

October 2011

Calendar of Events - for more information, please see <http://www.belleville.net/calendar/##>

October 20th - Downtown Divas - 5 p.m.

October 22nd and 29th - Old Town Market - 7:30 a.m.

October 28th - Downtown Trick or Treat - 5:30 p.m.

October 22nd and 29th, November 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th - Belleville Historical Walking Tours - 10 a.m.

November 19th - Downtown Belleville Art and Wine Walk

November 17th - Downtown Diva - 5 p.m.

November 23rd - Gingerbread Contest / Walk

Halloween Neighborhood Street Party!!!



What?: A street party for all Highland neighbors to attend, rest, eat, socialize and enjoy. All are encouraged to attend and to help themselves to free food and drink provided by the Highland Neighborhood Association.

- Food will be complimentary hot dogs and orange drink.
- Park benches will be provided by the city.
- Rest between trick or treating and meet new neighbors!

(This will be a great time to get a head start on your 2012 association dues)

Where?:

- 200 Block of South Pennsylvania.
- Street will be closed to street traffic by the city with traffic barricades.
 (Local traffic will be permitted - do not worry if you live and park on this street)
- Cooking setup will be at the intersection corner of South Pennsylvania & McKinley.

When?:

- Cooking and street closure will start at the city determined trick or treating time (5 p.m.).
- We will run until the end curfew time set by the city (8:30 p.m.), or whenever we run out of food.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT NIGHT AND ENJOY!

A thank you goes out to all donating companies and individuals (a full list will be provided in the next newsletter) and a special thank you to neighbor Cedric Anderson for his involvement!

Board Members

Brennan Hartin 416-0174
PRESIDENT
Sue Brabenec 233-9848
VICE PRESIDENT
Jim Bryant 233-0357
SECRETARY
Walt Ortmann 233-5499
TREASURER

Mike Neff 234-8739
Tim Rule 277-0409
Tom Wade 416-3186
Erin Wittlich 235-3064
Jim Young 235-2251

Yard of the Month

Our neighborhood Yard of the month program is again completed for the year. Congratulations again to all the winners through the months and please use those gift certificates. Also a big Thank You goes out to all those who took the time to nominate a neighbor either by phone call or e-mail. Please continue to nominate yards next year and let's push to have some new first-time winners!



Brennan's Blurb -

Is it just me, or hasn't this autumn been amazing so far? Gone is the humidity and heat of summer. The constant rains of the early year are a distant memory. Open windows mean our power bills are as non-existent as Ameren will allow (which never really seems non-existent does it). It seems every day this month is picture perfect weather prime for evening walks or bike rides with the backdrop of our changing trees to enjoy. On top of all that, our beloved St. Louis Cardinals are back in the playoffs making a deep run as we speak. Sorry Cub fans – hey at least you can still enjoy the perfect weather I mentioned.

It is no wonder then that Autumn is fast becoming my favorite season. I always liked Spring, or even Summer, better growing up, but I really think Autumn is the best time of year and I think the reason has a lot to do with the Highland Neighborhood. The fine weather I mentioned brings the neighborhood sidewalks to life before the sun goes down for the evening. Also, the neighborhood has an amazing response to Halloween every year. Just about as many houses will decorate for Halloween as they do for Christmas. We always have had great neighborhood turnouts and have a reputation as one of the better Halloween neighborhoods in the city. I have always heard about past Halloween street parties that were thrown on my block of Pennsylvania the years just before we moved here. The stories always mentioned one particularly gracious neighbor who closed off the Pennsylvania block he lived on and cooked hotdogs for any neighbors who wished to come by. Well, I am happy to say that the Highland Neighborhood board feels that it would be a great year to bring back this event and that is what we intend to do.

