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Please join us – participate in the process,

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President – SRHA

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A representative from Marengo Disposal made a visit to Steeple Run on Saturday morning August 15th and was parked in front of 4215 Steeple Run Drive. There was a steady stream of visitors from 9-11 a.m.

The MDC driver had samples of their various totes and bins available for inspection. He was also able to answer any questions concerning their collection service and policies in addition to enrolling residents. Currently 33 SRHA members and 12 Wyndwood residents have elected to switch to MDC from their current garbage collection provider. There is no time limit on future enrollment by calling 815-568-7274. Be sure to mention that you’re in Steeple Run.

MDC will collect garbage and recycling (and landscape waste if enrolled) in Steeple Run on Mondays at 6:30 a.m.
The state has sealed our county to prevent the spread of the tree-killing emerald ash borer. The federal government already quarantined the entire state of Illinois in June 2006, prohibiting interstate travels of ash wood and products.

The quarantine prohibits the removal of:
- all or parts of ash trees,
- bark or chips larger than 1 inch
- items containing ash wood
- any firewood (other than pine)

Landscape waste haulers must cover their loads in August (the borer's flight season). What does this mean to us? Do not take any of these items in or outside of McHenry County. If you need firewood on vacation or at your second home, buy it locally. Shop locally for landscaping and mulch needs; nurseries outside of the county are prohibited from delivering ash trees and mulch to addresses within our county. Keep your existing ash trees watered and healthy. These listed wood products may move within McHenry County as long as they are not infested. There is a $500 fine for violations.

If you spot the beetle or believe that your trees are infested, call the County Extension office at 815-338-3737.

Please refer to the Spring 2007 newsletter (page 6) or the website for additional information, links, and color photos.

TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE EMERALD ASH BORER, PLEASE DO NOT MOVE ANY FIREWOOD, ASH BRANCHES, BARK OR CHIPS OUT OF MCHENRY COUNTY.”

Directory Update:
Please change these entries in your Steeple Run Directory:
Melinda and David Penny—penny4018@comcast.net
Linda and Ron Rowe—815-477-3152

TIE AN ORANGE RIBBON

As a neighborhood with large lots and long driveways, trick-or-treating can be very tiring for our youngest walkers who are out before dark. Imagine how frustrating it is to make the trek from the street to the doorbell only to find that the homeowners aren’t home from work.

One of our residents experienced that situation last year with her grandchildren and she came up with this solution:

This tip is for those with very young toddlers who are out in the early afternoon. If you see a simple orange ribbon attached to the mailbox, it means that someone is home and ready to welcome trick-or-treaters.

Usually the youngest children are satisfied with just a few homes to visit.

The length of orange plastic ribbon provided in this newsletter can be used for that purpose.

No matter what the age of your children, please have a safe and happy Halloween!

OBITUARY: Ed Burley, Jr.

One-time Steeple Run resident Ed. Burley Jr. passed away in his McHenry home on September 12th at age 51. He was survived by his parents, 2 sisters, and 4 children. Part of Barrington HS Class of ’73, he was a stand out hockey player for St. Norbert College in DePere, WI. Ed owned and operated Burley Construction of Cary. He built his home at 4002 Steeple Run Drive and lived in it a short while before moving to McHenry. One of his daughters subsequently moved in before the home was sold to George and Marla. Funeral services were held on September 15th.
<table>
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<th># People</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Extra $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
<th>Dessert/ Salad</th>
<th>Water</th>
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<th>Chips</th>
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</tr>
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</table>
CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of these gift baskets and prizes at the Battle of the Bands!

Battle of the Bands Volunteers and Donations 9/22/2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>FIRE PIT</th>
<th>WOOD</th>
<th>SET-UP/CLEAN-UP</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>Evans</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wallis</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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BASKET RAFFLE SUMMARY

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BLOCK PARTY I SUMMARY

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<tr>
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Social Committee Report Sept. 2007 by Karen Malcolm

Garage Sale
This year the garage sale was held for two weeks to accommodate everyone. The first week of the garage sale included six families and two garage openings, and an additional neighbor who had been unaware of the neighborhood Garage Sale. The second week included five—possibly six families in two-three garage openings, and including a church garage sale hosted by one of our neighbors. We coordinated the placement of signs.

