

The Rosehill

The Official Newsletter of the Lakes of Rosehill Homeowners Association

January 2011

December Message From Your HOA Board President -Janice Morris

During the month of October and early November, there were a few instances of some of our neighborhood teenage boys that were feeling mischievous. There were reports of kids rigging devices to "ski" on Lake One. This is not an activity that is acceptable on any level. Clearly there are major safety issues that could result in a lawsuit if someone was seriously injured, and there is also the risk that the lake fountain equipment could be damaged and/or broken. For those of you with teenage children, please make sure that they are very clearly aware that this behavior is not acceptable and that law enforcement will be called when needed to address the issue.

The Board recently placed the contracts for the ditch mowing and common area/ landscaping out for bid. After review of all the responses, the decision was made to extend the contract with Champions Hydrolawn for the ditch mowing and IMS Landscaping for common areas/landscaping. Both of these companies have been performing very well with their services, and their bid responses reflected the best financial value.

Though all of us knew when we purchased our homes in LOR that there is an ACC process that must be followed when considering any type of construction or painting of your home, it would appear that a reminder is in order. Prior to beginning any type of outdoor project on your home, the homeowner must submit an application to the ACC committee for review. The application form can be found on the LOR website. On the application, you should clearly outline what your project is (outdoor lighting, out building, patio cover, room addition, etc....), the size of the project, the construction materials to be used, and if the finished project will match the existing construction of the home. The ACC committee will review the application and return their decision through Chaparral Management, who will then mail the homeowner a formal response. LOR has been experiencing a number of residents who either do not realize that they must go through this process, or just don't feel that the rules apply to them. The result often is construction that is clearly outside of the deed restrictions and then the homeowner finds themselves after the fact in a legal situation. We have deed restrictions for a good reason and we should all be happy to ensure that we are working within them to keep the integrity of our community. If structures are built to close to a fence, it could mean that they have been built within the utility setback. If a structure is built to high (limit of 20 feet per the deed restrictions), it could violate privacy issues with your neighbors. The ACC committee is there to work with the homeowner to ensure that their project stays within the deed restrictions resulting in a successful project completion.

Volume 2, Issue 1

ANNOUNCING

The Lakes Of Rosehill

Women's Club

FIRST MEETING -

JANUARY 18TH

The first meeting of the Lakes

of Rosehill Women's Club will be

Tuesday, January 18th at 11:00. It

will be hosted by founding member

Mrs. Juli Mayfield at her residence

at 15833 Rose Pine Court. The

activities of the club will be varied and will include everyone's ideas

and will include everyone's ideas for fun events. This will be a wonderful opportunity for people to get together and get to know one another. The meetings/events will be held once a month with the location being rotated and hosted at a member's residence. So mark your calendar for Tuesday, January 18th at 11:00 for the first meeting at the address listed above. Please R.S.V.P. to jmayfield11@comcast.net or janmor58@att.net. Remember.....

SAVE THE DATE and we look forward to seeing you there!

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

| EMERGENCY | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Fire | |
| Ambulance | |
| Constable | |
| Sheriff - Non-emergency | |
| - Burglary & Theft | |
| - Auto Theft | |
| - Homicide/Assault | 713-967-5810 |
| - Child Abuse | 713-529-4216 |
| - Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence | 713-967-5743 |
| - Runaway Unit | 713-755-7427 |
| Poison Control | |
| Traffic Light Issues | 713-881-3210 |

SCHOOLS

| Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation | |
| Cypress Fairbanks Senior High | |
| Cy-Woods High School | |
| Goodson Middle School | |

OTHER NUMBERS

| Animal Control | 281-999-3191 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center | 281-890-4285 |
| Harris County Health Department | 713-439-6260 |
| Post Office Box Assignment - Cypress | . 1-800-275-8777 |
| Street Lights - CenterPoint Energy | 713-207-2222 |
| - not working (Report Number on Pole) | |
| Waste Management | 713-686-6666 |
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- Richard MurphyDirector at Large 16602 Rose Trail · Cypress, TX · 77429

To contact the Board, email Board@lakesofrosehill.com

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January Message From Your HOA Board President – Janice Morris

We hope that everyone had a WONDERFUL Christmas holiday, but it is another new year and your LOR HOA still has many things working. To begin with, there was additional detailed engineering required for the ditch erosion, so that was completed and reviewed. The bid packages are now going to be issued to qualified contractors and evaluated for vendor selection. We expect to begin the repair work quickly after we award the contract.

