

# Hyde Park NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021 Edition

## YOUR HOA... WORKING FOR YOU!

Here's a list of some of the recent projects the Hyde Park Homeowners' Association has funded:

- Pickleball Court Repair
- New mulch at the playground
- Tree removal
- Replacement of the pool chemical system
- Easter Egg Hunt

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Especially those who take the lead.

Like Tim Hickman, who with other volunteers, has done a fine job repairing the pickle ball and tennis courts.

And Jim and Carole Finchum who raked up 40 bags of pine needles around the pool house. This has saved the pool cover and countless hours of pool clean up.

And the four ladies, Jen Monsivais, Ruth Godar, Lauren Sherry, and Elaine Crowell, who helped spread mulch at the playground.

And the anonymous handyperson who fixed the tire swing. Seriously, let us know how you did it!

And to Emily Pryor for volunteering to handle trash duties at the playground before HOA trash service starts.

And Brad and Nancy Butcher who spend hours each month picking up branches and sticks around the common areas.

And Cindy Chalkley who works year-round running the pool. The list of all she does is very long. Yes! She is doing all that work voluntarily. Please support her.

And Shenan Gilleland and Gary Terpstra for helping Cindy with repairs and other work at the pool.

And Susan Waltrip, chair of the Social Committee. Thank you and all who helped you make the Easter Egg Hunt a great success this year!

And the Architecture Committee, Mike Solomon, Shenan Gilleland and Alanna Wood for helping to keep our neighborhood in keeping with our covenants.

And anyone who just goes out and rakes out a drain grate in the street or removes leaves from the drainage ditches and culverts.

All these big and small things save us hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars every year. Volunteering keeps our dues low. Consider volunteering the next time a call goes out.

## POOL OPENING SET FOR SATURDAY, MAY 29

We are hoping to be able to return to more "normal" guidelines for operating the pool this summer. We will let you know the details as soon as Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines are available. Memorial Day weekend, beginning **Saturday, May 29, is the planned opening date for the pool.** Please review and become familiar with our Pool Rules. For an updated copy of our Pool Rules, please visit the Hyde Park Homeowners' Association website at [hydeparkspringfield.net](http://hydeparkspringfield.net).

In order to open the pool on schedule and keep it running, **we need your assistance.** Please meet at the pool house on **Saturday, May 8, at 10 a.m.** to help move the furniture out of the pool house. Then, on **Saturday, May 22, at 10 a.m.,** join us at the pool house to get everything ready to open the pool the following weekend. In addition, if you would be willing to help with routine pool maintenance, provide special help when needed, or to unlock the pool doors between 6 and 6:30 each morning for a week, please contact Cindy Chalkley. If we all work together, it will be a small task for everyone and provide great enjoyment for all.

We are looking to hire lifeguards who are interested in working at the Hyde Park pool this summer. If you are interested in applying or know someone who is, please visit the Hyde Park website for an application. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Chalkley.

We are hoping to provide the opportunity for homeowners to be able to schedule a pool party this summer, pending IDPH guidelines permitting the return to our regular number of allowed swimmers in the pool area. We will let you know as soon as we know. An approved babysitter will be allowed to take your children to the pool. Please fill out the form on the Hyde Park website.

Swimming lessons will be provided for homeowners and their children age 4 and over. If you or your child are interested in taking swimming lessons, please visit the Hyde Park website and complete the Swimming Lessons form. We also would like to provide you the opportunity for younger children to take swimming lessons from a qualified instructor (there would be a cost). If you have a child younger than 4 that you are interested in swimming lessons for, please complete the Swimming Lessons survey at [tinyurl.com/hpswimsurvey](http://tinyurl.com/hpswimsurvey).

We want to ensure the safety and enjoyment of everyone at the pool, and will follow the guidance of our public health officials. Let's work together and enjoy a fantastic summer at the pool!

Cindy Chalkley  
217-414-8452

## GARAGE SALE

**Friday, June 11 12-6 p.m.**  
**Saturday, June 12 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Hyde Park residents are encouraged to participate in the annual Garage Sale. Start cleaning out your closets!

The garage sale will be advertised on Facebook and on signs in the neighborhood.

## HYDE PARK BOARD

**Aaron VanDyke**, President, *41 Sarah*  
**Nancy Butcher**, VP Grounds, *14 Hyde Park*  
**Cindy Chalkley**, VP Pool, *49 Sarah Ave*  
**Blake Wood**, Secretary, *12 Hyde Park*  
**Marcia Strow**, Treasurer, *33 Sarah Ave*

Visit our website:  
[hydeparkspringfield.net](http://hydeparkspringfield.net)

Please read your emails from Hyde Park! It is the fastest, most cost-effective, easiest way for the board to communicate with you. Do we have your correct email address? If you haven't been receiving the emails, please contact us at [hydeparkhomeowners@gmail.com](mailto:hydeparkhomeowners@gmail.com) to get things updated and corrected.

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## CONSIDER BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER

In November we will be nominating a new board. Several current board members are willing to remain on the board. However, Marcia Strow will be retiring from her treasurer's duties. If you are interested in being our new treasurer, please let us know. Marcia could give you a little training before you take over in November.

Be on the board, it gives you a real sense of ownership and belonging to a community. Be on the board and help decide how our dues are spent.

## JOIN THE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE



The beige and green playground equipment was put up in May 2001. The other equipment is much older than that. It may be time to remove, repair and replace some of this equipment. If you would like to be part of a committee that will make these decisions, please contact Nancy Butcher via email at: [bibnebandz@aol.com](mailto:bibnebandz@aol.com). Please put the words Playground Committee in the subject line.

## TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM

The Hyde Park Homeowners' Association is planning to start sending text messages to residents about neighborhood news and events. The text messages will be sent using Google Voice and will come from number 309-340-4566.

Homeowners will have the option to reply "NO" to the first text message sent if you would like to opt out of receiving text updates.

We hope this system will better help to keep residents informed about what's happening in their neighborhood.

## REMINDERS: DOGS, TREES, BRANCHES & LOCKS

**Please be sure that your dog is on a leash and under control** when walking in the common areas. Springfield does have a leash law and it applies to Hyde Park as well. Dogs are not allowed in the pickleball/tennis court area. Also, please be sure to have bags with you to pick up after your dog. Did you know that dog poop is not biodegradable? It will decompose slowly, but it contains bacteria and viruses that are not good for our water system. And it certainly is not pleasant to step in!

We are truly blessed to have so many amenities for our children's play (e.g., the playground, the basketball court, the pickle ball and tennis courts, the pool.) **The common area trees are not one of the amenities that our children should play on.** Several children have been seen climbing very high up into some of the trees. This is dangerous. Tell your children not to climb the trees or to hang onto the low branches of the pines.

**The City's first free branch pick up this year is on May 17th.** Do not put branches along North Cotton Hill or in the ditches. Do not put branches from your property in the cul-de-sac at the far end of Sarah. Do not drag branches across North Cotton Hill to the Deerwood Lake ditches. The neighborly thing to do is to place branches from your property in front of your own property. See the enclosed flyer for more information about this year's schedule.

**Please lock the pickleball/tennis court gates when you leave.**

## EASTER EGG HUNT FUN

The annual Hyde Park Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 3. About 25 kids and their parents participated in the annual hunt. Thanks to Social Committee Chair Susan Waltrip and her volunteers for organizing the event.



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