

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Houston Laker



January 2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Things to put on your calendar!!

- January 11- City Council Meeting
 7:30 pm - City Hall
- January 19 - Last Day for Candidate Filing
 Closes at 5:00 pm
 (Alderman North Ward)
 (Alderman South Ward)
- January 19 - Recycling Day
- January 21 - Venetian Gardens Homes Association
 Board Meeting
 City Hall - 7:00 pm
- January 23 - Community Garden
 "Guys Chili Cook-Off"
 5:00 pm - City Hall

From the Desk of the City Clerk:

Just a few words of "Thanks" to everyone that contributed to our community this past year and especially to all the wonderful children that helped make our Community Garden and Christmas decorations spectacular!!!

Happy New Year to all.

NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CANDIDATE FILING

The City of Houston Lake, Missouri will hold an election, Tuesday, April 6, 2010 to elect the following offices:

One Alderman from Ward 1 (North) for two (2) year term.
One Alderman from Ward 2 (South) for two (2) year term.

To be a candidate for one of these offices you must file with the City Clerk, Marsha Duncan, no earlier than Tuesday, December 15, 2009 and no later than 5 p.m. Tuesday January 19, 2010. The filing forms will be made available by contacting Marsha Duncan at 816-419-5051.



For Your Information

Just a reminder that trash service is Allied Waste. Their pick up is every Tuesday. Your items must be curbside by 7:00a.m.

Maximum of 10 bags per household.

Any loose material, such as carpet or building material needs to be cut down to 4 foot lengths and bound together weighing less than 50 pounds.

Any extra pick up needs that you may have, please call Allied Waste for scheduling at 816-254-1470.

The holidays that Allied Waste observe are New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. When any of these holidays fall on Monday or Tuesday, your trash pick up will be on Wednesday of that week.

<u>2010 Pick Up Schedule:</u>	<u>Pick Up Day</u>
New Years (Friday 1-1-10)	Tuesday
Memorial Day (Monday 5-31-10)	Wednesday
Independence Day (Sunday 7-4-10)	Tuesday
Labor Day (Monday 9-6-10)	Wednesday
Thanksgiving (Thursday 11-25-10)	Tuesday
Christmas (Saturday 12-25-10)	Tuesday
New Years (Saturday 1-1-11)	Tuesday

CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE RECYCLING INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE FOR 2010:

(Please post this on your memo board for reference)

1. You **do not need** to sort recyclable material. You **may** use your own containers along with the Blue Recycle Tub provided by Allied Waste.
2. Place your Blue Recycle tub with your own recycle containers. This will let the driver identify the recycled items.
3. Keep your trash and recycling material separated.

If your household wants to participate in our recycle program, please call or leave a message to receive a Blue Recycling tub.

City Hall – 741-0644

City Clerk – 419-5051

2010 Schedule:

January 19, 2010
February 16, 2010
March 16, 2010
April 13, 2010
May 11, 2010
June 8, 2010
July 6, 2010
August 3, 2010
August 31, 2010
September 28, 2010
October 26, 2010
November 23, 2010
December 21, 2010

The **Recycle** truck will only stop at houses using the **Blue Tub**.



The Mayor and the Board of Aldermen are excited to announce the launching of the first Houston Lake website. ***Houstonlake.net*** is now up and running.

This website gives to our residents a new source for current information on the City and the Homes Association. It will also include the Houston Laker as well as articles and pictures of different events throughout the year. This information will be updated on a monthly basis.

Still in the works are the "classified" ads. This will contain "lost and found", "for sale" and "service" sections. This will be available for all Houston Lake residents to utilize at no charge.

The Council welcomes your thoughts and ideas for the website and invites you to submit any pictures you may have to share on our community for the "photo gallery".

All submissions should be directed to Marsha Duncan at 816.419.5051 or mduncannkc@aol.com.

