

Jonathan Neighbors

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Association

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The Jonathan Association

Jonathan Neighbors

Jonathan receives MarCom Award for excellence!

The Jonathan Association has been recognized for excellence in marketing and communication, earning a "Gold" award from the 2011 MarCom Awards program selection committee in the internal newsletter category. The MarCom Awards, an international competition, is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (AMCP). This international organization consists of several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, media production, and freelance professionals who come together to honor outstanding achievement and service to the communication profession. "An achievement like the MarCom Award validates our efforts to deliver top-notch communication to homeowners," said Nate Bostrom, President of the Jonathan Association. "To win a MarCom Gold award from the AMCP is an amazing achievement!" Bostrom credits Nancy Teske, the Gassen Company on-site property manager for Jonathan, who he said "creates the entire layout, selects all the photos, and even helps write some of the content, too." Bostrom, who authors most of the



articles for each that Teske handles advertising which "managing the well as adding new advertising sales, less than a dollar household. There entries across many categories from and several foreign MarCom Awards only 18% of all "Gold" status among the other award winners were: American Public Television (website), Fidelity Investments (direct mail postcard), Lockheed Martin (promotional branding campaign), MetLife (consumer brochure), and St. Jude Medical (television placement). "It's so exciting that our **Jonathan Neighbors** quarterly newsletter is among the winners in this prestigious, international creative competition," said Bostrom. "I think this wonderful achievement is further proof that Jonathan in Chaska is a special part of the best small town in Minnesota!"



Co-Editors Nate Bostrom & Nancy Teske

The Jonathan Association has many committees, all of which need resident input. Please consider joining one of the following committees:

- Heritage
- Activities
- Architectural Review
- Buildings & Grounds
- Communications
- Elections
- Finance

Contact the Karen House staff at 952-448-4700 or www.jonathaninchaska.com

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Jonathan Neighbors is the official publication of the Jonathan Association in Chaska, MN. It is published quarterly, at the direction of the Jonathan Association Board of Directors, and is mailed to all property residents in Jonathan.

Editor: Nancy Teske

Co-Editor: Nate Bostrom



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you and yours!

Jonathan Board of Directors, Gassen Company, and Karen House Staff

Boy Scout Troop #589 Enjoys a Hog Roast Picnic

Nearly 100 scouts, their family members, and adult leaders were in attendance as the Chaska Boy Scout Troop #589 launched its scouting year on Sunday, September 11 with a "Welcome Back" picnic at Lake Grace. In addition to an official "retiring" of an American Flag by the Scout Troop, the picnic also featured a pig roast sponsored by the Jonathan Association which is the sponsoring charter organization for Troop #589. The event provided Jonathan Board members with the opportunity to recognize the following Scouts, Parents, Adult Leaders,

and Volunteers as recipients of the Jonathan Seedling Award, which was presented in recognition of their volunteer service during the 2010 Fall Spring Cleanup Day and Fall Cleanup Day in Jonathan. Those honored were: Anson Allard, Jake Bell, Kasey Crumpton, Jake Connealy, Matthew Dale, Leif Ewald, Jonathan Early, Colin Emerson, Sean Hanson, Greg Hammer, David Kloke, Ryan Kloke, Ben Kloke, Alex Logan, Cameron Leinen, Jon Leinen, Connor Martin, Sonya Martin, Karl Martin, Brooke Moormeier, Mike McGraw, Andrew Maries,

Jim Ramette, Jake Richelsen, David Roper, Joshua Ramette, Jacob Simon, Kieren Webster, and Jared Zingsheim. Boy Scout Troop #589 meets Tuesday nights at St. Andrew West Lutheran Church in Jonathan. For more information on Boy Scout Troop #589, check out <http://chaska589.mytroop.us/>.



~ Attention all Recreational Vehicles ~

November 1st was the day for transition from summer to winter recreational vehicles. **Boats, RV's, and ATV's must be put away.** Snowmobiles and trailers may come out. All vehicles must be parked on the driveway; nothing can be parked on lawns. Residents may construct driveway extensions to accommodate their recreational vehicles. Residents may contact the Karen House to get a copy of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Guidelines or print from our website at www.jonathaninchaska.com. Specs and requirements are outlined in those documents. For approval, ARC only requires a sketch of the location of the driveway extension as it relates to, and connects with, the existing driveway; distance from the lot line; and notation of material used.



