

SIGNALS FROM THE HILL

Signal Hill Neighborhood Association

ISSUE 15

www.signalhillna.com

SEPTEMBER

Signal Hill

A Great Place to Live

A Guide to What's Inside

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Dear Neighbors,

It has been quite a year around the neighborhood.

Weather-wise we've had to endure everything from piles of snow last winter, to record-breaking rainfall in the spring, to a drought this past summer. And now it feels like winter in the morning and summer in the afternoon. One thing's for sure: living in the Midwest is never dull!

I hope your summer was totally uneventful and you were able to get in a little R&R before you had to dive back into the rat race to get all the kiddos ready to head back to school.

Speaking of “back to school”, let's all remember to slow down when driving through the neighborhood and stay alert for all the walkers, runners, and bicyclists out and about now. Between school starting and the arrival of the cool weather, our streets and sidewalks are filled with people of all ages at all hours of the day and night.



Fall picnics and festivities are in full swing all around the area. Speaking of festivities, SHNA is excited to announce we will once again be hosting the **Scarecrow Jamboree and Chili Cook-off on Sunday, October 2, 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 both is a great way to meet your neighbors!



Back by popular demand, the neighborhood is again hosting **Holiday on the Boulevard.** Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 11th.** (More about this inside the newsletter.)

Be sure to invite your friends and family to join us at these one-of-a-kind activities! Hope to see you all there!

Brian Triska
SHNA President

2011 – 2012 SHNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(Addresses and Phone numbers available on the hard copy newsletter)

	BOARD MEMBERS	COMMITTEES	ADDRESS	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
1	Brian Triska, President	Landscape / Zoning			oct7brian@yahoo.com
2	Donna Dougherty, Vice-President	Zoning Chair / Neighborhood Watch / Landscape			godoughertygo@gmail.com
3	Donna Whitaker, Secretary	Landscape Committee			hdwhitak@charter.net
4	Angela Kammann, Treasurer				alkammann@gmail.com
5	Beaupre, Peggy	Events Committee			pbeaupre@mvp-av.com
6	Fred Colliflower	Landscape Committee			fmcolliflower@charter.net
7	Michele Cowell	Neighborhood Watch / Community Relations			michele.cowell@sbcglobal.net
8	Barb Ducey	Newsletter / Bylaw Review / Neighborhood Watch			baducey@gmail.com
9	Karen Graebe	Events / Welcome Neighbor			kgraebe@charter.net
10	Jack Heddell	Landscape Committee			jdheddell@sbcglobal.net
11	Stacey Henke	Events / Scarecrow Jamboree Chair			henke4@charter.net or shenke@stclair.k12.il.us
12	Jim Pappas	Zoning Committee			palace110@hotmail.com
13	Barbara Stalker	Bylaw Review / Newsletter / Welcome Neighbor			bstalker06@hotmail.com
14	Doug Tedford	Landscape committee			tedforja@fchs77.org
Ad Hoc	Jim Mussulman	Webmaster			jmussul@siue.edu
Ad Hoc	Julie Tedford	Community Relations / Events			tedforja@fchs77.org
Ad Hoc	Herb Whitaker	Technolgy / Graphic Design			hdwhitak@charter.net

KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



Merci

Gracias

Grazie



2011 DUES - PAYING MEMBERS

BLUFF DRIVE

Burger, Lisa and Sanford, Mark
Burris, Branson and Heather
Given, Pia and William
Graebe, Bob and Karen
Gregory, Barry and Patti
Miller, Dave and Annie Sauget
Sierra, Dr. and Mrs. Gregorio
Stalker, Barbara
Taylor, Dr. Lawrence and Barbara
Weishaar, Phillip and Mary

BLUFF HILL ROAD

Tisch, Don and Carolyn

BRIAR HILL ROAD

CARBON STREET

CIRCLE DRIVE

CONCORD DRIVE

Tweedy, Greg and Robin

CRESTON DRIVE

Albert, Kay and Milton
Politsch, Ray and Betty

DIVIDE

EDGEWOOD LANE

Blacet, Robert and Carmella

FOREST

DeFrates, Irv
Hollenbeck, Dave and Lissa
Pappas, Jim and Rose
Spilka, Kathy and Joe

FREDERICK

GLENVIEW DRIVE

HAZEL AVENUE

Bainter, Gary and Michele
Bainter, Danny
Brown, Kenneth
Hileman, Kevin and Lonnie
Hudson, Michelle
Hunter, Jack and Bev
Triska, Brian and Barbara
Whitaker, Herb and Donna

JULIA PLACE

Beaupre, Peggy and Dennis
Constance, Ed and Lynne
Dietz, Brian and Renee
Eisele, Jim and Sharon
Laney, Ann

JULIA PLACE

Richards, Beth and Dale
Scheibel, Sara
Tedford, Julie and Doug
Vartanian, Dick and Zabelle

KINGSTON DRIVE

Foster, Mark and Lynn
Kilroy, Pat and Laura
Linder, Kelly and Lorry
Sikorski, Allen and Gillespie,
Annabelle
Suess, Steve and Barbara
Waller, Mary

LAMASK

Lindauer, Irene

LAWRENCE

LENEL

Paying dues is voluntary.
The folks listed on this page
didn't have to send a
check...but they did.
We Thank Them...Very Much.

