



March 2007 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5245, Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245

www.napervillehomeowners.org

There is a lot of valuable information in this month's newsletter. We will preview the General Membership Meeting for Saturday, March 10th where we plan to look into local education plans and costs. Details on upcoming Candidates Forums that are sponsored by the NAHC, information on NAHC elections, and upcoming Park District Rec Center meetings are also included. Information on City of Naperville 2007 Legislative Priorities, Transit Oriented Development, and the NAHC Members directory is all on the upcoming pages.

This newsletter is an information conduit to our Member Associations, providing information you can use when managing your associations and to help you keep your members informed. Please provide your feedback to our External Communications Director, Bob Fischer, at rafischer1@aol.com

President's Letter from Chuck Schlabach

March is going to be a busy month for the NAHC!

Our general membership meeting is being moved up a week to March 10th and features a special session at School District 203 headquarters, 203 W. Hillside (corner of Hillside and Webster) focused on education. Schools make up the lion's share of our property taxes, and directly impact our property values. It is important for homeowners to be well informed and what better way to do this than to go out and visit the folks who levy these taxes and make the spending decisions. While the meeting will be held at District 203, we are preparing an agenda of interest to all area residents. In addition, we are planning a meeting in the near future to be held on District 204 "turf." Either way, for residents of District 203 or 204, Saturday's meeting is one you should not miss.

Member associations are also invited to join us on Saturday, March 17th, as the Confederation marches in Naperville's Saint Patrick's Day Parade. Put on your green and meet us in the south parking lot at Naperville North High School before the 10 AM parade kickoff. Bring signs celebrating the Irish and identifying your subdivision. Come and join us for the fun of a parade!

March also includes our Candidate forums for School Districts and the Naperville Park District. For those of you who attended or watched February's mayoral forum on TV live or on the TV and Internet replays, you saw a great opportunity to learn more about candidates and their stands on issues important to us as homeowners and taxpayers. The District 203 Forum will be held on Tuesday, March 13th, District 204 on Thursday the 15th, and the Park District on Wednesday the 21st. On April 5th our final forum will be held and will feature candidates for City Council. My thanks go to the team of volunteers led by Confederation Director Rick Strawbridge and our Moderator Kevin Dolan and Assistant Moderator Jason Altenbern.

Looking ahead, and in the spirit of watching where our tax dollars go, instead of the annual Bus Tour in April we are planning a General Membership meeting, with the City, at the 95th Street Library. There has been much discussion around libraries as of late with parking decks, the proposed Illinois Library Confidentiality Act changes, and other issues and we believe that it will be beneficial for our member associations to travel to 95th Street and get a first hand look at the library and discuss library and other City issues.

Remember, NAHC General Meetings are not just for Homeowners Association Officers and Directors. All member association homeowners are welcome and I am looking forward to seeing all them on the 10th for our special meeting at the School District 203 Board of Education offices.

Thank You and see you on the 10th!!!

Chuck Schlabach, President, Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, Chuckschla@aol.com

NAHC Meetings: *Your* Forum!

NAHC Meetings provide you, the homeowner, an opportunity to speak directly *with* (not to or at) representatives of “taxing bodies” including school districts, the Park District, the City, Townships, etc. in a relaxed, informal environment. In this vein, our March meeting will be held at the District 203 Board of Education Building. This meeting should be of interest to residents with and without children and in either school district as we plan to discuss issues surrounding home valuation, taxation, and quality of education. If you have questions or comments on our meetings, their structure, future topics, or speakers, please contact one of the members of the NAHC Board of Directors.

March 10th 2007

Naperville Homeowners Confederation General Meeting
School District 203 Board of Education Building
203 W. Hillside
Naperville

Preliminary Agenda

- 8:00 AM – Coffee, donuts and networking**
- 8:30 AM – Call to Order & Introductions**
- 8:40 AM – Welcome Message, Chuck Schlabach, President NAHC**
- 8:45 AM – Committee Reports (including NAHC nominating committee)**
- 9:15 AM – Focus on Education**
 - **District 203 Facilities Plans**
 - **How the quality of education impacts all homeowners**
- 10:00 AM – Open Forum**
- 10:30 AM – Adjourn**

Transit Oriented Development

For those who attended our December General Meeting, you may recall an informative presentation from members of the ECHO and Park Addition associations on their neighborhoods and potential studies and plans to redevelop portions of the areas adjacent to the railroad tracks near the downtown train station. The first round of proposals has been returned by the consultants and discussion on them is planned for the March 14th Plan Commission meeting. Details on the plans can be found on the City of Naperville website at http://www.naperville.il.us/dynamic_content.aspx?id=2476.

