

Have a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year

January 2012

We wish all homeowners and residents a very Happy, Healthy New Year. As I sit down to write this article there has not been enough snow of any great consequence, but then again winter has barely begun. We have to get through February and March before we can even begin to think about spring. Living in the Midwest we expect cold daytime temperatures and frigid nights. We expect snow accumulation, slick roads and overall uncomfortable conditions. Below are some winter tips:

- The speed limit for all residential areas is 25 mph unless otherwise posted (15-20 mph in some sub-associations). Under certain conditions 25 mph may even be too fast, so please err on the side of caution. Be watchful and vigilant of your surroundings and those around you.
- For snow accumulation of 2" or more, per City ordinance, parking is prohibited on any City street until snow has been cleared to the curb or road edge. Violators will be ticketed and towed. For any information about snow clearing call 630-256-INFO (4636), City of Aurora Customer Service, they will direct your call.
- Residents and /or homeowners are also responsible for keeping sidewalks clear. State law protects homeowners from any additional liability. Keep sidewalks cleared for children to and from school as well as those hearty souls walking or running in the winter months.
- Make sure your hoses are disconnected and stored. Covers for outside water faucets are available at all local home stores, hopefully preventing a pipe burst.
- Looking forward to a winter vacation? Please make sure garages, doors and windows are locked and secured. Kitchen and bathroom pipes on outside walls are susceptible to the extreme cold, so leave cabinet doors open to allow the warm air to circulate.
- Be a good neighbor and pick up dog waste in the winter months when walking your dog. Aside from being unsightly, it is not eco-friendly and against the law.
- Seasonal decorations are to be removed no later than 60 days after the holiday. Sub-associations have specific guidelines in their rules and regulations.

The next Oakhurst board meeting is January 24, 2012. Homeowners and residents are always welcome. Be safe this winter.

On Behalf of the Board – Connie Gallagher



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Oakhurst Community Association Representatives

Elected Board of Directors

Updated November 2011

Jonathan Lack, President 630-851-2828
 Bill Bernard, Vice President 630-240-1052
 Connie Gallagher, Secretary 630-499-9923
 Doug Geinger, Treasurer 630-408-4217
 Barbara Chappell, Director 630-898-4238
 Phil Hansen, Director 630-499-0333
 Claudia Schmidt, Director 630-499-7869

Oakhurst Property Management

Baum Property Management
 Manager, Tina Straits
 630-897-0500 X 1830 Tina@baumprop.com

Single-Family Neighborhoods

Ashbrook

Marilyn Hollis* 630-800-2128
 Doug Lucas 630-585-1028

Aspen

Sue Ellen Gerchman 630-585-0440
 Charlotte Dockstader 630-851-8118

Autumn Meadows

Jim Valastro* 630-898-5151
 Jeffrey Zalc 630-851-7367

Breckenridge

Lynn Minnis* 630-978-4712
 Bill Chinetti 630-368-4493
 OPEN POSITION

Carriage Estates

Karyn Mrozek* 630-978-0199
 Barb Garitty 630-851-2687
 OPEN POSITION

Inverness

Rick Mervine 630-851-5633
 Linda Grula 630-585-8694
 Robin Church 630-499-9899
 OPEN POSITION

Mayfair

Bill Poppe* 630-978-1314
 Joe Babcock 630-851-9392

Stanfield

Lewis Bullock* 630-978-8265
 OPEN POSITION

Summerfield

Debbie Beaty* 630-898-4826
 Debbie Basak 630-851-1624
 Bill Bernard 630-240-1052

The Woods

Duane Pifko* 630-820-6673
 OPEN POSITION

Wild Meadows

Steve Bosco* 630-898-9457
 Abha Dey 630-236-9843

Multi-Family Neighborhoods

Autumn Lakes Condo Assn.

Connie Gallagher 630-499-9923

Country Homes of Oakhurst Assn.

Janet Begeman* 630-692-1040
 Judy George 630-851-4714

Heather Glen Assn.

Loree King, Property Manager* 630-897-0500 x1829

The Townes of Oakhurst Homeowners Assn.

Jo Fredell Higgins, President 630-851-4401

The Townes of Oakhurst Condo Assn.

Tammy Hatcher* 630-897-0500 x29

Hunters Glen Apartments

Bob Gleason, Manager* 312-335-2637

Abington Woods

OPEN POSITION*

* Voting Representative

www.oakhurstcommunity.org



Oakhurst Community Association Committees

Architectural Modification	Bill Poppe, Chairperson	630-978-1314
Landscape	Claudia Schmidt, Chairperson	630-499-7869
Recreation	Jonathan Lack, Chairperson	630-851-2828
Traffic	Rick Mervine, Chairperson	630-851-5633

2012 Oakhurst Community Association MEETING SCHEDULE

Oakhurst homeowners and residents are always welcome to attend. Association meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the Oaks Clubhouse.

