

# SIGNALS FROM THE HILL

## *Signal Hill Neighborhood Association*

ISSUE 11

[www.signalhillna.com](http://www.signalhillna.com)

JUNE 2010

### Signal Hill

A Great Place to Live

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Dear Neighbors,

We have many opportunities in this neighborhood for people who like to get involved and make a difference.

**Our Signal Hill Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting and Election of the 2010 Board of Directors is this coming Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at the Signal Hill Firehouse on Hazel.** Under the current bylaws, you must be at least 18 years of age, own property in Signal Hill, and be a dues-paying member. You can come to the meeting and nominate yourself. Further information is on page 4 and 5 this newsletter. Suffice it to say that we generally don't turn anyone down.

**The Signal Hill School Board has School Board positions open in the spring of 2011.** You may be interested in serving in that capacity. These are elected positions so you would probably want to call the St. Clair County Board of Elections soon to get the specifics as to how to get your name on the ballot.

If you look at your property tax bill, you will see that Signal Hill taxpayers pay taxes into the East Side Park District. Signal Hill residents have often talked about putting a Signal Hill resident on the ballot for that Board position, but we usually never knew about the election until we entered the voting booth on Election Day. We did some checking this year and **there is an election for Board seats on the East Side Park District Board in the spring of 2011.** If you call the St. Clair County Election Board, they can give you more information regarding that election.

The neighborhood association is always looking for additional Block Captains. If you don't think the area where you live is represented well, then call the NW coordinator and sign up to be a Block Captain. Talk to a friend and both of you sign up. Be the voice for your street and make a difference for your block. [See page 14 for more on Block Captains]

*Lend a hand. Get involved. Make a difference.  
You'll be glad you did.*

We look forward to seeing you  
Sunday afternoon.

Your Signal Hill Board of Directors

## 2008 – 2009 SHNA BOARD MEMBERS

	<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>POSITIONS</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>
1	Barb Ducey	President	7 Ridge Lane	398-6435	<a href="mailto:ba.ducey@hotmail.com">ba.ducey@hotmail.com</a>
2	Donna Mussulman	Vice-President	29 Signal Point	397-8830	<a href="mailto:dmussulman@charter.net">dmussulman@charter.net</a>
3	Julie Tedford	Secretary	306 Julia Place	397-6070	<a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>
4	Angela Kammann	Treasurer	28 Signal Hill Blvd.	394-1083	<a href="mailto:alshannah@prodigy.net">alshannah@prodigy.net</a>
5	Alexander, Nancy	Board Member	12 Signal Hill Blvd.	394-8831	<a href="mailto:sandn1009@sbcglobal.net">sandn1009@sbcglobal.net</a>
6	Butler, Carole	Board member	36 Ruth Place	397-1893	<a href="mailto:doxy6@sbcglobal.net">doxy6@sbcglobal.net</a>
7	Davis, Karen	Board member	34 Ruth Place		
8	Dougherty, Donna	Zoning liaison	23 Signal Hill Blvd.	398-6836	<a href="mailto:ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net">ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net</a>
9	Graebe, Karen	Events committee	210 Bluff Drive	398-8793	<a href="mailto:kgraebe@charter.net">kgraebe@charter.net</a>
10	Henke, Stacey	Events committee	37 Signal Hill Blvd.	398-0994	<a href="mailto:henke4@charter.net">henke4@charter.net</a> or <a href="mailto:shenke@stclair.k12.il.us">shenke@stclair.k12.il.us</a>
11	Macklin, Nancy	Board member	5 Glenview Drive	398-0342	<a href="mailto:macklin7@charter.net">macklin7@charter.net</a>
12	Meister, Susan	Board member	2 Signal Hill Blvd.	(217)741-3233	<a href="mailto:smeister06@earthlink.net">smeister06@earthlink.net</a>
13	Mussulman, Jim	Web Master	29 Signal Point	397-8830	<a href="mailto:jmussul@siue.edu">jmussul@siue.edu</a>
14	Reed, Rochelle	Newsletter	1 Sylvania Drive	394-1064	<a href="mailto:rreed00@att.net">rreed00@att.net</a>
15	Tedford, Doug	Maintenance/ Beautification	306 Julia Place	397-6070	<a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>
16	Triska, Brian	Maintenance/ Beautification	103 Hazel Ave	397-8091 Cell: 409-4148	<a href="mailto:oct7brian@yahoo.com">oct7brian@yahoo.com</a>
17	Walker, David	Welcome Committee Chair	8 Creston Drive	398-8180	<a href="mailto:wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net">wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net</a>
18	Williams, Robbie	Events	2 Millie	398-3187	<a href="mailto:rwilliams@tricityport.com">rwilliams@tricityport.com</a>

### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY</b>	<b>PHONE</b>		<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
Curtis McCall	Township Supervisor	Centreville Township	874-1034		<a href="mailto:ctsuper@charterinternet.com">ctsuper@charterinternet.com</a>
Marty Crawford	Township Hwy Commissioner	Centreville Township	Office: 332-1520	Mobile: 420-6918	<a href="mailto:martycommiss@aol.com">martycommiss@aol.com</a>
Kim Hettick	Precinct Committee	Centreville Township	394-9845		
Mark Eckert	Mayor of Belleville	City Hall 101 S. Illinois, Belleville	233-6810		



**2010 DUES - PAYING MEMBERS**

*Our dues' page looks a little empty...but no March newsletter was distributed this year...hence, no one received a dues reminder.*

*A special Thanks to the wonderful neighbors listed on this page. They paid their dues on time even without our gentle reminder.*

*Our goal is to see the name of every Signal Hill family on this page when we go to print in September. Please return the enclosed form with your check and let us add your family's name to the list of Signal Hill Supporters.*



BLUFF DRIVE  
Sandford, Mark and Lisa  
Stalker, Barbara

BLUFF HILL ROAD  
Tisch, Don and Carolyn

BRIAR HILL ROAD

CARBON STREET

CIRCLE DRIVE

CONCORD DR.

