



# Hidden Creek Homeowners' Association

*Life along the Creek ~ Newsletter No. 1, 20 May 2020*

Good Day Hidden Creek Residents! As a follow-on to the letter sent in April, we continue to happily serve as your Board of Directors (BOD). In an effort to further increase awareness and communication we present this, our first Newsletter, full of information about our community and hopefully of interest to us all. We hope you appreciate the updates.

## **New Neighbors**

Welcome to Our New Neighbors



If you are new to the Neighborhood please send us your contact information so that you can stay informed about community activities, events and plans. Email the Secretary at: [secretary@hiddencreekal.org](mailto:secretary@hiddencreekal.org)

If you feel so inclined, send a sentence or two on why you chose Hidden Creek as your choice for a place to live in Huntsville and we will anonymously include it in the next Newsletter.

## **Blake Bottom Expansion**

We understand the Blake Bottom Expansion is a big concern for our community. Talking with the commission and engineers we understand this will not be happening here for a minimum of five years. Jeff Road will be completed first. Many of our neighbors on the Blake Bottom side have received letters concerning their options. As a HOA, we can go to meetings, disseminate information and voice your and our concerns which we will do.

We intend on voicing traffic flow and safety concerns in our neighborhood.

Robbie Koester (256.617.1508) and Stacy Bates (256.864.8732) are the committee chairs in this matter.

If you have input or questions please email or call and we will respond.

More details at: <https://www.madisoncountyal.gov/departments/public-works>

Graphic Depiction at: <https://www.madisoncountyal.gov/home/showdocument?id=6891>

## **Clubhouse / Pool News**

The pool is open for use: please take a minute and appreciate that your pool area has been cleaned, painted and spruced up. New furniture is in route. A reminder to continue to practice social distancing when frequenting that area.

We are still a work in progress. Putting up new fans, fixing brick on pedestals and around the pool. Please be mindful as efforts may be continuing as you are enjoying the area.

We ask you play your part with maintaining this special space by cleaning up as you leave, checking to make sure umbrellas are down, placing trash in the trash can in the pool area or, if

full, in one of two green bins just outside the main gate. If you see maintenance or cleaning that is needed, send the BOD an email and together we can keep it pristine. Thanks in advance.

### **Brick Walls and Pool Brickwork**

In 2014, a portion of the wall along Bishop Road south of Hidden Creek needed rebuilding due to improper drainage along Bishop Road. The BOD at the time contracted the rebuild with great results. Now, a new maintenance effort is underway to rebuild and maintain:

- a. portions of the wall north of Hidden Creek Drive on Bishop Road
- b. the pedestals and missing wall mortar around the pool and,
- c. minor maintenance on the entrance to Clouds Creek Drive

At the beginning of April, a scope of work was developed and requests for quotes have gone out. The process is moving forward albeit slowly as we wait for quotes, try to match brick color for an out of production brick, and wait on contractor schedules to bid.

When we select a contractor to complete the work those of you with properties along or near the areas being repaired will need to allow access for personnel and equipment to complete the work. The BOD will make every attempt to let you know via email the dates/times when work will be done on your areas.

### **Chairperson Updates**

Welcome and thanks to William Johnson for volunteering as Chair of the Bylaws committee. His contact email is: [williamj1142@icloud.com](mailto:williamj1142@icloud.com)

Welcome and thanks to Robbie Koester (256.617.1508) and Stacy Bates (256.864.8732) for volunteering as co-chairs for the Expansion Committee.

Chairpersons and volunteers are still needed, and your involvement is important. Visit the website for information about our committees.

### **Community Concerns**

The following items of concern have been voiced to the BOD since our elections:

- a. *Full stops at stop signs* - please obey traffic laws in the subdivision.
- b. *Speeding in the Neighborhood* - speeding drivers are one of the most common resident complaints in Hidden Creek. Because speeding creates a danger for pedestrians, bicyclists and especially for children, let's back off the gas pedal as we move through the Neighborhood. Safety First! The thought of creating a "Safety Campaign" has been raised. If you are interested in being a part of such a discussion, contact the BOD.
- c. *Parking on the Street* - drivers have stated "If cars are parked on both sides of the street, you can barely get a car through," The concern most frequently expressed regarding cars being parked on the street is at the entrance areas of the neighborhood. For most neighborhood streets, vehicles can create a safety hazard for other motorists or make it tough for fire trucks, ambulances or law enforcement cruisers to get to where they're going in the neighborhood. Let's be mindful of this challenge.
- d. *Yards* – unpleasant yards matter to the whole community. With proper care and maintenance, well-maintained yards improve the overall environment of the neighborhood, making it feel more family and child friendly. Let's all fulfill our individual responsibility for well-maintained yards. As we walk and drive through the neighborhood, we hope the thought that comes to mind is "I am really happy to be living in Hidden Creek."

## **Covenants and Bylaws**

While rules and policies can sometimes be viewed as “prohibitive”, they do have lots of ‘protective’ value. Examples of the benefits of well-planned Covenants and Bylaws include:

- ✓ Protected property values,
- ✓ Increased safety and aesthetic appeal,
- ✓ Generally improve a neighborhood's quality of life.
- ✓ Support our neighborhood in “aging gracefully”.

Our collective efforts to adhere to the Bylaws and Covenants will produce great collective returns. You can find the Hidden Creek By-laws and Covenants on our website.

## **Assessments**

Thanks to all who submitted your annual assessments. As of this newsletter posting 92.4% have paid the 2020 assessments. These payments allow the BOD to act in our best interests for the upkeep of the entrances, neighborhood and common property you’ve read about above. Letters for those who have not paid will be sent soon but if you are uncertain that you have paid, please send an email to the secretary for confirmation.

**Congrats to all school graduates.** Well done on your achievements.