

ACIA

happenings

November 2012

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 2, Issue 11

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HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT FOUR CONSTABLE'S OFFICE – PATROL DIVISION STATISTICS ATASCOCITA DETAILED STATISTICS REPORT FOR 9/1/2012 TO 9/30/2012

Unit	Contract Calls	District Calls	Reports	Felony Arrests	Misc Arrests	Tickets	Recovered Property	Charges Filed	Mileage	Days
4E80	55	6	15	0	0	26	9	9	1016	23
4E83	71	46	23	0	0	53	0	2	1593	19
4E84	79	29	28	0	0	20	458	0	880	19
83	12	14	4	0	0	10	15	0	539	17
TOTAL	217	95	70	0	0	109	473	2	4028	78
ALL										

ATASCOCITA CRIME STATISTICS

YEAR 2012	Sep-12	Sep-11	YTD Sep 2012	YTD Sep 2011	same mth 2012 vs 2011	YTD VARIANCE 2012 VS 2011
BURGLARY OF A HABITATION	1	0	6	12	1	(6)
BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	0	3	20	34	(3)	(14)
THEFT FROM A HABITATION	0	1	4	8	(1)	(4)
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0	2	1	0	1
THEFT - OTHER	1	0	17	9	1	8
ROBBERY	0	1	0	3	(1)	(3)
SUB-TOTAL	2	5	49	67	(3)	(18)
ASSAULT	0	0	3	5	0	(2)
SEXUAL ASSAULT	0	0	2	1	0	1
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	2	2	19	16	0	3
DISTURBANCE - FAMILY	3	3	21	16	0	5
DISTURBANCE - JUVENILE	0	1	9	38	(1)	(29)
DISTURBANCE - OTHER	8	3	92	116	5	(24)
ALARMS	40	26	247	249	14	(2)
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES	8	14	92	138	(6)	(46)
SUSPICIOUS PERSONS	9	6	92	76	3	16
RUNAWAYS	1	1	3	6	0	(3)
TELEPHONE HARASSMENT	0	0	3	5	0	(2)
OTHER CALLS.	51	294	469	829	(243)	(360)

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ACIA HAPPENINGS

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

BOARD MEMBERS

Jimmy Wells, President..... jwellsacia@yahoo.com
Kathryn Dahlin, Vice President.....kdahlinacia@gmail.com
Ron Jones, Treasurer.....rwjones2012@hotmail.com
Laura Lammers, Secretaryl.lammers@yahoo.com
Robert Nieto, Trustee..... robertanieto@gmail.com
Sterling Assoc. Services.....servicedesk@sterlingasi.com

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Janel Dale.....
Ron Jones.....
Tim Mulkey.....
Steve Daniele.....

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Fire, Medical or Life Threatening Emergency 9-1-1

P-4 Constable Dispatch..... 281-376-3472
Humble ISD Police (Schools)..... 281-641-7900
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept (AVFD)
 Non-Emergency Number 281-852-2181
Harris County Animal Control 281-999-3191
Texas Poison Control Center 800-222-1222

UTILITIES

Electric, (multiple providers) www.powertochoose.org
 Power Outages 713-207-7777
 Street Light Outages 713-207-2222
Gas, Centerpoint Energy 713-659-2111
 Gas Leaks 713-659-2111
Water, Severn Trent 281-579-4500
 24 Hour Emergency Number 281-209-2100
Telephone, Centurylink..... 877-290-5458
Trash, Waste Management..... 888-964-9734
Humble Post Office..... 281-540-1775
Harris County MUD #132 www.hcmud132.com
Harris County MUD #151 www.hcmud151.org

SCHOOLS

Humble ISD 281-641-1000
 Website www.humble.k12.tx.us
Pine Forest Elementary..... 281-641-2100
Maplebrook Elementary 281-641-2900
Atascocita Middle School 281-641-1000
Atascocita High School 281-641-7500

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor - Laura Lammers l.lammers@yahoo.com
Publisher, Peel, Inc. 888-687-6444
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com

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ACIA Online Access

Sterling A.S.I. and Atascocita C.I.A. are pleased to announce internet access to your Atascocita C.I.A. information such as account balances, assessment amounts, payment information, your account contact data, forms, governing documents, etc., just to name a few. When you receive your 2013 assessment billing, documentation will be provided on how to access your account.

