Congratulations go to the numerous families in the neighborhood who have graduating seniors heading off to college in a short few days. The list includes: Ryan F attending Michigan State University; Carrie I attending Illinois State, Kelly and Patrick I both attending Carroll College; Justin J attending Lewis University; Sam M attending the University of Michigan; Neelesh N attending Northwestern University; Kassie N attending Georgia Southern University; Jimmy P attending Georgia Tech; Melissa R attending Tulane University; and Alex S attending Taylor University.

Mike R  
SRHA President

Wow! Summer has flown by… once it finally arrived. After a cold and wet Spring the hot days of July made it feel like we were having a summer after all. And it has been memorable for the many severe storms dumping heavy rains, strong winds knocking down trees, and lightning filled skies. Fortunately we were spared the worst of the power outages in the area, and many thanks go out to the neighbors who looked out for their neighbors.

A special thanks to Linda L for her efforts on the entrance monuments, and the considerable savings this effort provided SRHA.

Steeple Run Picnic

A good time was had by all the attendees at the Steeple Run Neighborhood Picnic held on Saturday, June 18th.

We grilled with gas and shared our favorite food and beverages as we caught up with friends and neighbors. No one went away hungry. The bugs stayed away even though we held our picnic in a nice cool shady spot. Naturally, the party continued long past dusk.

A special thanks to The Vedak and Kadish families for their financial support and to all of the attendees who donated goods and food.

Mike R  
SRHA President
If you have not yet paid your annual dues, payment may be hand-delivered to Joe O at his home or mailed to:

SRHA
PO Box 1350
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1350

We finished the fiscal year with a positive cash flow and a higher beginning balance for the new fiscal year. This is the result of efforts across the board to reduce costs and rely on volunteers to do some of the monument maintenance and repairs. Lower insurance and electrical use also played a significant part in this favorable outcome. Thanks to everyone involved for their time and efforts.

Looking forward to the new fiscal year, we anticipate extra expenses for new custom street signs for the Steeple Run Neighborhood. The Board is currently finalizing a plan with Algonquin Township to expense the signs over a two year period. This will allow us to pay for the new signs from existing reserves, without raising the dues amount. The annual association assessment is now due and payable. Your cooperation in payment in a timely manner is appreciated.

**ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS DUE JUNE 30, 2011**

The $85 Annual SRHA Assessment was due on June 30th. Thank you to all of our member residents who have promptly paid their dues for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
Please extend a welcome to our newest Steeple residents. Stephanie and Mike, and their daughter, have moved into the Rowe’s former home. Please add the attached sticker with their contact information to your Steeple Run Directory. The Rowe’s have headed to warmer and more humid Gulf Coast for their retirement.

**NEW NEIGHBORS: The HENRICHS FAMILY**

**ENTRANCE MONUMENT GARDENING**

A big thanks to Linda L for weeding and pruning the plantings around our four entrance monuments, saving the association several hundred dollars. She also fertilized the rose bushes. Thanks for helping Steeple Run put their best foot forward.

**NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**

The recent bouts of severe storms have once again brought out what’s best about Steeple Run—the thoughtful and caring people! Throughout the neighborhood, those with the muscle, the tools and the expertise helped those in need. This willingness to help others is another example of what makes Steeple Run a great place to live!

**FIGHT THE BITE**

Our recent hot and wet weather is ideal for breeding and hatching pesky mosquitoes. Mosquitoes do not need much water to lay eggs; there is much homeowners can do to remove their breeding sites.

A cup of water can hatch thousands of the flying pests in this heat and humidity. Take a moment to walk around your property, looking for small puddles and water standing in indentations and knotholes, bird baths, saucers, wheelbarrows, even that low spot in your ditch that doesn’t grow grass.....and dump the water or fill in the low spots with dirt to eliminate standing water. Also make sure that there is no water standing in your gutters and correct their slope if necessary. These little steps CAN greatly reduce the number of mosquitoes and the risk of a virus infection.
NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: JIMMY P

Steeple Run resident Jimmy P has received a $1500 scholarship from the Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline. The Tim Althoff Memorial Scholarship was named for the McHenry volunteer firefighter and drummer to encourage young players and to celebrate music. A new PR grad, Jimmy has served as the drumline captain and as section leader with the All-Stars. After graduation he plans to attend Georgia Institute of Technology. Congratulations!