CHASKA POLICE SAFETY TIPS

By Officers Brady Juell & Mike Kleber,
Special Correspondents

With the colder days of Winter, many residents will continue to get out and exercise! The Chaska Police Department reminds you to do so safely. Here are a few tips to achieve a safe experience:



always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back. Consider bringing a friend along with.

- Take your cell phone with you. If you are injured or see something suspicious, you will be able to call for help.
- Stay aware. With the advent of iPods and MP3 players, some people "zone out" while exercising. Always be aware of your surroundings. If you are aware of your surroundings, you are less likely to be targeted and victimized.
- If exercising at night, only use well lit and traveled paths. You may have to alter your normal routine in exchange for the safest path. Try to incorporate reflective clothing or bring a flashlight with you. This way others will see you, especially if running on a roadway. If biking, it's the law to have a light on the bike.
- If you carry personal protection such as pepper spray, it is a must that it be carried in your hand. If you encounter trouble, there will be no time to "look for it" after the fact.
- The Chaska Police encourage residents to call 911 to report any suspicious activity.

Chaska is an extremely safe community, but using the above safety tips can help make it even safer. The Chaska Police Department encourages you to exercise safely and enjoy the outdoors!

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Homeowners in the Chaska Area who are in need of assistance can apply for home repairs through Christmas in May☆Chaska. All repairs are absolutely free.



Call (952) 361-5350 if your home is in need of minor repairs, such as painting, yard clean-up or accessibility repairs.

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Budget recommendation is to decrease 2012 tax levy by \$1 million
By Randy Maluchnik, Carver County Board Chair

Following the County Board's goal to decrease the tax-impact on average-value homes, the County Administrator recommends setting the preliminary 2012 tax levy at \$45 million, a decrease of \$1 million from 2011.

Property taxes provide most of the funding for local government services in Carver County. Property taxes paid by Carver County residents are distributed to the County, local school districts, governing municipalities, and special taxing districts. Each property's share of taxes is determined according to its assessed value, the applicable property tax levies of each taxing district, and property classification (i.e. commercial, single family residential, farmland, etc.).



As part of determining its budget strategy, County Administration estimated it will cost an additional \$1.3 million to maintain the same general level of services in 2012. County divisions and offices were asked to cut their budgets by 2.9% to offset this increase in operating costs. This process identified \$1.3 million in levy savings countywide.

Initially it was thought budget cuts and flat-ling the levy would enable the County to meet its tax impact reduction goal. However, a decision by state lawmakers at the close of the recent state government shut-down to eliminate the Market Value Homestead Credit (MVHC) prompted a new recommendation: Lower the proposed property tax levy by \$1 million to \$45,179,720. This change offsets the loss of revenue from the MVHC that previously subsidized the tax levy for County taxpayers.

To compensate for the elimination of MVHC, lawmakers changed property class tax rates by adding a market-value exclusion for lower-value homes. This change will shift more of the tax burden to commercial properties and higher-value homes. In lowering its levy, the County eases the increased burden on those properties while pursuing the goal of decreasing taxes on average-value homes.

The loss in revenue from the elimination of the MVHC will be made up by using \$1 million in County Program Aid from the State. These funds had been slated for funding capital projects on a pay-as-you-go basis. They will instead be used to fund general operations in 2012.

Under the direction of the County Board, Carver County has decreased the County's tax impact on the average-value home every year since 2005. Owners of average-value homes should again see the County's portion of their tax bill decrease slightly for 2012. However, properties that increase in value, or even decrease in value at a slower rate than most properties, may experience increased property taxes. If your County property taxes are going up for 2012, your increase is being driven by the tax burden shift despite Carver County reducing the 2012 property tax levy \$1M from the 2011 property tax levy.

The Carver County Board sets the 2012 preliminary tax levy in September while maintaining the ability to lower, but not increase, the final tax levy. The County Board will vote to adopt the final 2012 levy, budget and 2013 Long-Term Financial Plan after a public hearing in December.

If you have any questions or comments on this information, or Carver County in general, please contact me at rmaluchnik@co.carver.mn.us or at (612) 964-5382.

