



# THE SHANNON VALLEY VOICE

Winter 2008-2009

## A Message From The SVHA Board

2009 is here and we're ready to start the new year. Hoping you all had a happy and joyful Holiday Season. We've had pretty unusual weather so far this season with significant snow and ice, rain and 65 degree temperatures in a span of less than a week. I'm hoping that global warming will take over soon and quickly get us back to spring.

The last year brought some changes and the revitalization of renovation efforts. We have accomplished dues collections on all properties but one. Major events were held. The Easter Egg hunt was another success with help from Kathy Ulm and the Easter Bunny, Ryan Nease. The Deck Crawl was a fun time and Lori Kueker was instrumental in arrangements for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. The Neighborhood Service day was a great success as well. And thanks to Linda Nease, Herb Nease and Vern Koeppen for arranging and helping with the Oktoberfest. I wish to thank all the Board members and volunteers for making these events a success. We're hoping in 2009 to continue these events and with the help of these and more volunteers we will succeed.

At the Annual meeting in November an update of the year's events and accomplishments was provided. The new Board was elected. Door prizes were awarded. Significant changes were voted on and agreed to at the meeting. A new Trash Pickup provider was selected and annual dues were raised to \$250. These changes are discussed in detail in this newsletter. Unfortunately, less than 12% of the home owners in Shannon Valley were present at the annual meeting. Attending the Annual meeting is the time to have an impact on these decisions. Volunteering and participating on the Board are your opportunity to influence decisions and direction of the Association.

Looking forward to 2009 Shannon Valley will see some major changes taking place along Antioch with the addition of north and south bound lanes. This will impact our landscaping. We have initiated a committee to manage the renovation of the Tennis Court area in Shannon Valley Park. Contact Brian Miles to participate on this committee. We will have the new Trash Provider, L & K Services, starting in March 2009. With this new provider, it will be necessary to switch your curbside recycling services to L & K. They provide this at the same cost as the current provider. You need only to contact them and arrange for the service. Curbside recycling is not a part of the trash pickup service fee collected with the Annual Dues.

All in all 2008 was a great year. The coming year will bring change and challenges for all of us. I wish to thank all of you for being Shannon Valley residents and continuing to make this "A Great Place to Live".

## MEET YOUR NEW 2009 SVHA BOARD

The Annual meeting in November drew a crowd of approximately 60 residents who cast their ballots for new board members (one ballot per household). In addition, every home in Shannon Valley received a ballot that could be mailed in by Nov. 12th. The ballots are in and counted!

Paul Wildgen, President  
Brian Miles, Vice President  
Troy Russell, Secretary/Treasurer  
Mike Driggs, Board Member  
John Hunt, Board Member

“Lori Kueker has decided to resign from the Board but will continue to serve the community as Neighborhood Relations Chairman. Please welcome Mike Driggs and John Hunt as the newest Board members. “

Feel free to contact any of the Board members with your concerns and comments. Contact information can be found on the web site at [www.shannonvalley.org](http://www.shannonvalley.org).

## 2009 DUES

The Shannon Valley Homes Association Members voted at the Annual Meeting in November 2008 to increase our annual assessment from \$200 to \$250. The annual dues statement was mailed to residents late November, 2008.

The 2009 annual maintenance assessment and trash pickup fees totaling \$250 per household are due on January 1, 2009. This payment consists of \$138 for household trash pickup and a \$113 for homes association maintenance. Any assessment not received by February 1, 2009 will be considered past due, and will be subject to a \$50 late fee.

Upon receipt of your bill, please mail your payment to the Shannon Valley Homeowners Association, at P.O. Box 25054, Overland Park, KS 66225. If you have questions, please contact a board member.

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

With the new year it's time to take a look around your property for needed improvements. It is important to keep your home in good repair to maintain the property values of the entire neighborhood. Items that have been noted to the Board include: finishing that paint job, remove the stones from the driveway, repair the broken window, the window shutter and the rotting wood around the window, keep up with the yard maintenance. These items have existed for a number of years on certain properties and it's time to complete the project. We all want to take pride in our neighborhood and our neighbors for well maintained property.

Please remember to contact the appropriate official prior to working on your home improvements. Internal repairs and updates may need the approval of the City of OP and a building permit. External improvements such as deck additions, fences, extensive yard renovation, etc may require the City's approval and permit as well as approval from the SVHA Board. Make sure to check the Overland Park web site as well as the SHANNON VALLEY By Laws, located on the web site.

# WINTER WEATHER DRIVING TIPS

**Kansas road conditions Hotline - 511**  
**or visit [www.kanroad.org](http://www.kanroad.org).**  
**If outside of Kansas dial 1-866-511-KDOT**

If at all possible, try to park your car in your driveway to allow the snow plows and sand trucks to do a better job of cleaning the neighborhood street. Also if possible shovel your sidewalk. They will dry up a lot faster on those cold but sunny days and be much safer to walk on.