LINDORF

Bandy, Hildy
Paul, Lee and Della

MARTIN

MILDRED

MILLIE

Foutch, Jeff and Cheryl

PERRY LANE

RAVINE

RIDGE LANE

Ducey, Tom and Barb
Shaw, Jim and Donna

RUTH

Weiss, Delores

SIGNAL HILL BLVD.

Alexander, Scott and Nancy
Bevirt, Don and Laurie
Biver, Tom and Shawn
Boyles, Brent and Lana
Chaney, Steve and Billie
Cullen, Charlie and Sandy
Dahlmann, Jeanne and Bill
Dauber, Ellen
Davidson, Helen

SIGNAL HILL BLVD.

Dougherty, Donna and Ed
Havlin, Norma Jean
Holm, Matt and Nancy
Hunter, Jack and Bev
Kammann, Angela and Phil
Kappel, Mike
Laney, Pat and Kerri
Mikesell, Lee
Roberts, Otto and Dana
Rose, Dr. Edward and Harriet
Russell, Scott and Julie
Schmitz, Mark and Kit
Seales, Lesa and Dean
Schellabarger, Matt and Khris
Sister Janis Yaekel, ASC
Tyrrell, Dr. Terrence and Marylou

SIGNAL HILL PLACE

SIGNAL HILL TERRACE

SIGNAL PARK LANE

SIGNAL POINT

Bryan, Dr. Theo and Bertha
Dibadj, Tom and Sharon
Edwards, Georgia-Ann
Engel, Richard and Karen
Janklow, Paul
Kane, Pat
McKee, Craig and Barbara
Morrison, Harold and June
Slocomb, Paul and Alicia

SOUTH 95th STREET

SOUTH CRESTON

Colliflower, Fred

SUPERIOR DRIVE

Kroupa, Charlotte
Laut, Elmer and Chris
Mitchell, Ida Lee
Schweiss, Joe

SYLVANIA

VALLEY

Martin, Steve

WALNUT

WEDGEWOOD LANE

WILDWOOD

Association dues are \$20.00 a year, which comes to \$1.70 a month. Dues are used to pay the monthly electric bill for the lights on the gates at Kingston Drive, the cutting of the grass at all the common areas, the expenses associated with the printing our newsletter, signage and flyers for neighborhood functions, our annual purchase of 1,000 daffodil bulbs, and support membership events such as the Scarecrow Jamboree in October and Holiday on the Boulevard in December.

Signal Hill Neighborhood Association

2011 Dues Form

If you have not already paid you 2011 dues, please complete and return the form below with your check/money order payable to **Signal Hill Neighborhood Association**.

For questions about our association, contact:

President Brian Triska oct7brian@yahoo.com (618)397-8091

For questions about dues, contact:

Treasurer Angela Kammann alkammann@gmail.com (618) 394-1083

Thanks for supporting your neighborhood association!

SHNA 2011 Dues --\$20 Payable Now

On the MEMO line on your check, please write the year your dues are to be applied.

Make you check payable to:

Signal Hill Neighborhood Association
c/o Treasurer Angela Kammann
28 Signal Hill Boulevard, Belleville, IL 62223
Email: alkammann@gmail.com

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email address(es) _____

Phone(s) _____

Comments: _____

Please mark one.

_____ I want a hard copy of my newsletter hung on my mailbox.

_____ I will get my newsletter off the Neighborhood Website www.signalhillna.com

_____ I want my newsletter emailed to me.



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 **SALLY and ED SULLIVAN** for always picking up litter as they take their daily walk.

...to **DONNA DOUGHERTY** for organizing periodic work details throughout the year to prune, weed and mulch the neighborhood garden at Millie and Foley Drive and Hackman Island at West Main St. and Hwy 157. If you have company come from across the river and they comment how nice those two entrances look...you have Donna and her cohorts **GEORGIA-ANN EDWARDS, BARBARA TAYLOR** and **ALICIA SLOCOMB** to thank.

