

SIGNALS FROM THE HILL

Signal Hill Neighborhood Association

ISSUE 12

www.signalhillna.com

September 2010

Signal Hill

A Great Place to Live

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*Love thy Neighborhood  
Association*

Dear Neighbors,

#### ***Business first...***

Our Annual Meeting was held this past June. The membership voted in a new Board of Directors. I would like to thank the new directors for sharing their time and talents with the neighborhood. The names and contact information for the 2010-2011 Board are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

There was a lively discussion of the proposed changes to the association By-laws, but we were forced to table the vote because we did not have a quorum. The Board would like to revisit that issue at a special meeting after the first of the year. We will inform everyone when a special meeting of the membership will be called.

The **Scarecrow Jamboree and Chili Cook-off is Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from noon to 5 PM.** Please mark your calendars and read the enclosed flyer for details. As usual, we are in need of workers and food donations. Please help if you can. Plus - working in a booth is a great way to meet your neighbors!

Back by popular demand, the neighborhood is again hosting **Holiday on the Boulevard to benefit Family Hospice and Heartlinks.** Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 PM.** (More about this inside the newsletter)

#### ***On a personal note...***

I want to take this opportunity to inform everyone that I did not “re-up” (as they say) as President of the neighborhood association. I will remain on the Board, but the torch has been passed to Brian Triska. Brian was born and raised in Signal Hill. He owns his own business, is full of great ideas and an extremely hard worker. Most important...Brian loves Signal Hill. I know the neighborhood is in good hands with him at the helm.

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as President of this great organization for 27 years. It has been an honor and a privilege. The neighborhood association's past successes happened because of what you did together...not because of me or the Board. SHNA is an intelligent and informed group of level-headed (but very fun) individuals who know how important it is to do the right thing. You appreciate the value of being a good listener and you respect each other's right to be heard. You clearly understand that problems are best solved by inclusion, not exclusion. United, you have a powerful voice and are a force to be reckoned with. If given the opportunity, I know you will make great things happen. I have every expectation that the future of the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association will be as great as her past!

My best to each and every one you -

Barb Ducey

**2010 – 2011 SHNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

|    | <b>OFFICERS</b>                    | <b>COMMITTEES</b>                                                                           | <b>ADDRESS</b>       | <b>PHONE</b>               | <b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>                                                                                                                      |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Brian Triska,<br>President         | Landscape                                                                                   | 103 Hazel Ave        | 397-8091<br>Cell: 409-4148 | <a href="mailto:oct7brian@yahoo.com">oct7brian@yahoo.com</a>                                                                               |
| 2  | Donna Dougherty,<br>Vice-President | Zoning Chair,<br>Neighborhood<br>Watch                                                      | 23 Signal Hill Blvd. | 398-6836                   | <a href="mailto:ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net">ejdougherty@sbcglobal.net</a>                                                                   |
| 3  | Donna Whitaker,<br>Secretary       | Landscape                                                                                   | 222 Hazel Ave.       | 397-8092                   | <a href="mailto:hdwhitak@charter.net">hdwhitak@charter.net</a>                                                                             |
| 4  | Angela Kammann,<br>Treasurer       |                                                                                             | 28 Signal Hill Blvd. | 394-1083                   | <a href="mailto:alshannahan@prodigy.net">alshannahan@prodigy.net</a>                                                                       |
|    | <b>BOARD<br/>MEMBERS</b>           |                                                                                             |                      |                            |                                                                                                                                            |
| 5  | Beaupre, Peggy                     | Events                                                                                      | 108 Julia            | 397-3002                   | <a href="mailto:pbeaupre@mvp-av.com">pbeaupre@mvp-av.com</a>                                                                               |
| 6  | Ducey, Barb                        | Temporary NW<br>Coordinator,<br>Newsletter &<br>Board Liaison for<br>Peterson's Pond<br>Dam | 7 Ridge Lane         | 398-6435                   | <a href="mailto:ba.ducey@hotmail.com">ba.ducey@hotmail.com</a>                                                                             |
| 7  | Graebe, Karen                      | Events & Welcome<br>Neighbor                                                                | 210 Bluff Drive      | 398-8793                   | <a href="mailto:kgraebe@charter.net">kgraebe@charter.net</a>                                                                               |
| 8  | Henke, Stacey                      | Events                                                                                      | 37 Signal Hill Blvd. | 398-0994                   | <a href="mailto:henke4@charter.net">henke4@charter.net</a><br>or<br><a href="mailto:shenke@stclair.k12.il.us">shenke@stclair.k12.il.us</a> |
| 9  | Pappas, Jim                        | Zoning                                                                                      | 103 Forest Ave       | 397-9433                   | <a href="mailto:palace110@hotmail.com">palace110@hotmail.com</a>                                                                           |
| 10 | Tedford, Doug                      | Landscape                                                                                   | 306 Julia Place      | 397-6070                   | <a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>                                                                               |
| 11 | Tedford, Julie                     |                                                                                             | 306 Julia Place      | 397-6070                   | <a href="mailto:tedforja@fchs77.org">tedforja@fchs77.org</a>                                                                               |
| 12 | Veile, Donna                       |                                                                                             | 51 Signal Hill Blvd. | 394-9530                   | <a href="mailto:blvdveiles@yahoo.com">blvdveiles@yahoo.com</a>                                                                             |
| 13 | Walker, David                      | Welcome Neighbor                                                                            | 8 Creston Drive      | 398-8180                   | <a href="mailto:wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net">wwjhyd@sbcglobal.net</a>                                                                             |
| 14 | Wheeler, Nathan                    |                                                                                             | 320 Julia Place      | (214)206-5306              | <a href="mailto:nwheeler@omcbbq.com">nwheeler@omcbbq.com</a>                                                                               |
|    | Mussulman, Jim                     | Ad Hoc Committee<br>Technology                                                              | 29 Signal Point      | 397-8830                   | <a href="mailto:jmussul@siue.edu">jmussul@siue.edu</a>                                                                                     |

**ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

| <b>NAME</b>                 | <b>POSITION</b>              | <b>GOVERNMENTAL<br/>ENTITY</b> | <b>PHONE</b>        | <b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>                                                                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Curtis<br>McCall            | Township Supervisor          | Centreville Township           | 874-1034            | <a href="mailto:ctsuper@charterinternet.com">ctsuper@charterinternet.com</a>          |
| Marty<br>Crawford           | Township Hwy<br>Commissioner | Centreville Township           | Office:<br>332-1520 | Mobile:<br>420-6918<br><a href="mailto:martycommiss@aol.com">martycommiss@aol.com</a> |
| Rose<br>"Boo Boo"<br>Gomric | Precinct<br>Committeewoman   | Centreville Township           | 398-1778            | <a href="mailto:rosemarie@compu-type.net">rosemarie@compu-type.net</a>                |
| Mark<br>Eckert              | Mayor                        | City of Belleville             | 233-6810            | <a href="mailto:meckert@belleville.net">meckert@belleville.net</a>                    |
| Dave<br>Bone                | Township Supervisor          | Stookey Township               | 398-6925            |                                                                                       |



*Merci*



## **2010 DUES - PAYING MEMBERS**

### **BLUFF DRIVE**

Burris, Branson and Heather  
Given, William and Pia  
Gregory, Barry and Patty  
Miller, David and Annie  
Sanford, Mark and Lisa  
Stalker, Barbara  
Taylor, Larry and Barbara

### **BLUFF HILL ROAD**

Rodriguez, Rod and Toni  
Tisch, Don and Carolyn

### **BRIAR HILL ROAD**

Goalby, Bob and Arlene

### **CARBON STREET**

Thomas, Gwyneth

### **CIRCLE DRIVE**

Pratt, Barbara

### **CONCORD DR.**

### **CRESTON DR.**

Albert, Milton and Kay  
Politsch, Ray and Betty  
Walker, David

### **DIVIDE**

### **EDGEWOOD DRIVE**

Blacet, Robert and Carmella

### **FOREST**

Croissant, Norma  
DeFrates, Irv  
Pappas, Jim and Rose  
Spilka, Kathy and Louis  
Tialdo, Ron and Gloria

### **FREDERICK**

### **GLENVIEW**

Windham, Barbara

### **HAZEL AVE.**

Bainter, Dan  
Bainter, Gary and Michele  
Edmundson, Virginia and Family  
Hileman, Kevin and Lonnie  
Hudson, Michele  
Whitaker, Herb and Donna

### **JULIA PLACE**

Beaupre, Dennis and Margaret  
Bovier, Michael and Payne  
Dietz, Brian and Renee  
Foster, Mary  
Jones, Gaither and Margie  
Konya, Pat and Joe  
Laney, Ann

### **JULIA PLACE (con't)**

Richards, Dale and Beth  
Scherck, Mariva  
Tedford, Doug and Julie  
Vartanian, Dick and Zabelle

### **KINGSTON DRIVE**

Foster, Mark and Lynn  
Kilroy, Pat and Laura  
Sikorski, Allen and Ann Gillespie  
Suess, Steve and Barbara  
Waller, Mary

