MODIFICATION IN PROCESS

For the Board | Claudia Schmidt

After face-lifting our OAKHURST signs at main intersections throughout the community, we now have a close eye on the deteriorating neighborhood signs. We have the options to refurbish and repair the existing signs or replace the wooden panels with an aluminum or HDU sign.

Aluminum signs last for a very long time, however, at some point the paint will fade. They can be repainted or even updated for a relatively inexpensive amount. HDU signs last about 20 years. The advantage to them is that they have a more dimensional look. Requests for quotes are out. At least one contractor will attend the next board meeting to field questions regarding the options.

At the end of February, the 2021 Oakhurst tree trimming concluded along Kautz and along McCoy between Cheshire and Kautz. During the trimming, it was discovered that unfortunately some trees need to be removed due to safety and liability issue to the association. We will do our best to plant new trees and shrubs employing the right tree spacing to ensure healthy growth. Stay safe and be well.

RESCHEDULED OAKHURST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Due to the uncertain weather, the board meeting that was scheduled for February 24th, is being rescheduled for Thursday March 25th at 7 pm. It will be held at the Montgomery VFW, 121 N River St, Montgomery, IL. It will be virtual as well.

RESCHEDULED
OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday March 25, 2021 | 7 TO 9 PM (CDT)

VIRTUAL OCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/518366661

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 518-366-661

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www.oakhurstcommunity.org
THE MARKET IS HOT!

Oakhurst - February 2020 vs 2021
Inventory is LOW! Demand is HIGH!

- Ranked in the top 5 of over 2,000 agents in Aurora
- Member of john greene Realtor's $150 Million President's Club
- Over 600 homes sold Lifetime
- Proud Aurora resident for 16 years

Shane Halleman
630.417.4037
ShaneHalleman@johngreeneRealtor.com
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD News
Submitted by Tina Straits, CMCA | DCAM

ANNUAL DUES - Assessments are late after March 15th. If you are in need of a payment plan, email OAKHURST@ciramail.com.

MODIFICATIONS - As spring approaches, many owners are making plans for exterior home improvement projects. Keep in mind that most exterior projects require the approval from the Oakhurst Community Association prior to the beginning of the project. If you are unsure if your project requires a modification, check the architectural guidelines or email OAKHURST@ciramail.com.

LICENSE PLATE STICKERS - Be advised that the City of Aurora compliance officers are issuing warnings and tickets for vehicles without current stickers on their license plates. They are doing the same for trash cans and other ordinance violations as well.

FENCES - It has been noted that many fences have fallen in to disrepair during this winter. The freeze/thaw cycle can be detrimental to fencing. Now is the time to be reaching out to your fence contractor regarding the repair or replacement of your fence. Keep in mind, due to COVID-19, there is a material backlog. All fence replacements must go through the modification process. Items to include when putting in your fence modification request include a plat of survey showing where the fence will be placed on the lot, material, height, picket width, placement of gates and any other pertinent facts regarding your fence replacement.

BOARD MEETING - You are welcome to attend the Board of Directors meeting on March 25 at 7 pm at the VFW in Montgomery IL located at 121 North River Street. You may attend virtually from your computer, tablet or smartphone. Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/518366661 You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
Access Code: 518-366-661

Happy Spring! Happy Easter!
The OCA Board of Directors

We are now a year in to the COVID-19 pandemic. Few of us expected that it would last this long or realized the impact that it would have on every area of our lives. Many of us have family, friends or co-workers who have come down with COVID-19 or have even experienced it ourselves. Some have lost family and loved ones. In many instances, we can see family, friends or co-workers only through ZOOM or other means. Many have suffered unemployment as a result of the pandemic.

It is know wonder that we are experiencing pandemic fatigue. This fatigue is a very real feeling of exhaustion. It drains our energy and can make life feel overwhelming. Many people are feeling emotions such as fear, anxiety, loneliness, sadness, frustration and irritability.