...to **MARY BERTRAND** and daughter **ELEANOR, JOE GIEGER, TINA NESTER** and daughter **MARY, CHRIS GIBSON** and daughter **ADDIE, JOE CIPFL, BRIAN BARBER, CHRIS MALACARNE** and daughter **ELLE** and **TAMMI VICKERY** for pulling all the invasive species out of the flower beds at Signal Hill School and then planting all the beautiful flowers in those beds. Thank you for all your time and hard work. The neighborhood truly appreciates your efforts. And with some tender loving care, it will be all the more beautiful when school opens next year.

...to **DR. TERRY TYRRELL** and wife **MARYLOU**, for continuing to fight the good fight against the invasive species trying to overtake the beautiful trees at the entrance to the neighborhood at the Boulevard and Foley Drive. It's pretty certain that most of us would have said "I'm done with it!"...but not Terry and Marylou. We urge them to call for help the next time they have to go "into battle" down there. I'm sure there are plenty of us neighbors who could give them some help if we have enough advance notice.

...to **ALL THE NEIGHBORS who do not feed the wildlife** in Signal Hill. One of our neighbors, who shall remain nameless, had to pay someone to trap raccoons that had overrun his property. The trapper caught 42 raccoons before the neighbor cried, "UNCLE!" If you love wildlife, don't feed them. You're not doing them or your neighbors a favor.

...to **ALL THE PEOPLE who donated clothes** to the Signal Hill United Methodist's Church clothing give-away. On behalf of the Church, **EDITH BEACH** would like to thank everyone for their generosity. There were 58 very happy customers walk out their doors. Edith said that whatever was left over was donated to the Church of Christ on Bunkum Road. That Church has give-aways several times a month.

...to **ALL THE 22 SIGNAL HILLIANS WHO BOUGHT A NEW SIGNAL HILL BANNER.** (If you go on the Association website at www.signalhillna.com, they're right there on the bottom of the home page for you to see.) Because of these very generous neighbors, the association was able to buy 24 banners. That's outstanding! **MARTY CRAWFORD** and his **HWY CREW** are going to hang them for us as soon as we tell them where they go. This neighborhood is going to really shine come this Holliday Season.

...and **LAST, BUT NOT LEAST**, a great big thank you, in advance, to those individuals **WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED**, or **who plan to volunteer** to work at the upcoming Scarecrow Jamboree. This event is labor intensive, and it is only through the kindness of our neighbors that we are able to put on this JAMBOREE.

UPDATE: SIGNAL HILL TRAIL - where are we now?

OPEN HOUSE PLANNED FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TRAIL

Trail building is not an easy task. In fact, it's a lot like riding a roller coaster. A lot of ups and downs.

In the spring of 2009 there was an announcement that the city had been awarded a \$250,000 grant to build a paved bike trail along the abandoned railroad right of way near Superior Drive. We were told it would be built within a year.

Then the bad news came.

There was an announcement that the right of way was acting as a dam holding back a 2 million gallon pond and the dam was leaking. The dam had to be removed, but the pond had to be drained before the dam could be removed. The possibility of downstream flooding during the draining of the pond was raised. New money had to be found to cover the cost to drain the pond and remove the dam because those repairs were not covered under the grant. Because of restrictions in the grant, there could be no trail building until these issues were resolved.

Then the good news came.

In 2010 there was an announcement that the city and other parties in the project had pulled together enough money to drain the pond and remove the dam. The pond was drained. The dam was removed. There was no downstream flooding in the process. The project was back on track.

So where are we now?

We're in a holding pattern.

The engineering firm designing the trail told us they would begin work on the trail design in June. Nothing was done to the right of way over the summer months. It's overgrown and filled with poison ivy, fire weeds, junk trees and invasives. Mosquitoes and chiggers were rampant up there during the summer, and probably still are. So right now, the right of way is your basic no man's land.

In August, representatives from the neighborhood association asked for a meeting with city officials, the project managers and engineers. The purpose of the meeting was to find out the status of the project and ask questions we felt were appropriate

at this phase of the project. We invited a representative from **Trailnet, Inc.** to join us. They are the premier trail consulting group in St. Louis and they have people who are experts who do nothing but consult on Safe Routes to School projects.

The group met on September 14, 2011.