Based on a preliminary review of the proposals, the NAHC Board has several concerns including the proposed height of some buildings as well as potential land use issues in and adjacent to areas currently occupied by single family homes. While it is still very early in the planning process, and proposals are simply that, proposals, the information being presented has the potential to have significant impact on train riders, traffic flow, downtown shoppers and visitors, and residential quality of life.

A Confederation Board representative plans to address the City Council on March 6th when the topic of building heights to be considered in the plan area is addressed. The Confederation Board has taken a public position on the impacts of tall buildings in the downtown area, and this message will be reaffirmed with the Council.

As this issue has citywide implications, the Confederation will remain diligent in the planning process and welcomes thoughts and ideas from our members.

Candidates Forums

Wondering where your tax dollars go and who makes the decisions on the amounts and direction? To help uncover these answers the NAHC is sponsoring a series of candidate forums where homeowners can pose questions to the candidates running in the April 17th general election for City Council, School Boards (203, 204), and the Park District Commissioners.

At these forums the candidates for office will be asked several questions posed by the NAHC after which those in attendance will be encouraged to pose their own questions. All members of the public are invited to attend these forums to be held in the City Council Chambers of the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle Street, Naperville, Illinois.

The forums will also be televised "live" over Channels 6 (WOW) and 10 (Comcast), and rebroadcast over NCTV Channel 17. The schedule is as follows:

School Dist. 203 Board: Tues., Mar. 13th;
School Dist. 204 Board: Thurs, Mar. 15th;
Naperville Park Dist. Board: Wed., Mar. 21st;
City Council: Thurs., Apr. 5th.

All forums will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Kevin Dolan will moderate these forums that are not structured as a debate, but rather in a question and answer format where the candidates respond to questions proposed by the Confederation and the audience. Some questions will be given to the participating candidates in advance to start the process moving, with the balance posed the night of the Forum. In addition, each candidate will be given time for an opening and closing statement.

Further information will be on our website at www.napervillehomeowners.org.

Park District Rec Center Update

The Naperville Park District is hosting a series of community focus group to gather public input regarding the Frontier Recreation Center. The public is welcome to join them for one of the following dates:

Tues., Mar. 6 at 6:00 p.m.
95th Street Public Library – Meeting Room B
3015 Cedar Glade Drive

Wed., Mar. 14 at 7:00 p.m.
Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center's Community Hall
305 W. Jackson Avenue

Mon., Mar. 19 at 7:00 p.m.
Neuqua Valley High School Freshman Building (Gold Campus) – cafeteria
3220 Cedar Glade Drive

Attendees will participate in small group discussions, addressing the following questions related to the Recreation Center:

1. What do you like about the current design of the proposed Frontier Recreation Center? What, if anything, would you change?
2. How do you envision you and/or your family and the community utilizing the proposed indoor recreation space?

3. One of the goals for the facility is to recover building operations and maintenance costs using revenue garnered from user fees. This is essential to ensure financial sustainability of the facility. Do you feel that operations and maintenance of the facility should be self sustaining, or should a portion of these facility costs be subsidized through tax dollars? If you feel a portion of the facility's operations and maintenance should be subsidized, what existing Park District services would you consider reducing or eliminating in order to cover those costs?
4. Beyond indoor recreation space, what other recreation programs or facilities would you like to see the Naperville Park District improve or provide?
5. What additional information do you feel is important for the Naperville Park District to know?

If you are unable to attend one of the above sessions, you also may answer these questions online at www.napervilleparks.org or by visiting the Park District Admin Building at 320 W. Jackson Avenue and using one of the District's computer kiosks to give your input.

NAHC Elections to be held in May

In accordance with our bylaws, the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation will hold elections at the Confederation Annual Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2007 at 8:30 AM in the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle Street, Naperville, Illinois.

