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July 2015 Update

Good morning, Hidden Hills! Following is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the July board meeting:

Social Committee – Hidden Hills has been without a Social Committee Chairman since early 2014. The budget includes a modest amount of money each year to go toward events like the annual Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July parade, Christmas party, etc. Also, the money raised from the Neighborhood Garage Sale is earmarked to subsidize the Social Committee.

Several people have said they will *help* with projects, but no-one wants to be in charge of planning or coordinating the events. Board members typically take on the supervision of our committees, but it is not necessary for the social chairman to serve on the Board of Directors.

Last year's *FUN FEST* was a big success, thanks to the hard working volunteers who planned it weeks in advance. They purchased the food and supplies, obtained sponsors to help defray the cost, and worked the entire day setting up tables and tents, grilling, watching the kids on the slides, keeping things organized and cleaning up afterwards.

The Board would like to see the *FUN FEST* happen again this year, but need at least *6-8 volunteers* to put the event together.

If you are willing to help, email Pat at hiddenhillsinfo@gmail.com.

Changes & Additions to your Exterior – We make this announcement frequently, but there are *still* occasions where work is done without an application.

ANY CHANGE to the exterior of a house *requires written application and approval* by the Architectural Review Committee. This includes but is not limited to a covered or screened porch, a new sunroom, new patio or deck, an outdoor fireplace, a retaining wall, new playground equipment, a new fence or a new roof. It also includes changes to the *GRADING OR DRAINAGE* of your lot.

These regulations are in place to ensure all additions are done within the scope of neighborhood policy and that proper drainage is addressed. If in doubt, ASK!

Applications can be found on our website and must receive written approval before work is begun.

Pool Gate –Please be extra careful when entering and leaving the pool. The gate was accidentally left open over the weekend and some teens were able to access the pool without supervision. The gate doesn't close automatically; you have to pull it closed. For security and safety purposes, always check behind you and your children.

2015 Assessments – If you owe the second half of the annual assessment, your invoice was mailed in June. This is a reminder that the payment is due BEFORE July 31. These announcements are made so everyone has the chance to pay before late fees are added.



Holidays & Fireworks:

With certain holidays, it is understood there will be fireworks in Hidden Hills. We try to remind everyone via Facebook or through emails to be considerate of your neighbors and to stop shooting fireworks at a respectable time. Hidden Hills is located in the county, so there are no ordinances or covenants addressing this concern.

Many homeowners have pets that are afraid of fireworks or small children who are trying to sleep. Please use good judgment and restrict the use of fireworks to the actual DATE of the holiday observance.

Newsletter Format

The "new" newsletter format we experimented with is a free web based program called MailChimp. Many of you said you liked it, so we will probably continue using it.

One feature of MailChimp is that, by law, readers are given the option to "unsubscribe". Doing so is certainly your right, but before you check that box, consider the information in the newsletter is IMPORTANT. The newsletters are used to let you know what's happening in YOUR neighborhood, from current events, to covenant compliance, ARC announcements, and even assessment reminders. Stay in the "loop" and be informed about your neighborhood.

Another feature of MailChimp is its reporting system. It shows how many people OPEN the newsletter, and how many click on the attachments (like our website, for example). The industry average is around 55%. Our "click rate" was slightly higher at 58%. But that means over a THIRD of our homeowners didn't get the news.

We are always open to fresh ideas. If there is something you'd like to see in the newsletter, let us know.

2015 Board of Directors

Association President: Association Vice President: Association Treasurer: Association Secretary:	Homer Burns Michael Ausborn Bob Williams Dylan Talbot	<u>ehburns3@bellsouth.net</u> <u>mausborn@gmail.com</u> <u>williams_bob@bellsouth.net</u> <u>mdylantalbot@gmail.com</u>
Members at Large:		
Welcome Committee:	Mort Floch Rod Nagel	<u>mortnest519@gmail.com</u> wixom4@gmail.com

ARC Committee: Landscape Chairman: Pool Chairman: Covenants Chairman: Mort Floch Rod Nagel Bill Shearer Allen East Ronnie Johnson

wixom4@gmail.com billshearer1908@gmail.com aeast1@entergy.com rjohnson@lithicit.com

Association Manager: Pat Starnes Office Phone Number: 769-524-7358 Email: hiddenhillsinfo@gmail.com Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 – 1:00

Emergency Contacts:



Rankin County Sheriff or Fire911Non-emergency Sheriff Dispatch601-825-1480Rankin County Board of Supervisors601-825-1475Rankin County Animal Control601-824-2024

PLEASE OBEY ALL POSTED STOP SIGNS AND SPEED LIMIT SIGNS. THE LIFE YOU SAVE COULD BE YOUR OWN.

Mailbox Repair/Replacement: Call <u>Copper Sculptures - 601-992-9955</u> or <u>Custom Creations - 601-936-7779</u>