

# AROUND THE BLOCK

Shoal Brook II Neighborhood Association

Building Pride in Our Neighborhood

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## IN THE BEGINNING

Shoal Brook II neighborhood came to life on July 21, 1983 when the developer, City Homes, filed the paperwork with Clay County. In the Homes Association Declaration the developer states City Homes is now developing "said subdivision for high class residential purposes and it is the desire of the undersigned owner.....for the creation and maintenance of a residence neighborhood possessing features of more than ordinary value to a residence community."

The first home built is located at 3610 N.E. 78<sup>th</sup> Street and was owned at the time by Donald and Cynthia

Waldman. Another original and still current neighbor, Sharon Reeder, says the neighborhood existed of mostly young families with children and that most of the homes were priced at \$75,000 to \$85,000. "We were considered a rural area by the post office. It was so quiet before the highway was built. We could sit on our deck and listen to the birds."

There used to be a farm with horses located at the southeast corner of N.E. 80<sup>th</sup> and N. Antioch. Sharon says, "One day as my husband was driving to work he thought he heard the sound of hoofs. Sure enough, one of the horses had gotten loose and was traveling on

the same road as my husband."

The writer remembers when the land now occupied by the development of Claybrook was still farmland and owned by a lovely old woman who had lots of daffodils around her house on a hill.

There are still several original homeowners in the neighborhood aside from the Reeders; they are the Falcos, the Dahlbergs, the Merinos, the Loars, the Severenuks and the Lauschs. Sure would like to hear some of their stories about what the neighborhood was like way back when!

## ACTIVITY COMMITTEE EVENTS

The next scheduled neighborhood activity will be our annual neighborhood garage sale. We will again coordinate our sale with the scheduled Claybrook garage sale that usually occurs in May. Soon after the garage sale we will have a city-provided dump-

ster just in case you aren't able to sell all items and need to dispose of them.

We will also have our annual back-to-school picnic and another dumpster in the fall for yard waste. If there are other events you are interesting in us host-

ing, please contact Susan Fair, the activity committee chair, at 436-8619 or via email at: [susanleefair@gmail.com](mailto:susanleefair@gmail.com).

We are always happy to hear from you and look forward to your input.

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 14, 2010.*
- *We are looking for a new newsletter editor. Please contact Trish Martin at 468-7993.*

The next general membership meeting is scheduled for April 20th, 2010.

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## MID-CONTINENT LIBRARY RECYCLING EVENT

### Going Green in the Information Age

Do you have old televisions, stereos, computers and other consumer electronics collecting dust around the house? Would you like

to get rid of them? Bring them to the Antioch branch of the Mid-Continent Public, 6060 N. Chestnut, on March 13th starting at 10:00 a.m. to be recycled. Surplus Exchange

will be collecting all types of electronics at NO COST to you. You will be ensuring that 90-95% of all electronics collected will be reused as Surplus Exchange provides com-

puters to people and groups that might otherwise not be able to afford them. Remember, this service is provided for you at NO COST whatsoever. See you there.

## HOW TO DEAL WITH A BAD NEIGHBOR

So you have a rotten neighbor. Unfortunately, in a society where mutual disrespect seems to be the norm, dealing with a rotten neighbor is fairly straightforward. Hopefully these steps will help you stop your neighbor from being rotten.

### Step 1

In some cases, real estate agents can't tell you what you really want to know.

You are not likely to avoid having a rotten neighbor if you are trying to discern the quality of the neighbors before you actually move in. These reconnaissance missions are essential to giving you a real impression of what the neighborhood is like. Real estate agents and rental agents are prevented under federal law from disclosing many important details about the residents and the schools in a particular neighborhood. It is best to check out a neighborhood you are thinking about moving into during the summertime on Fridays and Saturdays, both during the day and night. In most cases, you

discover that your neighbor is rotten after you move in. Or, the bad neighbor moves in after you are already there.

### Step 2

Unruly children are not rotten neighbors. Their parents are not very good at raising them. You should make an effort to be friendly with the neighbor kids, unless they vandalize your property. There is no better way to make yourself the target of kid pranks by being the neighborhood crank.

### Step 3

Accumulated junk is a violation of local codes. Report it to the proper authorities.

Research your local ordinances regulating the area you live in. There are laws on the books that address almost every aspect of our actions and property use. Local ordinances regulating noise, accumulation of junk, fireworks, barking dogs, trespassing etc. are totally ignored by nuisance neighbors. In most cases, the bad neighbor is aware that their behavior is

bad, but they simply don't care.

### Step 4

Discreetly observe and document your rotten neighbor's offensive actions. Take pictures or video if you can. You want to gather evidence of the neighbor's behaviors or property conditions that are in violation of the law. If you observe the neighbor engaging in illegal activity, report it to the police immediately. Make your report anonymously.

### Step 5

Report chronic conditions such as accumulated garbage, uncut grass, abandoned junker vehicles, etc. to your local code enforcement officer. Ask to remain anonymous. Inevitably, your rotten neighbor will become tired of paying tickets and bailing out of jail. Eventually, the rotten behavior will stop.