The website has two tool bars which provide beneficial information for homeowners. One tool bar is related to your community association information and the other to your individual information. Below are some of the more commonly used features:

- By clicking on the “Home” tab, located on the top tool bar, you will find your most commonly used resources such as your pool forms, bylaws and restrictions, helpful links, community event calendar, and other useful resources.
- To see if your assessment payment has been posted or for a history of past payments look under the “Account Detail” tab which can be found on the second toolbar.
- The “Account Link” tab allows you to link multiple properties that you may own under the same log in.
- The “Architectural” and “Compliance” tabs provide you with a history of past letters and applications and allow you to respond directly to the support personnel associated with that function.
- The “E-Payment” tab informs you how to pay your assessments on-line.
- The “User Profile” tab allows you to update your contact information and subscribe to receive information online.

We hope you will find accessing your account online a more efficient use of your time and that the information provided meets the needs of the community. If you have any suggestions once you have had time to peruse the site, please let us know.



ACIA HAPPENINGS

Board Actions on Maintenance & Improvements

As we enter the last part of 2012 and start to consider 2013 outlook, below is a list of items your ACIA board has accomplished thus far in 2012:

Completed installing irrigation systems at the entrances to section 8 at Wild Violet and Firesign Drives, landscaping both entrances.

Issued bids and rebuilt the fishing pier at Shores Park.

Issued bids and repaired and repainted the picnic pavilion at Shores Park.

Issued bids and power washed all entrance signs.

Replaced shrubbery that was killed by the drought at both pools and entrances.

Installed "Patrolled by Constable" signs at various entrances.

Issued bids to replace the decking at the Pinehurst pool. Will be accomplished after the 2012 swim season.

Inventoried pool furniture and purchased additions based on pool usage and recommendations from professionals.

Installed pool aerators to "cool" the water at both pools based on complaints. This solved the problem.

Issued bids and commenced cutting dead trees killed by the drought.

Finished upgrades at the Marina left undone by the previous board.

Coordinated the design and installation of ACIA's new and vastly improved website.

Please go to

WWW.ACIAHOMEOWNERS.ORG to register and see the many improvements such as up to date financials, governing documents and policies, security reports, links to other agencies, and many more.

Rewrote/revised ACC guidelines based on recommendations from two legal firms.

Coordinated social events such as honoring veterans at the July 4th parade.

Reviewed all playground equipment for needed repairs.

Established a Safety Advisory Committee and sponsored a "basic home crime prevention seminar and bicycle safety program" for residents.

Assisted the Lake Houston Sports and Recreational Committee

in sponsoring the first annual fishing tournament raising funds to stock Lake Houston and other lake programs.

Completed the search for a new management company and coordinated transfer to Sterling Management bringing years of HOA expertise and improved technology.

Moved the monthly board meetings to a location within the ACIA boundaries.

The board wishes to thank the volunteers who assisted in many of these endeavors and those who submitted ideas and yes even complaints during this period. During 2012 thus far we have been hampered with unusual expenses associated with the drought and legal fees created by our previous management firm along with two previous board members being subpoenaed in the former golf course lawsuit.



Special Programs For Our Local Residents

Loyalty Club & Senior Loyalty Club

Reduced Green Fees,
2 Free Draft Beers, Range
Balls, Meals*, Free Replays,
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The ACIA Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2012 at Incredible Delights, 20114 Pinehurst Dr. Election for the two trustee positions will take place at that time by written ballot. Homeowners will receive an ACIA proxy ballot for the trustee election, along with other information, prior to the annual meeting.

