Rountree Neighborhood News

October 2011

Chair's corner — Brian Ash

Welcome Neighbors.

It's one of the most beautiful times of year here in Rountree as our magnificent trees start showing their fall colors. There's lots going on here in the neighborhood to read about in this issue.

One annual Rountree highlight is the throngs of children that come through to experience how our neighborhood celebrates Halloween. To kick things off, we have our annual Rountree Halloween Day parade that starts at the corner of Wellar and Delmar at 5pm and ends in the front yard of the Hopkins family at 817 S Wellar. Bring your camera and your whole costumed family and join in.

Great traditions like these got started by neighbors banding together and working hard to keep Rountree the best neighborhood in town.

Please visit www.RountreeNews.org to see how you can join our Rountree Google group. Join our Rountree Neighborhood Association page on Facebook. I know we're all busy, but the more we stay connected and get to know our neighbors better, the stronger and safer our neighborhood will be.

Keep up the good work.

What makes Rountree a Great Place To Live?

- *A wonderful neighborhood school*
- *Great Neighbors*
- *Homes with unique charm and character*
- *Beautiful tree-lined streets*
- *Proximity to the university and downtown*
- *A strong neighborhood association*

RNA Board

Chairman	Brian Ash	brianbambino@gmail.com	417-655-7487
Vice Chair	Ken Reese	kreese311@gmail.com	417-869-6049
Secretary	Nancy Chikaraishi	nchikaraishi@drury.edu	417-869-5774
Treasurer	Sara Hollis	sashollis@aol.com	417-818-8179
NW Captain	John Melton	vespacian@sbcglobal.net	417-831-0233

Members At Large

Joanie & Troy Meinhardt	peter12003@yahoo.com	417-459-9578
Bob Keyes	rvkeyes@mchsi.com	417-773-5175

Rountree Council Members

Tommy Bieker	Tom@ThomasBieker.com	417-569-6252
Cindy Rushefsky	cindy4zone2@yahoo.com	417-862-9614

Websites

www.RountreeNews.org - Official RNA Website
Rountree Neighborhood Association on Facebook

Next General Membership Meeting
January 17th @ 7pm - Rountree Library
We will elect new RNA officers for 2012

Thank You Springfield Blueprint for continuing to support the Rountree Neighborhood by providing printing for the Rountree Neighborhood News!

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Rountree Urban Conservation District

As our Neighborhood Team has been working on nuisance properties, they've found that many residents may not be aware of Rountree's UCD, so we've decided to share the ordinance to highlight awareness. The Rountree Urban Conservation District (Rountree UCD) is a zoning district with special standards that may exceed that of the city, recognizing and protecting the unique nature of the area. Because Rountree is an Urban Conservation District, the area has specific ordinances with which you should be familiar. The following outlines what is enforced in the neighborhood. Visit www.RountreeNews.org for more details:

1. Parking Permits - On-street parking is regulated in the western portion of the neighborhood because of its close proximity to the Missouri State University campus. Check street signs for exact regulations. Residents are allowed to park on the street provided a parking permit is displayed on the vehicle. Each dwelling unit within the parking district may obtain two parking stickers and one visitor's permit.

2. Front Yard and Sidewalk Parking - Vehicles cannot be parked in the front or side yard of a residence or on the sidewalk at any time.

3. Street Parking - Vehicles cannot be parked five feet or less from a driveway at any time.

4. Front Porch Furniture - Indoor furniture is not allowed on porches in the Rountree UCD.

5. Trash Service - Trash containers may remain at the curb for service for no longer than 24 hours.

6. Tall Grass - No grass or weeds higher than twelve inches. Remember, if you are renting a house, you are responsible for cutting the grass and picking up any trash that may litter the property.

7. Noise - No loud noises that can be heard from neighboring properties between 11pm and 7am.

8. Overcrowding - Rountree's UCD code restricts the number of unrelated persons that can live in the same house. A total of three (3) unrelated persons may live together as a single housekeeping unit. Even if you live in a four-bedroom house, you can only have two roommates in addition to yourself.

9. Occupancy Permit - Each rental house in the Rountree neighborhood must have an occupancy permit listing all current tenants for the residence. These permits are provided free of charge from the City of Springfield's Health Department. In addition, all owners of rental housing that contains less than two units must register their property with the Health Department.

10. Inoperable Vehicles - It is a violation of the city code to allow a wrecked, inoperable or partially dismantled vehicle to remain on a piece of property for longer than seven days. If your car is broken down, try to get it repaired or have it removed from your property.

Violations, which can be reported to city offices at 864-1011, can result in fines of up to $300. But don't worry. We're not planning on going around fining people unless it's our last resort. We just want all our neighbors to be aware of these rules so everyone can try their best to adhere to them.

Owlapalooza Update

A BIG thanks to the Rountree Neighborhood in supporting Owlapalooza 2011. Owlapalooza ended up raising a little over $11,200 towards playground improvements at our neighborhood school. The success of this fundraiser, savings from PTA fundraising last year, a reallocation of funds from the school district, and money directly from Rountree Elementary has put our total amount raised to date slightly over $34,000. Phase 1 cost are being finalized but are estimated at $40,000. We are still working towards raising funds to complete this phase by the end of the 2012 school year. The completed playground improvements are projected to cost $75,000. If interested in contributing or would like more information please contact rountreepta@gmail.com. See you at Owlapalooza 2012!

