



Northlake Forest

HERALD

January 2017

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHLAKE FOREST HOA

Volume 7, Issue 1

SNIPPETS FROM YOUR HOA BOARD MEETING

The meeting held on November 21, 2016 was a shorter one than usual. I really think we were all still in turkey eating mode.

Finances were discussed, as were, upcoming NLF improvements to be made. Most of these items I mentioned in the newsletter you received in December.

By the time you receive this newsletter we will be well into January 2017. The NLF HOA board members wish you and your families a wonderful, prosperous New Year.

We look forward to continuing to assist in keeping your neighborhood as beautiful, and as safe, as can be.

If you are looking for a way to get more involved in your community let one of the board members know in which area you would like to volunteer.

There is the landscape committee, architectural committee, pool committee, yard of the month, event/newsletter committee and the safety committee.

Any time or talent you can contribute to your HOA will be most appreciated.

If you are new to the neighborhood, we welcome you and your family.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 2017!!!!

Maureen Cummings, HOA Secretary



Upcoming Events:

Please mark your calendars for the following dates/events:

Please stay tuned for Dates/Events for 2017 in our February Newsletter.

Keep a lookout for more information via email and/or Evite.

Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Russell McPherson and Paul Rath for being elected onto our NLF Board at our Annual Board Meeting. Russell has been an active member for several years now and we are happy to have him continue on. Paul is returning to offer his support and talents. Thank you both for giving our your time and selves towards our community!

NORTHLAKE FOREST

NLF COMMITTEES

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Russell McPherson

LANDSCAPE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Ken Amstutz

SAFETY/NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Chair Kelly Moore
Board Liaison..... Russell McPherson

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Fred Vasquez

POOL COMMITTEE

ChairTBD
Board LiaisonMaureen Cummings

NLF EVENTS / NEWSLETTER

ChairTBD
Board Liaison.....Rebecca Dessenberger

YARD OF THE MONTH

Chair Kelly Moore
Board Liaison..... Ken Amstutz

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please fill out a "Contact Us" form on the website.

NLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....Russell McPherson
Vice President.....Rebecca Dessenberger
Treasurer.....Ken Amstutz
Secretary.....Maureen Cummings
Director.....Fred Vasquez
PCM.....Michael Quast

If you notice a problem or have a concern about something within NLF, please complete the form on our website and bring it to the attention of the management company or Board member so that the issue can be addressed.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Planned Community Management, Inc. (PCMI)

Michael Quast

281-870-0585 Michael.Quast@STServices.com · www.pcmi-us.com
Northlake Forest HOA Website: www.northlakeforesthoa.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Mark Herman Constable, Precinct 4..... (281) 376-3472
Harris Cnty Sheriff's Office @ HWY 249 ..(281) 290-2100
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept @ Telge Rd.... (281) 550-6663
Harris Cnty Courthouse @ Cypresswood... (281) 376-2997

GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

Harris County Animal Control..... (281) 999-3191
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services
..... (713) 439-6000
R. Jack Cagle - Community Assistance Dept.
..... (281) 353-8424
Social Security Administration 1- (800) 772-1213
Department of Public Safety @ West Rd.... (281) 517-1333
Department of Pubic Safety @ Grant Rd ... (281) 890-5440

POST OFFICE

USPS @ Spring Cypress..... (281) 373-9125
The UPS Store @ Spring Cypress (281) 304-6800
FedEx Office @ Barker Cypress..... (281) 256-8323

LIBRARY

Lone Star College CyFair Library
Circulation Desk (281) 290-3210
Northwest Branch Library
@ Regency Green Drive..... (281) 890-2665
Barbara Bush Library @ Cypress Creek (281) 376-4610

SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices (281) 897-4000
Farney Elementary (281) 373-2850
Goodson Middle School (281) 373-2350
Cy-Woods High School (281) 213-1800

UTILITIES

NW Harris County MUD #10..... (832) 467-1599
Best Trash (281) 313-2378
CenterPoint Energy Gas (713) 659-2111
Relient Energy Electricity 1-(855) 347-3232
..... www.powertochoose.com

NEWSLETTER INFO

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ACCESS TO NORTHLAKE FOREST ON-LINE

