

April 2016

Official HOA Newsletter for Lakeshore

Volume 2, Issue 4

#### WELCOME TO THE LAKESHORE REPORT

A Newsletter for the Lakeshore Residents

The Lakeshore Report is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Lakeshore residents. Each newsletter will be filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information, and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports team, social group, etc., and would like to submit an article for the newsletter, you can do so online at www.PEELinc.com. Personal news (announcements, accolades/ honors/ celebrations, etc.) are also welcome as long as they are from area residents.

GO GREEN! Subscribe via Peelinc.com to have an email sent to you with a link to a PDF of the newsletter, or have an email sent to you instead of having a newsletter mailed to you!

# CALENDAR



## COMMUNITY CRIME WATCH MEETING

Tuesday April 12, 2016 7 p.m. Lakeshore Clubhouse



# COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Saturday April 16, 2016 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

LAKESHORE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CREST MANAGEMENT CO.

Community Manager	
Liz.Trapolino@cres	
Clubhouse Manager	201-)/ /-0/01
lakesho	ore-ca@sbcglobal.net
EMERGENCY INFORMATION	
FIRE, MEDICAL OR LIFE THREAT	FNIN
Emergency	
	9-1-1
Constable Dispatch	281-376-3472
Humble ISD Police (Schools)	
Harris County Animal Control	
Texas Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
UTILITIES	
Electric, (multiple providers)www	v nowertochoose org
Power Outages	
Street Light Outages	713-207-2222
U.S. Water Utility Group	
Gas, Centerpoint Energy	
CCLICOLC	
SCHOOLS	201 (/1 1000
WW	
Lakeshore Elementary	
Woodcreek Middle School	
Summer Creek High School	
ouniner Greek Fight Genoon	201 011 9100
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER	
Peel, Inc	
Article Submission grandlaked	
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COMMITTEE INFORMATION	
Community Watch	
George Casellas	gcasellas@att.net
Garage Sales	

Lakeshore Clubhouse: ......lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net

Rex Spikes: ..... rexaspikes@sbcglobal.net

Harry Rockwood:.....hrockwood@aol.com

Elna Ermel: .....ronelna@comcast.net

To volunteer, please email lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net

Landscape Committee

**Pool Committee** 

**Social Committee** 

**Tennis & Playground Committee** 

# SPRING CLEANING

Do you have piles of clothes, papers and "stuff" collecting in your home? You're not alone. It's time to clean up that clutter and make your abode a more enjoyable and relaxing place to live.

- Create a schedule. Depending on how high those piles are, you may not be able to accomplish the task in a single weekend. So, try tackling one room at a time. It may seem like a daunting project, but it will be less scary if you break it down into segments.
- Practice a one item in, one item out rule. When you buy an item of clothing, for example, throw out one item of clothing. Not only will it keep down the clutter, but it will also make you rethink whether you really want to buy that new item.
- Create a stress-free environment in the bedroom. That means no piles of toys and no mounds of clothes. It should be a place where you can rest without worry.
- Make cleaning up fun for kids by turning it into a game. Kids are often the clutter culprits; involve them in the process to make things neater and more organized.
- Know your vision for the room. What do you want from a room? Is it a place where you work, a space where you unwind, a playroom for the little ones or something else? If you can answer that question, you'll be able to decide what items stay and what items go.
- Try to make decluttering a part of your everyday life. If you do it at the same time every day—like before you go to bed—the piles won't accumulate and you won't have to set aside a block of time to do a major cleaning.

#### LAKESHORE CLUBHOUSE

281-458-3345

ONSITE MANAGER HOURS
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 10:00AM - 2:00PM
TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 2:00PM - 7:00PM

CLOSED FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY



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# Lakeshore Elementary Carnival

The Lakeshore Elementary PTO, in cooperation with Kids-R-Kids and Summer Creek Baptist Church, is excited to be preparing for their 6th Annual Community Spring Carnival on Saturday, April 9th from 12 noon – 4pm.

This family event welcomes the whole community! Some of the attractions include large inflatables, a bungee jumper, rock wall, mechanical bull, petting zoo, many carnival games, favorite foods, vendor booths, plus a fantastic silent auction and raffle!

If you have a hot ride or a cool car you want to show off in the school's very own car show, please contact Shandie at: shandielynn@hotmail.com at your earliest opportunity – space is limited.

The proceeds will benefit Lakeshore Elementary students and teachers.

To get more information about Sponsorships, donating an item for the auction or having a vendor space, contact Shanavia Portis at: Sportis02@bellsouth.net or 404-731-3388.

Please utilize the parking lot at Lone Star College – parking along the residential streets can cause problems. Handicap parking is available at Kids-R-Kids. We hope our families, friends & neighbors can join the fun!





## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Are you getting ready to make an addition to your house or build a new shed or fence in your back yard? Before you break out the miter saw, make sure to get your plans approved by our association's architectural committee.

