

BENT TREE BLUFFS NEWS

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2019



HOA Board

President: Bruce Trammell 816-525-1841

VP: Sam Mahlstadt 515-864-1600

Secretary: Bryan Rahn 816-985-2641

Treasurer: Jennifer Campbell 816-405-1388

Directors

Randy & Kim Naylor 816-524-8671

Dan Hall 816-246-6353

Architectural Committee

Gary Thurnau 816-524-8099

Darlene Barnard 816-525-1022

Diane Shireman 816-525-2774

Ed Hutson 816-524-7084

Pond Committee

Gary Denny 816-524-0982

Randy Naylor 816-524-8671

Lynn Canning

Welcome Committee

Tamara Bishop 816-682-2712

bishop70@msn.com

Gina Seibel 816-721-3847

BTB Contact Information

BentTreeBluffs.com

Resident Password: "theoriginal"

benttreebluffshoa@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE BTB HOA MEETING

Possible BTB Enhancements

A committee is being formed to discuss possible enhancements to our subdivision. Some things being discussed are benches by the ponds (\$500 each), a picnic table (\$1000), a playground (\$5000-\$40,000), and walking trails. There would be no increase in homeowners' dues. If you would like to be on this committee please contact Sam Mahlstadt at smahlstadt@gmail.com.

New Board Members

After 5 years, Patty Denny is stepping down from the Treasurer position and Jennifer Campbell will take her place. Bryan Rahn will take Jennifer's place as Secretary.

Update on Streets of West Pryor Development

We have been watching the trees come down north of Lowenstein Road. This week they are burning the piles of brush. Soon they will tear down the shells of the 4 houses remaining on the property. After that, it will take about 30 days to level the property, bringing the elevation down 10-12 feet. Within 150 days of when the land is graded, they will start construction on the apartments, grocery store, new pond near Pryor and Chipman, and the 6-acre lake on the western part of the property (behind Summerfield). They expect the apartments and grocery store to be open in March 2020.

Pond News

Gary Denny reported that the spillways and concrete sidewalls are cracked, and water is leaking underneath the spillways bringing sediment into the ponds. As of the meeting, they had requested 3 bids on repairs and received one estimate of \$55,000 (which could put a damper on the enhancements mentioned above).

Randy Naylor reported that they have already started treating the ponds this year to prevent algae. Hot, dry weather was a challenge last year and they are hoping for better conditions this year. They have learned a lot about pond treatment and feel they can do it for \$1000/year compared to the \$16,000 they were quoted by other companies.

Covenant & Code Violation Committee

Kim Naylor 816-524-8671

Larry Laubach 816-524-0447

Swimming Pool

Larry & Barbara Reed 816-679-7655

Angie Leonard 816-877-2564

Chip Reach 816-665-4415

Pool phone number 816-524-9493

Neighborhood Social Events Coordinator

Krista Grubb - krista.grubb@yahoo.com

Neighborhood Website

Bentreebluffs.com

Ann Yonker 816-525-1938

We are also on Facebook!

Newsletter

**Send updates or awards received to (especially kids of BTB!)*

Lindsey Velasquez - lcb75980@yahoo.com

Helping Hands

Volunteer opportunities for neighborly help or common property projects!

Tamara Bishop bishop70@msn.com

Kim Naylor 816-524-8671

Ann Yonker 816-525-1938

Neighborhood Watch

To sign up for updates, alerts, or to report any activity.

Email Bill Morrow at bill.morrow1075@gmail.com

Pool News

The pool committee plans to start the repairs on the coping around the pool and the decking after this season is over. The committee is also looking into increasing access to the pool via an electronic entry method during hours without a life guard, and modifying pool rules accordingly.

Garage Sale

We will just hold one garage sale this year from Thursday, May 2nd to Saturday, May 4th.

HOW TO RECYCLE IN LEE'S SUMMIT

Earth Day was April 22nd and we are learning that we need to take care of this beautiful planet. But what can we do? Probably the most important thing is recycling. Many of us do it, but we do it wrong.

