

# The Cobblestone Courier

Issue Number 7

February 2005

## Annual Neighborhood Summer Picnic 2004



*Many neighborhood residents enjoyed the Annual Summer Neighborhood Picnic which was held on Saturday, September 18, 2004 on Huxley and Thackeray Drive. Cobblestone Residents enjoyed the warm summer day. The Association would like to give a special thanks to Nate and Stacey Blaustein and other volunteers who organized the successful event.*

**Neighborhood Watch Program** - The Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association has established a Neighborhood Watch Program in coordination with Neighborhood Officer Scott Allin of the Springfield Police Department to reduce crime in our neighborhood. We are calling for volunteers to serve as Block Captains. If wish to learn more about the program please contact Tracy Gathard at 217-726-8202 or email at [tgathard@yahoo.com](mailto:tgathard@yahoo.com). Scott Allin can be reached at Pager 217-527-4441 or email at [mpo600@aol.com](mailto:mpo600@aol.com).

### **Cobblestone Estates Social Events Planed for 2005**

Please visit our Cobblestone Web Page at [cobblestonesub.com](http://cobblestonesub.com) for news about what's going on in the neighborhood. We would like to thank all the Social Event volunteers for all the time and effort they put into making these events a success.

**Cobblestone E-mail Directory** – Several times throughout the year, we have announcements, such as hosting a meeting about forming a Neighborhood Watch Program. Since the Newsletter is published annually, we try and distribute information via a broadcast email. If you would like to be included in the Cobblestone E-mail Directory, please contact Susan WaliMohammad at [sjwali@insightbb.com](mailto:sjwali@insightbb.com) or 793-3209.

**Bunco** - Bunco is played on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month. Currently there are 8 players. If enough people are interested, we can start another group. Contact Susan WaliMohammad at [sjwali@insightbb.com](mailto:sjwali@insightbb.com) or 793-3209.

**Independence Day Fireworks** – For the past three years, a private neighborhood fireworks display has been hosted over Lake Kingsley. Several residents set up chairs in their back yard to watch the show. Some said the display rivaled shows put on by several Villages in Sangamon County. If you plan to participate, you are encouraged to file and receive a "residential fireworks display permit" with the City so everything is official. Preliminary plans call for the fireworks celebration to be held on Saturday, July 2, 2005.

**Ladies Night Out** – If you are interested in getting together at various Springfield restaurants contact Susan WaliMohammad at [sjwali@insightbb.com](mailto:sjwali@insightbb.com) or 793-3209.



**Halloween "BOO-ING"** - October 15th Through October 31st – Once you receive your treats and a BOO sign, the following directions may vary a little: **Directions:** Enjoy your treats! Keep the BOO sign on your front door. Copy this letter twice and secretly deliver to two neighbors who do not have a BOO sign on their front door. Then watch how far this spreads by Halloween!! And don't forget some nifty treats, like something cute or something sweet. Contact Susan WaliMohammad by October 1st at [sjwali@insightbb.com](mailto:sjwali@insightbb.com) or 793-3209 if you would be willing to be one of the 5 homes needed to start this event. This is a voluntary activity.

**Summer Time Evening Walks** - June through August, 6:00 to 7:00 pm. Just starting walking and get to know your neighbors.

**Neighborhood Politeness** – In a previous newsletter, we politely asked residents not to block sidewalks with portable Basketball hoops and most residents moved the hoops to allow walkers the right of way. Another small issue is for residents to move permanently parked vehicles off the street and into their garage or on their driveway. There are city codes and neighborhood covenants that address these issues, but if residents help in this area, there would be no need for further enforcement. Please help make our neighborhood look less cluttered.

**2005 Neighborhood Summer Picnic** – The residents on Keats Drive have volunteered to host the Cobblestone 2004 Neighborhood Picnic. The picnic is planned for Saturday, September 17, 2005. If you are interested in helping call Tammy McClure at 217-787-7991 or email at [kms5@aol.com](mailto:kms5@aol.com).

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**Neighborhood Garage Sale** – The Association plans to hold a neighborhood garage sale again this summer. We plan to advertise the event with notices and signs. If you plan to participate and want to be included in the advertising, please contact Karen Troute at 217-787-3595 or email at [kstroute@yahoo.com](mailto:kstroute@yahoo.com).

**Vendor Selection** - Requests for Proposals (RFP) for interested vendors to submit bids for lawn maintenance, lawn treatment, lake treatment, insurance, legal, accounting and etc. are available on the Association's web page at [www.cobblestonesub.com](http://www.cobblestonesub.com). Vendors will annually be required to submit bids by year end for services during the calendar year. Vendors interested in providing a proposal for these services are encouraged to complete the RFP forms and submit them to the Cobblestone President.

**Notice of Annual Meeting** - The Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 18, 2005 at the Knights of Columbus, 2200 South Meadowbrook Drive, Springfield, IL 62707. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend. The candidates running for the Board of Directors are Kyle Barry, Andrew Hamilton and Tammy McClure

**Board of Directors** – Association members in good standing that wish to run for the Board of Directors are required to complete the "Board of Directors Candidate Form" posted on the Association's web page at [www.cobblestonesub.com](http://www.cobblestonesub.com) and submit them to the Cobblestone President at 2508 Dickens Drive, Springfield IL 62707 or fax to 217-546-7569 by December 31 of each calendar year in order to be placed on the ballot. The Board approved these election rules and the membership was notified of these rules in 2003 which prohibit nominations from the floor at the annual meeting.

**Budget Background** - In July of 2001, the control of the subdivision was turned over to the residents who established an annual fee of \$60 with a voluntary social fee of \$10. The covenants require any new member to pay a one time \$100 "Entering Membership Fee". The Association was able to keep the fee at \$60 for three years. In 2004, the annual fee was increased to \$80 with a voluntary social fee of \$20. The Board of Directors is recommending no change in the fees to \$80 with a voluntary social contribution of \$20. If you would like to

comment on the proposed fee increase, please attend the annual meeting

**Proposed 2005 Annual Budget** - On January 24, 2005, the Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association Board of Directors approved the following budget for Calendar Year 2005: Insurance - \$6,200, Legal & Accounting - \$17,000, Debt Service - \$6,000, Maintenance & Capital Improvements - \$25,000, Office Expense - \$1,500, Total - \$55,700 plus a contingency of 10%. There is an additional Social budget of \$4,000. The budget is submitted to the residents of the Association 60 days prior to the annual meeting with a vote of approval/disapproval at the annual meeting.



**Holiday Celebration** – We are hopeful to be able to host a Holiday Celebration this winter. Unfortunately, social funds are falling short of the amount needed for the Association to underwrite the event. We may possibly schedule the event and charge a small door fee to cover costs. We need a volunteer to coordinate the event. If interested, please contact Andy Hamilton at 217-546-7525 or email at [andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com](mailto:andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com).

**Lake Riprap** – Many homeowners with properties on the lake have elected to place a rock barrier on their shoreline to reduce erosion and shallowing of the pond. The Cobblestone Covenants require each homeowner to maintain their property such as lawn care, etc. to the shoreline. The cost of placing rock is the responsibility of the homeowner. The Association has been contacted by vendors to perform this service. If more than one member does it at the same time, a reduced price may be obtained. If interested in getting a quote on the cost of this improvement, please contact Andrew Hamilton at 217-546-7525.

**The Cobblestone Courier is published annually. Look for future issues on our web page. Contact Andy Hamilton at 546-7525 or [andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com](mailto:andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com) if you are interested in serving on the Communications Committee or there is something you would like to include in the Newsletter.**

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