A new sign was erected at our community playground advising that the park is closed at dusk. The sign was erected due to a growing amount of young teenagers that congregate in their cars after dark there. Concerned residents have reported activities such as playing of loud music, drug use and sex. We cannot be sure that all the teens using this area after dark are from LOR, but there have been some teens that have been recognized.

In November a pump motor for Lake 4 in the back of the subdivision was pulled for maintenance and re-installed. The pumps and motors are now all operable, but will be checked and run periodically to keep them in good working order.

Also in November, a meeting was held with HOA members from

our abutting neighbors in Cypress Fields. We discussed mutual concerns that occur around Lake 4 from both of our residents. I am very sad to report that some of our own residents have been dumping large piles of their yard debris on private property belonging to residents of Cypress Fields. When approached by the homeowner, our guilty residents have given resistance and indicated that because it was organic debris, the homeowner should not care. This is UNACCEPTABLE and the LOR residents that are doing this need to know that pictures are being taken and that law enforcement will be called. Trespass and dumping are illegal no matter what. Even if the LOR residents that have been dumping yard debris think that they were dumping on LOR property, it is still wrong and will not be tolerated if caught. LOR has encouraged Cypress Fields to call the police and will work with them to identify any of our homeowners that are caught on camera.

Conversely, LOR has had ongoing issues with kids from Cypress Fields racing their motorcycles and four-wheelers on the top of the banks of the drainage ditches and Lake 4. The Cypress Fields HOA does not condone this activity and have provided the names

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Smart Financial Moves for New Parents

If you've just had a new baby, your life is filled with more joy (but less sleep). You're probably already aware of the time and effort you must invest in raising your child, but you may not have thought as much about another aspect — the financial one.

Consider this: The average cost of raising a child to age 17 is now \$222,360, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture report on how much middle-income, two-parent families spend on their offspring. And this is the amount you might spend *before* your son or daughter heads to college. Clearly, you need to start making the financial moves necessary to take your child from diapers to a degree. Here are some suggestions for doing just that:

- *Purchase sufficient life insurance.* When it was just you and your spouse, it was a good idea for you to have life insurance but now that you have a child, it's an absolute necessity. If you have any doubts about the value of life insurance, just look again at that \$222,360 figure above, and then tack on the costs of four years of college. If you or your spouse were to die unexpectedly, would the survivor earn enough to raise and educate your child? In this day and age, that isn't likely. So make sure that you have adequate life insurance in place.
- *Prepare a will.* Obviously, you hope to enjoy a long life one in which you see your child grow to adulthood. But none of us can predict the future, so it's essential that you draw up a will to provide for the care of your child, both financially and physically. When you create a will, you can name a guardian to step in and take care of your child, if necessary, and you can make sure your child receives your financial assets. However, many people go beyond writing a will and establish a living trust, which gives them more control over how and when they want their assets distributed. Your legal advisor can help you prepare a will and determine if a living trust is appropriate for your needs.
- Maintain adequate cash. To help pay for

(Continued on Page 5)



Smart Financial Moves - (Continued from Page 4)

all those expenses related to child rearing, keep enough cash on hand. By having enough resources available in liquid accounts, you can avoid having to dip into your long-term investments to pay for short-term needs.

