

# THE ATASCOCITA FOREST COMMUNITY GAZETTE

VOL 1 ISSUE 8 | SEPTEMBER 2017



THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ATASCOCITA FOREST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## 2017 ATASCOCITA FOREST HALLOWEEN BASH AND TRUNK OR TREAT

It's time to start thinking about the kids' costumes, because Halloween is coming up fast! We're beginning to plan this year's Halloween Bash, which will be on Saturday, October 28 in the afternoon (exact times not yet determined). We were blown away by the attendance of last year's event (over 800 people!), and look forward to having an even bigger and better event this year! But, in order to make that happen for our community, we need volunteers able to help out on the event day. We're trying something new this year to help more effectively manage volunteers' time and efforts by utilizing the free online tool SignUp.com to establish specific volunteer tasks and shifts. If you are interested in assisting with the event, please visit [AtascocitaForest.org](http://AtascocitaForest.org) and navigate to Community Meetings & Events > Event Volunteer Sign Up (you must be registered and logged in on the site to view this page), or email [Lauren@AtascocitaForest.org](mailto:Lauren@AtascocitaForest.org).

In addition to Halloween Bash, we are also looking into organizing a joint-neighborhood (Atascocita Forest and The Forest) Trunk or Treat event for kids on the evening of Halloween (Tuesday, October 31). We are planning to have the event in the parking lot of Whispering Pines Elementary. Trunk or Treat events are a great way to bring the community together and provide a fun and safe environment for small children to trick or treat without having to walk the neighborhood.

Trunk or Treat is also a wonderful way for residents to show off their creativity in how they decorate their cars while handing out candy! A quick Google or Pinterest search for "Trunk or Treat ideas" will reveal thousands of sources of inspiration. Of course, residents are not required to decorate their cars to participate. Based on initial feedback on the idea garnered through the Facebook group, a good number of residents are interested in participating! But in order for the event to be successful, we need an adequate number of participants willing to hand out candy, rather than only coming to trick or treat. We also want to ensure the safety of everyone participating in the event, which is why we ask that those who want to hand out candy to trick or treaters register on our website on Trunk or Treat Registration Form (under Community Meetings & Events). That way, we can make sure that the people who are there are supposed to be there, ensuring a safe and fun environment for the kids.

If you have any questions about Trunk or Treat, or how to get involved, please email [Lauren@AtascocitaForest.org](mailto:Lauren@AtascocitaForest.org).

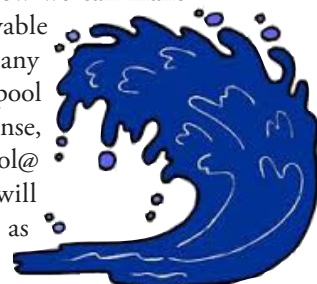
## August Yard of the Month



The AFCA Board is pleased to recognize John & Maria Stobie at 4535 Atascocita Trail as the August winners of Yard of the Month! Congratulations and thank you for helping to keep our neighborhood looking beautiful! Yard of the Month runs from March – September. Residents may view a photo gallery with each month's winner on our website: [www.atascocitaforest.org](http://www.atascocitaforest.org) > 2017 Yard of the Month.

## 2017 POOL FEEDBACK SURVEY

Now that pool season is over, we would like to give residents the opportunity to share feedback about their experiences at the pool this summer. Residents may access the Pool Feedback Survey on our website at [www.AtascocitaForest.org](http://www.AtascocitaForest.org) under Community Amenities on the Pool & Splashpad page. Please note that all responses are 100% anonymous. The survey is short, and we would greatly appreciate your feedback and suggestions on how we can make this amenity even more enjoyable for our residents. If you have any specific questions regarding the pool to which you would like a response, please send them via email to [Pool@AtascocitaForest.org](mailto:Pool@AtascocitaForest.org) and we will get back with you as quickly as possible.



# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....911  
Harris County Animal Control ..... 281-999-3191  
Poison Control ..... 800-222-1222

## NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Pct 4 Constable Non-Emergency Dispatch..... 281-376-3472  
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept. .... 281-852-2181  
Harris County Precinct 4 ..... 281-376-3472  
Texas No Call List Registration ..... 866-TXN-OCAL  
Emergency Roadside Assistance..... 800-525-5555

## SCHOOLS

Humble ISD ..... 281-540-1775  
Whispering Pines Elementary..... 281-641-2500  
Humble Middle School..... 281-641-2500  
Humble High School ..... 281-641-6300

## UTILITY NUMBERS

Report Power Outage - Centerpoint..... 713-207-7777  
Report Street Light Outage - Centerpoint ..... 713-207-2222  
Report Gas Leak - Centerpoint ..... 713-659-2111  
Centerpoint (Gas) ..... 713-659-2111  
Call Before You Dig ..... 811  
Water - SiEnvironmental..... 832-490-1600  
Emergency Number ..... 832-490-1601  
Electricity - Multiple Providers..... www.powertochoose.org  
Trash - RR&R of Texas..... 866-516-9805  
MUD District ..... www.TrailoftheLakesMUD.com

## PUBLIC SERVICES

Humble Post Office..... 281-540-1775  
DPS Office..... 281-446-3391  
Harris County Clerk (Will Clayton Pkwy.) ..... 281-540-1173

## NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGEMENT

Community Asset Management .....  
www.CommunityAssetManagement.com  
Pam Valentine..... pvalentine@cam-texas.com

## ATASCOCITA FOREST COMMUNITY ASSOC.

Email the Board ..... board@atascocitaforest.org  
Website Questions/Problems..... website@atascocitaforest.org  
Newsletter questions..... newsletter@atascocitaforest.org

## HOA BOARD MEMBERS

Bill Wisenbaker - President ..... billw@atascocitaforest.org  
Norman Laskie - Vice President..... norman@atascocitaforest.org  
Troy King - Treasurer..... troy@atascocitaforest.org  
Lauren Shwartz - Secretary ..... lauren@atascocitaforest.org

# NEWSLETTER INFO

## PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... 888-687-6444  
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com



## 2017 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The National Night Out event for Trail of the Lakes MUD will be held the afternoon / evening of Tuesday, October 3 at Whispering Pines Elementary. This event is funded by a partnership between the MUD and the HOAs and Developers of the subdivisions that comprise the MUD, including: the Atascocita Forest Community Association, The Forest Community Association, and Claytons Park Community Association. More details about the event will be available soon on the neighborhood website and social media channels, but residents can expect to enjoy a fun and informative evening getting to know the services and emergency responders in our community.

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<sup>1</sup>APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Certain terms, conditions, and or discounts apply to rates listed. Rates current as of 5/17/17 and are subject to change based on market conditions and borrower eligibility. Other rates and terms available. May not be combined with other offers. All loans and rates are subject to approval and some restrictions may apply. All loans closed directly at the dealership must be pre-approved at the credit union and closed at the pre-qualified rate to qualify for the rate discount. Subject to mileage and vehicle age limitations. Offer expires 12/31/2017. Not available to refinance an existing CRCU auto loan. Membership required. <sup>2</sup> The minimum approved loan amount is \$5,000.00. Payment will not be required during the deferred period for the first 90 days. Interest will accrue during the deferment period.

**6903 Atascocita Rd • Atascocita, Tx 77346 • 281.462.2728**

## WOODLAND HILLS DRIVE EXPANSION: PLANNED TRAFFIC LIGHT

The Woodland Hills Drive expansion is on schedule, expected to be complete by the end of this year. As part of the planning for the expansion, Harris County Precinct 4 recently conducted a traffic study on Woodland Hills Drive and concluded that a traffic light is warranted at the intersection of Woodland Hills and Wells Mark Drive. The light will help control the flow of traffic and provide greater safety for children and individuals crossing the street at that location. A definitive start date for the project is not yet available, but the precinct does estimate that the project development and planning will take between 6-9 months. We will provide updates on this project as new information becomes available.

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### Get Connected with Atascocita Forest!



**AtascocitaForest.org** (official website)



**FB Group: Atascocita Forest Neighbors**

*Not officially endorsed by the AFCA HOA*



**Nextdoor.com: Atascocita Forest**

*Not officially endorsed by the AFCA HOA*

## NEW TEXAS LAWS TAKING EFFECT SEPTEMBER 1



The Texas Legislature recently passed several new laws that will go into effect on September 1st. The most publicized of these laws is the ban on texting while driving. The law prohibits drivers in any area of Texas from using a hand-held phone to "read, write or send an electronic message" of any kind, which includes texts, emails, or, presumably, any kind of social media communication (such as Facebook Messenger, Snapchat, etc). Offenders are ticketed and

required to pay a fine ranging from \$25 for the first offense, up to \$99. Note that activities such as using satellite navigation systems or music control apps are exempted from the ban.

Additionally, the state has lowered the license fee for concealed firearms from \$140 to \$40 (new users). The renewal fee for licenses will be lowered from \$70 to \$40.

The state has also addressed the issue of Good Samaritans having to break into a car to help a person believed to be in distress. Existing laws prevent Good Samaritans from being subject to criminal charges as a result of damage to vehicles, but the new law protects them from being sued in civil court for the damage caused to the vehicle.

Finally, the Texas Legislature has passed a law that provides a grace period for lunch payments in public schools. Previously, if a student did not have sufficient funds in his or her lunch account, the student would be denied any lunch (known as "lunch shaming"). Now, if funds have not been added to the account, the student will be provided with a cold sandwich in lieu of a hot meal for a period of time in order to give parents the opportunity to add funds to their student's lunch account.

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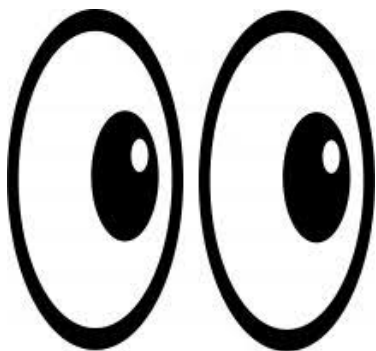
**Mon-Sat 9:30-7:00 pm**  
**Sunday 1-5 pm**



**facebook.com/KidtoKidAtascocita**



## SECURITY UPDATE: KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR TOW TRUCKS



At the last HOA meeting, a Sheriff's deputy and member of the Atascocita Forest security team warned of a recent trend in a large-scale car theft ring involving tow trucks and urged residents to report any tow truck activity in the neighborhood. In this operation, seemingly legitimate tow trucks will remove parked

vehicles, which are then promptly stripped or sold. Note that as of yet, no vehicles have been reported stolen from the neighborhood, so there is no need for panic or excessive worry. The deputy simply asked that if you see a tow truck driving through the neighborhood or removing a vehicle, to call the Sheriff's department or Harris County Precinct 4 and report it so that authorities can ensure that the operation is legal and legitimate.



**Please remember to pick up after your pets and "scoop the poop"**

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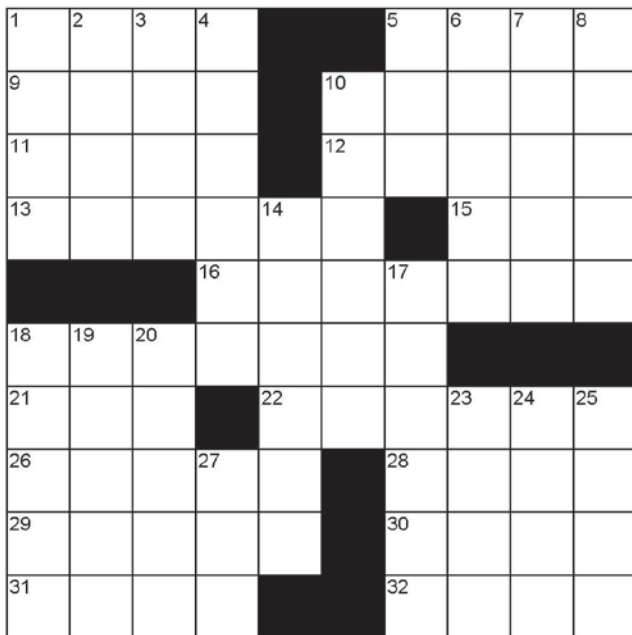
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

1. Squeeze
5. Lovers
9. Women's magazine
10. Special case only (2 wds.)
11. Lemony
12. Passes at the bull
13. Of this
15. Feign
16. Long scoldings
18. Tutee
21. To be
22. Band instrument
26. \_\_\_ cotta (clay)
28. Too
29. Append (2 wds.)
30. Worker
31. Honker
32. University (abbr.)

### DOWN

1. Fit together
2. Healing plant
3. Speak indistinctly
4. To this document
5. Food and drug administration (abbr.)
6. Leading
7. Time being
8. Beats it!
10. Wrangle
14. What the Tin Man needed
17. Naval fleet
18. Devil
19. Doctrine
20. Tends sheep
23. Group of nations
24. Afloat
25. Noble
27. Fish eggs

View answers online at [www.peelinc.com](http://www.peelinc.com)

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## Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:  
Peel, Inc. - Kids Club, 308 Meadowlark St, Lakeway, TX 78734-4717  
We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.  
DUE: September 30th

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (first name, last initial)

Age: \_\_\_\_\_



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