RIEDLONN NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2008

**UPCOMING RIEDLONN NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING – BOARD ELECTIONS**

**The next meeting of the Riedlonn Neighborhood Association will be Monday December 1ST at 7PM at the Crescent Hill Library. This meeting will include the election of officers & governors for the upcoming year. If you are interested in serving on the board of governors please contact Noel Rueff (****mnrbrownsboro@yahoo.com****) no later than Nov. 29. All are welcome & encouraged to attend this meeting.**

**(WINDS ’08 continued)**

Attempts were made all afternoon to get the word out as best we could to let folks know that the picnic was going to be held on Monday evening. But with answering machines and computers and phones useless because of the power outage, it wasn’t easy. So a sign was put up in front of the activity lot and the tables and chairs were set up in hopes people would see all of this and know the picnic was still on!

By early evening, the grills were fired up & the meat retrieved from the Mid City Mall Valu Market (which had quickly gotten a refrigerator trailer on site and saved our hamburgers!). Everyone seemed festive and happy to see each other in spite of the mess all around us. The pot luck food contributed by those who could was a welcome addition to the tasty burgers and hot dogs.

John Gage serenaded us with wonderful music in spite of not having power for a microphone and an amp. And the bingo continued on until the final coverall game had been won.

The rest of the week we continued cleaning up & waiting for the power to come back on. Parts of the neighborhood came back on by Friday, and the final areas came back on the following Monday night, a full 8 days later. The LG&E workers (and other companies as well) were our heroes!

**Many thanks to all of you who helped your neighbors after the “winds of ‘08”!**

**THE WINDS OF ‘08**

What started out as a somewhat blustery Sunday, Sept. 14, will go down as one of the all time strangest weather events ever. Can you say “climate chaos”? The Saturday before had been a beautiful morning for the annual Riedlonn neighborhood yard sale. Final preparations were underway for the Sunday evening neighborhood picnic. But those big beautiful trees of ours just kept swaying in the ever-increasing winds and it was clear this was going to be a different kind of day we would not quickly forget. By late afternoon, the picnic was cancelled and neighbors began gathering out on the street to see the trees that had fallen in our yards and across our streets & driveways. The power was off for all but a handful of lucky residents. And already the orange power cords were stretched across Riedling Drive from one neighbor to another. Chain saws were brought out from garages so the downed trees could be cleared from across the roadways. Neighbors were out checking on each other & comparing damages and wondering who had generators. Little did any of us know or suspect how long we would be without power.

The next day was calm and clear, and a decision had to be made about rescheduling the neighborhood picnic.

After phone calls amongst the governors, it was decided the show must go on. **AND IT DID!**

**And it did!**

**NEW SPRING STREETFIREHOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**FIRE FACTS & SAFETY TIPS**

Last year, firefighters fought 1,610 structure fires in Louisville that resulted in five deaths.   The National Fire Prevention Association reported that in 2007, 84 percent of all fire deaths were caused by home fires. Nationally, 2,865 people were killed by home fires last year and 13,600 were injured.

* Cooking fires are the **number one cause** of home fires and home fire injuries.The majority of home fires – 40% – start in the kitchen.
* Unattended cooking is the leading factor contributing to ignition in home cooking fires, accounting for one-third of such fires. More than half of all cooking fire injuries occurred when people tried to fight the fire themselves.
* Extension cord fires outnumbered fires beginning with attached or unattached power cords by more than two-to-one.
* **Smoking materials (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, etc.) are the leading cause of fire deaths in the United States.** Roughly one of every four fire deaths per year in 2002-2005 was attributed to smoking materials. Older adults are at the highest risk of death or injury from smoking-material fires even though they are less likely to smoke than younger adults. The most common material first ignited in home smoking-material fire deaths were mattresses and bedding and upholstered furniture.
* The top five days for home candle fires are Christmas, Christmas Eve, New Year’s Day, New Year’s Eve, and Halloween.
* Make sure you have operating smoke alarms in your home.  Having them will alert you to the early detection of smoke and fire.  Check the batteries twice a year.
* Keep matches and lighters up and away from children.
* Never leave candles or cigarettes unattended.
* Don’t leave food cooking on a stovetop unattended.
* Ask smokers to smoke outside.
* Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn.

The new Spring Street firehouse is currently under construction at the corner of Spring Street and Story Avenue. It will house Telesquirt 21, which is located now at Frankfort Ave. & Pope St. The new firehouse is expected to open in 2009.



**KEEPING OUR STREETS OPEN FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES**

Many of you may have noticed that the 2700 block of Riedling Dr. has recently had “No Parking” signs posted on the north side of the street. These were presumably put up by the Fire Marshal because of problems with the street being blocked by parked cars that made it difficult for emergency vehicles to get through. As the holiday season approaches, we need to remember to keep our Riedlonn streets safe for emergency vehicles. If you have multiple cars at your house, make sure they are parked so that our streets are passable for large fire trucks & other emergency vehicles. Please also make sure that your teenage drivers & their pals know where to park their cars so they’re not blocking the streets. Remember that seconds count when it’s an emergency!

**REPLENISHING OUR CANOPY OF TREES**

All of us suffered the effects of September’s windstorm, but we wouldn’t live here if we didn’t hold a special affection for the canopy of trees that shades our neighborhood. Now that winter is coming, we have an opportunity to take stock of our trees, and to decide where skilled pruning—and sometimes removal—is necessary. It might be cost-effective if we contacted the same arborists to give us advice and to provide estimates, and asked for the bids to consider the total amount of work we could provide in the neighborhood. If you are interested in this approach or if you have an arborist you’d like to recommend, please contact Kathryn Hargraves at 894.8340 or KathrynMH@insightbb.com.

**RIEDLONN TREASURER’S REPORT**

**JANUARY 1, 2008 TO NOVEMBER 21, 2008**

Income

* Dues 4240.00
* Interest 4.96
* Picnic income 793.00
* Total income 5037.96

Expenses

* Activity lot 660.47
* Directories 282.43
* Flyers 11.88
* Islands 1546.89
* July 4 celebration 93.93
* Contribution 50.00
* Newsletters 158.06
* Picnic 1780.10
* Secretary of State 4.00
* Total expenses 4541.76

**Net income/expenses 496.20**

*Some notes on expenses:*

* *Expenses for the activity lot include mowing and leaf removal, and the tree planted in memory of Bob Wilburn.*
* *Flyers announced events like the July 4 celebration or the meeting about the neighborhood watch.*
* *Expenses for the islands include the plants and mulch purchased, watering (via vehicle and tank), weeding and pruning.*
* *The contribution is in memory of Robert Hoke, to the charity his family selected.*
* *Picnic totals include $400 cash used as change at the picnic & bingo.*