

Brasswood Times

A Newsletter for the Brasswood Homeowners Association

Fall 2005

President's Corner:

It is ironic that four years after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, many of our fellow citizens are again suffering, this time from the greatest natural catastrophe to strike our Nation. I know that all of you share our concerns and sorrows for Katrina's victims. In keeping with the Brasswood spirit, we have neighbors working to ease our fellow citizens' burden. Please join in the effort and contribute a recipe or two and/or buy the book. In our compassion and concern for others, we must keep in mind the key lesson from Katrina that disaster can strike at any time and we, as individuals and as a neighborhood must be prepared, both in terms of emergency planning and in terms of coordination.

This summer, Brasswood has had a significant turnover in residences, we have lost some great neighbors, but an equally wonderful group of new homeowners has replaced them. The Welcoming Committee, under the leadership of Dean Holmes, has made great strides in meeting our new residents and making them feel welcome. Dean has updated the welcoming packet and is asking new neighbors to fill out a survey on their particular interests to encourage involvement in neighborhood activities. I hope you will join me in thanking Dean and all the volunteers on the Welcoming Committee.

2005- 2006

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George Lauffer, President
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Jim Segerstrom, Treasurer
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Newsletter/Directory

Linda Lightner, Chairman

Social

Gayle Easley, Chairman

Welcoming

Dean Holmes, Chairman

Yard of the Month

Beverly Ahlefeld, Chairman

Block Captains

Gayle Easley, Chairman

By this time, you should have received the 2005-2006 Brasswood Neighborhood Directory, if not, please contact your Block Captain or one of the Board Members, who will get you a copy. We hope you will find the directory useful, and every time you use it, you will think of Linda Lightner who was instrumental in collecting the data and formatting the directory.

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Linda not only pulled together the directory but also publishes the Brasswood Quarterly Newsletter--all while taking care of her family and doing consulting work. She is a Super Volunteer who contributes immensely toward making Brasswood a distinctive neighborhood.

Since this is the last newsletter before the Swimming Pool closes, I want to thank--on behalf of the entire neighborhood--all the volunteers who cleaned the pool on a daily basis. Without their help, it would have been impossible to keep the pool open and maintain its reputation as a pride and joy of Brasswood. Overseeing the entire process was the "Head Pool Cleaner and Maintainer" Jim Segerstrom. There is not anyone in Brasswood who does not know Jim from either his role as the MAN in Charge of the Pool or as the Homeowners Association Treasurer. I also do not think there is anyone who does not recognize Jim as the individual who makes things happen and that we all owe him a great deal for bringing to close another safe and enjoyable swimming season.

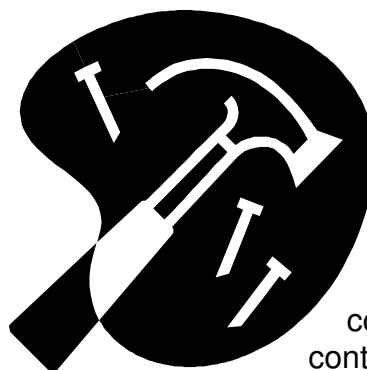
Hope to see you around the Neighborhood!

Who Do You Call When You Need Repair Work Done.... Surely Not Ghostbusters!

Homeowners new to the Brasswood and Oklahoma City/Edmond area don't always know whom to call when they have a repair problem, whether it's electric, plumbing, tile, roof or whatever. In greeting and talking with our new homeowners over the past three months the Welcoming Committee thought it might be a good idea to put together a list of repair people, recommended by

our own homeowners here in Brasswood.

Think about the repair people you've used in and around your home the past few months, or the last couple of years for that matter. Ask yourself, were they professional, were you completely satisfied with their work, were they moderately priced, did they stand by their work, and did they clean up afterwards. Now, the ultimate question, do you feel comfortable recommending this repair person?" If you do, we'd like to get their name and phone number so we can add it to the list of names we've collected to date.



While the Brasswood Homeowners Association or the Welcoming Committee cannot officially endorse repair companies or contractors who provide such services, we can share their names and phone numbers with other homeowners who might find themselves in need of a repair person or contractor from time to time. We're interested primarily in electricians, plumbers, roofers, tile people, handyman, painters, interior decorators, landscapers, and building contractors (for additions or home renovations, expansions, etc.).

In addition, we're also interested in the names and phone numbers of individuals who provide household cleaning and lawn maintenance (grass cutting/trimming) services. We need the names and phone numbers of anyone you feel comfortable recommending, no later than October 18th.

Please submit your recommendation to Dean Holmes, Welcoming Committee Chairman, 14712 Brasswood Blvd., or call Dean at 936-9948. We're planning to distribute the final list either in October or November.

