



January 2007 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5245, Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245

www.napervillehomeowners.org

In this issue we will preview our 7th Annual Tradeshow that will be held at the Holiday Inn Select on Saturday, January 27th, from 8 AM until 3 PM. We will also review Confederation activities regarding the Frontier Park Recreation Center and Home Based businesses and provide information on upcoming Candidates Forums that will be sponsored by the NAHC.

This newsletter is an information conduit to our Member Associations, providing information you can use when managing your associations and to help you keep your members informed. Please provide your feedback to our External Communications Director, Bob Fischer, at rafischer1@aol.com

President's Letter from Chuck Schlabach

Happy New Year to all from the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation!

2006 was a great year for the Confederation as we became even more active in the community, helping to drive changes in the city ordinances related to Home Based Businesses; spoke out on Community issues including the Nichols Library parking deck, Frontier Park recreation center, and tall buildings in the downtown area; and laid the groundwork for the liaison committees that will provide the eyes and ears for the Confederation in meetings of local governmental units.

Looking into 2007, our big annual event, the NAHC Tradeshow and Homeowners Expo will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Select at Diehl Road and Naperville Road in Naperville. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This year all of the Trades exhibits will be in the Grand Ballroom area. The Vendor Fair and Homeowners Expo will be in the Naper Ballroom and Bailey Hobson Room area. Naperville restaurants will be serving lunch in the main lobby from 11:30 to 1:00.

If your business or organization is interested in being part of the show, registration materials can be found on the Confederation website at www.napervillehomeowners.org or you can contact June Edlund, Chair Person, Vendor Space at 630 561-5653 or at jedlund20@comcast.net.

We hope to see all Naperville Homeowners at the show so that they can learn from and take advantage of the information and products provided by our exhibitors. Tradeshow and Homeowners Expo exhibitors will include law firms, banks, tree care specialists, remodeling contractors, plumbers, and so forth. The Vendor Fair will include wine tasting, cosmetics, bakery items, purses, jewelry, scrapbooking and other things normally found only in home parties. There will be seminars throughout the day providing information on better managing your association. Finally, lunch will be served for all in attendance courtesy of some of the area's finest restaurants. Admission is free for residents within member homeowners associations and the attendee registration form is found later in this newsletter. As an added bonus, the Association with the most homeowners in attendance will receive their 2007 Confederation membership for free!

In closing, the Tradeshow takes a number of people to be successful. If you or any of your members are interested in volunteering to help during the show, please contact June Edlund.

Thank You.

Chuck Schlabach

President, Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, Chuckschla@aol.com

Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation

Presents

*Saturday
January 27, 2007*

**7th Annual
Trade
Show, Home
Expo and
Conference**

*8:00 a.m. to
3:00 p.m.*

- *100 Exhibitors*
- *Seminars by area experts*
- *Food, drinks, and snacks*
- *Public Welcome*

Holiday Inn Select
At
Naper Blvd. And
Diehl Road

For more information call
630 305-0076 or
630 548-9120 or
630 983-4661

Pre-register with this Registration Form—Bring with you to the show

Name: _____

HO Association _____

Email (to receive newsletters and other NAHC information) _____

Free admission to homeowners of member associations—\$5 donation for all others

Tradeshow Seminars Will Educate and Inform

As part of the Confederation's pledge to help our member associations better able to manage and thrive, we have scheduled four very interesting and informative seminars throughout the day. These seminars, a precursor to our planned Association Education series that will be launched in the Spring, will cover legal and insurance matters that directly impact homeowners associations. In addition, for individual homeowners, there will be a Home Improvement Seminar at 9:30 AM.

Of interest to Association Boards, Officers, and Managers, at 11:00 a.m. Mark Pearlstein, the attorney who writes for the Chicago Tribune Condo article on Sunday mornings, will give a legal update including what is known about the new legislation proposed for Single Family Homeowner Associations. There will be an Insurance Workshop at 1:00 p.m. presented by Esser Hayes Insurance. This workshop will focus on the insurance needed for the various types of Homeowner Associations depending on what common areas there are as well as the needs for Director and Officers Insurance for Homeowner Associations. Lastly, there will be the Panel Discussion at 2:00. This discussion will be cover everything about Homeowner Association Management including Finance, Development, training Boards, Insurance needs, Legal Aspects, Running Meetings, Rules and Regulations, Getting Work Done, and what you need to know to own a home in a homeowners association. This promises to be a lively interactive discussion.

Admission to the seminars is included with participant registration and, remember, participant registration is free to all members of paid up Confederation member associations.