Winter driving can be dangerous, especially for rusty drivers at the beginning of the season. After a long spring and summer, it is easy to forget how to drive on winter's slick roads and in low visibility. Common sense says to monitor the weather, travel only when necessary, keep your speed down, and drive defensively. The Patrol offers these additional suggestions for your safe winter travel.

First, prepare your vehicle. Extreme temperatures can be hard on vehicles. Check the fluids, ensuring that the radiator is winterized, that the gas tank is over half-full, and that there is plenty of windshield washing fluid. Check belts, hoses, and brake systems for excessive wear. Have the exhaust system checked; small leaks can allow carbon monoxide to enter the passenger compartment. Check tire treads for adequate traction, and replace windshield wiper blades if they are ineffective.

## **Keep a survival kit that includes at least the following:**

- . An ice scraper and shovel
- . Jumper cables
- . Flashlights
- . Sand or kitty litter for traction
- . Extra clothing or blankets
- . Non-perishable food
- . A first aid kit
- Matches and candles or flares
- . A towrope or chain.

## **On the road, remember the following:**

Allow extra time for delays and slower traffic speeds.

Buckle up and properly secure children in safety seats.

Increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you. Ice and snow significantly increase your stopping distance.

Accelerate and brake gently. A light foot on the gas is less likely to make wheels spin on ice and snow. Braking is best accomplished by pumping the pedal. If your vehicle has an anti-lock braking system (ABS), it is very important that you understand how to use it.

Read the owner's manual or check with a dealership for more information, and practice using it correctly.

Make turns slowly and gradually, especially in heavily traveled areas (e.g. intersections that may be icy from snow that melted and refroze).

Visibility is very important. You must be able to see out, and other drivers must be able to see your vehicle. Clean frost and snow off all windows, mirrors, and lights. Use headlights as necessary.

If your car loses traction and begins to slide, steer into the swerve, or in the direction you want to go. Anticipate a second skid in the opposite direction as the car straightens out.

If you plan to drive, do not drink. Designate a driver or call a cab. Report impaired drivers to a law enforcement agency.

Watch for deer, especially near dusk and dawn.

If you are stranded in a winter storm, do not panic. Stay in the vehicle, keep fresh air circulating through a downwind window, run the motor sparingly, turn on the dome light, and stimulate circulation and stay awake by moving arms and legs. If you leave the car, work slowly in the snow to avoid over-exertion and the risk of a heart attack. If you have a cellular phone, **call a Kansas Highway Patrol dispatcher by dialing \*HP (47), or \*KTA (582) while on the Kansas Turnpike.**

You can check Kansas road conditions by dialing **511** or by visiting **[www.kanroad.org](http://www.kanroad.org)**. If outside of Kansas dial 1-866-511-KDOT.

## **NEW TRASH PICKUP SERVICE PROVIDER**

In 2008, due to many complaints and changes in the service provided by our trash pickup provider, the SV Board requested bids for solid waste pickup from the Overland Park approved providers. We received bids from 4 providers. The bid requests were analyzed and presented at the Annual Meeting. The members present voted to accept the bid from L&K Services for Trash Pickup for 2009. The cost for this service was among the lowest of the bids at \$11.50 per month per household and included flexibility in the services provided. All residents will be receiving an introduction letter in February, from L&K, explaining their services.

The current contract with Deffenbaugh will expire at the end of February and the first pickup from L&K will be on March 2. That's a Monday. With the new provider we will be back on a Monday pickup schedule.

The curbside recycling package will remain as an option of the resident at extra cost. If you are currently using curbside recycling from Deffenbaugh Industries, you will need to contact L&K Services to switch to their recycling pickup. The cost is the same at \$3.00 per month per household. Deffenbaugh will be picking up their recycle bins on their last pickup day. L&K can be contacted at 1-888-837-4640 to request a bin and sign up for recycling.

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Jan. 9, 2009**

### **Bring customer convenience online**

Overland Park, KS - Ever get that annoying feeling of wanting to let someone know about a concern, but don't know who to talk with?

Overland Park is making it easier for you.

Starting Monday, residents, business operators and visitors can go online to file a concern or service request and be able to electronically track its progress.

"OPCares allows anyone to electronically file a concern at their convenience," said Vicki Irey, director of Information Technology. "Our intent is to improve customer service through OPCares and provide an opportunity for anyone submitting a concern to track its progress."

Simply go to [opkansas.org](http://opkansas.org), click on OPCares, or type in [www.opkansas.org/opcares](http://www.opkansas.org/opcares).