There are steps that you can take to help overcome COVID fatigue. The first is to get a good sleep. Many people are reporting having issues with sleeping. If you are experiencing sleeping issues, it is helpful to shut down screen time at least an hour prior to bedtime. This sends your body a signal that you are ready for sleep. Many people read or meditate during this hour. Put on soothing music, drink some chamomile tea, work on a puzzle, color, anything that you find relaxing. Put on a cozy pair of socks. Warm feet helps your body to indicate that it is time for sleep.

While it is tempting to binge on comfort food, now is the time to focus on good nutrition. Make this fun by trying out new recipes or tweaking old favorites. Try fruits and vegetables that you may not have tried before. Who knows, you might find a new favorite. If you have a bad eating day, shake it off and get on track the next day. Or just plan a day each week where anything goes.

Limit your news intake. Though it is tempting to have the news on 24/7, this can cause stress. If you limit news to an hour a day, you can stay informed, but less stressed. If you feel stress after watching the news, keep in mind that news tends to focus on negative events and there are plenty of positive things going on that you don't see on the news.

Lower your stress levels by doing things that you enjoy. Exercise. Spend time outdoors. Play music you enjoy. Watch a favorite movie. Lose yourself in a good book. Play games with your family. Have a wacky Wednesday theme dinner. Tell corny jokes. The list is endless!

Connect with friends and family. Talk about old memories and plan new memories. If you can't be together for a birthday, plan a birthday drive by parade. Pick up the phone and have a conversation with a friend. Have a family book club.

Practice positive self talk. Self talk is the inner voice that makes sense of the world around you and is the way that you communicate with yourself. If your self talk is mostly negative, this will create stress and anxiety in your life. There are ways to reduce negative self talk which will help to reduce stress in your life.

The first step is to recognize negative self talk. When you find yourself doing so, thought stop. This is a process where you intentionally stop a negative thought. You may even say STOP out loud. Another method is to snap a rubber band on your wrist when you find yourself thinking negative thoughts. Once you become aware of your negative dialogue, begin replacing it with a positive dialogue.

Start with replacing strong words with milder words. For example, "I hate traffic! It makes me so angry!" becomes "I dislike being in traffic". Turn self-limiting thoughts such as, "I can't handle this! This is impossible!" in to more positive thoughts such as, "I can handle this. These are the steps I am going to take."

Keep a journal of the things that you are thankful for. There are so many small things in life that we overlook being actively thankful for. Little things like a parking space right in front, the first robin of spring, the way the sun sparkles on the waves, the particular blue of your child's eyes and hundreds of other things that we let slip by.
Alderwoman Patty Smith’s Corner
Alderwoman 8th Ward • pcsmith@aurora-il.org • 630-341-1176
Facebook Patty Smith Alderman Ward 8

April 2021 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION
Early voting at DuPage Fairgrounds
Weekdays: 8 am – 4:30 pm (Feb. 25 – Mar. 19)
Saturdays: 9 am – 12 pm (Feb. 27 – Mar. 20)
Weekdays: 8:30 am – 7 pm (Mar. 22 – Apr. 5)
Weekends: 9 am – 5 pm (Mar. 27 – Apr. 4)

PERMANENT EARLY VOTING FOX VALLEY MALL begins March 22
Open Monday through Sunday
Weekdays: 8:30 am – 7 pm | Weekends: 9 am – 5 pm
Voters can find a complete guide to all Early Voting locations in DuPage

POTHOLES
With the enormous amount of snow and cold weather that occurred in January and February, we are bound to have a significant pothole issue. The city is set up to make sure that once they know where a pothole is, it is filled as quickly as possible. If you experience a pothole on our city streets, please report it by using the options below.

SNOW PLOW DAMAGE
If this winter has brought you damage to the grass on your parkway or mailbox due to snow plow activity, you will need to report it by using the above details. The city will investigate each incident, allow for standard reimbursement for the mailbox, and if needed, set you up with a temporary box.

