



The HOME FRONT

September 2016 Official Publication of Park Lakes Property Owners Association Volume 4, Issue 9

It's Back to School Time

It's almost that time of year again. Believe it or not, your kids will be heading back to school in the near future. You can almost taste it! But making the transition from summer to fall means that you'd better think ahead. There are a lot of changes that must be managed. Here are five back to school tips to help you and your kids make the shift as easy as possible.

1. Bedtime

Gradually start getting the children to bed earlier and earlier, so that one week before school starts, they are on their fall schedule. Once school begins, bedtime should be the same every night. Weekend times for bed, of course, can still be a little different from the rest of the week.

2. Homework

If you have youngsters who handle homework on their own (yes, there are children like this), leave them alone or say something like: "Boy, you really did a good job last year doing your schoolwork by yourself." With other children, sit them down and discuss how homework will be handled every day. Good rules of thumb are same time, same place and try to get it all done before dinner. TV is not allowed while doing schoolwork, but many kids do better while listening to music.

3. New Schools

If you have a child who is going to a school they haven't been to before, make sure you take them over for a visit. Take them to their new classroom and—even better—see if you can meet their new teacher. Even if you can't, try to find at least one friendly person in the school that your child can talk to for even a little bit. Your visit—and that friendly memory—will help to counter some of your child's fears of the unknown.

4. School Supplies

Make a fun shopping trip out of buying school supplies. One-on-one shared fun is the best parent-child bonding method in history. That means ONE child plus you go shopping and to lunch, not THREE kids plus you. Kids cherish being alone with a parent, and for you the pleasure is partly due to the fact that sibling rivalry in this situation is impossible.

5. Listen and Talk

While you're out getting things for school, or anytime really, be a sympathetic listener. Ask your child how it feels to be going back to school. "What's good about it and what's not so hot." Then, from time to time, fill your young one in on what it felt like for you to be going back to school at about her age. Don't be scared—be honest.

PARK LAKES POOL HOURS

PARK LAKES CLUBHOUSE

September 3rd, 4th, and 5th

Saturday	12:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Labor Day	10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

PARK LAKES SPLASHPAD

September 3rd, 4th, and 5th

Saturday	10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Labor Day	10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

PARK LAKES

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Park Lakes Property Owners Association

Crest Management(281) 579-0761
SplashPad Texas Onsite Office.....(281) 441-3557
Recreation Center Onsite Office.....(281) 441-9955
Gate Attendant.....(281) 441-1089
Houston National Golf Club(281) 304-1400

Utilities

Comcast (Customer Service)(713) 341-1000
Electricity (TXU)(800) 368-1398
Gas (Centerpoint)(713) 659-2111
Trash (Republic Waste).....(281) 446-2030
Water & Sewer (EDP Water District)(832) 467-1599
Phone Service (Embarq)(877) 213-1053
Electricity (Centerpoint-Report street light outage)(713) 207-2222
Texas One Call System (Call Before you Dig)..... 811

Property Tax Authorities

Harris County Tax.....(713) 368-2000
Harris MUD #400(281) 353-9809

Public Services

US Post Office.....(281) 540-1775
Toll Road EZ Tag.....(281) 875-3279
Voters/Auto Registration(713) 368-2000
Drivers License Information.....(281) 446-3391
Humble Area Chamber(281) 446-2128

Police & Fire

Emergency 911
Constable/Precinct 4 (24-hr dispatch)(281) 376-3472
Harris Co. Sheriff's Dept./Prec 4, Dist 2 (24-hr) (713) 221-6000
Eastex Fire Department.....(281) 441-2244
Emergency Medical Service (281) 446-7889
Poison Control(800) 222-1222
Humble Animal Control(281) 446-2327
Texas DPS.....(281) 446-3391

Area Hospitals

Renaissance Northeast Surgery(281) 446-4053
Kingwood Medical Center(281) 348-8000
Northeast Medical Center Hospital(281) 540-7700
Memorial Hermann Hospital (The Woodlands)(281) 364-2300

Public Schools

Humble ISD(281) 641-1000
Park Lakes Elementary (K-6)(281) 641-3200
Humble Middle School (7-8)(281) 641-4000
Summer Creek High School (9-12)(281) 641-5400

Private Schools

Holy Trinity(281) 459-4323
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic.....(281) 446-8535
The Christian School of Kingwood(281) 359-4929
Humble Christian School.....(281) 441-1313

