

# THE ARBOR DISTRICT

CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS 62901



April 1, 2006

**Welcome to the Arbor District**, and to the first edition of our 2006 newsletter. The Arbor District is a neighbourhood association dedicated to bettering our community. Whether you are a short- or long-term renter, a homeowner, or a landlord, we all have a vested interest in improving and maintaining our neighbourhood. We encourage everyone to support us in our efforts by **joining our association**. The modest annual dues (\$5.00 for one person; \$10.00 for a household of two or more) help us defray the costs of some of our activities, such as this newsletter, our annual fall "Welcome!" picnic, or our "Clean Up the 'Hood" days. We also have annual membership meetings, which are a wonderful way to meet neighbours old and new, to learn what we have done and will be doing in the neighbourhood, and to get involved. **Please send your check, made out to the "Arbor District Neighborhood Association" to: Sandy Litecky/603 W. Walnut/Carbondale, IL 62901.** We appreciate your support, and you will appreciate being part of a group of neighbours dedicated to making our community an even better place to live.

**Communicating with our members and neighbours** is an important part of our mission, and this newsletter is just one way we stay in touch. As the new volunteer editor of this newsletter my goal is to provide a one-page newsletter on a regular monthly schedule to every household in our district. I welcome all assistance, ideas, comments, suggestions, and written contributions, so **please feel free to email me, Mary McGuire, at [mmcgnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:mmcgnewsletter@yahoo.com)**. In addition to this newsletter, The Arbor District Association has an email list, which we use to keep in direct touch with those of you who have requested to be included in those communications. **To be added to our email list, please contact Mary O'Hara at [maryohara@mchsi.com](mailto:maryohara@mchsi.com)** Last, but far from least, **please check out our web page, designed and maintained by Jane Adams and D Gorton, at [www.arbordistrict.org](http://www.arbordistrict.org)**.

**The Arbor District Board members** meet regularly to identify and act upon issues that concern our area. Full contact information for each board member is permanently listed on our web page, but I am including email contact information in this newsletter—save it and use it to stay in touch with us!

Hugh Muldoon (President): <a href="mailto:hju@midwest.net">hju@midwest.net</a>	Robin Russell (Vice President): <a href="mailto:robinr702@aol.com">robinr702@aol.com</a>
Ann Wallis (Secretary): <a href="mailto:eawkw@yahoo.com">eawkw@yahoo.com</a>	Sandy Litecky (Treasurer): <a href="mailto:s.litecky@mchsi.com">s.litecky@mchsi.com</a>
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**Announcements** of special interest to our district will appear in every issue (please send me your announcements no later than one week before the end of the month, so it can appear in the next newsletter).

## FUNDRAISER FOR THE DOME

Join us at

**Hanger 9 on Sunday, April 23, at 6pm.**

The money raised will support yard and fence needs at the Fuller Dome. Join friends and neighbours to support this important preservation effort in our district!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD CLEAN-UP

Keep Carbondale Beautiful is holding its annual clean-up event on April 22. The Arbor District needs someone to coordinate our participation—please contact Hugh Muldoon to volunteer and help organize another fun and successful Arbor District clean-up!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSISTANCE TEAM

In the fall newsletter, we announced the formation of the **Arbor District Neighbourhood Assistance Team**, an innovative collaboration between our organization and City officials, focused on identifying some of the **pressing and recurrent problems** in our community—zoning violations, trash and litter, illegal parking, overgrown weeds, and similar "non-criminal" activities and problems. This collaborative effort is an important step in working together to identify and correct the problems that affect the quality of life for all of us in the Arbor District. **On February 6, 2006, fourteen Arbor District neighbours and seven city employees met in the Civic Center** to discuss how to implement this program. Subsequently, a group of **ARBORNAT volunteers met on March 15, 2006 for a preliminary neighbourhood walk through** with Building and Neighbourhood Service Manager Tom Grant, and city employees Greg Gibson and Karen Anderson. For nearly two hours, we walked along parts of West Cherry and South Forest, getting advice and information from the city about reportable, recurrent code violations. This was very informative--as a homeowner, I learned of at least two code violations on my own property that needed to be fixed! **[Future newsletters will address some of the important city codes that we all need to know about.]** And as I discovered in my own case, all households and property owners will always be notified about their violations and given opportunity to correct them. Please note that ARBORNATS reports are only intended **to assist city officials** whose jobs include identifying and correcting "non-criminal" activities and violations on all properties within the city limits. Keeping our community clean, quiet, attractive, safe, and accessible will benefit everyone who lives here and/or owns property in the Arbor District.

**Program:** Neighbourhood Assistance Teams: A Collaboration between the Arbor District and Carbondale

**Goal:** A neighbour-friendly, safe, and aesthetically pleasing Arbor District.

**Objective:** To facilitate neighbourhood-wide compliance with City zoning and code provisions in collaboration with the City staff on an ongoing basis.

**Strategy:** Volunteers (Arbornats) will check designated areas at least monthly and report problems noting address, type of problem, and date. They will forward their findings to Tom Redmond, who will organize and collate the information and then contact the City. Records will be kept of all incidences and outcomes. Arbornat reports can be emailed or delivered to Tom at any time, but at least by the end of the month.

At least annually, all neighbours will be advised of the Arbornat project and its results. Arbornat volunteers will meet as needed to evaluate and adjust the project. Urgent and immediate concerns are addressed to the appropriate City NAT member directly by an Arbornat volunteer or other concerned resident. Notice of this report can then be given to Tom Redmond for the record. (See list of City NAT members below.)

Communications are ordinarily conducted by email. Arbornat representatives will meet with City officials on a regular basis to review the results of the project and to determine whether there are any changes necessary.

Some volunteers from the neighbourhood have agreed to work on these teams, but more volunteers are needed. Please contact Hugh Muldoon at [huju@midwest.net](mailto:huju@midwest.net) for more information.

***City Neighborhood Assistance Team for the Arbor District:***

Public Works Director Ed Reeder, [ereeder@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:ereeder@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3271  
Development Services Planner Kanthi Karipineni: [kkaripineni@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:kkaripineni@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3235  
Building and Neighborhood Services Manager Tom Grant: [tgrant@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:tgrant@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3237  
Police Sergeant Don Priddy: [dpriddy@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:dpriddy@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3200 x 435  
Community Resources Officer Randy Mathis: [rmathis@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:rmathis@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3200 x 428  
Assistant Fire Chief John Michaellesko: [fire@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:fire@ci.carbondale.il.us), 457-3234

(City Manager Jeff Doherty: [jdoherly@ci.carbondale.il.us](mailto:jdoherly@ci.carbondale.il.us), 549-5302 x 226)