



# Autumn Lakes Gazette

Established 9/85

## September 2021

XXXVII No 5

### Board of Directors

**Shah Smith** 960-6620 *President*  
**Laura Farkas** 770-9442 *Vice President*  
**Jennifer Morgan** 344-2928 *Secretary*  
**Richard Ornberg** 817-357-2633 *Trustee*  
**Christine Melton** 560-5705 *Gazette editor*

**Social Committee Chair: Shah Smith**

**Architecture Committee: Richard Ornberg, Shah Smith**

**Landscaping Committee: Laura Farkas, Andrea Crouch, Retta Morcom, Cheryl Eggert**

### AMC Management

**Mickey Montee, President**  
**3153 Fee Fee Road**  
**Bridgeton MO 63044**  
**24 hour phone: (314) 291-1450**  
**Office Hours M-Th 8:00-4:00**  
**Fri 8:00-3:00**



## Autumn Lakes Meeting 9/15/2021

### Association Meeting:

The September Association meeting was held in person at the Club House. Please check the Autumn Lakes website at <http://www.autumnlakesstl.com/> for more information about when/where Association Meetings will be held and links to virtual meetings.

### Board Reports

#### Trustee Opening:

Jay Black resigned from the Board on August 14, 2021. We thank Jay for his many years of service to Autumn Lakes. The Board is always looking for more volunteers to help make Autumn Lakes an awesome place to live! If anyone is interested in volunteering as a Board member or would like to join a committee, please contact one of the Board members for more information.

**Pool Closing** — The pool closed for the season on September 20th. Our pool management company came out to close the pool and put away the pool furniture.

**AutumnFest** – The fall festival will not be held this year due to COVID. Hopefully, we'll be able to host the fall festival in 2022.

**Social Committee** – If you or anyone you know would like to serve on the Social committee or help chair the committee, please contact Shah Smith.

**City Wide Yard Sale** – Maryland Heights hosted a city-wide yard sale on September 25th. Many Autumn Lakes residents participated.

**Utility Tax Rebate** – In November, Maryland Heights will reimburse utility taxes for those residents who are disabled or are 62+ and retired. Eligible residents need to make an appointment to apply. For more information about how to obtain this reimbursement, please see the August Maryland Heights Newsletter available on their website at: [www.marylandheights.com](http://www.marylandheights.com) or stop by the MH Community Center.

**AT&T Fiber Optic Installation:** The installation for the AT&T tubing and most of the digging will be completed by the end of the September. Once the fiber optic cabling is available, the construction company will come back to install that and then complete the back-fill and seeding of the areas still open. The construction team has had some problems with utilities not being where they were surveyed to be. But the team has worked very hard to try to prevent any further water or electrical issues.

**Autumn Lakes Website:** Just a reminder that we have a great website full of information about Autumn Lakes. For example, you can check the website at <http://www.autumnlakesstl.com/> for more information about when/where Association Meetings will be held and links to virtual meetings. Also on the website is a "Contact Us" feature where you can fill out work orders for any work needed or ask questions. The Resident Information Sheet is also now on our website

so you can complete it online. All rules, indentures and past gazettes are on the website.

**Illegal or Suspicious Activities:** Please note, residents should **contact the Maryland Heights police FIRST** for concerns about noise complaints, illegal or suspicious activities or other legal problems. **You can let the trustees know after the fact.** If the police file a report, let the AMC office know. After the second police report, AMC will fine the offenders. Fines will be assessed whenever there is a police report after the first one. The Board can't really handle legal offenses so you need to contact the police when they occur.

**Garbage Bags:** Residents are supposed to put trash in covered trash containers. If you use garbage bags you should wait until morning to put them out. We have had several bags torn open at night in recent weeks, leaving trash spread around the area. If you put garbage bags out and they are torn open **you are responsible for cleaning up any mess from the torn bags.**

**NextDoor App:** Just a reminder that the NextDoor App is a great tool to hear about what's going on around us, but is not the official communication of AMC or the Board. Please contact the AMC office if you have repairs that need to be made or concerns.

