Harvard Acres Home Owners Association www.harvardacres.com





Spring 2015

Welcome back! What a nice change to see green after so much white this winter!

Once again the Harvard Acres Social Committee has planned some exciting events to rally the neighborhood. Popping in at these events is a great way to get to know neighbors, allow children to bond with potential classmates, organize pick-up basketball or tennis match. For those who haven't attended events, please come to an event!

Who is included in Harvard Acres? Harvard Acres includes roughly 193 homes on the following streets: Adams, Conant, Dunster (yes, the newer extension too), Eliot, Garner, Harvard, Kirkland, Lowell, No Name, and Peabody. Harvard Road includes portion between two ends of Kirkland but we're open to including new folks! Everyone in Harvard Acres has access to the common area on Conant Drive including basketball/tennis courts and grass area with sandbox and picnic tables. It is the perfect meeting spot to congregate with neighbors.

Each year, voluntary annual dues are recommended in order to maintain this common area. These dues go toward grass mowing, taxes, insurance and our handful of neighborhood events. This year we are increasing dues from \$45 to \$50. Dues haven't increased in many years and this small increase is due to an increase in taxes and unfortunately, a decreasing number of neighborhood residents paying dues. By paying these dues, we maintain a level of nicety in the neighborhood, desirable by all, as well as offer some wonderful community events. Please consider this, and thank you for paying the dues!

-HAHA Social Committee

Ice Cream! Ice Cream!

June 21 (Father's Day) Time: 2:30-4:30

It's Harvard Aces fourth annual ice cream social celebrating the start of summer and all those Fantastic Dads on Father's Day! Come on down to the tennis courts and spend some time hanging out with neighbors and a sundae bowl of yummy Erikson's ice cream. Just a reminder, it can get hot and buggy on the tennis courts, so bring your sunscreen and bug spray. Feel free to bring chalk, bikes and scooters for your littles so you can hang a while.

Event Calendar

June 20 – Sunrise Yoga June 21 - Ice Cream Social June 22-26 - Tennis Lessons July 4 - Fun Run & Bike Parade

July 25 - Sunrise Yoga July 25 - Yard Sale July 27-31 - Tennis Lessons August 22 -Movie Night September 26 - Picnic

*All events located at tennis courts unless noted otherwise

We Want YOU!

We need volunteers and encourage anyone interested in helping with an event or is interested in taking over certain responsibilities to contact a committee member. See end of newsletter for contact info.



Septic Group Buy

The time has come again for septic pumping! HA is organizing a group buy for the neighborhood. If you did the group buy with HA last time, then its been almost exactly 2 years and it's time to pump again! HA is working with RM Ratta (www.rmratta.com) who will likely be coming sometime the week of 6/15-19. If you would like to secure a spot, please email Tara so she can send you the questionnaire they need filled out. If you want to do this but are unsure of where the cover is or what size your tank is, no problem, they can help you with that.

They are giving HA a 40\$ discount off their normal listed prices which brings the costs to:

\$185 - 1000 Gallon tank \$265 - 1500 Gallon tank

\$40 - for them to do the digging (you can dig yourself to save\$)

If interested, e-mail Tara at

tara@natanson.net



Tennis Lessons

Session 1 (June 22-26 Time: TBA) Session 2 (July 27-31 Time: TBA)

Nicki Bricknell, a former member of the Nashoba High School Girl's Tennis Team, will again be coaching our kids' summer tennis lessons. Two sessions wil be held. Each session costs \$25 for first child and \$15 for each additional child in the family. Older an younger brackets along with times will be decided when the participants are determined. Your child must have completed Kindergarten in order to attend. A parent or guardian is required to stay with their child during lessons. If you would like to sign up for one or both sessions, please send your request to Nicki Bricknell at nicki4212@gmail.com.

Yard Sale

July 25 (Rain Date: July 26) Time: 10:00-3:00

One's junk is another man's treasure! If you are interested in participating in the yard sale, please contact Stefanie (361smg@gmail.com) by June 20th. Please note, due to the cost of advertising, we will need a minimum of six houses to move forward.





New to the neighborhood?

Welcome! We are so glad to have you as part of our community. This newsletter is sent out once a year but we like to stay in touch electronically so please see the links below to see how.

Our website and monthly newsletter signup box: www.harvardacres.com

Face book page:
https://www.facebook.co
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<a href="mailto:m/pages/Harvard-Acres-Homeowners-Homeowners-Harvard-Acres-Harvar

Neighborhood discussion group: groups.google.com/group/ harvard-acres-discussions

Nextdoor Community: www.harvardacres.nextdo or.com



Got Mosquitos?

The Central MA Mosquito
Control Project provides free
mosquito spraying service on
your property. To request, call
(508)393-3055 or e-mail
servicerequest@cmmcp.org
with your name, address,
phone, comments.
www.cmmcp.org



Join us for the 3rd annual fun run through Harvard Acres. While intended as a neighborhood builder, runners will be timed and awards will be handed out. Entrance fee of \$5/person or \$10/family will be collected. Feel free to invite non-Harvard Acres friends and family. All proieeds go towards future HAHA events.



4th of July Bike Parade

We've had amazing turn out every year. Keep it coming! Meet us at the tennis courts to decorate bikes, trikes, scooters or any gizmo your child rides on wheels! Then join us for a neighborhood bike parade loop down Conant, up Kirkland to loop back around at courts. Please bring some decorating supplies.