While it may seem arbitrary from an individual homeowner's standpoint, the architectural committee looks out for the entire community. Aside from stopping residents from painting pink polka dots on their houses, the committee's job is to make sure that the size and style of the project, the type of building materials being used and the overall look of the new structure adhere to the association's design requirements. Not only does this keep the community looking cohesive, it also helps to keep property values up by preventing individual structures from standing out. Of course, it's also important to note that unapproved structures might legally have to be removed at the owner's expense, so save yourself money and headaches by getting approval before building.

So when you're ready to start your new project, or if the design of your project changes midway through building it, send your plans to the architectural committee first so that we can make sure they're in compliance with the association's design standards. If we do find any

issues, we'll let you know what they are and try to help you come up with other options. We appreciate all the hard work residents have done to make their homes and this community beautiful—help us keep this association looking great by keeping us in the loop of all your building projects.





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### Landscaping

The association has a robust landscaping budget, but the practical purposes accomplished by good landscaping makes it money well spent.

- Landscaping can save money. Substituting perennial ground cover for grass greatly reduces maintenance, and drought-tolerant plants reduce water costs.
- Shrubs and trees screen unsightly utility boxes, trash areas or an unfortunate view. They also make effective sound barriers and privacy screens.
- Landscaping creates new habitats. Some parts of the grounds can be untended natural areas where small shrubs and saplings grow, thus creating habitats for birds, chipmunks and other small animals.

- Landscaping adds color. Flowering trees add color in spring. Purple plum trees, specimen evergreens and other colorful varieties provide color throughout the year.
- Landscaping can direct common-area traffic. For example, shrubs planted in strategic locations will funnel pedestrians toward an exit.
- Landscaping can stabilize awkward topography. A terraced slope planted with ground cover or small shrubs has a dramatic effect without minimal maintenance issues.
- Landscaping provides visual interest, especially when it incorporates architectural elements like fountains, arbors, gazebos or fences.

Landscaping is a long-term investment in the community that rewards individual homeowners and the association as well.



### **Stain Solutions**

Try as you might to prevent them, spills, drips and splatters in your house are inevitable. Whether you, your family or your guests are the culprits, stains happen. Most, if not all, are treatable, especially if you act quickly and use the right stain-removing technique.

If there's an accident on your carpet or a rug, start by scooping up any solids and soaking up any unabsorbed liquids. Then, blot the stain with a white cloth or paper towel. You should work from the outside in so you don't spread the spill, and dab at it instead of rubbing or pressing hard.

You also can try spot cleaning with a soapy water mix. Dilute a ¼ teaspoon of clear hand-dishwashing soap with 1 cup of lukewarm water. Spray the solution on the stain, and mist the area with clean water or blot with a wet towel. Then blot the area with a dry towel. Repeat this process until you get as much residue out as possible.

Follow these specific instructions for cleaning up the more stubborn stains and sticky spots on your floors:

• Red wine: Begin with the same three steps—blot, apply soapy water and rinse. Then, dribble very hot water from a sponge onto

the spill. Continue to blot with a clean towel, and repeat until the carpet no longer shows any red.

- Soft drinks and coffee: Begin with the same three steps—blot, apply soapy water and rinse. Then dab on hydrogen peroxide. Wait one hour before repeating the process. Hydrogen peroxide bleaches a stain without breaking down carpet dyes. Use a 3 percent solution, which can be found at a drugstore, and apply at full strength.
- Candle wax and chewing gum: These are easiest to remove when hot or cold. For the cold method, harden the spot by rubbing it with an ice cube inside a plastic bag. Then, carefully scrape off the residue with a dull knife or a plastic card, such as an expired credit card. For the hot method, apply paper towels over the waxy area, and then use a clothes iron on low heat to soak up the wax. Replace the paper towels until all the wax is removed. Use a hair dryer to heat gum. Then with a plastic bag over your fingers, pull the goo off.

So the next time your carpeting endures a nasty spill, rest assured that it doesn't have to become a permanent stain. With these simple tips, you can keep your carpets and rugs looking great for years to come.



### Coyote Sightings

Some residents have reported seeing coyotes in and around our community. Please follow these few simple rules to ensure they do not become permanent neighbors:

- Report sightings to local animal control, especially if the animal isn't easily intimidated by loud noise or bright light or if you see the animal during daylight hours.
- Do not leave trash bins on the street or set food out. Secure lids on trash and recycling bins.
- Pick fruit as soon as it's ripe, and pick up and discard fallen fruit daily.
- Avoid bird feeders. The aroma attracts scavengers even though they can't reach the nuts and seeds.
  - Don't put meat scraps in compost heaps.
  - Don't let cats and dogs outside unattended, especially at night.
- Walk your dog on a short leash, at your side, not behind you, at all times. If you encounter a coyote, pick up the dog and walk away.
- Don't walk near bushy vegetation, particularly at dusk and dawn, and avoid walking near abandoned or neglected properties.

Carry a flashlight, air horn, or bear or pepper spray when walking. If caught unprepared, shout and throw small objects.

