

Feb / March 07

Almadale Farms Newsletter

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kathie@almadalefarms.org

Vice President:

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Treasurer/Architectural

Review:

Renee Samuels 853-1900
renee@almadalefarms.org

Secretary/Newsletter/Website

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maryjane@almadalefarms.org

Whitt Dukes

Tom Powell

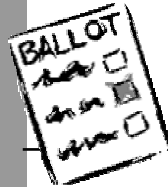
Bobby Haygood



1851 Hartwell Manor N.
Collierville, TN 38017
Phone: 861-1028
www.almadalefarms.org



Daphne's Office Hours
Tuesday 9:00-3:00 &
Friday 9:00-12:00

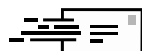


Annual Homeowners Meeting Thursday, February 15th

Please make plans to attend our yearly meeting to learn how our neighborhood is improving. We need only 25% of our 280 homes to be represented—either in person or by proxy—to conduct a meeting and elect a board of directors. *If you are unable to attend, please give your proxy to someone who can.* Check-in begins at 6:30 pm at the clubhouse. Meeting starts at 7:00.

This year we are very happy to have **Collierville Town Engineer Matt Thomson** as a guest speaker. He will speak on the upcoming projects around our area such as the widening of Houston Levee and the new shopping center and gas station across the street. Also, **PJ's Coffee & Wine Bar** will provide their delicious coffee and tea once again for our meeting!

All of the current board members will be on the ballot for 2007. However if you or someone you know would like to serve on the 2007 Board, please contact Daphne or a board member to be included on the slate.



daphneinoffice@almadalefarms.org



Annual Meeting Feb. 15th



Here They Come

Will Stafford



After vacationing for six months while molting and putting on a new suit of feathers in the Amazon River basin and other parts of Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay, my favorite swallow—the purple martin—is winging its way north. Martins reached Florida in January and other deep south states in February. I have tracked the arrivals and departures of purple martins in our area for approximately twenty five years. Using the Mississippi River as a navigational guide, they normally arrive during the first two weeks of March and return home in late July or early August. This will be uplifting news to the approximately twenty Almadale Farm families who have been adopted by this most acrobatic of birds.

The martins' arrival signals the return of warm and pleasant spring days. Older martins—often referred to as scouts will arrive first to claim nest sites they have previously used and will fiercely defend these preferred sites. New, younger martins usually arrive a few weeks later. Their return coincides with the availability of the larger protein providing insects such as dragonflies, midges, mayflies, grasshoppers, June bugs, moths, cicadas and other insects. In our area the dragonfly is a favorite dish. Purple martins usually eat “on the wing”, catching their prey as they swoop through the air—typically feeding 100–200 feet in the air. For drinking, they use their lower bills to scoop water from lakes, rivers and other water sources. Your best opportunity to see a martin taking a drink is in the early morning or late afternoon over one of our beautiful lakes. Martins are a unique species east of the Rocky Mountains.

This is the situation since they are almost totally dependent on human supplied housing. If you are interesting in establishing a martin site I will be happy to visit with you to determine the suitability of your lawn for a martin housing site. Location is a critical. Without it you will find it very difficult to attract martins—and a waste of money since good martin housing is not inexpensive. For those of you who are already martin landlords, check your site(s) and make sure trees and shrubbery haven't grown too tall and too close to your house(s)—this could discourage the martins' continued use of your house(s).

Regardless of your level of interest, I strongly recommend that you visit at least once the annual Martifest held at the Victor Stoll Farm in Finger, Tennessee.



This year's Martifest will be held on June 15 & 16. For approximately \$10 the Stolls will provide BBQ, a drink and other Amish treats in addition to one of the largest martin sites in the country. According to Victor, in 2006 he had approximately 726 nesting pairs in 800 rooms. By June the young will have fledged and there will be a total of approximately 3500 martins. There will also be large tents with martin displays, several knowledgeable speakers, vendors and drawings. Finger is a relaxing, beautifully rural two hour drive from Collierville just south of Jackson, Tennessee. Directions: Take Hwy 57 E—turn L on Hwy 18—R on Hwy 100—L on Hwy 45 then R on Hwy 199 to Finger. A word of caution if you decide to make the drive—watch for **serious** speed traps in Piperton, Rossville and Moscow.