FREE SPRING CLEAN-UP BEGINS APRIL 5TH
Each year the City of Aurora offers residents opportunities for FREE Spring Clean-Up through our Yard Waste and Bundled Brush Collections. This will occur on your regular trash pickup day. Placed at your curb as follows:

Yard Waste Collection for Two Weeks
Free Yard Waste Collection begins April 5th and runs through April 16th. Pick up is on your regular trash day. During these two weeks, residents do not have to use waste stickers to dispose of yard waste. Yard waste must be placed in a 30-gallon recycleable paper bags and not exceed 60 pounds. Yard waste mixed with garbage or yard waste in a garbage can or plastic bag will not be collected. Following the end of this two-week period, all yard waste bags must have a waste sticker attached.

Bundled Brush Collection through Early November
No waste stickers are required for this collection and will occur on your regular trash pickup day beginning April 5th and running into November. Branches and limbs that are ½ inch to 4 inches in diameter and 2 to 4 feet in length must be bundled and tied. The bundled brush should be placed at the curb in neat, manageable piles with the cut side of the limbs facing the street. Branches and limbs that are less than ½ inch in diameter are considered yard waste. Brush that is not bundled and tied will not be collected. In addition, brush resulting from commercial tree trimming, which should be removed by the contractor, will also not be collected.

STAY SAFE
As more people get vaccinated and our community gradually opens please remember it is still necessary to follow all COVID-19 protocol. Wear a mask-social distance-wash your hands. I still hold a very large stock of FREE masks. If you or anyone in your family need masks please reach out to me at pcsmith@aurora-il.org and I will make arrangement to have you pick up a couple boxes. Don’t forget the elderly in your family, kids in activities, and kids away at college all need a stock of their own masks. Additionally, if you have a Ward 8 business, I am happy to drop off FREE masks.

TRAFFIC LIGHT
Last year at this time I informed you the traffic light at McCoy/Kautz/5th Avenue would begin engineering in the Spring. Due to the pandemic and budget concerns this project was delayed. The City of Aurora Engineering Department have assured me construction on this traffic light will begin this year late Spring/early Summer. A traffic light at Kautz/Montgomery and McCoy/Cheshire will follow.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to reach out to me with your neighborhood suggestions/concerns. My door is always open, and your feedback is important to me. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at the above information.

The City of Aurora’s Customer Service Call Center is the best way to get general information about the City and to make service requests. The City Call Center provides professional, courteous, and quality customer service by gathering accurate and complete information from our customers during the initial contact. The Aurora Customer Service Center can be reached by three methods:
• Call 630-256-INFO (4636) M – F, 8 AM to 5 PM • InfoAurora app • www.Aurora-IL.org

Oakhurst Oracle March | 2021
Have you been dragging through your days? Can we face down another drear year? Let’s find where we can snag a shot of serotonin. We need to search for whimsy.

Recently I was strangely excited when I spied an ad for a floral steering wheel cover. Some days later, I drove to the store nearby and found it. Usually, what is so whimsical is not available, but there it was: idling in a box with boring black covers. Fulfilled, I proudly stood in line to buy the floral one and couldn’t help but wave it around.

“The police will stop me to ask where I bought it so they can give one to the wife,” I stated rather loudly. “If they have good taste.”

I heard a few giggles.

“Too bad I have no place to go to tempt them,” I said.

Even the burglars are told to stay home; they can’t leave their houses -- or find one unmanned. And former prisoners, released due to COVID, could be within, restless and waiting.

I had seen my horoscope in the newspaper a few days before and noted all its warnings about Mars and Saturn. It also dictated, “Avoid travel and hunker down somewhere peaceful to think... Wait for developments.”

No getaways. How dull can life get? No first down.

(I am never so caught up in reading the newspapers that I see my daily horoscope for the day it’s published. Being tardy is good -- I often escape the risky difficulties that were predicted under my astrological sign of Capricorn.)

The well-known pandemic epidemiologist Dr. Anthony Fauci shares my astrological sign and even my Christmas Eve birthday. He turned out more successful than I have, but I had a treacherous birth. My umbilical cord was wound around my neck, cutting off the precious oxygen which otherwise would have endowed monumental brain power. My future was never as exciting as my beginning.

When I acquired that flowery steering wheel cover, my life began looking up. I admit it was a struggle to install by stretching it to fit, but I persisted, turning on the car’s heater to soften the plastic. The clever store’s customers, coming and going in the parking lot, did glance over, perhaps wondering why my car was running. They might have sized up my steering wheel fashion in admiration, then envy.