CRESTON DR.  
Albert, Milton and Kay  
Politsch, Ray and Betty

DIVIDE

EDGEWOOD DRIVE

FOREST  
Croissant, Norma  
Pappas, Jim and Rose  
Spilka, Kathy and Louis

FREDERICK

GLENVIEW  
Windham, Barbara

HAZEL AVE.  
Edmundson, Virginia and Family  
Hudson, Michele  
Bainter, Gary and Michele

JULIA PLACE  
Jones, Gaither and Margie

KINGSTON DRIVE  
Suess, Steve and Barbara  
Waller, Mary

LAMASK

LAWRENCE

LENEL

LINDORF

MARTIN

MILDRED

MILLIE

PERRY LANE

RAVINE

RIDGE LANE  
Ducey, Tom and Barb

RUTH

SIGNAL HILL BLVD.  
Alexander, Scott and Nancy  
Dugan, Chris and Marilou  
Schmitz, Mark and Kit  
Stumbaugh, Gloria

SIGNAL HILL TERRACE

SIGNAL PARK LANE

SIGNAL POINT  
Morrison, Harold and Leona

SOUTH 95<sup>th</sup> ST.

SOUTH CRESTON

SUPERIOR DRIVE

SYLVANIA

VALLEY

WALNUT

WEDGEWOOD LANE

\* FRIENDS OF SHNA  
Carol Hackmann



# Signal Hill Neighborhood Association



## SHNA ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 27th, 2010

3:00 pm

Signal Hill Firehouse (on Hazel Ave.)



Come on over and meet your neighbors.

Pay your dues, too.

This is a great time to see old friends and make new ones.



Elect your 2010 Board Members.

**(You must be a dues paying member to vote.)**

Our annual meeting for nominations and election for the neighborhood association 2010 Board of Directors is Sunday, JUNE 27th, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at the Signal Hill Firehouse. This is a great way to volunteer and show your support to our neighborhood. **(You must be a dues paying member to be a board member and vote for the new slate.)** If you would like to become a board member, please call President Barb Ducey at 398-6435 or simply come to this meeting.

Vote on Bylaw Revisions

**(You must be a dues paying member to vote.)**



This is your meeting.

This is YOUR MEETING. You have the floor. We want to hear from you. What do you like about the neighborhood and/or the association? What don't you like about the neighborhood and/or the association? What and/or how can the association do better? What is your vision for the future of Signal Hill? Do you have Time? Talent? Or Ideas? to give to the association? Please let us know. This is your meeting.



Pick up dinner, too!

The Signal Hill Fire Volunteer Firefighter's will be hosting their famous **Ribs & Raffle Day on June 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** This is the neighborhood's opportunity to support the men and women who work tirelessly to protect our community. Due to high demand, you must place your order for ribs and side dishes in advance. Call 397-1995 to place an order. Leave a message if no one is there to take your call.

**[REMEMBER to buy those raffle tickets, too. ]**

Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you just content that your name is on a list?

Do you attend meetings, and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home, to criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part, to help the work along?

Or are you satisfied to only just belong?

Do you work with your committee, and get right in the mix?

Or leave the work to just a few, and talk about the “cliques?”

Think this over, member – you know right from wrong.

Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

*Community Service Begins at Home*

ANNUAL ELECTION OF THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our annual meeting for nominations and election for the neighborhood association Board of Directors is **Sunday, JUNE 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.** at the **Signal Hill Firehouse on Hazel Ave.**

Please consider throwing your hat into the ring this year.

This is a great way to meet new people and help your community. **If you would like to become a board member, please come to this meeting. No prior experience needed.**

**NOMINEES MUST BE**

a Signal Hill property owner  
at least 18 years of age  
a dues paying member

**ABOUT THE BOARD**

monthly meetings (we strive for 1 hr)  
no traveling (not even to Dupo)  
no stipend (Figures, right? But the again, aren't you volunteering?)  
never on a committee of one (we believe in sharing the fun)  
sense of humor (helps maintain balance in your life)

**YOU MUST BE A DUES PAYING MEMBER TO VOTE.**

There will be someone there to collect dues before the meeting. Dues are \$20 for the year.

**ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA:**

Call to Order  
Introductions  
Public Comments  
Approval of the Agenda  
President's Annual Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Discussion and Vote on Proposed Bylaw Revisions  
Nominations and Election of 2010 Board  
Next meeting date: same date as SHFD Ribs and Raffle next year  
Meeting Adjourned

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP TO VOTE ON REVISED BYLAWS

The last revision of the SHNA bylaws was made at the annual meeting on Sunday 24 June 2007 and included only one amendment (re: number of board members). The bylaws have needed a complete revision for a number of years to reflect the operation and activities of the association. A bylaws committee appointed by President Barb Ducey worked from October 2009 to March of this year and prepared a much simplified set of bylaws, in conjunction with input from board members at each board meeting from October to March. The board gave final approval to the proposed bylaws at the board meeting on Thursday 11 March. A motion will be introduced at the Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday 27 June 2010 for the membership to approve the proposed bylaws. The proposed bylaws, if approved, will become effective immediately.