Home Based Business Ordinance Update

The City Council will be voting on the revised ordinances for Home Based Businesses, Trailer and RV parking, and commercial vehicle parking in residential areas at its meeting on January 16th, 2007. Copies of the proposed ordinances can be found on the confederation website at www.napervillehomeowners.org by clicking on News & Info in the left hand navigation menu and then clicking on Home business.

We have worked closely with City Staff over the past few weeks and other than a few areas where we would prefer some different language, we are in substantial agreement with City Staff on the Ordinance language being presented for approval.

Work on the Home Business ordinances was a team effort with the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Confederation looks forward to continuing this relationship with the Chamber in the coming months.

Frontier Park Recreation Center Update

Prior to the general membership meeting on December 16th, a special meeting of the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation Board of Directors was held to discuss recent issues surrounding the proposed Naperville Park District Recreation Center in Frontier Park.

At this meeting, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

The Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, having considered the matter of the Park District's proposed recreation center, and in conformance with the Confederation's objectives and purposes, respectfully urges the Park District to submit the question of whether to proceed with this project to the Naperville voters by means of a referendum in the April, 2007 election. The significant expenditure of tax dollars to complete this project, combined with the controversy that has arisen over whether this public facility is

in fact desired and supported by the taxpayers within the Park District boundaries, are strong reasons for the District to seek approval of the voters before proceeding further.

At their meeting on January 11th the Park Commissioners unanimously suspended work on the recreation center pending the receipt of additional public input. While our call for a referendum was not heeded, we feel that the extended public comment period is a good thing as there are many issues which need to be explored in more detail.

If you would like to weigh in on this, please contact the Park District Commissioners. The Commissioners can be reached via email at:

Steve Born.....sborn@napervilleparks.org
Charlie Brown.....cbrown@napervilleparks.org
Kristen Jungles.....kjungles@napervilleparks.org
Ron Ory.....rory@napervilleparks.org
Pam Swafford.....pswafford@napervilleparks.org
Marie Todd.....mtodd@napervilleparks.org
Mary Wright.....mwright@napervilleparks.org

NAHC Candidates Forums

Two important election dates are coming up. On February 27th there will be a primary election in the City of Naperville where voters will choose which two candidates among the field of Mayor George Pradel and Councilmen Mary Ellingson and Doug Krause will be on the final ballot for Mayor.

On April 17th there will be a general election where candidates for Mayor, City Council, School Boards (203, 204, and Community Colleges, and the Park District Commissioners will be elected.

To ensure that Naperville area voters have the best information available to cast their ballots, The Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation will be hosting candidate forums at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle Street, in the City Council Chambers. It is expected that in addition to a live audience in the Council Chambers, these events will also be broadcast over NCTV, Channel 17.

The schedule for the candidates' forums is as follows:

Thursday, Feb 15th: Mayoral Forum
Tuesday, March 13th: Dist 203 Board Forum
Thursday, March 15th: Dist 204 Board Forum
Wednesday, March 21st: Park District Forum
Tuesday, March 27th: City Council Forum

Kevin Dolan has agreed to be the moderator for these forums. These will not be structured as a debate, but rather will have the candidates responding to questions proposed by the Confederation and by, time allowing, members of the audience.

Further information will be in the February Confederation newsletter as well as on our website at www.napervillehomeowners.org.

Congratulations!!!!

The Illinois Chapter of the Community Associations Institute (CAI) has recognized NAHC past-president Boyd Briscoe with their Olympus Award honoring those Chapter members that have had a profound influence on the development of the Chapter.



The Community Associations Institute, or CAI, is a national, non-profit organization providing education and resources to those involved in the community association industry. Members include

homeowners and homeowners associations, board members, managers, attorneys, accountants, lenders, insurance providers, and those who service community associations such as roofers and painters.

The NAHC considers itself very fortunate to have someone with Boyd's background and experience as an advisor to our Board of Directors. Congratulations, Boyd, on a job well done!

Naperville Expects less Electric Rate Volatility through IMEA Membership

On January 16, 2007, the Naperville City Council is expected to approve an agreement that will pave the way for Naperville to join 29 other municipalities as a member of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA), a not-for-profit joint action power purchasing agency. Membership in the IMEA will enable the city's electric customers to reap the benefits of ownership in electrical generation facilities that will provide rate stabilization over a 30 year period.



Since the de-regulation of electricity in Illinois that occurred in 1997, municipalities have been facing market volatility. Naperville's membership in the IMEA will allow the agency to further diversify its significant portfolio of energy producing assets and provide additional insulation from market volatility for all members. Last summer, the city approved a four-year agreement for its electrical power with J. Aron and Company/Goldman Sachs. The proposed agreement would allow IMEA to provide power to the City of Naperville in 2011 at the expiration of the city's current agreement.