**Management Report By Keith McCracken:**

Autumn Lakes Association as of 8/31/2021 \$1,139 over budget on income and \$11,947 under budget on expenses. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 8/31/2021 was \$16,842 over budget on income and \$30,574 under budget on expenses.

Our maintenance staff has been busy cleaning gutters, maintaining the pool, trimming trees, and completing work orders. Dave recently repaired a stone retaining wall at 12146 Autumn Lakes Drive. Dave will coordinate the fall gutter cleaning with the leaf clean-ups in October and November.

We had four buildings painted this year: 12151-12161 Autumn Lakes Drive and all 3 buildings on Autumn Lakes Court.

10 asphalt driveways are being replaced this year and were scheduled to be torn out on September 27 & 28 and then paved back on September 29 & 30. These were identified in our past fall inspection. Owners were notified. Two newly paved (2020) parking lots on Autumn Trace Drive are being sealed on October 7. Owners have been notified.

We recently completed replacement of 6 sidewalks, 2 concrete driveways and 1 porch which were identified in our past fall inspection.

We have Masonite siding in stock for repairs. The painter replaced siding as needed on the buildings when painted. All other repairs are being handled via work orders which he is currently working.

Bids were taken and the Board has selected Welsch Heating & Cooling to replace the commercial HVAC unit for the upper level of the clubhouse. A new 7.5 ton Trane unit is being installed. Work is to be completed this fall.

The second shrub trimming is scheduled for this fall, the first week of October. Our first fall leaf clean-up is scheduled for the week of October 25. The second clean-up is tentatively scheduled for the week of November 22 (pending the rate of leaf fall). The 18 single family houses may place leaves at the curb on Monday of these two weeks for pick-up.

Several large trees have recently been removed due to disease or Oak Gall. We will have the stumps ground out and repair the lawns with soil and grass seed this fall. Planting of new trees will be reviewed.

Owners are reminded that Trash Totes are not to be stored outside. Totes may be placed at the curb after 5 pm the day before trash service day and should be returned to the garage as soon as possible the day of pick-up. Yard waste is picked up on Mondays. Trash and recycling service is on Tuesday. Residents are allowed to put out two large bulk items on the last trash pick-up day of the month for free (last Tuesday of the month).

For other bulk items, please contact Republic Services to arrange for pick up for a fee. Large items for bulk pick-up should not be placed at the curb until arrangements have been made with Republic Waste. Once arrangements have been made, items should not be placed at the curb until the day of pick-up.

Decks, patios and porches are not to be used for general storage. No items other than good quality, well maintained patio furniture and barbecue grills are allowed on patios or decks.

Check with the City of Maryland Heights to be sure your contractor has all required permits for any work being done on your unit. Contact AMC to obtain Board approval prior to replacing or modifying decks, windows, doors, storm doors, awnings, garage doors or patios.

As always please call 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, questions or concerns or email Keith at [keith@amcassociation.com](mailto:keith@amcassociation.com)

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## Residents Questions & Comments

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**Q:** A resident asked if the contractor for AT&T has finished filling holes and planting seed yet as they noticed not everything appears to be filled in yet?

**A:** No, not all the holes have been filled in or seed planted yet. There is still fiber optic cable that will need to go through the open holes. In some cases, the holes might have been filled but the contractor has to wait until the dirt settles before planting seed. The contractor will fill, seed and straw all holes dug during the project.

**Q:** The AT&T project tore up one of the driveways during an emergency utility fix. Will this be fixed?

**A:** Yes, the utility and contractor are responsible for damage caused to the driveway and will fix it this year.

**Q :** A resident asked if they could change the color of their front door.

**A:** Yes, residents can change the color of their front door to one of the approved colors. If the building they reside in is being painted, the painting of the door will be done for free. If you'd like to change the color of your door outside of the painting cycle, the cost of the painting would be the responsibility of the owner. Please contact AMC for a list of approved colors.