Discussions touched on a number of topics:

- ✓ **Safety measures on the trail and along Foley Dr. and at the street crossing at S. 88th St. and Foley Dr.**
- ✓ **Reducing the speed limit on Foley Dr.**
- ✓ **Installation of warning lights on Foley**
- ✓ **Pedestrian crosswalk light at the entrance to Country Club**
- ✓ **Safety and security measures along Foley Drive,**
- ✓ **Privacy for homeowners living along the trail**
- ✓ **Lighting and emergency call phones**
- ✓ **Landscaping and trail maintenance**
- ✓ **Enhancements to the trail, including outdoor education programs and historical markers**
- ✓ **Hosting an Open House so the community could be given the opportunity to look at the design of the proposed trail and ask questions**

It was a productive meeting. Concerns were aired and solutions proposed. An Open House for the entire community is in the works. Members of the community can come and listen to the planning team and experts explain the project details and then ask questions. We are currently working with the presenters for a date, time and place for the Open House. We will keep you posted.

**Doing something worthwhile
is seldom easy.**

MORE UPDATES (plus dates to remember)

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE WATER IN THE NEW DETENTION BASIN?

(formerly known as Peterson's Pond)

Even though we have been in the midst of a pretty substantial drought this summer, the hole we once called Peterson's Pond has continued to fill with water. Since a detention basin, by definition, is designed not to hold water for any extended period of time, neighbors living nearby began voicing their concerns that something was terribly wrong out there.

We asked City Engineer, Tim Gregowicz, about this. He explained that there is a catch basin underneath all that water. He said that the catch basin is working exactly as it should, i.e. it is preventing the silt from moving downstream. However, the compacted silt is now preventing the water from draining into the ground. He now has to bring the contractor back out to the site and clean out the basin. Once that is done, the water should drain properly.

We are told that this scenario could repeat itself due of the amount of silt in that area. (Don't forget: there was a 2-acre lake out there for 80+ years.) Suffice it to say, this detention basin is still considered a construction zone, and the public is urged to avoid the area for their own safety.

The whole area – the basin and the proposed trail – looked pretty “rough” over the summer. Mark Rives, a neighbor living adjacent to the pond property, did what he could to cut back the weeds, but he admits it was a losing battle. When asked about this lack of maintenance, Tim said that this is a project that has to be done in stages and they will be returning this fall to do more work. (FYI: The city owns the property and is responsible for maintaining it.)

PUT THESE SITES IN YOUR LIST OF FAVORITES

- Signal Hill Neighborhood Association website: www.signalhillna.com
- Neighborhood Facebook page Friend - “Signal Hill Neighborhood”

CENTREVILLE TOWNSHIP HWY DEPT: ADVANCE NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN BEFORE CLOSING SUPERIOR DRIVE FOR ROADWORK

Centreville Township Hwy. Department still has to complete their part of the project. The Township is going to replace the pipe under the street where the water drains into the adjacent pond. That work will require closing Superior Drive for a period of time and digging up the street.

Hwy Commissioner, Marty Crawford, was able to secure funding from the Grant's Department for the project and is now completing the required paperwork. Once that is finished, the bidding process can begin. As always, Marty's office will update us as necessary. Neighbors will be given notice about closing the street before that phase of work begins.



DATE SET FOR CENTREVILLE TOWNSHIP LEAF VACUUM SERVICE

Highway Commissioner Marty Crawford and his crew will once again help us keep the environment clean by vacuuming up our leaves from Thursday, November 17th thru Saturday, November 26th.

For further information, about this curb-side pick-up, please call the Highway Department at 332-1520.

GATES TO BE OPENED BY NOVEMBER 19

Unless there is an early snow, the gates on Kingston Drive and Bluff Hill Road will be opened the weekend of November 19th. They will be closed again on March 15th. If you have any questions, call Barb Ducey at 398-6435.

BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED -

17 OF 55 STREETS HAVE NO BLOCK CAPT.

Please go the SHNA website www.signalhillna.com for the newest Block Captain list. Check to see if your street has a Block Captain. If not, please consider volunteering. Without a Block Captain, your street is not included on the association's information highway. If you have any questions about what a Block Captain has to do, please call Barb Ducey at 398-6435 or Barbara Stalker at 398-8826.

UPDATES: SIGNAL HILL PARK & MORE

SIGNAL HILL PARK

The park is really not a public park per se but rather athletic fields belonging to Signal Hill School. There are very clear rules of conduct and park hours posted throughout the property.

Over these past summer months some young adults with a lot of spare time on their hands and displaying little or no respect for people or property, have been using the park as a place to hook up with friends and hang out. Neighbors have reported curfew violations, fights, property thefts and vandalism. No drug buys have been confirmed on park property but suspicious activity in and around the area has been on the increase.

Rather than hiding our heads in the sand, the neighborhood association called a meeting (in August) with representatives from Signal Hill School, Landshire Foods, city and township officials, law enforcement agencies and neighbors living along the park.

At that meeting, problems were identified and a multi-layered plan to address those problems was developed.

