

Holiday Celebration for High Point



SANTA ARRIVES



Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 pm

High Point residents with young children and grandchildren are invited to join in the Holiday Fun as we celebrate the season. Our traditional Holiday Celebration will feature that jolly old guy in the red suit. Santa Claus will be at High Point to greet his friends at the High Point club house on **Sunday, December 14**. A family Magic Show will begin promptly at 2:00 pm. Santa will arrive soon after we start and there will be cookies and punch. We will also fashion wonderful creations with balloons for kids to take home. (Reservations are not necessary.) **Mark your calendar now!!!!**

If your child or grandchild needs to see Santa to communicate last minute requests or updates, put this party on your calendar. Avoid long lines at the mall and visit with Santa here at High Point.

Polaroid photos with Santa will be provided to all children attending (or bring your camera). A parent must accompany any child who attends (this event is designed for kids 10 years old and younger). *This event takes place no matter what the weather, so please plan to join us Sunday, December 14.*



Annual Meeting January 21



Association trustees announce the annual association meeting will be **Wednesday, January 21** at 8:00 pm at the clubhouse. In addition to the election of trustees, there will be information about projects in the association. All residents are invited to attend. *A Welcome to High Point for new residents will take place prior to the meeting at 7:30 pm. No reservations are necessary to attend.*

Association Dues Required in January

High Point dues for 2009 will again remain at \$330 per residential lot. These are due January 1st. Invoices will be sent to each homeowner at the end of the year. Dues payments received after January 31 will be assessed late fees. **We appreciate residents who pay their dues on time.**

Trustee Positions Available

Three trustee positions expire in January. There are five trustees, each elected for a two-year term. Bob Campobenedetto and Ken Evans were elected in January of 2008 to new two-year terms. David Knowles, Jack Schneider and Mark Skalak are completing their current two-year term. Interested candidates should call Bob Campobenedetto (238-3013) or Ken Evans (572-3292) before December 22. A January newsletter will include a trustee ballot. It is anticipated the three current trustee's whose term expires will be candidates for re-election. High Point, like other businesses, is governed by a board that makes financial and operational decisions regarding corporate day-to-day activities. This requires a significant time commitment of time on the part of those who volunteer their talents.

Playground a Huge Hit with Kids

As noted in the May newsletter, our Playground was replaced and ready for business this summer. Installation was done in the spring and kids were climbing all over the two play structures throughout the summer months. You can see pictures of them on our website. This capital improvement was completed as budgeted. With this \$80,000 investment, the overall capital improvements in the past 10 years now amount to just under \$900,000. Your dues are at work maintaining your association.

High Point Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 361065 --- Strongsville, Ohio 44136

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HIGH POINT NEWSLETTER

Our Website on the Internet

No matter what you need to know about High Point, you can find it on web. Need pool hours? A pool pass registration form? Covenants and Restrictions? Rent the clubhouse? Up-to-the-minute rental calendar? Can't find the newsletter in the kitchen? Need a map to guide guests to the clubhouse? This is your one-stop information source at your fingertips 24/7. *We guarantee you'll like it.*

www.hpohio.com

Next Newsletter in January

Our last newsletter came out in May and you will receive your next newsletter in early January. With our new Website, we publish only three newsletters a year. Invoices for association dues for 2009 (your annual \$330.00 assessment) will be sent to homeowners at the end of December.

2009 Clubhouse Rentals Booking Fast

If you look at the website calendar for Clubhouse and pool rentals for 2009, you will find many dates already rented. You can check the rental calendar on our website for an up-to-date schedule of dates available. If you have a graduation, anniversary, shower, wedding reception or other event you are planning, we suggest you reserve your date as quickly as possible to get your choice. Check the website and then call the Homeowner Hotline (440-638-4304) to make your reservations.

Summer rentals using the pool *until midnight* (private use from 10:00 pm to midnight) are available for **\$250** for the summer of 2009. This **increase** is necessary because lifeguard private hours are paid for by the renting residents. Pool rentals where the party ends at 10:00 pm or where there is no pool use **will still be \$125**. A security deposit of \$300 (one check for \$50 and one for \$250) is required.

GIVE KIDS A BRAKE!

This past summer, a youngster was hit by a car on Saratoga Trail. Although he did not suffer permanent or fatal injuries, it could have been much worse. But it should never have happened.

In the aftermath of the incident, many segments of our community came together to look at the situation and determine what could be done to protect kids who live in our development. Many residents attended a meeting at the club house with the Strongsville Police and city officials to discuss what happened and how it could be prevented. Many solutions were discussed.

Several things came from that meeting. First was a commitment from neighbors to make sure the kids were safe. Even with the already posted reduced speed limits on Saratoga, speeding was still a problem not only here, but on most other streets in High Point. People put signs on treelawns along Saratoga to remind drivers to observe speed limits and watch out for kids.

Our Strongsville Police stepped up traffic enforcement on Saratoga and proved very quickly that the problem of speeding was mostly the result of drivers who live in the immediate area. Sadly, the first 90% of tickets issued were not to Brunswick residents (as it was widely believed that Brunswick drivers use Saratoga as a cut-through), but to people who live in High Point and Deerfield Woods.