The proposed bylaws are below. The extant bylaws are on the association website for anyone who wishes to compare them to the proposed bylaws.

### Bylaws Committee

Nancy Macklin

Jim Pappas

## 2010 Proposed BYLAWS OF SIGNAL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

### ARTICLE I. NAME, PURPOSE, BOUNDARIES

- A. The name of the Association shall be "Signal Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc.," hereinafter called the "Association."
- B. The purpose of the Association shall be to act in the common interest of the owners and/or residents of property within the boundaries of the Association to maintain and promote high standards of quality in the appearance and safety of the streets and grounds within those boundaries and in the maintenance of any common ground, facilities, and equipment.
- C. The boundaries of the Association shall be as outlined on the attached General Highway Map of Centreville, Stookey, and Belleville Townships, St. Clair County, Illinois, as prepared by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

### ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP, DUES, FISCAL MATTERS, MEETINGS, QUORUM

- A. Membership in the Association shall be open to owners and/or residents of property within the Association boundaries provided they are of legal voting age. Membership begins on payment of annual Association membership dues. **Owners of multiple properties shall have only one membership and one vote.** When a property is owned by one party and occupied by another party, each party shall be limited to one membership. A membership may be in the name of one or more persons, but there shall be only one voting member per membership on any matter requiring a vote.
- B. Membership dues are payable in January and shall be paid by the date of the Annual Meeting in order to maintain a membership and to permit a voting member to vote. Changes in the amount of annual dues shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by vote of the Association.
- C. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year. Sources of income shall be dues and may be voluntary contributions and income from events approved by the Board of Directors. Any dispersal of funds shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- D. An Annual Meeting shall be held for the Association membership for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors and for conducting any other business. The date, time, and location shall be planned by the Board of Directors and announced to the Association membership at least 30 days before the meeting. Special meetings for the Association membership may be called by the Board of Directors. Special meetings shall be called if at least 10 voting members who are not Board members submit a request to the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting and special meetings shall be open to the public.
- E. At an Annual Meeting or special meetings, a quorum for conducting business shall consist of at least 20 voting members who are present at the meeting. There shall be

no proxy votes.

### ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, MEETINGS, QUORUM, ATTENDANCE, VACANCIES

- A. The Board of Directors shall consist of at least 10, but not more than 21, Association members who have consented to serve, who are elected by a simple majority of voting members present at the Annual Meeting, and who shall take office at the close of that meeting for a one year term. There shall be no term limits for serving as a board member.
- A. The Board of Directors shall elect Officers from the board membership at the first board meeting held after the Annual Meeting. Officers shall take office immediately. There shall be no term limits for serving as an officer.
- C. The Board of Directors shall set the dates, times, and locations for monthly board meetings and for any special board meetings. All meetings shall be announced to the Association membership and shall be open to the public. Board members may vote to go into closed session during a meeting.
- D. At Board of Directors meetings, a quorum for conducting business shall consist of a majority of the total board membership. A simple majority of those voting shall be required to pass motions. The presiding officer shall vote only in the event of a tie.
- E. Board members who are absent from three board meetings in a calendar year and who do not notify the president regarding the absences may be removed from the board by vote of the Board of Directors.
- F. The Board of Directors may fill a vacancy on the board by electing an Association member who has consented to serve. The new board member shall take office at the next board meeting, shall serve until the next Annual Meeting, and shall be eligible for re-election.

### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

- A. President: Shall preside at all Association meetings, execute instruments, and act as liaison to other bodies in fulfilling the directives of the Board of Directors.
- B. Vice President: Shall fulfill the duties of the President in the absence of the President, convene the Audit Committee, and perform other supplementary activities as directed by the Board of Directors.
- C. Treasurer: Shall receive and disburse Association funds; keep accurate records of dues and other funds; distribute a written report for each board meeting and Annual Meeting; participate in an annual internal audit; and maintain a current membership roster.
- D. Secretary: Shall record and distribute minutes of Board of Directors meetings, the Annual Meeting, and any special meetings and keep other records as directed by the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

- A. The Board of Directors shall establish standing and ad hoc committees as needed to fulfill the activities of the Association. Board members shall serve as committee chairs; committee positions may be held by board members or other Association members in good standing.
- B. Standing committees may include Newsletter, Technology, Zoning, Budget, Events, Landscaping, Welcome Neighbor, Neighborhood Watch Committees.
- C. Ad hoc committees may include Audit and Bylaws Review Committees.

### ARTICLE VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- A. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in conduct of all Association meetings.
- B. All Association meeting agendas and records of minutes shall follow this Order of Business:
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call
  - Reordering of Agenda
  - Public Comments
  - Approval of minutes

Reports  
President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Committees  
Old Business  
New Business  
Announcements/Date of Next Meeting  
Adjournment

ARTICLE VII. Indemnification

- A. The Association shall purchase commercial general liability event insurance (or comparable insurance) when sponsoring public events.

ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION

- A. In the event of dissolution of the Association, assets remaining after payment of expenditures and liabilities shall be distributed to the Signal Hill Education Foundation or other not-for-profit, preferably local, organizations.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

- A. These Bylaws may be amended, or repealed and new Bylaws adopted, by a two-thirds majority vote at the Annual Meeting or a special membership meeting at which at least 20 voting members are present. Notice of the meeting and the proposed changes shall be announced to the Association membership at least 30 days before the meeting.