Our first task on a long list of things to-do, is to get more lighting out there. To that end, Centreville Hwy Dept. has already put up two new street lights on Signal Park Lane, with a third coming shortly. Meetings with AmerenIP are scheduled to address placement of additional lights on the other three sides of the park.

This effort is a work in progress, but to turn the corner, the community needs to get involved as well. We need all of you to be the eyes and ears for law enforcement. We need you to be vigilant, be aware of your surroundings, and call the Belleville Police at 234-1212 if you see anything suspicious or out of the ordinary. (In emergencies, call 911)

What is 'suspicious behavior'?

Behavior other than normal.

What do you do if you see something you think you should report to the Police?

Give details, i.e.

- a good description of the clothing
- the direction of travel, whether walking or driving
- vehicle license plate numbers (even if it's just a partial number)

Keep one thing in mind: If one person can change the world, think what an entire community can do? Our strength is in our numbers and our commitment to each other.

STOP SIGN ABUSE

Two points.

First, please come to a FULL STOP at stop signs. These rolling stops are getting out of control. If this continues,

the Board will have to ask the Police to start issuing citations.

Second, don't do us any favors by coming to a full stop and then seize the moment to clean out the ash tray in your car. Cigarette butts belong in a trash bag, not on our streets.

SOCIAL MEDIA FORUM

The forum was extremely informative and grossly unattended. The speakers were wonderful. They have a wealth of information and it was obvious they are more than willing to help us protect ourselves and our families from the pitfalls that go along with using social media. Although SHNA did not sponsor this activity, the Board members who attended the forum thought the presentation was extremely worthwhile and should be offered to the community again. We want to thank **MICHELE COWELL of Military Matters** for her efforts, and the Board will revisit this issue. As always, we will keep you advised of our decision.

THE CRESTON DRIVE SEWAGE SAGA CONTINUES

What a mess we've had to deal with since April!

First the sewer pump died. Then a temporary above ground line was installed. Raw sewage was pumped up and out of one manhole - then down the street to the next manhole - where it was dumped back into the system on the Blvd. - which then carried the sewage downhill to the American Bottoms treatment plant.

A little over a week ago, Commonfields sent a couple of guys up here to move the above ground line to the shoulder of the road and bury it. This past week the underground line burst and we had raw sewage all over the street again. Commonfields sent two guys back up here to dig up the buried line, repair the break and bury it again.

The SHNA Board called IEPA this past Thursday. We were told that Commonfields could declare this an emergency. They do have the power to shorten the time to get bids for the new pump station which means they could install this pump before the bad weather comes.

Our first question to Commonfields is:

Will you exercise that option?

Our second question to Commonfields is:

Is it not common practice to run cameras in all the lines that feed into this pump station BEFORE you install the new pump? At a cost of \$120,000 to fix this problem, shouldn't we do it right the first time?

The Commonfields Sewer and Water Board meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 pm at the District office in Cahokia. As a taxpayer, you might want to go. As a taxpayer, you have the right to ask questions.

SCARECROW JAMBOREE IS HERE !

SUNDAY OCTOBER 3
NOON – 5:00 P.M.
3rd Block of Signal Hill Blvd.



MAKE IT & TAKE IT SCARECROWS

CHILI COOK-OFF

LIVE MUSIC BY TIME WARP

**Mums, Cornstalks, &
 Straw Bales for sale**
**Hot Dogs, Chips, Baked Goods,
 Pies, & Soda to eat**

New Stuff for 2011!

RACES:

- ✓ High Noon Lawnmower Race
- ✓ 3-Legged Race
- ✓ Sack Races

COMPETITIONS:

- ✓ Washers
- ✓ Signal Hill Sling Shot
- ✓ Corn Hole Toss
- ✓ Lasso Golf

GAMES

- ✓ Face the Cookie
- ✓ Frankenstein

HELP WANTED

1 to 2 hr shifts

Call Barb Ducey @ 398-6435. Tell her when you can work or Email: baducey@gmail.com

HIGH NOON:

- ✓ **Riding Lawnmower Race**
Starts at Bluff / Signal Hill Blvd. – towards school
(Number of entries determines number of heats)
- ✓ 3-legged race
- ✓ Sack race

Beginning at Noon:

1 to 2 HR SHIFTS (your choice) for the following booths

- Scarecrow – Make It & Take It
- Hot dog
- Drinks
- Bingo
- Face the Cookie
- Frankenstein
- Washers
- Signal Hill Sling Shot
- Corn Hole Toss
- Lasso Golf
- Face the Coolie
- Frankenstein

Set-up

10:00 a.m. Set-up plastic table covers on tables
 10:30 a.m. Get (50) 8 lb bags of ice
 10:30 a.m. Ice up drinks
 2:30 p.m. 2nd run for more ice
 30 more 8 lb bags of ice
 5:00 p.m. Clean up