Although this dramatic cover is definitely priceless to me, it was under $10.00. I actually “paid full price,” for once.

Between COVID and C/capitol surges, we’re under brain gridlock. Life in our country is a case of putting out fires -- a cliché supplanted with “whacking more moles.”

When worry is surging our front door, I retreat to the garage and settle behind my new steering sheath and relish my luck. I caress the ring of whimsy, swollen with the wild pretension of plastic. I dream of sweet road trips to anywhere. Could I be a free agent? I get a grip.

I read my neon yellow rectangle dangling from the passenger-side visor proclaiming: NO SPEED LIMIT ANYMORE. Maybe it could be mistaken for a senior sign and give me a special parking spot near the main door — to anywhere.

Sadly, I haven’t needed my GPS for over a year.

“That steering cover is so bright you can find your car in a dark parking lot,” said my husband Rich, “even if you’re color-blind.” And he warned me against being distracted while driving.

“I can drive and enjoy beauty at the same time. It’s as easy as walking and chewing bubble gum,” I retorted, paraphrasing the government’s boast.

The circular cover’s blue and rosy pink blossoms will fade in the sun if I can’t find a tree to park under. If the three blue flowers fade, they will blend even better with my car’s muted “Still Blue” exterior paint. And with any summer jeans’ pastel shade.

Like the Lincoln SUV Wish List commercial featuring the lady driving up to her door and confronting mayhem within (sitter on her cell, Christmas lights trimming the Dalmatian, drone aiming for the slider door glass), I’ll return to my car’s driver’s seat, power back, and mellow out in a musical sanctuary -- with Sirius or such. I’ll “wait for developments.” And be dazzled by my new bouquet. A fresh interception. I’ll feel the happy hormone of dopamine -- flooding through me. I won’t give two toots.

We assume that the Lincoln commercial lady found some serenity and serotonin, but whimsy would be the best beginning for the rest of her life.

She so needs that wheel of whimsy.
**ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connie Gallagher, President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cgallagher@heritagecadillac.com">cgallagher@heritagecadillac.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Lawler, Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Fife08@gmail.com">Fife08@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Simonne Primo, Treasurer</td>
<td>630-486-3265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Lilek, Director</td>
<td>630-692-1243</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clifton Mason, Director</td>
<td>630-220-0137</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claudia Schmidt, Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:claudia.oakhurst@gmail.com">claudia.oakhurst@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Johnson, Vice President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeffnkathryn@gmail.com">jeffnkathryn@gmail.com</a></td>
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**SINGLE-FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS**

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<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashbrook</td>
<td>Bernie Biernacki 630-820-8414</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Doug Lucas 630-585-1028</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aspen</td>
<td>Charlotte Dockstader <a href="mailto:dockstdr@sbcglobal.net">dockstdr@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mark Davis 630-464-0535</td>
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<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Meadows</td>
<td>Jim Valastro* <a href="mailto:jgvalastro@gmail.com">jgvalastro@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>OPEN POSITION</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breckenridge</td>
<td>Lynn Minnis* 630-978-4712</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darren Miller 920-517-7822</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Margaret Stokes 630-926-8107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carriage Estates</td>
<td>Barb Garitty* 630-870-9042</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:bmgaritty@aol.com">bmgaritty@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inverness</td>
<td>Rick Mervine 630-851-5633</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Linda Grula 630-585-8694</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mike Marion 630-585-9395</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sai Archana Kuchimanchi 312-363-8835</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayfair</td>
<td>Bill Poppe* 630-978-1314</td>
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<td>Paul Santucci 630-236-9963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanfield</td>
<td>Helen Brunelle 630-499-0581</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:hbrunelle@comcast.net">hbrunelle@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summerfield</td>
<td>Debbie Beaty* 630-898-4826</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:debbiebeaty@sbcglobal.net">debbiebeaty@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Debbie Basak 630-851-1624</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bill Bernard 630-240-1052</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Woods</td>
<td>Duane Pifko* 630-820-6673</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wild Meadows</td>
<td>Steve Bosco* 630-898-9457</td>
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**MULTI-FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS**