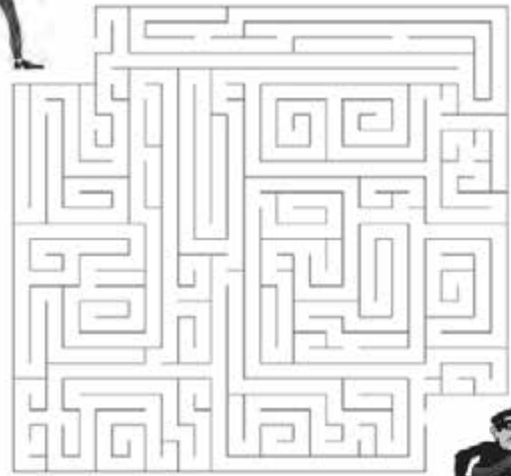
If you are new to the neighborhood – WELCOME! To gain access to important information go to our official website page www.NorthLakeForestHOA.com and select Register. Enter the required information and your access will be approved shortly.

Please note, we have several ways to communicate with residents, via our private Resident ONLY NorthLakeForestCommunity Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/NorthlakeForestCommunity and via Nextdoor www.northlakeforest.nextdoor.com. Our main source of communication will always be via our official website.

If you have any comments and concerns you would like addressed by PCMI and/or the Board, please fill out a "Contact Us" form via the website and we will respond as quickly as possible.

Kidz Maze Mania

Help the detective track down the burglar.
Hurry! He must get through the maze
before the burglar gets away!



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LANDSCAPE NOTES

It seems I caused some confusion when I was talking about the Crape Myrtles in my paragraph concerning the pool plants in my October 2016 article. I was only talking about our desire to replace the three Crape Myrtles that are inside the pool fencing. There is no discussion or desire to change any Crape Myrtles in the common areas.

As evidenced by the November and December 2016 Newsletters (there were no Landscape articles), Landscape news has slowed down with the change of seasons and end of the 2016 budget year. I would like to report that the pool planting and landscape changes inside the fenced area have been primarily done by this typing along with the new mulching. There is an area along the splash pad that still needs a decision due to over spill of debris into the pool. There was a change in Bluegrass landscape management and we needed to bring the new manager up to speed. His name is Charles Prather and we first met at the pool when we went over the plans. I anticipate working well with him and look forward to 2017 projects. Speaking of new projects, the landscape committee will be meeting after the New Year to look at priorities and I will keep you advised as they make those decisions.

I would like to recognize the individuals that have made up the Landscape committee for 2016. If you read a friends name, thank them for the work they did this last year: David Bray, Dick Cummings, Michael Decker, Dwight Melancon, Penny Small, and Paul Rath. I'd also like to thank Pat Durkin for helping David on the on-going irrigation mapping. Yard of the Month and the Dog stations also fall under Landscape and I'd like to thank Kelly Moore and Wendy McCurley for leading those efforts. Thanks to each of these individuals for giving their time and expertise. As always, I encourage you to get involved in your community. If you're interested in keeping our green spaces beautiful and want to be on a committee that impacts our natural environment, please give me a call.

I look forward to seeing the results of quite a few projects in 2017.

Ken Amstutz,
Board Liaison,
949-892-9948

NORTHWEST FLYERS YOUTH TRACK CLUB

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 30th Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free Registration/Orientation breakfast on Saturday, February 4th, 2017, for all boys and girls who are interested in joining for the 2017 track season. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The event is an opportunity for youth athletes to register for the 2017 spring/summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches, staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization (USATF). All athletes and parents who wish to join the Northwest Flyers must attend the orientation.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org>; contact Linette Roach at linette.roach@sbcglobal.net; or "Like" the club on Facebook.



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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

Fungus Gnats

Fungus gnats often become a problem in homes due to an overwatering problem. Since this time of year can bring poinsettias or other plants into the home, fungus gnats are a pest to watch for.

Fungus gnat adults are small, black, long-legged flies with long antennae. Most adults are about 1/16 an inch but some can get up to 1/2 an inch. They are weak fliers and generally remain near potted plants, growing media, foliage or leaf litter.

