

## Hello Neighbors!

As another Summer approaches, we've got some exciting events planned for the neighborhood!

For those of you new to the neighborhood, and unfamiliar with Harvard Acres, the neighborhood encompasses over 200 homes. The HAHA Social Committee is a group of neighborhood volunteers who organize events and help maintain the common area including the tennis courts and their surroundings, located on Conant Drive. The voluntary annual \$45 dues covers maintenance, insurance, and family friendly activities within our neighborhood community.

If you have an idea for an event or are looking to help out in any way, we are always looking for volunteers. Just give one of us a call.

To those of you that have just moved to the neighborhood, or have expanded their families with new babies, welcome to Harvard Acres, and Congratulations!

We extend this welcome to our new neighbors in the Dunster Drive cul-de-sac. Join us at an event and introduce yourselves!

We look forward to another successful year!

-HAHA Social Committee



### April 27 - Tennis Court Cleanup

Time: 11 a.m.

Meet at the tennis court; kids too! Bring rakes, wheelbarrows, loppers, etc as we clean up the court and surrounding area.

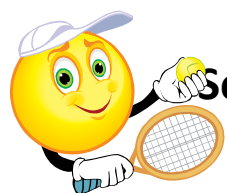


June 16 - Ice Cream Social  
Time: 2:30-4:30, Tennis Court

**Ice Cream! Ice Cream!!**



It always puts a smile on everyone's face. This will be Harvard Acres' second year combining two amazing things; the start of summer, and all the Great Dads on Fathers Day! Bring a chair, sunscreen, and bug spray, and HAHA will provide yumtastic ice cream from Erikson's and of course plenty of toppings so we can celebrate the start of summer!



### Tennis Lessons

Session 1: June 24-June 28, Time: TBA (After School)

Session 2: August 5-August 9, Time: TBA

Nicki Bricknell, a former member of the Nashoba High School Girl's Tennis Team, currently a college student, will again coach our kids summer tennis lessons. We will hold two sessions, one early in the summer, and one later in the summer. Session cost: \$25 for the first child and \$15 for each additional child in the family. Older and younger brackets along with times will be decided when the participants are determined. Your child must have completed kindergarten in order to attend. Please note that a parent/guardian/friend will be required to stay with their child. If you would like to sign up for one or both sessions, please send your request to Nicki Bricknell at [nicki4212@gmail.com](mailto:nicki4212@gmail.com).

## EVENT CALENDAR

April 27 - Tennis Court Cleanup

June 16 - Ice Cream Social

June 24-June 28 - Tennis Lessons

July 4 - Harvard Acres Run

July 4 - July 4th Bicycle Parade

August 5-August 9 - Tennis Lessons

Sept 21 - Neighborhood Picnic

Nov/Dec- Winter Luminaries

## Sponsorship opportunities:

If you or your business would like to sponsor an event, please contact Tara Natanson or Christine Midwood.



## Tennis court comments:

- Know a company you can recommend to repair tennis court cracks? Please contact Eric Peterson at [olafro@yahoo.com](mailto:olafro@yahoo.com)
- While we love seeing the artwork of local budding artists, please keep chalk drawings on the basketball court side of the tennis courts. When the court is damp, the chalk sticks to the tennis balls. Thank you!



# 4<sup>th</sup> of July

## Harvard Acres 4 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Fun Run

**Time: 9:00 Registration**

**9:30 4K Run Start**

**9:35 Kids ½ mile Run Start**



Join us for the first slightly competitive fun run through Harvard Acres.

There will be a 4K run through the neighborhood as well as a kids 1/2-mile fun run.

Running commences at 9:30 a.m. on July 4th at the tennis courts.

While intended as a neighborhood builder, runners will be timed and awards will be handed out.

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. at the tennis courts and an entrance fee of \$5 per person or \$10 per family will be collected.

All proceeds to go toward future HAHA events.

## Bicycle Parade

**Time: 10:00 Bike Decorating**

**10:30 Parade Start**



Kids love this!!

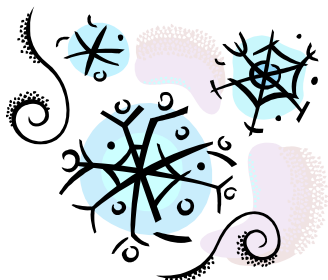
Meet us at the tennis court to decorate bikes, trikes, strollers, and anything on wheels. Then join us for a neighborhood bike parade loop down Conant, Kirkland and back to the courts. Feel free to bring your own decorating supplies.

We'll have extras to share. Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!