The undersigned certifies that

1. S/he is the duly elected secretary of the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized and existing under laws of the State of Illinois.
2. The foregoing Bylaws, composed of nine articles, constitute the organized Bylaws of the Association as adopted by the Board of Directors on Thursday 14 January 2010, and adopted by the members of the Association on \_\_\_\_\_.

The undersigned has subscribed his/her name and affixed the seal of the Corporation on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

(signature) \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

(printed name) \_\_\_\_\_

Bylaws Committee 2009-2010

Nancy Macklin  
Jim Pappas

All articles except Article VII approved by Board of Directors Thu 14 Jan 2010

Article VII Indemnification approved by Board of Directors Thu 11 Mar 2010

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH really works!

Crime Statistics prove that the Signal Hill Neighborhood is, year after year, one of the safest neighborhoods in all of St. Clair County.

What are we doing right?

- First, the neighborhood association Board of Directors has a great working relationship with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department and the Belleville Police Department. We are in constant contact, usually via email communications.
- Second, our 40+ Neighborhood Watch Block Captains do an outstanding job keeping their blocks actively involved in crime prevention efforts and are constantly exchanging information with their neighbors.
- Third, and most importantly, no one hesitates or over thinks what they see anymore. We have learned to trust our instincts. Now - if it feels wrong, we know it probably is...and we call the police immediately. This "attitude adjustment" has made a huge difference.



Our Block Captains do an outstanding job – and more.

***THANK YOU is never said often enough or loud enough to these wonderful volunteers.***

The 40+ Block Captains listed below are the integral component in keeping our neighborhood safe. They are the hub of our information highway. They know that when people communicate regularly, they tend to care about each other and are more willing to keep an eye out for suspicious behavior.

This spring these Block Captains have helped build our communication system from the ground up by getting the names, house numbers, contact numbers and email addresses of every household on their block and/or street. They typed (or are in the process of typing) a street roster and street map for every family on their block and will return that information to each household to use in case of an emergency on their street. They will monitor the membership of their block; contact the Welcome Neighbor Coordinator when a new family moves into the neighborhood; contact new residents to get them involved, and contact the NW Coordinator if there are any changes to the roster. They receive a daily Police Blotter from the Belleville Police Department which they can pass on to you if they have your email address. (The Sheriff's Department does not give us daily reports, but does send the Neighborhood Board President an email Alert if there is something the neighborhood needs to know about immediately.)

As you look through the Block Captain roster below, you might see that your street is highlighted. That means that your street has no Block Captain. If this is the case, you and your neighbors do not have access to any reports of immediate criminal activity in the neighborhood. Should you decide that becoming a Block Captain might be something you would like to do, please email Barb Ducey at [ba.ducey@hotmail.com](mailto:ba.ducey@hotmail.com). She'll be more than happy to bring you up to speed and give you all the information you would need to get your street connected to the neighborhood's information highway ASAP.

### 2010-2011 BLOCK CAPTAIN ROSTER

STREET	BLOCK CAPTAIN	HOUSE #	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Bluff (1-9)	Barb Stalker	2	398-8826	<a href="mailto:bstalker06@hotmail.com">bstalker06@hotmail.com</a>
Bluff (Blvd. to Signal Point-even #'s)	Karen Graebe	210	398-8793	<a href="mailto:kgraebe@charter.net">kgraebe@charter.net</a>
Bluff (Blvd. to Signal Point-odd #'s)	Gregorio Sierra	28	397-3816	<a href="mailto:gsierra@charter.net">gsierra@charter.net</a>
Bluff Hill Road	Carolyn Tisch	8910	397-4897	<a href="mailto:dreams2426@sbcglobal.net">dreams2426@sbcglobal.net</a>

