



The Brook Creek Breeze

The Newsletter of the
Brook Creek
Neighborhood Association

November—December 2014

Neighborhood Events

November

- 4 Voting Day
- 12 BCNA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
East Lawrence Rec. Center,
Officer Nominations

December

- 10 BCNA Holiday Party,
Meeting & Officer Elections

February

- TBD BCNA Meeting

Mark your calendar!

BCNA's election of 2015 officers & our Holiday Party on December 10, 2014

At our regular meeting scheduled for December 10, 2014, 7:30 p.m., at the East Lawrence Recreation Center, we will have election of officers for 2015. Following that, we'll celebrate with our Holiday Party.

Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, most of us do a lot of holiday baking. If you can, please bring some of your favorite holiday treats to share with your friends and neighbors.

We Need Volunteers

We need someone to fill the position of BCNA's representative to LAN (Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods). LAN meets the first Thursday of each month at Capital City Bank, 740 New Hampshire St. at 7:00 p.m.

As of our publication date, we still need volunteers to serve on the nominating committee that will put together the slate of candidates for the board of officers. The election of officers for 2015 will take place at our December 10th meeting. We also need to hear from any of you interested in serving as one of the officers for 2015, so your name can be added to the slate of candidates.

If you would be willing to serve as our representative to LAN, on the nominating committee, or as one of the BCNA officers, please contact our coordinator, Julie Banhart, at BrookCreekNA@gmail.com or at 841-4997.

Don't Forget to Vote!

A general election is coming on November 4 in which representatives for local, state, and federal offices will be chosen. Please mark your calendars and do not forget to cast your vote.

Public Meetings Scheduled

An update of the City of Lawrence and Douglas County's Comprehensive Plan, Horizon 2020, is underway. Several key issues have been identified for further discussion. Two public forums have been set to dedicate time to each of the key issues and allow for public comment to share thoughts, ideas and concerns. At each forum, four topics will be discussed.

November 5, 6-8 PM, Lawrence High School

November 12, 6-8 PM, Lawrence High School



Robert Taylor with wife Mary and grand-daughter

In Memoriam

Long-time Brook Creek resident, BCNA member, & friend of many of us, Robert Taylor, passed away on September 27. He is survived by his wife, Mary Taylor, children and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

Neighborhood Contacts

Andrea Repinsky, President

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Byron Wiley, Vice-President

841-2829

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Susan Miller, Treasurer

Michael Almon, Secretary

paradigm@sunflower.com

Julie Banhart,

Neighborhood Coordinator

BrookCreekNA@gmail.com

841-4997

brookcreeklaw-
rence.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/
brookcreekneighborhood



Creek Meanders

Our gratitude goes to Dickie Heckler for representing Brook Creek at the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods and to the next volunteer to do the same. Thanks to City Manager David Corliss and Chief of Police Tarik Khatib for sharing information with us at BCNA meetings.

If something near you needs attention, many problems can be addressed either through City Code Enforcement (832-7700) or Neighborhood Resource Police Officers(830-7408 or 830-7409) . If you aren't sure where to start, contact BCNA, and we'll figure it out together.

The last newsletter contained information on the invasive amur honeysuckle, one of our bad neighbors. This is an excellent time to identify it because of its distinctive bright red berries. Find it and kill it! As long as the weather remains warm, we will continue to share the neighborhood with other bad neighbors: mosquitoes. Let's continue to patrol our yards for standing water that may house them.

Advertising in the BCNA newsletter is a great way for the neighborhood and local businesses to support each other! Contact BCNA to advertise in the next newsletter.

Our opportunities to connect and communicate continue to grow. Look for the Brook Creek group on Facebook for a great place to discuss issues and post information. BCNA has a Facebook page for neighborhood updates and reminders, too.

Recycling Dates

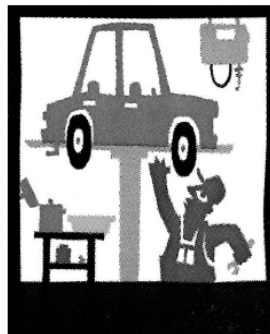
North of 15th Street: Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 17

South of 15th Street: Nov. 7, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

BLEVINS AUTOMOTIVE

1733 BULLENE AVE.
SUITE D & E
LAWRENCE KS 66044
785-842-5079

DOUG & TIM PECK
OWNERS






**Brook Creek friends
and neighbors at the
September picnic**



Many Brook Creek residents and friends gathered on September 6 in Brook Creek Park for the annual fall picnic. Attendees enjoyed a meal together, played games in the park, and listened to live music from Byron Wiley and Theresa Martin. Our resident expert musical saw player, Tom Bogardus, retrieved his saw so he could join Byron and Theresa. Please join us in thanking The Merc and Checkers for their donations.

