

Ivy Point, Pinehurst, Club Point, Golf Villas, The Shores, The Pines and Estates of Pinehurst

March 2015

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 5, Issue 3

Friends of the Atascocita Library USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Atascocita Library (FOAL) will hold a used book sale Saturday, March 7, from 10AM - 5PM at the Atascocita Library, 19520 Pinehurst Trail Dr. Individuals with disabilities may shop from 9AM -10AM. Preview sale for FOAL members is Friday evening from 5PM-7PM, with memberships available at the door. There is a large selection including fiction & nonfiction, hard backs & paperbacks, children's, music CD's, magazines & much more. Most are priced at \$.50 - \$1.00. FOAL reusable book bags are available for \$3. Donations of used books & magazines are welcome anytime during regular library hours. Visit www.hcpl.net for library hours & www.foal.ws for more information, or email contact@foal.ws. All proceeds benefit the Atascocita Library.

ACIA ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

COME JOIN THE FUN

The annual ACIA Easter egg hunt will take place in the Shores Park on Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 9:00 AM.

All Children up to age 12 living in the ACIA Neighborhoods are invited to attend with their parents. It will be fun for the whole family.

ACIA Marina Access

As of March 16th 2015 a new key is needed to access the Marina and can be picked up at Sterling Association Services, 562 Kingwood Drive, suite 13, Kingwood TX 77339. Fee is \$35 per year. See below for more information.

The ACIA Marina located on Atascocita Shores Drive is available to all homeowners in the ACIA neighborhood. The newly constructed boat ramp, tables, and park atmosphere make enjoying Lake Houston pretty easy. Open daylight hours only. There are no boat slips and electricity is not available at this time. Access keys are available from Sterling Association Services, 562 Kingwood Drive, Suite 13, Kingwood TX 77339. The fee for new keys is \$35.00 per year, if you paid your fee in December 2014 or anytime in 2015 your one time replacement key is free. You can also call Sterling Association Services for more information at 832-678-4500. Enjoy Lake Houston.

ACIA Tennis Court Access

As of March 16th 2015 a new key is need to access the Tennis Courts and can be picked up at Sterling Association Services, 562 Kingwood Drive, suite 13, Kingwood TX 77339. Fee is \$15 per year. See below for more information.

The ACIA Tennis Courts are located at both of ACIA Parks and are available to all homeowners in the ACIA neighborhood. The Pinehurst court has a new surface as of last year, try it out and let us know what you think of it. Access keys are available from Sterling Association Services, 562 Kingwood Drive, Suite 13, Kingwood TX 77339. The fee for new keys is \$15.00 per year, if you paid your fee in December 2014 or anytime in 2015 your one time replacement key is free. You can also call Sterling Association Services for more information at 832-678-4500. Enjoy Lake Houston.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

BOARD MEMBERS

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Kyle Fuller	-
Anthony Karasiewicz, Chair	-

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Fire, Medical or Life Threatening Emergency				
P-4 Constable Dispatch				
Humble ISD Police (Schools)				
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept (AVFD)				
Non-Emergency Number				
Harris County Animal Control				
Texas Poison Control Center				

UTILITIES

Electric, (multiple providers)	www.powertochoose.org
Power Outages	
Street Light Outages	
Gas, Centerpoint Energy	
Gas Leaks	
Water, Severn Trent	
24 Hour Emergency Number	
Telephone, Centurylink	
Trash, Waste Management	
Humble Post Office	
Harris County MUD #132	www.hcmud132.com
Harris County MUD #151	www.hcmud151.org

SCHOOLS

Humble ISD	
Website	www.humble.k12.tx.us
Pine Forest Elementary	
Maplebrook Elementary	
Atascocita Middle School	
Atascocita High School	

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor - Sue Boaz Raymond sueboazraymond@comcast.net Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com