January 24
April 24
July 24
September 25
October 23

Send articles for submission, non-profit club & group notices, working youth listings and classified ads such as For Sale and Lost & Found to:
newsletter@oakhurstcommunity.org

or
The Oakhurst Oracle
c/o The Oakhurst Community Association
2218 Ogden Avenue, P.O. Box 113
Aurora, IL 60504

DEADLINE IS THE 19TH OF EACH MONTH

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISERS CONTACT

Preferred Business Services, Inc.
971 Waterside Court • Aurora, IL 60502
630-585-9340 • Fax 630-585-8232
E-mail: fosterpbs@msn.com • pbspublications.com
DEADLINE FOR AD COPY IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH

Publication of paid advertisements in this newsletter are not an endorsement or recommendation of any advertised product or service. The Oakhurst Community Association is neither responsible nor liable for the content of any advertisement published, herein.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Jan. 13 NO SCHOOL
Jan. 16 NO SCHOOL -- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 19 Home Energy Efficiency Seminar - FREE - Aurora Police Department, 1200 E. Indian Trail Road - 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Call 630-256-3323 to register.
Jan. 24 Oakhurst Community Association Meeting, Oaks Clubhouse, 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 27 2012-13 Kindergarten Pre-Registration Due Date - Call 630-375-3500 with questions.
Feb. 14 Autumn Lakes Association Meeting, McCoy Street Fire Station, 7:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE - Oakhurst pool bond \$500 plus transfer fee. Call 630-978-3021, if interested.
FOR SALE - Poulon Pro, 21 inch, single stage snow blower. New, used once \$250. If interested, call 630-251-2972.

Johnson & Dutt INC. TaxingTimes
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**PROFESSIONAL
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& TAX SERVICES**



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AND INDIVIDUAL NEEDS**

MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE:

- ✓ \$50 OFF 1040 preparation and filing.
- ✓ One hour FREE business consultation.
- ✓ \$50 BANK CARD for referral from existing clients.

CALL FOR DETAILS Exp. 12/31/12

192 N. York St.
Elmhurst, IL 60126
ph (630)530-9100
fax (630)530-9727
info@duttcpa.com

4075 S. Route 59
Naperville, IL 60564
ph (630)369-2176
fax (630)369-8682

Lt. Rick's Blotter



By Lt. Rick Robertson #950 Aurora Police Department

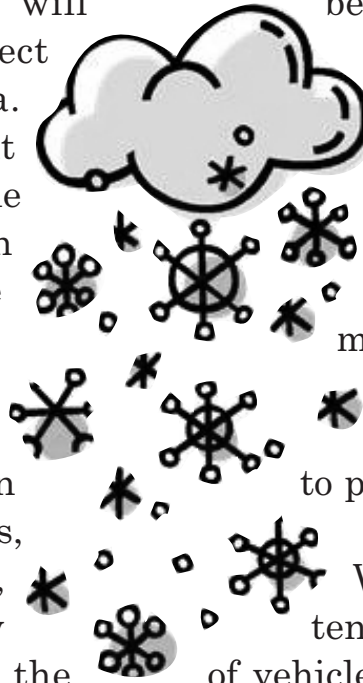
Area 3 - Bureau of Neighborhood Policing
1200 E. Indian Trail Road • Aurora, IL 60505
Office 630-256-5312 • Cell 630-688-9140

Greetings,

The winter weather will soon be in full effect throughout the area. Please remember that speed reduction in the ice and snow can dramatically reduce your chances of being the cause of an accident. Remember to pay extra attention on bridges, overpasses, and intersections, which typically become slick before the roadway itself.

The Department would also like to remind you of the City's snowfall ordinance which was enacted to assure safe and effective snow plowing. It dictates the ticketing and possible towing of any vehicle parked on a public street or alley during or after a snowfall of two inches or more. Failure to comply can lead to a ticket and vehicle tow that will cost a minimum of \$150.00, plus storage fees. City streets are not

considered plowed until the lane of traffic nearest the curb has been cleared. With that being said, please be extra careful when driving on roadways where snow plows are present. Drivers should stay a minimum of 75 feet behind the plows and should never attempt to pass them.



Winter weather also tends to spike the number of vehicles that are stolen while left running unattended. These vehicles present a prime opportunity for thieves. Use common sense and to not leave the vehicle running unattended — whether or not the doors are locked. Even with the doors locked, a window can easily be broken giving a thief access to the running vehicle.

The men and women of the Aurora Police Department would like to wish you and your family Happy New Year!