The offices that will be voted on include President of the Confederation (currently Chuck Schlabach), Vice President (currently Dr. Bob. Buckman), and two at large Director positions currently held by Rick Strawbridge and Bob Fischer. All incumbents, with the exception of Dr. Buckman, are eligible to run again for their current positions.

A nominating committee, chaired by Confederation Director Mike Reilly, will be formed at the March 10th General Meeting to prepare a slate of recommended candidates.

Duties of the open positions are as follows:

President: - shall be the chief executive officer of the Confederation; shall preside at all meetings; shall be the Chairperson of the Confederation Board of Directors (BOD); and, shall be the custodian of the corporate records and seal. All records of Confederation business shall be and remain the property of the Confederation, including but not limited to electronically stored records. The President shall also ensure (and may delegate to other Board Members the direct responsibility to see) that all newsletters, notices to Member associations, and other Confederation communications are promptly sent in a timely and appropriate manner and shall ensure that the Secretary is provided, in a timely and appropriate manner, copies or other adequate information on all such communications.

Vice-President – shall assume all duties of the President in the event the office of the President becomes vacant for any reason, and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President or the BOD.

At-Large Board Members – shall be chairpersons of Ad Hoc Committees of the Confederation as formed at the discretion of the BOD. They shall be eligible to assume the terms and duties of Confederation officers, if such officers resign, refuse, become ineligible, or are otherwise unavailable to fulfill their terms. At-Large Board Members shall be empowered to vote in all decisions of the BOD. In the event any elected Director is not able for any reason to complete a term of office, the BOD may, by a vote of the majority of Board members then serving, appoint an Associate Director to serve as a Director until the next annual election and any individual so appointed shall be empowered to serve and perform their duties upon appointment.

Further information on the election process and candidate eligibility can be found on the Confederation website, www.napervillehomeowners.org under "News & Info", NAHC Information (NAHC Bylaws).



Achieving Better Communities

The Advanced Course

Advanced Education for Community Association Volunteer Leadership

Saturday, March 24, 2007

Doubletree Hotel Chicago-Schaumburg

800 National Parkway

Schaumburg, IL

Call (847) 605-9222 for Directions

Don't miss your chance to attend this new, full day Comprehensive Course including presentations from:

- Rob Kogen of Kovitz Shifrin Nesbit,
- Kim Merrigan, CMCA, AMS, PCAM of Vanguard Community Management, and
- Chris Nyborg, CPA of Nyborg & Company, Ltd.

Who will be going into extensive detail on the following topics:

- The Nuts and Bolts of running and Association
- How much control the Board has
- What Boards can do to help Prevent Fraud
- The Importance of Audits
- Mediation, Arbitration, Litigation
- The Basic Legal Aspects of Association Law
- Steps to Problem Solving
- How to Reduce Risks

For more details on this event or register, please contact the Illinois CAI Chapter office at 630-307-0659 or email them at info@cai-illinois.org .

Planning a Garage Sale

If your Association is planning a Garage Sale, please let me know. Beginning with the April newsletter, we will be including listings of planned Association (not individual) garage sales.

Is the Check in the Mail?

NAHC 2007 dues invoices will be mailed over the next couple of weeks. If you don't receive your invoice there is a possibility that we don't have current contact information for your association.

Please use this opportunity to update your contact information as well as pay your dues. We've held the annual cost steady for this year and hope we provide you with a bang for your buck!

Thanks!

DuPage Children's MUSEUM

...learning comes in to play!

New DCM Programs!

March 2007

Call 630-637-8000 TO REGISTER!
Pre-registration and pre-payment required.
Please visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org
for a complete program schedule.

Plan Ahead for Summer Mini-Camps!

- Save when you register your children for mini-camps by May 31!
- **Early Bird Cost:** \$80 Members / \$90 Nonmembers;
- Cost starting June 1: \$90 Members / \$100 Nonmembers
- **CARDBOARD CARPENTRY:** Measure twice, cut once! Work with real tools and learn some carpentry basics while creating a useable piece of furniture from super-thick cardboard!
- **COOL CHEMICAL CONCOCTIONS:** Amaze yourself by making concoctions that change colors, bubble, fizz and ooze. Experience science as fun, learn new terms and see what it's like to be a chemist!
- **ELECTRIC EXPLORERS:** Lights, buzzers and motors! Electrify summer in our amazing camp that explores circuits, electricity and magnetism. Learn what makes things work, then design and make your own project!

