

**Nov. 2010
Issue 13**

Chesterfield Neighbors

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Contact the Chesterfield Board of Directors at board@chesterfieldhomeowners.com.

Upcoming Chesterfield Board Meetings:

Annual Meeting
December 20, 2010

Board meetings are held at 7:00 pm at Valley Community Bank, 75 S. Randall Rd., North Aurora

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For up-to-date information, see our web site at www.chesterfieldhomeowners.com.*

President's Report

Brian Rominski

Residents of Chesterfield and police officers from the North Aurora Police Department met to discuss P.A.C.T., a new program that is being introduced to residents of North Aurora.

What is P.A.C.T.? Police And Citizens Together. P.A.C.T. is a community based action program designed not only to build police-community relations, but it also builds on to existing "Neighborhood Watch programs".

The P.A.C.T. program assigns a primary officer who is responsible to work with residents in a specific area to help address neighborhood issues and help solve problems. Officer Ryan McKiness has been assigned to our neighborhood. Officer McKiness is responsible for maintaining contact with residents, handles any issues as they develop in our neighborhood and to follow-up with residents to verify that their needs have been addressed. Officer McKiness will meet quarterly with the residents of Chesterfield to share police and crime activity in our area. He will listen to our concerns and provide information on any crimes that may have occurred in our neighborhood and will give us information how to protect ourselves from crime.

One of the areas that residents of Chesterfield can help is by volunteering to be a P.A.C.T. block captain. Volunteers who would be interested in becoming a Block Captain will need to contact Officer McKiness. Since most of our streets are quite long in Chesterfield, we could have multiple Block Captains for each block. What block captain are asked to help with are: help with organizing the four meetings that take place during each year, help identify elderly or persons of special needs within our subdivision and to check on them periodically, know when homes in your immediately area become vacant and when new residents move in, provide emergency contact numbers to new resident, keep your eyes open and know which vehicles belong in your neighborhood (this is something all of us should do). Discuss problems and potential problems with your neighbors.

The best way to protect our neighborhood from crime is to be proactive. It takes all of us to take care of our neighborhood. Keep your car locked up if you leave it parked in your driveway or street overnight. Don't leave items inside the car that are visible by looking in. Don't leave your purse, wallet or keys in the car. Keep your garage door closed at night. Putting an alarm sign in front of your house is a very good deterrent. Leave outdoor lights on overnight. Install motion detector lights. If you are going away, put lights on a timer. Let your neighbor know that you will be gone so they can keep an eye on your home for you. You can also fill out a vacation form to have your home put on a vacation watch list. The police will then know that nobody should be at your home while you're gone. If you see strange cars that are parked in your neighborhood or look like they don't belong, call 911. An officer doesn't need to speak with you, they can just come out and take a look around and see if that car belongs in the area.

Now the next time you come home at night and its dark outside, stand at the curb and take a good look at your house. What do you see? What would a potential burglar see? Did you leave lights on? Are there bushes growing next to the house that would provide coverage for someone to hide in? Are all of your windows locked? Did you lock that sliding glass door when you left? Did you leave valuables in your car?

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President's Report Continued

The best way to a prevent crime is to make all of us are awareness of crime risks and what steps we should take as a homeowner to reduce or remove those risks.

Did you know that the North Aurora Police Department publishes a weekly newsletter with news, information about upcoming events, and crime prevention tips. To sign up to receive the newsletter, send an email with your email address and general location in the village you live (Chesterfield) to Officer Robyn Stecklein at rstecklein@vil.north-aurora.il.us. Newsletters are also posted on the North Aurora Police Department web site.

Visit the North Aurora Police Department on line at <http://vil.north-aurora.il.us/police/index.htm>
Chesterfield Subdivision P.A.C.T. contact is Officer Ryan McKiness
(630) 897-8228, ext. 703. You may email Officer McKiness at: rmckiness@vil.north-aurora.il.us

Wildlife in my own backyard

Denise Vancil

Have you ever observed the behavior of the Killdeer? They are water loving birds so they're attracted to our pond. They don't have a pleasant song to sing, rather, they screech. But their everyday antics are like no other backyard bird.

These birds are ground nesters. So a mother killdeer nested in my backyard, four years ago, on the dry rock riverbed and this year under an evergreen tree. The first location was clever. The rocks of the riverbed camouflaged the spotted killdeer eggs so well; you can barely make them out in this photo. Can you find them?

When anyone comes near to her nest, you'll hear her screeching as she trots a few feet away and plays the injured bird syndrome. She sits down and spreads one wing to look like she is injured to divert your attention from her nest. I think it is like saying "Take me, I'm easy prey, and leave my progeny alone!"

After the chicks hatched, I took a peek one evening to see these beautiful little birds fast asleep. My impulse was to go for the camera right then and there. I knew they wouldn't be around for long. But I reconsidered, thinking how intrusive and inconsiderate that would be. The next day, sure enough, all four chicks were out and about, running around in my backyard making little peeping sounds. Even the adult birds seem to do more walking than flying on their funny long legs.