Steck Calendar

Jan 16 NO SCHOOL - ML King holiday

Jan 17 Earth Club 3:35 – 4:30pm

Jan 18 PTA General Meeting 9:30 – 10:30am; Gr. 5 Robert Crown Follow-Up program 2:00 – 3:00pm; Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm

Jan 20 Report Cards Go Home; Gr. 2 Multi-Cultural Book Club 8:20 – 8:50am; Drama Club performance; 5:00 – 6:00pm ; Drama Club performance; 7:00 – 8:00pm
Drama Club performance

Jan 25 Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm

Jan 26 Market Day 4:45pm – 5:30pm

Jan 30 High Touch Visits Gr. 1 1:45 – 3:15pm

Jan 31 High Touch Visits Gr. 1 1:45 – 3:15pm; Earth Club 3:35 – 4:30pm

Feb 1 High Touch Visits Gr. 1 1:45 – 3:15pm; Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm

Feb 2 High Touch Visits Gr. 1 1:45 – 3:15pm

Feb 3 Gr. 3 Multi-Cultural Book Club 8:20 – 8:50am

Feb 7 Earth Club 3:35 – 4:30pm

Feb 8 Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm Session 3

Feb 10 PTA Carnival Set-up 6:00 – 10:00pm

Feb 11 PTA Carnival 12:00 – 1:00pm

Feb 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24 Spring Book Fair; Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm

Feb 17 Progress Reports Go Home; Student Council Meeting 8:20 – 8:45am

Feb 20 NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day

Feb 21 NO SCHOOL - Conferences 1:00 – 8:00pm

Feb 22 Chess Club - 3:35 – 4:35pm

Feb 23 Market Day Pick-up 4:45– 5:30pm

Feb 28 Earth Club 3:35 – 4:30pm

Feb 29 Chess Club 3:35 – 4:35pm



Steck PTA Market Day Sale

Visit www.marketday.com for more information or to order. Please use Steck PTA's account code 6470. Steck PTA earns 10-15% of the Market Day sale

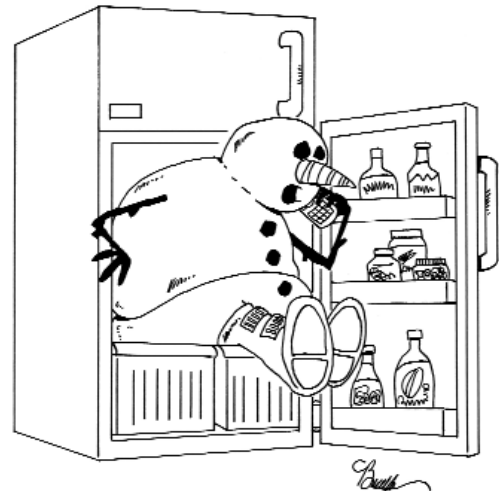
Steck Market Day Dates:

1/26/2012 • 2/23/2012 3/22/2012 • 4/26/2012 •
5/24/2012 • 6/21/2012

Visit www.marketday.com for more information or to order. Please use Steck PTA's account code 6470. Steck PTA earns 10-15% of the Market Day sale.

RAISE \$\$\$ FOR STECK AND GET PRIZES FOR YOUR CLASS!

Collect Box Tops, Campbell's Labels and Tyson's Project A+ labels. Classroom contest starts January 16th and ends 27th. Start saving your labels now so your child's classroom could win!!! Any questions, contact Kathy Lengiewicz at kathylengiewicz@sbcglobal.net



"Just chillin'. What are you up to?"



ALDERMAN'S

Lynda Elmore Corner
Alderman 10th Ward

A Look at 2011 Accomplishments for Aurora

The past three years have presented extraordinary challenges for local governments across the country. Even so, the city of Aurora has been weathering the economic storm of recession. During this difficult period, not only have we maintained core municipal services, but we have also advanced the quality of life in our community. Major accomplishments in 2011 include:

- **Crime Continues to Fall.** Through September of this year, crime was down another 6.0% compared with the first nine months of last year – this marks the lowest level of crime in Aurora since our community began tracking statistics 33 years ago. If we sustain this trend through the end of 2011, Aurora's crime rate will have dropped by nearly 1/3 in the last five years.

- **Enhanced E911 Capabilities.** We have just completed a major enhancement to the E911 system. The new capacity will permit our police officers and firefighters to precisely locate a person when he or she uses a cellular phone to call 911. Public safety will take a major step forward with this advancement.

- **Excellence in Snow Removal Operations.** In February 2011, we experienced a storm that left 19 inches of snow to be removed from our streets. The employees of the city's Operations Department rose to this challenge in an exemplary fashion. During the storm, they kept the arterial roads open and within less than 24 hours of the end of the storm, all of our residential streets were plowed. The efficient removal of snow made travel possible with negligible difficulty and permitted the uninterrupted provision of public safety services.

- **Street Resurfacing Program.** In 2011, we resurfaced 23.2 lane-miles of residential streets. This annual program has had a direct, positive impact upon Aurora's neighborhoods. The city also completed an independent assessment of all neighborhood streets, which revealed that Aurora's responsible resurfacing policy results in better quality roadways and avoids costly reconstruction costs. In corporation with the State of Illinois, an additional 25.4 lane-miles of city arterial streets and 3.4 lane-miles of state roadways were improved in 2011.