## Sept 21 - Annual HAHA Neighborhood Picnic

**Time: 1:00**

Harvard Acres will be having its popular, annual fall picnic on the fourth Saturday of September. This is a good time to schmooze with your neighbors and enjoy some of the last mild fall days while tasting a variety of food. If you've attended in previous years you may remember such fun as the rock wall, cotton candy machine, and bouncy houses. Due to a much more limited budget this year we are unsure of which activities we can afford, and will update you as the summer goes on! Please pay your dues.



## December - Winter Luminaries

We are hoping to add a new holiday tradition to our neighborhood by organizing a

“light the way for Santa and his sleigh” event this year with candle luminaries. The luminaries would consist of a votive candle placed in 2-3 inches of sand, inside a white paper bag. Participating families line the street in front of their house and, if desired, their driveways, and walkways too!

The luminaries are placed 3 feet apart and everyone lights their candles at the same time. We will update you with more information on how to purchase luminary kits and details on the event in the fall.

# Looking for a contractor or looking for other families with children?

Join the Harvard Acres Google Group!

<http://groups.google.com/group/Harvard-acres-discussions>

This is a great way to get in touch with other neighbors, share contractor recommendations, or schedule a pick up game or play date at the courts. After joining, please post an introductory e-mail to the group.



# Beat the Bugs!!

The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (<http://www.cmmcp.org>) provides

free service on your property. They spray with pyrethroids and will come about every 4 weeks upon request. To request service, email to

[service\\_request@cmmcp.org](mailto:service_request@cmmcp.org) with the following information:

Name, Street Address, City/Town, Phone, Comments (instructions on how to drive to your back yard are helpful) or call (508) 393-3055.



### Treasurer's Report

It's that time of year again! Once again we are keeping dues at \$45. Last year, we received dues from only 39% of the neighborhood—the lowest participation in reporting history! Our dues covered the taxes, insurance, and maintenance on our recreation area surrounding the tennis courts. In addition, we hosted social events including the annual neighborhood picnic, with the very popular rock climbing wall. Once again, our summer tennis lesson program was extremely popular. We offered two sessions of lessons, and 20 children participated. The program broke even as the cost of the lessons was covered by the fees collected. Due to the popularity of the program, we are pleased to offer the lessons again this year.

Even if you don't go to the functions or use the basketball and tennis courts, the upkeep of those facilities and the neighborhood community created by the functions makes Harvard Acres a desirable place to live and thus keeps the property values higher. We look to you for your continued support of HAHA so that we can continue to maintain our common land and foster the friendly neighborhood atmosphere through social events.

Please send your \$45 payment for your 2013 dues to contact below or use the PayPal link on [www.harvardacres.com](http://www.harvardacres.com).

HAHA c/o Christine Midwood (32 Kirkland Drive, Stow)

Thank you!

-Christine Midwood and Tara Natanson



### Annual Budget Report

	2012	2011	\$ Change
Dues Rec'd (Incl Tennis Lesson Income)	\$3,802.63	\$4,722.63	(\$329.94)
Expenses			
Taxes	\$1,613.23	\$1,552.99	\$60.24
Insurance	\$257.00	\$250.00	\$7.00
Mowing/Landscaping/Court Maintenance	\$365.32	\$1,026.78	(\$661.46)
Newsletter	\$32.65	\$80.00	(\$47.35)
Portopotty	\$331.00	\$495.65	(\$164.65)
Socials June-Sept	\$1,315.51	\$2,076.65	(\$761.14)
Tennis Lessons	\$603.06	\$933.00	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,517.77</b>	<b>\$6,415.07</b>	<b>\$1,897.30</b>
<b>INCOME-EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$715.14</b>	<b>\$1,692.44</b>	<b>(\$977.30)</b>

#### Comments:

- The tennis lesson program broke even in 2011 and 2012.
- We had a number of unexpected extra maintenance costs at the tennis courts in 2011 including trimming back the trees and hiring a professional to treat several large bees nests.
- At the annual cookout in 2012, we were not charged for rental of the bouncy houses nor the cotton candy machine due to a permitting issue (the rental company responsibility) which meant we were not able to use the bouncy houses at the cookout.

#### HAHA Social Committee

Tara Natanson - [tara@natanson.net](mailto:tara@natanson.net)  
 Christine & Brent Midwood – [christine@midwood.net](mailto:christine@midwood.net)  
 Eric & Rosanne Peterson - [olafro@yahoo.com](mailto:olafro@yahoo.com)  
 Richard Eckell - [reckel@gmail.com](mailto:reckel@gmail.com)

Erica O'Neill – [eoneill@yahoo.com](mailto:eoneill@yahoo.com)  
 Kerri Reesey – [kmreesey@gmail.com](mailto:kmreesey@gmail.com)  
 Julie Rein - [jrein3@comcast.net](mailto:jrein3@comcast.net)