Larvae, or immatures, have a black head capsule and long whitish body without legs. They feed on organic matter such as mulch, compost, grass clippings, plant roots and fungi. When conditions are very moist, fungus gnat larvae can become abundant and may leave slime trails on media that looks similar to trails left by snails or slugs.

While these gnats are a nuisance they are fairly easy to manage. Indoors, it is a good idea to use yellow sticky cards as a monitoring tool. Potato pieces may also be used as a monitoring tool for fungus gnats. To do this, imbed a peeled potato cube into media and inspect the underside of the potato and the media directly below it twice a week for fungus gnat larvae.

To manage fungus gnat populations, work on reducing excessively moist conditions. Avoid overwatering and make sure that there is good drainage. The surface of container soil should be allowed to dry before watering again.

If using compost, make sure that items have been fully composted. Compost piles should be turned regularly and kept away from doors or windows. Inspect all doors, windows, vents and screens for a good seal to reduce the number of gnats that may enter a structure.

Bacillus thuringiensis var. *israelensis* or the nematode *Steinernema feltiae* can be applied in containers to control larvae. Either spray on the media or apply as a soil drench. Biologicals work best when they are applied early in an infestation. If a population is already large, they may not provide the control desired.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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IT'S ANOTHER NEW YEAR...

“Happy New Year!” That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple of weeks as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year’s Day in modern America was not always January 1.

ANCIENT NEW YEARS: The celebration of the new year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the Vernal Equinox (first day of spring). The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. After all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical nor agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary. The Babylonian new year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year’s Eve festivities pale in comparison. The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun. In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

THE CHURCH’S VIEW OF NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS: Although in the first centuries AD the Romans continued celebrating the new year, the early Catholic Church condemned the festivities as paganism. But as Christianity became more widespread, the early church began having its own religious observances concurrently with many of the pagan celebrations, and New Year’s Day was no different. New Years is still observed as the Feast of Christ’s Circumcision by some denominations. During the Middle Ages, the Church remained opposed to celebrating New Years. January 1 has been celebrated as a holiday by Western nations for only about the past 400 years.

NEW YEAR TRADITIONS: Other traditions of the season include the making of New Year’s resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or quit smoking. The early Babylonian’s most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment. The tradition of using a baby to signify the new year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. It was their tradition at that time to celebrate their god of wine, Dionysus, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that god as the spirit of fertility. Early Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

AULD LANG SYNE: The song, “Auld Lang Syne,” is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700’s, it was first published in 1796 after Burns’ death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, “Auld Lang Syne” literally means “old long ago,” or simply, “the good old days.”

TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Polo Tennis and Fitness Club

How to execute The Forehand Lob



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

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Forehand Lob. This shot is used when a player is forced to retrieve a ball that is hit deep and the opponent is either charging to the net or staying far back. The player hitting the lob is looking for “air time” to regain balance and court space. This ball should be hit high enough so the players at the net cannot reach and “slam” the ball down, or force the opponent at the base line to retrieve back. In the illustrations, “Suzie” Foster, Member of the Polo Tennis and Fitness Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Back Swing: When Suzie is forced deep into the court and realizes that she must hit a defensive lob, she pivots to the right and gets her racket back early. Notice that the head of the racket is

low and her left arm is up in front to keep her balance. Her eyes are focused on the path of the ball and her weight is in her right foot.

Step 2: The Point of Contact: Suzie is now ready to hit the ball. Her eyes are now on the point of contact and the face of the racket is tilted at a 45-degree angle to create height and depth on her lob. Her goal is to keep her head still and not start looking up to her opponent or to the other side of the court.

Step 3: The Follow Through: The success of a deep lob is the follow through. Suzie’s wrist is still “laid back” and her shoulder is lifting the racket above her head. Her right arm is still in front of her to allow maximum balance.

Step 4: The Shuffle Back: Once Suzie finishes the stroke, her goal is to either move forward toward the net to hit an overhead, or to shuffle back to the middle of the court to drive the next ball back to the opponent.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute
“The Two-Handed Backhand Lob”

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Skills: Excellent communication through email and phone, with high level presentation and relationship-building skills. Strong prospecting and business development skills are a must. Previous sales experience preferred but not required.

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