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<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn Lakes Condo Association</td>
<td>Connie Gallagher</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>Country Homes of Oakhurst Association</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Glen Association</td>
<td>Jason McLindsay</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Townes of Oakhurst Homeowners Association</td>
<td>Rebecca Scott</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Townes of Oakhurst Condo Association</td>
<td>Karen Troller* 630-897-0500 x1829</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunters Glen Apartments</td>
<td>Bob Gleason, Manager* 312-335-2637</td>
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<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<td>Abington Woods</td>
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* Voting Representative

**OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Architectural Modification</td>
<td>Bill Poppe, Chairperson</td>
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| Landscape               | Claudia Schmidt, Chairperson | Claudia.oakhurst@gmail.com |

| Recreation              | Dan Nave, Co-Chair | dnave48@gmail.com |
|                         | Kevin Lilek, Co-Chair | kclilek@sbcglobal.net | 630-692-1243 |

| Traffic                 | Rick Mervine, Chairperson | 630-851-5633 |

| Oakhurst Oracle Newsletter | Bernie Biernacki, Editor | MBierna409@aol.com | 630-820-8414 |
Virtual Makin’ Strides for Strays Walkathlon
May 2 2021
Benefitting A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter
A.D.O.P.T. Pet Shelter is a private, nonprofit, no-kill animal shelter operating for over 30 years in Naperville. We are holding our 28th Annual Makin’ Strides for Strays Walkathon! This year will be virtual to ensure the health and safety of all participants. Look forward to virtual engagement through social media, email, and our website that encourages the spirit of the event celebrating all animals. Join in the fun by starting your own fundraiser and challenge your friends. More information coming soon on our website!

www.adoptpetshelter.org/news

“This anti-grump patch is working. I’ve only yelled ‘Get Off My Lawn’ three times today.”

Use your extra yarn & fleece to comfort homeless pets!
Comfort for Critters makes handmade blankets to comfort animals living in animal shelters. Our blankets are knit, crocheted, made with fleece, sewn, quilted and more! While these pets await adoption, the blankets provide a comfortable bed year-round. When they are adopted, their blanket goes with them, providing something familiar as they adjust to their “forever family”.

We are always interested in adding volunteers to our growing team, since we support 300+ shelters across the US! We’re also interested in receiving your “extras.” We accept donations of fleece (at least 12” in width) and yarn (full or partial skeins).

For more information: www.ComfortForCritters.org info@ComfortForCritters.org

Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club
A Social Organization for New and Established Residents
Discover NNNC Coffee
Monday, April 5 from 9:00-10:30 a.m.
Yogi’s Café
2959 Artesian Rd. #0159
Naperville, 60564
Children are Welcome!

Join us for coffee and discover what NNNC has to offer, including activities, events, learning experiences, charitable opportunities, community involvement, fun and friendship!

“A Bridge to Friendship”
For Information contact Mairi at 630-301-0778
www.NapervilleNewcomersandNeighborsClub.com
Sponsorship opportunities are available

Your local contact:
3550 Monarch Circle, Naperville
Feel free to call Kathy at 630-650-0440 with questions or simply drop off all bagged/boxed donations on the front porch. It will be monitored closely. Thank you!
GUIDELINES FOR DISCOURAGING NEIGHBORHOOD COYOTES

Generally, coyotes are reclusive animals who avoid human contact. Coyotes who have adapted to urban and suburban environments, however, may realize there are few real threats and may approach people or feel safe visiting even when people are present.

HAZING

Hazing is a method that makes use of deterrents to move an animal out of an area or discourage an undesirable behavior or activity.

Methods of Hazing
• Yelling and waving your arms while approaching the coyote
• Noisemakers: loud voice, whistles, air horns, bells, “shaker” cans full of marbles or coins, or pots/lids/pie pans banged together
• Projectiles: sticks, small rocks, cans, tennis balls or rubber balls – don’t throw directly at Coyote!
• Other: hoses, water guns with vinegar water, spray bottles with vinegar water, pepper spray or bear repellent

The simplest method of hazing a coyote involves being loud and large: stand tall, wave your arms, and yell at the coyote, until they run away.
• If a coyote has not been hazed before, they may not immediately run away when you yell at them. If this happens, you may need to increase the intensity of your hazing.

KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE!

Disclaimer: Your Oakhurst Homeowners Association Board Members DO NOT recommend any course of action in dealing with coyotes as we are NOT EXPERTS in this field. We do suggest you exercise caution in encountering these wild predators, especially if they appear sick or injured.

Note 1: It appears Illinois Law allows coyotes to be hunted and trapped with proper licenses and other criteria.

In that we have many new residents since we last published the Coyote article and we are heading into mating season, we thought it advisable to republish our 2020 Coyote article.

In approximately 48 states in the US, coyotes are making their appearance in suburban and urban communities, including Aurora and Naperville. They are a protected species in Illinois and there is little we can do except learn how to deal with this carnivorous neighbor. (Note 1)

First, before giving some how to deal with coyote suggestions from “The Humane Society of the US”, a couple of points. (Read link listed at the end of this article for complete information.)

Coyote breeding season typically peaks in late February and early March. During this period, male coyotes become more aggressive and pose an enhanced threat to your dog, cat or small pet.

Coyotes are smart and can learn your habits/timing of letting your furry critters out, etc., so vary your habits and timing. It is important that you not leave food sources, open garbage, or water outside and watch your pets.

In the summer months coyote mange can be an issue – “Zombie Coyotes” – and we will have an article on this later on in the spring.


In approximately 48 states in the US, coyotes are making their appearance in suburban and urban communities, including Aurora and Naperville. They are a protected species in Illinois and there is little we can do except learn how to deal with this carnivorous neighbor. (Note 1)
Pet Tales
By the Naperville Area Humane Society
1620 W. Diehl Road | Naperville | 630-420-8989

Bella | Female | 1 Year Old
I have what some might call “off the chart” energy. Are you an active person? Would you like to play games with me? How about helping me learn by taking me to some fun training classes? I’m really smart, and I don’t know yet how to work with all my energy, so I’ll need a family who truly is dedicated to helping me succeed. I’m friendly and fun, and I like other dogs if they can handle my play style. Kids in my new home should be at least 16 years old, and no cats, please.

Binky | Male | 1 Year Old
I’m super sweet and I welcome a good back scratch or belly rub - just on my terms. Those of you that have owned cats already “get” me. I can have what some might call a “cattitude” problem, but it’s usually short lived. My innocent eyes alone are enough to soften that blow. Don’t confuse my name with me being a “young lad”. I’m just figuring out what kinda guy I really am beyond handsome (as you can tell). Life has already re-started for me once and I’d like to think my next stop is fur-ever. On a positive note, I think I’m lookin’ good and feline even better!

Win!
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*Retail value $51,500.

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You can purchase as many raffle tickets as you wish, subject to availability.

(Only 2,000 tickets are being sold.)
The cost of one raffle ticket is $100. Each raffle ticket grants one entry into the raffle.
The winner may elect to receive a cash prize of $30,000 in lieu of the Airstream.

The raffle is open to all persons age 18 and over who have a U.S. address.
Only the individual that purchased the ticket is eligible to win.
The potential winner of the raffle will be randomly selected on June 5, 2021 at Naperville Area Humane Society, 1620 W. Diehl Road, Naperville, IL 60563.
Winner does not need to be present to win. Good Luck!

Adoptable Pets of the Month...

Bella | Female | 1 Year Old

I have what some might call “off the chart” energy. Are you an active person? Would you like to play games with me? How about helping me learn by taking me to some fun training classes? I’m really smart, and I don’t know yet how to work with all my energy, so I’ll need a family who truly is dedicated to helping me succeed. I’m friendly and fun, and I like other dogs if they can handle my play style. Kids in my new home should be at least 16 years old, and no cats, please.