### Step 6

In rare cases your rotten neighbor may attempt to confront you for whatever rea-

son. If you feel threatened, go inside immediately and call the police. Do not engage your neighbor in any confrontation. If you get into a verbal and or physical altercation with your neighbor, the police think you are part of the problem.

Often neighborhood disputes are the result of a simple misunderstanding. Look for ways to open communication and get to the root of the problem. You might be surprised to learn the dispute has nothing to do with you at all, but rather a personal situation they may be dealing with. As a last resort, allow the authorities to step in when the situation becomes intolerable.

Bad neighbors can be the bane of any neighborhood. Acting quickly to identify the problem, taking ownership of any personal responsibility and working to improve the relationship can save you countless hours of anger and frustration. Follow these steps and soon you can enjoy your Home Sweet Home.

## LITTLE KNOW FACTS ABOUT SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

1) There are more Americans of Irish origin than there are Irish in Ireland. In Delaware, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire Irish is the leading ancestral group.

2) St. Patrick's Day got its American start in 1737 in Boston. We celebrate St. Patrick's Day to remember the achievements St. Patrick made during his time.

3) St. Patrick's given name was Maewyn Succat and he was born in Britain around 385 AD. At age 16 he was kidnapped by pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. During his 6 years as a slave he turned to religion for solace. He escaped slavery and made his way to Gaul where he changed his name to Patrick and studied in the monastery under St. Germain.

4) St. Patrick converted pagans to Christianity, angering

the Celtic Druids who threw him in prison many times as a result.

5) It is believed that St. Patrick died on March 17th, the day that we now celebrate St. Patrick's Day. March 17th is also feast day in Ireland.

6) The actual color of St. Patrick is blue. Green became associated with St. Patrick's Day during the 19th century. Green, in Irish legends, was worn by fairies and immortals, and also by people to encourage their crops to grow.

7) St. Patrick's celebrations were originally religious festivals; up until the 1970s Irish law mandated that pubs be closed on St. Patrick's Day. In 1995 the Irish government used St. Patrick's day to drive tourism to Ireland.

8) St. Patrick did not actually

drive snakes out of Ireland; the snakes represent the Pagans that he converted to Christianity.

9) The first organized St. Patrick's Day Parade was held in New York in 1762. The parade consisted of Irish soldiers serving in the English military, the parade helped them reconnect with their Irish roots.

10) The shamrock, which was also called the "seamroy" by the Celts, was a sacred plant in ancient Ireland because it symbolized the rebirth of spring. According to legend, St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Christian doctrine of the Trinity ( God exists as three persons-- father, son, and the Holy Spirit) to the Irish.

## DID YOU KNOW.....

Tom and Rose Kristl, 3605 N.E. 77th Terrace, became the proud parents of twin girls. Madelynn and Isabelle were born 3 weeks early on Jan. 17th, 2010. They are now home and doing well. We wish the Kristls many happy and healthy years (and a little sleep!).

Mike Satter of 3509 N.E.

77th Terrace, rescued a golden retriever named Hannah. We know Mike will make a very good home for Hannah.

Jason and Megan Ford of 3402 N.E. 78th Steet, became the proud parents of baby Aaron, on Dec. 7th, 2009. Many blessings to Mom, Dad, sister and

brother.

Linda Satter, 3400 N.E. 77th Terrace, had to have knee surgery after trying to break up a fight at school. She is on the mend and back to work. She promises she will not try to referee any more altercations.

## MAPLE-ORANGE MASHED SWEET POTATOES

*Serves 4.*

Cutting the sweet potatoes into slices of even thickness is important in getting them to cook at the same rate. A potato masher will yield slightly lumpy sweet potatoes; a food mill will make a perfectly smooth puree. The potatoes are best served immediately, but they can be covered tightly with plastic wrap and kept relatively hot for 30 minutes. This recipe can be doubled in a Dutch oven; the cooking time will need to be doubled as well.

### INGREDIENTS

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into 4 pieces

2 tablespoons heavy cream

½ teaspoon table salt

1 teaspoon granulated sugar

2 lbs. Sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/4" thick slices

Pinch ground pepper

2 tablespoons maple syrup

½ teaspoon grated orange zest

poked with fork, 35 to 45 minutes.

2. Off heat, mash sweet potatoes in saucepan with potato masher, or transfer mixture to hopper of food mill and process into warmed serving bowl. Stir in pepper, maple syrup, and orange zest; serve immediately.

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Combine butter, cream, salt, sugar, and sweet potatoes in 3 to 4 quart saucepan; cook, covered, over low heat, stirring occasionally, until potatoes fall apart when



### THE NEW LOOK OF THE SHOAL BROOK NEWS

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#### WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[NEIGHBORHOODLINK.COM/KC/  
SBII](http://NEIGHBORHOODLINK.COM/KC/SBII)

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If you provide a service, live in the neighborhood and would like to have your information published in the newsletter at no charge, please contact Trish Martin at 468-7993.

**BUILDING PRIDE IN OUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD**

### Contact Information

President—Trish Martin 468-7993

Vice-President—David Severenuk 468-4165

Secretary—Susan Fair 436-8619

Treasurer—Mitzi Loar 468-1989

Board Member at Large—Danny Taylor 436-5687

### Helpful Numbers

Northland Neighborhoods 454-2000

Shoal Creek Patrol 413-3400

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

