

Trail Writer

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

Volume 6, Issue 11
www.winchestertrails.com

November 2010

Letter From The President

Dear Winchester Trails Neighbors,

The Board has been working on the 2011 budget, which has a direct impact on the maintenance fees for next year. We have seen costs rise due to a variety of factors from an increase in the minimum wage to electricity costs to vandalism experienced this past year. While it is apparent that intentional damage to our common properties would cost all of us money, how might the minimum wage increase impact us? The single largest labor cost for us is the pool and landscaping. The pool management company does a great service in providing jobs to many teens – which in many instances is the teenagers' first job. These jobs are paid at or slightly above the minimum wage, so when the wage goes up, so does our costs. This is not to disparage that fact that these teens are working and many of them live in the Trails. The Board supports the pool management company's hiring of the teens. We have also been working with the pool management company to control all costs associated with the pool.

The Board and Severn Trent have been working together for some time to develop a budget that not only meets our duties to be fiscally responsible, but also addresses the needs of the Trails. We have developed a budget for 2011 that will allow us to keep our fees at the current levels. This means we will have gone three years without an upward adjustment in fees even though we have seen increased costs in many areas. This has not been easy, but you will see that these changes will not impact our quality of life. We understand that uncertainties in the down economy have impacted us in many ways. You can help us in paying the fees in a timely manner. We still have one of the lowest maintenance fees in the area, and we intend to preserve that distinction.

Our contract with the Harris County Sheriff's office will continue next year as they have been an effective deterrent to crime. We still need to look out for our neighborhood and call the Sheriff's Department when you see something that might be suspicious.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Until next month,

Walter

Holidays in the Trails

Chairperson Needed for

Holidays in The Trails 2010

on Saturday, December 11, 2010

6p.m - 8pm

at Winchester Trails Clubhouse.

We are in need of a chairperson or co-chairpersons for our Holidays in The Trails 2010 event. This simply requires decorating our tree in the clubhouse and having cookies and milk for our children to share with Santa. Our Christmas tree and decorations are at the clubhouse. Funds will be provided for cookies and milk.

Contact Paulette Walker at 281-894-5708 or paulette_walker@sbcglobal.net for further details.

Luminaries in The Trails

As part of our annual Holidays in The Trails, residents are to line their walkways with their luminary candles at dusk on Saturday, October 11, 2010. Fold the white bag 1/3 down, place 2 cups of sand in each bag, and a votive candle in the center of the sand. Bank the sand around the candle to get maximum candle burn. Sand will be provided at our Tennis Courts. Bring a small bucket to get your sand.

???? Trails Santa Claus ????

Do you have a love for our children?

Are you young at heart?

Do you have a "twinkle in your eye"

Are you ready to hear what toys are wanted?

Then we NEED YOU!!!

We need a Santa for this year's Holidays in the Trails.

Contact Paulette Walker at 281-894-5708 or

paulette_walker@sbcglobal.net ASAP.



Winchester Trails

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Clubhouse Rentals
Kristina Soliz.....832-592-3297
Website and Directory Editor
Melissa Zmerzlikardirectory@winchestertrails.com
Tennis Committee
Johnny Hooker281-890-9123
Yard of the Month
Angie Drouin281-955-0644
Stork Committee
Ron Matthew stork@winchestertrails.com
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Melanie Scales newsletter@winchestertrails.com
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Marquee and Signs
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Kerry Thomas..... tykes@winchestertrails.com
eBlast
Susie Mallory..... eblast@winchestertrails.com
Trails Treasures
Paulette Walker..... paulette_walker@sbcglobal.net

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Greg Johnson832-237-8178
Jim Malone281-890-3803
Ian McCrory713-818-0138
Walter Sonne.....281-894-7117
Paulette Walker281-894-5708

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, President281-894-4140
Jeff Ottmann, Vice President.....281-469-1465
Wayne Wilcox, Secretary281-894-6233
Jim Giese, Assistant Secretary281-890-5207
Sandor Karpathy281-955-1138