Fall Cleanup Day in Jonathan was a Major Success

Nearly thirty Scouts and Adult Leaders from Chaska Boy Scout Troop #589 helped remove tons, literally tons, of yard waste from Jonathan neighborhoods during the recently completed Fall



Cleanup Day this past October. "The Spring and Fall Cleanup Days in Jonathan are quickly becoming our most popular events," said Scout Leader Eric Ewald, who coordinated Troop #589's sign-up efforts. "We have more and more Scouts volunteering for each subsequent Jonathan cleanup event!"

Troop #589 participants included: Austin Aase, Jake Bell, Zach Crumpton, Matt Dale, Leif Ewald, Ben Kloke, Conner Kujak, Cameron Leinen, Ben Meier, Jacob Meier, Luke Meier, Stephen Phillips, Caleb Ramette, Jacob Simon, Michael Simon, Andrew Tetrick, Paul Walters, Ethan Rodina, Mike Aase, Jim Bell, Eric Ewald, Gregg Kloke, Jon Leinen, Jim Ramette, Steve Dale, Travis Wood, and Jared Zingsheim.

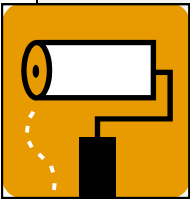
"The Scouts did a wonderful job," said Jonathan President Nate Bostrom. "They worked hard and had a great attitude all day long." Jim Battenberg of Neighborhood Eight served as a liaison coordinating the efforts of the Boy Scouts and the work crews of Benz Enterprises. Scout leaders and Benz employees estimated that the amount of yard waste that was removed this fall was double the amount removed last fall.

"The Benz Company provided three work crews, trucks and trailers for our use that day," added Bostrom. "Between the Boy Scouts and the Benz employees, our Jonathan homeowners were very well served this fall!"



A New "Touch of Paint" throughout Jonathan

An Eagle Scout project organized by Mike McGraw of the Chaska Boy Scout Troop #589 brought a touch of new paint to a large number of Neighborhood Entrance Monument signs throughout the Jonathan Association in October.



"Many of these entrance monument signs really needed some sprucing up," states Nancy Teske, the Gassen Company on-site property manager. "Mike's project team came along at just the right time." Thanks to Mike and his team of volunteers, a fresh coat of paint was applied to fourteen entrance monument signs in twelve different neighborhoods.



Mike McGraw's sign-painting initiative represents the third Boy Scouts-directed community service project completed in Jonathan over the last two years. In 2010, Kasey Crumpton (walking trail maps) and Connor Martin (bat houses) completed Eagle Scout Projects which improve the quality of life for all Jonathan residents.

The Jonathan Association has served as the charter sponsor organization the Chaska Boy Scout Troop #589 for thirty-nine years, which is one of the longest-running relationships of its kind in the state of Minnesota.



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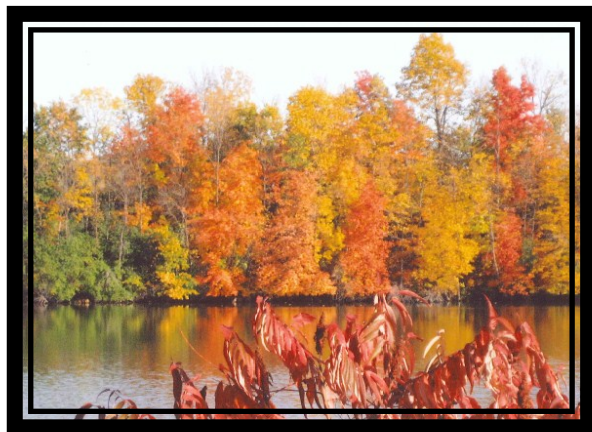
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Photo Contest GRAND Prize Winner : Mary Siegfried!



Congratulations again goes to Mary for submitting and winning with her Fall foliage shot near Lake Grace! A larger image of this shot was published in the Fall issue of the Jonathan Neighbors Newsletter.

Mary was awarded a \$50 VISA gift card. That amount is based on the number of quarters there were entries, which was two. So if you've had it on your to do list drop your favorite pic in the mail OR grab the camera when you take your next walk—you never know what you might see! Good luck and I look forward to seeing your best shot in 2012!



Jonathan Association PHOTO CONTEST continues in 2012!