## 2010-2011 BLOCK CAPTAIN ROSTER (continued)

Briar Hill Road (end area)	Arlene Freeark Goalby	904	398-3971	<a href="mailto:arleneaf@msn.com">arleneaf@msn.com</a>
<b>Briar Hill Road (front area by Foley)</b>				
Carbon St.	Gweyneth Thomas	9301	398-3578	n/a
Circle Drive	Jack Heddell	9329	394-0346	<a href="mailto:jdheddell@sbcglobal.net">jdheddell@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Concord Dr.</b>				
Creston Drive	David Walker	8	398-8180	<a href="mailto:wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net">wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net</a>
Divide (see Perry Lane)	Paul Browning	2 Perry	397-0844	<a href="mailto:tiger57lan@att.net">tiger57lan@att.net</a>
<b>Edgewood Drive – Briar Hill</b>				
Forest	Jim Pappas	103	397-9433	<a href="mailto:palace110@hotmail.com">palace110@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Frederick</b>				
Glenview (1-35)	Nancy Macklin	5	398-0342	<a href="mailto:macklin7@charter.net">macklin7@charter.net</a>
Hazel (100's)	Brian Triska	103	397-8091	<a href="mailto:oct7brian@yahoo.com">oct7brian@yahoo.com</a>
Hazel (200's)	Donna Whitaker	222	397-8092	<a href="mailto:hdwhitak@charter.net">hdwhitak@charter.net</a>
Hazel (300's and 400's)	Beth Lenz	334	398-4496	<a href="mailto:lenzbcl@aol.com">lenzbcl@aol.com</a>
Julia Pl. (100's even)	Peggy Beaupre	108	397-3002	<a href="mailto:pbeaupre@mvp-av.com">pbeaupre@mvp-av.com</a>
Julia Pl. (100's odd)	Yvette Elliott	111	397-5948	<a href="mailto:diaminruf@aol.com">diaminruf@aol.com</a>
Julia Pl. (200's even)	Zabelle Vartanian	228	398-4302	<a href="mailto:zvartanian@charter.net">zvartanian@charter.net</a>
Julia Pl. (200's odd)	Jim/Sharon Eisele	255	398-6579	<a href="mailto:jseisele@peaknet.net">jseisele@peaknet.net</a>
Julia Pl. (300's)	Doug/Julie Tedford	306	397-6070	<a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>
<b>Kingston (5-26)</b>				
<b>Kingston (28-37)</b>				
Lamask (Briar Hill area)				
Lawrence (connects to Forest)	Jim Pappas	103	397-9433	<a href="mailto:palace110@hotmail.com">palace110@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Lenel (Briar Hill area)</b>				
<b>Lindorf (Kingston to Wedgewood)</b>				
Lindorf (Wedgewood to 38)	Nan Kammann-Judd	38	394-0371	<a href="mailto:nankammann@aol.com">nankammann@aol.com</a>
Martin	Lori Meyer	5	394-8853	<a href="mailto:lorimeyer@charter.net">lorimeyer@charter.net</a>
Mildred (off Superior)	Julie Maxwell	4	789-1663	<a href="mailto:mike.maxwell@geco.com">mike.maxwell@geco.com</a>
<b>Millie (north to Foley)</b>				
<b>Millie (south to Martin)</b>				
Perry/Divide	Paul Browning	2	397-0844	<a href="mailto:tiger57lan@att.net">tiger57lan@att.net</a>
Ravine	Doug/Julie Tedford	306 Julia	397-6070	<a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>
Ridge Lane	Barb Ducey	7	398-6435	<a href="mailto:ba.ducey@hotmail.com">ba.ducey@hotmail.com</a>
Ruth	Doug/Julie Tedford	306 Julia	397-6070	<a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (1 <sup>st</sup> block)	Jeannie Dahlmann	8	397-9346	<a href="mailto:jeannedahlmann@yahoo.com">jeannedahlmann@yahoo.com</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (1 <sup>st</sup> block)	Sandy Cullen	9	398-2506	<a href="mailto:ccullen5@peaknet.net">ccullen5@peaknet.net</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (2 <sup>nd</sup> block even)	Angela Kammann	28	394-1083	<a href="mailto:alshannah@prodigy.net">alshannah@prodigy.net</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (2 <sup>nd</sup> block odd)	Donna Dougherty	23	398-6836	<a href="mailto:ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net">ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (3 <sup>rd</sup> block)	Al/Donna Veile	51	394-9530	<a href="mailto:blvdveiles@yahoo.com">blvdveiles@yahoo.com</a>
Signal Hill Blvd. (4 <sup>th</sup> block)	Marylou Tyrrell /	66	397-7688	<a href="mailto:t_tyrrell@charter.net">t_tyrrell@charter.net</a>
	Laura Sforza	67	394-8477	<a href="mailto:laura.sforza@signalhill.net">laura.sforza@signalhill.net</a>
Signal Hill Terrace (see Signal Point)	Georgia-Ann Edwards	31	394-8463	<a href="mailto:georgiaann.edwards@sbcglobal.net">georgiaann.edwards@sbcglobal.net</a>
Signal Point & S.H. Terrace	Georgia-Ann Edwards	32	394-8463	<a href="mailto:georgiaann.edwards@sbcglobal.net">georgiaann.edwards@sbcglobal.net</a>
Signal Park Lane	Demond Hunt	12	310-8136	<a href="mailto:demonhunt34@yahoo.com">demonhunt34@yahoo.com</a>
	Clara Hunt	12	509-1200	<a href="mailto:demonhunt34@yahoo.com">demonhunt34@yahoo.com</a>
South 95 <sup>th</sup> St.	Kathy Burch	26	398-1652	<a href="mailto:kburch23@charter.net">kburch23@charter.net</a>
	Terry Moran	22	398-5384	<a href="mailto:moran.terry@sbcglobal.net">moran.terry@sbcglobal.net</a>
South Creston	Maggie/Fed Colliflower	126	398-1143	<a href="mailto:fmcolliflower@charter.net">fmcolliflower@charter.net</a>
Superior	Peggy Kaiser	15	394-0640	<a href="mailto:pkaiser@charter.net">pkaiser@charter.net</a>
Sylvania	Colleen Reed	1	394-1084	<a href="mailto:collen806@att.net">collen806@att.net</a>
<b>Thornhill (Briar Hill area)</b>				
<b>Valley (off Concord)</b>				
<b>Walnut Lane (off Bluff)</b>				
<b>Wildwood Lane (Briar Hill area)</b>				

## IT'S ALL ABOUT SAFETY IN THE PARK

The Signal Hill community has always been proactive when it comes to crime prevention. We receive Daily Police Blotters from the Belleville Police Department and pass those on to all our Block Captains. We email Captain Steve Johnson of the County Sheriff's Department when someone gets wind of some possible criminal activity nearby. We find out immediately whether its "fact or fiction" and if we need to get the phone tree going or not. (99.9% of the time its fiction)

There is a kind of community comfort zone in having a close relationship with law enforcement. That's why this past spring the Signal Hill Park Landscape Committee sought the advice of Major James Spargur of the Belleville Police Department and asked him if he would critique Signal Hill Park for us from a safety standpoint. Summer was just around the corner. If we needed to make safety improvements, spring was the time to do it.

He told us (1) the bushes on the front berm needed to be taken out; (2) the hillside along Signal Park Lane had to be cleared off; (3) the school needed to update the park rules; and (4) the Neighborhood Watch Program had to get up and running on the streets bordering the park.