Code	Mini-Camp Title	Ages	Dates	Times
SMC-107	Cardboard Carpentry	7-10	June 26, 27, 28	9:00-noon
SMC-207	Chemical Concoctions	7-10	July 17, 18, 19	9:00-noon
SMC-307	Electric Explorers	7-10	July 24, 25, 26	9:00-noon
SMC-407	Electric Explorers	7-10	July 24, 25, 26	1:30-4:30 p.m.

Castling Call: Wild Wings! Theater with actor Ben Webber. Discover new aspects of stage movement, as you flap, soar and swoop through your own stories! Parents may stay in the class or return for the final performance, the 15 minutes.

Member \$14; Nonmember \$17

Code	Title	Ages	Date	Time
HCA-307	Castling Call	5-7	Apr. 14	10:00-11:30 a.m.
HCA-407	Castling Call	5-7	Apr. 14	Noon-1:30 p.m.

Makin' Munchies™: Your petite chefs will whip up traditional tasty Indian treats while learning about healthy world cuisine.

Member / Child Partner \$14; Nonmember / Child Partner \$17

Code	Title	Ages	Dates	Times
MM-307	Makin' Munchies	2-4	Mar. 23	9:45-10:15 a.m.
MM-407	Makin' Munchies	2-4	Mar. 23	10:45-11:15 a.m.
MM-507	Makin' Munchies	2-4	Apr. 10	9:45-10:15 a.m.
MM-607	Makin' Munchies	2-4	Apr. 10	10:45-11:15 a.m.

School's out...what can you do for Spring Break?

Come find out! 10:00 - noon or 1:00 - 3:00 in the Art Studio, fun skill-building activities all free with your Museum admission:

- March 25 - Japanese Fish Kites
- March 26 - Debbling Dough
- March 27 - Sponge Painting
- March 28 - Crazy Spring Hats
- March 29 - Spring Yarn Pictures
- March 30 - Wearable Wings
- March 31 - Make Your Own Puzzle



(please flip over to see other side)

NCC Flute Ensemble: Come brighten your afternoon with a live flute performance for DCM visitors, Friday, March 9, at 2 p.m.

Wet 'n' Messy®: Create something amazing with your preschooler by pouring and mixing common ingredients! Call today to reserve your space--different activities each month!

Member / Child Partner \$35; Nonmember / Child Partner \$40

Code	Title	Ages	Dates	Times
WNM-507	Wet 'n' Messy	2-3	Apr. 6, 13, 20	9:45-10:15 a.m.
WNM-607	Wet 'n' Messy	2-3	Apr. 6, 13, 20	10:45-11:15 a.m.

Start in Art®: Starting in art means discovering the basic skills and art processes young artists need to create masterpieces later on by playing with lines, color and shapes.

Member / Child Partner \$35; Nonmember / Child Partner \$40

Code	Title	Ages	Dates	Times
SIA-507	Swirls to Zig Zags	2-3	Apr. 4, 11, 18	9:30-10:15 a.m.
SIA-607	Swirls to Zig Zags	2-3	Apr. 4, 11, 18	10:45-11:30 a.m.

Start in Science® Empty or Full: What are empty and full?

Fill 'er up in this active science class for preschoolers. Play with sand, water and other things to discover volumes about volume.

Member / Child Partner \$19; Nonmember / Child Partner \$14

Code	Title	Ages	Date	Times
SIS-507	Empty or Full	2-3	Apr. 7	9:45-10:15 a.m.
SIS-607	Empty or Full	2-3	Apr. 7	10:45-11:15 a.m.

Hop 'n' Bop®: Hop to the beat and bop on your feet as you and your toddler experience rhythm, music and motion in this lively class.

Member / Child Partner \$19; Nonmember / Child Partner \$14

Code	Title	Ages	Date	Time
HNB-207	Hop 'n' Bop	15-24 mos.	Mar. 17	10:00-10:30 a.m.

