

# Ashley Oaks Newsletter



Website: [www.ashleyoakshoa.org](http://www.ashleyoakshoa.org)

July, 2015

Board of Trustees:

President: Rich Seminsky

Secretary/Treasurer: Kevin Wolfe

Trustee: Ron Dillon

Vice President: Nick Stepanovich

Trustee: Joe Reed

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## **Landscaping:**

The Board has undertaken and completed a significant number of landscaping projects this year:

- The Gazebo and playground equipment have been painted and stained as needed. Benches in the area have been reinforced for safety.
- Both detention basins have been cleared. The City of Strongsville notified all Homeowners Associations of its requirement to clear all basins as part of the City's flood mitigation program. The Association will undertake an annual maintenance program to ensure that the basins remain in compliance.
- Deer caused severe damage to the plantings in the playground area, which created a significant unplanned expense. Damaged plantings have been removed and the areas mulched.
- The ground under the playground equipment has been mulched with child safety rubberized mulch to beautify the area and provide added safety for the children.
- The ash tree removal project has begun with the removal of nine trees. Mounds will be leveled and grass planted in the fall. All ash trees in the development are infected and must be removed as they die or become unsafe. Almost 35 trees are involved and the project will extend over several years.
- Shrubbery in both entrances have been pruned and beds have been cleared.

If you run into Trustee and Landscape Chairman Ron Dillon, please extend your thanks for the significant time he has spent on these projects.

## **Member Suggestions and 2015 Initiatives Status:**

**Improved Communications:** Many residents have responded to the April newsletter request for updated contact information. Please remember to inform the Association of changes to your email address or phone number.

A review and restructuring of the Associations' web site has taken place to improve the information presented.

**Audit of the Books:** Kiplinger & Co., CPAs has agreed to perform an annual financial review of the Associations' books. The first review will take place on the 2015 year end results.

**More Enforcement:** Responding to several complaints about non-working post lamps and coach lights, the Association contacted the City of Strongsville requesting attention to enforcing its ordinances in this regard. The City requested that the Association deliver notices to non-compliant residents and inform it of those who have not remediated the problem after a few weeks. Approximately 25 residents were notified, most of whom corrected the problem. A list of those not responding was delivered to the City for follow up.

There have been recent incidents of break-ins to both homes and autos in the development. It is essential that proper lighting be in place to discourage such events. Cooperation in this matter is requested of all residents.

Several residents have complained about the cost of burning their post lights regularly. The cost of running a 60 watt incandescent light in a lamp post at night is about \$18.00 per year or \$1.50 per month. If CFL lamps are used, the cost is about 38 cents per month; using led bulbs further reduces that cost to about 25 cents per month. That appears to be a relatively small cost to improve the safety of the neighborhood.

**Additional Membership Meetings:** The Board has received no lists of general interests to prompt scheduling an information-only meeting

All members are invited to send in topics at any time for discussion at a mid-year meeting. Please send them to the Association at Ashley Oaks HOA, P.O. Box 360293, Strongsville, OH 44136