According to Mayor A. George Pradel, "Membership in the IMEA would be a significant achievement for Naperville and accomplishes our long-term objective to provide our residents and businesses with low cost, reliable electricity."

IMEA is expected to become a stakeholder in the development of the Prairie State Energy Campus, located in Washington County, Illinois. Slated for completion in 2011, the Energy Campus will produce clean, low-cost electricity. IMEA will become the seventh joint action public power agency to join Peabody Energy's multi-billion dollar investment in Illinois.

"The Prairie State Energy Campus will provide the Midwest with low cost electrical power that uses an innovative application of advanced technologies to make the facility among the cleanest major coal-fueled plants in the nation," said Allan Poole, director of public utilities. "The city's new relationship with IMEA will provide mutual benefits and we look forward to contributing to the strength and vitality of this agency and its members."

Family Preparedness

At the December 16 NAHC Meeting, Pete Smith and I had the opportunity to present an update of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) progress in Naperville. I also spoke briefly about the recent Family Preparedness training that Rob Williams and I received from the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. This training ensures that your family:

- Knows the risks that may affect our community
- Has a family disaster plan
- Practices your family disaster plan
- Has a 72 hour disaster supply kit



Disasters are very real and affect thousands of citizens each year. While Naperville has an excellent team of first responders, situations may arise that preclude their arrival for extended periods of time. We need to be prepared to take action to protect our families and communities until experienced help arrives. This is exactly what “family preparedness” is all about.

I encourage you to accept this challenge and allow the CERT team to make a formal presentation on family preparedness to members of your respective homeowners associations. We can do it individually or you can team up with contiguous subdivisions for a joint presentation. It all comes down to this ... you have a responsibility to protect yourself and your family by knowing what to do before, during and after a catastrophic event occurs.

Please let Chuck Schlabach know of your intent. He is President of the Citizen Corps Council and a member of the CERT team. He can arrange a time and date for a formal presentation. Don't wait until it's too late ... the clock is ticking.

Richard J. Mikolajczyk
Vice President, Citizen Corps Council
Member, Community Emergency Response Team



Naperville Park District Notes

Park District Customer Advisory Panel

We're looking for interested residents to serve on a Customer Advisory Panel for the new Frontier Park Recreation Center. This group, which ideally will be comprised of individuals with diverse recreation interests, will work with the facility manager to provide insight regarding operations and will focus on continuous customer feedback and improvement processes. If you are interested in finding out more about this group, please contact Brad Wilson, Director of Recreation, at 848-3532 or via e-mail at bwilson@napervilleparks.org.

Recreation Winterfest

Sat., Feb. 17 from noon-5:00 p.m. at Cowlshaw School

Come inside where it's warm and cozy and spend the day having fun, getting fit, and learning about everything the Naperville Park District has to offer. The event is free and for all ages!

- Sample selected Park District programs and enjoy program demonstrations
- Learn about our program offerings for toddlers, youth, teens, and adults of all ages
- Find out about upcoming District-wide improvements

- Enter to win fun and fabulous door prizes
- And much more!

For more information on these and other Naperville Park District programs, visit www.napervilleparks.org or call 848-5000.

A new and improved Program Guide coming your way

Beginning with the Spring 2007 edition, there will be some changes to the quarterly Program Guide. We have re-classified some of the programs into new sections and subsections. We're hopeful that this new way of organizing our programs and events ultimately will make it easier for our customers to navigate our many options for activities and find those that suit their interests.

One of the most significant changes that you will see is the reclassification of our New Horizons programs being rolled into the new section, Active Adults and Seniors. Additionally, a new category of Fitness and Wellness is being introduced; yoga, Pilates and other similar programs will appear here, while the Athletics section will focus on individual and team sports.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the new format, please send an e-mail to info@napervilleparks.org or call the Park District at 848-5000.

Spring 2007 Program Guide

Watch for your copy of the Spring 2007 Program Guide beginning Feb. 16 at which time it will be delivered to our residents' doorsteps. If you do not receive a Program Guide, call the Naperville Park District at 848-5000 to request a redelivery. The Program Guide also will be available as a .PDF at www.napervilleparks.org.

The first resident lottery will be held on Saturday, March 3; all completed registration forms and payment is due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 2 to be entered into the first lottery.

For up-to-date information on upcoming meetings

Please check out our website at:

www.napervillehomeowners.org

Watch for the February newsletter during the week of February 5th!!!!

***See you at the Tradeshow on
January 27th!!!!!!!***

***Bob Fischer
Newsletter Editor &
Director - NAHC***