We cleaned out the plant material as he suggested and the park is wide open. You can see clearly from end to end and side to side now. NW was revived and is alive and well on those three city streets. As for the park rules...the school updated them and posted them in the park. They're self-explanatory and printed below.

**Notice the name change on the sign.** This was done because the rules for athletic fields are much more stringent than for a community park. Better rules give law enforcement one more tool to better safeguard our visitors. If you see anything at the park that looks suspicious, call the Belleville Police at 234-1212 or 911.

### SIGNAL HILL ATHLETIC PARK

#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### **Hours – Daylight Only From Dawn To Dusk**

- PETS MUST BE ON A LEASH – PICK UP AFTER PET
- BIKE ON PAVED AREAS ONLY
- NO CLIMBING ON ANY STRUCTURE OR IN THE TREES OR SHRUBS
- NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, PROFANITY OR LOUD MUSIC
- NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES
- NO FIREARMS OR OTHER WEAPONS
- NO FIREWORKS
- NO LITTERING
- NO PEDDLERS OR VENDORS

Groups wishing to use the park must contact Signal Hill District #181 at 397-0325 for approval.

School Administration of Signal Hill District #181 is responsible for the enforcement of all Athletic Park rules and regulations.

**PENALTIES:** Any person violating any rule or regulation shall forfeit future use Of the Athletic Park and shall be subject to law enforcement determination.

## A \$250,000 STATE GRANT FOR A BIKE TRAIL COULD HELP THE NEIGHBORHOOD REMOVE A CENTURY OLD DAM

### The Facts.

1. In 2008 the Belleville Parks and Recreation Department unveiled its Greenways Master Plan. An abandoned railroad right of way running through the Signal Hill neighborhood was included in that plan.

2. In December of 2008, Signal Hill School, in partnership with the city, submitted a grant proposal to the *Illinois Safe Routes to School Program*.

3. What is the *Illinois Safe Routes to School Program*?

It is a federally funded program administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. It supports projects and programs that enable and encourage walking and bicycling to and from school. The program applies to schools serving grades Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The program has three (3) main goals:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school.
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
- To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity (within 2 miles) of both public and private primary and middle schools (grades K-8).

Projects are funded at 100% with no local match required. There is a deadline to spend the money. If a municipality fails to use the grant money within the required time frame, it not only loses the money, but it cannot apply for future grants for at least 2 grant cycles. (Extensions can be given in special circumstances.)

4. In mid 2009 the City of Belleville was awarded a \$250,000 *Illinois Safe Routes to School* grant to build a walking/biking trail atop the old railroad right of way that runs east from South 95<sup>th</sup> Street to Foley Drive. It would allow children who live across Foley Drive a safe and direct biking and/or walking corridor to Signal Hill and Blessed Sacrament Schools. (This area was designated to be part of the trail system on the city's Greenways Master Plan.)

5. What does Peterson's Pond Dam have to do with the Safe Routes to School grant?

- The old railroad right of way is the Safe Route to School corridor. It is 100 feet wide, lined by homes on each side.
- A portion of the old railroad right of way serves as the dam for Peterson's Pond.
- The overflow pipe, running through the 100 ft. right of way ("the dam"), collapsed in the 1980s. The water runs halfway through the pipe, then disappears. Water is saturating the dam and the land directly below the dam. There is a large sink hole in the right of way – a direct result of this constant saturation. As currently designed, the proposed Safe Route to School trail would be built directly over this sinkhole.

6. Just how unstable is Peterson's Pond dam?

- In a letter dated November 29, 1999, the Illinois Department of Water Resources wrote: "Your dam is a small-size Class I (high hazard) dam."

## REMOVE A CENTURY OLD DAM (continued)

The hazard of the dam is based on the results of a breach analysis completed by personnel from this office for the dam. The results of the breach analysis indicate that there is a high probability for loss of life and property in the event of a dam failure."

- The Department of Water Resources was so concerned about the loss of life that in 2001 they bought out one neighbor living immediately below the dam and removed his house. By their own analysis, they determined: (1) there is a mine below the pond, but it has no impact on this issue; (2) the pond is spring fed; (3) the pond covers 2 ½ acres and is 8 feet deep; (4) if the dam were to fail, 6,534,000 gallons of water will flow through the breach and follow its natural course. This water would inundate at least one home (and possibly two more) as the water goes down hill and under Superior Drive, and the overflow would carry it under Foley Drive, through Powder Mill Creek subdivision and into the communities along Harding ditch.

The city and school were told that the trail could not be built until the dam was repaired or breached. To do anything else would be contrary to the mission of the Safe Routes to School Program.

A plan is in the works.

This is what we can tell you as of the publication of this newsletter.

- The SHNA Board has contacted the 2 owners of the pond, 3 families on Superior Drive, two families on Circle Drive and the Powder Creek Improvement Association about the dam. These are the people whose homes stand next to or below the dam and would be most affected if the dam were to give way.
- Contact has also been made with the Illinois Department of Water Resources, the City Engineer of Belleville, Hoelscher Engineering, Kaskaskia Engineering, Centreville Township Supervisor Curtis McCall and Hwy Supervisor Marty Crawford, Stookey Township Supervisor Dave Bone and Signal Hill School.
- Two (2) meetings have been held with a third meeting set for the latter part of June.
- The group has decided to breach the dam. This would immediately eliminate the high probability of significant loss of life and property downstream if it should give way – which is our main concern right now.
- The 2-acre pond would become a detention basin (a type of Class 3 Dam). Specifics on how that works and what it would like are still in the works.
- The existing overflow pipe would be removed and replaced by 2 much larger pipes. The vacant lot below the dam would be graded and large rip-rap would be put in place to slow the flow of the water going to Superior Drive. Another set of large pipes would be placed under Superior Drive where the water would follow its natural course to the pond across the road. It has yet to be determined what work has to be done to pond #2 in order to accommodate the controlled drain of Peterson's Pond and future rainfalls.
- Belleville City Council just approved \$13,000+ for Hoelscher Engineering to do a hydraulic study of Peterson's Pond immediately.
- None of the grant money for the trail can be used to fix the dam.