Brasswood Homeowners Cookbook

Several Brasswood residents have come together to help raise funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Tracy Ellis, Susan McCann and Judy Minton are organizing a neighborhood cookbook. The proceeds from this cookbook will go toward victims of the hurricane. They are asking Brasswood residents to submit two of their favorite recipes. Please keep the following in mind when submitting the recipes: recipe needs to fit on no more than ½ of an 8 ½ x 11 page and be typed in Times New Roman 10 point font. Recipes can be emailed to aa2475@cox.net, klellis@juno.com or judypminton@sbcglobal.net. Recipes can also be hand delivered to the individuals listed above. Deadline for recipe submission has been extended to October 10th.

Yard of the Month



Please continue sprucing up your yard. The Yard of the Month contest is in full-bloom. During the months of June through October

two Brasswood households per month will be awarded a \$25 gift certificate to TLC. In November and December one family per month will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to TLC for their holiday decor. The winners will be selected on the 15th of each month. The selection criterion includes the following:

- Yard must be mowed, trimmed and edged on a timely basis. Shrubbery should be trimmed to proper height around windows and home exterior.
- Landscape should be compatible with yard and house.

- The planting of flowers and plants should be compatible to the season for color.
- Vehicles should not be left in driveway/street and garage doors should be closed when not in use.

The Yard of the Month committee announce the following winners for the months of July, August & September::

July

Tom and Terri Schmidt

14713 Lamplight Lane

Chris and Trisha Wertzberger

1517 N.W. 143rd Street

August

Ken and Betty Knight

1504 N.W. 148th Street

Allen and Shelagh Edmundson

14608 Lisa Lane

September

Rowell and Corrie Sargeant

1501 Brasswood Parkway

Sam and Kathy Orr

1500 N.W. 143rd Street

Unsung Hero

Brasswood is always looking for volunteers and many residences have answered the call. However, there are neighbors who do not wait for a call but go about in anonymity to make Brasswood a place we can be proud to call home. Two of those neighbors are Doug Speed and his wife Margaret. I am certain you have seen them as they take their walks. What you might not have noticed is that they normally carry a paper sack to pick up trash throughout the neighborhood and along 150th. As President of the Homeowners Association, I want to recognize Doug and Margaret's contributions. I hope you will join me in thanking them the next time you see them walking around Brasswood.

If you know an "Unsung Hero" let one of the Homeowners Board Members know and we will publish their story in the next newsletter.

Something New!!!! Brasswood Is Now Online!



On a test basis, our neighborhood now has a web site! The new web site includes information about Brasswood, an online newsletter, a list of the local schools in our neighborhood, and community pages about issues and events that affect our neighborhood. Links to city government officials and services, including the police, make it a great communication channel.

Our new web site is not just an information source, but also a place for all neighbors to be connected on the Internet. Want to tell people about an upcoming meeting, garage sale, or lost pet? Then post a notice in the "Community Calendar". Want your own personal web page? Then create one in the "Meet Your Neighbors" section - tell people about yourself, your family, your hobbies, or your interests. Concerned about a neighborhood issue? Talk to your neighbors - solicit new viewpoints. Go to the "Talk about it" section and create a new discussion.

This is our web site - anyone can use it - and it is easy to use! You do not need any special computer skills to post information to the site - simply fill out forms and the information is posted! All you need is Internet access - everything is in an extremely user-friendly format.

So check it out! Our new web site can be found at:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/okc/brasswood/

We are trying the web site on a limited basis. Let us know what you think by entering your comments on the web site **"talk about section"**.

Neighborhood Crime Report

The Brasswood Homeowners Association recently distributed a communication highlighting the revisions made in the consolidation of the covenants and by-laws approved this past spring. Also highlighted were a few reminders, including the closing of garage doors except when necessary for ingress and egress, reason being, there were two thefts reported by Brasswood homeowners in the past three weeks, items stolen from garages that were left open and/or unattended.

While thefts and break-ins do occur, usually on an infrequent basis, the association is more concerned about your safety. That's why we urge you to take the necessary precautions to prevent this type of activity from happening to you and your family.

Feedback from our survey conducted last fall, and more recently, comments heard by board members from homeowners clearly indicates that the majority of homeowners would like to see a periodic report on break-ins and thefts in the area. That report will now be included in our quarterly newsletter. The information for the report will be provided by the Springlake Station of the Oklahoma City Police Department which services our area, and will include information on more serious criminal activity as well, when, and if, it occurs.

Here then are the latest statistics covering the period July 1, 2005 to September 6, 2005.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Home Burglaries | 2 |
| Auto Burglaries | 2 |
| Disturbance Calls | 1 |
| Non-Injury Accidents | 1 |
| Vehicle Citations (Traffic Stops) | 2 |
| Fireworks | 5 |

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Brasswood is normally a friendly, vibrant and safe neighborhood, but that doesn't mean we're exempt from this type of activity. Thefts from garages left open and unattended are difficult cases to solve, because the thieves can get in and out in a hurry, and leave the subdivision completely undetected. Protect Yourself, Night and Day, don't leave yourselves open to this kind of activity, or give these individuals the key to what they are seeking.