This is a contest for ALL ages and anyone who enjoys taking pictures! Requirements are as follows:

- Must be a Jonathan resident
- Pictures within and of the Jonathan neighborhoods, parks, or trails ONLY
- 1 entry per household : write name, phone, and location of picture on back of picture
- Mail 4x6 or 5x7 print to the Karen House at 111000 Bavaria Rd.
- Entry deadline—postmarked by Sunday, March 4th
- Judging quarterly—winning picture submitted in next issue of the Newsletter
- Judging panel will be Nancy Teske, Gassen onsite property manager & members of the Jonathan Board of Directors

Complete details and prize information will be posted on our website—have fun snapping pictures!



Kristin Alcindor named Board Secretary

At the November monthly Board meeting, Kristin Alcindor was voted by her colleagues as the new Secretary of the Association. She replaces Kelly Cutler who recently left the Board. Kristin was elected to the Jonathan Board of Directors in the February 2011 annual election. She and her husband Desmond and their two children live in Neighborhood Six, and she is a long-time resident of Jonathan.

Kelly Cutler left the Board of Directors earlier this Fall after serving two years. Kelly did a great job as chair of the Architectural Review Committee and Board Secretary. Many thanks to Kelly for her service!



Board Conditionally Approves Lake Grace Concept

The Jonathan Board of Directors, during its October monthly meeting, received an update from the leaders of Boy Scout Troop #589 with regard to the Lake Grace Pavilion BHAG ("Big Hairy Audacious Goal"). While still sketchy on some exact final details, the current BHAG proposal included architectural drawings that outlined the Boy Scouts goals for adding windows, access, meeting, and storage space in what would be a renovated Lake Grace Pavilion. Also still undecided at this point is the final choice for the building's exterior.

"Basically, the Board is excited about what we're hearing," said Board Treasurer Mark Perry. "So while there are still some details that need to be ironed out, I think we're on the right track." Board member Nancy Dilks agreed, adding "I think we and the Scout Troop leaders should continue proceeding with this important project."

Further discussion about the Lake Grace Pavilion BHAG will continue among the Board members and Scout Troop leaders, and this topic will be on the agenda for the January monthly meeting.



Board Plans Exciting Upgrades in 2012

The Jonathan Association Board of Directors has laid out some very exciting plans for improving a number of common areas in our community for next year. During deliberations in its monthly meetings in September and October, the Board decided to make the following upgrades:

Tot Lot Playgrounds

Jonathan's "2039 Plan" (Reserve Study) calls for the repairing/ replacing of various playground equipment and structures in Neighborhoods 4, and possibly 5 and 11 as well. Resources will be spent effectively as needed.

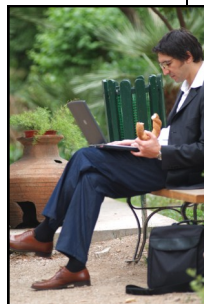


Henry Creek Park

Previously known as either "Out Lot B" or "Henry Creek Park", this location near the intersection of Clover Ridge Drive and Schoolmaster Drive has been designed as a passive use gathering area that will emphasize native grasses, wildflowers, and a modest trail among carefully selected deciduous trees. In 2012, a beautiful new sign will be added along with a bridge in the low lying area.

Juliet Park

Previously known as "Out Lot A", this location near the intersection of Romeo Court and Clover Ridge Drive now features a scenic overlook gathering spot among carefully selected deciduous trees; native grasses and wildflowers; and will also include a walking trail and a small foot-bridge. In 2012, a beautiful new sign, bench, trash receptacle, and doggi pot will be added.



Clover Ridge Drive

There will be an additional 50+ new boulevard trees planted along this scenic and important street which runs north/south from Schneider Court in Neighborhood #12 all the way down to Engler Boulevard in the Traditions at Clover Ridge neighborhood.

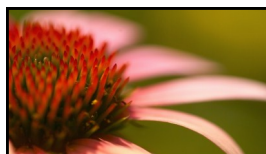
Apple Barn

The Apple Barn, Jonathan's new equipment storage facility, located on the southwest corner of the Karen House property, will be carefully landscaped so as to include a beautiful new rain garden and the addition of numerous shrubs (which will serve as a visual enhancement for the surrounding homeowners in the Bavaria Court and Von Herten Circle neighborhoods). Carver County grant money may also be available thanks to the inclusion of rain gardens.



Trail Head Park

This historic location in Neighborhood One represents the original "starting point" of the Jonathan Trail System. Plans include shrubs and flowers, native grasses, shade-loving perennials, and renovations to the benches so as to restore an original Jonathan gathering area. A huge decorative boulder and a beautiful new sign will also be included.



