From the Board

Dear Breckenridge Estates Homeowners,

As the weather becomes warmer, we all start thinking of outdoor activities like playing tennis and hanging out at the pool. Court times can be reserved through the Breckenridge Estates Website. You will also find tennis lessons and the Women’s tennis information and registration forms on the Website. We have a new tennis pro this year, Robin Henders.

Children’s swim lessons and registration forms are available on the Website as well.

I am sure many of you have noticed a lot of dead trees to the north and south of the Gateshead entrance. Those dead trees have been reported to the realty company that owns and is responsible for those properties. We requested prompt attention to problem. Speaking of dead foliage, free brush collection starts mid-May on garbage collection day. See the City of Naperville for the exact day.

Enjoy the warmer temperatures!

Respectfully Submitted by
Dana Bern for the B.E.H.A.

May 2014

NEXT UPCOMING Board Meeting
Monday, May 12, 2014
7pm • Clubhouse

Happy Mother’s Day

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MAY CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

Monday, May 12th - BEHA Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 17th - Private Party

www.behaofnapier.com
Email: breckenridgeofnaperville@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE
20th of each month
Submit newsletter articles and classified ads (no charge for Breckenridge residents) by e-mail to:
Jan Foster
fosterpbs@msn.com

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING DEADLINE
15th of each month
Preferred Business Services, Inc.
971 Waterside Court • Aurora, IL 60502
630-585-9340 • Fax 630-585-8232
E-mail: fosterpbs@msn.com • www.pbspublications.com

“The appearance of an advertisement in this newsletter should not be interpreted as an endorsement of the product, service or provider in the advertisement. The Association is not responsible nor liable for the content of any advertisement published, herein.”
Join the Breckenridge Spring Garage Sale

Get a fresh start for Spring and plant some cash in your wallet.

**May 15, 16 & 17**

**GARAGE SALE**

All participants will receive a packet on Wednesday night, May 14th with balloons, maps and donation information.

In addition, St. Vincent de Paul has been scheduled to pick up any unwanted garage sale items on Tuesday, May 20th.

Cost is $10.00 which covers the cost for ads, signs, maps, balloons and maps.

If you have any questions, email Katie Puscheck kathryn.puscheck@kronos.com or call 630-450-1859.

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**BRECKENRIDGE GARAGE SALE**

**Registration Form - Spring 2014**

Name: _____________________________________________     Phone:  ___________________________

Address:_________________________________ Email: _________________________________________

Return this form and $10.00 to Katie at 2768 Breckenridge Lane.
Love it or leave it?

Tips to help you get smarter about remodeling your home

Researchers at Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies think there will be a fresh crop of homeowners finally going forward with postponed remodeling plans in 2014. Instead of selling their homes, many people are staying put and choosing instead to do some renovations. Here are some tips to help you get smarter about remodeling your home and to help keep your renovations easy and stress free.

Your first goal should be to make your home more comfortable and more convenient to live in. If you can do that, it will be more desirable to prospective buyers when you decide to sell.

Kitchen updates are a good place to start. They can be expensive but you could do some of the work yourself, like refinishing the kitchen cabinets with paint or stain. Of course, replacing the countertops and adding a great new faucet will bring you joy every day.

The project that causes the least mess and inconvenience is replacing the appliances with stainless steel models. They can be brought in and installed in a day with no mess involved.

The National Association of Home Builders reports that 86 percent of home buyers want an eat-in kitchen. If yours isn't spacious, think about knocking out a wall between the kitchen and dining room. It's a messy job and you'll have to refinish parts of the ceiling and walls, but it gives you much more space.

The association also says that 93 percent of home buyers want a laundry room, and they want it on the main floor, not upstairs. If yours is upstairs, consider bringing it down. If it's downstairs, bring it up. The cheapest way, stack to front loaders in a three by three foot space next to a bathroom. Note that some people do like to have the laundry upstairs in a bedroom or close by. It doesn't have to take up a whole room, but it should have an area big enough for the washer/dryer.

Forget fads. Although some design fads may stand the test of time, why chance it? Instead, try to incorporate emerging trends in home design, decor and style in moderation, and focus on classic elements as part of the overall design theme. Classic designs have a longer life span than trends or fads.

Hire a reputable contractor. Unless you have the required expertise for the renovation project you are considering, seek a professional contractor. Try to hire someone whose work you are familiar with. Ask friends, relatives and co-workers for recommendations. Always check with your local chapter of the Better Business Bureau to make sure there isn’t a history of consumer complaints against the pro you plan to hire.

Get several bids. Before you decide on a contractor, try to secure at least four bids for the work you want done. Some experts suggest that you discard the highest and lowest bids and let the remaining two professionals compete for the work. Caveat: Always put your agreement and any subsequent changes in writing.
the happy gardener
make a difference with a garden

Grow Great Tomatoes!