Two new ideas were tried and worked with a few kinks:
Centralize donations of Garage Sale signs from neighbors. If anyone has any to donate, then please call Karen. These signs can be used by anyone in the neighborhood at any time by asking me. This way, no one has to worry about making signs. We already have some donations, but welcome more, especially sturdy plastic and metal ones.
Make the Neighborhood Garage Sale a group effort:
- Get all the names of the participating neighbors
- Each participant is assigned a “Designated Sign Area” (which will be close to their homes). They will pick up the signs (if available) and put them where assigned. An email will go out with instructions. After the sale is finished, the latest person assigned will collect the signs and pass them on to the person assigned in week two or return them to Karen.
- An ad will be placed for the week/s and the cost divided among the participants.

Next Garage Sale will be scheduled for the spring, so start your piles early; dates will be determined later.

Block Party I
The Block Party would have been a big success had it not been cut short by rain; at least everyone was able to eat. The party included 81 of our neighbors that participated and an additional 8 other family members; this number does not include the band members. With the donations made, we were able to afford the food, dunk tank, bands and raffles. No SRHA funds were used.

A special thank you goes out to the Evans for letting everyone use their home as a base for the party. Once again we want to thank Rick Cygan and Bill Harfst for supplying the grills and being our “Chief Grilling Masters”. With the help of our very own SRHA Treasurer Joe O’Malley, the food was cooked to perfection and very much enjoyed. Thanks again to everyone who mentioned to me how much they enjoyed the corn; I’m so glad everyone really thought it was tasty enough to have seconds and thirds.
The first band to open was “Bottom Line” featuring our neighbor Jim Pinkl, and immediately following was the “Traveling Cowboys”. It’s unfortunate that the rain started shortly after they started playing. Thankfully, they all decided to come back to entertain us.

The “Battle of the Bands” was a continuation the Block Party that never finished. We were very lucky to have all three bands return. Things ran behind schedule because the first band “Traveling Cowboys” showed up very late. Unfortunately, by the time the last band and main attraction “Don’t Tell Mama” (featuring our very own Joey Pinkl) played, people were starting to go home… timing is everything.

Nancy and I put together some mighty nice raffles; winners were announced during band changes. It must be recognized how extremely generous it was of the Fichuk’s having all that wood delivered for the fire pits and the Evans who bought all the brats, hot dogs and buns for everyone who attended. With a large donation of potato chips from the Giacchetti’s and others, the party was complete. Many thanks to Bill Harfst for supplying the grill. A special thanks to our new neighbors the Reitchecks and their family members for helping out, but mostly to Mike for being the “Chief Griller” at the last minute; thanks for all your hard work.

The night started out with around 80 people but became fewer during the evening. Everyone seemed to enjoy the night so much that we are hearing they want to do it again next year. Hopefully, this will be one Block Party and not two; a rain date will be picked to avoid this from happening again. We booked the band “Don’t Tell Mama” for next year and as promised will include payment for entertaining us.

All and all it turned out to be a very enjoyable night of eating, sitting under the stars by the fire with friends and family listening to music…it’s a hard life…

Personally, I would like to thank my party planner partner in crime Nancy—I think we make a good team and looking forward to working together again on our next event—whatever that may be.

As it takes much time to plan these events in order for them to take place, Karen and Nancy would love to hear your comments. If you like these events and want to continue to have them, please let us know by emailing Karen; we really want to hear from you.
Preferred Contractor Program: Marengo Disposal Offer

Steeple Run residents may have noticed an orange garbage truck rumbling through the neighborhood on Monday mornings. For the first time, MDC is operating east of Highway 31 and has extended their City of Crystal Lake rate to SRHA members. The details have been available on our Steeple Run website, in the Board meeting minutes from July, in a mailing to each member household and were delivered to Wyndwood residents.

This offer may not be synchronous with your current collection company's quarterly billing. Please watch for your next bill and compare your current service with this offer. You may enroll at any time.

Each enrolled homeowner will be invoiced on a quarterly basis. Marengo does not add a Fuel Surcharge.