Trail Repairs & Improvements

Jonathan's "2039 Plan" (Reserve Study) calls for repaving and repairs, in a phased approach, along the trail system throughout Neighborhoods 1-7 in 2012—2013. Resources will be spent effectively in numerous locations in these neighborhoods.

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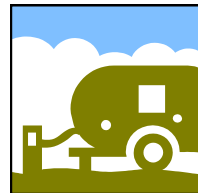
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All Jonathan homeowners must obey the rules for "winter storage" as outlined in the governing documents of the Association.



The Board of Directors encourages all homeowners to check into the covenants which apply to individual neighborhoods, and act accordingly...ASAP! Neighborhood covenants can be found on the Jonathan website (www.jonathaninchaska.com) under "Resources"/"Documents". All covenants are listed by each individual Jonathan neighborhood. Another document on the website which covers Winter storage is the Architectural (ARC) Guidelines; however, if you have questions as to what is and is not allowed, please feel free to contact the Karen House (jonathan@jonathaninchaska.com) or (952) 448-4700.

Please remember that all Jonathan homeowners who violate the "winter storage" covenants will be warned and then if necessary, fined for their violations. All fines will be turned over to the Association Dues Assessment Corporation (ADAC), the nation's leading delinquent assessment collection agency.

Remember, the rules apply to you!

Jonathan Board Approves Budget for 2012

At the November 2011 monthly meeting, the Board of Directors approved the Jonathan Association's operating budget for the 2012 fiscal year. During the months of August, September and October, the Board members had participated in budget

planning "closed session workshops" in which all funding priorities and individual line item expenditures were discussed and evaluated. In order to effectively carry out its fiduciary duty to manage the largest homeowners association in Minnesota, the Board also voted in favor of a 5% increase in the annual assessment for all Jonathan Association homeowners as part of the 2012 operating budget.



In passing the 2012 operating budget, the Board has reaffirmed its commitment to an equitable distribution of financial resources throughout all Jonathan neighborhoods and will continue to adequately fund the areas of special event activities, communications, maintaining and upgrading the publicly-shared common amenities (trails, tot lots, trees, etc.), and the preservation of our distinctive history and heritage. A copy of the 2012 operating budget and a copy of the 2011 balance sheet will be postal-delivered

to each and every Jonathan homeowner in the Annual Meeting Notification packet, which will be mailed in late January.

A Little Thoughtfulness Goes a Long Way.....

Please be considerate to your neighbors and remember to clean-up after your pet when out on walks in the many beautiful Jonathan neighborhoods. And please remember that in Chaska, this kind of "thoughtfulness" is the law!

Also, please remember that all animals must be leashed when not on your private property—which includes ALL Tot Lot parks.



Remember to follow Winter storage rules!

~ Classified Ads ~

Photography Equipment available : Tripods, floodlights. Plus dark room items : film boxes, dryers, vacuum table, etc. Interested? Contact Anne Olmsted at 952.448.4624.

Are you looking for babysitting or lawn cutting services? Are you a teen looking for odd jobs during weekends or after school hours?



Please let us know! Each edition of Jonathan Neighbors will include a Classified section for our Jonathan Association neighbors. It's FREE-of-charge for residents personal use. Contact the Karen House at 952-448-4700 or send an email request to:

www.jonathan@jonathaninchaska.com

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THANKS to this FREE AD, this item SOLD!

Good Question! What does my Jonathan Annual Dues Cover?

- Spring Cleanup – one time pass to pick up bagged leaves, bundled twigs and deliver to Athletic Park
- Fall Cleanup – one time pass to pick up bagged leaves, bundled twigs and deliver to Athletic Park
- Boulevard, trail, and common area maintenance – year round lawn care, fertilization, weed control, and snow removal
- Lawn care for vacant or foreclosed properties
- Boulevard Tree removal / replacement as necessary
- Large tree / limb removal as necessary on Jonathan common properties
- Pond treatments and aerator maintenance
- Tot Lot maintenance and replacement (as necessary) for 19 Jonathan Tot Lots
- Discounted mailbox lock / key replacement as needed
- Landscaping maintenance for Neighborhood Monument signs, Silo, Obelisk, Gazebo, and Neighborhood islands
- Bus Shelter & Mail station maintenance
- FREE Community Events such as : Annual Festival of Garage Sales, 4th of July Celebration at the Karen House, National Night Out, and Cocoa & Coasting Sledding Event
- FREE copies and faxes at the Karen House
- FREE subscription to the Jonathan Neighbors Newsletter / Magazine – 4 issues per year
- FREE Classified Ads for Jonathan Homeowners within the Newsletter
- Liability insurance for common areas

In addition: Please check out the "Neighborhood Equity Analysis" report (Resources/Documents) on the website for a complete breakdown of Jonathan services in your neighborhood.