### **LAMASK**

Allard, Jon and Carol  
Lindauer, Ilene

### **LAWRENCE**

McElroy, Bill

### **LENEL**

### **LINDORF**

Bandy, Hildegard  
Judd, Dennis and Nan

### **MARTIN**

Meyer, Lori

### **MILDRED**

### **MILLIE**

Foutch, Jeff and Cheryl

### **PERRY LANE**

Browning, Paul

### **RAVINE**

### **RIDGE LANE**

Ducey, Tom and Barb  
Freeland, Doy and Jane  
Uhrig, Margot

### **RUTH**

Weiss, Delores

### **SIGNAL HILL BLVD.**

Alexander, Scott and Nancy  
Biver, Thomas and Shawn  
Brockman, Leander and Patricia  
Cooper, Josiah Jr.  
Cullen, Charlie and Sandy  
Davidson, Steve  
Dougherty, Ed and Donna  
Dugan, Chris and Marilou  
Havlin, Linda  
Havlin, Norma Jean  
Henke, Mark and Stacey  
Hunter, Jack and Bev  
Isom, Lowell & Susan Vugteveen  
Kappel, Mike

### **SIGNAL HILL BLVD. (con't)**

Roberts, Otto and Dana  
Rose, Ed and Harriet  
Russell, Scott and Julie  
Schmitz, Mark and Kit  
Seales, Dean and Lesa  
Sforza, Paul and Laura  
Stumbaugh, Gloria  
Tyrrell, Terry and Marylou

### **SIGNAL HILL TERRACE**

### **SIGNAL PARK LANE**

### **SIGNAL POINT**

Bryan, Ted and Bertha  
Culbertson, Roy and Connie  
Dibadj, Tom and Sharon  
Edwards, Georgia-Ann  
Engel, Richard and Karen  
Janklow, Philip  
McKee, R. Craig and Barbara  
Morrison, Harold and June  
Prater, Robert and Verna

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

Burch, Kathy  
Leily, William

### **SOUTH CRESTON**

### **SUPERIOR DRIVE**

Dill, Diane  
Kroupa, Charlotte  
Laut, Elmer  
Schweiss, Joe  
Wagner, Mervin and Trudy

### **SYLVANIA**

Eyre, Ed and Lori  
Reed, Colleen

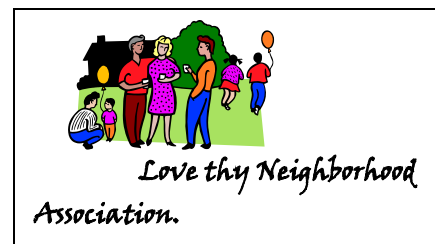
### **VALLEY**

### **WALNUT**

### **WEDGEWOOD LANE**

### **\* FRIENDS OF SHNA**

Carol Hackmann  
Murphy, Rena





# UPDATES AND NEWS BRIEFS

## **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TRAIL DELAYED UNTIL SPRING**

Signal Hill students, as well as local runners and cyclists, will have to wait at least until next spring to start using a new trail that the state last year earmarked \$250,000 to build. The delay will allow city and township officials to work out a plan to drain Peterson's Pond, rendering harmless the decaying, century-old dam over which the trail is supposed to run. The trail's construction was delayed after the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association objected to the trail having to cross atop the dam, which the Illinois Department of Natural Resources declared a Class I high hazard dam nearly 20 years ago because of its decaying status. A resolution to the impasse emerged in June, when the city began working out funding agreements with the other main parties involved. The city will proceed with plans for the trail as soon as funding for the dam is secured.

## **PETERSON'S POND TO BE DRAINED**

The plan to drain Peterson's pond is moving forward. Work will start in early November if (1) the funding is in place; (2) the agreements between the parties are signed; (3) IDNR approves the plan to breach the dam; (4) bids for the work come in, or under, the projected cost estimate; and, last but not least, (5) Mother Nature cooperates.

Hoelscher Engineering has determined that it will cost between \$160,000 - \$180,000 to breach the dam and drain the 2.5 million-gallon pond into nearby Powder Creek. An escrow agreement between the city and Bill Schaltenbrand, the dam's owner, should be signed this week. A separate agreement signed between Centreville Township, Bill Schaltenbrand and the city needs to be finalized as well.

- The city will pay one-third of the cost, or \$53,333.
- Bill Schaltenbrand agreed to pick up another third.
- Centreville Township promised to perform \$26,000 or so to install drainage pipes under nearby Superior Drive.
- Stookey Township pledged \$13,350 to the project and did not want to be part of any agreement.

Hoelscher Engineering is currently working on the design plans to submit to IDNR. We will keep you

updated as the draining of the pond and the construction of the trail proceeds.

## **WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THOSE NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION CARDS?**

Over the past few months the Block Captains have been delivering "Neighbor Information Cards" to homes throughout the neighborhood. The information gathered from those cards is recommended by the National Sheriff's Association. It helps us set up our neighborhood email list and phone tree. Both are used in emergencies, such as crime alerts or contacting family members in an critical situation.