Directory Update

If you would like to **update** your information in our directory, or you are **currently not in the directory**, please provide the following information to the clubhouse by February 28th. You can also email the info to daphneinoffice@almadalefarms.org

Name:	Address:	Lot#:
Children's Names & Date of Birth:		
Home and/or Cell Phone number(s):		
Email:		
Employment and Phone Number:		
Employment and Phone Number:		

Annual Meeting Feb. 15th

Keep Your Tomato Plants Off The Ground

Will Stafford



Spring is on its way and some of you are already thinking of ways you can have better tomatoes this year. One very important way is to keep your tomato plants off the ground in order to:

- **Avoid Diseases**
- **Make It Easier to Harvest**
- **Make It Easier to Fertilize and Monitor Problems**
- **Protect Your Plants from Animals and Children**

There are multiple ways to train and support tomato plants. As a boy I grew up in the tomato growing center of Tennessee in Gibson County. The primary tomato support system used back then was the simple single-stake method which consisted of driving an 8 foot 2 X 2 stake into the ground and then tying the tomato plant to the stake.

Since the 50's a multitude of new tying or staking methods have emerged. These include wire cages, ladder trellises, tomato towers, tepees and a few other methods. However, after lots of experimentation, my favorite is a cage made of concrete reinforcement wire. I especially like its 6 inch mesh which allows for easy picking of the tomatoes. The same welded steel mesh that gives reinforced concrete its strength is the just the thing for making tomato cages that will last a lifetime.

You can buy concrete reinforcement wire at just about any building supply center or if you're lucky—find an abandoned remnant of wire at a new building site. Figure on buying approximately 14 feet of wire—enough for two

cages. The only tools you will need are a small pair of bolt cutters to cut the heavy wire and a good pair of pliers. Be sure to wear work gloves to avoid cuts and blisters.

The ideal cage size is approximately 24 inches in diameter and 60 inches high. This size supports the vine very well, helps in preventing sun scald and allows enough leaf surface for maximum fruiting. For each cage cut a 6 1/2 foot length of wire and coil it to make a circular cage approximately 24 inches in diameter. Cut off the bottom two levels of horizontal wire to create "legs" which you can push into the ground to hold the cage in place. Later when you are ready for tomato planting, place the cage over your plant and—as your plant matures—use a stake or T-bar (my choice) on both sides to secure the cage and protect your tomato plant in the event of a high wind. I failed to do this one year and lost eight tomato plants during a strong wind. It is very important to secure the cage. At the end of the season, clear off old vines and store the cages for winter—or leave the cages standing and have them double as compost bins.

If all of the above sounds too confusing, I will be happy to show you finished tomato cages—just give me a call. I have some concrete reinforcement wire cages which I made up to 25 years ago and they remain very functional. Tomato cages can also be found at garden centers. However, I dislike these since they are too short and usually not very sturdy.



Common Areas Around Lake Unacceptable

Daphne and several board members have been contacted about the condition of the common areas around the lakes. It seems that since the lawn service has stopped for the season, there is a **plethora of dog poop** from homeowners not picking up after their pets. **Please be considerate and pick up after your pets not only along the sidewalks, but the common areas as well.**

This is not just thoughtfulness, but a Town Of Collierville ordinance as well. The health of our neighborhood and its environment relies on the behavior of our residents. That's why it's important for dog owners to pick up their dog's waste. It's illegal to leave it because it will eventually be washed into the storm detention lakes or the streets, down the gutters and into a storm drain. Storm drains lead straight to our waterways, with no filtration. **The bacteria from your pets waste contaminates a basic, natural environmental resource—water.** Next time you walk your dog, please take a plastic bag to pick up your dog's waste and throw it the trash.

T.G.I.F.

Barbara Parkhurst

We had an incredible turnout for the first T.G.I.F. of 2007!! Thanks to all the new neighbors (and old ones) who attended. The weather was great, the food was fabulous and the fellowship was fantastic! We are off to a great start for the New Year. Now all we need are some couples to volunteer their homes for three more times this year. You pick the month and the Friday that best suits your schedule. Just give me a call—its as simple as that! Thanks, Barbara Parkhurst 861-5054



For Registering!



Aspen

**View AF pets at
alamdalefarms.org**

Annual Meeting Feb. 15th

Ornament Exchange

Rene Platten



Thanks to all our Bunko Ladies for the food and beverages they brought for the ornament exchange. A good time was had by all. It was great to see so many new neighbors.

We are still looking for 1-2 permanent Bunko players. Call Rene Platten at 861-4183 if you're interested.

Almadale Neighbors

Made Christmas Wishes Come True Rene Platten



WOW! We did it again for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Memphis and our adopted family. I am so moved by the generosity of this special neighborhood. We had our best response ever this year!

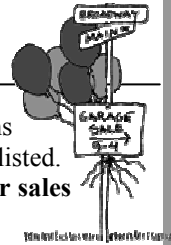
We collected enough to almost take on another family, but there wasn't enough time left to shop. I gave the remainder to BBBS to help with over 10 families that did not get adopted this year and to put towards the Ice Skating Party expenses.