Blast from the Past—A look back at life in Jonathan

For some, the Renaissance Festival has become an annual tradition and for others, once a decade is plenty! Whatever your preference for all that merriment, few may

remember that the Renaissance Festival actually started in Jonathan. The original location for the festival was in the woods in McKnight Park just north of Jonathan Elementary School. The first Renaissance Festival was in 1971 and was modest compared to the current day event.



At its inception, the Jonathan Development Corporation helped the founders build a couple of booths and a stage to help the Festival get its start. Admission was \$1.50 and still carried a 60's vibe with lots of beads, people making candles and independent crafters. Included was Shakespearean readings and good food. More than 25,000 people visited the two weekend grand opening of the festival than named, "A Celebration of Nature, Art, and Life!"

Many of the food and craft booths were originally run by local groups or citizens. Dick Tirk, who was the President of the Jonathan Association, was approached by the Festival to run a booth. For years, the Jonathan Association, in conjunction with the Chaska Civic Theater, operated the "Dueling Buckets" booth, which is still in operation today. Dick Tirk was a faithful participant at the Renaissance Festival for approximately 15 years.



His character, "Sir Rotten", was well known at the Festival with his good natured teasing of maiden and knight alike. The Renaissance Festival stayed in Jonathan only two years as it outgrew its location. It briefly moved to Chanhassen before ending up in Shakopee where it has been for many years.



The festival has grown from one stage and a clearing in the woods to over 500 entertainers with sixteen stage locations. Compared to the original handful of peddlers, there are now 275 Artisan booths with crafts from throughout the United States. Foodies alike attend to sample varieties of food fit for a king! Some popular items are the infamous turkey legs, elephant ears, Scottish eggs, or a Smoralicious! Annual attendance has climbed to 280,000 -which makes it the largest in the country.

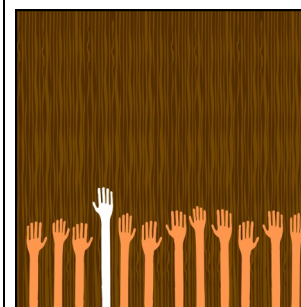


Jonathan is proud to have had a hand in the original Festival which has developed into the success it is today. Next time you find yourself at the Renaissance Festival, look closely you might just see a Jonathan neighbor in character! HUZZAH!



Permission granted by the Minnesota Renaissance Festival to use photos from their website

Delinquent Dues Collection Policy Approved by the Board



At the November 2011 monthly meeting, the Jonathan Board of Directors voted unanimously, upon recommendation by the Gassen Management Company, to turn over all of the Association's delinquent homeowner accounts to the Association Dues Assurance Corporation (ADAC). This organization is a nationally licensed and bonded company spanning from Virginia to Hawaii, and ADAC is the nation's leading delinquent assessment collection agency. ADAC is headquartered in St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

ADAC is not paid their collection fees until the delinquent homeowner pays; solely charging the delinquent homeowner, and thus is free to Associations and Property Managers. ADAC replaces attorney hours, paperwork, and overhead with free proprietary internet collection software on a 24/7/365 basis.

"All of the Board members favor a much more aggressive approach to collecting delinquent homeowner assessments," said Jonathan Association President Nate Bostrom. "ADAC has promised us that the one who owes (i.e. the homeowner) is the one who pays," he added, explaining that collection fees and costs will be tacked on to the amount each delinquent homeowner owes to the Association. Jonathan will not be charged fees to cover the collection costs incurred by ADAC.

Board member Brandon Maves heartily endorsed the hiring of ADAC, saying "this sounds like the most cost-effective way to collect delinquent assessment dues."

Board Vice-President David Snodgrass agreed, adding that "delinquent assessment dues need to be collected and come off our books as soon as possible; we have lots of property improvement projects to complete in the coming years."



