

The Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

JULY/AUGUST 2017



Best finds ever! Sellers at 3029 Bluebird were confident shoppers would be pleased with their offerings.

Bargains galore

Fifteen sellers registered for the Great Garage Sale, held June 1-3, and a number of others joined in unofficially (which is perfectly OK with the association board) to create a neighborhood bargain bonanza.



Take a walk in the neighborhood

Get to know your neighbors and your neighborhood by delivering this newsletter one hour every other month. High schoolers – get volunteer credit for an easy job! **Contact John at 838-5730.**

Open delivery routes:

Hyacinth from Benjamin north to dead end	38
Coolidge from 21st to 25th	49
North side of 29th, west of Meridian	6
Meridian & McLean	8
Amidon from 25th to 29th	40
Amidon apartments and businesses	15
Thanks to all of our 45 faithful newsletter carriers!	

Mission:

The mission of the Association and the purpose for which it is organized shall be: In all its activities and relationships to seek to enhance the quality of life of the residents and to improve the appearance and safety of the neighborhood.

Upcoming events:

General Meeting and Ice Cream

Social- 6:30 p.m. Tues, July 11

at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 25th

& Hyacinth. Meet **Cindy Claycomb**,

who is running for Wichita

City Council. Hear her

views on the economy,

neighborhood vitality,

and quality of life

initiatives. Stay

for an old-fash-

ioned ice cream social, with **free ice**

cream from Braum's!

6th Annual Redskin Roundup 6-11 p.m. June 24 Indian

Hills Swim Club, 1158 N. Meridian Ave

Synchro Show 9 p.m. July 21 & 22 at Twin River Club, 2248

N. Sweetbriar

Inside:



Fresh fare- A farmers market has sprouted in the area. Details, pg. 3

The **COOL** place to be this summer-

Your neighborhood pool awaits!

Bring this pass Saturday, July 1 for **FREE** admission to the **pool** (up to 5 people). Hours are 1 to 10 p.m. For more information, see page 5, call 316-409-0069 or visit twinriverclub.org.



**60th anniversary
celebration**

2248 N. Sweetbriar

Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association Highlights

By Jeanette Shepler, secretary

Meeting began at 6:30 and ended at 7:35 p.m.

At our May 2 general meeting President Tim Devine talked about the upcoming garage sale weekend. They planned to place an ad in the Wichita Eagle and have maps printed with participants marked.

Tim talked about the Twin River Club at Sweetbriar, being a wonderful asset to our area, and the free admittance to the swimming pool being offered, May 27 through May 29.

Lorenza Snyder was introduced as the new DAB representative. Lorenza said she had been in the neighborhood since 1998, and was looking forward to participation with DAB. She told everyone to contact her with any concerns.

Our speaker, Brandon Findley, Community District Director, and also assistant to the vice-mayor, spoke regarding changes coming up in Wichita, and programs for the youth. The Work Force Alliance is hosting a program starting June 7, to help the youth find jobs with a one-day class from 8-5. He said many changes will take place in the next three years. His belief is that if we don't continue revamping Wichita, high-class acts will by-pass Wichita, and go to Kansas City and Lincoln, Nebr.

John said that he had contacted city engineers in regard to the big ditch, and work being done on the 25th Street bridge, and was assured that inspections and necessary repairs will be done by K-DOT and city engineers before the bridge is reopened. There will also be three lanes going two ways.

Lee Erwin's name was drawn for the door prize, and he won a gift card to DeFazio's Restaurant.

Livin' on the Corner

One of the most frequent complaints residents have had over the years has been of unsightly messes on corner properties. It's difficult to hide your messes when others can see nearly all around your property. Our recommendation for seclusion is either a privacy fence or a natural hedge, improving the appearance for all.

Tim Devine, for the association board

City Code Update

Since we have no restrictive covenants in our area, we refer to the City Code. Sec. 18.40.320 and 20.04.030 requires residents **to have an adequate disposal container for trash, with weekly pickup. It refers to public health and sanitation to prevent rodents.** Thanks for your compliance.

Summer Suggestion

Host a cookout and get to know your neighbors.

Free Food

Perishable fruits, vegetables and breads are available to all, provided by the Kansas Food Bank. Food Share happens on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 5-6 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Methodist Church, 27th and Amidon. Good stuff. Check it out! And volunteers are welcome.





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Farmers market sprouts

It's a sign. In fact, several signs and banners are sprouting up each Wednesday along 21st Street to remind residents that they no longer have to wait for the weekend or drive further west to purchase a variety of fresh produce and other local goods.



The market is held 3-6 p.m. Wednesday afternoons in the Clear Lakes Center, 21st and Richmond, next to Green Acres Market.



Greg Cole, market manager for Green Acres Market, sells, "Little Bits" cookies at the first farmers' market. The Wednesday market is part of the Kansas Grown! Farmers Markets.

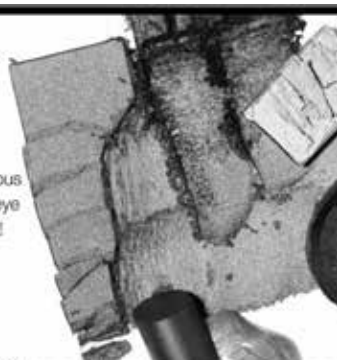
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- **the economy** – to be a catalyst for business growth and new, good-paying jobs.
- **neighborhood vitality** – to ensure citizens' voices are heard on issues of concern to them.
- **quality of life initiatives** – that attract and retain Wichitans.