Two levels of service are available - with or without landscape waste collection:

- **Refuse and Recycling Only**
  - $18/month ($54/quarter)
    - 1 bulk item per week (no items with mercury switches accepted)
    - 5 cans/bags refuse (resident-provided cans) per week.
    - Wheeled tote available from Marengo for an additional $2/month or $6/quarter
    - Unlimited recycling
    - one 18 gal. recycling bin provided free of charge
    - *both tote and recycling bin remain the property of Marengo Disposal

- **Refuse, Recycling and Landscape Waste**
  - $24/month ($72/quarter)
  - Above listed services PLUS
    - 5 35 gal. totes or cans/Kraft-type biodegradable brown paper bags landscape waste per week (mark each can clearly with a large "X" for landscape waste)
    - A landscaping waste tote may be rented from MDC for an additional $1/50/month or $4.50/quarter
    - Landscape waste is collected from April-first week of December (but billed year-round)

Re recyclables include: newspapers, magazines, telephone books, catalogs, junk mail, cardboard, regular paperboard, wet strength paperboard, mixed or miscellaneous paper products, tin, bimetal beverage and food cans, aluminum cans and foil, plastics #1-#7, clear/green/brown glass bottles and jars.

Bulk Items: Any items which are too large to fit into an approved refuse container and which exceed, in total, 50 pounds in weight. Examples include sofas, large tables and chairs, dressers, televisions, bookcases, mattresses and box springs, other household furniture and large appliances which do not meet the definition of white goods below.

White goods: are any domestic and/or commercial large appliances which contains CFC or HCFC refrigerant gas, PCB containing capacitors, mercury switches, or other hazardous components. Examples include but are not limited to, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, gas and electric ranges, dehumidifiers, water heaters, furnaces and other similar large appliances. Depending on the item, arrangements can be made to pick up white goods at an additional charge.

If you are interested, please contact Ron Ryan or call MDC (825-568-7274)

**NOTE:** The SRHA Board does not recommend the use of any contractor over another nor does the Board guarantee the cost or quality of the services provided but offers this information to SRHA members to use as they see fit. Other contractors are welcome to submit separate bids as well.
Nancy Evans is leading 2 groups from our neighborhood in the Care 4 Breast Cancer Walk/Run in Lippold Park on October 28th 8:30 a.m. She is trying to get t-shirts printed for our group. Many of our neighbors have already signed up or made a donation to this cause.

If you have any questions, would like to join in the Walk or Run, would like to make a donation or would like more information, please phone Nancy Evans.

For event information, to participate or donate: Type “Breast Cancer” “Lippold Park” and “Team 22” in your Search box. Click on Team 22 for Nancy.

**Choices:**
1. Register to run or walk. The registration fee is $25.
2. Donate
3. Purchase a jersey T-shirt for $22.00. Purchase by calling Nancy Evans and include your size.

Steeple Run News

Care 4 Breast Cancer 5K Walk/Run

“Proceeds stay in McHenry County to increase public awareness of Breast Cancer issues, to improve access to screening and treatment and to provide mammograms for women in McHenry County”

Offline Donation Form

I can’t participate in the race, but I’d like to make a donation in support of the women of McHenry County in their fight against Breast Cancer

$500  $250  $100  $50  $25  Other Amt:__________

Please make Your Checks Payable to Family Health Partnership Clinic.

Name

Address

City________________________ State/Province__________________

Zip/Postal Code__________________

Donor Phone__________________

Email__________________

Instructions for Website Donation Page

FROM: your name anonymous

In Honor  In Memory  In Support of

Do you wish your donation amount to show?  Yes  No

Thank You So Much For Your Contribution!

Mail this form and your check to:

Family Health Partnership Clinic

Attn: Cathy Brickey

13707 W. Jackson St.

Woodstock, IL 60098

http://www.kintera.org/htmlcontent.asp?cid=74843

Case 4 Breast Cancer 5K

Run/Walk

Team 22 for Nancy
Local Non-Profit Accepts Garage Sale Items

Do you have garage sale leftovers to share? Did you miss the neighborhood sale but still have excess belongings you’d like out of your home? Did someone have a growth spurt and now nothing fits?

The Blessing Barn is accepting donations of gently used household items. These donations are not sold in a resale shop; the goods are given away to needy families in McHenry County. If you have unsold items from the recent Garage Sale or if you are clearing out the clutter, please consider giving the Blessing Barn a call at 815-477-8928.