To ask questions or report problems concerning the Winchester Trails Subdivision, call

PLANNED COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

281-870-0585

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls713-221-6000

NEWSLETTER

Publisher

Peel, Inc.....www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

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Upcoming Events

October 31	Happy Halloween!
November 2	Election Day
November 7	Daylight Savings Time ends -- please set your clocks back one hour
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 24 - 25	CFISD Holiday
November 25	Happy Thanksgiving!
December 1	Board Meeting 7 PM at the clubhouse
December 1	Happy Hanukkah!
December 11	"Holiday in the Trails" At dusk place your luminaries in front of your house. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts will put out luminaries along Rio Grande pictures and cookies with Santa 6PM - 8PM fun outdoor activities
December 25	Christmas

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Jersey Village High School Project Prom 2011

JVHS Project Prom is having a Garage Sale November 20 & 21 at Trader's Village. We are asking for your support in donating gently used items for our sale.

PODS are conveniently located at Jersey Village Baptist Church, 16518 Jersey Dr. Collections are accepted every Monday 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., beginning in November, with extended hours at request. Volunteers are also needed.

For more information, please contact Dolores Garcia at garcia2011pp@gmail.com

JVHS Cheerleaders Annual Golf Tournament

The Jersey Village High School Cheerleaders will be holding their annual golf tournament on November 12th at Longwood Golf Course. The Cheerleader's Booster Club is a non-profit organization, and all proceeds of the tournament are used to assist with uniforms, school year expenses, supporting other organizations, and competitions. Entry fee is \$125/golfer or \$450/team of 4; this includes range balls, green fees, cart and free beverages. Sponsorship of a hole is \$100. Registration begins at 11:00am with a shotgun start at noon. If you are interested in attending or sponsoring a hole, please contact Coach Lisa Siems at lisa.siems@cfisd.net.

Aggie Mom's Club

A Festive Holiday Social Evening

The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club invites you to join other Aggie moms for a festive social evening on Tuesday, December 14th. All current, future, and former Aggie moms are welcome to join us at 7 pm for some holiday fun in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The event will be held at the Houston Distributing Center conveniently located near Willowbrook Mall at the corner of Cutten Road and 7100 High Life Drive. Come and learn more about Aggie student activities, purchase great Christmas gifts from the Aggie boutique, win door prizes and book money for your students, and learn about upcoming scholarship opportunities. During the December celebration, we will have an "Aggie" Christmas ornament exchange. Please bring a wrapped Aggie tree ornament to exchange with other Aggie moms.

COME JOIN US
FOR THE FESTIVE FUN!

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Alan "Petrodamus" Lammey, host of 'Energy Week', can be heard every Sunday on 1070 KNTH in Houston.

I'm Texas Energy Analyst, Alan Lammey. In case you didn't know, electricity rates are currently at lows not seen in years, which means that NOW is the time to lock in a very low electricity rate with the provider that I highly recommend to all my radio show listeners: StarTex Power. StarTex Power is local and reputable, with some of the most competitive rates available in all of Texas. You can switch right online at www.StarTexPower.com

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PLEASE USE **"NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER"** as your referral!



PUCT #10089



Winchester Trails

Yard of the Month



James and Sherry Gates
9111 South Pass Lane

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GREEN THUMB CORNER

There's still plenty of time to plant spring bulbs - the planting "window" continues through November and December. Remember that tulips are an exception and should not be planted before late December, but get them in the refrigerator as soon as possible for at least three weeks of chilling prior to planting.

November is the usual time for setting out pansy plants in beds or containers after the weather has cooled, and they really can't be beaten for providing a show of color through the winter months. They will benefit from a little blood meal under each plant, but otherwise pansies require very little care and attention.