So here are links to recycling tips from our local trash collection companies:

[WCA Town & Country](#)

[WM \(Deffenbaugh\)](#)

[Constable](#)

[Republic Services](#)

[Gravatt Waste Solutions](#)



Upcoming Lee's Summit Events

Spring Celebration at the Farmer's Market - Sat. May 11th

Fourth Fridays Art Walk - Apr. 26, May 24, June 28, July 26

Downtown Days – Fri. to Sun. June 7-9

Sidewalk Sale – Sat. July 20

Christmas in July at Farmer's Market – Wed. July 24

Downtown Movie Night – Thurs. August 8

Fall Open House – Fri. to Sat. August 23-24

SERVICES OFFERED BY BTB KIDS

YARD WORK/MOWING/SNOW REMOVAL:

Jacob & Bradley Poletis 816-564-6453

Max Bilton 913-669-2384

BABYSITTING:

Jessica & Nikki Hartmann 914-6804

Oliva Neidt 554-8340

Delaney Boulden 527-5567

Grace Marshall 554-0093

Madison Whitefield 913-710-4263

Gia Clementi 816-489-5153

PET CARE:

Katelyn Esry 347-1239

Daniel Worth 246-0207

Delaney Boulden 527-5567

Jessica & Nikki Hartmann 914-6804

Max Bilton 913-669-2384

Brooklyn & Madison Whitefield

913-710-4263

Alaina Pet Sitting and Dog Walking

816-600-2644

*A portion of proceeds will be donated to St. Jude's Cancer Research Hospital!

PLANT CARE:

Daniel Worth 246-0207

Oliva Neidt 554-8340

Madison Whitefield 913-710-4263

Jessica & Nikki Hartmann 914-6804

Complimentary Math Tutoring Services Offered for BTB kids (2nd -10th Grade)

Charles "Chip" Reach, PhD-Engineering

cdreach@gmail.com

BTB Swim Team Makes a Splash!

Many of you may be surprised to know that our little swim team has had a huge impact on the lives of many of our residents. The swim team, a.k.a. Bent Tree Bluffs Stingrays, has been around since the pool opened in 1989 and is a member of the Suburban Swim League of Lee's Summit. They swim against big subdivisions like Winterset, Raintree, New Longview and two Lakewood teams. We have the smallest team in the league. Last year we had 40 swimmers from BTB, 3 grandchildren of BTB residents, and 16 swimmers from surrounding neighborhoods. Kids ages 5-18 that live within the boundaries of Cedar Creek Elementary and don't live in Winterset may swim on our team.

Families of current swim team members will tell you that joining the swim team has helped them feel part of the community. Vanessa Allen (on High Point) said her family moved here in April of 2016. She had high praise for the Welcoming Committee who told her about the swim team which they immediately joined. When asked whether being on the swim team helped her kids make friends she said, "That's who all their friends are!" She is glad that we welcome grandchildren of residents because the 3 grandkids on our team happened to be friends from the Underwood Elementary area where they used to live. Vanessa also enjoys going to the meets where she can meet other families and become more comfortable knowing who her kids are hanging out with. She says being a volunteer at the meets has been the best way to get to know other parents.

Felton and Tamara Bishop's (Silver Ridge) son, Seth, joined the team when they moved into the neighborhood as he was going into second grade. He didn't even know how to swim when he started, but he quickly became a fan—and a friend of Logan Neal. Now Seth and Logan are on the LS North High School team and they have both taken jobs as lifeguards at the BTB pool this summer! The Bishops love attending the meets. "It's like a big family neighborhood picnic, lots of fun even for the grownups," says Tamara.

James and Rubi Herrera (Silverthorn) have three children on the Stingrays, 13-year old twins Jose and Rosalia and 11-year old Andrea. They moved to the neighborhood in 2007 when they were quite busy with their three small children, so it took them a while to even make it to the pool. They decided to have their kids join the team because they needed to learn how to swim and because the team needed more swimmers. James says it's cool to watch the companionship of the kids walking up to the pool together. "Best thing of all is that it has helped the 3 of them stay in shape."