A homegrown tomato is one of the most beloved experiences of summer. There’s nothing quite like it! Tomatoes can be grown in the ground or in containers. Try more than one variety to stretch your season and give you plenty of this favorite vegetable.

Planting
Tomatoes require full sun – at least 6 hours or more. They only really start growing once the soil temperature has reached 60°F. Wait to plant them in the ground until after at least mid-May and to protect plants from temperatures below 45°F. Space plants 1 ½ to 3’ apart. Wide spacing assures good air circulation which discourages diseases. Container grown tomatoes can be planted in the ground deeper than they were growing in their pots if they seem leggy. Pinch off some of the lower leaves. Tomatoes can be planted upright in a hole deep enough so the remaining leaves are just above the soil surface. Give them a good soaking to settle the soil. Roots will grow along the length of the buried stem, resulting in stronger plants. Consider adding companion plants such as basil, marigold, chives, and bee balm to your garden as they improve the growth and flavor of tomatoes.

Fertilizing
Most experts recommend fertilizing at planting time, but, go easy on the fertilizer. Less is best because too much nitrogen results in vigorous vines with few tomatoes. We recommend mixing Espoma Tomato-tone into the soil following package direction.

Provide Support
One method is to support each plant with a single sturdy stake 6 to 8 feet tall and at least one inch thick. Drive the stake into the ground about 4” from the plant. As the plant grows, attach stems to the stake using strips of soft fabric. Leave a little slack around the stems. Supporting tomatoes in wire cylinders or cages is also possible and eliminates the need for tying.

Water Wisely
Tomatoes are 93.5 percent water! Watering them correctly is critical. Check soil moisture by putting your finger into the soil at least two inches. When dry, give them one to one and one half inches of water weekly. Try not to splash water on the leaves to avoid fungal diseases.

Mulch
About a month after planting – once the soil has really warmed up – apply a three to four inch layer of organic mulch such as weed free straw. If you mulch too soon, the soil will stay cool, delaying the harvest.

Pruning
If the plants are staked, regularly pinch off the small suckers that sprout between the leafy branches and main stems. Don’t cut – a knife can spread disease.

At The Growing Place, we will have large sized tomato plants from mid-May through early June, so if you need instant gratification or to replace a plant, check us out! You’ll find hybrid varieties, heirlooms and grafted tomatoes to choose from. Some of our favorites are Sun Sugar, Early Girl, Brandywine, Roma, and Super Fantastic.
The Growing Place
25w471 Plank Rd., Naperville
630-355-4000
2000 Montgomery Rd., Aurora
630-820-8088
www.thegrowingplace.com

Out & About in...

May 4 - 360 Spring Ahead Run at Calamos Investments Corporate Campus - Step into the spring season with this family-focused 5K, 10K, Kids Fun Run and Wheelchair Race taking place at 8:00 a.m. Registration: Kids Fun Run $15 • 10K Race $40 and Wheelchair and 5K Race $35. Benefiting 360 Youth Services. For information 360youthservices.org or call 630-961-2992.

May 4 - A.D.O.P.T Annual "Makin' Strides For Strays" Walk-A-Thon - Animals Deserving of Proper Treatment presents a 5K walk to benefit area homeless animals at Fifth Avenue Station starting at 8:30 a.m. For information, call 630-355-2299 or AdoptPetShelter.org.

May 4 - Walk MS - Western Suburbs - At Walk MS, our connections become more powerful than the connections that MS destroys. Your support helps fund cutting edge research and life-changing programs. Registration 7:30 a.m., Walk 9:00 a.m. at W. Jefferson Avenue and VFW Drive. For more information call 312-421-4500 or NationalMSSociety.org.

May 4 - Junior Chef: Mother's Day Special Event-Mom & Me Breakfast - Bring your mom and together we will make waffles along with scrumptious toppings from Williams Sonoma, 9 W. Jackson Ave. from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 10. All orders can be placed through May 5 at www.adoptionshelter.org or williams-sonoma.com.

May 5 - Wonderful World of Wheels - Preschoolers and their parents are invited to the Wonderful World of Wheels, a free event to be held at the Whole Foods Naperville parking lot at 2607 W. 75th St. from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Kids ages 1-5 will be able to see, touch, and experience life-sized community vehicles, including tractors, police cars, park maintenance trucks, and many more. No registration is required for this event. There is no rain date; in case of inclement weather parents may check the Naperville Park District’s Weather Cancellations tab at http://www.napervilleparks.org/cancellations or call the Rainout Line at 630-883-4242.

May 10 - Naperville Jaycees' Lobster Day - The Naperville Jaycees are accepting orders for fresh North Atlantic live lobsters and filet mignon from Casey's Foods. Lobsters and filets will be available for pick up at Centennial Beach, 500 W. Jackson Ave. from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 10. All orders can be placed through May 5 at www.naperjaycees.org/jaycee-events/lobster-day.