This is a good month for general yard maintenance, now that the grass isn't growing so fast and we don't have to spend all our time mowing and edging. Clean up the beds and remove dead foliage to help eliminate insects and disease organisms that can over-winter in the debris. Start to build up a good thick layer of top mulch in preparation for winter, to protect from freezing and winter drying (the cool winter winds can dry out the ground almost as quickly as the summer heat). It's also a good time of year to modify your landscaping - take a good look around and plan any changes that you want to make. Correct any drainage problems, raising beds if necessary.

If not done yet, give the lawn its final feed of the year with a light application of general-purpose fertilizer (12-24-12 or 13-13-13) to keep the roots nourished through the winter. This is particularly important to help our grass recover from the severe beating it received during this year's lengthy dry spells.

As chrysanthemums and other perennials finish blooming, cut flowering stems close to the ground to allow all the energy to be used for root growth. They can be divided and transplanted any time from now until March, but the sooner the early blooming varieties are moved, the earlier and better will be their blooms.

Roses should be kept well watered and may be fed lightly; groom out any dead wood, but do not prune heavily until January or February. Azaleas and camellias may be moved; mulch well and keep moist.

Fruit trees may be planted now, although the most popular time is in January and that's when they are more readily available at the nurseries. An advantage of planting trees now is that the still warm soil allows some root growth to be established before going into dormancy. Flowering shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen, may also be planted.

In the vegetable garden, we still have a week or two for setting out strawberry plants, and seeds may be sown for beets, spinach, English garden peas, asparagus, chives, parsley, radishes and cress. Onion sets may be planted, also cabbage plants. Any unused beds should be turned over, spread with manure or compost, and allowed to weather for a while.

Phil Richards

Prich8935@aol.com

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

Winchester Trails

Winchester Trails Disclaimer

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MILESTONES

New Teenagers - Happy 13th!

11/17 - Kyle Davis
11/27 - Amanda Keith
11/28 - Catherine Miller

New Drivers - Happy 16th!

11/23 - Tyler Schlihenhardt
11/23 - Michael Tran

New Voters - Happy 18th!

11/17 - Joshua Boyd
11/20 - Brendan McCormick, II
11/24 - Katie Cary
11/27 - Travis Poor

New Adults - Happy 21st!

11/28 - Kalee Martin

Happy 15th Anniversary!

11/04 - Kenneth & Jennifer Herndon

Happy 25th Anniversary!

11/10 - Michael & Wherry Lum
11/23 - Wayne & Anne Wilcox

Happy 55th Anniversary!

11/26 - Lawrence & Billie Dilorio

Melissa Zmerzlikar - directory@winchestertrails.com

Winchester Trails Stork Report

Congratulations!
Let us help celebrate...
email info on the arrival
of your little one to
newsletter@winchestertrails.com

Winchester Trails Information Form

Please Complete This Form If You Have Moved Into the Neighborhood Within The Past Six Months

[Complete information desired for our Telephone Directory]

Rental Listed Unlisted Opt-
in*

Name(s) _____

Address _____ [] [] []

Home Phone # _____ [] []

Work Phone #(s) _____ [] []

E-Mail Address _____ [] [] []

*Receive neighborhood notices via email. Email is restricted to neighborhood use only.

[This information for use **only** in 'Milestones' column of our *TrailWriter* newsletter]

Wedding Anniversary _____ (MM/DD/YY)

[This information for use **only** in 'Milestones' and 'Teen Jobs' columns of our *TrailWriter* newsletter.]

Name Children [under age 21]	Birthday (MM/DD/YY)	Teen Services	Name	Phone #
		Babysitting		
		House Sitting		
		Lawn Care		
		Odd Jobs		
		Pet Sitting		

[This information for use **only** in 'Howdy Partner' column of our *TrailWriter* newsletter to let everyone know about your arrival.]

Move in date:

Owner's (His) occupation:

Owner's (Hers) occupation:

Hobbies:

Pets and names:

Former residents/neighborhood:

I understand that the information on this form is to be restricted to the private use of the residents of Winchester Trails.

Signature of Resident

Date

[] **Yes, I wish to be in the next WT Directory**

[] **No, I do not wish to be included**

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