The follow are short bios submitted by the candidates:

Jon (Jonathan) Hubbard

My wife Ann and I grew up in Brooklyn NY. We moved to Atascocita in 1979. We subsequently moved to Pinehurst of Atascocita in 1992. Atascocita has become our home. Both of our children attended schools in the Humble School District. We were involved with all their activities. I have served on a local MUD District for over 30 years. I am a Licensed Customs House Broker which is governed and licensed by the US Treasury Department, regulated by The Department of Homeland Security, and controlled by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. I am employed by The Nuance Group Houston LLC, which operates the Duty Free stores at Bush Airport. I am their Customs & Warehouse Manager. I have worked in the Houston Airport community and have served in various capacities with the Houston Air Cargo Association since our arrival in 1979. My years of experience have given me an enormous insight into how I can help our community grow.

We have an investment in this area and wish to see it continue to be a vibrant and outstanding community. My goal is to serve and unite the community for one common goal and that is to be the best we can be as a community. I am asking for your support and your vote to serve on the Board of the ACIA. My email address is jhubbard006@comcast.net . Feel free to contact me for more information or to ask any questions.

Anthony Karasiewicz

I am married to my wife Carol and have four grown children (one that is retired navy) and five grandchildren. I'm originally from Wisconsin and lived a short time in Arizona and Wyoming. I moved to Atascocita area in 1984 and to Pinehurst in 2002.

I worked for ExxonMobil for 30 years and held many positions at three different plants. While working for Exxon I was also Union Vice President for 10 of those years. I also worked for Chevron Chemical for 5 years and am now officially retired.

Other than donating time and money to my children's projects and schools like all parents, I volunteered many days and hours to the Donald Driver Foundation (helps single mothers with housing and more). I was an Election judge for 16 years in Atascocita West. I also have worked on Atascocita West Homeowners Board for 10 years,

four of which I served as Vice President. I have always believed that a community has to work for all those in that particular community for the betterment of everybody. Whether it is property values, or just making sure we get the best use from the dues we pay. It all goes together, everything from how deed restrictions are enforced to pool upkeep and even planting flowers. I personally think everything the Board does should help all homeowners see their property values protected and at the same time give homeowners a great place to live. I would appreciate your support to serve on the ACIA board. My email address is anthonyk@embarqmail.com. Feel free to contact me for more information or to ask any questions.

Robert Nieto

I'm an IT professional currently working for McKesson Specialty Health in the Woodlands. I graduated with a Bachelors of Science from Texas A&M University in 1992 and received a Master's of Science from the University of Houston Clear Lake in 2003. My wife, Mary Lou Nieto, teaches fifth grade dual language at Porter Elementary and is also a graduate of University of Houston Downtown. We recently finalized the adoption of our daughter, three days before her 9th birthday. We have lived in Atascocita since April 2001. For the past year, I have been a Trustee on the board. I believe the ACIA board should strive to reflect and represent all residents. Maintaining and improving our neighborhood should always be the primary initiative. The board should solicit resident input when considering changes and always abide by the majority. Property values should continue to be protected by conscientious and meticulous enforcement of the deed restrictions. I am asking for your vote to serve on the Board of the ACIA. My email address is robertnieto@gmail.com . Please contact me for more information or to ask any questions.



Homeowner Surveys

Delinquent Maintenance Fees Survey

The Board is investigating the possibility of changing the policies on Delinquent Maintenance Fees and is requesting homeowner input on this issue. Under consideration is the imposition of a late charge for delinquent annual maintenance fees. The Board of Trustees would determine the late charge amount in open session of the Board; the late charge would be limited to the amount of annual maintenance fee and would be applied to each year of delinquent maintenance fees as of January 1. There would be exceptions for residents on an ACIA approved payment plan or residents permitted by the governing documents to make periodic payments. The purpose of this charge is to reduce the ACIA's maintenance fee collection expense and to ensure that all residents share the expenses of the ACIA equitably. The Board has already received some thoughts and ideas and we look forward to hearing from more of our neighbors.

