

# HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

## Community News



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**JULY 2024**

### **HOA BOARD MESSAGE**

It's a warm June evening as I write this and the Highlands HOA seems to be humming along. Volunteer committees are accomplishing tasks that make our community the wonderful place it is. I have extolled the virtues of volunteering and celebrated those who step up in town halls, board meetings, Hinet, and this venue. The appreciation can't be said often enough.

But (and you are probably expecting this from me by now), new volunteers are needed. Yes, we all moved here for the quality of life. Yes, many of us are retired, have extended families, and a variety of interests. And yes, volunteering does take some amount of your time – often fairly limited though. The expenditure is rewarded with community appreciation, a feeling of adding to the community's value, and opportunity to provide your experience and/or interests and learn how our community is managed.

And remember, Highland Park Condominium (HPC) residents are an important part of the Highlands HOA. It would benefit all to have more HPC volunteers on HOA committees. Each property owner has equal equity in HOA common assets.

I've written more than 60 of these board messages. I try to bring attention to topics that may benefit you as a resident and/or property owner. Most articles focus on the Highlands community, and some provide wider King City information and opportunities. **I want to hear from you.** What do you want to know more about in these messages? Do you have concerns? Do you have suggestions for the Board or other committees? Every month this message is a chance to learn more about the HOA, how it is run, or who provides what input or information.

**So please** drop me a line: [president@kchighlandshoa.com](mailto:president@kchighlandshoa.com) or bring up a topic/question/comment at Town Hall. I look forward to it.

Mike Dahlstrom, president

## **HIGHLAND PARK CONDOMINIUM BOARD MESSAGE**

On the morning of the June 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, Zoe Allen submitted her resignation from the Board. Thank you for all you have done, Zoe. Janis Oyama graciously accepted the appointment to the Board and agreed to be the treasurer. For that we are grateful. Welcome to the Board, Janis.

Several years ago, due to the shortage of residents who were willing to serve on the Maintenance and Finance committees it was decided to combine them. Judy Sutton brought up in the meeting there is a need to again separate the committees. ATTENTION: If you are an owner here at the Highlands and have an interest in the ongoing well-being of this community, please give some serious thought about joining one of the committees. The maintenance committee is responsible for developing the budget and priorities that will cover the ongoing need for building repairs and maintenance. The Finance Committee is responsible to develop and oversee the operation budget. The Landscape Committee oversees the landscape needs in our community as well as developing and overseeing the yearly budget. These committees are critical in that they make the recommendations to the Board regarding the COA fees that we pay yearly. Everyone is welcome to attend the committee meetings so you can be informed as the year progresses. Our buildings are 30 years old so priorities have to be set and fees generated to pay for the needs. The benefit of being involved in the committees, at least you will know the reason why the fees are going up because they are going to be going up.

There will be three Board positions that are open coming up at the end of this year. Please give thought to serving on the Board. There are many of you living in our community that have the experience and gifting to be a great asset.

Gordon Keeney and Sue Starr gave a very well-done presentation regarding the coming up garage sale. They gave several ideas as ways to attract more customers. Ellen Valway volunteered to be the condo representative for the garage sale. If you are interested in helping make the garage a success please contact Ellen at [evalway@hotmail.com](mailto:evalway@hotmail.com). Many hands make light work.

Pat Barcroft, HPC Chair

### **NOTES FROM THE OFFICE**

Yay Beth is back!!  
Signed, A Grateful Community

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **COME CELEBRATE THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY WITH US! 4 PM AT THE CLUBHOUSE**

You have a choice of hamburger, salmon burger or beef frank.

Included will be potato salad, baked beans and all of your favorite condiments to dress up your burger.

For dessert we plan for apple and berry pie.

You get all this and a really fun time for \$12. Family and friends welcome.

**Please sign up at the bulletin board so we can prepare for you.**

Thank you,  
Ed Benberg, Special Events  
Lucianne Phillips, co-chair



**Our “annual” Puppy Parade will return to the Highlands this July 4th.** We will meet at the clubhouse parking lot at 9:45 and begin the Parade at 10:00 am. The parade route will travel from the Clubhouse down and through our beautiful Greenspace to 126th and from there to Peachvale and back to the Clubhouse. All Highlands dogs are invited to participate. There will be an activity area in the greenspace for those who want to challenge their pups. Costumes are entirely optional. Just bring them for the fun.

Your dog doesn't or can't walk far? Every parade needs floats so feel free to come with your “stroller (decorated or not) or walking aid or just carry them.

No Parade is complete without watchers so PLEASE come out to watch our pups strut, have fun with the activities, or just enjoy all the “cute”

THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET AT THE CLUBHOUSE. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WILL PARTICIPATE BY SIGNING UP OR CALLING ME. We need to have at least 10 entry's or more to make a good parade.  
NANCY CRANDELL 503-746-6701. — 541-729-8649

## Highlands Community Garage Sale July 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

It is time to clean out those closets, clear out those drawers, and bring down all those old unwanted items from the attic because the Highlands Community Garage sale is just around the corner! This event is open to both Condo and House owners. The official hours will be from 9 to 4 pm on Friday and Saturday, however, each household is free to decide what hours work best for their busy schedules.

