FEBRUARY 2015 – RIVERVIEW ESTATES HOA EPISTLE

We would like to introduce the first monthly “epistle” (aka letter). Can anyone suggest a name for this letter? We do hope to send out a short letter to everyone’s email address on a monthly basis. However, the creative thinking channel seems to be frozen presently so we need your help in naming it. Send suggestions to the BOD web address.

Speaking of frozen, our ponds have been ice-covered from time to time this winter. Some people (especially our young people) may believe it is safe to walk on the ice. We do not wish to sound like paranoid, over-protective parents, nor do we wish to frighten anyone, but the truth is, too many people do fall through thin ice and some drown. It would be tragic indeed if this should happen in our community. Having grown up where the lakes often froze over solidly by December, I did my share of playing on frozen ponds as a kid. Thus, I have a good understanding of ice safety. When a pond ices over, the water below may erode the underside of the ice creating weak places – especially in the deeper areas of the ponds. Our ponds are not very deep, but if someone falls through and slips under the ice, they may never find their way back to the surface. Have you ever been fully immersed in nearly freezing water? Usually a person panics when this happens. And, if someone tries to help a friend in trouble, they too could become a victim. Please, please, please do not attempt to walk out onto the ice of our ponds at any time.

The second point we want to make is that someone has been throwing rocks (big rocks) out onto the ice, often trying to break holes in the ice. An entire section of ice could crack and break up, resulting in a dangerous situation. No matter, this is risky behavior that could lead to a disaster. Most of us don’t let our kids play with knives or guns for obvious reasons but, even though this seems less of a risk, the outcome of an accident could be just as tragic. We want to strongly urge everyone to stay off the ice and educate your children about the dangers of such actions…and please tell them not to throw anything out onto the ice.

As a side issue, we really do not want to have to pay someone to remove the rocks from the ponds or purchase more to keep the drainage areas working properly.

Here is a suggestion: If your children want to play on ice, take them ice skating at the local skating rink.

Thank you for helping keep everyone safe in our community.

Steve Halstead, Riverview Estates-HOA, Board of Directors

PS – We are always open to suggestions for topics that we can explore.