The Stingrays are touching the lives of the current members, but

BTB Swim Team (cont.)

you wouldn't believe the impact the team has had on past members. Just ask Susan Faulkenberry. When her husband signed up Bobby for the swim team, she said he "hit the floor kicking and screaming begging not to swim." By the end of the season he wanted to give up competitive soccer and join a year-round swim team. His friends who played soccer were not good enough to be on the high school team, but Bobby was on the LSNHS swim team. Younger brother Thomas joined the swim team as soon as he could swim the length of the pool. He is now coaching on all the teams he grew up swimming for. Susan says, "Our boys swam for the Stingrays, The Kansas City Blazers (a year-round club team) and their high school teams. We had no idea the impact this little swim team would have on our family and the success our children would have with a sport we thought would just help fill up a summer."

The Dennys (Silver Ridge) kids didn't start swim team until late grade school years when they were old enough to stay home alone while their parents worked. Patty Denny writes, "The team is as competitive as you want it to be...or not. While it was the very best way to reinforce the swim lessons they had taken, it was primarily a social event. They loved just hanging out with their neighborhood friends during meets. All three of my children enjoyed their time on the swim team such that they swam all the way until their 18th birthdays. My son is now a world-class triathlete, and my youngest daughter recently took up triathlons. Without their swim team experience, they wouldn't have the confidence and ability to pursue these life-long activities and exercise."

The Worths who live near the pool on Eagle Ridge, enjoyed going to the meets even before their kids were able to be on the team. The kids were excited when they got to join. Liz writes, "While they were learning how to swim faster and compete, friendships were forged, sportsmanship was taught, as well as a sense of inclusion. The practices gave my kids purpose in their days and usually the neighborhood camaraderie and play dates continued hours after swim practice was over. Swimming was certainly the focus, but the fun the kids had while improving their strokes can't be quantified. Food, sharpie tattoos, and after meet sleepovers were looked forward to every week. Families formed long term friendships and that sense of community was felt as everyone was there to support each other, rooting their teammates on and helping them improve, no matter their skill level."

The Worths' son, Daniel is currently a sophomore at LSNHS. He is a 6-time Missouri State Champion, taking two first places last year and four first places this year. He has been on the Junior National Team two years in a row which recognizes the 18-and-under fastest swimmers in the nation.

And that brings us to the Bresette family. All four of their children have swum on the BTB Stingrays. Their oldest, Ethan, went on to break many LSNHS records. He went on to the 2013 Missouri State Championships in 2013 where he took first in the 200-yard Individual Medley and first in the 400-yard Free Relay (which also included former BTB Stingray swimmer, Michael Hynes).

After racing on the Stingrays, younger sister Sydney, went on to swim on a year-round club team and for the LSNHS team where she set a high school relay record along with fellow BTB swimmers Haley Hynes and Jennifer Gray. She will be an assistant coach on the Stingrays this summer.

Liam Bresette went on to break all the LSNHS freestyle records and has been a Missouri State Champion in 2016, 2017 and 2018. He holds the Missouri State records in the 100, 200 and 500-yard freestyle events, breaking some of his brother's records. He is now swimming for the Arizona State University swim team under Bob Bowman, coach of the US Olympic Swim Team. Michael Phelps can often be found training and swimming with the team. The Arizona State U team took 9th place in the NCAA 800-yard freestyle relay making Liam a collegiate All-American.

Melissa Bresette says, "The swim team was probably the best experience for our kids. They made their best friends there and they are still friends. The BTB Stingrays hold a special place in our family's heart."

So, are you ready to get swimming? The 2019 Swim Team Registration is now open. Go to btbstingrays.com and fill out the registration form online (or print it and mail it). May 18th is the deadline to register. June 3rd is the first day of practice. BTB home meets are June 5th, June 19th and June 26th.