Also, thanks to Emily Winters and Doug & Susan Miller for their work and contributions to make the September picnic such an enjoyable event.

COTTIN'S
HARDWARE & RENTAL
 1832 Massachusetts Street - Lawrence, KS 66044
 (785) 843-2981
 hardware@sunflower.com
 Hours: M-F 7:30am-6:00pm; Sat. 8:00am-5:00pm; Sun. 10:00am-5:00pm



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Historic Haskell Row and the Haskell Family

Historic Haskell Row is a remarkable Lawrence treasure, originally the property of members of one of the families that founded Lawrence. In 1854, soon after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, Franklin Haskell moved from Massachusetts to Lawrence in the first wave of settlers of the Emigrant Aid Society. In March 1855, Almira Chase Haskell and her son Dudley Chase Haskell joined her husband, Franklin. Their log house frequently protected free-state advocates from marauding pro-slavery rangers. In 1857 Franklin Haskell died, leaving a request that his son, John G. Haskell, come from Massachusetts to care for his family in Lawrence, which he did in July 1857.

Then on 10 October 1859, in return for full payment, President James Buchanan granted a land patent to Almira Chase Haskell for the southwest 1/16th of a section of land that today contains Historic Haskell Row. John G. Haskell sold the east half of this parcel to raise money. Being a renowned architect, he proceeded to design the three Haskell family houses on the west half of their parcel in what is now the 1300 block of Haskell Ave. in the Brook Creek Neighborhood.

John G. Haskell built his own home at 1340 Haskell Ave. His brother Dudley C. Haskell built his home at 1320 Haskell Ave., and their sister, Elizabeth Haskell French, built her home at 1300 Haskell Ave. 1340 Haskell Ave. and 1300 Haskell Ave. both are now on the Lawrence Register of Historic Places. This threesome of family homes were then referred to as the "Haskell Conclave", and now are called "Historic Haskell Row".

As Kansas State Architect, John G. Haskell designed many famous Kansas buildings including: the Kansas State House, Douglas County Courthouse (Lawrence), Plymouth Congregational Church (Lawrence), United Presbyterian Church (Lawrence), First Methodist Church (Lawrence), Snow Hall (K.U.), and Hiawatha Hall (Haskell Univ.).

As a U.S. Congressman, Dudley Haskell was instrumental in the founding of the Indian Industrial Training School in 1884. The name was changed in 1887 to "Haskell Institute" to honor Dudley Haskell, and again to Haskell Indian Nations University in 1993.

Most Lawrence residents know little of this history. But quietly over the past couple of decades, residents of Brook Creek Neighborhood have been working to stabilize this historic district of three houses. Initially, some individuals approached the owners of the properties to learn if they would list them on the historical register. None of them were interested in the mid 1990's. So instead, we worked to protect the environs of the Haskell Conclave to guard the area and the homes themselves from negative pressure.

One threat to the area came in 1997 when the School District planned to convert East Heights Elementary School to a district-wide warehouse and distribution center immediately south of the John G. Haskell home. Brook Creek Neighborhood Association wrote letters to the School Board and helped defeat the school consolidation ballot issue in 1998.



North view of planned renovation of 1320 Haskell

In 1997, a developer built a 12-unit apartment complex at 13th & Maple Lane. It was a wake-up call for the Brook Creek Neighborhood, which was 86 percent single family and largely owner-occupied. People realized that, as a vestige of the 1966 Zoning Code, four square blocks were apartment zoning including Historic Haskell Row. In order to prevent the Haskell houses and other properties from becoming apartments, the Neighborhood Organization gathered signatures from 88 percent of property owners in the four square blocks requesting single family zoning. On September 19, 1998, the City Commission voted unanimously to rezone the four blocks and Historic Haskell Row to single family zoning.

Another threat to the area came at the north end of Historic Haskell Row in 2004, when a landlord at 13th & Haskell violated their grandfather clause, installed a garage door without a building permit, and rented to a toxic pest control company. Again, the Neighborhood Organization fought it and forced them to modify the building and rent to a neighborhood beauty shop.

And from 2010 to 2012, four residents of Brook Creek Neighborhood took over the remodeling of the historic Oliver Hanscom house at 1313 Haskell, which was in danger of demolition. They brought the house into Code compliance and sold it to a couple who finished it and now live there. This anchored the west side of the street.

Our neighborhood efforts began paying off when, in 2012, Aaron and Kendra Marable bought 1300 Haskell Ave., did a historic remodel, and listed the house on the Lawrence Register of Historic Places. In 2014, they also bought 1340 Haskell Ave. and have listed it on the Lawrence Register of Historic Places.