From there, you can select a topic from a list of categories and type in associated information. Whether it is a pothole, street light out, property maintenance, tall weeds, golf course, the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead or a traffic signal, you can let Overland Park know.

Response times for most concerns are expected to be within one business day. Others like property codes may take three business days.

If you have a concern, don't wait. Get online today.

## 4th SHANNON VALLEY DECK CRAWL June 19th

Shannon Valley Homes Association would like to invite you to our 4th Deck Crawl. In the past this has been a great success with lots of fun and fellowship. It's another avenue for you to socialize with other SV residents. We spend about 45 minutes at each home beginning at 7pm ending around 11:30(?).

Those hosting will provide a variety of tantalizing appetizers and drinks.

Do you want to show off your pretty back yard? How about volunteering as a host at this years Deck Crawl?

Please contact Lori Kueker, 451-3109 or the SVHA Board if you think you would like to volunteer and/or attend. Thank you, SVHA Board

1. Volunteer needed
2. Volunteer needed
3. Volunteer needed

## SEASONAL HOME AWARD



Congratulations to Dale & Misty Schalow, the winners of the Shannon Valley Holiday Seasonal Home Award. Their beautifully decorated home at 9800 W 115th Terr was an outstanding display of holiday spirit, with plenty of lights on the house and shrubbery, and brightly lit snowmen in the yard. To top it all off, those who took the time to walk by the house or to stop and get out of the car were treated to holiday music along with the light display!

The Schalows are the winners of a \$25 Home Depot gift card, which we hope they'll use to further enhance their impressive array of holiday decorations. Congratulations!

# SHANNON VALLEY TENNIS COURTS PLANNING COMMITTEE

At the Shannon Valley Homes Association's annual meeting in November, it was agreed that a committee would be formed to investigate options for repair or replacement of the Shannon Valley tennis courts. The tennis courts have been in disrepair for a number of years, and the issue of how to resolve this has been the subject of spirited conversations at many of the recent annual meetings. The goal of the committee will be to evaluate the feasibility and cost of any available options and take appropriate action.

The committee will be chaired by Brian Miles, Vice President of the homes association, and about a dozen people have volunteered to assist.

The first meeting of this planning committee will be held as follows:

**When:** January 21, 2009

**Where:** The home of Brian and Sandy Miles, 10012 W 114th St

Anyone with an interest in actively participating on this committee is welcome to attend. Please contact Brian Miles at [bmiles@shannonvalley.org](mailto:bmiles@shannonvalley.org) if you wish to participate.

## Check out

<http://www.shannonvalley.org/>

To subscribe to the SVHA distribution lists, send an email to:  
[SVHA-INFO-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SVHA-INFO-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## SHANNON VALLEY 4TH OF JULY PARADE



Come one come all and participate in the festivities. Kids be sure and decorate your bicycle, tricycle, stroller, wagon or your wheels of choice.

Where: SV Park  
When: 9:30 - 11:00

Dear Shannon Valley Home Owner:

It may be cold outside, but Brookridge Golf and Country Club has a very **HOT DEAL FOR YOU!!**

Now through March 31, 2009, we offering a fantastic Membership Promotion that you will not want to miss out on –

**NO INITIATION FEE**

(With a Two-Year Agreement of Membership)

**MONTHLY DUES DISCOUNT FOR SIX (6) MONTHS**

We offer several options on memberships –

**Social** (Privileges Include – Dining; Swimming; Six Rounds of Golf Per Year at the 9 Hole Course with Minimal Fees; Usage of the Private Banquet Rooms and Monthly Social Events)

**9 Hole** (Privileges Include – Year Round Golf on the 9 Hole Course; Dining; Swimming; Usage of the Private Banquet Rooms and Monthly Social Events)

**Full Golf** (Privileges Include – Year Round Golf on the 18 and 9 Hole Courses; Dining; Swimming; Usage of the Private Banquet Rooms and Monthly Social Events)

**Four Categories Available**

**Junior Entry (Ages 21 - 26)**

**Junior Resident (Ages 27 - 34)**

**Resident (Age 35 & Over)**

**Corporate (Age 21 & Over – Minimum of 2 people joining from the same firm together)**

All of our memberships include spouses and children up to age 24 that are living at home; in school and not married.

For further information on this promotion or to arrange a tour, please e-mail me at [dedrar@kc.rr.com](mailto:dedrar@kc.rr.com) or call (913) 648-1600 ext. 223.

Sincerely,

***Dedra Rippee***

Dedra Rippee, CMP  
Membership/Catering Director  
Brookridge Golf & Country Club

Shannon Valley Homes Association  
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Overland Park, KS 66225

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