- What if there was a fire at your house while you were away and you didn't find out about it until you came home?
- What if your child was struck by a car and your neighbors did not have a contact number for you to give the paramedics?
- What if you had a medical condition that could render you unconscious? Shouldn't a few of your neighbors know about your condition so they could check on you on a regular basis?

The Neighborhood Watch Program is only good if the participants in the program are diligent in providing basic information about themselves and their families. Please take the time to fill out the cards and return them to your Block Captain if you not already done so. You never want to have to look yourself in the mirror and say "I wish I had."

## **GATES TO BE OPENED BY NOVEMBER 15**

Unless there is an early snow, the gates on Kingston Drive and Bluff Hill Road will be opened the weekend of November 12<sup>th</sup>. They will be closed again on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **CENTREVILLE TOWNSHIP HWY DEPT WILL OFFER LEAF VACUUM SERVICE AGAIN**

Highway Commissioner Marty Crawford and his crew of merry men will once again help us keep the environment clean by vacuuming up our leaves sometime in November. Flyers will be hung on your mailboxes prior to the dates for curb-side pick-up. For further information, please call the Highway Department at 332-1520.

# UPDATES AND NEWS BRIEFS

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

Please visit the association's website at  
[www.signalhillna.com](http://www.signalhillna.com)

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGED

SHNA Board meetings will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Signal Hill Firehouse community room at 7 PM. The public is welcome to attend.



## FROM THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY

### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Within a few weeks all crimes in St. Clair County will be posted on the Sheriff's Department website. This will allow all citizens to see what is happening in their neighborhoods!

Car break-ins are a crime of opportunity that can happen day or night. Your car alarm does not go off if the burglars break your windows...only when the doors are opened. Remember not to leave anything in plain sight that might be of interest to anyone walking by. Take everything out of your vehicle and lock your car in your garage when you are home.



## IT GETS DARK REALLY EARLY NOW – SO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR EACH OTHER

All you drivers: It gets dark much earlier now that fall is here. Be alert for your neighbors who exercise before and after they come home from work.

All you walkers, joggers and cyclists:  
It's dark out there people!

Help yourselves as well as the others sharing the roads with you. Wear reflective clothing when you are outside – in the early morning hours or later in the evening. Let's all stay safe.

All you kids and parents:

Reflective clothing after dark – whether your riding a bike or walking.

## FROM THE SIGNAL HILL SCHOOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION (SHEF)



**Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Signal Hill Education Foundation is to insure continuing financial support for the Signal Hill School to enhance the strength of the region by providing exceptional opportunities for intellectual discovery for all members of the Signal Hill community.*

Over the past two decades, SHEF has supported summer enrichment programs, technological upgrades at Signal Hill School, foreign language classes, a sprinkler system and other upgrades to the track at Signal Hill Park. SHEF's work continues. For instance, this year SHEF is contributing to an after-school homework club as well as encouraging teachers and community members to submit applications for grants. Grant applications may be procured at Signal Hill School.

Like the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association, the strength of SHEF lies in the contributions made by the members of our community, both in terms of the volunteer work of our board members and donations by the community to SHEF fund-raisers. Please feel free to talk to me, or other board members, about SHEF's role in our neighborhood.

Thanks to all the volunteers of the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association for keeping Signal Hill a safe and wonderful place to live.

Respectfully,

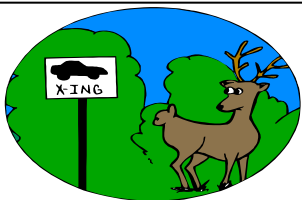
Steve Suess  
Chairman



## FALL PLANTING FOR THAT EARLY SPRING WOW

The neighborhood association will purchase more daffodil bulbs this fall...500-1,000. They will be planted in the common areas in the neighborhood. We plan on doing this every year, so over time Signal Hill will explode with color in the spring...you know...the WOW ! factor. (Last year, Brian Triska and Doug Tedford planted 1,000 bulbs.

## BY KNOWING WHO OUR WOODLAND NEIGHBORS ARE AND USING COMMON SENSE, WE CAN LIVE SIDE BY SIDE



### OH DEER...

Our deer "herd" is growing by leaps and bounds and mating season is upon us. Drive slowly and be alert when driving through the neighborhood and on Foley Drive. Deer are most active at dawn and dusk.

### FEEDING DEER IS ILLEGAL

On page 10 of the *Illinois Department of Natural Resources Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations*:

**"It is unlawful to make available food, salt or mineral blocks or other products for ingestion by wild deer or other wildlife in areas where wild deer are present."**



### FOUR COYOTES

(seen in the woods along Kingston

Dive)

#### How do you distinguish a coyote from other dogs?

Coyotes can be difficult to distinguish from a medium-size German shepherd dog from a distance. There is a wide variation in the coyote's color, but generally their upper body is yellowish gray, and the fur covering the throat and belly is white to crème color. The coyote's ears are pointed and stand erect, unlike the ears of domestic dogs that often droop. When running, coyotes carry their bushy, black-tipped tail below the level of their back. The size and weight of coyotes are commonly overestimated, because their long fur masks a bone structure that is slither than that of most domestic dogs.