Houstonlake.net

January 11, 2010
Council Meeting Agenda
City of Houston Lake- City Hall 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Session

2. Public Discussion

3. Minutes

4. Building Permit

5. Treasurer's report

6. Paybills - Resolution No 1-11-10

7. Collector's Report

8. Police Report/Codes Report

9. Reports from Aldermen

Mr. Cowan

Mr. Otte

Mr. Coronado

Mr. Jackalone

10. Old Business

- a. Streets (Financing Proposal)

11. New Business

- a. Street Light (3400 Block Edgewater Trail)
- b. Park Grant
- c. Stormwater Grant

12. Mayors Report

- a. 1997 Ford F-350

13. Closed Session

a. A motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal issues, RSMo 610.021(2) for Real Estate (purchasing or selling) and RSMo 610.021(3) for Personnel issues.

14. Re-enter Open Session

15. Adjournment

City of Houston Lake
Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting
December 14, 2009

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on November 9, 2009 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Rick Cowan, Nick Jackalone, Phil Otte and Dan Coronado. City Collector Joyce Kullman was excused.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

Public Discussion

No public discussion

Minutes November 9, 2009

The minutes were read and approved by general consent.

Building Permits

The Council was presented a building permit at 5336 NW Houston Drive for an electrical upgrade. The Council approved the permit by general consent. The Council also approved a “final” for a permit at 5279 NW Edgewood Trail.

Treasurers Report

Alderman Coronado moved to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed

Resolution 12-14-09 (paybills)

Alderman Jackalone moved that we accept Resolution 12-14-09, seconded by Alderman Otte.

Motion passed.

Collectors Report

The Mayor presented a collectors report to the Council from City Collector Joyce Kullman. The total deposits for the city of \$9593.89 were made for the period ending 11-30-09.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

A Code Enforcement Report was submitted to the Council by Mitch Kelly for the months of November/December 2009. A Platte County Sheriff's report was also presented to the Council.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – Alderman Cowan expressed his appreciation for the Christmas decorations. He noted that there was a brief meeting of the Emergency Management Committee and this will be followed up after the first of the year. He also mentioned the Mid America Regional Council had a mapping tool that could be used for estimating damage in a disaster situation. He will research this option.

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte asked if the City Hall had their emergency generator adopted for City Hall use in case of an emergency. Mayor Hallauer stated that a licensed electrician should be contacted. Alderman Cowan said that he knew of several electricians that he works with and will make a contact.

Alderman Coronado – Alderman Coronado told the Council that on several occasions he has had encounters with drivers on the bridge and dam. These people are not residents of Houston Lake and apparently do not read the signs noting the one lane traffic.

Alderman Jackalone –Alderman Jackalone gave thanks to Charlie Burgess for the snow removal.

Old Business

a. Mayor Hallauer gave the Council a letter from Mr. Jay Wilson, Vice President of the Bank of Weston. This letter explained various options that a loan could be structured for the repaving of the city streets. The Council will discuss other options available at the next City meeting.

b. Mayor Hallauer informed the Council that Alderman Nick Jackalone and his wife Jan were part of the Platte County “ Shop with a Cop” program. They helped one of the children shop for himself and his family for Christmas.

New Business

a. A “Resolution of Thanks” was passed by the Council and gave their appreciation to Jean Anderson, Andrea Freese, Luci Freese, William Gay, Thomas Gay, Zoe Gay and Lillian Gay for their community service and their contributions to the City of Houston Lake. Mayor Hallauer called for a brief recess for refreshments.

b. Alderman Rick Cowan told the Council about a request for a street light at the 3400 block of Edgewater Trail. This will be discussed at the next city meeting.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer gave the Council a “Year in Review” report. The many accomplishments and changes for the year 2009 were the addition of Alderman Rick Cowan, curbside recycling was passed, fire protection was again passed, a four year fire protection contract with the City of Riverside, the City wide clean-up day, the new City directory, AT&T settlement, a fabulous July 4th celebration, the addition of Alderman Dan Coronado, adoption of the Platte County Emergency Management plan, fall brush clean-up day, a City of Houston Lake website and the signing onto the MARC Emergency Management Plan (SEMA & FEMA)

Happy New Year!!!

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

The December 17th Venetian Gardens Home Owners Associations meeting was hosted by Kerry Hollowell at her residence. Board members present were Gil Hughes VGHA president, Kerry Hollowell Treasurer and Bill Gay board member.

Gill called the meeting to order. Kerry presented the treasurers report. \$7200 was paid to Critchfield for dredging of the lake and silt pond. \$4482 is owed to Critchfield and will be paid after the first of the year when more VGHA dues have been collected. KCP&L and water bills are due. Before those bills are paid the association has \$4648.35 in the checking account. Kerry discussed collection of dues 27 homes have paid already. There was a discussion of how to collect on bank owned homes.