Bambino's has Numerous Rountree Roots

Bambinos
1141 E Delmar 862-9999
www.BambinosCafe.com

The Rountree neighborhood has been a part of the Faucett family since 1972. Mary moved back 10 years ago and believes the school and the neighborhood helped develop an entrepreneurial spirit that led to their forays into the restaurant business. It was and is a place of "neighborliness," a place of establishing bonds, a place of making one feel a sense of belonging. It has given her family all of those along with the experiences of the ups and downs of life in a real community.

When they set out on their business adventures, the support of their Rountree friends and many new ones became the real secret to their success. First there was their maiden voyage in 1991, The Main Café on Main Street, a small but funky place which produced more character than profits. This led to a much larger enterprise--Nonna Nunzia's Main Cafe and The Bar Next Door, which then provided a segue into Nonna's Italian American Café both located at the corner of McDaniel Street and South Avenue in the heart of Downtown. In 2003, they acquired Bambino's Café at Delmar and Florence whose founders included two more Rountree neighborhood kids, Brian Ash and John Sweaney.

Bambino's Café is their only restaurant at the moment. It is tucked into the Phelps Grove neighborhood and very close to Rountree. In fact, they offer a 10% discount for riding your bike over to the restaurant to help converse parking. The menu has an Italian/Mediterranean flavor and just about everything is prepared on site, including their fresh-baked breads, cookies and desserts. Relaxed casual dining is the order of the day for lunch and dinner Monday through Sunday--especially on the patio when weather permits.

Always willing to support our schools, Bambino's has sponsored fundraisers for Rountree, Jarrett, Parkview and MSU organizations. These schools have all been great resources for the neighborhood and their family in providing them with long-lasting friendships and the tools to succeed.

UHBC Sponsors Rountree Round-Up

University Heights Baptist Church at the corner of Grand and National will host the 9th annual Rountree Round-Up October 29, from 2–4 p.m. The event features a carnival-like atmosphere and includes bounce houses, a cakewalk, games, snacks, face painting and a hover board, courtesy of Mad Science.

Kid's carnival games, face painting and the costume parade are free. The Bounce House, cakewalk and hover board all cost a small fee for participation. One highlight of the event each year is the cakewalk. Cakes in this cakewalk are decorator quality cakes made by a church volunteer with a Halloween theme.

Rountree Round-Up was started in 2003 as part of the Springfield Public School's Partners in Education program. The church has raised a total of $14,415 over the last five years that has been used directly for school and classroom improvements. Funds for the school are raised primarily through a bake sale of homemade goods, the General Store and a silent auction. UHBC absorbs the cost of the event.

Children can earn tickets at the free carnival games that they can spend at the food booth or in the General Store prize shelf. Fair type foods such as cotton candy, sno-cones, popcorn, chili and hot dogs can also be purchased. Come to the Rountree Round-up and support your neighborhood school.

Rountree Neighborhood Cleanup November 5th

The Rountree Neighborhood Association applied for and was recently selected by The City of Springfield to participate in the 2011-2012 Neighborhood Clean-up Program. Clean-up efforts are being coordinated through Community Partnership of the Ozarks. While previous efforts utilized Rountree Elementary School as the drop-off site, potential damage to a recently resurfaced lot at the school led to the alternate site of University Heights Baptist Church.

RNA decided to pursue funding for the clean-up because it has many benefits for our neighborhood. Most obvious is the ability to help beautify our area by removing large quantities of debris that a typical household trash service cannot.

Our one day clean-up effort is scheduled for Saturday November 5, 2011 and will take place at University Heights Baptist Church at the intersection of Grand and National. The delivery of the dumpsters for yard waste and trash will begin at 8:00 AM and will continue until 1:00 PM. No trash or yard waste may be left on the church parking lot, therefore no early or late drops please!

Accepted items include yard waste, trash and bulky items, scrap metal, and construction debris, and general rubbish. No hazardous items, chemicals, televisions, computer monitors, or tires will be accepted. Basically, anything not accepted at the local landfill cannot be disposed of at this clean-up.

Volunteers with trucks, trailers, and yard tools will be needed to help with the cleanup as many residents may not be able to participate due to their own health concerns or availability. As you walk the neighborhood in the next couple of weeks, make contact with your neighbors and offer your assistance to those who may be unable to do for themselves.

If you know of any available helpers, including church groups, student groups, scouting troops or others wanting community service hours, please encourage them to contact our Neighborhood Cleanup Coordinator, Gary Koeppe at gkoeppe@sbcglobal.net.

Helpful information to pass along for the event includes properties needing assistance, extent of debris, names of volunteers or groups to contact, and availability of trailers, trucks, etc.

Amish Bulk Foods
417-501-1054
Down To Earth Foods
www.d2efoods.com
"Your Amish Bulk Food Store in the City"
1952 E. Grand (just East of Glenstone)
www.d2efoods.com 501-1054
facebook.com/Down.To.Earth.Foods
Why pay more to eat healthy?

Rountree Neighborhood membership funds go to support neighborhood efforts such as the newsletter, trash pick-up and social events. We are hoping that everyone eligible for RNA membership will join.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL MAKE THIS GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD EVEN BETTER!

SEND BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT

ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS: Individual--$5, Family--$10, Business--$25

MAIL TO: Sara Hollis, 1326 E. Delmar St., Springfield, MO 65804

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ROUNTREE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION