

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

September 2017

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 7, Issue 9

A note from your President and the Board,

Regarding the Newsletter -- In the past couple of issues, we have included some history of The Overlook and Golf Course for those who are new to the community. We hoped you enjoyed.

REMINDER -- The monthly meetings are tentatively scheduled for the 4th Monday of each month, starting at 6:30 p.m. These are held at The Overlook. Hope to see you there!

ACIA Board accomplishments and goals, for the betterment of the Community:

» Community Events:

o Easter was a huge success at the Shores park for all the kids with plenty of Easter eggs to go around. Thank you, Robert Comstock, for putting a team of volunteers together and making this a successful event.

o Fourth of July Parade route was changed this year as an experiment for using our own facilities at the end (Pinehurst Pool area) to serve 250 Hot dogs, Awards and bouncy house. Again, thank you Robert Comstock for putting a volunteer team together for this event.

o Future Community events: We would like to hear from the community members on ideas for community events you would like to see. Hot Dog night at the pool? Movie night?

o We are considering the cost of a water aerobics class for members interested in the class after pool season.

o Garage Sale coming soon.

» Marina: When funds are available, we need to invest in needed repairs to this amenity.

o We have issues with the Bulkhead eroding and needing repair ASAP.

• We are getting prices for repair or replacement.

o Gate replacement:

• The drill collar pipe used for the gate is rusting and in dire need of replacement.

• We are considering the cost for replacement with a future use.

• At one time the Marina had electricity, and we are working with the provider to regain power at the Marina,

• With thought to having electricity, we are looking at a different type of access gate, which will move us toward a keyless / members only access system as funds become available.

» Golf Course lots:

o We are going to ask those community members who live on the GC to come to compliance and if they have a vinyl fence, to replace it as per Deed Restrictions.

» Pools:

o Shores Pool:

• We had to replace a pump motor close to the 4th of July. The board found the protection for overload current had been bypassed and have taken care of this issue. The contractor will reimburse for the cost of this event.

• Sewage back-up has happened twice this year. In working with MUD 132, we have found the issue causing this. The pipe is shared with the apartment complex and they have been dumping too much grease into the system. Thus causing the back-ups. Our pool is closest low lying area.

• Solution: The apartment complex has been put on notice to install a grease trap. The board has installed a check valve that will not allow overflow in our facility.

o Pool Compliance:

• Most of our community is aware that this board has been heavily involved in correcting compliance issues from contracts, insurance, safety issues to common areas etc.; We are doing our due diligence and the issues we are considering now are:

- Compliance for ADA restrooms for the 2 facilities.
- Compliance for ADA lifts to the pools.

• We have been considering this issue for legal and cost evaluation. (Continued on Page 3)

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Fire, Medical or Life Threatening Emergency	
P-4 Constable Dispatch	
Humble ISD Police (Schools)	281-641-7900
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept (AVFD)	
Non-Emergency Number	281-852-2181
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Texas Poison Control Center	800-222-1222

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	OPEN
Advertising	advertising@PEELinc.com

Lake Houston Ladies Club

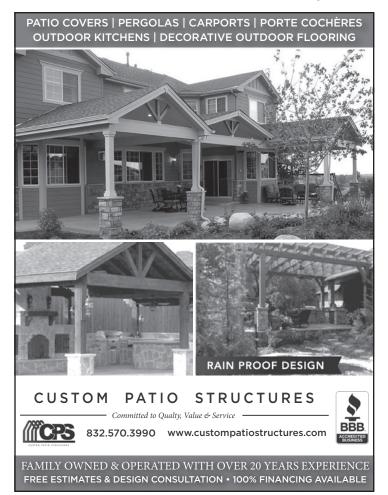
Lake Houston Ladies Club is a social organization dedicated to connecting women through monthly luncheon meetings, social activities and interest groups.

Our next luncheon meeting is Tuesday, September 19, 2017 from 10:00-12:00 at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden Forest Drive, in Humble, TX. The cost is \$15/person for lunch and entertainment.

The club welcomes new members from all surrounding areas. Many interest groups are available for newcomers to join including: Reader's Choice, Tea Time, Lunch 'N Look, Movie Group, Supper Club, Girl's Night Out, and many game groups (Bridge, Mah Jong, Pokeno, Canasta, and Bunco). There are also social events throughout the year that include spouses or significant others. The club is an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends.