At the meeting of community residents, many options were brought up and discussed to curb the speeding. Unfortunately, speed bumps and other control devices are not permitted. One option is adding a stop sign somewhere between Lexington and Boston Road, where there is a long stretch of uncontrolled street. Based on court rulings, city council can only place stop signs for traffic flow control, not speed control. After studying this, the Police concluded that it is not warranted for flow control and any other purpose would be illegal. Despite that, city council has in the past placed stop signs in the city where they may not be legal, but community pressure has been brought to bear. If every resident in High Point was to write a letter to their ward councilman and each at-large council representative, a stop sign would most likely be installed within several weeks. That kind of pressure is hard to ignore. Unfortunately, such a letter writing campaign requires tremendous energy and would most likely never happen. People do not care enough to get involved to that degree.

What are the next steps? While it is not as much of a concern during the winter months, it is still something that needs constant attention. Our safety forces cannot be parked on Saratoga all the time. That is not realistic. Signs become part of the landscape after they have been up for a week or less and are generally ignored. A best course of action is to have residents form groups to contact the police on a recurring and regular basis to ask for additional attention. Our safety forces do monitor resident contact and the more calls and communications they get, the more they will respond. No calls equals no action.

Association trustees continue to lobby city council members to place another stop sign on Saratoga, as they have done since the street was cut through to Boston many years ago, without success. We know that while some drivers may ignore a stop sign, the majority not only obey the direction, but tend to drive more carefully on streets where there are stop signs. Given that the offenders are neighbors, the best we can ask for is drivers who live in the area to be especially careful during daytime and evening hours when children are out in the area. ***Please Give Kids a Brake!***

Association Trustees

Bob Campobenedetto	18156 Rustic Hollow	238-3013
Ken Evans	18399 Yorktown Oval	572-3292
David Knowles	18435 Yorktown Oval	238-5769
Jack Schneider	18275 N. Salem Row	238-8679
Mark Skalak	17716 Plymouth Row	238-5955

Please remember that family members will take messages, but are not always able to answer homeowner questions or respond to concerns. Calls will be returned as soon as possible by trustees.

Financial Review Completed for 2007

A financial review of the 2007 calendar year was completed this past summer by Jurcago & Company, certified public accountants in Strongsville. Copies of the report, a comprehensive financial review of receipts and procedures, are available on request. This report assures residents of continued safe and sound business practices. Although not an audit, the review addresses four major items: 1) reconcile cash on deposit to balances shown as of December 31, 2007; 2) test dues and rental income as stated on the balance sheet; 3) review disbursements for proper payment and classification as reported on statements; and 4) check financial statements as of December 31, 2007. This protects residents so they can be sure funds are on deposit and used appropriately. Questions about this report may be directed to Bob Campobenedetto (238-3013) or Ken Evans 572-3292).

For Your Personal Sledding Safety

Sledding is not allowed on common property. As hills in the common area are too small for this activity and are close to homes, it is dangerous and can easily cause property damage. Certain areas were identified incorrectly by the developer as winter sports areas. Please observe this restriction.

Our association is fortunate that Southwest General Health Center has agreed to allow sledding on the mounds which buffer our development. Sledding is allowed on the slope facing the health center (not on the High Point side where trees were planted on the slope and exist in back yards). This is a large area which can accommodate a large number of people. **As with any activity of this type, parents should be present with participants under 12. Please note those going to this area should NOT use the yards to cut through to the mound.** Ample parking is available to drive and park behind the Health Center. We appreciate this generous arrangement by SWGHC officials.

Neighborhood Safety

During the winter season, many visitors come into our development. Some are invited and some are not. Be on the lookout for activity that does not look right and call police. If neighbors are on vacation and you see lights on in the house, it is usually a bad sign. If you see or hear people roaming the area late at night, a call to the police is also warranted. Vandalism, damage and theft all usually take place at night, under the cover of darkness. Look out for your neighbors and call police when you see something that does not look right. Police would rather respond to false alarms than not be called and complete crime reports later on. Make sure your front post light is working to light the night.

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Swim Passes Ordered with 2009 Dues

Attention residents! Pool pass registration forms for 2009 Pool Passes will be distributed with the Dues invoices. **Pool Pass Registration forms for 2009 MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR DUES PAYMENT BY JANUARY 31.** We will not have spring pick up times or fill orders during the summer. This past year, association trustees spent considerable time filling pool pass requests throughout summer months. Most other homeowner associations handle pool passes with a similar advanced registration procedure. 2009 Passes will then be mailed first-class to residents the first week in May. (We will supply the postage and label – no self-addressed, stamped envelope is necessary.)

IF YOU EVEN THINK YOU MIGHT WANT TO USE THE POOL IN 2009, then you should order pool passes with your dues payment. You have already paid for these in your dues. We know there are many homes for sale in the development, and in the event your home is for sale and sells before summer, your buyer will have the opportunity to get pool passes at that time.

High Point Annual Meeting

Wednesday, January 21 at 8:00 p.m.