

Beachwalk News



the way life should be



September, 2007

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Hi Neighbor,

It is coming surprisingly close to "last call" for a summer trip to the beach. And the pool will close at the end of the month. And the Splash Pad (well, that's another story). In any case, time to get off the couch and into the summer scene one mo' time before fall.

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Developer's Corner - Property Tax Update & Status Report

The Beachwalk Property Owners' Association is now working on your behalf with John Maley, Beachwalk Homeowner and an attorney with Barnes and Thornburg, to determine a way to have the current tax assessment scheme thrown out and redone fairly and correctly, with the prior assessment utilized as an interim solution for the next few years. The rationale for having our new assessments tossed out is twofold. First, the assessments are both inaccurate and inconsistent, and, as constituted, will result in enormous damage to many families as well as to our image as an attractive locus for tourism and vacation homes. Second, the time that this process will buy until a new assessment is performed will allow for efforts, currently underway, to thoughtfully substitute other revenue sources for property taxes. For instance, I have proposed to the Mayor that an increase in City and County sales taxes would serve Michigan City's future better than would an increase in property taxes. This approach was recently endorsed by the [Michigan City News Dispatch](#). Finally, property tax bills are expected to be mailed in late September. With all of the swirling developments, including efforts by the Sheridan Beach Property Owners Association and others to achieve similar goals to ours. I, for one, will be in no hurry to pay my taxes early. May you live in interesting times....more to come.

Beachwalk/Michiana News

Weddings are Us

Beachwalk hosted a number of weddings in the last few weeks ranging from the small, local Hamilton marriage to the large destination wedding of Samantha Steinberg and Sean Melchiori where attendees came from California to New Jersey with a sizable contingent coming from Israel. Both weddings were surrounded by threatening weather. The ceremonies and receptions, though, went off without a hitch in perfect Beachwalk signature weather and the newlyweds and their families are still basking in the warmth of the special memories of their unique weddings.





Mr & Ms Hamilton

Mr & Ms Melchiori

Improved Phone Reception

If you look out across Lake Kai you may be able to pick out in the distance a rather odd-looking skinny white tree. Actually it is a cell tower, located on the property of Woodruff and Sons.

I called W & S and the fellow who answered the phone said the AT&T and Verizon were located on the tower. If that is so, then there may very well be a new answer to the question, "Can you hear me now?", at least for some of the cell phone users at Beachwalk.

The Summer Hoops

program concluded with **Team Beachwalk** taking 3rd place after a valiant effort by all of the team members. Coach Tom Aldrich said, "I am very proud of our team, they worked very hard and should be proud of their accomplishment". Team Treehouse (restaurant) took the first place slot and Team Schoop's took the second place slot with a nail-biter finish. Summer Hoops will start up again next June and Director, Dave Emerson shares that, "I hope the excitement of our first season will continue on to next year and our program will continue to grow in all aspects."



TEAM BEACHWALK, 2007

Sincere thanks to Tom and Beth Aldrich (see also below), and to Dave Emerson, who developed and directed this very successful program. If your son or daughter will be entering 5th or 6th grade in September, 2008, look for announcements next May and June for the June/July, 2008 version of Summer Hoops.

Homeowners' Corner

A Neighbor you should know

Beth Aldridge is one of that growing number of American workers whose office is wherever she can Wi-Fi. During the summer that spot can be on the Deck behind Club Deli or even on Sheridan Beach.

Beth and her husband, Tom with their three sons, Tyler, Ryan and Logan live in Beachwalk every summer. Beth works from home on her award-winning website, *For Her Information*, (www.ForHerInformation.com) the home of her online magazine (the magazine used to be a print publication, but in the same eco-friendly spirit as this Newsletter, it is now paper-free) . The website also offers an online radio show hosted by Beth and a sneak peek at her PBS TV Series of the same name from last season. Her company, For Her Information Media works on various projects in addition to the magazine. This past spring Beth served on the Executive Committee for the Chicago Lakefront Global Warming Project, *Cool Globes*, where her company donated all of the media work for the project, including the development and production of the 125 globe, 96-page guidebook that is being distributed throughout Chicago all summer in conjunction with the project.



Recently featured in the *Chicago Tribune's* business section as a passionate business woman, Beth balances her work and family every summer very easily here in Beachwalk. "With our (Beachwalk's) great location near the beach, Long Beach Country Club (where her 3 sons play golf) and nearby attractions it makes life a lot easier and relaxed compared to living in the city (Chicago)during the winter months. We have some wonderful friends here at Beachwalk and the small-town feeling of community here really makes summer (and many fall, winter and spring weekends) just delightful. I feel so blessed to be able to publish an online magazine, radio show and weekly enewsletter each week from the comfort of my own summer home in Beachwalk."

Homeowners' Handbook

I'd like to thank all of the Beachwalkers who have responded to my request for input into the Beachwalk Resort Community Homeowners' Handbook. Your thoughtful responses will clearly enrich the eventual product. The theme that has emerged from the responses to date comes in the form of a question. Something like "What are the rules that govern community life at Beachwalk and who enforces them? This is, of course, a crucial question and much clarification of roles and responsibilities will be required to allow for a clear set of answers in the Handbook. Stay tuned.

Michael O'Mahoney
Beachwalk Resort

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