

Elaine Sobel and Crystal Compese

ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

As the summer approaches and with it, potentially, very warm temperatures and drought, it is helpful to have some background on drought in our neck of the woods, and how it can affect plants. I found a great website; **Drought.gov**, that tracks data on droughts in the Pacific Northwest. We have had multiple droughts in Oregon, starting in 2001, 2005, 2015, and in 2020, virtually our entire region was in drought. The unprecedented warming trend we have seen since 2001 has caused below average rainfall, (hard to believe, I know), lower snowpack, and reduced ground water. 2021 was the hottest year in a Millennium, predicting future heat waves over the next decade. Increased temperatures will continue to affect agriculture, hydropower, water supply, fisheries, and fire regions to name a few. And our trees and plants will suffer.

OSU Extension Services offers helpful tips in selecting drought- resistant plants. Called “Xeriscaping”, it suggests using native, drought- resistant plants such as Myrtle trees, daffodils, and other “xerophytes”. It suggests replacing grassy lawns with rocks and mulch to create water-wise landscapes that can ensure your plants survive summer dry periods. It offers information on drainage requirements, sun/shade, and zoning with a complete list of trees, shrubs, groundcovers, herbs and annuals to choose from. So much information, but helpful so we don’t waste our \$\$\$ on plants that are not drought resistant.

One other note on the topic of street trees..... Some of our street trees are showing bare roots and could use some topsoil. Please show our street trees some love as they really do make this a beautiful community.

Virginia McEwing; ALC secretary

CONDO LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

After a cool month, we are looking forward to warmer spring weather and sun shine. The azaleas and rhododendrons are in bloom. It's fun to walk the property and see the blooms. "Rain or Shine" has made noticeable improvements to the landscape. The committee has received several compliments on their work. "Arbor Now" did pruning and removal in certain areas which helped with cleaning the windows. We will be looking at replacing plants where removals were done. Thomas at "Rain or Shine" is finishing the drainage project at buildings 18 and 19. He will give us an estimate on the drainage issue at the building 17 garage soon. **Our next landscape meeting will be Monday , May 6th at 9:00 a.m.**

Lucy Laande.

CONDO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Folks,

We can own more than one car and park it on the PRIVATE 130th Terrace parking lot.(yes, this is a private street and parking lot, we have to maintain) There are no assigned parking spaces, but please be courteous to other owners. Please do not race your engine, wash or work on your car in our common parking area. If your car is leaking oil please have it fixed and clean up YOUR mess. If your tires are flat, you are belching out noxious fumes or your vehicle is wrecked or the license plate is expired that is considered a derelict vehicle and you must park said vehicle out on the street. Then you deal with the King City police rules.

We can borrow a car from a dealer, a friend or relative to drive, but please let your neighbors know and get a Highlands car sticker from Beth for free so a well-meaning neighbor doesn't call the police about a possible stolen car dumped on our property.

From time to time we have visitors who stay for more than a week and park in our parking spots. Please let your neighbors know. But, this is not a place to dump a derelict vehicle friend or no friend. The car must have current insurance, license plate and be in running condition and be able to pass inspection.

And campers, motorcycles or golf carts are not welcome in our parking areas.

I know we have a lot of rules here, but it is for the common good and maintains our good property values.

Sandy Bergeron CNW Coordinator
sandber31638@gmail.com

CLUBHOUSE MAINTENANCE

ANTS! The little guys are numerous and very busy this year. In prior years the main ant entrance was under the double doors at the SW corner of the ballroom. Spraying outside that door, the sill and nearby carpet kept the invasion at a minimum until food became available. They have a very effective way of communicating. It doesn't take their scouts very long to get the word out that food is available and where. One of the biggest invasions was during the 2022 Craft Faire. When the bags of cookies started to arrive a big ant army invaded along South wall of the ballroom. We were able to act quickly on that occasion. This year they have found a new entry point and it took us some time to find it. The windows at the Southeast corner of the ballroom are the new spot. We sprayed the entire Southside foundation and wall with some high-powered stuff but they found a way around it or under it. Knowing where to look for them helps so we should be better able to control them. I don't like the idea of spraying poison in large quantities everywhere.

I am in the building nearly every day and I inspect, looking for ants especially on the kitchen counters. There is always some poisonous ant bait near the sinks. They eat it & go back to the nest. It is not a hazard unless you are an ant.

As I reported at the last Town Hall we need to further upgrade the Clubhouse Fire detection and alarm system. Figuring out just what needs to be done has been a challenge. I am working with the Building Services Dept of Washington County TVF&R and will be meeting with our insurance broker to find the minimum requirements. The key words in insurance policies on this subject go like this: "Once approved and documented there are no additional provisions." Among other things, I am looking for approval and documentation by the County and the Fire Marshall.

When the next quarterly inspection and filter change for our HVAC system happens our HVAC contractor, Van Air, will measure and figure out how much it will cost to replace the last two 1989 AC compressors that we have. It is in the Budget. Otherwise, we are ready for summer!