May 10 - Bike Bald Rodeo - Bike Bald will hold a "Bike Rodeo" featuring bicycle check-ups, helmet safety fitting, a kids' rodeo/bike safety course and a vendor market. The main event will be "The Badge Rodeo" during which police, firefighters, cadets, EMS and Park Police along with community members all compete on a timed Bicycle Agility Cone Obstacle Course. Events start at 11:00 a.m. at Centennial Beach, 500 W. Jackson Ave. For more information, visit www.bikebald.com.

May 10 - Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive - Help the Naperville branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers support Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry during the 22nd annual food drive. Put a bag of food and paper goods by your mailbox by 11:00 a.m. for your carrier to pick up during mail delivery. View a list of most needed items at www.loaves-fishes.org/ways-to-give/donate-food/most-needed-items.

May 10 - Junior Chef: Mother's Day Special Event-Mom & Me Breakfast - Bring your mom and together we will make waffles along with scrumptious toppings from Williams Sonoma, 9 W. Jackson Avenue in downtown Naperville. Suitable for ages 5 and up. Complimentary one-hour class. Reservations are required 630-369-4167 or williams-sonoma.com

Continued on next page...
**Naperville!**

**May 10 - Canine Dog-Disc Championships**
- Bring your dog to the Riverwalk Warming House and compete in this unique event sponsored by the Windy City K-9 Disc Club. No experience is required. All dogs are not eligible to participate and must be on leashes and immunizations must be current. Female dogs in season are not eligible to participate and must be left at home. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. For more information, please call Tom Wehrli at 630-357-9663. Spectators are welcome!

**May 10 - Spring Fever Reliever**
- Join us for a taste of the Park District at the Naperville Riverwalk to get outdoors and enjoy all we have to offer from This event is FREE for all ages! 11:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. Activities and features near the Riverwalk Eatery and Millennium Carillon include the following:
  - Half-price paddleboat rides and kayak rentals
  - Purchase your 2014 Centennial Beach membership
  - Live music and free popcorn at the Riverwalk Eatery
  - Children’s entertainment by ScribbleMonster
  - Skateboarding demonstrations
  - Dog Disc Championships (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
  - Hands-on nature activities
  - Fitness demonstrations
  - Inflatables, field games, nature activities
  - Crafts and activities for young children
  - Free Carillon tours
  - An interactive demonstration and performance by Élan Dance Company
  - Tai Chi, Kung Fu, and Zumba demonstrations with audience participation.

Naperville Park District staff will be on hand with information about summer camps, summer programs, Centennial Beach memberships, and more. The Eatery will offer drinks and other snacks for purchase in addition to free popcorn. No registration is required for Spring Fever Reliever. There is no rain date in case of inclement weather.

**May 18 - Fishin’ Kids**
- Learn all the basics of fishing including how to rig a pole, bait the hook, cast and handle fish. We will be fishing rain or shine, so please dress for the weather. Parents need to remain with children during the class. Designed for those ages 5-11. Bring folding lawn chairs and remember your camera! All bait and tackle are provided. Join us from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at May Watts Park, 804 S. Whispering Hills Drive, Naperville, IL 60540. Please park at Oakton Lane and River Road. Visit napervilleparks.org or call 630-848-5000 to register.

**May 21 - Senior Partner Championship Golf Tournament**
- Senior golfers can enjoy some golf competition among friends at the Senior Partner Championship! Any amateur golfer 55 years of age of older with an official USGA handicap is eligible. Fee includes greens fee, cart fees, range balls, prizes and lunch. Approximately 30% of the field will receive merchandise credit. Trophies will be awarded to the winners. Visit www.golfnaperville.org to learn more and register. Brighton Car Wash and Detail Center is the proud sponsor of the 2014 Brooks Tournament Series. Entry deadline is May 14. Starting times (available May 19) will begin at 8:00 a.m. off the first tee only. Join us at Springbrook Golf Course, 2220, W. 83rd Street, Naperville, IL 60564. For information call 630-848-5060. Cost is $110 per team or $55 per person.

**May 26 - Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony**
- Parade steps off at 10:30 a.m. at Jackson Avenue and West Street, proceeds east to Washington Street, north to Benton, east to Court Place, and east to parking lot at SS. Peter & Paul Church. Ceremony follows at 12:15 p.m. at the Community Concert Center in Central Park, Benton and Court streets.

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**Opening of Centennial Beach Memorial Day Weekend**

What a difference one week can make at Centennial Beach. Last week ice still covered most of the swimming area. This week, staff has emptied the water from the entire area and soon will begin refilling it with fresh water in preparation for opening day on May 24, 2014.