2016-2017

-March 19th 2016
Easter "Egg" Stravaganza
1:30pm - 4:30 pm

-April 9th 2016
Fun Fliks Movie Night 8:00 pm

-April 16th 2016
Community Wide Garage Sale
7:00am - 12:00 pm

-June 4th 2016
Meet and Greet Breakfast
TBA

-June 25th 2016
Independence Day Celebration
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

-August 13th 2016
Back To School Celebration
1:30 pm- 4:30 pm

-September 17th 2016
Fun Fliks Movie Night
8:00 pm

-October 4th 2016
National Night Out
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm

-October 29th 2016
Fall Festival
1:30 pm- 4:30 pm

-November 19th 2016
Community Wide Garage Sale
7:00 am -12:00 pm

-December 17th 2016
Cookies with Santa
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

-April 8th 2017
Easter "Egg" Stravaganza
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm



For more information please
contact the Park Lakes
Clubhouse at 281-441-9955.
Thank you.
We hope to see you at our
next event!

Board Responsibility

Our community is more than just a neighborhood. In many ways, it's a lot like a business. Collectively, our regular annual assessments amount to tens of thousands of dollars that need to be budgeted carefully and spent wisely. And our neighbors who have volunteered and been elected to serve on the association's board are responsible for making critical decisions—on our behalf—about managing the community and our money.

Our board also develops long-range plans—like when the parking lot will need to be repaved and when the elevators will need to be replaced—about the parts of the community that are shared property. The board must set aside funds so that these kinds of projects can be accomplished on schedule or even ahead of schedule in the event there's an unexpected breakdown.

The board also sends out requests for bids and contracts with vendors to do the work necessary to maintain our shared amenities. Board members decide who will do the best job of replacing the roof at the best price or who will be the most reliable company to hire to mow the grass and remove dead tree limbs.

The board's decisions can have a significant impact on the community's appearance and, consequently, on our property values. Regardless of our professional manager, the board ultimately is responsible for overseeing association operations. Be sure to communicate with the board regularly, observe board meetings, and attend annual meetings to elect responsible board members and to participate in the conversations about significant community issues.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW 2016 /17 COMMUNITY RESIDENT BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBERS

Rachel Gwin – President – Land Tejas – (Voting Member)
Al Brende – 1st Vice President - Land Tejas – (Voting Member)
Gerald Jones – Vice President - parklakesgerald@gmail.com -
(Voting Member)
Cheryl Smith – Secretary - parklakescheryl@gmail.com - (Voting
Member)
Kennetha Smith-Tolbert - Treasurer - (parklakeskennetha@gmail.
com- (Voting Member)
Charles Williams – Ex-Officio –parklakescharles@gmail.com
Shepard Cross – Ex- Officio –parklakes_scross@yahoo.com
Lashonda Ramdass – Ex- Officio –parklakesshonda@gmail.com
Raj Alladah – Ex- Officio – parklakesraj@gmail.com

CREST MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Dolores Sue – Property Manager – maintenance items, contractors,
board requests
281-945- 4663 dolores.sue@crest-management.com
Christopher Sharp – Assistant Property Manager - Deed restrictions
violations and ACC applications
281-945-4627 christopher.sharp@crest-management.com
Lisa Walker – On Site Community Manager – Rentals, access cards
and general community inquiries
281-441-9955 lisa.walker@crest-management.com
Staci Tucker – Community Accountant – payment and accounting
matters
281-945-4621 staci.tucker@crest-management.com



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Sidestepping Solicitors

Annoyed by the persistence of solicitors' unwelcome knocks on the door? It seems like no matter what they do, they always manage to show up on your front porch. They come with fliers, door hangers, a rehearsed speech and the distinct ability to ignore the polite decline of the products they're peddling—cleaning supplies, appliances, cosmetics, magazine subscriptions, home-improvement products, coupons for local businesses and other unwanted items—sometimes even making you feel trapped in your own home.

Homeowners associations are particularly easy, frequent targets of commercial, religious and political solicitors; part of the appeal is that population density makes our association an easy environment for them to canvas. Because of this, finding a way to keep solicitors away can be invaluable.

The simplest way to deter solicitors is by posting a "No Solicitors" sign in your yard, on your door or in your front window. If you get knocks on the door anyway, you also can ask solicitors for their license, permit or company identification; many don't have it and will leave. If the solicitor doesn't leave or keeps coming back, tell them the community has nuisance restrictions and there are legal ramifications for violating them. And if that's not enough to make them high-tail it off of your lawn, you can also call the association office, and ask for security personnel to escort the solicitor out of the community.