Over 400 BBBS participants attended the party including three teen volunteers from our neighborhood and 13 from our church youth group. They did an amazing job with the kids. It was an awesome day for all. Thanks again for your incredible support and being a part of something so special.



Spring Garage Sale April 13th & 14th

We generally put ads in two or three newspapers and highlight some of the items in the sale. Contact Daphne (861-1028) if you would like some of your items listed. As per our Covenants, we have two sanctioned garage sales a year. No other sales of any kind are allowed throughout our neighborhood.



FYI: The hail storm that damaged so many roofs occurred on 04.07.06. Insurance allows one year to the date to claim damages.

Replacing Your Roof?

The procedure is the same as any other ARC submittal with the exception of the time delay. Because of the amount of requests, Daphne is approving these types of applications ASAP. Go to www.almadalefarms.org and download the Architectural Change form or stop by the clubhouse during Daphne's work hours.

1. Submit the completed form and type of shingles to be replaced. (The new shingles should be **3-Dimensional Architectural** shingles, not the basic "three-tab shingle" that some of the older homes have.)
2. Submit a sample if the color is different from the original roof.
3. Leave the form and sample with Daphne at the Clubhouse or leave it in her lock box by the office door.
4. Once processed, Daphne will contact you ASAP.
5. Call 861-1028 if you have questions.

Welcome New Neighbors



James & Julie Ann Cook
1700 Napier Woods

Garrett & Jamie Wade
1775 Hartwell Manor N.



WHAT'S NEW

www.almadalefarms.org

Send your classifieds and business ads to maryjane@almadalefarms.org to be posted on the

"Residents' Billboard"



NEED A BEACH VACATION?

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Almadale Neighbors at our new 3BR/3BA GULF FRONT CONDO on Okaloosa Island. Seven miles from Destin. For pictures and more info go to VRBO.COM/74012

Rene Platten 861-4183
SPRING BREAK IS STILL AVAILABLE!!

Annual Meeting Feb. 15th

Committee Members Needed!

A new year offers new opportunities to get involved in our neighborhood. Attending events and serving on committees are great ways to meet new friends and neighbors. We hope to continue offering events like the **Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Parade, Teen Pool Party, Preschool Playgroup, New Neighbor Brunch, National Night Out, Pet Day** and more. **But we need your help!!!**



Our Association supports **Social Events** such as these, but we need volunteers to help organize them. If you have an idea for an event or would like to help out, please contact a board member or give Daphne a call at 861-1028. We need your help to keep Almadale Farms a great place to live.

NOTICE: Every year for the past seven years we've held a **Progressive Dinner** in April or May. If you would like to help organize this year, please contact Barbara Parkhust to get the details (861-5054).



Neighborhood Reminders

- Clubhouse rental fee is \$75 with a \$175 deposit. Forms available on-line.
- As per our Covenants (Article VIII, Section 2. (e)), no signs are allowed in yards other than one "For Sale" sign.
- To contact Almadale Farms Neighborhood Watch call one of the Chairpersons: **Linda Badger (854-6391), Tom Powell (861-2367) or Cookie Ray (861-3995).**
- To report a lost or found pet in the neighborhood, please call **Mary Jane (861-7010)** or email **Daphne (daphneoffice@almadalefarms.org).**
- Replacement flags and latches for your mailbox are available from **Daphne.**
- The decorative lamp posts on the property of each homeowner are the homeowner's responsibility to maintain and repair.
- **Please pick up after your pets! This includes our common areas around the lake as well as neighbors yards.**

Would You Know What To Do?

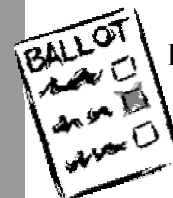
What thoughts come to mind when you hear the following words: Katrina, Rita, Wilma, 9-11, tornados in Jackson, floods, and the New Madrid Fault. Is your community ready? Are you and your family ready should disaster strike? Following a disaster, community members may be on their own for a period of time because of the size of the area affected, lost communications, and impassable roads.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community

To become a CERT member, you will have to take the CERT training from a task force effort of the Collierville Fire and Police Departments. The training takes 16 hours over a 3-day weekend. The enrollment is limited to 25 students per class. There is no charge for the training. If you would like to register for this program, please visit the Collierville Police Department's website at <http://www.colliervillepolice.org> and visit the CERT webpage. If you have any questions about this interesting training, please contact Lt. Townsend at the Collierville Police Department at 457-2560.

The Annual Homeowners' Meeting will be February 15th.