On Wednesday July 17 from 9 am to 12 noon at the Clubhouse, there will be a workshop to inflate approximately eighty balloons with an electric air pump as well as to customize twenty street signs. The sign-up sheet to volunteer for the workshop will be on the Clubhouse bulletin board on July 1<sup>st</sup>. There will also be a second sheet for those who wish to have their sale location listed on a shopper's street map. Each of these listings will qualify for two free inflated balloons that can be used to mark their house/garage locations.

During the afternoon of Thursday July 18, Garage sale arrow signs will be placed on Highland Street corners. You are encouraged to add additional signage if you feel these are insufficient for your location.

Thanks!

Committee members:

Mary Davis, Sue Starr, Gordon Keeney

### ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Remember the **Farmer's Almanac**?? Lots of people trust it and swear by it, even if they're not farmers. First published in 1792, it includes weather forecasts, planting charts, astronomical data, and lots of other folklore. It can predict weather trends 30, 60, 90 days in advance. Even the entire year, based on the long heritage of formulas they use. They claim an 80% accuracy rate on forecasts based on solar activity, motion of the moon and tidal action and winds. (and a lot of other data provided by governmental agencies).

With our weather being so crazy all across the country, Almanac's wisdom might better prepare us for those events we like to have in July.... And every month for the rest of the year. This might be old news to lots of people, but I've decided to start paying closer attention.

Check it out. You can even get your astrological forecast!

#### Update on ALC activity-

*The latest phase of our mailbox repainting project has been completed as eight more have gotten a new coat. Hopefully you have noticed and are enjoying the recent plantings around the clubhouse and at the clocktower. Also, irrigation system repairs are complete. Maintaining the 30+ year old system is an increasing challenge. Faulty valves and sprinkler heads were replaced. However, we continue to work with Teufel to address some dry areas.*

Also, **Thank You** to an anonymous resident who donated \$ to the ACL for new plantings along the walking path behind Dickson St. It looks better already.

Virginia McEwing, secretary, ALC.

### **CONDO LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE**

We welcome summer, sunshine and warmer weather. The winter has been hard on some of our shrubs. We will monitor them to see if they bounce back.

Our irrigation system is now on. Our five Hunter Hydrowise Controllers have 66 different zones that reach our shrubs and plants. If you notice a leak from a sprinkler head or an exceptionally dry area with a distressed plant or shrub please bring it to a landscape committee member's attention. We can then contact James at "Rain or Shine" to investigate the problem. Much needed pruning and weeding will continue this month.

Our next landscape meeting will be July 1st at 9:30 a.m. Please note the time change.

Lucy Laande, Condo Landscape.

### **CONDO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

There was a large shocking pink Medical Emergency Information Card in your condo packet of information, our secretary gave each of us, after we bought our condo, registered our cars, and got our clubhouse key fob, at the Highland's office. This is different information than the emergency contact sheet your Neighborhood Watch Captain has.

If you were thinking ahead for a possible emergency situation, you filled that card out and posted it on your refrigerator for the paramedics. And you keep that card updated as your medicines may change as we age.

If you have an emergency contact person please let them know where your important papers, extra keys for your garage, condo, car, and mailbox (and box number) are stored. In addition, make sure they know your lawyers name and number. Leave them prepared to step in and keep things running smoothly during your emergency situation.

Please list your pets on your Neighborhood Watch information sheet and have care instructions and current veterinarian information available in your condo for your pets.

Stay alert and safe.

Sandy Bergeron CNW Coordinator [sandber31638@gmail.com](mailto:sandber31638@gmail.com)

## **CLUBHOUSE MAINTENANCE**

The parking lot has been cleaned, the cracks sealed, it was resurfaced and the lines, signs and curb were repainted. This is a five-year event. Next, we will be replacing the last two of the six air conditioning compressors which have 1989 serial numbers. They have served us well after a few modifications were made to extend their service life. That will complete a seven year process of replacing and upgrading the six furnaces and six ac compressors which make up the HVAC system in the building. The replacement program was started after the fan motor in one of the old furnaces malfunctioned, nearly causing a fire, alerting us to the safety issues with old fans and fire boxes. We now have excellent equipment with very good warranties which were installed by highly skilled technicians. They are checked out and fine-tuned every quarter when the filters are changed. The thermostats are set to heat to 72 degrees or cool to 75. If the settings are changed by groups using the building the thermostats reset automatically after 2 hours. According to a review of our utility costs by the Energy Trust, the clubhouse uses much less power and gas than most buildings of its size.

### **Insurance**

June one was the effective date of our Cyber Insurance coverage. The policy covers the costs of investigation, recovery and potential litigation of an attack on the personal and financial information stored in our office computer, the *cloud* and possibly maintained by our management company, CMI. A common form of attack is called *ransom ware* where information is locked up by the hacker who demands payment of ransom to unlock it. It is quite common and even very small organizations can be attacked, so we are now insured.