The city and the two townships are waiting to hear from the engineers as to the final cost estimates. They will then meet with their respective boards and see how much money each of them can put into the pot. The current owner of the dam has yet to commit any money.

The target date to begin draining the pond is July or August. The neighborhood association is hoping that a plan can be put together and presented to the community very soon. We will keep you updated, either through the newspaper or by email.

## SIGNAL PARK LANE IS BATTLING WATER FROM THE PARK

Before last summer, the residents of the last four homes on Signal Park Lane never thought much about the weather. But if rain is in the nightly forecast now, they think about moving their cars closer to S. 95<sup>th</sup> Street before they go to bed. There's a good chance their driveways will be flooded in the morning which means another morning of walking through their neighbors back yards to get to their cars. Walk through four inches of water in your own driveway or hike through your neighbors' muddy backyards? What a choice!

But that is the choice these neighbors face every time a big storm moves through the area. Worse, though, are the long, soaking rains that hang around for days.

A year ago they didn't have this problem. Maybe there was the occasional standing water on the shoulder of the road opposite their houses, but water never flooded their yards and driveways.

The neighbors said all this started when the park renovations started and got worse once the renovations were completed. The old track, the French drains and a number of the large trees were torn out to make way for the new asphalt track and new drainage system. Unlike the old system that was designed to keep all the water in the park, the new system is designed to get the surface water out of the park as fast as possible. Instead of being absorbed into the ground "on site," the new system channels all the surface water into a shallow detention pond along Signal Park Lane which then drains onto the street through 2-8" overflow pipes.

Last year, after the track was installed, a committee of 27 local folks from Signal Hill School, Blessed Sacrament School and the Signal Hill school district was pulled together to develop a comprehensive plan to address various park issues (landscaping, new equipment, long-term financial support, etc). The school superintendent and three school board members are on the committee. The first committee meeting was a "walk-about" in the park on August 6, 2009, and it was then that a wash problem along Signal Park Lane (under the overflow pipes) was first brought to our attention. The landscaper and the Township Hwy Commissioner (both members of the committee) discussed the likely reasons causing the problem and threw out possible ways to correct it. The Hwy Commissioner said he was going to have to pave Signal Park Lane before the end of summer or he'd lose the road because the water from the park was washing away the shoulder of the road. His department couldn't do anything about the drainage in the park because that was school property.

The road was blacktopped. No changes were made to the drainage system in the park. The fall and springs rains came and went. And the flooding continued.

This past April the park landscape committee presented a Power Point presentation to the school board with photos that gave a clear and undeniable picture of the flooding on Signal Park Lane. They received a written time line of the info you just read above and a copy of the Illinois Drainage law. Since the presentation was on the agenda under Public Comments, the school Board listened, took notes and said they would forward the information on to the engineering firm that designed the drainage system.

The engineering firm sent a letter to the superintendent who forwarded it to the landscape committee. It said the drainage system was working properly. At the May school board meeting the school board said they are relying on the opinion of the engineering firm so they will take no action and had nothing further to say on the issue. However, two of the seven board members said that they grew up in Signal Hill and agreed with the statements that there had never been any drainage problems on Signal Park Lane before the new track was put in.

The Board Vice-President said that they might take another look at the issue if the residents on Signal Park Lane would speak up for themselves instead of through the park landscape committee.

This report was submitted by Barb Ducey, Park Landscape Committee member.



## ANGELS AND VALENTINES

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.

~ Dr. Seuss

### *A Special Thank You to. . .*

We want to thank the retiring Association Board members, **Nancy Macklin**, **Susan Meister** and **Betty Politsch** for all the time and energy they have given to the neighborhood association over the past few years.

- Of the three of them, **Nancy** has been on the Board the longest and has worked tirelessly to get the bylaw revisions completed before her departure. She was the critical thinker on the board and always asked the questions that needed to be asked. She spent a great deal of time mentoring President Barb Ducey on the workings of Robert's Rules of Order and tried her best to reign in the side bar conversations between Doug Tedford and Brian Triska.
- **Susan and Betty** were the go-getters on the Board. They were responsible for reviving the NW Program and their families probably missed a lot of home-cooked meals because of the demands of that project. They were also the ones who knew how to increase attendance at the board meetings. Their desserts will be sorely missed. Susan and husband, Peter, are leaving the area, and we wish them and their family well. Betty is still here. She told us she was going to reintroduce herself to her hubby and "slowly find her house again."

**Boo Boo Gomric**, **Marylou Tyrrell**, **Shannon Dibadi**, **Donna Dougherty** and **Dr. Taylor** do the unthinkable! They don't ignore litter or pretend they don't see it. They don't leave it on the ground for someone else to pick up. They actually pick it up, put it in a bag and throw it in a trash can when they get home. They volunteer when there's a neighborhood clean-up and regularly pick up litter on Foley Drive. A lesson in good citizenship for us all!