Note: The SRHA Board doesn’t recommend the use of one business or charity over another but offers this information for its members to use as they see fit.

SPRING FORWARD, FALL BACK

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday November 4, 2007. Don’t forget to set your clocks and other electronics back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night and you can enjoy an extra hour of slumber.

This is also a great time to check or to change any batteries in the Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors around your home.

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER TO OPEN October 24

Please be cautious when pulling out of our neighborhood onto either Sands Road or Crystal Lake Ave. Traffic may be heavier than usual with traffic heading using Sands as a shortcut to Highway 14. The new Wal-Mart SuperCenter opens in the Lutter Center on Highway 31 and Rakow Road. The opening is scheduled for October 24th at 7:30 a.m. Since the addition of the traffic light at Sands and Route 14, Sands has become a popular quick route for drivers heading towards the Twin Ponds and who want to avoid Highway 31 and the stop lights at the on– and off– ramps.

Additionally, an ALDI grocery store will be built in Spring ‘08 near Three Oaks near Hwy. 14 in Cary.
The average homeowner judges their water by how it looks, smells and tastes. If it’s clear, has no odor and tastes OK, it gets a passing mark. Unfortunately, the water in Steeple Run gets a failing grade in all categories.

Unlike Chicagoans who get their water from Lake Michigan, our water comes from deep wells that draw from underground aquifers. Most wells in this area are 100 to 200 feet deep.

Groundwater is not as pure as you’d think. As rainwater percolates through the ground, it dissolves various minerals from the surrounding geology. In our case, the nearby sand and limestone deposits contribute high levels of calcium and magnesium hardness along with a significant amount of iron, sulfur and silica. These impurities create problems by causing “lime” deposits in hot water tanks, soap scum in the shower, and iron stains on clothes and porcelain fixtures. If that’s not enough, high levels of sulfur impart a “rotten egg” smell.

In addition to these nuisance problems, wells may become contaminated with bacteria and man-made chemicals. Of particular concern are the disease-causing organisms from untreated sewage and nitrates from agricultural runoff.

The first step in evaluating your water is to obtain a laboratory analysis. The McHenry County Health Department will test your well water. If you frequently run out of salt or use too much water between regenerations, hardness and iron will pass through the unit with the resultant unpleasant consequences of spotting and iron staining mentioned previously. Some softeners are designed with twin tanks and a water meter that are set to regenerate based on the volume of water used instead of at a predetermined time of day. This helps prevent softener overrun. Notwithstanding the softener design, Rule No. 1 is to never, ever run out of salt.

The iron levels in the typical Steeple Run well are high enough that eventually the softener resin will get fouled with iron. This diminishes the softener capacity and may result in iron leakage from the unit. Softener resin cleaners such as Iron Out™ (sodium hydrosulfite) help clean the softener bed and minimize resin fouling. You can also purchase salt that contains this cleaning agent. Overall, if you have iron staining on your porcelain fixtures or tile, it’s more likely that your softener is not properly set to deliver a continuous source of soft water. You may need to use more salt per regeneration or set the softener to regenerate more frequently. Consult your owner’s manual for details on how to do this.

What if your water still gets a failing grade? And what about that funky smell? These will be discussed in the next issue...
Preferred Contractor: Delivered Softener Salt

If you’re tired of wrestling with 40 pound bags or heavy blocks of softener salt, there are several companies in the area that provide home delivery. Not only do they deliver salt to your home, they also add it to the softener tank.

It is difficult to compare companies as they carry different products. With a quick look in the phone book you will find several that deliver salt, some that offer salt as cash-and-carry, some firms that have a combination of both and others who provide additional water conditioning treatments.

The next time you’re restocking your softener salt, compare prices with this small sampling below and decide if home delivery is an option that suits your needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>40# bag</th>
<th>40# Solar Salt</th>
<th>50# block</th>
<th>Cash &amp; Carry</th>
<th>Misc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ameri-Kim</td>
<td>847-540-9876</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>$7.49</td>
<td>$6.95</td>
<td>$6.99</td>
<td></td>
<td>order 12, get 13th free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.ameri-kim.com">www.ameri-kim.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huemann</td>
<td>815-385-3093</td>
<td>Kim</td>
<td>3 to 14</td>
<td>$6.90</td>
<td>$3.76</td>
<td></td>
<td>C&amp;C 1st Saturday of each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality</td>
<td>815-338-3344</td>
<td>Craig Grant</td>
<td>1 to 5</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>$3.76</td>
<td></td>
<td>$7/bag if 5-15 homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 to 11</td>
<td></td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>participate in same</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12+</td>
<td></td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>day delivery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The SRHA Board does not recommend the use of any contractor over another, nor does the Board guarantee the cost or quality of the services but offers this as information to SRHA members to use as they see fit. Any additional bids for this type of service are always welcome.

2007: Record-breaking Year for Rabid Bats in Illinois

The most common kind of bat found in northern Illinois is the brown bat. Bats are a vital part of our ecosystem, as pollinators and by eating more than 600 insects an hour. It is estimated that only 1 in 200 bats (less than 1%) is infected with rabies.

This year in McHenry County, there has been an increase in the number of rabid bats – 13 to date – but no reported cases of human infections. Rabid bats have been found in Woodstock, Crystal Lake, McHenry, Marengo, and Harvard. Almost double the previous record, the number of cases statewide in 2007 is the highest on record (99), with the bulk of the cases (25) located in Cook County.

Rabies is a viral disease that is transmitted by the bite of an infected animal. Bats, skunks, raccoons, foxes and other mammals can carry the disease. The virus infects the central nervous system and is fatal if left untreated. After a bite from a suspected rabies carrier, a series of 6 shots should be given to ensure that rabies won’t be contracted.

It is unlikely that a rabid bat will attack a person. It is more likely that people who contract rabies are bitten accidentally when they try to help a sick animal. Rabid bats usually fall to the ground when they become sick.

If a healthy bat is flying around your home, you might be able to shoo it out an open window or door. Another removal method would be to wait until it lands, cover it with a coffee can and slide a piece of cardboard underneath before taking the can, still covered with the cardboard, outside to release the bat. Heavy leather gloves can be worn to protect your hands from bites.

If you aren’t confident enough to trap and release your bat or if you find a bat that you suspect might be rabid, immediately call McHenry County Animal Control for capture and testing (815-334-4470).

A bat is likely to be rabid if:
- It is active during the day
- It is unable to fly
- It is found in a home, swimming pool or lawn

Bat bites are painful but small and difficult to see so if a bat gets into a room with a baby or someone who cannot communicate that they have been bitten, it is extremely important that the bat be captured for testing.
Questions? Comments? Have news story? Volunteering? Contact:
SRHA
PO Box 1350
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1350
Email: secretary@steeplerun.org

We’ve got mail!! (in our post office box)
SRHA
PO Box 1350
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1350

DRIVEWAY LIGHTS

If you have a functional driveway light near the intersection of the right-of-way and your driveway, congratulations! You are in compliance with the Covenants.

In years previous, there was confusion over the various versions of the Covenants that were being distributed by the developer but at all times the requirement to have a minimum of one driveway light near the intersection of the right-of-way and your driveway was written in every single version. This lighting requirement should not come as a surprise.

If your light is not situated approximately 30 feet from the road or you don’t have one at all, please consider having one installed close to the road before the ground freezes. The lights mounted to the sides of your garage doors are not a substitute for the required driveway light.

Photocells and timers can be easily added so that they can be on from dusk-to-dawn whether you’re home or not.

Please take this opportunity to install your driveway lights before the ground freezes. Non-compliance will cause a roadblock to a smooth closing on your home at the time of sale.

‘Tis the Season... for Flu Shots

October and November are prime times for receiving your annual flu shot.

Symptoms of the flu usually include a dry cough, sore throat, high fever, headache, extreme tiredness, muscle aches. Most people recover in 7-14 days. The flu affects the lungs, throat and nose, but not the stomach and intestines.

People vaccinated as late as December can still benefit from receiving a flu shot because most influenza cases occur in January or February.

The McHenry County Department of Health will be offering flu clinics for adults and children. Call 815-334-4510 to schedule an appointment, call your family physician or watch for flu clinics at banks, pharmacies and other businesses.