- **Business Park Developments.** This year we have welcomed tenants utilizing over 1.4 million square feet of commercial space in the vicinity of Interstate 88 and Eola Road. Some of the companies that are expanding operations in Aurora include: Follett, HHGregg, Temple-

Inland and Caterpillar Logistics.

- **Opening of the Two Brothers Roundhouse.** We worked tirelessly to ensure that the historic Roundhouse in downtown Aurora remained open for business after the previous owner filed for bankruptcy. As a result, the property changed hands and the Two Brothers Roundhouse opened in July. Seeing Aurora as an exceptional place to do business, Two Brothers also moved their brewery distribution center to a 175,000-square-foot warehouse in the Liberty Business Park on Butterfield Road.

- **River-Edge Park.** In June, the city contracted for the construction of the River-Edge Park Music Garden along the east bank of the Fox River just north of our downtown. We celebrated the park's groundbreaking in July. The park is expected to open in October of 2012. The construction of this central recreational and entertainment venue is creating 150 construction jobs. The park will also serve as a general economic development catalyst for the city's downtown core and is expected to bring 450 to 600 private-sector jobs to Aurora over the next decade. The park was funded with a \$8 million grant from the State of Illinois, a \$3 million pledge by the Fox Valley Park District, \$2 million pledge from the Kane County Forest Preserve District and a 2 million pledge from the Dunham Fund.

- **Phillips Park Improvements.** Phillips Park has been a major recreational destination in our community for more than a century. To maintain its relevance, we completed a multi-year improvement project in 2011 in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Visitors to the park can now enjoy a children's splash pad and skateboard/MBX park, pedestrian trails with five exercise stations, a sand volleyball court and a three-acre dog park. Fencing, lighting and handicap access features were installed at the two softball fields. And we installed a boat dock in Mastodon Lake.

- **Three Farmers Market Sites.** The Farmers Market has operated in Aurora for 99 years. In recent years, we've expanded on its success by adding new locations. In 2011, we held the Farmers Market at three locations in the city each week: downtown, west and far-east. This approach has made the market conveniently available to everyone in the community.

- **New Cable Franchise Agreement.** We executed a new cable franchise agreement with Comcast. The agreement ensures that quality cable service will be provided to the



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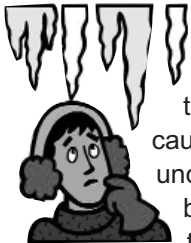
community for the next 10 years.

• **Employee Healthcare Savings.** The city has modified its employee healthcare plan to produce substantial savings that ultimately benefit the taxpayer by reducing the tax burden. Modifications have included requiring employees to contribute a percentage of the applicable insurance premiums to the plan (rather than a percentage of employee salaries) as well as paying higher co-pays and deductibles. The plan has retained the features that provide excellent care for employees.

Reckinger Road Bridge Reopens After Construction

The Reckinger Road Bridge on Aurora's Northeast side reopened to vehicular traffic December 2 after being closed for about five months for replacement. The work included the removal and installation of the bridge, the relocation of various utilities and roadway improvements. The bridge originally was built in 1933 and was considered narrow by today's standards. The new bridge is wider and includes sidewalks on both sides. Final landscaping and other miscellaneous work will be completed next spring.

Winter Hazard - Frozen Water Pipes



One winter hazard related to the cold is frozen water pipes. Long periods of time with temperatures below freezing can cause problems in homes with exposed or under insulated piping. The pipes do not break from freezing but rather burst when they begin to thaw, which can create an enormous amount of water damage before the problem is discovered. The following cold weather tips from the American Red Cross will help residents prevent frozen pipes:

- Remove drain and store hoses used outdoors;
- Check around the home for other areas where the water supply lines are located in unheated areas, such as

basements, attics, garages and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets;

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage;
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing;
- When the weather reaches extreme frigid conditions, let the cold water drip from the faucet of exposed pipes; and
- If you are leaving town during cold weather, set the heat in your home no lower than 55 degrees.

If only a trickle comes out of a faucet that is turned on, residents should suspect a frozen pipe. While leaving the faucet open, towels soaked in hot water should be wrapped around the pipe until water pressure is restored. Other options include using an electric heating pad around the pipe or a hair dryer as long as there is no standing water. If the frozen area is not accessible, a licensed plumber should be called.

Blowtorches, kerosene or propane heaters, charcoal stoves or open flame devices should not be used to treat a frozen pipe under any circumstances. A blowtorch can make water in a frozen pipe boil and cause the pipe to explode and all open flames in a house present a fire hazard.