**Comment:** The pool looked great this year. Thanks to Dave and everyone who worked on it.

**Q:** A resident asked about a work order she put in for a roof leak. She was told that a vendor was going to take a look at the roof, but no one has gotten back to her. Also, there's a water stain on her ceiling from the roof leak, how can she get that painted?

**A:** Keith apologized that the vendor had not gotten back to her and would follow up. The Association will cover the painting of a ceiling when associated with roof leaks. Please call AMC to put in a work order to have the work completed.

**Q:** A resident has noticed a lot of speeding cars through our neighborhood during some periods of the day. Could we have speed limit signs installed to remind drivers to slow down?

**A:** One of the board members will reach out to our Maryland Heights councilman to see if Maryland Heights will install speed limit signs. Residents can help by calling the non-emergency phone number for Maryland Heights and report when and where they're seeing speeding residents. Maryland Heights will send an officer out to monitor the situation and they will issue tickets if they spot residents speeding through our neighborhood.

**Q:** A resident asked if parking can be restricted near the corner of Autumn Trace Drive and Autumn Trace Court? The way residents are parking is creating blind spots.

**A:** We approached Maryland Heights to review parking areas in 2017-18. There were some signs installed in areas which Maryland Heights agreed were a problem, however they are not willing to install additional no parking signs everywhere we want them.

**Q:** A resident noticed that the handrail on her deck is splitting. Does AMC have any recommendations for vendors to fix it?

**A:** For recommendations of vendors, please contact the AMC office.

**Q:** A resident asked if his front sidewalk will be replaced this year?

**A:** He is not on the list for 2021. The Board will be doing their fall walk through this October to evaluate driveways and sidewalks for replacement in 2022.

**Q:** A resident asked about how they can get the builder bushes in front of her unit replaced.

**A:** For this type of an issue, please call AMC and fill out a work order.

**Q:** A resident asked if the mowing service could use a mulching blade when they mow. Also, could the mowers not cut the lawn so short this time of the year.

**A:** The Landscaping Committee is going to take a look at the current mowing contract and see if they can make recommendations.

**Q:** A resident asked when will residents be able to rent the clubhouse again?

**A:** The clubhouse needs a new HVAC unit installed. The unit has been ordered and residents will be able to rent the facility again once the unit has been installed. Please contact the AMC office for updates and rental information. Please note: Children should not be left unsupervised in the lower level of the clubhouse during rentals.

# Thank You!

## Jay Black

If you want to know anything about Autumn Lakes, Jay Black is the one to ask! He is the longest term resident in our neighborhood. Back in 1981 he helped form the AL Homeowners Association with the builders (Musterman & Hayden).



We simply cannot thank Jay enough for his contribution to the safety and beauty of this place we all call home.

His time and dedication to our community is appreciated more than we can ever express.

**Thank You, Jay!**

## Maryland Heights News to Note

### **Bulk Waste Day: October 9 8 am -12 pm**

Dump your stuff at the community center— furniture, mattress sets and carpet bundles are among the items that will be accepted. Call 314-291-6550 for more info. **No registration needed.**

### **Paper Shredding: October 16 at Government Center at Dorsett/Millwell**

Bring up to 5 file-sized boxes of paper to shred safely on-site. **Preregistration IS REQUIRED.** Call 314-291-6550.

### **Utility Tax Rebates for Seniors:**

Qualifying residents who are disabled or 62+ and retired should bring all their utility bills (gas, and electric) for AL) and one phone bill (landline or cellular) dated November 1, 2020-October 18, 2021.

Rebates will be processed between 9 am - 12 pm and 2 - 4 pm at the Community Center on November 1, 3, 9, 10, 16, 22, 29 and December 1.

**Appointments are required:** Call 314-291-6550 or stop by the Recreation Center.

More information at

[www.marylandheights.com](http://www.marylandheights.com)

**The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting is scheduled for 11/17/21 at 7 pm.**



**WHO needs a smile today?**

**Give a few extra hoots....**