Jerry Crane

LIBRARY WHISPERINGS

Lucianne Phillips has provided the Highlands community with important earthquake preparedness information. This information is displayed in the Highlands library on the middle book shelf. These brochures are available:

- Emergency supply list
- Preparing pets
- Little address books
- My pocket plan
- When the earthquake hits, where will you be

Don't forget, our library is open 24/7.

Bobbi Siegel, Librarian

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

As discussed last month, and with many spring like days in April, May Flowers have a jump start this month. That should produce a magnificent display of color as we move rapidly into Spring. The changing seasons is one good reason that we enjoy and love the Oregon landscape. Moving into May we will also enjoy speakers who will bring timely messages from God's Word.

May 7th, Doug Kieffer, is no stranger to our Bible Study. He has a heart and extensive background for teaching and sharing God's Word, which has been a blessing to us through many gatherings. We look forward to hearing from Doug once again.

May 21st, Dennis Beatty will be joining us again. You will recall; Dennis and his wife Gwyn, are residents of the Highlands, and one of our regular bible study speakers. By way of review, Dennis has his doctorate from Fuller Theological Seminary, has been in full-time ministry over 40 years, has been a lead pastor, a lead interim pastor, and served in several denominations. Welcome back Dennis.

Our Bible Studies are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 7:00 to 8:00pm in the Clubhouse. We always conclude with a time of refreshments and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you in May.

Submitted by Ron Willis

HIGHLANDS ACTIVITIES

POOL LESSONS AND PLAY

>> Each Tuesday from 1:00 to 3:00. <<
M'aidez! Mayday! May Day!

Pool Lessons & Play sessions have completed the second round.
We're now concentrating on getting to Carnegie Hall --- practice, practice, practice.

Lessons are still available by video, coupled with demonstration and play. Please contact me if you're interested, or come on Tuesdays and join us.

Seven subjects covered are: "Nomenclature", "Stance & Grip", "Bridge & Stroke", "Aiming", "Stop/Follow/Draw Shots", "English" and "Position."

Beginners, rusty players, experienced players, and observers are welcome and encouraged to attend. Gender is no barrier.

Fred Clark
fredclark2002@gmail.com

"Even a blind squirrel finds an acorn once in a while."

NATIONAL MAH JONGG LEAGUE AMERICAN MAH JONGG

**MAH JONGG
AT THE HIGHLANDS
Meets every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
In the card room**

With much excitement, the new, anticipated 2024 National Mah Jongg League card has arrived in April! This is the Official Standard Hands and Rules publication that is changed each year.

The card is providing many challenges to our skills and memories with new hands and new combinations of the tiles. Mastering the learning curve can create some frustration as well as humor but it also contributes to the enjoyment of the game! Learning something new can be exciting.

If you would like to play on Thursdays, or if you would like to learn Mah Jongg, feel free to contact me. You will be welcome.

Lori Clark 505 301-4427
loriclark2002@gmail.com

HIGHLANDS ACTIVITIES (cont.)

BOOK TALK

Welcome to the Book Talk book group. We meet on **Wednesday May 8, 2024**, at 11:00 a.m. in the boardroom.

Everyone is invited to join the group.

Current Reading:

May 8, 2024

***Death in a Strange Country*
By Donna Leon**

June 12, 2024

***Where the Crawdads Sing*
By Delia Owens**

For more information, contact me.

Lori Clark

loriclark2002@gmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

KC Highlands community interest and activity articles are always welcome. Send a note via email to highlightskchoa@gmail.com. Timeline for submissions vary but tend towards the 3rd week of the Month. I am happy to answer your questions regarding deadlines, content, etc.

Denette Peffers, Highlights Newsletter Coordinator
503-318-3984

KC HIGHLANDS CALENDAR

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			9:30 ALC Comm. Mtg 1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub 6 Poker	10 Zumba 12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 5 Happy Hour	11-4 Private Event
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	9 Condo Landscape Mtg 11 Condo Finance & Main. Mtg. 1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge 7 Bible Study	11 Book Talk 1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub 5:30 Condo Board Mtg. 6 Poker	12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 2 Library Mtg 5 Happy Hour	2-10 PM Private Event
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	1 Hand, Knee, & Foot 1 Caregiver Support Group	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge 2 Special Events Planning	1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub 6 Poker	9:30 Crafts Group 12:30 Line Dancing 1 Am. Mahjong 3 Clubhouse Interiors Mtg 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 5 Happy Hour	5 PM Trivia Night
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10-2 Private Event	1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge 6:30 Finance Com Mtg. 7 Bible Study	1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub 6 Poker 6:30 Town Hall -HOA Board Mtg to Follow	12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 5 Happy Hour	9-5 Private Event
26	27	29	29	30	31	
	OFFICE CLOSED- Memorial Day 1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge	1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub 6 Poker	10 Zumba 12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 5 Happy Hour	

Office Hours: M W F 9 AM – Noon 503-684-8294

office@kchighlandshoa.com Website: Highlands55.org