- Save early and often for college. It's never too soon to start saving for the high costs of higher education. A 529 plan is a taxadvantaged vehicle and may be a great option for your college savings. Contributions to a 529 plan are made with after-tax dollars, and have the opportunity to grow tax-free. Withdrawals used for qualified higher education expenses are also tax free. Furthermore, your 529 plan contributions may be eligible for a state tax deduction or credit depending on the plan and state.
- *Stay balanced*. As we've seen, it takes a lot of money to raise a child. But even as you're meeting these expenses, think about your own future, particularly your retirement. Strive to strike a balance between the money you spend on your child and the amount you invest in your 401(k), IRA and other retirement-savings vehicles.

You can't put a price-tag on your child's future, but when it comes to taking care of that child, you'll want to know the costs involved — and be prepared for them.

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January Message - (Continued from Page 3)

and address of the current offenders. Letters have been sent to the parents of the children and measures are being taken to block their access points.

Please also note the article in this newsletter for the Lakes of Rosehill Women's Club that will have their first meeting on January 18th. Details on time and location are in the article. This will be a really fun social club and we encourage our Lakes of Rosehill ladies to join us.

Until February, have a healthy, safe and wonderful New Year.

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE



Picante Sauce

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. peppers (bell, banana, & jalapeno; according to how hot you want the sauce; the seeds of the jalapeno peppers add a lot of WARMTH!)
- 3 onions
- 3/4 C sugar
- 3 qts. tomatoes
- 4-5 cloves garlic
- 1 C vinegar
- 2 T salt

DIRECTIONS

Scald tomatoes and peel. Quarter and place in large pot. Chop peppers, onions, and garlic; and mix with tomatoes. Add sugar, vinegar and salt. Simmer slowly several hours until the sauce is the desired consistency. Pour into sterilized

jars. Close and invert to seal. (*I pressure mine for 5 minutes at 5 # pressure.*)

-**TACKLE HUNGER IN TEXAS**with the Souper Bowl of Caring!

What would happen if every American that celebrates the Big Football Game donated one can of food or \$1 to fight hunger and poverty in their local community?

The result would be an astounding \$90 million in cash and cans to help feed the hungry, provide shelter to the homeless and help our neighbors in need.

With all eyes on North Texas this year as they host the Big Game, you can join the Souper Bowl of Caring and help make this vision a reality! For more than 20 years, groups all over the country have joined forces to demonstrate the power of caring. To date, more than \$71 million in cash and cans has been collected and 100% was donated in communities throughout the U.S. Every penny stays local and every collection matters!

Last year, 1,900 schools, churches, businesses and grocery stores in Texas collected more than \$4.5 million for local charities that fight hunger and poverty. The need is growing and we need your help!

JOIN THE TEAM. GET STARTED TODAY!

- **1.REGISTER** your school, church or business at tacklehunger. org and designate an organizer for your Souper Bowl of Caring event. You'll receive a free Resource Kit!
- **2.COLLECT** money and/or canned foods anytime January 17-February 6, 2011. Super Bowl Sunday is February 6, 2011.
- 3. REPORT the amount of your collection to the Souper Bowl of Caring so it can be added to the national tally.
- **4. DONATE** 100% of your collection to the charity of your choice in your own community.

LEARN MORE AT TACKLEHUNGER.ORG





Turning New Years Resolutions Into ALL Year Resolutions

by Sarah S. Jordan, MS

January is here, and so is the tradition of making New Year's Resolutions. And many times, the tradition of breaking those resolutions. We find ourselves excited and motivated for the start of a new year, and within a few months we often experience frustration because we simply cannot stick with the resolutions we set.

I have been teaching fitness classes, personal training, and coordinating fitness programs for over a decade, and I see it every year. Gyms are packed from January through March, and then many members just seem to disappear or give up.

Here is my question. What can we do to stick with exercise and making healthy choices for twelve months out of the year instead of just three? It is not easy, but laying

a proper and realistic foundation is the key. And remembering that if we do fall off the wagon, we need to hop right back on and not give up. As I have outlined in some of my previous articles, commitment, time management, setting measurable goals, and being realistic are all vital components to our success.

