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The Official Publication of the Winchester Trails Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee

Volume 4, Issue 10 www.winchestertrails.com

#### October 2008

## Dear Winchester Trails Neighbors,

As we move into fall, this is a busy time of year for the Board as we work on budgets for 2009 and consequently the maintenance fees. As you know, the cost of many goods and services are increasing mostly in response to the cost of energy. One of our largest expenses is electricity and of course that cost has outpaced general inflation. The Board has been working to minimize any fee increases for next year but we are also under much pressure to maintain the Trails to a level you have come to expect. This fall we are renovating the clubhouse not so much out of desire but rather out of need. We have considerable termite damage that has led to a dangerous situation we had to address. We also had some roof leaks and other repairs that go along with a 25 year old building. In addition, we are responding to federal legislation to make our pool safer. While the modification to the pool may sound minor, it will cost several thousands of dollars to comply. The Board will do everything in its power to provide a safe and well maintained neighborhood while controlling spending. We have one of the lowest homeowner's maintenance fees in the area and we intend to keep it that way.

On another note, in early September after the pool had closed, we had two teens jump the fence and go swimming. A resident stopped them and told them the pool was closed consequently Sheriff Andy has paid them a visit. We will be pursuing anyone who trespasses on Trails property such as a closed pool.

The annual meeting will be held at the clubhouse on October 9. Please plan on attending as we will need to establish a proper quorum in order to conduct Trails business.

As a reminder, National Night Out will be held on October 7 so I hope to see you there.

Finally, Halloween is at the end of the month. Please drive carefully as we will have many small children running from house to house.

Until next month... Walter

## **Political Square**

Witer

Having a hard time waddling through the constant slew of attack campaign ads? Do you want to know fact from fiction and judge for yourself? Then check out this site it is run independently of both candidates. Here's the website...

www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter

## WT National Night Out

Tuesday, October 7, 2008 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Meet Your Neighbors Bring a Smile,

Lawn Chair, And Snack

Together, as neighbors, we can stamp out crime. We have the power to keep our neighborhoods safe for everyone.

## Upcoming Events/Observances October

7- National night out 9- Board Meeting 13- Columbus Day 15- National Poetry Day 31- Halloween

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Don't want to wait for the mail? View the current issue of the Winchester Trails Trailwriter on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com

# Winchester Trails

### Winchester Trails Committee Chairmen

Clubhouse Rentals	
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Richard & Alice Barone	281-955-5856
Yard of the Month	
Ron Matthews	281-955-1005

### **Maintenance Association Directors**

Greg Johnson	
Jim Malone	
Ian McCrory	
Walter Sonne	
Paulette Walker	

Jim Malone is the security representative for WT. His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

## MUD #9 Officers

David Gurghigian, President		
Jeff Ottmann, Vice President		
Wayne Wilcox, Secretary		
Jim Giese, Assistant Secretary		
Sandor Karpathy		
To ask questions or report problems concerning the Winchester		
Trails Subdivision, call		
PLANNED COMMUNITY M	ANAGEMENT	

#### PLANNED COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT 281-870-0585

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls ...... 713-221-600

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## **Howdy Partner**

We've had a flurry of activity here in Winchester Trails, specifically on Hondo Hill Road. The Trails extends a warm welcome to the Punch and Hernandez families.

Tammy and Robby Punch now call 10410 Hondo Hill home. The Punches, and their two sons, Hayden and Ethan moved from Houma, Louisiana, into their new home in August along with their two dogs, Ruby and Savannah. Robby works as welding engineer, and Tammy is a stay-at-home mom and teacher.

Christina and Raul Hernandez and their son, Isaac moved to 10310 Hondo Hill in July. Raul is self-employed in the Communications industry and Christina is a paralegal in the Oil and Gas industry. The Hernandez family moved to the Trails from the Oak Forest neighborhood.

The Welcome Committee is looking for a new person to take over this activity. The responsibilities are to welcome new residents when they arrive, provide them with an information packet and write a monthly article welcoming these families to the neighborhood. These efforts take approximately 2-3 hours a month and will involve some computer work in Microsoft Word and e-mail. Please contact Missy Fouts at 832-237-5717 if you are interested.

If you are new to the neighborhood and have received a Welcome visit, please remember to return your forms to Missy Fouts at 10411 Hondo Hill, or call 832-237-5717. Also, if you are new to the

neighborhood and have not been welcomed, please let us know. We want to stop by and say hello, get some information to introduce your family to the neighbors through this article, and give you a handy packet of information to help familiarize you with your new neighborhood. We also have Trails information available on our website at www. winchestertrails.com. Welcome to the Trails!

*Missy Fouts* 832-237-5717



## Winchester Trails – Deadline

The deadline for the Nov. newsletter is Oct. 10th. All items should be sent to Brenda Heaton at grateful7000@sbcglobal.net

## **Advertising Information**

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Winchester Trails Trailwriter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter each month at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our Sales Office at 888-687-6444; <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u> for ad information and pricing The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

## www.winchestertrails.com

## **GREEN THUMB CORNER**

The first cool spells are encouraging us to get out into the yard, and although we're nowhere near winter it's already time to be thinking about the spring bulbs. They've been in some stores for a while already, and newspaper articles and radio talk shows have been covering the annual topic. Even if you're not ready to plant yet, now is the time to buy while the selection is still good. Bulbs may be safely stored in the refrigerator, just like a regular vegetable, and can be planted this month or next (except for tulips), or you can even procrastinate until Christmas.

In addition to the usual daffodils and tulips, try Amaryllis, Anemone, Calla, Iris, Lilies, Narcissus, Oxalis and Ranunculus, and select a variety of early-, mid- and late-bloomers to stretch out the flowering period. Plant in rich, loamy soil with lots of humus, and it helps to add bone meal at the bottom of the hole; planting depth is usually indicated on the packet, but a good rule of thumb is to use a depth of two or three times the width of the bulb.