As mandated by Jonathan's governing documents (Article XII, Bylaws), each homeowner is obligated to pay the Association's assessments and no owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessment. The Bylaws also give the Board of Directors (Article VIII, Section 2: Subsection E) the power to disclose, upon demand by any person, any assessment which is in delinquency status. "My opinion is that the Board has the right to publish the information in a manner in which it deems appropriate," stated Jonathan attorney David G. Hellmuth.



Prior to publishing any information regarding delinquent accounts, the Board is considering providing written notice to all homeowners of its intention to make this information available to the public. "We'll most likely include a memo in the Annual Meeting notification packet which we'll mail out in late January," added Bostrom. "Our goal will be to give homeowners every chance to pay off their balances before we make this information public."



Jonathan's Progress



Another year at Jonathan has come and gone - the perfect time to reflect on ALL that happened in Minnesota's largest HOA! In addition to all the daily and regular duties the grounds require (see article on pg. 13) these are some of the highlights from 2011 :

- Construction of Apple Barn—Jonathan's new Karen House onsite storage shed
- Karen House— Bathroom remodel
- Neighborhood 1—Corner boulder retaining wall and plantings
- Clover Ridge Neighborhoods—50+ Boulevard trees planted and watered throughout season
- Traditions Americana—Henry Creek Park Prairie Restoration Project
- Clover Field—Juliet Park area
- Karen House— Parking lot re-asphalted
- Neighborhood 7—New Tot Lot



- Autumn Woods—New fountain in Julian Dr. pond and new mailbox clusters for three AW locations
- All neighborhoods—Monument signs, obelisk, gazebo, and silo plant rehab and improvements
- Mill Pond—Dead tree removal and path lights replaced
- Karen House—Water containment project for new Apple Barn

"Jonathan's Progress" was the name of the Jonathan Association newsletter from 1968-72.

- Lake Grace, Trail intersection off Hundertmark, and N7 Tot Lot—New trash receptacles
- Neighborhood 2—New mailbox cluster
- Oak Valley I & II—New entrance sign
- Karen House—Apple Barn interior workshop space
- Multiple Neighborhoods —Repainted monument signs
- Festival of Garage Sales
- 4th of July Event at the Karen House
- National Night Out—Neighborhood tour w/ Antique Fire Engine rides



"Jonathan Notes" was originally the name of the Jonathan newsletter from 1973-77.

The Jonathan Association Board of Directors will hold their January meeting on January 10th, which is the second Tuesday of the month. The meeting will be held at the Chaska City Hall, Council Chambers at 6:30pm (unless otherwise announced). We'd love to see YOU there! If you're unable to attend in person, please consider watching the Jonathan Board meetings on Chaska Community Television by tuning to Channel 15 locally. Catch the replays on Tuesdays at 1:00pm or on Saturdays at 7:00pm.

Jonathan Notes

Board Donates Scale Model to Carver County Museum

At its October monthly meeting, the Jonathan Board of Directors voted to donate the scale model of the early Jonathan New Town Development to the Carver County Historical Society for permanent safekeeping. Currently being stored in the attic of the Karen House, this piece of memorabilia has been languishing in ill-suited surroundings for a number of years. After much discussion, the Board voted 6-1 (Linda Frey voted no) in favor of finding a new home for this item, which was a sales tool for the original Jonathan Development Corporation.

"The Jonathan Association does not possess an archival storage facility – nor should it," stated President Nate Bostrom. "As a homeowner's association we're in the business of property management, we're not museum curators." Earlier this year the Board resolved to make every effort to collect, identify, and seek safe-keeping for historically significant Jonathan documents and objects. "We just don't have sufficient means for effectively preserving history, nor can we guarantee protection from fire and theft," said Bostrom. "On the other hand, Jonathan is blessed to have both the Chaska History Center and the Carver County Historical Society as neighbors who can provide these services."



Jonathan's "Cocoa & Coasting" Sledding Party is already here!

Bring your sled and come one, come all to Jonathan's third annual Christmas season sledding party! "Cocoa and Coasting" will be held on **Friday, December 16, 2011** at the Marsh Halberg Sledding Hill at the corner of Bavaria and Hundertmark. The event will run from 3-5 pm. "Cocoa and Coasting" is a FREE event filled with cocoa, flavored steamers, coffee drinks, treats (provided by the MOMS Club of Chaska/Victoria), sled and snow-related giveaways, and a visit from Santa and his reindeer (courtesy of the Mustard Seed Garden Center). Come enjoy all the frozen fun – kids and adults alike! Santa and his reindeer will be showing up between 3:30-4:30 pm.

