President's Column

Preparations for our 50th anniversary celebration are in the final stages with master planner and project manager promising memorable good times for everyone from the kids to grandparents. See the attached flyer for all the details.

As you may have read in this year's LPOA directory, Al Bowen founded the Ledges community in 1954. His vision and planning laid strong foundations for our community. Special recognition of Al and his family will be a part of our 50th birthday party July 31st.

So we hope you and your family will join us for this special day in July to celebrate our heritage, make some new acquaintances, and visit with friends and neighbors. See you there! *Jim Benkovich*

Join Us For the Ledges 50th Golf Outing

Saturday, July 31st, 2004
Tee Times - - Noon to 2 PM

The golf outing is open to all Ledges residents, Ledges pool members and their guests. Golfers ages 5 and up are welcome. Tee markers will be in place for all ages. The format will be a 4-person scramble. Prizes will be awarded for men's and women's longest drive, closet to the pin, and long putt. Team prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd places. There will also be a raffle drawing for prizes donated by many local businesses. Try your luck at "beat the pro" on #3, and let's not forget the glow ball-putting contest after dusk! Entry deadline is July 21st, 2004. Get your entry form in and reserve your tee time by calling Mark Anderson at 623-6391. After the golf join us as we continue to celebrate the Ledges 50th Anniversary with a pig roast, swim party and live entertainment and dancing at the Ledges Pool.

Ledges 50th Anniversary Party

Saturday, July 31st, 2004 - - - 5 PM TO 10 PM

Swim Party - Pig Roast - Entertainment

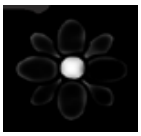
The Pig Roast and Swim Party will kick off at 5 PM. Dinner will be served at around 6 PM. The Hoffman Clubhouse Restaurant will be providing the food and drinks.

Dinner will include roasted pork with all the trimmings, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, cookies and brownies, and hot dogs for the kids. All drinks will be provided which will include beer, wine, soft drinks and coffee. The Magic Show will begin at 5:30 PM. A group that plays a wide variety of music from country to early rock & roll, and jazz will perform the entertainment. The group consists of 5 local musicians including Ledges residents Brett Daniels and Joe Pruitt. There will be a small bonfire for roasting marshmallows. Come and join the fun as we celebrate the Ledges 50th Anniversary. The cost for the event is $15 for adults, $12 for kids ages 13 to 18, $8 for kids ages 6 to 12, kids 5 and under are free. Fill out the reservation form and mail it along with your check payable to the LPOA. Your tickets will be mailed to you. **Reservation forms to:** L P O A, PO BOX 36, ROSCOE, IL 61073-OO36

In Sympathy. . To families of John Schipper, Tony Smith and Darlene Gregg we express our deepest condolences for the loss of their loved ones!

This Issue's Featured Business

We are starting a new feature in our newsletter. In each issue we will feature a Ledges business owner. In this way we can help everyone in the Ledges get to know what's available from local businesses. In this issue we are featuring The Ambrose Greenhouse.



Ambrose Greenhouse is family owned, and features home grown plants. They are located on Elevator Road in the Ledges near Love Road. In their early thirties, Stephen and Teresa Ambrose enjoy the adventures of business, and raising five beautiful children. Their priorities are faith, then family, and feel anything is possible. Their home is adjacent to their business, and "dad's job", which is a blessing to their family.

"Stephen has turned a sow's ear into a silk flower", or "built a house on top of a house", are just a few of the comments they have heard, after he completed the reconstruction of their existing home. He is the third generation of his family to enter the garden and nursery business. Teresa will be one of the first ones to tell you that his talents are endless. The LPOA hopes that you value plants grown in your own neighborhood.

The Ambrose's are especially known for their hanging baskets, pottery, garden iron, combination planters, an Old English Charm Gift Shop, and now

thousands of perennials. Come in and visit them soon, they would like to get to know their neighbors better. Don't forget to bring your LPOA Newsletter with the buy 1 get 1 free perennial offer. *LPOA Board*

Driving Safety in the Ledges

Each year we remind you to be careful driving around our area. New people move into the neighborhood and often there are children (now out of school) that we have to watch attentively. Teen-age youth are getting their licenses to drive and sometimes need reminders to watch out for others. All of us should slow down and obey all traffic signs.

According to the Winnebago County Highway department, "On residential streets within the subdivision, the speed limit is 30 MPH maximum". This is true even if speed limit signs are not posted. Love Road between Elevator and McCurry has a 40-mile speed limit. From McCurry north of Love Road the limit is 55 MPH.

The rolling terrain and winding streets make it necessary to use a little extra caution. I have heard several complaints of speeding on Love Road, rolling through stop signs or ignoring them completely, and drivers "tailgating". This has caused people to fear using proper driving techniques to avoid being "rear ended" even though they are signaling a turn! Homeowners could trim shrubbery that interferes with driver vision.

While we like the rural feel of our area, some of the signs of "encroaching population" are welcome. I think most people appreciate the stoplights at 251 and McCurry Road, I know I do! *Fern Nelson*

Identity Theft

Last year seven million U.S. families fell victim to identity theft. Since 1990, 33 million Americans have had their identity snatched. Identity theft has been used in crimes ranging from international drug trafficking to terrorism. Many victims don't discover their identity has been stolen till major problems surface.

The consumer ends up paying for ID theft and businesses expect to lose $4.2 billion this year and this figure is expected to balloon to $8 billion by 2006. ID theft in not generally the fault of the individual, but that of improper protection of data bases by merchants, credit bureaus and the government. The most sensitive pieces of information are your full name, social security number and date of birth. Be cautious when you give this information to anyone, especially anyone who contacts you requesting it.

The information above was gleaned from a good article in the October 2003 issue of Consumer's Report. They mention things like e-mail spammers Dumpster diving, mail theft, account takeover, skimming (use of illegal magnetic card readers) and raiding your old computer as potential sources of problems. There is an excellent web site of extensive information on ways that thieves steal your identity. Included also are methods of preventing Identity Theft @ http://www.ou.edu/oupd/idtheft.htm

Chuck *Christiansen*

2004 LPOA Annual Dues ($20 per household)

If you haven't joined the LPOA to date there will not be a form in this newsletter. Go on line at www.ledgescommunity.org for a form you can complete.

Happy Tents For Rent

As a service to Ledges Residents, the LPOA has three 25' square tents that they rent for your special ocassions. The rental fee is $25.00 for each tent you reserve. Call 623-6391

The LPOA board

New Paint Job on Our Signs

Thanks to the diligent work of several volunteers, the five Ledges signs got a new paint job. The color scheme was changed to have better "curb appeal". The signs were power washed and then two coats of nine different colors of paint were applied. For about $300.00 worth of supplies and approximately 40 hours of work, the LPOA saved $1500.00. We have received many nice comments from local residents!