



MEADOWTHORPE MESSENGER

Meadowthorpe Neighborhood Association, 333 Larch Lane

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"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant." - Anne Bradstreet

"February days are a marketing gimmick; love happens every day." – Randeep Hooda

Submissions for the *Meadowthorpe Messenger* must be sent by the 18th of the month to meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com.

To receive an electronic copy of the Messenger, please send your e-mail address to meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com.

DATE TO REMEMBER

Board Meeting: February 9th at 6:15 PM at Louie Mack Community Center

General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, February 9th, 2016 – Social half-hour at 6:30 p.m. Get to know your neighbors and enjoy refreshments! Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Please be sure to attend this important meeting during which the election of officers for 2016 will be held.

St. Valentine's Day – February 14th.

ANNOUNCEMENT

New Community Center Coordinator is Beverly Webb

HOLIDAY LIGHT DISPLAY WINNERS

Meadowthorpe Neighborhood is well known for being festive for the holidays! The competition was tough this year as many neighbors participated by lighting the exterior of their homes.

The winners are:

- 1.) Traditional Christmas: 1555 Meadowthorpe Avenue
- 2.) Whimsical: 224 Larch Lane
- 3.) Best Use of Lights: 291 Larch Lane

Honorable mentions go out to 248 Taylor Drive, 273 Larch Lane and 333 Glendale Avenue.

Thank you to those who participated in lighting the neighborhood in 2015, you make Meadowthorpe beautiful and great!

LUMINARIES

The luminaries are a beautiful Meadowthorpe Neighborhood tradition that brings neighbors together and shows our holiday spirit! Neighbors lend a very big thank you to Carolyn Troyer of Larch, as she worked hard to make the luminaries possible this year! Thank you Carolyn and helpers for your efforts and dedication. The spirit was alive on December 24th as candles were lit. Please contact mnalexky@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with the luminaries at the end of 2016.

Great Showing of Luminaries

by: Carolyn Troyer

What an excellent showing of luminaries on Christmas Eve! More luminaries were lit than ever, keeping a lovely Meadowthorpe tradition alive.

It seems that the candles provided with the little bags of sand made all the difference. The only thing residents had to do was light the candle on Christmas Eve. Many thanks to all the residents who lit their and their neighbors' luminaries.

We also had a great crew of volunteers who just showed up at the community center on Dec 23 to assemble the luminaries, on the 24 to deliver them, and finally, after Christmas, to retrieve them. Thanks go to Lacy Evans, Bill Congleton, Lisa King, Richard Fritz, Coleman and Brenda Bush, Nora Warman, Liz Chilton, Don and Terry Terry, Karen Mosely, Wendell Grider, Erin Abernathy, Stacey Stevens, Brian Throckmorton, and Carolyn Troyer.

A big thanks also goes to Coleman Bush for fighting the crowds of shoppers to find the best deal on long-lasting candles.



RESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

Leadership of the Neighborhood Association

The votes are in and the ballots are counted. In a landslide, due to a lack of opposition, the three officers of MNA, elected at the January 12th meeting are:

Jim Capillo, from Old Leestown Road - President; Bill Congleton, from Glendale Avenue -Vice President; Linda Melton, also from Glendale Avenue – Treasurer. Nobody volunteered and nobody was nominated for the office of Secretary. After the meeting, I was approached by Carrie Asalon (also of Glendale Avenue – I am beginning to notice a trend), who, after speaking with Beth Workman, volunteered to serve as Secretary. Pursuant to the by-laws, I am nominating her to complete the term of that vacant office. Her nomination will be presented to the membership for approval by simple majority at the February meeting. In the meanwhile, I have asked her to assume the duties of Secretary, pending her approval.

I would like to personally extend my thanks and a “job well done” to the two officers who have finished their service as officers, Beth Workman, former Secretary and Michael Stewart, former Vice President. I hope all of the members of the association join me in thanking them.

The next leadership step is to identify the members of the Board of Directors. The Board is made up of the chairs of the standing committees and the street reps. The main roles of the Directors are to recommend policies, actions, and activities to the membership; and present an annual budget (and any revisions thereto), to the membership for approval. The Officers are conducting a transitional meeting and will be formulating a proposed budget for the Directors, so if you want to serve, let an officer know. We should have already done some of the heavy lifting for you.

On behalf of the new Officers, I look forward to another year of communication, activity and fraternity.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Ms. Carrie Asalon from the 200 block of Glendale has accepted a nomination to serve as secretary in 2016. The official election will take place at the February General Meeting on February 9th at the Community Center. Her bio is as follows:

Carrie was raised in Grapevine, Texas and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science at Texas A&M University. Wanting to work with horses, she moved to Lexington in 2010 to pursue a career in the equine industry. She started off in the hunter/jumper industry with an event planning and marketing role, and now focuses primarily on marketing at a regional CPA firm in the heart of the city. She has served as a liaison for multiple committees and currently serves on a board of directors for The Elite Program, Inc., a nationally recognized educational program for racetrack grooms. In her current professional role, she maintains her company's website and external communications. Carrie moved to Meadowthorpe in August 2012, first as a renter and now a homeowner on Glendale Avenue. She is excited for the opportunity to serve the neighborhood as MNA's Secretary.