Your Community Newsletter and ACIA Web

The Atascocita Happenings Newsletter is a great tool for the community and the ACIA Board to share information. This publication will grow if everyone participates. If you are involved in a community club or activity, please e-mail information about your activities and meetings for inclusion in the newsletter to sueboazraymond@comcast.net. The deadline for submission is the 8th day of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Please also sign up for your ACIA website @ aciahomeowners. org. Currently there are 798 residents signed up of the 2,496 total homeowners. Everything residents need is on this site. Updated information is posted very often. All the forms and contact information is there at the click of a button or two. ALL RESIDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SIGN IN @ ACIAHOMEOWNERS.ORG TO BE KEPT IN THE LOOP FOR ALL ACIA NEWS AND E-BLASTS.



Don't Dump On ACIA

The ACIA must expend considerable funds paying contractors to pick up and dispose of green waste (dead tree branches) that were dumped on common areas, and litter thrown in the esplanades. Dumping degrades the environment, is an eyesore, and is difficult to clean up. We should all take our obligation to protect the neighborhood environment very seriously.

The trash contractor, Waste Management, will pick up branches that are bundled and less than 4 feet in length. Local business, Dirt Cheap Mulch, will accept branches of any length for a small fee. Costs for all services are continuously rising.

Please be advised also that no dumping is allowed in the gully areas. Harris County mows the gullies four times per year. Many walk their dogs here because it is nice (most of the time) and quite. It's away from the traffic and actually serves as another part of our community to enjoy. Some residents are dumping leaves, pine needles, trash, etc. behind their fence rather than bagging this to put out for trash pickup. Please do not do this! Others are planting trees, mowing, etc. to make it an extension of their back yard. It's free of litter, brush, limbs, etc. These families are truly appreciated. Thank You! Some addresses in violation have been reported to Harris County. Thank you for helping to keep our neighborhood attractive and clean.

NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Dear Homeowners,

The Board of Directors for the Atascocita Community Improvement Association will hold a regular meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00:pm., at The Overlook 20114 Pinehurst Drive, Atascocitia, TX 77346.

The subject of the meeting is general business of the Association, including discussion of items related to the Association budget and expenditures as well as discussion of items related to the assets owned by the Association.

Items that may be discussed in executive session include: actions involving personnel, pending or threatened litigation, contract negotiations, enforcement actions, confidential communications with the Association attorney, and other business that is confidential by request of the affected party.

Any changes to meeting time, place, or agenda will be posted on our website: aciahomeowners.org

Very Truly Yours,

Atascocita Community Improvement Association

SPRING MAKEOVER

Spring is such a beautiful time of year in Houston. One can't help but feel the refreshing power of this season when flowers are in full bloom. Even the trees seem to stand just a little taller. As the sun will certainly shine a little more we will want to spend more time in the great outdoors. This will lead to "spring cleaning" and the opportunity to give our homes a little makeover.

Whether you're looking to sell your home or just want to make some home improvements, we want to help you get the most out of your hard earned dollar. Whether you're looking to sell or just want to beautify the home, you might be surprised at how much you can do with a little money.

Following are few of my personal tips that will be sure to impress:

LANDSCAPING

The Power of Flowers - Weed free flowerbeds and colorful flowers wins buyers hearts Neatly trimmed lawns, trees, and bushes send a positive message to buyers and neighbors; a well-cared for yard represents a well-cared for home.

Roof - keep it clean of debris and tree limbs. A new roof will set you back thousands. Preserve it today to save money in the future.

INTERIOR

Walls – a fresh coat of paint can do wonders for a home. If you're looking to sell, conservative/neutral paints are the best option and most often give a home an open and airy feel.

Lighting – with so many low energy options the task of finding bright bulbs that don't give off unnatural lighting is often easier said than done. Most of the large box stores will allow you to take back lights you don't like. Buy a few varieties, find the one you like, and take the rest back. Once you find the right "bright" light you'll find your home to be more cheerful and inviting.