You will be electing a Board of Directors for 2007. If you would like to serve on the board please contact any existing board member or Daphne @ 861-1028.



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Chelsea Harkness
11/21/90—Birthday
Cell: 598-3600
Home: 861-4515



Collierville Police are holding **free** three day CERT training sessions on

Session A
February 16, 17 & March 31

Session B
March 2, 3, & 31

Session C
March 23, 24, & 31

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www.colliervillepolice.org
Or call 457-2560

Annual Meeting Feb. 15th

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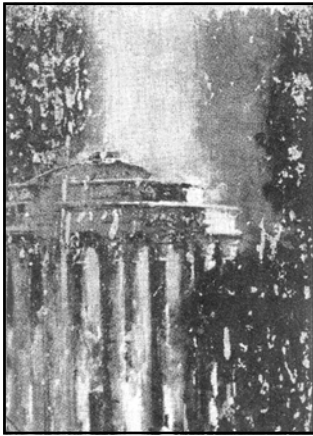
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Cell: 262-7651
Calebboy@aol.com

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Strengthening Your Immune System by Jeffrey Frost D.C., Pt.

Do you or your children have illnesses come and go throughout the year here in the Memphis area? Do you find yourself run down periodically without an explanation you can put your finger on? Do you or your friends say, "It's the Memphis area" that causes all these allergies and symptoms of unhealthiness? During the last 3 months I have seen a flu type virus infect our community. This illness was debilitating for sometimes weeks.

I found it interesting that not everybody got ill that came into contact with people who had this sickness. I then remember one of the questions the developer of Chiropractic Dr. David Palmer asked himself as he was searching for ways help his community be rid of disease. "When two men are working at the same work bench why did one get sick and the other did not?"

Dr. David Palmer discovered that when the body was not able to get the life giving force God designed for it to receive, that area of the body became weak and suffered the "ill" effects of foreign substances, attacking that area and became symptomatic. He believed the nervous system was the pathway with which life traveled to our body parts, making them strong, and if that could be restored the body's symptoms should go away. In his experience, as he made "adjustments" to the

spinal column (that which houses the spinal cord) the body parts became strong, and many of the symptoms went away.

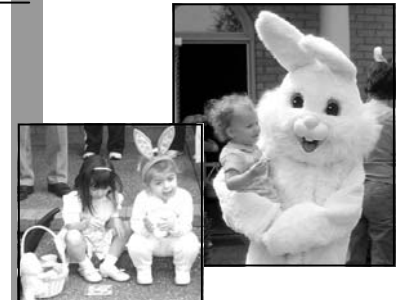
Chiropractic is that profession developed by Dr. David Palmer. If you could strengthen your body and get rid of unwanted symptoms wouldn't you do that? You could be one that suffers needlessly from the illnesses mentioned above or possibly other weaknesses where God could help, if your nervous system were able to properly communicate with your body parts.

Jeffrey Frost D.C., Pt.
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If you are interested in having Jeffrey Frost D.C., Pt., conducting one of his seminars in our Clubhouse in Almadale Farms, please contact him at 850-5001 or email: jwf@frostfamilychiro.com



Those who participated in the last two Easter Egg Hunts at the Clubhouse know what a great time the kids had! We need a few volunteers to make this happen again in 2007! Call Daphne 861-1028 to help out!



With all the roofing going on in our neighborhood, it's a good idea to check your tires for roofing nails!

Thanks for that advice from Tom & Jane Powell who found 3 roofing nails in their tires, one which caused a flat on the way to Little Rock!

Keeping Your Cat Indoors

MJ Doran



Cats may love to go outside, but for their own good, keep them in. Although cats are smart, alert and adroit, they are no matches for the many dangers that await them outside. That's why the average indoor-only cat lives up to three times longer than the cat that goes outside. Threats such as **disease, parasites, poisoning, cruelty, traffic and attacks from other animals** are just some of the perils awaiting your companion.

Cats can be completely happy inside if you provide them with toys, good care and most importantly, lots of love and attention. If you have a kitten, start it out right by never letting him or her outside. Older cats that are used to the "great outdoors" can make the transition to being indoor cats with time and attention. Spaying and neutering cats will also help you keep them indoors.

Be a Good Neighbor: Free-roaming cats kill millions of wild animals each year. Studies show that most of the animals killed are small mammals such as chipmunks and field mice, and approximately 25% are birds. Well-fed housecats kill wildlife because of their instinct to hunt prey, not because they need the food. Cats are not a part of natural ecosystems, and their predation causes unnecessary death to wild animals. **This can cause conflicts among neighbors, pitting gardeners and bird lovers against cat owners who allow their charges to roam.**

Annual Meeting Feb. 15th