BETH'S BEAT

February 14th is Valentine's Day, whether you have a sweetheart or not, everyone can enjoy some fun Valentine's Day Facts:

- In Victorian times, it was considered bad luck to sign a Valentine's Day card, I guess there were lots of secret admirers!
- Valentine's Day is the second largest card sending holiday next to Christmas
- 3% of pet owners will give their pet a gift on Valentine's Day
- Finland celebrates “Friend's Day” instead of Valentine's Day
- In the Middle Ages men and women drew names from a bowl to see who would be their Valentine; the names would then be pinned on their sleeve for a week for everyone to see, hence the saying “wearing your heart on your sleeve”

WINTER WEATHER TIPS

Last year's weather reminded us that Kentucky is not immune to severe winter weather! While I love the snow, it is important to be mindful of the dangers that come with dropping temperatures and frozen precipitation. This year the Fayette County Sheriff Office shared winter tips, which I have expanded upon to share in the *Meadowthorpe Messenger*.

How to Prepare Your Home

- Check caulking around doors and windows
- Replace screens with storm windows
- Install and/or test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Avoid slipping on ice - put de-icing on exterior stairs and create a pathway to your vehicle
- Have an emergency light source, such as flashlights and extra batteries, should the power go out - do not use kerosene lamps inside (store a flashlight in every room)
- Stock up on staple foods such as canned or packaged items (If you have pets, make sure you keep extra food on hand for them as well)
- Service your HVAC and fireplaces each year to ensure safety

How to Prepare Your Vehicle

- Get your vehicles serviced so they are operating well
- If you have a garage, park inside
- Try to avoid parking in the street as to help with snow and ice removal
- Check tire pressure and tire tread
- Try to keep your vehicle's gas tank full at all times during winter
- Ensure the heater and defrost work properly
- Create an emergency kit to store in your vehicle, equipped with items such as critical medications, a flashlight, battery powered radio, water, blankets, snack food, matches, first aid kit with a pocket knife, etc.
- Wash your cars after the winter season to keep the paint fresh and clean of salt and de-ice chemicals

How to Keep your Pets Safe

- Keep pets indoors - Pets are sensitive to severe cold and are at risk for frostbite and hypothermia during extreme cold. Exposure can quickly freeze ears, paw pads and exposed skin on noses, causing permanent damage
- Give your pets plenty of food and water to replenish energy
- Routinely check your pet's outdoor water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen
- When using heat inside your home, check to be sure that your pets have plenty of water, as the bowl tends to dry out quicker
- Protect your pet's paws from salt - salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe all paws with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth
- If you suspect that someone is not properly caring for a pet, call the Lexington-Fayette Animal Care and Control at 859-255-9033

It is also important to check in on your neighbors to be sure that they are staying safe and warm. Meadowthorpe is the best neighborhood in Kentucky because of our kind and friendly neighbors. Let's keep everyone safe and warm this winter and check in on your neighbors, particularly as the temperatures drop below freezing!

NEIGHBORHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADS AND COUPONS

Advertisements in the *Meadowthorpe Messenger* are printed at no charge for neighbors and neighborhood businesses per the MNA Ad Policy. These ads are printed as a service at the request of neighbors and do not imply a reference or endorsement by MNA. Always seek your own references. If you would like to place an ad, please submit it to meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com before the 21st day of the month.



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MEADOWTHORPE MESSENGER ADVERTISEMENT POLICY

Approved by the Communication Committee on May 26, 2015; Approved by Membership on June 9, 2015

Ad space is available only to MNA Members and to neighborhood businesses within Meadowthorpe as Meadowthorpe is defined in the current Bylaws.

A Member may not include an ad for a business physically located outside the defined boundaries of Meadowthorpe.

Because space for ads is limited, the Messenger may not be able to include all ads. Space for ads will be determined issue-by-issue at the discretion of the Editor. In cases where an issue requires more space for news, announcements, etc., the editor may remove any or all ads for that issue at his or her discretion and without regard to the timing of the placement of the ad or ads.

Ad copy will be included as close as possible to the submission of the advertiser, but all ads, with the exception of those governed by law, will be subject to editing by the editor.

All ads will expire with each December issue of the Messenger and must be resubmitted for the January (or subsequent) issue following to be included for the current year. Each December, the Editor will notify advertisers of this policy by the most expedient method.

Ads will be included each year on a first come/first served basis until available ad space is consumed.

The Editor, at his or her discretion, may reject any ad. In doing so, the Editor may seek advice from the Communication Committee, if he or she feels it necessary.

Any MNA Member may question the appropriateness or inclusion of any ad by appealing to the Editor. Failing resolution at that level, the matter will be elevated to the Executive Committee.

Seasonal ads, e.g., lawn services, must be revised by the advertisers as seasons change or such ads will be removed at the discretion of the Editor.