Brasswood Street Repairs



City Councilman Patrick Ryan, who represents Brasswood and the surrounding communities,

was contacted by the Brasswood Board of Directors recently, in an effort to discuss the condition of our neighborhood streets, many of which are in badly needed repair and/or re-paving.

Councilman Ryan indicated that he would have a street engineer inspect our streets sometime in September, in an effort to determine the degree of damage and the repairs that are needed. He is also scheduled to meet with the members of the board at their September meeting to discuss and share with us the street ratings (where we stand on the rating chart and an approximate time table) for any repair or re-paving projects.

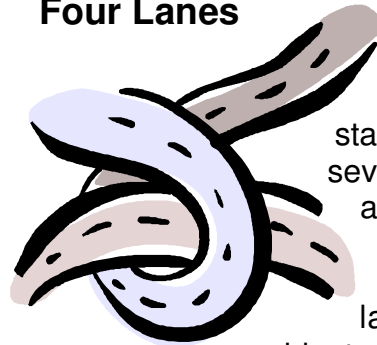
To help us in our efforts it's critical that homeowners living in Brasswood voice the need, and display their support for such a project to Councilman Ryan. The more people that make him aware of the problem, the stronger our case is, in terms of moving up the ladder with

regard to addressing the problem as soon as possible.

The purpose of your letters or calls is to reinforce that we, as homeowners, purchased homes in Brasswood because of its location, the fact they were well-built and surrounded by extremely nice subdivisions, and that they continue to appreciate in value. This also enables the city/county to increase the property taxes on a more frequent basis. Brasswood and the surrounding subdivisions compliment each other, and we truly believe that the neighboring subdivisions, i.e., Fairview Farms, Northwestern Estates, Glen Eagles and Summit Place would become very upset if the look and value of our subdivision were to decrease in value.

It would have a much stronger impact if Councilman Ryan receives letters from all 200 homeowners of Brasswood, indicating how we feel. His address is City Hall, 200 N. Walker, 3rd Floor, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Make your case to Councilman Ryan, either in writing or by phone (297-2404), as soon as possible.

N.W. 150th Expands to Four Lanes



Rumors and speculation started surfacing several months ago about the widening of N.W. 150th from two to four lanes. Most

residents were also under the assumption that the widening of Western from Memorial Ave to 150th would continue north to Edmond Rd. However, according Councilman Ryan and the Public Works Engineering Division, the widening of 150th between Pennsylvania and Western is scheduled to begin construction in late October of this year.

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Ryan provided us with the proposed scenario and time frames involved. N.W. 150th Street will be closed to through traffic during construction, and completely closed for traffic going East during the bridge construction.

The project will be built in three phases:

Phase 1 – Pennsylvania Ave to Marbleleaf Drive (2,300 ft.) - Closed to through traffic with access to one local drive.

Phase 2 – Between Marbleleaf Dr. and West of the East Summit Park School

Driveway (255 ft.) – Closed to through traffic

Phase 3 – Between Summit Park School Driveway to Wilson Rd. (2,250 ft.) – Local traffic only.

Phases 1 and 2 together are expected to be completed within 45 working days.

Phase 3 is expected to be completed within an additional 55 working days.

Ryan says the project is being financed by a city bond issue, therefore, by law; the funds cannot be used for any other project.

Brasswood Homeowners Association, Inc.

Summary Balance Sheet

(As of September 17, 2005)

ASSETS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Current Assets | |
| Checking | 7,700.41 |
| Accounts Receivable | -2100.68 |
| Accts Rec. Other | 75.00 |
| Total Accts. Rec. | -2025.68 |
| Total Current Assets | 5,674.73 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| Land | 39,750.00 |
| Pool & Buildings | 16,500.00 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 56,250.00 |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation | -16,500.00 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 39,750.00 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 45,424.73 |

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Equity | |
| Common Stock | 250.00 |
| Opening Balance Equity | 45,020.21 |
| Retained Earnings | 2,431.73 |
| Net Income | -2277.21 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | \$45,424.73 |

New Neighbors

The following residents have moved into Brasswood since our July newsletter:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Markwell | 147 th Street |
| Renteria..... | 145 th Street |
| Hulseberg..... | 143 rd Street |
| Nelson..... | 144 th Street |
| Jamal | Lisa Lane |
| Perry | Brasswood Blvd. |
| Hamilton..... | Lamplight Lane |
| Cohn | Lamplight Lane |
| Walters..... | Collingwood Lane |
| Graves | Lamplight Lane |

