

Woodwind Lakes



It's all right here

January 2013

Volume 2, Issue 1

MUD 261 News

Credit Adjustment to Customers in January

The MUD board approved a credit refund to some customers that should appear on the January bill. Here is some background on this decision:

This summer, MUD 261 transitioned to a new operator. MUD 261 directors replaced SouthWest Water with TOPS, Inc. when the former company decided to exit the municipal water operations business. The normal four-week interval between customer meter readings was extended to seven weeks during the transfer of responsibilities. This caused some customers to be kicked up into higher tiered rates during the longer billing cycle.

The board of directors identified this issue and commissioned our new operator to offer a reasonable methodology for refunding money to affected customers. Such a determination and recommendation has been made and agreed upon by the board of directors.

MUD 261 customers who used more than 20,000 gallons during the extended summer billing cycle will see a credit adjustment on their January invoice. Those customers who already received a credit will not see an additional adjustment.

Construction Project Updates

This year saw the MUD participate in two major municipal projects.

First, a complete rehab of the joint wastewater treatment facility was initiated with our partners from Rolling Fork PUD. This project has been completed on-time and on-budget. It was placed into service in late November.

Second, a large water re-pump and redistribution project was jointly agreed upon with our neighbors in the Windfern Forest Utility District. This project remains on-budget; however, several minor delays have extended the service completion and conversion date to early January 2013.

The Women's Club of Woodwind Lakes

A festive time was experienced by all members during our annual Christmas Luncheon. The Women's Club of Woodwind Lakes met on December 18, 2012 in the Holiday decorated home of host Anne Martin. Aiding in preparations and setting the relaxed atmosphere were the co-hosts Lynne James and Judith Simons. Acting as Santa's Helpers, Secretary Stacia Harvey and Vice-President Diana Mintner stored gifts for the Christmas exchange. Sharon Siebern, Treasurer and Joyce Kraft, President accepted the wrapped children's gifts from the members. The gifts were taken to and were distributed by The Mission of Yahweh, the Club's Charity.

A bountiful, delicious Potluck Luncheon preceded the gift exchange of Holiday items. Sounds of glee and delight filled the room as presents were unwrapped. A brief business meeting announced those members with less celebrated December birthdays. Because of the world's usual oversight of December birthdays, the birthday ladies had to tolerate the Club's rendition of the singing of Happy Birthday.

Introductions of new members and brief announcements were made: The January 15th meeting host is Fran Smith. Serving as co-hosts will be Donna Konopka and Margaret Sinclair. Our speaker, Suzi Woodard, will share the delight and benefits of massage therapy, especially appreciated following the possible stress of the past holidays.

Remember one and all, you are invited to join the interesting, provocative, energetic Ladies who comprise the Women's Club of Woodwind Lakes. The meetings are held the third Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in homes throughout the Woodwind Lakes community. In the months to come, the Club still has many more topics and speakers to be enjoyed.

Contact any of the officers for more information: Diana Mintner V-Pres. 713.702.2686; Stacia Harvey, Sec. 713.899.6491; Sharon Siebern, Treasurer 713.849-5596 and Joyce Kraft, Pres. 713.983.7738.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

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Association Manager - Frank Cario..... frank@sterlingasi.com

Administrative Assistant - Janine Cruz .. janine@sterlingasi.com

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713-686-6666 - Trash Pick-up is Tuesday and Friday.

TOPS Section 1, 2, 3 & 4 - 281-807-9500

SECTION 4 WATER DISTRICT

Windfern Forest Utility District - 713-983-3604 - www.wfud.org

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M.U.D. 261 www.HCMUD261.com

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Trash pick-up for Section 4 only, is on Wednesday and Saturday including curbside recycling every Saturday.

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Please support the advertisers that make the *Woodwind Lakes Newsletter* possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 1-888-687-6444 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

ARTICLE INFO

The *Woodwind Lakes Newsletter* is mailed monthly to all Woodwind Lakes residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to frank@sterlingasi.com. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes is open to all families in the neighborhood. At this time we are mainly a forum to meet other families and gather resources that interest families.

The online web discussion group has had many active topics and resources for families with children of all ages...topics include items for sale, repair person resources, school information, networking for childcare and elder care.

Please contact Rebecca Waterman at 713-896-9796 or rebeccawaterman@sbcglobal.net if you would like to join the group and online discussion board. Your information will be shared with other group members only. There are no dues or time commitments.

BABYSITTERS NEEDED

Are you a resident who is interested in babysitting with the families in the neighborhood? The Mothers of Woodwind Lakes is collecting names as a resource to all residents. A short e-mail with your current information and fall schedule is very helpful even if you have been on the list before. Whenever you send a new e-mail it will get posted to the group again.

For more information contact:

Rebecca Waterman, Mothers of WWL

e-mail: rebeccawaterman@sbcglobal.net Phone: 713-896-9796

ADULT POOL / PAVILION

Because of our wonderful weather, the Pavilion is a great place to have a gathering....and it is free! All you have to do is make a reservation, put down a \$50 deposit and CLEAN UP as soon as your party is over...That means to haul off your trash....that's it and your deposit is given back or torn up (check).

For reservations contact Donna Jackson:

713-466-8668....home phone kotilla@hotmail.com

or catch me on Facebook

Rachael's



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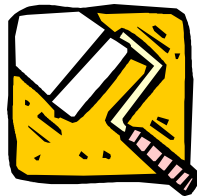
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Welcome to a Seller's Market!

2012 was the best year for real estate since 2007. Rising employment caused buyer demand to soar. Excess inventory was absorbed in the market and we experienced double-digit declines in inventory. Most areas in Houston are now considered to be a Sellers' Market.

If you have considered moving, please contact me for an update on current market values. **2013 may be your year to make a move.**

Nobody Knows The Neighborhood Like A Neighbor!



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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

Moms in Prayer

Moms in Prayer (www.momsintouch.org) meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. at 8906 Opus Court. All moms with school-aged children are welcome to come pray for their kids and their schools. For more information, contact Kristah at kristah_slate@yahoo.com.

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Hope everyone had a joyous holiday season. The Grounds Committee is eager to begin 2013 with some fresh ideas for all the sections in Woodwind Lakes. We would love to have more neighbors join us in our endeavors. Please contact either Diana Mintner or Suzanne Fontenot-Williams.




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These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

January Gardening Tips

We usually experience our coldest weather in January through March. Again, please remember not to use plastic to cover plants. Don't even use it as a covering to protect breathable cloth covers. Unlike freeze-cloth, towels, blankets and boxes, it does not allow air circulation. Covering these "breathable" materials with plastic defeats their purpose. Water from a plant's respiration still accumulates on the plastic and freeze. And if the plastic is not removed during sunny days it will cook the plant.

During a hard freeze your established shrubs, roses, perennials and ground covers usually don't need to be protected. Pansies and violas also don't need protection unless you want to protect their flowers from being damaged by the frost. But even if their flowers are completely frozen, these cold loving annuals will start blooming again within a couple of weeks.

Winter annuals need to be fed to keep them at their best flowering potential. Use a water soluble fertilizer in a sprayer to feed them. Dead head spent blooms forcing the plants to direct their energy in producing more flowers, not seed.

Once the leaves fall off deciduous shade trees, their limbs are exposed and you can easily evaluate their limb structure and health. Now through March is a great time to prune them to shape and remove weak growth, and diseased branches. The

exception is Crepe Myrtles. Do not prune them until the end of March. Look for grooming Crepe Myrtle tips in March.

The cool season is a great time to apply dormant oil or soybean oil to smother the eggs of over wintering insect pests like scale and white fly. You only need to spray once per month through April, to reduce the number of hatching eggs when the warm season returns. You'll be amazed at how effectively this preventative measure works. Your shrubs will respond by being able to grow more vigorously instead spending energy in defending themselves from insect pests.

For this new year, try to resolve to do one or more of the following:

- Increase the organic content of your beds and lawn by adding compost
- Create/extend beds to cut down on lawn mowing
- Recycle lawn clippings by leaving them on the lawn
- Go to www.gchouston.org/Portals/0/MembersDocs/Small_Trees_brochure.pdf, Pick and plant a tree from this brochure to provide interest to your yard and a home for insect-eating birds.
- Identify the cause of a plant problem before using a pesticide.



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