Movie Start Time: 7:45pm dusk *Located at 100 Lowell Drive, Front Lawn

We will start the night by creating our very own drive-in movie seats. Start saving up your recyclables now! You will need a cardboard box and anything you want to decorate your car with. HAHA will have paper plates, glue and markers to create the tires and steering wheel. Check out Pinterest for some fun ideas! We will be serving up snacks, popcorn and roasting marshmallows while watching a family friendly movie. Please arrive at 7pm for cardboard car decorating.



Sunrise Yoga (\$10 ea. class)

June 20 (w/ certified yoga teacher, Julie McKay)
July 25 (w/ certified yoga teacher, Jen Mast)
Time 8:00-9:15am
(please arrive at 7:45 to pay and sign waiver)

Bring your mat and join Jen Mast/Julie McKay at the tennis court. Start your morning with an invigorating, wake up yoga practice in the great outdoors! This all levels Vinyasa Flow class focuses on synchronizing breath and movement, core and strength. Yoga can be a positive transformational tool that allows for both physical and mental change. Through breath and movement we learn to let go of competition, judgment, and expectations thus better accepting ourselves and others. Ultimately we learn greater awareness and to live our lives with balance, health and happiness. Jen has been teaching yoga for 5 years. Both are registered with Yoga Alliance - RYT 200 hrs and are insured.

Alignment, balance, flexibility, endurance, meditation and much more. Vinyasa style yoga is both a great place to start learning yoga and to continue challenging yourself.

*Extra mats provided incase you don't have one.

*Open to non Harvard Acres residents as well!

Annual Neighborhood Picnic

September 19 Time: 1:00-4:00

The rock wall is BACK by popular demand this year! By making some changes to our budget along with asking for voluntary supplements to the dues we are hoping we don't have to dip in to our "rainy day" funds to cover the cost. We will also have a bouncy house, cotton candy, popcorn and other family activities. This is our biggest event of the year and we hope to see you there!

Treasurer's Report

Thank you for paying your dues in 2014 -- we received dues payments from 41% of the neighborhood, which is lower than the 45% who contributed in 2013. Our dues covered the taxes, insurance, and maintenance on our common land surrounding the tennis courts. In addition, we hosted social events including the ice cream social and the annual neighborhood picnic.

Once again, our summer tennis lesson program was very well-attended. We offered two sessions of lessons, and children from 10 families participated. Due to the popularity of the program, we are pleased to offer the lessons again this year.

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. Our voluntary annual dues is \$50.

In addition, this year we're asking you to consider making an additional contributions to help cover the cost of the rock wall at our annual picnic. (Please see article about the picnic for more information.)

Please send your 2015 payment (\$50 annual dues or \$65 / \$75 annual dues + rock wall contribution) to HAHA 32 Kirkland Drive or use the PayPal link at harvardacres.com.

Thank you,

-Christine Midwood and Tara Natanson

Tennis Court Repairs Completed!

In our 2014 Spring Newsletter, we highlighted the need to repair cracks that have developed in the tennis and basketball courts. Over time, the cracks would continue to grow as water gets into the crack and freezes, then expands. We asked for your help to protect our investment in the courts, which are frequently used by many in our community. Thank you to the 72 neighbors who responded to our request for donations! We are pleased to report that the repairs on the tennis courts have now been completed! Thank you once again for your support!





Annual Budget Report

	2014	2013	2012
Dues Rec'd: (Including tennis lesson income)	\$3,953	\$4,700	\$3,803
Expenses			
Taxes	\$1,734	\$1,653	\$1,613
Insurance	\$250	\$250	\$257
Mowing/Landscaping/Court Maintainance	\$0	\$445	\$365
Newsletter	\$284	\$204	\$33
Portopotty	\$371	\$285	\$331
Socials (June-Sept)	\$519	\$609	\$1,316
Tennis Lessons	\$563	\$448	\$603
Total Expenses	\$3,722	\$3,895	\$4,518
Income-Expenses	\$232	\$806	-\$715
Tennis Court Repairs			
Cost of Repairs	\$6,150		
Donations	\$3,900		
Balance taken from HAHA savings	\$2,250		

A few comments:

Thanks to the 72 families who donated \$3,900 to fund the tennis court repairs. The tennis lesson program broke even in 2012. In 2013, we made \$107. In 2014 we lost \$78.

Maintainance of the common land in 2013 included mowing and repairs to the sandbox.

Due to a mixup, we did not pay for mowing the common land in 2014. Thank you to the neighbors who stepped in to help out and mow!

HAHA Social Committee

Name	E-mail address	Position/Responsibilities	
Christine Midwood	christine@midwood.net	Treasurer	
Tara Natanson	tara@natanson.net	Treasurer/Picnic	
Erica O'Neill	eoneilll@yahoo.com	Ice Cream Social/Movie Night/ Yoga	
Eric Peterson	olafro@yahoo.com	4 [™] July Fun Run/Bike Parade	
Kerri Reesey	kmreesey@gmail.com	Newsletter/Yoga	
Rick Eckel	reckel@gmail.com		
Stephanie Grenier	361smg@gmail.com	Yard Sale	