Items to donate: 12-packs of soda

Call Stacey at 398-0994 and tell her what you're donating. Email: henke4@charter.net

- ✓ Soda:
- ✓ Coke
- ✓ Diet Coke
- ✓ Pepsi
- ✓ Diet Pepsi
- ✓ Dr. Pepper
- ✓ Sprite
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Gatorade

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL NEWS

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

www.blessedsacramentbelleville.com

.....
...from the desk of Principal
Claire Hatch

WELCOME

We are off to a great year at Blessed Sacrament School with a total enrollment of 215 students! (25 new students)

This year we are following our theme of "**Faith, Academics, and Service**" as we teach our students the importance of serving others in all that they do and always doing their very best in their academics. We continue to strive to be one of the top schools in the Belleville Diocese!

ANNUAL AUCTION Sat. OCTOBER 1

4:45 PM TAILGATE PARTY
(in the parking lot)

6:30-8:00 PM Dinner
(Tables of 8 / \$40 per person)



Silent Auction Oral auction (following dinner)

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year as it helps to fund our technology and other programs at Blessed Sacrament. We invite everyone to join us in a fun night for all members of our West End community!

**Tickets available
Call (397-1111)**

A PAGE FROM HISTORY...

submitted by Steve Suess



The following excerpt is from an East St. Louis real estate booklet, circa 1910. It is reprinted exactly as it appeared 100 years ago.

Signal Hill Place

This beautiful sub-division, lying on the highlands, beyond the corporate limits of East St. Louis, between this city and Belleville, was laid out and the sale of the lots conducted by Fink & Co., one of the best known and most reliable real estate firms of East St. Louis. The company owns a large and modern office building at No. 412 Missouri Avenue, and their offices are located on the second floor of this building.

Signal Hill Place is a high plateau, comprising three hundred and twenty-four acres of choice residence property, located on the highest point of St. Clair County, overlooking the great cities of St. Louis and East St. Louis, that great and fertile garden spot of American---the American Bottoms, the thriving city of Millstadt, and the great Mississippi River. The center of this sub-division is traversed by a street---boulevard---125 feet wide with a grass plat 25 feet wide, running along the center, lined with California privet hedge and studded with evergreens, flowers, and shrubbery. The sub-division is restricted to the building of residences only and this fact, together with the beautiful high location, adds to the charms of a country home, with no city taxes to pay, yet enjoying the benefit of all modern conveniences and within close reach of two cities having good street car service and a five-cent fare to either East St. Louis or Belleville.

Signal Hill Place offers as good if not superior home sites (considered from every standpoint) than West St. Louis, at prices ranging from \$5.00 - \$20.00 per foot, and within 30 minutes car ride of Third Street and Washington avenue in St. Louis on the most modern and best equipped electrical street cars in the country.

SIGNAL HILL SCHOOL NEWS

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

...from the desk of Suzette Lambert, Superintendent

www.signalhill181.org

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year at Signal Hill. We have many new faces we would like to introduce, beginning with our principal, **Mrs. Kelly West**. Mrs. West has been a long time Belleville girl, beginning her career at Harmony Emge 175 as a teacher. She moved to Pontiac William Holiday to be in charge of the gifted program before moving to O'Fallon #90 where she has been an assistant principal for the past 5 years. Mrs. West brings much experience with her and has begun working with the staff on implementation of many new programs.

Also new to Signal Hill are **Tyler Short, Kayla Schwierjohn, Kelly Collier, Bethany Jenkins** and **Stephanie Ferguson**. **Mr. Short** and **Ms. Schwierjohn** are teaching fifth grade and both are excited to be a part of the Signal Hill family. **Mrs. Collier** will also be busy as she is a part time special education teacher, as well as being in charge of the Talented and Gifted (TAG) Program. **Ms. Jenkins** is our new junior high math teacher. She loves her Promethean Board and has the students engaged at all times. **Mrs. Ferguson** is teaching in our computer lab. If she sounds familiar to you, it may be because she did her student teaching here and has been a substitute teacher here for a year. Please feel free to come by and meet our new principal and teachers.

In June we reported about our anticipation of receiving the Promethean Boards. We are excited to report all the Promethean Boards have been installed and the teachers, as well as the students, are excited to use the new technology. We now have 14 boards covering all grade levels. If you see a student or teacher, ask them how they use the Promethean Boards.