While a visit from a solicitor is often annoying, they can sometimes be more than just a nuisance; some might have ulterior motives, such as fraud, canvassing a home to commit a crime or other unseemly behavior. If you believe a solicitor is acting suspiciously or you feel threatened, call the police immediately and notify our security personnel to help you avoid a potentially dangerous situation.

So stay safe, keep your sanity and do your part in discouraging solicitors from trolling our community. You'll soon hear just how sweet an un-rung doorbell sounds.



Want To Be More Involved?

Volunteers are always welcome and needed. If you are interested in volunteering for any of our upcoming events or committees please contact onsite personnel at 281-441-9955 or email one of the above Board Members.

WHY JOIN A COMMITTEE?

Committees serve a number of important roles to our association process and the Board of Directors:

- Committees serve as a training ground for future association leaders.
- Committees serve as a conduit through which the Board receives "grass root" input - opinions and attitudes of owners.
- Committees are a vehicle through which Board actions are explained.
- Committees enhance the effectiveness of the Board of Directors by providing research analysis and advice needed for policy decisions.
- Committees can be an instrument for initial implementation of Board policies such as with the Architectural Review Committee.

Committees are an important linkage between the Board of Directors and owners but in order to be effective committees need members! Owner input, involvement and participation is a must. Please consider participating in the association process and volunteering to serve on an association committee. Our community needs you!

Be on the lookout for committee meetings. Meeting times and locations will be sent out via email through Constant Contact. Sign up to receive emails at www.Crest-Management.com.

We currently have five committees:

1. Adopt A School – LaShonda Ramdass – parklakesshonda@gmail.com
2. Landscaping – Kennetha Smith-Tolbert, Charles Williams and Shepard Cross – parklakeskennetha@gmail.com, parklakescharles@gmail.com and parklakescross@gmail.com
3. Communications – parklakeskennetha@gmail.com and parklakesshonda@gmail.com
4. Safety – Charles Williams – parklakescharles@gmail.com
5. Community Events – Kennetha Smith-Tolbert – parklakeskennetha@gmail.com



Government Urges Americans to be Prepared

The anniversary of the 9-11 attacks and of Hurricane Katrina are all the reminders we need that it pays to be prepared for natural and terror-related emergencies.

September is National Preparedness Month so let's take some basic steps to be prepared. No matter how safe and secure you may feel today, the worst could happen, if not here, then perhaps at some point in the future in another location. That's when you'll wish you had taken the time to plan for the worst.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continues to urge Americans to make plans and learn about the resources they can use to prepare for emergencies. DHS is encouraging Americans to obtain emergency supply kits, make family emergency plans and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could affect them.

We encourage our residents to visit the DHS website at www.ready.gov. In addition to planning guides and an instructional

video, the website offers a variety of preparedness tips, as well as specialized information for seniors and people with disabilities and other special needs.

The government's message to Americans is clear: "We must have the tools and plans in place to make it on our own, at least for a period of time, no matter where we are when disaster strikes. Just like having a working smoke detector, preparing for the unexpected makes sense."

Visit www.ready.gov and plan ahead. We should always hope for the best, but we are shortsighted if we don't

be | prepared



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LEARN more at www.colinshope.org



Welcome, First-Time Buyers

Few events in life are more exciting than buying your first home. We're glad you've chosen us! You're now a member of our community association. We're proud of our association and trust it will contribute to the quality of your experience in our community. Here are a few tips and bits of information to help you make the most of community association living.

Your Own Space

There's one important difference between renting and owning a home that you need to keep in mind. Unlike renting, your unit and its upkeep belong entirely to you. You're responsible for all maintenance for any part of your home that is used only by you or your family. So, when the faucet leaks, the first person to call is your favorite plumber, not the association manager.

Common Elements and Assessments

The community has a number of common areas and services—like the grounds and the maintenance to keep them attractive and

enjoyable. We share these areas and their expenses when we pay our assessments.

Community Rules

Because many residents share the common areas, it's necessary to have a few basic rules so everyone can enjoy the community. If you don't have a copy of the community rules, please call the manager.