In the event of no snow or too-frigid temperatures (-10 degrees or colder), stop in at the Karen House (Jonathan headquarters at 111000 Bavaria Road) as the free drinks, treats, and prize drawings will be there, along with the visit from Santa and his reindeer. "Cocoa and Coasting" is sure to be a not-to-miss event on your family's holiday calendar!

If you have questions about "Cocoa and Coasting" please call Linda Frey at (952) 820-5813 or Nancy at the Karen House at (952) 448-4700 for information and directions. HO! HO! HO!



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Jonathan's News & Views



Okay it's officially December and I'm starting to feel true Christmas spirit! Even though it took a Thanksgiving holiday sunny beach in Florida, on a no snow as I landed back in Minnesota, and chocolates & flowers delivered to the office.....I'm almost there! No seriously, this season of thanksgiving and gratefulness is one that humbles and warms my heart. I had a great time decorating the Karen House with Ellis our famous gardener. While decorating, she was flooded with memories of her grandfather's house and creative times with her mother. I too have fond memories with family during the holidays : playing Christmas carols on the piano while the family crooned, Christmas morning in my footie pajama's (that was a while ago, really!), enjoying mimosa's while digging through my stocking....I could go on but I'll spare you. I hope that you too

"Jonathan News & Views" was the official name of the Jonathan newsletter from 1980-2004).

are comforted with special memories or have cherished people in your life this Winter season. Share a memory or create new ones with those that could use a boost this year, chances are you won't have to go far. A resolution for me in 2012 will be to focus on the GOOD and be grateful! We are surrounded by so much good in our own neighborhoods and communities everyday. I am lucky to be part of an amazing team of good people who are committed to making Jonathan an even better place. The Board of Directors, Gassen Company, and all the vendors who work so hard throughout the year—good people know good people who do great work! We are all looking forward and dedicated to another year of growth, improvements, and community betterment! Pictured right : One of the most beautiful poinsettia's I've seen from one of our vendors (Meadow Green Lawn & Landsape), who did great work for us in 2011. We'll partner again with them in 2012! **Wishing you a Merry Christmas! Gassen Onsite Property Manager, Nancy Teske**



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Jonathan's Journal



Jonathan in Chaska is a special part of the best small town in Minnesota...and it's also the largest homeowner's association in the state!

The Jonathan Association includes: 23 neighborhoods; 2,900 homes; 8,000

"Jonathan's Journal" was the name of a newsletter originally published by the Jonathan Development Corporation from 1971-72.

residents (a third of Chaska's population); 19 tot lot playgrounds; 34 neighborhood entrances; 47 mail stations and bus shelters; 20 miles of paved walking trails; and covers approximately 2,200 acres. In addition, Jonathan also maintains two historic Chaska farmhouses (Karen House and Eitel House) as well as the Lake Grace Pavilion and recreational beach area.

Jonathan is managed by Gassen Companies, which provides professional property management services to homeowner associations in 15 Minnesota counties. The Gassen organization was formed in 1969 and is accredited with the Better Business Bureau.

Jonathan Apple Seeds



George Bender was the first local farmer to sell his property to the "New Town" of Jonathan. His grandfather, Christian Bender, homesteaded this land in 1854 and he was formally given title to it in a deed personally signed on August 1, 1861 by President Abraham Lincoln. The "Jonathan in Chaska" silo, located on the original Bender farm at Hwy 41 and Hundertmark Rd. was dedicated in October 2001.



In May 1972, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) George Romney visited Jonathan to inspect the progress of HUD's "New Communities" Program in Minnesota's first New Town. A Jonathan apple tree was planted to commemorate the visit. George Romney was the former governor of Michigan, and his son Mitt Romney was elected governor of Massachusetts some thirty years later.



Kathleen "Kacie" Brown, born in December 1969 was the very first "native born" Jonathan citizen. Kacie's parents, Bill and Maggie Brown, had moved into Jonathan in October 1968. The Browns were Jonathan's first residential home buyers.

"Jonathan Apple Seeds" was the name of the Jonathan newsletter from 1978-79.