#### When are coyotes most likely to be seen?

Coyotes are active day and night; however, peaks in activity occur at sunrise and sunset. They generally feed at night.

#### What do coyotes eat?

Coyotes are opportunistic and will eat almost anything available. Small mammals such as mice, voles, shrews, rabbits and squirrels are preferred foods. However, insects, fruits, berries, birds, frogs, snakes, plants, and seeds round out their diet. In areas with high deer numbers, decaying carcasses resulting from vehicle-deer collisions or natural causes is an important source of food. In urban areas, coyotes are attracted to garbage, garden vegetables, and pet food. They also prey on unattended small dogs and cats, and if opportunities exist.

#### Do coyotes present any danger to people?

Coyotes rarely attack humans. Bites from snakes, rodents, and domestic dogs are a far greater possibility than coyote bites, according to public health authorities. Coyotes that are fed become accustomed to people and present a human safety risk. It is in the best of both coyotes and humans if coyotes retain their instinctive fear of people. The following important points can help minimize potential conflicts with coyotes:

- Never approach or touch a coyote
- Never intentionally feed a coyote
- Eliminate all outside food sources, especially pet foods
- Put garbage out the morning of pick-up day
- Clear out wood and brush piles; they are good habitats for rats and mice and may attract coyotes
- Do not allow pets to roam free



### RED FOXES

(seen in the woods along Kingston

Dive)

- Although it is a member of the dog family, some of the fox habits are very cat like as well.
- The red fox can reach a speed of 45 mph.
- Most active at night and early morning.
- Have scent glands at the base of their tails. Their smell is like that of a skunk.
- May make a loud bark when alarmed.



## 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 **BILL McELROY** for routinely cutting the grass at the intersection of Julia and Lawrence. Most of us in the neighborhood did not know that that grassy area was public property -- and would never have known it -- if Bill's neighbor, **JIM PAPPAS**, had not given us a heads up about Bill. We always assumed that area part of Bill's property because both areas are so well kept. Now this might not seem like a big deal to Bill, but Bill's neighbors know first hand that their street looks much better because he "goes the extra mile" each and every week to keep that corner looking great. Thanks for setting a fine example, Bill.

(We have lots of these "common ground" areas between our yards in Signal Hill. Think how much nicer our entire neighborhood would look if all our Signal Hill neighbors would cut the public area next door to their property...)

...to **DOUG AND JULIE TEDFORD** (belated, and we do apologize) for hosting a smashingly terrific first ever neighborhood-wide St. Paddy's Day party at Shenanigans this past March. There was a huge crowd, lots of great tasting food and drinks (what else could we expect at Shenanigans?) and good music, too. The consensus among the crowd was that we must do this every year...call it our...Break-Out Party...after the cold harsh winters we are forced to endure...Thanks again, Doug and Julie! (and Doug -- the green hair was really you! Everyone said so!)

...to **STACEY and MARK HENKE** and their extended circle of friends for organizing the Scarecrow Jamboree and Chili Cook-off

...to **HERB WHITAKER**, who volunteered to the design new banners for the neighborhood. The Board of Directors is still reviewing the designs and will be seeking bids shortly. The Board expects to be able to have their report out to the neighborhood after the first of the year.

...to the entire group of neighbors, concerned citizens, engineers, elected officials, and interested parties who met for several months to find a solution to the dam problem at Peterson's Pond. They are: **TIM GREGOWICZ**, **GARY HOELSCHER**, **BILL SCHALTENBRAND**, **SUZETTE LAMBERT**, **MARK RIVES**, **JIM PAPPAS**, **NANCY MACKLIN**, **BRIAN TRISKA**, **DOUG TEDFORD**, **JULIE TEDFORD**, **DONNA DOUGHERTY**, **STEVE STEGMAN**, **MARTY CRAWFORD**, **CORY GABRIEL**, **KAVEN AND PEARLINE FAIRLEY**, **ARY GREEN**, **NED SIEGAL**, **STAN VAN SANT**, **TED HARVEY**, **TED HORN**, **STEVE SUESS**, **SANDY CULLEN**, **BOO BOO GOMRIC**, **CURTIS McCALL**, **DONNA WHITAKER** and **BARB DUCEY**.