Binky | Male | 1 Year Old

I’m super sweet and I welcome a good back scratch or belly rub - just on my terms. Those of you that have owned cats already “get” me. I can have what some might call a “cattitude” problem, but it’s usually short lived. My innocent eyes alone are enough to soften that blow. Don’t confuse my name with me being a “young lad”. I’m just figuring out what kinda guy I really am beyond handsome (as you can tell). Life has already re-started for me once and I’d like to think my next stop is fur-ever. On a positive note, I think I’m lookin’ good and feline even better!
Plan your vegetable or herb garden now by choosing the site and knowing what your family likes to eat. Will you use patio containers, space in the backyard, or a rented garden plot?

Mixing in brightly colored peppers or variegated herbs is pleasing to sight and taste while attracting much needed pollinators. Plant family favorites and try a few new varieties.

Spring tends to be wet so give ground soil a squeeze to see if it can be worked. If soil sticks together, it’s still too wet to dig and plant. If it crumbles, dig in, adding organic matter for nutrients and to help break up compaction.

Plants need oxygen in the soil. Avoid planting vegetables where water puddles on the ground for days. Most vegetables can be grown in containers with adequate drainage holes. Espoma Garden-tone or Espoma Tomato-tone is great for fertilizing. Follow the label instructions for use.

If planting seeds, pick quick growing vegetables and continue successive crops through the season. Seeds are fun to watch sprout and a great lesson for children when they participate in the process.

If choosing plants, you’ll have a head start on longer season vegetables. Adding colorful and fragrant flowers to your garden will draw the pollinators and provide you with a better harvest. Marigolds and Nasturtiums are known to repel pests. Most herbs are deer and rabbit resistant and make lovely, edible additions.

Vegetables grow best in an area close to a water source that gets at least 6-8 hours of sun. Start small with room to grow. When the soil has warmed up, layer on 3”-4” of organic mulch, such as weed free straw, to keep down weeds and maintain soil moisture.

Plant tall plants at the northern end of your garden so they do not shade shorter plants. Grow vining plants on trellises to save space.

Succession planting of another crop once you have harvested a crop maximizes your garden’s yield. One way to achieve this is by planting the same crops over every two to three weeks, such as short rows of lettuce, radishes, spinach, beets, carrots, and bush beans.

Basil and tomatoes are great companion plants in the garden as well as in a sauce. Peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and basil grow well together. Corn and beans grow well together because the corn stalk acts as the bean vine’s trellis. Rosemary repels bean beetles.

Broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cucumbers, peas, potatoes, and radishes all grow well near each other. Carrots and onions can be planted with beets, lettuce, tomatoes, marjoram and savory.

The average last frost date for our area is May 15. Peas, lettuce, spinach, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, parsley, and onion sets can be planted 4 weeks before the last frost. Radish, beets, carrots, and Swiss chard can be planted 3 weeks before the last frost. Summer squash and beans can be planted right after the last frost, while cucumbers and potatoes can go in a week after that.

Two weeks after the last frost, plant your peppers, eggplant, melons, tomatoes, and winter squash. Melons need to wait to be planted a month after the last frost. It is safe to plant tomatoes in full sun after all danger of frost and when the soil temps are 60°F. Be patient, cool soil will slow growth for tomatoes.

Be sure to visit your vegetable/herb garden daily to see what is new, catch any potential problems, and harvest your crop!
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**PARENTS — PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CHILD’S INFORMATION IN THIS WORKING YOUTH DIRECTORY!**

Notify MBierna409@aol.com to ADD, CHANGE, or DELETE a Working Youth Listing.

The Working Youth Directory is a service for youth, ages 12 and above, living in the Oakhurst community.

Parents: If you wish your child to be listed in this directory, please email MBierna409@aol.com.

- Include your child’s name, address, neighborhood within Oakhurst, home phone number of a parent who will be responsible for fielding requests, and the service(s) you permit your child to provide. Be sure to talk with your child about personal safety before listing in this directory.

Each monthly issue of the Oracle is posted online to the community association's website, www.oakhurstcommunity.org.

B-RC: Red-Cross Certified Babysitter,  B: Babysitter,  MH: Mother’s Helper,  P: Pet Sitter,  Y: Yard Help,

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