My First Mess®: Come make a mess at the Museum!

Explore one- or two-step messy art and science.

Member / Child Partner \$35; Nonmember / Child Partner \$40

Code	Title	Ages	Dates	Times
NFM-307	My First Mess	15-24 mos.	Mar. 6, 13, 20	9:45-10:15 a.m.
NFM-407	My First Mess	15-24 mos.	Mar. 6, 13, 20	10:45-11:15 a.m.

Cancellation Policies for all DCM Classes: No portion of the enrollment fee will be refunded as of the day class begins. Registrants withdrawing one week prior to the beginning of class will be charged a 50% administrative fee. Registrants withdrawing prior to the week before classes begin will be charged a 25% administrative fee.

Distribution of information and materials through the schools does not imply District 208 or 206 endorsement of them.



Naperville Legislative Priorities

At our February meeting with the City, Dan DiSanto, assistant to the City Manager, discussed Naperville's 2007 Legislative priorities and how homeowners can help. Dan stressed that legislators respond to community input and encouraged all homeowners to review the City priorities and contact their Representatives. http://www.naperville.il.us/dynamic_content.aspx?id=830#action is a link to the City website where the priorities can be viewed and contact information for legislators can be found. Even though Naperville is a home rule community, much of what can and can't be done in areas including transportation, taxation, and quality of life remains at the discretion of Springfield. The NAHC Board encourages all area homeowners to review these legislative priorities and let your elected representatives know your feelings.

NAHC Directory Information

Long time Confederation members may have noticed that there was something missing this year, namely the Confederation Directory of Associations and Officers. The Confederation Board is very concerned about maintaining and protecting the privacy of our members and is committed to keeping member contact information confidential within the Confederation. An example of this effort is how this newsletter is sent out by using "blind copy" to protect recipients from additional SPAM emails.

Having said this, however, we also recognize that part of our duty to the membership is to facilitate communication with and between member associations. To address the needs for both communication and privacy, the Confederation will use the power of our website. For those of you who have been on our homepage at www.napervillehomeowners.org you may have noticed that there is an opportunity for member "log on." Once logged on, members receive access to additional documents and information including access to the Confederation on-line directory.

In the "Members Area" we will include a document listing member associations and officers. This listing will include names **only** and not contact information. For those Association officers interested in making additional contact information available to the rest of the Confederation, they will be able to self-populate the Members Directory with the contact information (address, phone number, email address) they wish to share. The Confederation will still maintain a separate internal directory of associations and officers to facilitate contacts in emergencies, special mailings, etc. For this **private** directory we ask that all member associations complete and return our membership survey (found on the public portion of the website) and keep this information updated with us as Boards change.

For association presidents and officers wanting access to the "Members" section of the website, please send an email to RAFischer1@aol.com including your Association name and title and I will provide you with a username and password. Once you have access you are then encouraged to update your member information in the on-line directory, a relatively quick and easy process. Please let me know if you have any questions on this.

In addition, we are creating a list of associations that accept newsletter advertising. With this distribution list in hand we will forward any advertising solicitations out to those associations who accept advertising so that they will be able to contact and negotiate with the advertiser directly. If your association would like to be placed on this email contact list, please send your contact information (email address and association) to me as well. Thanks for your help!!

Nichols Library Parking Deck Update

On Tuesday, February 20, the Naperville City Council endorsed a new schematic design for the parking deck at Nichols Library. The change in the schematic design from Scheme 2 to Scheme 4 resulted from a discussion by the City Council at the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Workshops in January, when the library expansion was removed from the CIP and staff was requested to develop

revised schematics. The revised schematic designs were presented at a public meeting on February 8, 2007 for public review and comment prior to a recommendation being presented to the City Council.

The parking deck includes four levels of parking along Jefferson Avenue for a height of 26 feet (one level below ground and 2.5 levels above ground); three levels of parking along Eagle Street for a height of 31 feet (all levels above ground); 540 parking spaces (net gain of 410 parking spaces), and a plaza at the northwest corner of the site (74 feet x 125 feet).