...to all our Block Captains, the unsung heroes of the neighborhood

...to all those dog walkers who pick up after their dog

...to all those neighbors who DON'T blow their grass and leaves into the street

...to all those parents who read to their children daily

...to all those neighbors who check on other neighbors

...to all those neighbors who slow down and come to a full stop at all the stop signs

**LOVE THY NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEERS!**

# BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL NEWS

8809 W. Main St. Belleville, IL 62223 Phone: 397-1111

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

...from the desk of Principal  
Claire Hatch



## WELCOME

BLESSED SACRAMENT is off to a great start to the 2010-2011 school year. Our enrollment is growing as we added 29 new students this year. We now have 214 students in the school. We made many improvements over the summer by remodeling the restrooms and adding more technology in the classrooms. All teachers now have **interactive Smartboards** to enhance the learning process for all our students.

### SCHOOL THEME FOR 2010-2011

This year's theme for the school is

**“Every Child Matters!”**

Through this theme we remind ourselves constantly of the need to serve and think about others. We hope to see many Blessed Sacrament students performing acts of kindness and service to others.



We would like to thank all of our Signal Hill neighborhood families for supporting our school here in the West End. We welcome all of you to visit our school anytime. We love being a part of the West End community.

We are now busy preparing for our biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual auction! ***This year's theme is “Mardi Gras”.***

## ANNUAL AUCTION

### Sat. OCTOBER 2

### In the School Gym



**5:30 Silent Auction begins.**

**6:00 Dinner. (Tables of 10)**

**8:45 Oral auction begins.**

**Tickets available through the school office. (397-1111)**

Everyone is invited to our annual auction which is our main fundraiser for our school. The money raised this year will be used to help add even more technology to the school and continue remodeling restrooms.

**All are welcome  
to attend and  
we thank you for  
your support!**

# SIGNAL HILL SCHOOL NEWS

40 Signal Hill Place, Belleville, IL 62223 Phone: 397-0325

...from the desk of Suzette Lambert, Superintendent

[www.signalhillschool.org](http://www.signalhillschool.org)

## Signal Hill School District Makes Adequate Yearly Progress

Every year, the Illinois Standards Achievement Tests are compiled by the State of Illinois as a way of determining if our school students are making "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP). Signal Hill School is proud to announce that our students made AYP! The report also pinpointed some areas for us to work on making improvements, so our faculty, staff and administration are working to bridge those gaps.

Signal Hill is proud of this achievement and would like to recognize the work of our faculty, our staff, and most importantly, our children. GO WARRIORS!

## Signal Hill School Recipient of Lowe's Summer Heroes' Project

Lowe's chose Signal Hill School as the recipient of their Summer Heroes' Project. They donated their time and materials to collaborate with students of Signal Hill to completely reconstruct our courtyard area. **Emily Johansson, Bethany Dain, Sean Workman, Nissa Armstrong and Evan Burgess** volunteered their time in helping to improve the school courtyard. What a great collaborative effort between our school and Lowe's. Come by and see the improvement.



## Signal Hill Welcomes New Staff

Signal Hill welcomes two new teachers to our faculty. **Linda Berberich** is our junior high math teacher. **Mrs. Berberich** is a native of Milstadt and comes to us from Lebanon. She is very enthusiastic about teaching math to our students. **Kristen Miesner** replaces **Mrs. Harres** as our speech pathologist. **Mrs. Miesner** is an SIU-E graduate who is looking forward to working with our faculty, staff and students.

## Reminder of Information

Wondering what's happening at Signal Hill School? Please go to our website at: [www.signalhillschool.org](http://www.signalhillschool.org)

We have a calendar of events listed on the website. Some events you may want to participate in include:

**PTO:** October 14, 2010; December 9, 2010; January 13, 2011; February 10, 2011; March 10, 2011; April 14, 2011, May 12, 2011

**Signal Hill Education Foundation (SHEF)-** Meets in the school library: October 7, 2010; December 2, 2010; February 3, 2011; April 7, 2011

**Board of Education Meetings-** Meets in the school library at 6:00: October 18, 2010; November 15, 2010; December 13, 2010; January 24, 2011; February 22, 2011; March 21, 2011; April 18, 2011; May 16, 2011



**SLOW DOWN when you drive by the school and through the neighborhood.**

## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **For the Signal Hill Circus!**

**(This is Signal Hill PTO's annual auction, and awards ceremony)**

**Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011      6:00 pm      Bel-Air Bowl Banquet Hall**

**Look for updates at [www.signalhillschool.org](http://www.signalhillschool.org)**

**(Sign up on the website to receive updates via email, too!)**

## 3rd Annual Warrior & Signal Hill Community Awards

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**SIGNAL HILL SCHOOL PTO**

*parents and teachers devoted to the future of our children*

The Signal Hill PTO is a non-profit organization of parents and teachers working together to enhance educational opportunities for children Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. With this mission comes the responsibility to help build community within our school in order to provide the best educational experience for our children.

To that end, the Signal Hill PTO will be recognizing two individuals, groups or families for their work in building community at Signal Hill School. We are currently accepting nominations for these two awards as defined below.