### **Put a Stop to Junk Mail**

Disgusted by all of those unsolicited credit card offers clogging up your mailbox? Tired of lugging catalogs and junk mail to the recycling bin? All of this unwanted mail creates nothing but headaches and wasted paper, so it's no wonder putting an end to it is a priority for many people. While you can't eliminate everything, you can noticeably reduce the avalanche of paper in your mailbox just by picking up the phone or hopping online.

Here are a few simple ways to put a kibosh on the heaps of junk mail that keep piling up:

**So Long, Pre-Screened Credit Offers**: If your credit is anywhere near good, credit bureaus—Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion—are selling your name to credit card companies as a hot prospect. That's why you're getting those "you've been pre-approved" offers every day.

Put an end to it by calling 1-888-5-OPT-OUT (1-888-567-8688). You will need to provide your name, address, telephone number, Social Security number and date of birth to ensure your opt-out request matches your credit record rather than someone else who shares your name. You can also opt out via the Internet at: www. optoutprescreen.com/opt\_form.cgi.

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If you prefer not to disclose your Social Security number and date of birth, the online form does not require this information. However, the website strongly urges you to provide this information because it helps ensure that your request will be processed correctly, and it protects your information from unauthorized access.

Opting out is good for five years. However, if you'd like your name removed permanently, you will be mailed a confirmation form within about five business days to sign and return. For more information see the FTC's Facts for Consumers, Prescreened Offers of Credit and Insurance at www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/credit/cre17.shtm

Remember, this won't stop all credit offers—only those that result from screening your credit report. Your bank or credit card company may still send you offers for new credit or share information about you with other companies.

Although you don't have total control over the information that's shared by financial companies, you do have some. For more on how to limit data sharing by banks and other financial institutions, read the Privacy Rights Clearing house Fact Sheet 24, Protecting Financial Privacy in the New Millennium: The Burden Is on You, at www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs24-finpriv.htm.

Jettison the Junk Mail: You can reduce other types of junk mail—magazine offers, sweepstakes and other national advertising mail—by contacting the Direct Marketing Association's (DMA) Mail Preference Service (MPS). This opt-out lasts for five years and can be renewed. Go to www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/regist. action. There is no charge for registering online. For those who want to want to register via USPS, send \$1 check or money order to the Mail Preference Service, PO Box 643, Carmel NY 10512. (See their sample letter available at: www.privacyrights.org/Letters/letters. htm#Junk\_Mail.) The MPS will put you into the "delete" file, which is sent to subscribing organizations several times a year.

**Cut Out the Catalogs**: When you buy something from a mail-order catalog, your transaction is likely to be reported to Abacus, a company that compiles a cooperative database of catalog and publishing companies' customers. Your name is then sold to other mail-order companies that send you catalogs and offers. This explains why you are likely to receive several unsolicited catalogs after ordering anything by mail.

To opt out of the Abacus database, write to Abacus, P.O. Box 1478, Broomfield, CO 80038 or email abacusoptout@epsilon.com. Include your full name and current address (and previous address if you have moved recently). For more information, visit www. abacusoptout.com.

You'll have to notify companies yourself that do not participate in the DMA and Abacus opt-out programs. Contact the customer service department and request that your name and address not be shared with other companies. Contact magazines, charities, nonprofit organizations and professional associations to which you have either donated money or joined.

It may take a few months to see results, but eventually the mess in your mailbox will thin out.



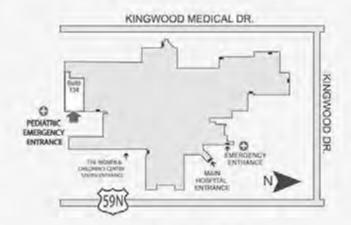
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# **Expecting Out of Town Guests?**

Many of you have friends and family that use your guestroom. Here are a few tips on making them feel welcome in your home.

Consider buying or cutting some fresh flowers and put them on the dresser. This will help brighten the room and make your guests feel welcome. You could also lay out a couple good books or a magazine. Most people will enjoy flipping through a home magazine or a celebrity magazine. This will make an excellent addition on the nightstand next to a bedside lamp. It isn't uncommon for one of your guests to be a night owl. When you have a bedside lamp in the room, the early riser can sleep while their spouse can stay up all night finishing their favorite book. Don't forget to leave a couple extra pillows.

Nothing says comfort like a soft pile of plush pillows on a big bed. This will make the bed look nice and inviting. And last but not least, leave a universal charger in the room. One of the worst things to forget is a charger for a cell phone, laptop or tablet. We all forget things when we travel and this could save your guest a trip to the local convenient store. Universal chargers aren't very expensive and it can keep all their devices charged up and ready to go.

You don't have a guest room? Is it time to buy a bigger house? Feel free to call the Tracy Montgomery team if you want to see homes in the area. We can help you every step of the way and would love to help you with the listing or buying process.



If you know of someone who would appreciate the level of service my Team provides, please call me with their name and business number. I'll be happy to follow up and take great care of them.



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