A Naper Notice regarding the parking deck was recently included with the February City of Naperville utility bills. However, the Notice was completed prior to the January CIP Workshops when the City Council removed the Nichols library expansion. Unfortunately, between the time of the submittal and the mailing of the utility bills, the project underwent a substantial change. A new Naper Notice with the updated information about the project is being developed.

A public hearing regarding the Planned Unit Development (PUD) application, which is required for the Nichols Library parking deck, had been continued to Wednesday, March 28. The item will be continued again; a new date has not been determined at this time.

To view the approved schematic for the Nichols Library parking deck and to obtain the latest information on the project, visit www.naperville.il.us.



Naperville Park District Notes

2007 Season Reserved Tee-Time Program

Springbrook Golf Course hosts a Season Reserved Tee-Time program that gives groups of resident golfers the ability to reserve weekend tee times from late April through September. This 22-week program offers tee times between the hours of 5:50 a.m. and 1:02 p.m. Tee-times will be determined through a lottery held on March 11 during which groups will select times for Saturday and Sunday play. Applications for the Season Reserved Tee-Time Program are available at Springbrook Golf Course. Completed applications and a \$100 application fee must be submitted to Springbrook by March 5 at 5:00 p.m. Call 848-5060 for additional information.

Discounted Centennial Beach passes on sale now

From now through noon on May 12, take advantage of this opportunity to purchase/renew your Centennial Beach membership for a reduced rate. You'll save \$20 on a family membership and \$5 on an individual membership. Passes may be renewed by calling 848-5000, mailing it in or coming in to our main office, or online at www.napervilleparks.org.

New Centennial Beach Friends and Family Pass

Annual Season Pass members can take advantage of a special, limited-time offer to purchase a Friends and Family Pass for their out-of-town guests. The pass is available for purchase at a cost of \$60 and allows the season pass holder to bring in up to three guests on any given day. Season pass holders that have a Friends and Family Pass must accompany their guests in order for guests to be admitted. The Friends and Family Pass is available for purchase only through May 12 and should be purchased at the time an Annual Season Pass purchase is being made. Please note that the Friends and Family Pass is not able to be used for group rentals.

Mudrats Swim Team

Kids ages 4-18 are invited to join in the fun this summer as a member of the Centennial Beach Mudrats Swim Team. Mudrat swimmers are encouraged to have fun and do their best, regardless of whether they win or lose. Age and swimming prerequisites can be found at www.napervilleparks.org.

Winter Revelry

You're invited to a special presentation by the Naperville Park District Concert Dance Ensemble, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary of dance excellence. Join them for their annual Winter Revelry dance performance on Sunday, March 11 at 3:00 p.m. at the auditorium at Naperville North High School. Guests will be enchanted by a sampling of dances featuring traditional ballet, jazz, and modern dance. Tickets are available in advance at the Naperville Park District or may be purchased at the door before the performance. Cost: \$7/adult; \$5/children under 12, students, and seniors.

Summer Camp fun for kids!

This summer, be active, have fun and make new friends . . . Your child will have a lot of fun trying to decide which of the Naperville Park District's 60 summer camps programs to take! From sports camps to creative camps for preschool and youth – all the way up through high school – your child will learn while having fun! Here's a sampling of what we offer:

Sports camps – Athletic Conditioning, Badminton, Baseball, Cheerleading, Dodge Ball, Football, Gymnastics, Soccer, Tennis, and much more.

Fun camps – Bowling, Camp Quest, Computer Tots, Fairytale Camp, Lego and K'NEX, Princess Camp, and Superhero Camp.

More information will be available beginning Mar. 1 at www.napervilleparks.org. Summer camps registration begins May 5.

NAHC Liaison Committees

Whether the issue is Affordable Housing, the Ogden Avenue Corridor, Park District, or School issues, the NAHC has established a liaison committee to bring the voice of the homeowners into the discussion. Please watch our website for further information on Committee chairs, stands, and direction. If you would like to volunteer for a specific committee, please contact an NAHC BOD member.

For up-to-date information on upcoming meetings

Please check out our website at:

www.napervillehomeowners.org

Watch for the April newsletter during the week of April 9th!!!!

See you at the meeting on

March 10th!!!!!!

***Bob Fischer
Newsletter Editor & Director - NAHC***