***The Warrior Award:*** This award recognizes the contributions of any person, group or family who has/have

1. **Graduated from or employed at** Signal Hill School (past or present).
2. **Demonstrated qualities** that enhanced the Signal Hill School experience and provided a **positive representation** of Signal Hill School in the greater community.

*Past awardees include: Kathy Burch (2009), Lynda Peyton (2010)*

***The Signal Hill Community Award:*** This award recognizes the contributions of any person, group or family who has/have

1. **Been involved in the Signal Hill School Community**, but may not have attended, taught or served as administration or staff at Signal Hill School.
2. **Worked to build excellence at Signal Hill School.**

*Past awardees include: The Defrates Family (2009), Signal Hill Educational Foundation (2010)*

Nominations may be made by completing the form on the back of this notification and **will be accepted through November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**. Awards will be presented at the Signal Hill School PTO's Auction.



**SIGNAL HILL SCHOOL PTO**  
*parents and teachers devoted to the future of our children*

# 3rd Annual Warrior and Signal Hill Community Awards

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## NOMINATION FORM

All nominations will be reviewed by a committee comprised of PTO and community members.

Only one nomination per category may be submitted by an individual.

**Nominations are due to the Signal Hill School Office (40 Signal Hill Place, Belleville, 62223)  
no later than November 1st, 2010.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am nominating the following individual/group/family for the:

- Warrior Award (Signal Hill alumni of employees)
- Signal Hill Award (community member)

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide your reasons for your nomination. Please consider the definitions of the awards listed on reverse of this form when writing your explanation. You may use the space below or attach additional pages as necessary.

## *Signal Hill Fire Department*

### *HOT FLASHES – Extra*

Let's face it -- most Americans are apathetic and complacent when it comes to *fire*. Many people just don't think that a *fire* will happen to them. A *fire* always happens to the "other" guy. Unfortunately, it is this cavalier attitude that can often lead to death, injury and property loss. Here are the facts:

- The average life expectancy in the United States is now 78 years.
- During an American's average lifetime, they can expect to experience 5 home *fires*. Many of these *fires* will be small and result in little or no damage. Even though these *fires* may seem trivial, there will be much personal anxiety.
- Your household has a one in four chance of having a *fire* large enough to be reported to a fire department during an average lifetime.
- There is an 89% chance that someone in your household will suffer an injury associated with a reported home *fire* in an average lifetime.
- 83% of all civilian *fire* deaths occur in the home.
- Only 50% of American homes have a *fire* extinguisher.
- Fire departments respond to a home *fire* in the United States every 78 seconds.

While the overall number of *fires* in the United States has been decreasing, the effort to educate and inform the public needs to continue. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home *fires* and the misuse of smoking materials is the leading cause of fire fatalities.

The Signal Hill Volunteer Firefighters urge you to take a few minutes with your family to discuss the critical importance of *fire* safety and practice a home *fire* drill during Fire Prevention Week.

As of September 15<sup>th</sup>, Signal Hill Volunteer Firefighters have responded to 104 incidents. Firefighters have extinguished three structure fires this year. One was a bedroom fire, believed to have been ignited by an electric blanket. The other two structure fires, a house and garage, were started by unattended open burning of landscape waste.

You can help to reduce the incidences of fire and improve the quality of life in our neighborhood by practicing good fire safe habits. Your Fire Department can provide you with specific tips and guidelines on how to become a community partner of fire prevention activities. Visit with us at the Signal Hill Chili Cook-Off – Scarecrow Jamboree on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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The Signal Hill Fire Department provides volunteer opportunities in your own neighborhood.

New Pastor Serving Signal Hill UMC

The Rev. Jim Wheeler

Reverend Wheeler was appointed to Signal Hill United Methodist Church as of July 1, 2010, by Bishop Gregory Palmer, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, Springfield, Illinois. Wheeler follows Rev. Peter Wehrly as Directing Pastor of this Belleville congregation.

Born in Poplar Bluff, MO, Rev. Jim says he is a certified Missouri mule, living in Illinois. His father was transferred by Kroger Groceries to four towns in three states before settling in Marion, Illinois. Wheeler says that this prepared him for itinerant ministry in the United Methodist Church.

Education

Rev. Jim received a diploma from Marion Community High School where he played sophomore football, played in the band, ran track and lettered in Cross Country. Jim then earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Industries from SIU Carbondale, 1971.

After graduation, Wheeler joined the Pax Service of the Mennonite Central Committee, serving 34 months in Haiti, West Indies. From there he returned to the US for a Master of Divinity degree from Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, with a special emphasis in Church and Society.

Ministry

Jim did not plan to go into ordained ministry. A visit to the seminary at Drew by two pastors from the former Southern Illinois Conference planted the seed for Jim's call to ministry. Much prayer and discernment lead to Jim's change of degree programs in favor of ordained ministry.