Membership

When you bought your new home, you became a member of our community association. Membership entitles you to attend and observe board meetings and vote in board elections. You may even want to consider running for a board seat yourself. Our community thrives because residents volunteer for committee assignments and eagerly stand for board elections. Get involved—we need you.

Please contact the manager for more information or if you have questions about the association.

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Attention Renters: Welcome to the Neighborhood

If you rent a home in our community, you're part of our community association, and we welcome you. We'd like to meet you at our community events, meetings, and social gatherings.

Sometimes we can't reach you to announce a party or meeting, especially if you're leasing from an out-of-state owner or a corporation. If this is you, please let our manager or a board member know your name, address, and phone—and we'll include you on all our mailing lists.

In case your landlord hasn't passed along this information, here are a few tips to make living in our community enjoyable and stress free:

All residents—owners and renters—must comply with association rules and regulations. They're reasonable rules protect property values, preserve the nature of our community, and make more life enjoyable for everyone. If you need a copy of our rules, please contact the manager or a board member. The association has the legal authority to enforce all rules, which we do—equitably and consistently. We

don't like to take action against those who may not have received this important information, but it's our obligation to do so.

Renters are entitled to all the privileges of association membership except voting. We can't extend those privileges to you if we don't know who you are. Contact our manager or a board member and let us know how to reach you. That gives you the advantage of knowing what's going on in the community.

You don't have to own your home to be interested in your community. If you'd like to volunteer for a committee or other type of service to the association, we can't wait to meet you. Responsible, service-minded residents are the backbone of our association regardless of their ownership status.

If your lease is about up, and you're moving away, we're sorry to see you go; but, please notify the manager or tell a board member.

So, welcome to our community. We want you to enjoy your experience here—perhaps enough to become an owner some day.

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PARK LAKES

Park Lakes Splash Pad Texas & Park Lakes Recreation Center Hour

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm
(closed for lunch 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm)
Wednesday- 10:30 am - 6:30 pm
(closed for lunch 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm)

Fitness Center Hours (Clubhouse & SplashPad)

7 Days a week - 4:30 AM until 11:30 PM

** Hours are subject to change**

On Site Community Manager:

Lisa Walker

Office Phone: 281-441-9955

lisa.walker@crest-management.com

*Please visit or contact the recreation center for
access to the amenities*

RESIDENT PORTAL

[http://www.canyongate.com/communities/
park/](http://www.canyongate.com/communities/park/)

Features of the Park Lakes Community Intranet:

- Receive email blasts from the association (association news and announcements, community events, local area happenings and more).
- Resident Directory
- Classifieds
- Current Events and Activities
- Documents and Forms (ACC guidelines, restrictions financials, etc.)

You can also sign up for the email list with Crest Management

<http://www.crest-management.com/>

You can find Park Lakes under the community tab to access management information such as copies of the articles and by laws of the community payment plans and collection procedures for HOA dues as well as policies for parking

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Sounds Like a Good Idea

Noise is a concern for every resident and because you live in a community, it's important to understand that some degree of noise is to be expected. At the same time, residents need to consider the consequences of their noisy behavior. To keep everyone happy and maintain civility among neighbors, the association asks that you take a few steps to reduce or eliminate annoying noise.

Be kind and respectful. A little common courtesy makes a big difference. Keep your music and television at reasonable levels, do your vacuuming before bedtime, and before remodeling, check with the manager about acceptable hours and days of the week that work can be done. If you put in hardwood or tile flooring, use a sound-reducing underlayment. Move your noisy appliance away from walls and put sound-absorbing material underneath before your neighbors complain.

Keep a log. If you're disturbed by a noise problem, note the times and the nature of the noise. Ask the manager to listen and verify the noise as well. There may be a pattern in the noise that can be adjusted.

Visit your neighbor. If your neighbor is the source of the noise, try a friendly chat. Sometimes people just don't realize how noise is affecting others. People are usually considerate once they realize

they're disturbing others. And, if your neighbor knocks on your door, listen politely and be willing to make changes to reduce your own noise.

Contact the manager. If a polite request doesn't change your neighbor's noisiness, it may be time to ask the manager for help. Have your noise log ready, including attempts to solve the problem yourself.

Reducing noise sounds like a good idea. A quiet, peaceful community, relatively speaking, is a happy community.



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PARK LAKES

Park Lakes Fitness Center

A lot of community members enjoy the fitness center in our clubhouses. We have worked hard to provide a safe and clean environment for our members to enjoy. To enter these facilities you must have an access card and be 18 years of age or older to utilize the facility.