Vote in the primary on August 1st

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Paid for by Cindy Claycomb for City Council, Clay Bastian, Treasurer

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Police Report

Wichita police are cautioning us to **lock our cars, even at home**, because of a recent spike in auto burglaries. Also, remember to keep valuables out of sight.

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Twin River Club News

Synchro to showcase 'Summer of '57'

By Karen Franklin, editor



Splish Splash- Laurel Franklin, 6, and Natalie Werner, 6, perform with the "8 and Under" group in the 2007 synchro show "The Golden Years" celebrating TRC's 50th.

If you build it, they will come. Over 60 years ago, a group of families who had just moved in to their brand-new houses in this newly-developed area had a vision to build a neighborhood pool.

And the families came. Kids and their parents loved spending their summers with their friends cooling off in the pool at the Twin River Club.

In the 40s and 50s "aquamusicals" starring Esther Williams were popular, so someone got the idea for the Twin River Club girls to put on a synchronized swimming show, and a tradition was born.

This year's synchro show, to be held at **9 p.m. July 21 & 22 at TRC** will transport the audience back to the summer when the pool was filled

for the first time with music from 1957 to commemorate the club's 60th anniversary.

Although young, co-directors Laurel Franklin, 16, and Natalie Werner, 16, have spent the past decade of summers learning routines for the synchro shows. They are excited to pass the fun tradition on to a new crop of kids.

Laurel's father, David Franklin, grew up attending TRC. Natalie's mom, Becky (Brenner) Werner actually worked at TRC for 18 years, starting as a desk clerk at 14 and working her way up to assistant manager.

Becky remembers participating in many synchro shows herself, the most memorable as a dancing elephant. "The costume was hilariously made out of two hula hoops," she says. Sadly, no photos remain.



10 years later- Laurel Franklin, 16, and Natalie Werner, 16 will direct "Summer of 1957."

Open house attracts new members

Twin River Club board members say their open house over Memorial Day weekend attracted over a dozen families and about half of them liked what they saw so much that they joined the club.

"There's a lot of great energy, people are so excited to come to the pool every day," says Trina Parker, who is in her first year of a two-year term as a board member.

TRC's summer season got off to a rocky start. After aging electrical work was fixed to meet code, the club had to wait on the electric company to hook it back up.

In the meantime, the pool was empty and they had no electricity to run the pump to fill it.

TRC member Jimmy Austin, who works for UMC, donated a generator to run the pump so the pool could have water for Memorial Day. Other members donated gas to keep the generator going.

"It was really cool to see all of these people come together," says board member Brenda Thome.

2nd open house set for Sat., July 1

The neighborhood is invited for a FREE swim day 1-10 p.m., ending with a movie under the stars. (see coupon on pg. 1). A flash sale on memberships will be offered.

Lassley named swim coach for TRC

State champion swimmer Abbey Lassley (North grad 2014) has assumed coaching duties for TRC. The team has won its first two meets, against El Dorado and Wellington.

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Book a swim party at TRC! For \$130 a party of 10 can have pizza, soft drinks and 2-3 hours of fun in the pool. Call Brenda 409-0069 to schedule.

Alumni assists with uniforms

Three years ago, when Wichita North High formed an Applied Academics team to compete in the Tri-County League, Para Steve Harshbarger said they were starting from scratch.

The team had no budget, so when he noticed the girls' P.E. teachers selling old uniforms, he stopped. He bypassed the "Lady Redskins" jerseys but bought the ones that said "Wichita North Redskins" for his all-male team.

The Applied Academics team competes in basketball, soccer, and has a track day every year.

The next year, North teacher and alumni association member John Lent learned that the team was wearing discarded girls' uniforms and encouraged Coach Harshbarger to approach the alumni association. The alumni association gladly gave the team funds to purchase brand-new uniforms that could be used for all three sports.

"They were in heaven," Harshbarger says when his athletes got their new uniforms. "We are very grateful."

The North Alumni's major fundraiser, the **6th annual Redskin Roundup, is set for 6-11 p.m. Sat. June 24 at Indian Hills Swim Club.** To see event updates, photos or to donate, go to FriendsOfWichitaNorthHigh on Facebook.



Redskin pride- Wichita North's Applied Academics team was thrilled to win the city championship in basketball this year. Team members were also thrilled to receive brand-new uniforms from the alumni association.

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thdevine@gmail.com	
John VanWalleghen, Vice President	316-838-5730
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Lorenza Snyder	316-992-1673
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Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association
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<http://bhvpna.wix.com/bhvpna>

Sandi Erwin, website administrator

To be included on neighborhood-wide email alerts, send your address to: bhvpna@gmail.com

Facebook: Benjamin Hills/Pleasant Valley Neighborhood
Karen Franklin, editor franklin.k.e@cox.net 838-3672

Helpful Numbers

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Council Districts 5 and 6:

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Veronica Ibarra, aide	vibarra@wichita.gov	303-8042
Janet Miller	JLMiller@wichita.gov	268-4331

Community Policing Patrols (our area is divided into two)

North (for residents north of 29th Street) **Beat 49**

Officer Juan Atondo jatondo@wichita.gov
3015 E. 21st, Wichita, KS 67214 350-3400


West (for residents south of 29th Street) **Beat 11**

Officer Mike Johnson MJOHNSON@wichita.gov
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City of Wichita	www.wichitago.org
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