Jerry Crane, Chair Clubhouse Maintenance

## **BIBLE STUDY**

### July Bible Study

With vacations and other summer related activities, we will not be gathering for July Bible Studies. Our first Bible Study in July often falls on or near the 4<sup>th</sup> when our Highlands hospitality committee plans a community BBQ and gathering in celebration of our nation's birthday. This is always a fun time, so please consider joining these special festivities. With that said, it seems prudent to clear both scheduled meeting dates for the month. We will resume our regular monthly gatherings August 6<sup>th</sup>, with Pastor Gary Custis speaking. Look for detailed information in the August Highlights regarding our Bible Study meetings.

Submitted by Ron Willis

## **HIGHLANDS ACTIVITIES**

### **HAPPY HOUR**

The Happy Hour Group invites all of our Highland Neighbors to join us every Friday for great food and fun conversation. The Clubhouse is the place to be on Friday evenings for lively conversation, tips on gardening, restaurant suggestions, and community events coming up. It is the place to catch up on all of the neighborhood news, hear about the travels of your friends, meet new “Highlanders” and share your grandchild pictures. It is the perfect opportunity to try out your new recipes. Be sure to put Happy Hour on your weekly calendar, Fridays, 5pm, at the Clubhouse.

Penny Matsler

503 580-4636

[Penelope64@comcast.net](mailto:Penelope64@comcast.net)

### **BOOK TALK**

Everyone is welcome to join the Book Talk book group.  
We meet on Wednesday's at 11:00 a.m. in the boardroom.

#### **Current Reading:**

**July 10, 2024**

**The Frozen River**

By Ariel Lawhon

A gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system and wrote herself into American history.

**August 14, 2024**

**Crying in H Mart: A Memoir**

By Michelle Zauner

An exquisite story of family, food, grief, endurance, and growing up Korean American.

For more information, contact me.

Lori Clark

[loriclark2002@gmail.com](mailto:loriclark2002@gmail.com)

## **NATIONAL MAH JONGG LEAGUE AMERICAN MAH JONGG**

Mah Jongg is a tile-based game that has been around since its advent in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in China. It remains popular all over the world, especially in Asian countries. The rules of the American variant became standardized with the formation of the National Mah Jongg League in 1937.

Each year the league changes the hands and rules of the game to add more excitement. The game encourages many skills. Tactics, observation, memory, pattern recognition, and adaptive strategies are some of them. Playing and getting better at it can help us improve these skills, which can be very useful for our daily life.

## **MAH JONGG AT THE HIGHLANDS**

Meets every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. in the card room

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

Lori Clark

505 301-4427

[loriclark2002@gmail.com](mailto:loriclark2002@gmail.com)

## **POOL LESSONS AND PLAY**

“July is a blind date with summer.”

- Hal Borland

The good weather is offering people outside choices for recreation; so, Pool Lessons & Play will take a siesta for a while.

Lessons are still available on-request, given by video, coupled with demonstration and play. Please contact me if you're interested.

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](mailto:fredclark2002@gmail.com)



# KC HIGHLANDS CALENDAR

# JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>9 Condo Landscape Mtg</b> 10 Zumba <b>11 Condo Finance &amp; Main. Mtg.</b> 1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge <b>2 Special Events Planning</b>	<b>9:30 ALC Comm. Mtg</b>  1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub  6 Poker	  <b>4 PM BBQ</b>	9 Walking Aerobics  10:30 Coloring  5 Happy Hour	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	10 Zumba  1 Hand, Knee, & Foot  1 Caregiver Support Group	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge	11 Book Talk  1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub  <b>5:30 Condo Board Mtg.</b>  6 Poker	10 Zumba 12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring  <b>2 Library Mtg</b>  5 Happy Hour	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Private Event 10-2	10 Zumba  1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons 1 Bridge	<b>9 Garage Sale Sign Workshop</b>  1 Mahjong  1 Rummikub  6 Poker	9:30 Crafts Group 10 Zumba 12:30 Line Dancing 1 Am. Mahjong <b>3 Clubhouse Interiors Mtg</b> 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	<b>Community Garage Sale</b> 9 Walking Aerobics 10:30 Coloring 5 Happy Hour	<b>Community Garage Sale</b>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	10 Zumba  1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee 1 Pool Lessons & Play 1 Bridge <b>6:30 Finance Com Mtg.</b>	1 Mahjong 1 Rummikub  6 Poker  <b>6:30 Town Hall HOA Board Mtg to Follow</b>	10 Zumba 12:30 Line Dancing 1 American Mahjong 6 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics  10:30 Coloring  5 Happy Hour	9-4 Private Event
28	29	30	31			
23   30	10 Zumba  1 Hand, Knee, & Foot	9 Walking Aerobics 10 Men's Coffee  1 Pool Lessons  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	