Out and About in the Fox Valley

Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora, 630-896-6666, paramountaurora.com

- January 14 - Poi Dog Pondering. \$45/\$35
- January 18. - February 2 - A Chorus Line. \$34.90 - \$46.90
MAC (McAninch Arts Center) College of DuPage, 630-942-4000, cod.edu/atthemac
- January 13 - Jim Peterik and World Stage. 8:00 p.m. \$55/\$53/\$45
- January 15 - Moscow Festival Ballet: Swan Lake. 2:00 p.m. \$46/\$44/\$36
- January 19 - February 12. Buffalo Theatre Ensemble: Moon Over Buffalo. \$25/\$23 (Thursday through Sunday).

OAKHURST RESIDENTS!

PLEASE REFER YOUR FAVORITE CONTRACTOR, RESTAURANT OR PLACE OF BUSINESS TO ADVERTISE IN YOUR NEWSLETTER!

THANK YOU & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

630.585.9340 • www.pbspublications.com

Board of Directors TOWNES OF OAKHURST

VOICE... The Rich Man and his Daughter

I met a rich man today. He was on the Chicago BNSF #1315 train returning to Aurora. His daughter sat with him, playing with her toys and eating Good and Plenty candies. She had just had her hair done by her older sister so it was all braided and covered with blue and white barrettes. He wore baggy clothes and could have used a shave and a haircut. He suggested that she go to the two little girls seated next to them and show them how to play her video game. He took her shyly to the girls and she sat between them as she showed them the game. They shared. They watched each other. They were having a very good time. The little girl would look up and smile. She shared her toy first with one and then with the other. Those watching the three little girls couldn't help but smile themselves. A little black child was sharing a seat with two white children and their skin color differences did not matter. I would have loved to have taken their photograph, but decided against asking that. After awhile, he suggested that she return to sit with him because their stop would be approaching. "Give them a hug good-bye," he suggested. The little girl gave each of her playmates a hug and with a smile that shone all the way to Texas, then went back to her seat with her daddy.

Since he was seated directly across from me, he looked my way and showed a smile minus both upper and lower front teeth. His daughter clearly adored him. He was a loquacious man. But his voice was gentle and soft. I told him his little girl

was adorable. And that seemed to give him the opening to tell me about his life.

His clothes were non-descript. His horn-rimmed eye glasses sat crookedly on his face. The left lens broken in half. He told me in the winter he made bricks "south of Memphis." But his wife had had a heart attack last year and died. So his 36 year-old daughter in Aurora suggested that he bring the baby with him and visit her.

"You know I have a 36 year-old daughter and a six year-old daughter," he smiled.

"You mean to tell me you haven't figured out what causes that?" I asked. He slapped his knee and laughed.

"What do you do?" he asked me.



"I am a teacher," I replied.

He told me he had lived very close to Gates School and I said I had taught at Gates. That seemed to really impress him because the little girl on his lap had also attended Gates School.

I watched his tender embrace of his little girl and her deep smile of a child who knows she is loved. Daughter would not notice missing

teeth or a broken eyeglass lens. She wouldn't notice any external manifestations of rich or poor. His tender caring for her was all that mattered.

A panhandler came through the car and asked for money. "Don't fall for that," he admonished all of us. "I would be the first one to help someone in need, but she is just doing a scam."

He asked to use their cell phone so he could call his relative in Aurora to let her know to pick them up at 6 p.m. when the train would arrive. The trains that Sunday had all been late due to mechanical reasons the conductor told us. He had her number written in pencil on a torn white scrap of paper. The father of the two girls put in the phone number and handed the cell phone to him. "Hi, Sis, tell them to pick us up at the train station at six o'clock. That's when the schedule says the train will be in Aurora." He thanked the other father and returned to his seat.

And I thought of all the dandies during the holiday season in their Brooks Brothers suits with a scowl on their faces. And all the wealthy December matrons with their upscale shopping bags from Water Tower Place. They could not hold a candle to this simple honest rich man from "south of Memphis" who so loved his daughter and she so loved him.

I said good-bye and wished them good luck. And the rich man with no teeth and a broken left eyeglass lens, said the same.

*Jo Fredell Higgins
President, Townes of Oakhurst*

GREAT SOCCER STARTS HERE.
REGISTER NOW FOR OAKHURST SOCCER
SPRING SESSION



Who: Boys and Girls, Preschool through 7th Grade (Born on or before 8/1/2007) living in the Steck/McCarty boundaries or Oakhurst Subdivision

What: Last chance to register for the Spring 2012 season

Where: www.oakhurstsoccer.org/registration

When: Registration closes March 27th (\$15 late fee after)

Includes: Eight week season (twice a week), full uniform, end of season party and a trophy/medal for all players.

For more details: Visit our website for full costs and registration instructions. For questions, please contact the registrar at registrar@oakhurstsoccer.org

Don't Delay - Register Now!