The September luncheon will be the perfect month to visit us for the first time. We have no scheduled entertainment in September, as this luncheon is the time our members reconnect with each other after the summer break. It's the perfect time for you to visit. You'll see firsthand how welcoming this group is to all of the newcomers in our area. We hope to see you in September!

To learn more about the club go to our website: www. lakehoustonladiesclub.com ,or email Susan @ susanlhlc@gmail.com



(Continued from Cover)

Once we have gathered all the information and formulate a plan, if needed , we will bring this to the monthly meeting for discussion. We are not going to piecemeal information which can be misconstrued, until we have all info needed.

o Landscaping:

• The freeze got to our plants and need replacement in some areas. We are looking at a cost-effective plan to put the Pizzazz back into our entrances.

• Cul-de-Sacs:

• As you are aware, some cul-de-sacs are taken care of by the community members and look fantastic while others look neglected.

· Confusion on upkeep and mowing by our contractor neglecting the "uncut" areas. The contractor will cut on schedule, then the Bahia grass, not the Saint Augustine grows 8" in a week and it looks neglected.

• Others have dirt with tree needing to be uplifted to allow the sun to aid in grass growth. We are looking into a costeffective way to upgrade this situation.

• Islands without water? Surprise, we are discovering that some islands have an irrigation system buried and not working. Another compliance task we are working on.

• We have asked both MUD 132 and 151 to provide us the cost of putting a water meter on an island, if we wanted. The usual cost for a new meter is \$3000 for installation. Both MUD's have offered installation for \$1500 if we decide to install one. Thanks to both MUD's for working with us.

o Precinct 2 Maintenance:

• Precinct 2 and our board has put a plan together, along with forming a committee. Laura Lammers will head the South side of 1960 and Ron Jones will head the Northside of 1960. So, what does this mean.

• Any overhanging branches over the streets or right of ways that block first responders, trash trucks, motorhome, etc., need to be cut back.

• Any branches blocking street lights need to be trimmed. • Solution:

- Precinct 2 will trim free of charge all the above.
- They will only cut to the community members lot line and not to the base of the limb.
- They will not cut the community members branches without permission.
- Our committee will tour the community, compile low overhanging problems and record the address. They will then turn the list over to CAM.

• CAM will send a letter to the community member notifying them of the need to trim, while offering free of charge to allow Precinct 2 to trim or the homeowner to take care of at their cost. • This will be a 30-day notice.

(Continued on Page 4)

Reasons Home Staging is Beneficial

- Listings that are staged sell 73% faster!
- Staged homes typically sell for top dollar.
- End up on buyers' "must see" lists.

• Gives a well maintained appearance so buyers request fewer repairs or price reductions.

 Helps the property stand out amongst others and gives the WOW factor so that buyers distinguish and remember the specific property.

 Only 10% of buyers can picture themselves living in a vacant home. Staging creates a more inviting space that buyers can picture themselves living in.

 Staging in non-vacant homes helps to depersonalize the home and allows for sellers to focus on the home rather than the current occupants.



(Continued from Page 3)

• Precinct 2 has offered to pick up branches and limbs from a predetermined area for those community members who wish to trim for themselves. This is also good news for after a storm.

- Precinct 2 will replace any broken street sign, add a sign where we see fit.
- Precinct 2 will trim around any street light that is blocked.
- Precinct 2 will maintain issues with storm sewers, potholes or other street issues.
- So, if you need any of the above, email Ron or Laura. Their emails are on the website.
- o Yearly Maintenance Fees:

• Our Community has been capped at \$500 per year for yearly maintenance fees. Cost of living and utilities to maintain the Communities common properties and amenities are starting to show that.

• We are a community with 2 pools and 2 parks, a Marina and 2 tennis courts. We also have a golf course in the community. Who would not want to live in a community that has so much to offer? When or if you decide to sell your home, what's the appeal to new home buyers? The amenities and the quality offered... correct? Over the past few years this board has taken the approach of not putting a band-aid on a problem, but do it correctly as an investment for the future. Many issues have been fixed, while we still need to continue repairing neglected or aging issues, along with keeping the water and lights on. This has been and continues to be a challenge. We are at a point that the repairs are very selective due to cost and funds available. Keeping the Pizzazz in our entrances and all common areas is a huge challenge. In short, all that new buyers are looking for when buying a house, along with the levels our community members are used to.