Upcoming Events for your Calendar

October 3 rd -	Fire Safety Assembly and local Smokehouse visit for students
October 4 th , 4:00-8:00	McTeachers' Night. Teachers will be working at McDonalds in Westfield Plaza. The teachers receive a percentage of the business they do during this time to use in their classrooms. Plan your supper that night at McDonalds and support your local school district.
October 6 th	Beginning of Entertainment Book fundraiser. This is a coupon book with many ways to save money and support our PTO and school.
October 17 th	Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M.
October 31 st	Halloween Parade at 1:30. Please come out to see this wonderful tradition. We would like to see the Boulevard full of neighborhood people watching our band and students as they parade for Halloween.
November 10 th and 11 th	No school for Parent Conferences and Veterans' Day
December 11 th	Holiday on the Boulevard
December 12 th	Band/Chorus Concert at 7:00
December 20 th	Holiday Play at 1:00

Signal Hill Fire Department

HOT FLASHES – Extra

A decade ago, many were still in disbelief as the ruins of the World Trade Center continued to smolder. At the Pentagon the situation and building had been stabilized. On the outskirts of Shanksville, Pennsylvania, first responders were performing evidence collection and human remains recovery tasks.

As we remember those that loss their life, we are in amazement about the stories of personal survival from both inside the Trade Centers and the Pentagon.

Twenty-four years earlier, on Saturday, May 28, 1977, a fire at the Beverly Hill Supper Club in Southgate, Kentucky an estimated 3000 patrons were enjoying the evening out. At approximately 9:00 p.m., a fire was discovered and quickly grew in size, producing thick clouds of toxic smoke. The fire claimed the lives of 165 people and injured more than 200. The next day, six victims were found dead, still seated around their table – obviously they had taken no actions to escape the inferno except to sit there and die.

What does a fire in a nightclub and the 9-11-01 have in common? Those that survived these tragedies knew immediately what actions to take to safely exit the building to escape death. The book, *The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes - and Why* chronicles many stories of self-survival. The common denominator in all of stories appears to be a personal situational preparedness.

Regardless if it is a natural disaster, (earthquake, tornado, severe weather or winter storm) or a house fire, thinking and planning ahead of time can save lives. Instinctively knowing what and when to take action can only occur through knowledge and practice.

- Do you and your family practice home fire escape planning? Where is your meeting place?
- When you walk into a restaurant or theater, do you look around and locate the nearest exit?
- Do you read the aircraft flight safety card? What row is the exit row?
- Does your family have a survival kit?
- When the weather sirens sound, what do you do?
- If your smoke detector activates, do you ignore it or do you act?

You get the point, now act!

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The Signal Hill Volunteer Firefighters say THANKS to all of those that came out to support Ribs & Raffle Day. While for the past several years the net proceeds have fallen off, the most important point to remember is that all of the funds raised are reinvested to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood

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Are you looking to make a difference every day in your life and the lives of others?

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

RECOGNIZING ILLEGAL DRUG HOUSE ACTIVITY

Dear Signal Hill Residents,

The Belleville Police Department is doing everything it legally can do to abate this potentially violent nuisance. I am requesting your support in helping the Police Department achieve that goal.

If you observe, or become aware of any of the following signs or activities, please contact the Belleville Police Department at **(618)234-1218 extension 686**. You may leave this information anonymously.

How to recognize sales and manufacturing of illegal drugs

Some of the activities listed below, especially happening alone, may have a reasonable explanation. For example, frequent visits to a house might simply mean that a large and sociable family lives there. However, in combination, the activities below could mean that you are seeing illegal drug activity. Sometimes sales and manufacturing happen in the same location, and sometimes not.

Am I seeing drug sales?

Drug sales may happen at home or in a public place, such as a street or park.

Possible signs of drug sales

- Numerous short visits to the location by people in vehicles, on bicycles, and/or on foot
- Money or small packages being exchanged
- Cars frequently drive by slowly at a location
- Visitors often bring by personal property and leave without it
- People who appear to be lookouts
- Activity at the location at odd hours such as in the middle of the night or early or early in the morning
- Occupants seem paranoid, unfriendly, or secretive
- Shades or blinds constantly being drawn, even though the house is occupied
- Unusually extensive security measures around the house
- Drug paraphernalia at or near the location, such as: very small zip-lock plastic baggies; small bundled or twisted pieces of cellophane; small pieces of balloon; hypodermic needles and needle caps; broken automobile antennae; small glass vials or pipes; or small pieces of brillo
- Elevated levels of thefts in the surrounding area

Illegal Drug Sales/Activities is a plague on our community exposing law abiding citizens to potential violence, and other property crimes associated with this crime. It is my hope to solicit you help by acting as our eyes and ears to reduce or eliminate this menace. The Belleville Police Department strongly discourages any actions that expose you or your family to potential harm. The Belleville Police Department encourages and needs any information you become aware of to help us put these criminals out of business.