Deed Violation Fines Survey

The Board is investigating the possibility of changing the policies on Deed Restriction Violations and is requesting homeowner input on this issue. One of the most effective ways of maintaining the aesthetics and property values within our community is to ensure that deed restrictions are enforced. Although the burden of deed

restriction enforcement is a community effort, chronic violators of the ACIA deed restrictions should bear more enforcement expenses. The Board is investigating the implementation of an additional fee structure for these chronic violators of ACIA deed restrictions. The aesthetics and keeping property values at a maximum are very important to the board members and to ACIA homeowners, we understand that people will have strong feelings both ways and that is why the Board is taking this issue to the community for their valued opinions.

ACIA Recycling Survey

The Board of Trustees is researching and considering the addition of recycling to our current trash service. Residents have been requesting/suggesting adding this service as an additional convenience. Adding this service would increase the costs of trash pickup and therefore would require an increase in the annual assessment. We understand that residents will have strong feelings both ways and that is why the Board is taking this issue to the community for their valued opinions. Please email any board member or Sterling Association Services (email addresses located on Page 2) or call Sterling at 832-678-4500 to express your answer.

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From the President's Desk

Finally the weather has cooled and football season is in high gear. What a wonderful time of the year as the smaller towns are having their annual fall rodeos and Oktoberfest. People seem to be in a better mood. The hunters are ready to put some game animal on the table and say "enjoy folks as this comes from real wild game I bagged". Don't ask the cost associated with the hunt as that doesn't count as it is the enjoyment of being outdoors with nature, the camp fires and tales, ah yes, "the good ole days". And of course the comradery with buddies!

This is the American way of life. We are blessed to be American citizens and live in a country where we have the right to speak our thoughts and go to the church of our choice. This country was created on freedom of religion. For several centuries our forefathers and brethren have given their lives for our freedom. Now there are people in our country that would take away these freedoms. They want to take away what people have worked all of their lives or are working hard now for retirement. Try living in another country where there is no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion, or the ability to go to the local mall or store and purchase what one wants.

My generation was raised differently and I believe by far most of us are good if not great citizens. Remember, who the adult is and who is supposed to be the child. The word «no» doesn't hurt at all, matter of fact try it sometimes and make a stand.

For disclaimer purposes everything stated above is my own personal opinion and if I offended anyone, oh well.

My God Bless this Country
Jimmy Wells

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Christmas Yard Decorating Contest

The ACIA, in collaboration with the Atascocita Garden Club, announces a Christmas Yard Decorating contest. Any resident can nominate a yard within the ACIA boundaries. The Atascocita Garden Club will choose the winner and the winning yard will be featured in the newsletter. Submit your nominations by email to the ACIA Secretary, L.Lammers@yahoo.com .



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REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE REPURPOSE

The local Harris County Library Atascocita Branch accepts newspapers, magazines, and catalogs at their drop off location. Pine Forest Elementary School has drop off containers for newspapers, magazines, catalogs, cardboard, and plastic. The school also derives income from the sale of recyclables. The Kingwood Recycling Drop off Center is open every weekend from Friday at noon until Monday morning. This center accepts:

- Aluminum and steel cans, including empty aerosol cans.
- #1,2,3,4,5, and 7 plastic bottles and containers
- Clear and colored glass
- Paper, cardboard, and phone books

The first Saturday of each month Electronic recycling event is held in conjunction with CompuCycle. Items accepted included TVs, PCs, servers, laptops, printers, copiers, telephones, cameras, and small appliances. CompuCycle also has a mobile hard drive shredder to shred hard drives on site.

Items not taken include shredded paper, paper coffee cups, pizza boxes and soiled paper plates and napkins, and plastic bags. Read

more details on their website <http://keepkingwoodgreen.org/>

O'Reilly Auto Parts accepts used motor oil, transmission fluids, steering fluids, and used batteries. They do not accept used coolants.

Grocery stores accept plastic grocery carrying bags. Many items can also be donated to local charities.

Some interesting facts:

Time it takes garbage to decompose in the environment:

Glass bottle – 1 million years

Plastic beverage bottle – 450 years

Tin can – 50 years

Plastic bag – 10-20 years

Aluminum can – 80-200 years.



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