• Do we allow for regress, or start cutting back on items like garbage pick-up, pool hours?

• The board is putting a presentation package together to present to the community. Nothing has been done to raise the Fees and cannot/will not, without a vote by the Community members.

» These are few things that are happening in 2017. Come to the meetings and see what's going on.

Sincerely ,Ric Halbrook President ACIA

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ACIA HAPPENINGS July ACIA Security Statistics

Categories

Burglary Hab	itation: 0 Burglary Vehicle	:: 3 Theft H	abitation:	: 0 Theft V	Vehicle: 0	Theft Other: 2	Robbery: 0
Assault: 1	Sexual Assault: 0 Crimin	al Mischief: 3	Disturba	ance Family: 3	Disturba	ance Juvenile: 1	Disturbance Other: 8
Alarms: 30	Suspicious Vehicles: 12	Suspicious Person	ns: 3	Runaways: 0	Phone F	Harrassment: 2	Other Calls: 460

Detailed Statistics By Deputy

Unit Number	Contrac Calls	ct Distric Calls	t Report Taken	s Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Tickets Issued	Recovered Property	Charges Filed	Miles Driven	Days Worked
228	59	15	14	1	0	4	0	0	837	16
D20	34	4	4	0	0	10	0	0	285	5
E80	69	10	10	1	3	28	0	2	683	16
E81	68	23	5	0	1	51	0	1	1088	21
E82	141	28	16	0	0	13	0	0	1395	22
E84	96	8	3	0	0	41	0	0	1067	17
TOTAL	467	88	52	2	4	147	0	3	5355	97



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ACIA HAPPENINGS Monarchs & OE

TEXAS A&M GRILIFE

The protozoan parasite Ophryocystis elektroscirrha (OE) infects monarch and queen butterflies. It is an obligate parasite **EXTENSION** and requires a host to live within and to

grow and multiply. It was first discovered in the 1960's infecting monarchs in Florida. Since then, it's been found in monarch populations across the world. It is thought that the parasite has co-evolved with monarchs.

There are three major populations of monarchs in the United Statesone east of the Rocky Mountains that winters in Central Mexico and migrate north into the US and Canada; another west of the Rocky mountains that overwinters on the coast of California; the third population are non-migratory and can breed year round in areas such as Florida, Texas and Hawaii. All three populations are infected with OE.

Monarchs infected with OE will have spores wedged between the scales on their body, with the greatest concentration usually occurring on the abdomen. The spores are very small and require a microscope to see.

Female monarchs pass OE spores onto their offspring when they lay

eggs. When caterpillars emerge from the egg, they eat the egg shell ingesting the spores. When spores reach the midgut of the insect, they break open and release protozoan parasites. The protozoans move through the gut lining to the epidermis where they reproduce asexually (divides multiple times increasing the number of protozoans). In the butterfly chrysalis stage, the protozoans go through sexual reproduction (again increasing the number of protozoans). Spores form so the emerging butterfly is covered in spores. Spores can also be scattered onto milkweed from butterflies laying eggs or feeding on nectar. Spores on the milkweed can be consumed by caterpillars as they eat foliage.

Once butterflies are infected, they do not recover. OE does not grow or reproduce on the adults; spores remain dormant until they are ingested by a caterpillar.

Infected pupae have dark blotches 2-3 days before emergence. Adults that are heavily infected often have problems emerging from the chrysalis and some may die before emerging. Others that do emerge may fall to the ground before their wings are expanded leading to them dying quickly. Many infected monarchs look healthy, so the only way to determine infection is by looking for spores.

What can you do? Check monarchs for spores and destroy any you find that are infected. I know this seems harsh, but infected monarchs further spread the protozoa and kill more butterflies in later generations. Cut down milkweed several times per year to get rid of any possible spores that may be on the plants and to encourage new, healthy growth.

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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American Cancer **Society**®

The American Cancer Society (ACS) says one in seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime. September is Prostate Cancer Awareness month, and urologists are using this

time to urge men to talk with their doctors about beginning annual prostate cancer screenings between 40 and 50 years of age.