Additional behind-the-scenes preparation for the 2014 Beach season has included planning new programs, installing new amenities, hiring summer staff, and redesigning the Centennial Beach website www.centennialbeach.org, has a new look, featuring photos, a visitors’ guide, details about membership, hours, programs, and everything our patrons need to know about the Beach.

Centennial Beach is open to residents and nonresidents, with daily passes and season memberships available. Those who plan to visit the Beach more than a few times will find that purchasing a membership provides the best value. The Early Bird rate for Centennial Beach memberships (offering a 20% discount) is available until 5:00 p.m. on May 12.

Beach memberships will include two new benefits in 2014: a 10% discount at Centennial Grill and two member appreciation nights. Beach memberships may be renewed online or by mail.

New memberships can be purchased at Park District’s Administration Building at 320 W. Jackson Avenue, or the 95th Street Center at 2244 W. 95th Street.

Centennial Beach is staffed by a dedicated team of lifeguards, swim instructors and guest services staff.
Blacksmithing 101

Learn the art of blacksmithing with an introduction to safety, tools and the forge in this two-session class, to be held from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturdays, May 3 and 10 in the Blacksmith Shop at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Participants will learn hammer techniques while making an item to take home. Reservations required, for ages 18 to adult, all materials are provided. Fee is $150 for both sessions. Call (630) 420-6010.

Flashback Fridays: Meet a Curator

Join the museum’s curatorial staff from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday, May 2 to explore a different part of the museum’s collection off site at the Naper Settlement Collections Care and Storage Facility, 180 Fort Hill Drive, Naperville. Hear about their work, see real artifacts from the museum’s collection of over 52,000 objects and learn about the stories behind these objects. This month’s topic is archaeology and the artifacts uncovered during local digs. For ages teen to adult. Space is limited to the first 20 registrants; reservations are required. Tickets are $10, $8 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. Call (630) 420-6010.

Preserving Your Family Heirlooms

Protecting your family’s treasures helps preserve the cultural heritage of our nation. Learn how preventive care will prolong the life of cherished family possessions by slowing down the natural deterioration process during Preserving Your Family Heirlooms, presented by Naper Settlement curatorial staff, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 3 off site at the Naper Settlement Collections Care and Storage Facility, 180 Fort Hill Drive, Naperville. For ages teen to adult. Space is limited to the first 20 registrants. Tickets are $10, $8 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. Call (630) 420-6010.

Girl Scouts May Day

Girl Scouts May Day is a badge-earning bonanza for Daisies, Brownies and Juniors from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 4 at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Pick up your badge-in-a-bag at check in, visit the stations, tour the buildings, play games and earn your Petal or Badge. Fee is $13 scout, $11 adult. Reservations are made through the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana’s Council at http://register.girlscoutsgcnwi.org.

History Speaks Lecture Series: Spies and Spying in the Civil War

Spies and Spying in the Civil War features the illustrations of acclaimed artist Jim Weren, in this presentation of the History Speaks Lecture Series to be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 4 at Naper Settlement’s Century Memorial Chapel, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. As the war began, neither side had an espionage or military intelligence system. By the summer of 1861, the Confederates had begun to fashion a spy network, while the North would wait until the shooting started. Tickets are $7 adult, $6 youth (4-12), Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining member and student on the day of the event, advance tickets save $1 each. Call (630) 420-6010.

Civil War Days

Naper Settlement becomes a Civil War encampment with more than 300 reenactors where visitors can meet famous characters of the past and become immersed in history as the 150th anniversary of the Civil War is commemorated from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18. A battle is held each day at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 adults and seniors, $10 youth (4-12); save $5 on advance tickets. Free admission for members and children under 4. Purchase tickets online at www.napersettlement.org or call (630) 420-6010.

Historic Chicago Bus Tour

Get on the bus to explore Chicago’s history during this Historic Chicago Bus Tour from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 31, which leaves from Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. The first stop will be Graceland Cemetery for a guided tour led by William Tyre, Executive Director and Curator of Chicago’s historic Glessner House. The cemetery is known for its architecture and is the final resting place of Chicago elite including Marshall Field, George Pullman and Daniel Burnham, among others. After the guided tour, travel to the Chicago History Museum and tour the museum’s exhibits at your own pace and enjoy lunch on your own. This program will include walking and standing for long periods. Tickets are $65/person; reservations are required. Call (630) 420-6010.

Camp Naper Summer Day Camp Sign-Up is Underway

Camp Naper has fun and educational summer day camps from June 16 through Aug. 1 that explore history, math and science on Naper Settlement’s unique 12-acre museum campus, located in the heart of Naperville at 523 S. Webster St. One-day, two-day, three-day and week long camps for grades 1-8, run by professional staff, are a great value close to home. For more information, call (630) 420-6010 or visit napersettlement.com.