WORKING YOUTH DIRECTORY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
ABINGTON WOODS			INVERNESS		
Karis Barker	630-898-4017	B,MH	Jennifer Vickers	630-820-5443	B,MH
ASHBROOK			Allison Vickers	630-820-5443	MH,V,P
Tori Hall	630-898-9295	B,P,MH,V	Emily Vickers	630-820-5443	P,O,V
Alex Tabb	630-978-1571	Y,O	Lauren Vivian	630-851-9179	B,P
Sonja Tabb	630-978-1571	B-RC,MH	Amy Walsh	630-820-1255	B,MH
AUTUMN MEADOWS			Abe Weisler	630-851-8326	B,MH
Kelly Ellam	630-851-9029	B-RC,P,MH,V	MAYFAIR		
Mike Ellam	630-851-9029	B,Y,P,O,V	Sarah Anas	630-692-0538	B,P,MH
Drew Ellam	630-851-9029	B,Y,P,O,V	Katie Caputo	630-675-0452	B,P,MH,V
Nikki Ellam	630-851-9029	B,P,MH,O,V	Kayla Cordes	630-978-4641	B,MH,P,O,V
Alexia Lyons	630-898-6160	B-RC,P,V	Kendra Diehl	630-229-0165	B,P,MH,V
Natalie Lyons	630-898-6160	B-RC,P,V	Emily Flori	630-898-4505	B,P
Zachary Lyons	630-898-6160	B,Y,P,O	Lucas Flori	630-898-4505	Y,P,O
BRECKENRIDGE			Amy Lenefeld	630-236-9070	MH,P,V
Tara Dillinger	630-236-6320	B-RC,P,V	Kaitlyn Manion	630-499-7428	B-RC,MH,P,V
Carla Dillinger	630-236-6320	B,P,MH,V	Hanna McIntosh	630-820-2959	B,MH
Ryan Kallas	630-820-8790	P,V,O,Y	Allison Readnour	630-499-0137	B,P,V
Andrew Kallas	630-820-8790	P,V	Paige Readnour	630-499-0137	B,P,V
Emily Navoy	630-851-7879	B-RC	Connor Readnour	630-499-0137	P,Y,V
Jason Paximadas	630-499-5846	P	Schuyler Staub	630-820-3661	B,P,O
Richard Poterack	630-585-0384	B,P,MH,O,V	Ginna White	630-692-1862	B-RC,MH,P,YO,V
Ally Reilly	630-585-5111	B,MH,P,O,V	Anne Wesley	630-898-5985	B-RC,P
CARRIAGE ESTATES			STANFIELD		
Adam Krusic	630-499-5431	Y,P	Nicholas Brunelle	630-499-0581	MH,O,P,Y,V
Jessica Groves	630-851-8326	MH,V	Natale Brunelle	630-499-0581	B,MH,O,P,Y,V
Kim Groves	630-851-8326	B,MH	Luke Elder	630-375-6803	Y,O
HUNTERS GLEN			Loretta Elder	630-375-6803	B,V,O
Chelsea Dean	630-962-9708	B,Y,MH,V	Brooke Kottkamp	630-978-1515	B,P,MH,V
INVERNESS			SUMMERFIELD		
Jenica Arndorfer	630-692-0636	P,Y,O,V	Jacob Buckner	630-585-6312	O,P,Y
Caroline Church	630-499-9899	B-RC,P,Y,O,V	Alesia Degand	630-236-8767	B,P,MH,V
Natalie Church	630-499-9899	P	Marianna Guerrieri	630-375-9467	B,MH,V
Kristen Dodson	630-820-4065	B,P	Gina Guerrieri	630-375-9467	B,P,MH,V
Caitlin Fernandez	630-898-7214	B-RC,MH,P,Y,O,V	Kayla Perillo	630-692-7988	B,Y,P,MH,V
Alexis Gottschalk	630-851-5169	P,MH,O,V	Tara Perillo	630-692-7988	B,Y,P,MH,V
Madison Herman	630-585-6855	B,P,MH,O,V	Audria Wagenknecht	630-499-5837	B,Y,P,MH,O,V
Shelby Herr	630-978-1060	B,P	Ellen Wagenknecht	630-499-5837	B,Y,P,MH,O,V
Calvin Houghton	630-820-1971	B,P,Y,O,V	Charlotte Wessman	630-585-6312	B,P
Lincoln Houghton	630-820-1971	Y,P,MH,O,V	Taylor Westwood	630-851-5067	B-RC,MH,V
Morgan Kemerling	630-499-0437	B,Y,P,MH,O,V	THE WOODS		
Casey Kemerling	630-499-0437	Y,P,O,V	Taylor Kolb	630-585-5164	B,MH,O,V
Aleksandra Masiak	630-236-6434	B-RC,MH,Y,O,V	Megan Lachat	630-236-7920	B,P,MH,V
Jordan Masiak	630-236-6434	B,Y,P,MH,O,V	Michael Lachat	630-236-7920	B,Y,P,O,V
Remington Rook	630-585-6788	B,P,MH,O	Thomas Lachat	630-236-7920	B,Y,P,O,V
Katie Rumrey	630-898-1236	B,MH	Haley Valente	630-375-9473	P,Y,MH

Notify newsletter@oakhurstcommunity.org to ADD, CHANGE, or DELETE a Working Youth Listing.