His band, Black Cat Bone, played a “Blues for Japan” benefit concert at Veterans Acres before the start of the recent McHenry County Youth Sports Association’s Summer International Championships. All of the concert proceeds went to the local chapter of The Red Cross, earmarked for relief efforts in Japan.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: NOLAN J

Nolan J’s first home run of the season couldn’t have come at a better time. On May 3rd, he was the lead-off batter in the 9th inning and his solo home run gave his Division I Oakland (Michigan) University’s Golden Grizzlies a 4-3 win against Western Michigan.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: ALEX S

Prairie Ridge grad Alex has had a great season as a senior on PR’s Varsity Baseball team. A first baseman who has also played at third and in the outfield, Alex has received an Honorable Mention from the Northwest Herald for their All-Area Baseball Team.

During his senior year, he batted .385 with 2 home runs, 23 doubles and 23 RBIs. He was named All-Conference, Academic All-Conference and voted MVP by his teammates.

His 3.73 GPA and baseball stats have earned him some athletic and academic scholarships. Alex will be attending Taylor University in Upland, Indiana this fall as a Math major and will continue with baseball.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: MIKE R

Mike pitches on the Prairie Ridge Baseball Team. His pitching performance in a 3 to 1 win over Marion Catholic enabled the PR team to advance to the IHSBCA Summer Championship game. Mike gave up one hit and struck out six batters in 4 1/2 innings to earn that win. PR eventually lost to Lincoln-Way North in the championship game.

A mid-pitch picture of Mike also appeared on the front page of the Northwest Herald on July 22.
NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: SHANE E

Offensive lineman Shane E was named to the US Air Force 2010 Freshman All-American Team. He is listed on the First Team Offense. At 6' 4, 250 pounds, Shane had started every game as Right Tackle on the Prairie Ridge Wolves Varsity football team during his freshman year.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: Prairie Ridge Baseball

The following Steeple Run residents played on various Prairie Ridge High School Baseball teams this spring:

- Bryan K
- Matthew L
- Mike R
- Alex S
- Caleb S

PR Baseball finished 2nd in the statewide High School Summer League Tournament, a very good finish against some very good teams from much larger schools.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: Jean J

Jean (modeling her wide lavender hat) was pictured on the front page of the Northwest Herald’s May 5th Local & Regional News section. Jean was an attendee at the Centegra Mad Hatters luncheon held at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn the previous day.

Proceeds from the luncheon benefitted the Centegra Gavers Breast Center in Crystal Lake. Newly opened in Fall 2010, the Gavers Breast Center provides mammograms, follow-up diagnostics and any required care all in one location, conveniently close to Steeple Run, on Terra Cotta just north of Route 176.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: Stephanie M

Stephanie, and her family, were the subject of a special Mother’s Day feature in the Northwest Herald. Prominently featured on the front page on Mother’s Day, the article focused on two local mothers of children with special needs.

Caring for a special needs child is labor intensive and requires patience and support. Stephanie’s positive outlook and faith shone throughout the article as she described how their family strives to include Scot in as many of the family activities as possible.

Stephanie also manages to find time to volunteer for many local charitable organizations.
A committee of five (5) Board members has undertaken a project to upgrade the neighborhood street signs.

Based on discussions and feedback at the 2011 annual Homeowners' Association meeting in January, members of the Board met with Bob Miller, Road Commissioner, at the Algonquin Township offices to discuss plans and proposals to upgrade the quality and appearance of the street and road signs in the subdivision. The initial meeting was held on February 24, followed by a second meeting in June.

The signs under discussion include the existing 4 green metal street signs on galvanized steel posts, 4 brown wooden vertical street signs, and 12 stop signs. The Board proposed that the Township remove the existing brown wooden signs, many of which are rotting. All eight street signs would then be upgraded to include a reflective green sign with white letters. The signs would be 9 inches in height and include an arched top, cap and finial that reads, "Steeple Run Estates." The sign would also include the Steeple Run clock tower logo. The street sign would be mounted on a round black pole with a black decorative base.

In addition, the Board proposes to upgrade the stop signs, speed limit signs, and caution signs by mounting them on black, 2" square posts. Where the street signs are located near a stop sign, the street sign is mounted on top of the stop sign. The back of the road signs would be painted black to match the color of the post.

The Township is receptive to the idea and agrees to install and maintain the signs at their expense for material and labor forever in exchange for a one-time upgrade fee to cover additional materials above and beyond their standard cost. The Township is currently preparing an estimate for review by the SRHA Board. If accepted, completion is expected in 2012.

For more information, please refer to the project proposal and specifications on our website.

American flags that are no longer in good condition need to be disposed in a dignified manner, not displayed in a sorry state or thrown out with the trash. At times throughout the year, organizations like the Boy Scouts and VFW posts offer dignified flag disposal.

Davenport Funeral Home on Rt. 176 has added their name to this list, offering to cremate the flag in the most respectful and patriotic way possible. Drop-offs are accepted weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm.
HELP WANTED: Newsletter Editor

The Steeple Run News needs a new editor. Jill P will no longer be publishing the newsletter after the January 2012 Annual Meeting.

This newsletter is published 3 or 4 times a year. Its primary purpose is to keep Steeple Run residents informed.

After 6 years, Jill needs a break, the newsletter needs a fresh look and an opportunity is now available for a resident to gain an outlet for their creativity and to gain experience in desktop publishing.

With two more issues to go before stepping down, Jill is willing to work with her successor for a smooth transition. Currently, the newsletter is created using Microsoft Publisher, part of the Microsoft Office suite.

Printing and mailing costs are reimbursed by the SRHA Board.

Please contact Jill, or any Board member, if you are interested. No experience needed; if she can do it, anyone can do it! The editor need not be on the board but should cover the meetings. Any SRHA member or their children may volunteer to keep the presses running.

EXTERIOR CHANGES REQUIRE SRHA APPROVAL

Changes to the exterior of your home or property need to have SRHA approval BEFORE any work is done.

This important step is necessary even if the project complies with the Covenants and should be at the top of every To Do list when planning your projects.

Exterior changes requiring approval include, but are not limited to: driveway lights, additions, sidewalks, terraces, decks, gazebo, antennas and dishes, dog runs, pools, driveways, and roofs.

Article 6.02 of the Covenants covers this approval process:

1. Submit preliminary sketches as the planning process begins for an informal ‘go-ahead’

2. Submit the Architectural Change Approval Form (download from the website), survey, plans and material specifications to the Arch. Control Committee for consideration.

3. The committee will examine the plans for compliance and work with the homeowner to make any needed alterations to achieve compliance. They then make a recommendation to the Board for their final approval.

4. The request then must be approved unanimously by the full Board before the project can begin.

The homeowner is responsible for obtaining necessary permits from the county. Please keep in mind that the board does not meet every month, so get them involved early in the planning.

When in doubt, ask a Board or Architectural Control Committee member rather than risk having to undo all of the work at your cost.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

When adding the sticker to your Directory for the Henrich family, please note that The Chacon, Lesperance and Rowe families have moved this summer.
LOCAL FARMERS’ MARKETS

Fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, meat and baked goods can be purchased at our local farmers market. If you want to venture beyond Crystal Lake, the surrounding communities have markets of their own:

CRYSTAL LAKE—Saturday 8-1 near train station, through October
CARY—Sunday 9-1 in north Metra lot until October 9
WOODSTOCK—Tuesday and Saturday 8-1 on the Square through October
ALGONQUIN—Thursday 2-7 at Riverfront Park (one block N of 62) through September
McHENRY—Thursday 4-7:30 pm, corner of Pearl and Park Streets through August
MARENGO—Friday 2-7, off Route 20 and Route 23 through October
HUNTLEY—Saturday 8-1, Coral Street and the Town Square through October
HARVARD—Saturday 9-1, downtown through October

RABIES FOUND IN CARY

Rabid animals have been found in McHenry County again this year. Last year, we led the state in cases. Please take a moment to remind your children to stay away from stricken wildlife or animals that are behaving oddly.

A Wisconsin woman made medical history by becoming the world’s first person to survive rabies without undergoing the vaccine after being bitten by a rabid bat. After YEARS of hard work to recover, including learning to speak, stand and walk again, she graduated with a biology degree and is devoted to educating others about this danger.