My sincere thanks for any assistance you are able to provide.

Sincerely,

Col. William G. Clay III
Chief of Police



9700 W. Main St. • Belleville, IL • 62223 - gotowerc.com

The West End Redevelopment Corporation (WERC) continues to make strides in restoration and revitalization in West Belleville. WERC sold one of its completely rehabbed homes at 9919 Olympia to a young couple who are enthusiastic about purchasing their first home. There is also a contract of sale on a second rehabbed home on 9817 Olympia to a family who plans to close on their new home on Sept. 23rd. A third rehabbed two-bedroom home is also listed for sale.

For new members to the Signal Hill neighborhood, WERC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is comprised of dedicated members of the community and business people who champion the West End of Belleville. The goal of WERC is to restore, renovate and revitalize properties in our community. Our organization also initiates and supports beautification projects in the West End. Founded in December 2005, WERC serves the neighborhoods which are bound by Routes 157, 161, 15 and 26th St. in Belleville.

WERC has recently completed a rehab plan for a two-bedroom home purchased at 110 N. 98th St. and is in the process of obtaining bids and applying for a St. Clair County Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant to purchase a single family home at 106 N 98th St. Additionally, WERC acquired a building at 9700 W. Main St. and uses part of the space for its office. Some interior renovation of the building has begun and bids for exterior renovation are being accepted with work to commence as funds are available.

WERC's capital campaign fund raiser continues with a goal of \$200,000 to support its efforts. We are looking to members of the community for financial support. We hope to make 9700 W. Main shine as a jewel property and anchor of the West End as well as enhance its appeal for possible future resale or lease. This is an important investment in our community that can directly impact our quality of life and the value of our property. Donations at all levels are vital to our efforts.

The annual West Belleville Wing Fling fund raiser is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 5701 W. Main (next to Commerce Bank). The event is hosted by the West Belleville Promotional Committee. All proceeds will be donated to WERC and to West Belleville development. Please join us for a fun family afternoon. Sponsorships are available and range from \$50 Feathered Friend, \$250 Golden Egg, and \$1,000 Rules the Roost(er). With each sponsorship level company advertisement increases. Friends of WERC can also support the West End efforts by becoming a sponsor. For more information check out the web site at <http://www.westbelleville.org/>

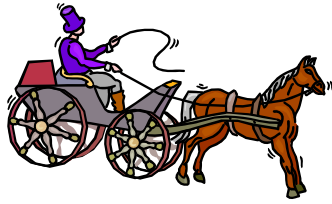
If you would like to volunteer on a rehab project, or assist with fund raising, mailings or any number of other aspects of WERC's activities, please contact us at 397-WERC (9372) or visit our web site at gotowerc.com. Donations can also be made on line.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Linda Havlin, Executive Director, West End Redevelopment Corp.

Sunday, December 11

5:00-8:00 PM



“HOLIDAY ON THE BOULEVARD

(GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE EVENT...
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO FOLLOW)



New this year !

4-7pm

Chicken & Dumpling Dinner prepared and served by Boy Scout Troop 520

Cost is \$7 per person and includes:

Chicken and Dumplings, mashed potatoes, green beans, apple sauce, bread, coffee/tea/water. Dessert and soda will be sold separately by other vendors.

Profits from this event stay with Troop 520 and pay for their annual charter fees, camping equipment purchase/replacement/repair, scholarships for Scouts in need, and the various other fees associated with running the Troop/events.



Old Favorites Return

- Carriage rides
- Good food to eat there and goodies you can take home
- Pictures with Santa
- Children's activities

House Decorating Contest – (back by popular demand!)

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



Prizes for the Best Decorated Houses!

Categories:

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011</p>	<p>Blessed Sacrament School Auction</p>
<p>Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011</p>	 <p>SCARECROW JAMBOREE AND CHILI COOK-OFF: NOON TO 5 PM - 3RD BLOCK OF THE BLVD</p>
<p>2nd Tuesday of every month</p>	<p>SHNA Board Meeting 7 PM • Signal Hill Firehouse • Public Welcome</p>
<p>Week of Nov. 17 - 26</p>	 <p>Centreville Township Hwy Dept. Leaf Vacuuming Centreville Township streets only Call 332-1520 for more information</p>
<p>Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011</p>	 <p><i>"Holiday on the Blvd."</i> 5-8 PM Carriage Rides: 5-8 PM</p>  <p><i>Boy Scours of America</i> <i>Chicken & Dumpling Dinner</i> 4 – 7 PM</p> 
<p>Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012</p>	<p>Signal Hill School Auction</p>