Please be aware of the following fitness center rules:

- Equipment is available for use by residents and their guest only. A guest may use the facility if the homeowner is present. Limit of 2 guest are allowed.
- Use of all equipment is "at your own risk". Utilize proper technique and safety when using equipment.
- No children under the age of 18 are permitted.
- Proper work out clothing, shoes and socks is required. No swimsuits.
- Report malfunctioning or inoperable equipment to the Onsite Manager.
- Please sanitize equipment after each use with sanitized wipes that are provided.
- The fitness center is open from 4:30 am to 11:30 pm the building must be vacated by 11:30 pm to avoid setting off the burglary alarm. Failure to do so will result in a false alarm fee of \$75.00.



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RENTALS

SPLASH PAD

The Cabanas for the Splash pad will be available for rental throughout the pool season

Rental includes reservation of one cabana area which gives you access to the bathrooms and the kitchen area for up to 15 people (including adults)

The deposit for the rental is \$100.00

\$25.00 Admin fee

\$25.00 per hour usage fee (Max of 3 hours)

Only pre-package foods allowed, i.e. pizza or sandwiches

If you wish to use the pool at the time of your rental, you must secure an additional lifeguard through ABeautiful Pools at an additional cost of \$35.00 per hour. Resident must contact ABeautiful Pools to make arrangements at 281-376-6510 and contract must be presented before Splashpad Cabana rental is approved.

*** Note the actual splash Pad cannot be reserved for an event, the SplashPad is community property and must be open to all residents during posted hours**

For Private Pool Parties please contact the onsite staff.

CLUBHOUSE/ RECREATION CENTER

The Clubhouse is available for rental on a first come first serve basis. Renters will have access to the patio and the clubhouse living space as well and the kitchen and bathrooms. Pool access is not permitted with the rental of the clubhouse.

The deposit for rental is \$300.00 (refundable pending inspection of facility/no damages)

\$25.00 Admin Fee (non-refundable)

\$20.00 per hour during business hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM

(Lunch from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm)

Wednesday 10:30 am – 6:30 pm.

(Lunch from 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm)

\$40.00 per hour after business hours and weekends (Saturdays & Sundays)

***Please contact your onsite manger Lisa Walker
for more information at 281-441-9955 or via email at
lisa.walker@crest-management.com***

***** You are permitted to book an event 3 months in advance** **all deposit checks will be held by the office personnel until the time of the event** ** All events would be pending approval by the board prior to event date ** ** In order to book one of the areas for an event all HOA dues must be in good standings and all fees must be paid in advance*****

TENNIS TIPS

*By USPTA/PTR Master Professional - Owner, Manager and
Director of Tennis
Grey Rock Tennis Club, Austin, TX*



How to execute The Backhand Service Return

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley, the overhead “smash” and the forehand service return.

In this issue, I will offer you instructions on how to execute the second most important shot in the game of tennis: The Service Return, since it is the response to the first most important shot of the game: The Serve. In the illustrations, Susan Herb, player at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Ready Position: When Susan is getting ready to return the serve, her eyes are focused on the tennis ball held by the opponent. Knees are relaxed and the hands are holding the racket with a relaxed grip.

Step 2: The Back Swing: Once Susan realizes that the ball has been directed to her forehand, she will turn her upper body and will take the racket back. Notice that the left hand is up in front to allow her to keep her center of gravity in the center. She has loaded her weight on her left foot and will be ready to step forward to meet the ball.

Step 3: The Point of Contact: Susan now is ready to step into the ball. She has kept her eye on the ball and her center of gravity now is shifted to the point of contact. Notice the right knee being slightly bent and the right foot is pointing to the ball meeting the racket.

Step 5: The Follow Through: Once Susan has finished her stroke, the momentum of the racket continues to move almost to a point behind her neck. Her left hand is next to her body and her left elbow is pointing toward her target. Her body is now ready to take

the “split step” with both feet in order to prepare for the opponent’s returned shot.

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EXPERIENCE, EXPERIENCE, EXPERIENCE...I can help you realize your dreams. With 34 years in the real estate industry, I have the experience you need to guide you during your home buying or selling process. My team and I are ready to service your needs from start to finish.

TEAM WORK...Whoever said "Many hands make light work" really understood a team work concept. Each member of my team (including you) will have specific duties towards our common goal to ensure the strength and endurance needed to get this transaction closed.



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