The center house, 1320 Haskell Ave., was recently purchased and plans made for remodeling it. The plan includes the removal of an addition built onto the west side of the house. A new addition will be built onto the rear of the house. Two of the original windows will be eliminated, two other windows will be altered, and a 20 foot long ribbon window will be added. In addition, some of the exterior walls would become gray metal or gray-painted clapboard rather than the historic white clapboard. There will also be a metal roof, and a large, new, mostly metal-clad, garage in the side yard and visible from the street.

The renovation plans came under the review of the Historic Resources Commission (HRC) because of potential impacts to the environs of the two listed historic properties. The HRC did not notify the neighborhood, and a quirk of

the Code allowed no protest petition, unlike for other public hearings.

Renovation plans have proved controversial. At the September and October HRC meetings, several individuals and the Lawrence Preservation Alliance objected to details of the renovation plan that they stated are out of character with the architectural style as John G. Haskell designed it and its companion houses. Members of the public stated disappointment that the remodel would likely prevent the vision of having all three houses of Historic Haskell Row preserved as historically intact, which would have provided a major landmark for the founding of free-state Kansas. Commenters did agree that, in general, remodeling and occupation of 1320 Haskell Ave. is welcome and will prevent further deterioration.

A few changes were made to the plan as presented at the September HRC meeting in response to public input, and the new plan was approved by the HRC in October.

AAA Old Man Recycling, LLC



8:00 - 5:00, Monday - Friday

8:00 - noon, Saturday

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Lawrence KS 66044

800-217-4855

BCNA Meeting Notes

September 10, 2014

City Manager Dave Corliss was our guest speaker. He talked about the expected 19th St. improvements east of Harper and the proposed police facility. Regarding 19th St., the project has an expected completion date of 2016. The City does not plan to open access from the new business park until the project is complete. Corliss said the City can't prohibit traffic from cutting through the neighborhood, but it can be discouraged from Venture Park. He also said that plans for 19th Street are not yet determined, and the neighborhood will have opportunity to provide input at public meetings next year.

Mr. Corliss also talked about the upcoming vote on a 0.2% sales tax increase for up to 9 years for the proposed new police facility. The City proposes to put it in the central part of the city, east of Hallmark. This would move the police department into one building in a central location. The City already paid \$2.25 million for the property.

Neighborhood information: The neighborhood list serve has been created and is undergoing testing. It will be the official neighborhood site for posting comments. In other news, the Marables' project to establish a hospitality business at 1340 Haskell has been discontinued.

Park Improvements: Brook Creek will ask to meet with city staff to discuss a firm management plan for Brook Creek Park and other ideas for improvements, such as mowing the park more often.

Bylaws: Pres. Andrea Repinsky presented the idea to create a board of governors for BCNA to help increase representation and get more people involved. Attendees presented no objections to exploring the option.

October 15, 2014

Police Station Funding Campaign

Police Chief Tarik Khatib presented the reasons the Police Department is asking for funding for a new police station. Khatib described the following limitations of the current facilities. In the leased space at the County Courthouse, after-hours walk-in service is inconvenient. He said that space is inadequate for parking, interview rooms, privacy, and evidence storage. There is one shower for female officers. 120 people work there. Administration and training

occurs at the Department's building at 15th & Wakarusa. Khatib said the police do not communicate well among buildings. That site lacks features such as a backup generator, access after 5:00 for the public and adequate meeting and training space; 47 people work there. Animal Control & Parking has no public access or changing area. The Morton Block building, used for storage, has water and mold problems. The Stone Barn is used to store motorcycles, but they are not used much because of access limitations. The County Public Works space, used for evidence storage, will be demolished. The ballot issue asks voters to approve a .2% sales tax increase. The proposed location was narrowed down to a site near the Hallmark plant. Khatib said that police functions are typically under one roof in a community this size. In a larger city, the precinct model becomes practical, with multiple police stations. Khatib and Police Sergeant Trent McKinley said that Brook Creek is not a hot spot for crime, and is doing relatively well. In the future there will be a better website with citywide crime data.

Nominations: Andrea Repinsky asked for Brook Creek officer nominating committee volunteers. There were no volunteers due to low meeting turnout. Julie Banhart will send an email asking for volunteers to create a slate of officers by the Nov. 12 BCNA meeting. A nominee will be needed to fill Dickie Heckler's position as the Brook Creek representative to the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods.

Newsletter: Attendees reviewed newsletter content and deadlines.

