

# NEWSLETTER

## HOA Board Meetings

Regular Board of Directors meetings are held from 7:00PM to 9:00PM on the following dates: Thursday, June 14 (Stine residence); Thursday, September 13 (Thear residence); and Tuesday, November 13 (Milke residence). All homeowners are welcome to attend. ❖

## HOA Web Site

The Brookeville Farms HOA web site is located at [www.bfmdhoa.info](http://www.bfmdhoa.info). This site includes information pertaining to the HOA such as Architectural Review forms, minutes from previous board meetings, current and previous newsletters, as well as contact information for board members. ❖

## Community E-Mail List

The Brookeville Farms community maintains an e-mail distribution list to make it easier to communicate with our neighbors. The e-mail address is "[bfneighbors@bfmdhoa.info](mailto:bfneighbors@bfmdhoa.info)". This list has been used to find recommendations for service providers, find carpool buddies, and to participate in group purchasing agreements (like, propane and whole-house generators). The Homeowners Association newsletter is also distributed to this list.

To add your e-mail address to the list do the following:

- Using your web browser, go to the HOA web site - [www.bfmdhoa.info](http://www.bfmdhoa.info).
- Select "E-mail List" from the left column.
- Fill in the form at the bottom of the page. ❖

## Smoke Alarm Recall

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, nearly half a million smoke alarms nationwide are being recalled due to a risk of failure to alert consumers to a fire. Kidde dual-sensor (photoelectric and ionization) smoke alarms sold in the U.S. and Canada may be defective. Models PI2010 and PI9010 are being recalled. The issue is a yellow cap, possibly left on the smoke alarm during the manufacturing process, may cover one of two sensors, compromising its ability to detect smoke.

This puts consumers at risk of not being alerted to a fire.

Consumers are advised to remove the alarm from the wall or ceiling, inspect it for the presence of a yellow cap and immediately contact Kidde if one is located. The potentially defective smoke alarm should only be discarded once a replacement is received and installed.

During the inspection, Kidde advises consumers to not take apart the alarm, open the casing or otherwise remove the yellow cap, if present. If no yellow cap is present, consumers should reinstall the smoke alarm and no further action is needed.

The recalled Kidde smoke alarms were sold at Menards, Home Depot, Walmart, and other department, home, and hardware stores nationwide; and online at Amazon.com, ShopKidde.com and other websites from September 2016 through January of this year for between \$20 and \$40.

For more information, consumers can call Kidde toll-free at 833-551-7739 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Those who prefer not to call can go online can visit <http://www.kidde.com> and click on "Product Safety Recall" for more information. ❖

## Please Care

If you see trash on the common ground, please pick it up. This could be from someone's overflowing can or a walker who discarded an empty water bottle. No matter the source of these "eyesores," this is our neighborhood and its condition reflects on all of us. ❖

## Document Dilemma

### KEEP IT --- OR ---SHRED IT?

- Tax Return: keep for 7 years
- Investment statements for taxable accounts: once you receive yearly summary, shred monthly and/or quarterly statements
- Bank statements: keep for years when supporting tax returns, if not, shred after balancing account

- Credit card statements: keep when major purchase included in case needed for warranty or when charitable contribution is on statement. All others may be shredded once verified.
- ATM receipts: shred once verified against bank statement
- Cancelled checks: unless needed for tax return or other purpose, shred after 1 year
- Medical bills: keep at least 1 year unless supports a tax deduction then save with tax documents
- Retirement plan contributions: keep records of contributions to non-deductible individual retirement accounts indefinitely
- Insurance policies, wills, birth certificates, citizenship papers, and other legal documents: keep forever in a secure place (safety deposit box at bank or a fireproof box at home)

These guidelines are provided for information purposes only. It is recommended that you check with your insurance company, brokerage firm, government agency, lenders or creditors to find out if you should keep your records longer based on your individual situation. ❖

## How To Survive A Heart Attack When Alone

Without help, the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

However, these persons can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and the coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain its normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a phone and, between breaths, call for help. Tell as many other people as possible about this, it could save their lives!

*From Health Cares, Rochester General Hospital.* ❖

## Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is the most common cause of death by poison in the United States, killing more than 500 people every year. It is one of the most

dangerous poisons because often people don't know it is present until it is too late. The best way to protect yourself and your family from carbon monoxide poisoning is to buy carbon monoxide (sometimes referred to as CO) detectors for your home. A properly working carbon monoxide detector can provide an early warning before deadly gases build up to dangerous levels.

### Facts

- CO is produced anytime a fuel is burned. Potential sources include gas or oil furnaces, water heaters, space heaters, clothes dryers, barbecue grills, fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, gas ovens, generators and car exhaust fumes.
- 65% of CO poisoning deaths from consumer products are due to heating systems.
- An idling vehicle in an attached garage, even with the garage door opened, can produce concentrated amounts of CO that can enter your home through the garage door or nearby windows.
- CO poisoning deaths from portable generators have doubled for the past two years, and many of these deaths occurred in the winter months and during power outages.
- A poorly maintained gas stove can give off twice the amount of CO than one in good working order.

### Prevention

- Install at least one battery-powered CO alarm or AC-powered unit with battery backup on each level of your home and near sleeping areas.
- Have a licensed professional inspect heating systems and other fuel-burning appliances annually.
- Keep chimneys clear of animal nests, leaves and residue to ensure proper venting. Have all fireplaces cleaned and inspected annually.
- Do not block or seal shut the exhaust flues or ducts used by water heaters, ranges and clothes dryers.
- Do not leave your car running in an attached garage or carport.
- Do not use charcoal or gas grills inside or operate outdoors near a window where CO fumes could seep in through a window.
- Replace CO alarms every five to seven years in order to benefit from the latest technology upgrades.

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