Mayor Mike Hallauer was in attendance and presented to the board that a wealth of Houston Lakes history is contained in past Venetian Gardens Homes Association minutes. He is working on creating a history of Houston Lake for the Houston Lake web site and would like to have access to old VGHA minutes stored at city hall. A motion was made to allow Mike to access these old records for historical purposes. The motion was approved and all members present voted in favor of the motion. It should be noted that many years of these records are missing or unaccounted for. If any residents have old minutes in their possession or other documents that may help in compiling a history of the lake please contact a VGHA board member.

There was a general discussion by those in attendance about county and other records that may be obtained for historical purposes. Gil recommended that current minutes be stored at City Hall for future reference.

Other business discussed was the need to get permission from property owners up stream of the purposed silt curtain site before the curtain is installed. One resident inquired about the moss growing on the lake and asked if anything could be done about it. These issues will need further investigation the meeting was adjourned and a festive holiday party ensued with lots of homemade treats.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday Jan. 21, 2010

A Note from Homes Ass'n. Treasurer, Kerry Hollowell:

There will be a 10% penalty assessed if your payment is not received by Jan. 21, 2010. Call if you have any questions - 816-695-4100

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

The Homes Association oversees the lake, the dam, the beach area, Mayor's Park and the common areas surrounding the lake. Please take a moment to answer the questions below and send the survey in with your homes owner dues, drop off at City Hall 5417 N Adrian or email to venetiangardens@houstonlake.net.

- 1) How long have you lived at the lake?

- 2) What do you like about living at Houston Lake?

- 3) Has the Home Owners Association Board met your expectations regarding the the upkeep and beautification of the lake?

- 4) What types of projects would you like to see happen on VGHOA property?

- 5) What are your interests and hobbies?

- 6) What is the best way to contact you for VGHOA projects?

All comments are welcome.
All questions/concerns will be answered/addressed.



Community Garden Up-Date:

“GUY’S CHILI COOK-OFF”

Just a little reminder of the community Garden Fund Raiser on January 23rd. We have 5 guys that have signed up for the Chili contest. I can’t wait to taste their chili.

I still need 2 more girls for the judges. Evedene Judge (is that appropriate or what) has volunteered to be one of the judges. There will be first, second and third prizes awarded for the best chili. Just bring your chili in your crock pots on January 23rd, 4:30pm, to City Hall. We will number them (no names on crock pots, please). Dinner will start at 5 pm and the contest at 6 pm or sometime shortly after.

Again, we will have a big pot of chili for everyone, some hot dogs and refreshments.

I just want to add that I realize that times have been tough for many and a \$5.00 donation per family could be impossible. Please understand that all of you have made this garden possible. Even if it’s been just stopping by the garden and picking a few weeds, watering or making suggestions, you have made this a dream garden to maintain. This is not just a fund raiser but also a celebration of the phenomenal job that all of us did our first year. Please join us.

To sign up for this event, please contact Angela Gay at 584-9548 or Marsha Duncan at 419-5051.



From the Kitchen of.....Pat Horine

Just the mention of fruit cake to me makes me want to run and hide. So imagine my surprise when I could not get enough of this fabulous cake. This is a cake recipe just made for a non baker like myself. Just throw everything together and mix. I can handle that. And what's not to like about cream cheese frosting?

Truly yummy for anyone's tummy!!!

Mexican Fruit Cake

By Pat Horine

2 cups sugar

2 cups flour

2 tsp. salt

2 tsp. baking soda

2 eggs

1 20oz can crushed pineapple (not drained)

1 cup nuts (pecans, walnuts)

1 tsp vanilla

Add everything to a bowl and mix by hand. Pour into greased & floured 13 X 9 pan and bake for 30 minutes at 350.

Frosting

1 8oz softened cream cheese

1 stick of margarine or butter

1 tsp vanilla

3 cups of powdered sugar (may have to add a little more)

Mix with a hand mixer.

If you have a recipe or some hints that you would like to share with us, please contact Marsha at mduncannkc@aol.com or Mary at maryjewelh@aol.com