If a sedentary and overweight client begins training with me and says, "My goal is to lose 50 pounds in five weeks," that client is sure to fail before she even begins. That rate of weight loss is simply not healthy, realistic, or lasting. However, if the same client says, "My goal is to workout three days a week for 20-50 minutes each time and as a result, lose 50 pounds this year," she is off to a



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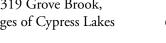


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Turning New Years Resolutions - (Continued from Page 8)

great start! That goal is specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound.

People often ask me what my New Year's resolutions are, and to be honest, I don't really set them anymore. You see... I, too, have set resolutions many times in the past, and within weeks or months felt defeated and gave up because they were not realistic. Instead, I find myself setting little goals throughout the year, but they very rarely include numbers on a scale.

Setting "number goals" (ex: "I want to lose 20 pounds by May") certainly has its merit, but I encourage my clients to move toward setting the "How can I become a better and happier person/wife/ mother?" type of goals. And why limit ourselves to January? If you find something you want to do or become in March, set that goal right then and there, and create a specific plan of action that will get you there. Keeping a positive and realistic spin on our goal setting throughout the year will allow us to experience more success. And that is what matters in the end, right? Feeling successful and improved because of the things we learn along life's journey.

Here Are A Few Tips To Setting All Year Resolutions.

- Set S.M.A.R.T. goals. They should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely.
- Find what works for YOU. If joining a gym is not realistic for you,

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find other activities, classes, and opportunities that don't involve a gym membership.

- Get support. That could be a close friend, spouse, personal trainer, meet up group, or coworker. Communicate your goals and have people in your corner cheering you on.
- Set goals that will better yourself and those around you. Ex: This month, I will go on more walks with my child. This month, I will clean up my eating. This month, I will start a gratitude journal. You will find that little changes equal huge improvements over time.
- If you set "number (weight) goals," remember that your beauty and worth do not lie in the numbers on the scale. Healthy weight loss is slow and steady at a rate of about one pound per week. To lose just one pound per week, you must burn 3,500 calories more than you consume, which is no easy task.
- Keep in mind that fitness and health are a lifestyle not a onemonth trial. Any movement is good movement, and many times, the hardest part of exercise is just getting it started.
- Nutrition is key. What goes into your mouth is just as important as the exercise you get.

We are all beautiful and have so much to offer this world. Here is to an amazing 2011!



NW HARRIS COUNTY AGGIE MOMS CLUB EVENTS

Meeting - Tuesday, Jan 11, 2011

Get your 2011 year off to a great start with the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club! All new, current, and former Aggie Moms are invited to join us to hear an awesome motivational speaker, Jim Bob Solsbery. Jim Bob is a former Aggie, class of '67, who is both a comedian and motivational speaker. He is the author of a book entitled, Humor is an Attitude: Sometimes You Just Have to Laugh Your Way Out. Mr. Solsbery has spent the last 30 years as a business owner, entrepreneur, educator, professional trainer, and served as the Executive Director for U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jim Bob is the recipient of the National Association of Humor Writers Award and he speaks to groups across the nation about keeping a positive attitude and a healthy sense of humor. Please invite your husbands and Aggie students to join us for a night of humor and get your year off to a great start!

Our meeting will be held at the Houston Distributing Center conveniently located near Willowbrook Mall at the corner of Cutten Road and 7100 High Life Drive. Please join us there Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7 pm for refreshments and fellowship with other Aggie Moms. Listen to an excellent speaker, learn more about upcoming Aggie Mom events, explore gift items in our Aggie Boutique, win door prizes and book money for your student, and learn more about upcoming scholarship opportunities. *For more information about NWHCAggie Mom events, check out our website at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org or contact Vickie Hamley at 713-466-4494.*

Accepting Scholarship Applications - Deadline Feb 7th

The time for submitting Aggie student scholarship applications to the NWHC Aggie Mom's Club is fast approaching! They are now accepting Scholarship Applications for the 2010-2011 school year. Last year 6 scholarships totaling \$6750 were awarded to area Aggie students. Complete applications and eligibility requirements are available at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org and also at the general meetings. The application must be postmarked no later than Monday, Feb. 7th, 2011. Parents do not have to be a member of the organization in order for their students to apply.



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