Please stay safe this summer.

Road Construction Season Continues

As soon as the snow melted, road construction season started in McHenry County. It is a challenge to drive anywhere on major thoroughfares without running into delays so plan some extra time into your schedule and drive alertly.

Work continues on:
• Route 14 (Virginia Street) in CL, west of McHenry to Crystal Lake Ave.
• Route 14 near Woodstock, west of Hwy 47 - repaving 6.5 miles of road
• Pingree Road from Route 14 to Tek Drive (just north of Rakow Road), is closed to SOUTHBOUND traffic while widening and a badly needed resurfacing are done
• Walkup Road from north of 176 between Crystal Springs and Live Oak Roads is being widened, adding a shared use path and 4 traffic signals
• Route 176 and Route 47 intersection - the southern intersection is being resurfaced, receiving shoulder improvements and modernized traffic lights

Remember that cell phone use in construction zones (and school zones) is prohibited.
For the 5th year, Arrow Septic is offering a discounted rate of $175 per household tank up to 1500 gallons (if a total of 1-6 homes enroll). If the total of enrolled households is 7 or more, the pricing will drop to $165. No other coupons or discounts will be valid.

In addition to the discounted price, a digging charge of $20 per 15 minutes of dig time labor will be added per household if the access lid to each tank isn’t easily accessible and exposed for the driver. Please be sure the homeowners DO NOT OPEN the lid and leave it open as this causes a safety concern.

Arrow Septic will include a complimentary 5 point inspection with every pump-out:

- Check the structural condition of the tank
- Check the flow from the house to the tank. (Provided resident is available to flush a toilet from inside the home.) Also if they have access to the inlet or outlet pipes, they will run a video scope through to inspect the condition of the pipe(s) at no extra charge.
- Check the condition of the outlet baffle.
- Check the septic field.
- Check the level the tank is running at.

Payment is due at time of service. Arrow accepts checks, all major credit cards, and cash. If a homeowner is not going to be home on the day of the appointment, please call their office at 1-815-459-5558 X221 or X222 to arrange payment by credit card or to disclose where you will leave a check for the driver to collect. Drivers will start around 8:00 a.m. and the order in which the homes are serviced is done at the technician’s discretion; specific times for each residence will not be given.

Saturday October 8, 2011 has been reserved for Steeple Run subdivision. (If we end up with a very large sign up, we can also reserve Sat. October 15, 2011 as well.) Please sign up with Maria at 815-459-5558 X221 or X222 or csr_maria@arrowseptic.com by October 5th

Be sure to mention that you live in Steeple Run to receive our preferred contractor pricing.

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.

AUGUST is SAFE DRINKING WATER Month: Reduced Testing Fees

August is Safe Drinking Water Month. Reduced fees for well water testing are offered by the McHenry County Department of Health during August. Well water should be tested yearly to assure that it is safe to drink.

Sampling kits can be picked up at the Algonquin township offices. The sample bottle should be filled shortly before dropping off the sample for analysis. Conveniently, the Algonquin Township accepts collected samples for testing on Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. through noon.

Standard well water testing costs $23 but in August that fee is reduced to $18.

For more information and the location of 8 other bottle drop-off sites, call the Environmental Health Division at 815-334-4585 or check online at www.mcdh.info.

Remember, the last day to drop your sample off at the Algonquin Township Office and to receive the reduced rate on the testing is Tuesday August 30 before noon.
Article 4 of our Covenants lists the Restrictions placed on all of our properties. The restrictions are not numerous and, for the most part, are followed by the Steeple Run homeowners. Section 4.09 is the one most frequently violated.

As a reminder, Section 4.09 states:

No truck, bus, trailer, boat, camper or similar articles shall be parked or stored, either temporarily or permanently, on any Lot unless it is under a permanent roof.

This restriction covers all types of boats, boat trailers, flat open-sided trailers, trailers with sides, trailers used to transport snowmobiles, motorcycles or golf carts. These items need to be stored inside a garage or stored at a storage facility outside of the neighborhood.

Complaints about the long-term parking of these have been received; if you haven't removed your boat or parked your trailer in your garage, please do so.