

Tales of Liberty

Newsletter of Trails of Liberty

Spring Edition No. 5

May 2004



Spring is upon us here in **Trails of Liberty**! With all the rain we are getting a good start on the green season. By now everyone should have mowed the lawn a few times and worked on the landscaping. Of course that doesn't apply to those trying to get grass to grow!

Trails of Liberty Website In order to help improve communication to the neighborhood, Phil Morrical III created a website for Trails of Liberty. This website will serve as a vehicle to provide information on the community regarding events and activities.

http://www.geocities.com/trails_of_liberty/Index.html

Directory A few months ago Kathy Kramer of Star One Realty (779-9500) and Schmidt builders distributed a neighborhood directory for Trails of Liberty. If anyone did not receive a copy please contact Kathy at Star One.

Doggy Trails Several neighbors submitted requests regarding dog restraint and clean up. There have been dogs allowed to roam the neighborhood unrestrained ...with the evidence left behind. In at least one case a child was reported to have been chased by a dog. It is important to note that Ohio state law requires all dogs to be registered and restrained. The Butler County Auditors office website for dog licensing states, "*Ohio law specifies that all dogs must be confined to your property or under reasonable control, such as on a leash when being walked.*" This is important for your pet's safety, child safety as well as avoiding neighbor conflicts. And as a courtesy to everyone, please make certain to clean up when walking your dog. The First Law of Introspection is: "*If everything around you stinks, check you own shoes first.*"



The Cicada Invasion An alien invasion of 17 year cicadas is set to begin in the coming weeks. The latest predictions are for the unwelcome visitors to arrive beginning May 14 (once ground temperature reaches 64°F) and end around June 29. After a warm, moist period the cicadas will burrow to the surface creating what is called a cicada "mud chimney". Dogs and cats enjoy snacking on the protein rich insects but they cause vomiting and other digestive problems. Stick to the pet treats instead! You might want to consider protecting your small trees with netting which prevents the cicada from slicing the growth shoots to plant its eggs. Nets are available at most home and garden supply outlets.

Babysitters Following are a number of babysitters in the neighborhood. Alyssa Evans (17)...759-6892, Lindsay Turner (16)...759-0649, Tanya Bilinski (15)...759-5514, Danielle Bilinski (16)...759-5514, Lauren Mulcahy (12)...779-7227 (CPR Certified), Alissa Hanson (15)...759-5931 (CPR Certified)

Patriot Tales In the previous newsletters we provided information on American patriots John and Edward Rutledge, John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton. Following is information about two other patriot namesakes for the Trails of Liberty. Additional information can be found on the web.

Two relatively little known names in the American Revolution are **George Read** (1733-1798) and **Jonathan Dayton** (1760-1824). Read, a jurist, was attorney general of the lower counties of Delaware and a member of the Continental Congress (1774-1777). Though initially opposed to the revolution, Read eventually supported independence and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Read also helped to make Delaware the first state to ratify the Constitution and served as a U.S. Senator (1789-1793) as well as being Chief Justice of Delaware (1793-1798). Jonathan Dayton was born in East Jersey where his father Elias Dayton served as an officer in the local militia. Jonathan enlisted and both Daytons served under George Washington at Valley Forge while training with Baron Frederick von Steuben. After the war the younger Dayton was appointed to the Continental Congress (1787) when his father Elias refused the appointment. His primary contribution was to the creation of a strong federal government and the Electoral College. Jonathan Dayton promoted land investment in the Ohio region where the city of Dayton was named for him but his political career was ended as a result of suspicion surrounding investments in association with Aaron Burr.

Liberty Township 4th of July Liberty Township will host a 4th of July celebration on Saturday July 3rd. Festivities will start with a 5k race in the morning. For details see <http://www.liberty-township.com/fw/main/default.asp?DocID=1486>

“Call Before You Dig” Anyone doing digging in front of their home may be liable for utility of cable damage. The State of Ohio maintains a “Call Before You Dig” number of 800-362-2764 and will mark all utilities FREE of charge.

Graduation Parties Lakata East graduation day is June 5th and you may expect extra street parking with neighborhood graduation parties. Drive carefully.

Homeowner’s Association In the future information and updates on the community association transition will be posted on the Trails of Liberty website. Activity since the Winter newsletter is summarized following. The process is moving slower than expected due to a number of unresolved covenant issues. Thanks to everyone who submitted issues in response to the last newsletter. These items were compiled by Phil Morrical III and the list submitted to J-II for comment or resolution. Some neighbors asked why they were not informed of a covenant issue regarding their property before the list was sent to J-II. It is important to note that the committee team (Phil Morrical III, Bill McGreehan, Y’vette Cisneros, Dick Ballou, Brittany Turgal and Frank Gardner) do not have any official responsibility for issue resolution. That matter is between J-II (officially Trails of Liberty Ltd) and the homeowner. The team is only acting as a community focal point to summarize the issues. In response J-II sent letters to homeowners where they deemed corrective action was necessary. On April 12 the team met to create an agenda prior to a scheduled meeting April 13 with J-II at Sibcy Cline, Beckett Ridge. Minutes and actions of the meeting are posted on the Trails of Liberty website (http://www.geocities.com/trails_of_liberty/Index.html).

Once the issues are addressed J-II will plan and announce a community meeting to transition the responsibility for the homeowner’s association. The notice will be delivered to every homeowner by J-II and will include a process for nominating individuals to represent the association. The timing for this meeting is now expected in the June-July timeframe.

We are planning a community meeting to share information and have an opportunity for questions about the transition process. The meeting will be Sunday May 16 at 3:00 pm in the court at the west end of Hamilton Trail. Bring a lawn chair if you need one ...we will only be about an hour. In the event of severe weather we will reschedule one week later.

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