Smell – companies spend thousands of dollars to ensure their establishments give off just the right smell for their customers. Would it surprise you to learn that some coffee shops install odor control systems to make sure you get the "right" coffee smell when you walk in the front door? What smell message does your home give?

If you are looking to sell please call the Tracy Montgomery Team before spending any money. Interest rates are incredibly low, homes are in high demand, and buying power for many remains strong. The Tracy Montgomery Team of experienced listing agents will help ensure you get the most out of your home investment.





Thanks to all those who have been coming to the beginner tennis clinics. All those who plan to return for 2015 need to resubmit their interest or just come on the second Tuesday of each month.

ACIA is very pleased to announce that we now have a tennis pro who will be coming on the second Tuesday's starting in March to volunteer his services for the intermediate and/or advanced player. His name is Mike Beatty and he is a resident of ACIA. Mike is the Director of Tennis at the Walden Country Club and Walden currently has five tennis pros on staff. ACIA is very proud to have Mike join us and thankful to him for offering his services to the ACIA Clinics.

Several parents have inquired about lessons for their child/ children. Group and private lessons for any level will be available through Mike.

All beginner AND intermediate players (any age) are welcome to come on Tuesday, March 10 to meet our new pro and to also have an hour of instructions from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sue will continue to lead the beginners and Mike will instruct the intermediate/ advanced players.

Some have asked about having a fun tournament on a Saturday. This would be for any level of play if enough interest is shown. You may e-mail Sue Raymond @ sueboazraymond@comcast.net to advise her of your interest or if you need additional information.

Please bring your racquet and a can of new balls. We look forward to your coming on March 10th to the Pinehurst Courts located at 20600 Atascocita Shores Dr.



4 ACIA Happenings - March 2015



Quality Care. Close to Home.

Kingwood Medical Center has provided the community with high-quality, cost-effective healthcare for more than 20 years. We rigorously measure quality and patient safety in our drive to deliver exceptional patient outcomes. Our 1,300-plus healthcare professionals and more than 450 physicians on staff take pride in the quality of healthcare provided to our community and strive to create a culture that fosters and supports patient safety as a core value.

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- Joint Commission Hospital Accreditation
- Joint Commission Advanced Certification as a Primary Stroke Center
- Accredited Chest Pain Center by the Society of Chest Pain Centers
- American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Gold Plus Achievement Award and Stroke Honor Roll
- American Diabetes Association Recognized Education Program
- American Heart Association Gold Fit Friendly Company recognition
- American College of Radiology Ultrasound, MRI, Nuclear Medicine and Cat Scan Accreditation
- American Academy of Sleep Medicine Sleep Center of Excellence
- College of American Pathologists Laboratory Accreditation
- TX Department of State Health Services Mammography Accreditation
- Texas Department of State Health Services Texas Ten Step Program Designation for Maternity Care Practices
- Texas Department of State Health Services Distinguished Certification -Newborn Hearing Screening

Kingwood Medical Center

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Kingwood Medical Center is proud of our newest addition, our Neonatal Transport Team, caring for newborns twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The Neonatal Transport Team Nurses have specialized skills and equipment to care for newborns while they are being transported by air or by ground from your site to ours. Our Women and Children's Center provides care for mothers who have high-risk pregnancies and for babies who are born prematurely or are sick and need emergency transport services to our hospital.



FROM A CONCERNED RESIDENT

Please remember general safety rules while biking or walking in the neighborhoods. I have noticed that some residents do not follow safety conventions when walking, jogging or riding bicycles. The normal

conventions are for walkers/joggers to face oncoming traffic and bicyclist to ride with the traffic. As a rule, if the walker / jogger is accompanied by a pet, the lead side for the pet should be curbside. This will ensure pet safety by keeping the pet between the curb and the walker/ jogger. These conventions should apply on the street as well as the walking paths. There may be exceptions if the side walk is only on one side of the street.

Bicycle riders should also make sure to warn joggers/walkers when they are about to overtake from behind. I usually shout this warning, "passing on the right" or "passing on the left"; this is an added precaution that could prevent serious injury.