The Working Youth Directory is a service for youth, ages 12 and above, living in the Oakhurst community.

Parents: If you wish your child to be listed in this directory, please email newsletter@oakhurstcommunity.org. Include your child's name, address, neighborhood within Oakhurst, home phone number of a parent who will be responsible for fielding requests, and the service(s) you permit your child to provide. Be sure to talk with your child about personal safety before listing in this directory.

Each monthly issue of the Oracle is posted online to the community association's website, www.oakhurstcommunity.org.

B-RC: Red-Cross Certified Babysitter, B: Babysitter, MH: Mother's Helper, P: Pet Sitter, Y: Yard Help, O: Odd Jobs, V: Vacation Watch



Reba O. Steck Elementary School

460 Inverness Drive • Aurora, Illinois 60504-5270 • (630) 375-3500

Elizabeth Pohlmann
Principal

Dear Parents:

If you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2012, you may enroll him/her for kindergarten for the 2012-13 school year. We are pleased to offer **ALL DAY** kindergarten for your child at Steck. **HALF DAY** kindergarten classes will be held at a District 204 school, other than Steck. The hours are:

- All Day 9:05 AM-3:35 PM
- Half day 9:05-11:50 AM or 12:50-3:35 PM (your child will be assigned to either AM or PM)

You are invited and encouraged to attend a **Kindergarten Parent Preview Night** on **Thursday, March 12, from 6:00-7:30 PM at Steck**. This night is designed for parents only. At this meeting, we will provide a detailed look at what the kindergarten experience will offer. You will also be provided with registration paperwork, requirements and deadlines.

We are asking you to indicate your preliminary choice of **all day** or **half day** kindergarten on the attached pre-registration. At the end of the March Parent Preview Night meeting, you may complete a form if you wish to **change** your placement choice.

Please note that if you select the half day option, your child will not attend classes at Steck, but rather another District 204 school. Busing will be provided to transport your child to that school. Pre-registration will be used to anticipate the need for half day kindergarten classes, but final decisions, including the half day location, will not be made until after May 25, 2012.

To assist us in planning, please return the Pre-Registration form **as soon as possible, but no later than January 27, 2012**. This Pre-Registration information will be used to form a kindergarten mailing list. Once on the mailing list, additional information will be mailed to eligible kindergarten parents.

If you have any neighbors who do not presently have students attending Steck, but will have an incoming kindergartner, please give them a copy of this form or ask them to call our office at 630/375-3502. I look forward to meeting you at the Kindergarten Parent Preview Night.

Please mark your calendars!

Kindergarten Parent Preview Night
Thursday, March 12, from 6:00-7:30 PM

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pohlmann
Principal

**INDIAN PRAIRIE SCHOOL DISTRICT #204
2012-13 KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION**

Check One Option: <input type="checkbox"/> ALL DAY KINDERGARTEN (Held at Steck) <input type="checkbox"/> HALF DAY KINDERGARTEN (Held at a District 204 school, other than Steck)
--

Legal Student Name _____ **Gender:** Male or Female
(first) (middle) (last) (circle one)

Current Address _____

Residency Status: (circle one) I own my home I lease my home I reside with another family

Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ for Mother/Father (circle)
(Cell phone-Mother) _____ (Cell phone-Father) _____

Student Date of Birth _____ **Ethnicity** _____
(Student must be 5 years old on or before 9/1/12)

Mother Name: _____
(first) (last)

Father Name: _____
(first) (last)

Did your child attend District 204's "Prairie Preschool"? YES NO
If NO, please list name of Preschool: _____

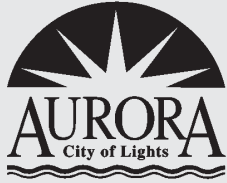
Do you have other children at Steck? NO YES List Name: _____ Class _____
List Name: _____ Class _____

Primary language spoken in the home _____

Health concerns, other services needed, or any additional information you wish to share: _____

All Kindergartners require a physical exam completed no more than one year prior to the first day of Kindergarten. Please schedule your child's physical appointment NOW as many physician's offices become busy over the summer.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE STECK OFFICE
BY JANUARY 27, 2011**



ALDERMAN'S
Corner

Rick Mervine

Alderman 8th Ward • www.MyWard8.com • AldermanMervine@aol.com 331-452-5136

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A Look Ahead in 2012

Some of you know my background as a management consultant specializing in strategic planning and marketing. This means, whether I like it or not, as we begin a new year, I always look ahead and set out a new plan. I do the same thing with my work as an Alderman and as a member the Aurora City Council. Each year brings new challenges and an opportunity to move our city and our neighborhoods forward. 2012, with all the trials the last few years have handed us, is no exception. What follows is a look at our top priorities, both here in the 8th Ward and in the City of Aurora as we move into 2012.