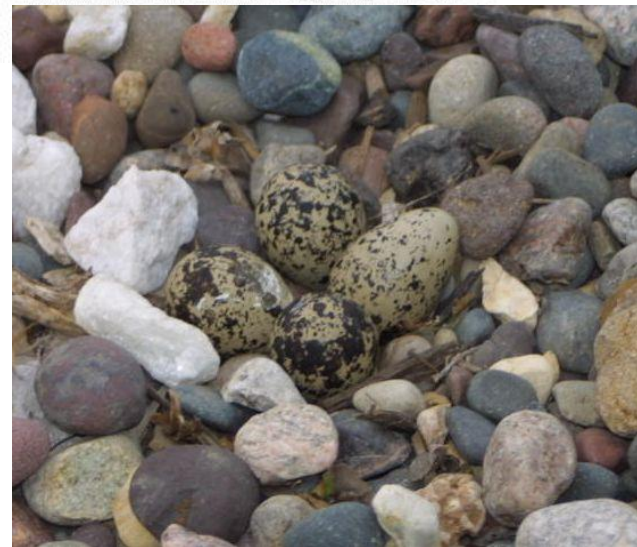
The next time you hear screeching and peeping sounds in your backyard, you just might have a family of killdeers.

Treasurer's Report

Jeffery Henderson

As of November 1, 2010 the Association has \$35,511 in operating funds and \$99,572 in reserves.

The association has no outstanding debt.



Have fun watching them. By the way, they are good to have around because they eat bugs like mosquitoes.

Do you have wildlife visiting or living in your backyard?

Grab that camera and take a picture.

Send it to:

communication@chesterfieldhomeowners.com

Recipe Corner

Debbie Garcia

OREO TRUFFLES

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (16 ounce) package OREO Chocolate Sandwich Cookies, divided
- 1 (8 ounce) package PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened
- 2 (8 ounce) pkg semi-sweet baking chocolate or choc chips, melted

Makes about 3 ½ dozen truffles.

1. Crush 9 of the cookies to fine crumbs in food processor; reserve for later use.
2. Crush remaining 36 cookies with food processor to fine crumbs.
3. Add the cream cheese in large chunks and pulse a few times to until the candy consistency is that of dough.
4. Place the candy in the refrigerator to firm up for about 1 hour or put in the freezer if your time is tight for a shorter amount of time.
5. Using a teaspoon or candy scoop, form 1-inch balls and roll between your hands until they are round. Place the candies on wax paper lined baking sheet. Put in the freezer while you prepare the dipping chocolate and cookie topping.
6. Place the chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave until melted, stirring after every minute. Allow the chocolate to cool slightly, but do not let it harden. Some melt ½ the chocolate and do ½ the truffles then melt the other ½ of the chocolate.
7. Dip the candy balls in the melted chocolate and place on a wax paper lined baking sheet. You'll need two baking sheets. While the chocolate is still wet, sprinkle with reserved cookie crumbs. Repeat with remaining truffles. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until chocolate has hardened.
8. Store in air tight container in refrigerator.

How to Easily Dip Truffles

To easily coat truffles with the melted chocolate, add truffles, in batches, to bowl of melted chocolate. Use 2 spoons to roll truffles in chocolate until evenly coated. Remove truffles with spoons letting excess chocolate drip back into bowl. Place truffles on prepared baking sheet; let stand until firm.

Vary the toppings

Sprinkle truffles with colored sugar or sprinkles in addition to, or in place of, the cookie crumbs or melt 8 oz. white chocolate and drizzle over truffles.

How to Soften Cream Cheese

Place completely unwrapped package of cream cheese in microwavable bowl. Microwave on HIGH 10 sec. or just until softened. Add 15 sec. for each additional package of cream cheese.

The Lazy Way

Forego the chocolate 'dip' and merely roll the truffles into various mixtures - chopped nuts, chocolate sprinkles, various colored candy sprinkles, cocoa powder, chocolate shavings, colored sugars -- still pretty -- less work.

USE OTHER SANDWICH COOKIES

Some have used all different flavors of sandwich cookies...Mint, Nutter Butter or Coffee & Cream Oreos. Each is delicious. One favorite batch is to add 2-3 regular sized Butterfinger bars crushed with a Peanut butter Oreo cookie mixture.

Have a recipe you want to share??? Send it to:
communication@chesterfieldhomeowners.com

Chesterfield Neighbors

CHESTERFIELD
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.chesterfieldhomeowners.com

Upcoming Meetings

The Chesterfield Board has scheduled a resident meeting for December 3, 2010 to discuss the construction noise our subdivision has been experiencing. The meeting will be held at Valley Community Bank at 7:30 in the lower level.

Annual Meeting

Chesterfield Homeowners Association Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the lower level of Valley Community Bank. Homeowners who are not able to attend the meeting, please fill out the proxy you will be receiving shortly and return it to Baum Property Management.

Make this YOUR newsletter!

Chesterfield Neighbors welcomes articles from all Chesterfield homeowners and residents. If you have some interesting information you'd like to share with your neighbors (gardening tips, recipes, local information of general interest), send your submission to communication@chesterfieldhomeowners.com or mail it to our management agent (see box at left) marked "Chesterfield Neighbors newsletter."

Chesterfield Homeowners Assn.
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