Tulips require special treatment - they need to be chilled (not frozen) for 45 to 60 days before planting, and the recommended planting time is between Christmas and New Year's Day. The best bulb display is usually obtained by mass plantings rather than single rows or small groups, and try to avoid too many different colors in the same area. Unfortunately, only the daffodils offer any hope of

(Continued on page 5)

### **Cellular Information**

(411) Calls - Now get Information calls FREE

You can program (800)373-3411 into your cell phone and use this service free. You do have to listen to an opening advertisment / Toll free numbers (800, 877, 876) are also available.

### We Need You!!! 2009 Social Events Chairperson

This an opportunity to help keep Winchester Trails the great community that it is. Use your creativity to plan the special events that we have all come to enjoy! Organize a committee to assist you. Your Board of Directors contact person will be Paulette Walker, Board Secretary. Call any board member to get more details.

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I'm Texas Energy Analyst Alan Lammey. Maybe you've heard me on the radio talking about the market forces that drive energy prices. I'm here to tell you that you're not stuck paying those high prices to big electric companies anymore! **Stop it.** 

#### Why pay more than you have to? Those days are over!

Why would you want to go with an electric provider that charges you more, when you can go to www.sparkpowerbank.com and pay far less for the same electricity?

#### Make sense?

Please choose "Newsletter Ad" as your referral on the SparkPowerBank.com website.

# Winchester Trails



10415 Hondo Hill Larry Hackemesser & Brenda Engdahl

10611 Bent Spur Ct. Art & Cindy Formas

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Effective Advertising, Done Right.

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## MILESTONES

New Teenagers - Happy 13th! 10/01 - Tatum McNeil 10/07 - Elizabeth Dutcher 10/12 - Mari Clement 10/14 - Sarah Rentcome

**New Drivers - Happy 16th!** 10/03 - Cody Chumley 10/03 - Cameron Chumley

**New Voters - Happy 18th!** 10/22 - Ankit Rajgariah

New Adults - Happy 21st! 10/03 - Sarah Brinkmeyer 10/06 - Brigitte Terry 10/07 - Kaitlyn Neagli Happy 10th Anniversary! 10/10 - Howard & Kay Akins

Happy 15th Anniversary! 10/09 - Michael & Mary Henson

Happy 25th Anniversary! 10/29 - Tom & Sharon Kozy

Happy 30th Anniversary! 10/27 - Chaiyo & Tammy Chanprasert

Happy 45th Anniversary! 10/02 - David & Judy Bertrand

> Melissa Zmerzlikar kmzmerz-wt@yahoo.com

#### Green Thumb Corner - (Continued from Page 3)

perennial performance in the Houston climate.

October is the recommended month for giving the lawn its final feeding of the year to promote root health through the winter, and it may also be needed to encourage some re-growth in areas damaged by dry periods earlier in the year.

Dig up and store caladium bulbs this month or next - it's easier to locate them before the foliage dies back completely, and if left in the ground they may rot or freeze. Dry them in the shade, brush off any loose soil, dust with fungicide, and hang up in old pantyhose in the garage.

In the vegetable garden, plant strawberries between mid-October and mid-November in raised beds with good drainage, using slightly-acid, rich, loose soil with lots of humus (bark mulch is good). Cabbage and collard plants can go in, and you can sow seeds for beets, turnips, carrots, lettuce, spinach, radishes and onions. Also try planting English garden peas this month or next for an early spring crop, but you may have to nurse them through any freezing spells.

Phil Richards





### NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

## **Opt-in For Neighborhood Notices?**

If you haven't received an email from our directory editor, Melissa Zmerzlikar, and would like to receive neighborhood notices on what's happening in our community please send your email address to Melissa @ kmzmerz-wt@yahoo.com. Your email address will be forwarded to Lesa Smith who handles e-blasts. Thank you to all of our neighbors who are currently participating in this program.

## Cy-Fair ISD & Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS): A Winning **Combination**

VIPS is an acronym for Volunteers in Public Schools. If you are interested in becoming part of the winning combination at Cy-Fair schools as a volunteer, and making a difference, or would like more information, please contact Pam Scott, Partners in Education Director at 281-894-3950. With the exception of Hearing and Vision Certification, register for training by emailing the PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net. Provide your name and the name and date of the training you wish to attend. Registration is required to guarantee a seat and training materials.

Adults only please.

## Jersey Village Project Prom '09 GARAGE SALE Fundraiser

A garage sale is being held at Trader's Village Nov. 15 & 16 to raise money for JV Project Prom '09. To donate items please contact Teresa Grove 281-894-7474 or Lauren Zufall 281-955-2433. For more information on Project Prom go to http://www.jvprojectprom.org/.

## A History of National Night Out

Matt Peskin in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania founded National Night Out in 1983. The National Association of Town Watch (NATW) sponsors it. It has since grown to become a national event observed in all 50 states, and around the world. NATW is a member of the Crime Prevention Coalition and the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC).

National Night Out is designed to: (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs; (3) strengthen neighborhoods spirit and police-community relations; and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and are fighting back.

Harris County first participated in National Night Out in **1986.** In 1998, Houston/Harris County was awarded the top national honor for "Best Participation." Harris County shared in receiving the "All Star Award" presented in 1990. In 1994, 1995, 1997, and 1999 Houston/Harris County ranked nationally. In 2000, 2003, & 2006 Houston/Harris County received the second place awards for its effort.

We now have many new residents in our county and it is no better time than now to meet our new neighbors and become involved in the safety of our community.

## **Classified** Ads

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

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