After four years of seminary, completion of the Master's degree, and two years of probationary membership in the Conference, he was ordained a fully Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and appointed to serve his first ministry.



In 1979, Jim became the campus minister for the Wesley Foundation at SIUE, where he served seven years. Subsequently, Rev. Jim served churches in Effingham, Alton, Bushnell, St. Elmo, Jacksonville, Tolono—Pesotum churches, and now Signal Hill. He has been in full time ordained ministry for 31 years.

Family

Rev. Jim met his wife, Marjorie Freeman Wheeler, at the Carbondale Wesley Foundation his senior year. After two years of letters to and from Haiti, they were married in 1973. Margie joined Jim in Haiti where she did teacher training for the girl's home economic centers. Jim and Margie have been together for 37 years.

The Wheelers have three grown sons, two daughters-in-law and one grandson. Their home is in Godfrey, where Margie is an Early Childhood Educator for the Alton School District.

UMW Hosting Annual Clothing Give-away

The Signal Hill United Methodist Women are hosting a clothing give-away on **Saturday, October 9**, from 9 a.m. to noon. Donations for this event will be accepted through the end of September. Drop-off boxes for donations are located at the office entrance in the back and in the Narthex in the front. Doors are open Mon.-Thurs. 9-12, Sat. 10-12. We are looking for out-grown, good condition clothing for men, women and children. Surplus clothing will be given to Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House or to Beacon.

Thank you for your generous support!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY OCTOBER 3

NOON – 5:00 P.M.

3rd Block of Signal Hill Blvd.



SCARECROW

JAMBOREE

**MAKE IT & TAKE IT SCARECROWS
(YOU BRING THE CLOTHES)**

Scarecrow Kit contains – wooden frame, stuffing, material head & painted face or patches to make the face.

- Adult size Scarecrow Kit(s) at \$8.00 each
- Child size Scarecrow Kit(s) at \$7.00 each
- I'll bring my frame from last year (\$3 refund on the day of the Jamboree

Refer to accompanying Jamboree Flyer for instructions on how to order your Scarecrow.

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**CHILI COOK-OFF  
LIVE MUSIC**

**Mums, Cornstalks,  
& Straw Bales for sale --  
Hot Dogs, Chips, Baked Goods,  
Pies, & Soda for sale, too!**

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Saturday December 11

5:00-8:00 PM



**HOLIDAY ON THE
BOULEVARD**

To benefit Family Hospice and Heart Links”

On Signal Hill Boulevard, inside the Community Center at Signal Hill School and Signal Hill United Methodist Church

Old Favorites

- Carriage rides
- Beautifully decorated houses
- Memorial luminaries in memory of loved ones gone
- Good food to eat there and goodies you can take home for gifts, good cheer, good friends
- Vendors galore
- Pictures with Santa

New additions

- ❖ More choirs
- ❖ More activities for children
- ❖ Holiday baskets

and



Prizes for the Best Decorated Houses!

(includes homes throughout the entire Signal Hill Neighborhood and Briar Hill)

Categories:

- Most Original
- Most Whimsical
- Best School Spirit
- Griswald Award (make Chevy Chase proud!)

Help Wanted!

- to put up outside decorations at Signal Hill School on Thanksgiving weekend. Great fun and a great activity to put you in the holiday spirit!
Please call Karen Graebe at 398-8793.
- to decorate the community center on Friday night, December 10 and before the event begins on Saturday night

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, October 2, 2010



Blessed Sacrament School Auction

5:30 Silent Auction begins Blessed Sacrament School Gym
[See page 9 for more information]

Sunday, October 3, 2010



SCARECROW JAMBOREE AND CHILI COOK-OFF

Noon – 5 PM
On the Boulevard between Ruth & Bluff Drive
[See page 15 and Informational Flyer included with this
newsletter for more information]

Saturday, October 9, 2010



United Methodist Women's Annual Clothing Drive

9:00 a.m. to noon Signal Hill United Methodist Church
[See page 14 for donation drop-off times.]

November 2010



Centreville Township Leaf Vacuum

See pg.5 [flyer with more information to follow]

Saturday, December 11, 2010



"Holiday on the Boulevard"

To Benefit Family Hospice/Heartlinks
and the Signal Hill Neighborhood Association
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Signal Hill Blvd., Signal Hill School Community Center and
Signal Hill United Methodist Church [See page 15 for more
details.]

Second Tuesday of the Month

Signal Hill Neighborhood Association Board Meetings
7:00 p.m. Signal Hill Firehouse · Public welcome.

Saturday, March 5, 2011



Signal Hill School PTO Annual Auction and Community Awards Presentation

6:00 p.m. Bel-Air Bowl Banquet Hall
[See page 11 for more information]