From money raised at our previous two trivia nights, and through generous company donations (all will be recognized in subsequent newsletters), I am pleased to say we once again will be throwing a neighborhood street party on the 200 block of S. Pennsylvania on Halloween night. We also have another gracious neighbor willing to help out - Cedric Anderson, who is donating not only his time, but also his commercial grade cooking equipment for use at the event. All licenses and Health Department requirements are already met allowing us to bring you this free event with the city's blessing. Please see the cover of this newsletter for all the information. Stop by and enjoy a "dog" or just enjoy the company of some neighbors. Please introduce yourself to the Highland Board Members who will be helping out. We truly are excited to help make Halloween night even better and hope all can stop by.

No matter what, enjoy Halloween and everyone be safe!

Brennan Hartin,

President HNA

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2011

Here is my \$10.00 to make me an active member of the Highland Neighborhood Association for 2011.

NAME _____

ADDRESS:

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL _____

Place an X in the box if you would like a membership card

CLIP AND MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:

HIGHLAND NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
C/O WALT ORTMANN
225 SOUTH MISSOURI AVE.
BELLEVILLE IL 62220

YOUR CANCELLED CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT.

Trick or Treat Downtown Belleville

To all HNA residents do not forget that Downtown Belleville will once again be holding Halloween Trick or Treat Downtown. With this event local business owners on downtown Main St. will be holding a trick or treat for kids. The streets are blocked off and this is a very nice and safe event and we encourage all to not only attend. Go early as it can get crowded and please try to patronize a local business while attending.

Friday, October 28th from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

September HNA Program Review

At our last Douglas School Highland Neighborhood Association meeting we had our Ward 7 Alderman attend and discuss a varied range of topics. Some city ordinances were discussed and reviewed but the real big news of the night is that there will be street improvements on McClintock Avenue. At this time the exact start dates or exact scope of the construction are a little unknown but it was discussed that work would start no later than spring of 2013. 2013 is still a ways off of course, but the sooner we know more regarding this project the sooner we will have another formal meeting dedicated to this discussion. It is our goal to have the City Engineer come to one of our Douglas meetings to go over this topic - keep looking for this meeting announcement.

Operation Brightside

Another notable item that the Highland Neighborhood Association Board has decided to get involved in is Operation Brightside. Operation Brightside is a St. Louis, non-for profit organization; according to their website, "Operation Brightside, the region's oldest and most comprehensive not-for-profit cleaning and greening initiative, enriches and beautifies St. Louis by restoring, maintaining and growing the community landscape." This organization has many greening and cleaning projects, but if you are like me the one you might notice the most is the yellow daffodils planted at off-ramps along the I-64 corridor just west of St. Louis.

The HNA, through this organization, has been able to purchase daffodil bulbs for a low cost to be planted throughout our neighborhood. We are pleased to note that the purchase of these 200 flower bulbs is possible again due to past Trivia Night funds that our association has fundraised. We will shortly be planting these bulbs in hopes to further beautify the neighborhood. Where will these new flowers be you ask? You will just have to wait until Spring to see - be on the lookout!

<http://www.operationbrightside.org/>





RATING CONTEST

and its yearly decorating contest for Halloween. Be sure to
you'll be the winner of cash prizes given by the HNA board.

winning place for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Your decoration of particular note to be considered please

Halloween Reminders

Remember that Halloween in our neighborhood is probably the busiest night of the year. All traffic safety rules will need to be adhered to. All cars are urged to use extreme caution and to pay close attention at all intersections. Keep in mind it is dark out so be sure to look closely for all pedestrians. Also, those out trick or treating, be sure to cross streets only at intersections and to be on the lookout for cars before entering any street. Travel in groups when possible to increase your visibility.

Neighbors can also help others by being mindful of properties around you. Please help keep an eye on not only your property but those around you to make sure all have a safe night of fun. To all Halloween home decorators, thank you for your efforts and please check out the Halloween decorating contest article above.

Once again there will be a city imposed curfew and start time (5 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.) as well as the imposed age limit for trick or treating. If you are unsure of these times or rules, we suggest contacting the city for exact information. With Halloween being on a weekday it is important that your trick or treaters know the rules and be courteous of the curfew times.

Let's keep Halloween the safe neighborhood event it has always been.