Haskell Row: An update was provided on the planned renovation of 1320 Haskell by Aron and Sarah Cromwell. The Historic Resources Commission will review the plan for potential impacts to adjoining historical properties on October 16. Several people expressed their concerns at the previous HRC meeting because of the planned use of metal siding, modern window shapes, and a garage with a modern design and setback equal to the house. In response, a new proposal was developed that featured moving the garage further back and retaining more of the wood siding.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

1233 Laura Ave. - Morgan C. Seaman & Pilar I. D'Asto

1523 Hanscom Rd. - Stephen D. & Teresa A. Reetz

1527 Lindenwood Ln. - Wayne A. Phillips

918 Oliver's Ct. - Gary P. Petrozz

1629 Haskell Ave. - Jeffrey A. McCalmon

1715 Bullene Ave. - Trudi Chavez

1621 Irving Ct. - Christopher A. & Erin M. Rectenwald

1515 Lindenwood Ln. - David J. Coachman

1643 Rose Ln. - Kevin P. Boos

Cell Tower Proposed on Burroughs Creek Trail

The Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission will consider a request for a Special Use Permit for a new 120' Verizon Wireless communications tower at 1725 Bullene Ave. on Monday, November 17 at 6:30 PM in the Commission Meeting Room at City Hall, 6 E. 6th St. The public will be given the opportunity to make oral comments. Written comments are welcomed, and are requested to be submitted to the Planning Commission by 10 AM on Nov. 17.

The tower would be directly south of single-family homes and across the Burroughs Creek Trail from the Woods on 19th Street townhomes. There are currently no such towers in Brook Creek or Barker Neighborhoods. There are only four nearby, and they are all in commercial areas: downtown, 23rd & Naismith, and two at the East Hills Business Park.

Questions remain about this proposal. How much would this impact the scenery along the Burroughs Creek Trail? Would there be effects on the health of nearby residents? Is this creek-bottom location impractical for cell phone service? Cell towers are typically located on the highest ground for the farthest transmission potential.

A microwave cell tower emits radio-frequency electromagnetic fields (RF-EMFs) by which all wireless technology operates. These EMFs are largely untested in their effects on human beings. But David O. Carpenter, Director of Environmental Health at the State University of New York says "We know that RF-EMF causes generation of free radicals, increases production of things called heat shock proteins, and alters calcium ion regulation. These are all common mechanisms behind many kinds of tissue damage."

About 91 percent of U.S. adults own cell phones but few suffer health effects that they know of. It is true however with any kind of EMFs, that the energy field is more powerful the nearer you are to the source. So it might be unwise to have a cell tower so close to where we live and work.

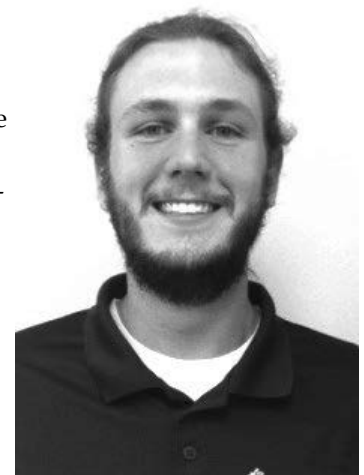
The proposal will be on the November 12 BCNA agenda.



Introducing Stephen Mason at the East Lawrence Recreation Center

Hello! My name is Stephen Mason, new Recreation Center Programmer at the East Lawrence Center at 1245 E. 15th St. I grew up in Lawrence and developed my love for recreation through participation in the City's many great youth programs. Whether playing basketball at the East Lawrence center, learning dance at the Art Center, or my summer as a volunteer at the Library, I found I preferred the variety that recreation offered. After graduating from Lawrence High, I went to Emporia State University on a football scholarship and decided to pursue a degree in recreation management. Although the football path did not pan out, my love for recreation only blossomed further. At the end of my senior year I jumped at the opportunity to intern with the Parks and Recreation Department back in my home town. I have now been with the department for going on two years. I

have two principles that drive my view of recreation. First, although I love sports, recreation is far more than just athletics; it is any constructive use of free time including games, arts, dance, and beyond. Secondly, the benefits and joys of recreation should be easily accessible. I look forward to programming for, and running, the East Lawrence Center and would like to personally extend an invitation to anyone to come and see our facilities and meet me in person! Call Stephen at 832-7950



Brook Creek Neighborhood Association

1944 Miller Drive

Lawrence, KS 66046



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Join Brook Creek Neighborhood Association for only \$1.00

2014 Membership payments can still be paid! Support BCNA so that we can effectively represent you.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

In-neighborhood individuals \$1.00	Businesses \$20.00
Out-of neighborhood individuals \$5.00	Not-for-profits \$10.00

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Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Member information is used only for neighborhood communications, and not distributed or sold.

Please **check** ✓ any box that applies:

- I do not want my name printed in the newsletter as a new or returning member
- I would like to be included in a neighborhood e-mail list-serve
- I would like to receive a weekly e-newsletter

Mail this form and your check payable to BCNA to:
Brook Creek Neighborhood, 1235 Prairie Ave. Lawrence KS 66044

Visit us at <http://brookcreeklawrence.wordpress.com/>