"Prostate cancer can often be treated successfully, especially when caught early. The most common prostate screening is a prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, blood test," says Ajay Kwatra, M.D., a urologist affiliated with Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital. "The results of the PSA test will help your physician determine whether further testing is needed, and how long a man may wait until having his next screening. It is also very important to have a regular digital rectal exam to check for any abnormalities that might not be detected by a PSA test."

Prostate cancer symptoms may include a need to urinate frequently, painful or burning urination, painful ejaculation, or blood in urine or semen. However, the ACS says not all men who have prostate cancer experience symptoms of the disease. The ACS says family history, age and ethnicity can also play a role in the development of prostate cancer.

"It's important to talk with your physician about these risk factors, as that may impact when they suggest beginning annual screenings. For example, a man with a family history of prostate cancer may need to begin screenings at age 40. Others may be able to start at age 45 or 50," says Dr. Kwatra. "If you are diagnosed with prostate cancer, there are a variety of treatment options. It's important that men have a trusted physician who will help evaluate those choices based on the patient's preferences. The most important thing is to have regular checkups every year."

Dr. Kwatra is a board-certified urologist as well as a member of the American Urological Association and South Central Urology Section of the American Urological Association. He treats patients 5 years and older.

Visit www.memorialhermann.org/prostatecancer/ to learn more about prostate cancer screenings, diagnosis, and treatments.





Harris County Municipal Utility District 151

Residential/Commercial Water Rates

WATER

0 - 10,000 Gallons	\$11.00
10,001 - 20,000 Gallons	\$1.25 per 1,000 Gallons
20,001 - 30,000 Gallons	\$1.50 per 1,000 Gallons
30,001 - 40,000 Gallons	\$1.75 per 1,000 Gallons
Thereafter	\$2.00 per 1,000 Gallons

The "Harris-Galveston Subsidence District" is a special purpose district created by the Texas Legislature in 1975. The District was created to provide for the regulation of ground water withdrawal throughout Harris and Galveston counties for the purpose of preventing land subsidence, which leads to increased flooding.

The MUD Districts have no control whatsoever in the water fee's assessed by the various Harris County Water Authorities, the MUD's merely passes this water fee to all residents/business based on the amount of water that passes through their water meter.

SEWER						
Residential	\$15.00					
Commercial: 0 - 10,000 Gallons	\$15.00					
Commercial: Over 10,001 Gallons	\$1.20 per 1,000 Gallons					

Surface Water Conversion Fee (01-01-2017)	\$2.45 per 1,000 Gallons
Surface Water Conversion Fee (01-01-2016)	\$2.25 per 1,000 Gallons
Surface Water Conversion Fee (01-01-2015)	\$2.05 per 1,000 Gallons
Surface Water Conversion Fee (07-01-2013)	\$1.90 per 1,000 Gallons



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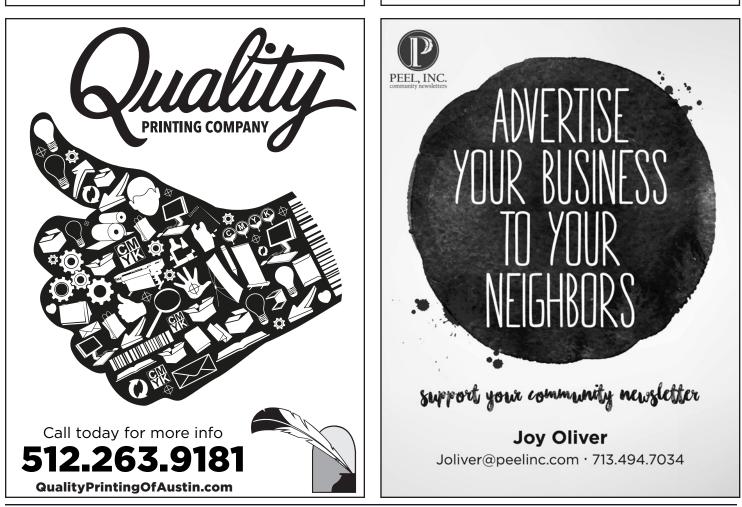
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Personal classifieds (one time sell item such as a bike) are free to ACIA residents, limit 30 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 888-687-6444 or <u>advertising@PEELinc.com.</u>



10 ACIA Happenings - September 2017





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