Public Safety

While we continue to enjoy a declining crime rate here in the 8th Ward and in the city as a whole, we still have work to do. Each month, I meet with our command staff from the Aurora Police Department in this part of the city and the message has been the same month after month for the last couple of years. We continue to make it easy for crimes of opportunity to occur in our neighborhoods every time we leave our garage doors open, car doors unlocked with valuables visible or fail to call police whenever something or somebody suspicious is probing our neighborhoods. Fully 85% of the home or vehicle thefts we experience are preventable. The Aurora Police Department is currently working on an escalated crime deterrent for this category of preventable crime. One important thing to note about this: many of these crimes are occurring in

8th Ward WEB SITE



www.MyWard8.com

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broad daylight with the criminal driving down the street looking for an open garage door, seeing no cars, knowing we're at work. We all want to eliminate all crime but we have to start by eliminating the opportunity for crime.

Traffic Issues

2012 may be the last year for a couple of years of relative calm in the area as it pertains to traffic and construction. We will still resurface a number of streets including a portion of Eola Road near the high school. Our focus on traffic safety, speed and control of our highways will remain a high priority in 2012. As many of you know, beginning in 2013 and for the next few years after, we can expect a fair amount of road and highway construction in our area, including a new overpass on Ogden Avenue at the railroad tracks and the long-awaited widening of Eola Road South of Montgomery Road. These projects will start with minor impact utility relocation initially and move into full construction in the years following. Illinois Route 59 will also be under construction from New York Street North to Ferry Road in the next couple of years. The city also has plans to rebuild a short section of New York Street from Asbury into the Kane County border in this later time frame as well. All these projects are at various stages in

REMEMBER . . .

Keep Them Alive - Drive 25!

It is my pleasure to serve our 8th Ward,
Rick Mervine, 8th Ward Alderman
AldermanMervine@aol.com (331) 452-5136
Customer Service Line: (630) 256-INFO (4636)
(M - F, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

state and federal funding, some with funding in place and some with funding progressing along the approval process. More on this as it develops during the year. Next year we begin a traffic synchronization project on Eola Road to move traffic, particularly during the rush hours, faster and safer.

City Services

After having spent the last two months deep in review of our new 2012 city budget, I am confident we can continue to expect the city services we need to preserve our safety, and our lifestyle. As many of you know, we have cut a lot of people and money from our city budget over the last three years, most of this without affecting what we have come to expect of services from the City of Aurora. The city may take a little longer to repair a burned-out streetlight, but it will get done. We continue to look for funding outside of our local taxes and have been successful in this endeavor over last three years. But police, fire and street department vehicles and equipment are still being refreshed as needed so our people have the proper tools to do their work. As you saw last year with the big February 1 snowfall, the city will continue to be ready to meet those needs again this year. One area of concern that continues to

escalate is the emerald ash borer problem. There is no end in sight to this problem and it will continue to get worse. At some point, this issue will move beyond our willingness to spend any incremental money on it, resulting in the potential for policy changes. I budgeted money to replace the inevitable dead ash trees we will face in 2012 but expect that this, too, will run out at some point.

City Library System

The Aurora Public Library is making plans to build a replacement building for the main library downtown. The existing building is over 100 years old, has structural and maintenance issues that make it financially smart to consider a new building. Last year they bought land for the new building on the former site of the Beacon News building at Benton and River streets. While I believe they probably need a new building, I believe the entire library system needs to take this opportunity to evaluate how and what services they will provide going forward in an entirely new age of information. In addition, I believe their entire system needs to be revamped to accommodate the changes that will come as a result of this evaluation. I've been working on this with the library board and with other interested community

leaders to help foster this change and make certain our residents will have the services they need at EVERY library location. To me, it's not just about building a new building but is more about revamping the entire library system to meet our needs in the decades to come. Money for new buildings is not easy to come by and if it is going to happen, they need to take a big, giant step forward as a library system. I have seen signs they are willing to do this so far.

Small Business

In talking with many of you, I know you share my concern for the welfare of our local, neighborhood businesses, many of which have been a part of our community for 10, 15 or 20 years now. 2012 will see a new effort to have our residents 'Shop Local' beginning this spring. There is a lot of good food and good services all within a few blocks of where you live so do your best to support your local businesses.

Economic development, technology improvements, neighborhood stabilization and redrawing the City Ward Maps: there are many other objectives for 2012 so if I have not discussed the one most important to you, either call me at 331-452-5136 or email me at AldermanMervine@aol.com.



Remember to remove all vehicles from city streets during and after a snow of at least 2" so plows can do their work. Offenders can be ticketed and/or towed at owner's expense.