My husband and I were walking our two medium and large sized dogs this weekend when we were approached by a dog that appeared to be somebody's lost pet. My husband and I tried to shoo the dog away

but he/she continued to approach us. While we stayed calm, one of my dogs was uncomfortable and barked at the stray which resulted in him/her attacking the smaller of our two dogs and ultimately going after both of them. We were eventually able to kick the stray off our dogs long enough for us to get away while the neighbors herded the stray down a cul-de-sac. My dogs are okay but they both walked away a little bloody with some soon-to-be scars but nothing life threatening. The loose dog likes to stay in the Hurstwood Forest cul-de-sac off of Atascocita Pines Drive and neighbors in the area should be vigilant while out walking/running especially those with dogs and/or kids. The loose dog appears to be a chow with brown fur and darker markings wearing a collar with at least two tags.

Experience to the second second

FUN, FAIR, POSITIVE SOCCER Let the Kids Play!

In 1986, a group of parents in Katy felt there had to be a better way to provide every youth soccer player a positive experience. They saw the main problem as parents who put too much pressure on the kids to perform. They developed a system so the kids could play and enjoy the sport without demands from adults. They modified the rules and designed a process of 5-aside rules, equal play with a unique equal substitution system, balanced teams, and parent training to ensure that it would be fair. It would be truly "Made for Kids".

Thus Fun-Fair-Positive Soccer (FFPS) was founded in the spring of 1986, by Jack Hendrie and several parents, to establish a positive environment for youth soccer players. The first season of the Katy youth soccer league registered 150 players. In 1995, Jack decided to expand beyond Katy. FFPS has added 21 additional programs in the last 24 years totaling over 16,000 players, with 25,000 players expected by 2016. FFPS is sure to have a youth soccer community near you. Just enter your zip code on the website at www.FFPS.org and find it on the map.

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FACT:

Wash Your Hands

Reducing Spread of Disease While at Home and Work

By: Concentra Urgent Care

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say that nearly 90,000 patients die in U.S. hospitals each year due to a preventable disease – many could be avoided if everyone properly washed their hands.

From germs on office equipment to sick colleagues who decided to come into work anyway, people face the same dangers in the workplace. The same simple fact holds true: Washing your hands regularly is an effective way to prevent yourself from catching or spreading a preventable disease or illness.

WHEN TO WASH YOUR HANDS

The CDC recommends washing your hands every time you:

- Prepare or eat food
- Use the restroom
- Tend to someone who is sick; both before and after
- Blow your nose, cough, or sneeze
- Handle garbage
- Treat a cut or wound
- Change a diaper or clean up after children
- Handle an animal or animal waste

HAND WASHING BASICS

The CDC has issued specific guidelines about effective hand washing:

- Wet hands with water
- Use plain bar or liquid soap

• Create a lather by vigorously rubbing hands together for 15-20 seconds—about the amount of time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice

Be sure to wash palms, back of hands, fingers, and nails (clean nails by gently scratching nails down your opposing soapy palm)
Rinse off soap under a stream of water

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

• Focus on hand washing in the lunch and/or break room

• Be careful when using sponges and dish towels. These are ideal sites

for bacterial growth. Always wash your hands after using these items.Maintain a clean work area; regularly clean any office equipment,

especially shared items such as phones and keyboards.

• Remind your colleagues of the importance of hand washing, particularly when you witness someone neglecting to wash his or her hands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about how washing hands regularly can help prevent disease, ask your health care provider, or visit the CDC's creative Web site dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of hand washing at www.henrythehand.com.



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Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike ...) run at no charge to Atascocita CIA residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail sueboazraymond@comcast.net.

SHALON

Hi Jewish Community. Let's get connected! To share Shabbat dinners... Chanukah parties... Passover Seders... or simply get together! Interested? E-mail us at info@shalomcypress.org. Or visit our website at www.shalomcypress.org



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