**Toni Rodriguez**, **Barbara Taylor**, **Sharon Eisele**, **Donna Dougherty** and **Barbara Stalker** are the neighborhood worker bees who provide all the tender loving care to the raised flower bed on the northeast corner of the entrance at Millie and Foley. These gals get out there several times a year to weed and trim, dig the dead stuff out and put new plants in. They do the work of ten people, in good weather or bad, and ask nothing in return.

While talking about the Millie/Foley entrance to the neighborhood, we would be remiss if we did not thank **Jeff Foutch** for mowing the grass at that corner. Like the "flower bed brigade," Jeff pitches in because he's a good neighbor and he cares.

Let's not forget to thank **Tom and Sue Triska** either. They own and maintain the opposite corner next to the firehouse. They're always out there cutting the grass and weeding their gardens. Their attention to detail puts the rest of us to shame.

**Charlie and Sandy Cullen** saved the day for **Donna Dougherty**, **Barbara Taylor**, and **Sharon Eisele** \_ when Charlie showed up with his electric clippers at Hackmann Island at West Main and Hwy 157. He and Sandy went right to work pruning the dozen or so overgrown forsythia bushes. It normally takes the girls days to prune all those bushes by hand. Charlie and Sandy did it in less than three hours! Guess it pays to have the right tools.

The City of Belleville sponsored a city-wide litter pick-up this past spring. **Boy Scout Troup 520** joined in the clean-up along Highway 157. If any of you have ever participated in a clean-up along that stretch of road, you know it's a tough job. The grass is usually high and the terrain is steep. That's why we old folks are thrilled to have the younger generation help out. **Donna Dougherty**, Miss Organization herself, was thrilled beyond words when the Boy Scouts arrived on the scene. Led by **Steve Kappel**, Scouts **James Norris**, **Jake Peyton**, **Bryant Powell** and **Travion Tiller** jumped right in and got to work. **Dr. Taylor** said this clean-up was the best litter sweep so far on 157 and we all know that Dr. Taylor does not give compliments lightly. The scouts sure made a difference.

## From the Desk of Captain Donald R. Sax, Belleville Police Department

### Four Officers Assigned to Patrol West End

The four officers assigned to the new West End patrol district are Norbert Normansell and Jami Nowak for the day shift squads, with Jeff Sheary and Tim Lay on the night shift squads. There will only be one of them on at a time, the only time that one of these officers is off is when they are on leave days such as vacation, sick, training and such. The cell phone that these officers share is 618-791-3567. This is a City owned cell phone and is passed along between them to the on duty officer. The regular police dispatch number of 234-1212 should be used for any non-emergency call that requires police assistance. Obviously 911 is to be used for any emergency call any time. The cell phone is primarily used to follow up and convenience purposes of contacting the officers and them contacting people they need to speak with. The best explanation for calling 911 or the 234-1212 number for emergency and regular calls for service is that those two numbers are recorded lines and it allows the dispatcher to know what the officers are doing and for keeping records of the calls for service at the department.

### Things Your Burglar Won't Tell You

I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. **If he doesn't hear it again**, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom – and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there, too.

I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

### MORE Things Your Burglar Won't Tell You

Two things I hate the most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.

Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up in the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.

If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check the dresser draws, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier to look up your address than you think.

### A sick raccoon. What do you do?



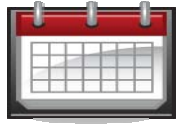
Have you ever wondered why your vet vaccinates your pet against distemper? Because we live in a country setting filled with raccoons and they get distemper and Fido and Tabby can get it from them.

**Canine distemper is airborne.** Your pet can get it just by smelling a mark from another animal (urine and the like). There is no cure for distemper. If your animal is vaccinated for distemper, it is safe.

**If you see a raccoon** that is staring into space, has a gummy discharge from the eyes, a drippy nose, staggers when it walks and is not afraid of humans, it most likely has distemper. **DO NOT CALL ANIMAL CONTROL.** They do not deal with wildlife.

**If you see a sick raccoon**, and it's sitting there staring into space, try to put a box (with air holes) over it to contain it. Call Treehouse Wildlife Center in Brighton, IL at **372-8092** first. If you can't reach them, call **624-3812**. They can answer your questions. If this is an animal with distemper, it will have to be destroyed.

**DO NOT** throw a dead raccoon into the woods. If it died of distemper, the disease will spread when eaten by other animals. It must be bagged and should be incinerated.



# EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, January 14, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, February 11, 2010	SHNA Block Captain Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
	SHNA Board Meeting	8 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, March 11, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse



March, 2010  
**SAVE THE DATE**      **Township Large Item Pick-up**

Thursday, April 8, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, May 13, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, June 10, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse



Sunday, June 27, 2010  
**SAVE THE DATE**      **SHNA Annual Meeting**      **3 PM Signal Hill Firehouse**  
 Election of Board of Directors



**SH Fire Dept. Ribs and Raffle**      **11:30 am to 4:00 pm**  
 Must call to pre-order 397-1995

Thursday, July 8, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, August 12, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, September 9, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
Thursday, October 14, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse



Sunday, October 10, 2010  
**SAVE THE DATE**      **Scarecrow Jamboree**      **Afternoon**  
 Flyer will be sent out      at Ruth and Signal Hill Blvd.

Thursday, November 11, 2010	SHNA Board Meeting	7 PM	Signal Hill Firehouse
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December, 2010  
**SAVE THE DATE**      **2010 "Holiday on the Boulevard"**  
 Carriage rides and more (information to follow)