



The HOME FRONT

May 2019

Official Publication of Park Lakes Property Owners Association

Volume 7, Issue 5

CONGRATULATIONS Ms. JORDAN INEZ MATHIEW



She will be attending University of Houston.

We are very Proud of her and send our prayers with her as she pursue a prosperous & Grand career in architecture.

~Jay and Juanita Ward

PARK LAKES

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Park Lakes Property Owners Association

Sterling Association Services Inc.(832) 678-4500
 SplashPad Texas Onsite Office.....(281) 441-3557
 Recreation Center Onsite Office.....(281) 441-9955
 Gate Attendant.....(281) 441-1089

Utilities

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 Electricity (TXU)(800) 368-1398
 Gas (Centerpoint)(713) 659-2111
 Trash (Republic Waste).....(281) 446-2030
 Water & Sewer (EDP Water District).....(832) 467-1599
 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

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Sterling Information

STERLING ASSOCIATION SERVICES, INC. IS THE NEW COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT SERVICE CONTRACTED BY PARK LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Directors for Park Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. (Park Lakes P.O.A.) has contracted with Sterling Association Services, Inc. ("Sterling") to provide professional community association management services effective September 1, 2017. Sterling Association Services, Inc. provides association services to over one hundred and fifty communities throughout Houston and its surrounding areas. Some of these services include customer care, billing and collecting the annual assessments, paying the community's monthly expenses, and maintaining the association's books and records.

Please note that assessment payments and correspondence to Park Lakes P.O.A. after September 1, 2017, should be directed to our office address below:

Corporate Office:

6842 North Sam Houston Parkway W.

Houston, TX 77064

832-678-4500

On-site Office:

9730 Park Lakes Canyon Terrace,

Humble, TX 77396

281-441-9955

ParkLakes@sterlingasi.com

Along with the financial support mentioned above, Sterling's services will include enforcement of the deed restrictions, processing architectural improvements, contract administration, day-to-day operations and directives, as well as providing support to the members as it pertains to Park Lakes. Your community will be serviced by our dedicated and professional management team which consists of Aly Long, General Manager, aly@sterlingasi.com, Lisa Walker, Onsite Manager, lisa.walker@sterlingasi.com and Susan Marshall Accounting Associate, susan@sterlingasi.com.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact your management team via any of the mediums provided. To receive community emails or to review and update your account, please log in to www.sterlingasi.com.

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PARK LAKES



Humble ISD 2018-19 Calendar

175 Instructional Days
Students start Monday Aug. 20, and end Friday May 31
Teachers start Wednesday Aug. 8, and end Monday, June 3

1st Semester.....August 20 - December 20, 2018 (81 days)
2nd Semester.....January 8 - May 31, 2019 (94 days)

Professional Growth/Workdays for staff

Holidays for students

August 8-9, 13-17
October 9
January 7
February 18 (District comp day)
April 22 (District comp day)
June 3

Holidays

Independence Day July 4, 2018
Labor Day September 3
Columbus Day October 8
Thanksgiving November 19-23
Winter Break Dec. 21-Jan. 4
MLK Day January 21
Spring Break March 11-15
Good Friday April 19
Memorial Day May 27
Independence Day July 4, 2019

Full Day Release/Early Release/Late Arrival

Elementary Full-Day Release Days: Oct. 23, Nov. 26, Feb. 19, March 18
Elementary Early Release Days: Dec. 20, May 31

Middle School Exam Early Release Days are the last two days of each semester (Dec 19-20 and May 30-31). Additionally, high schools have late arrival every Thursday except for Aug. 23, Sept. 6, Oct. 11, Nov. 15, Jan. 10, Jan. 24, Feb. 21, April 11, and May 16. HMS and SMS have early dismissal each Friday except for Aug. 24, Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Jan. 11, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, and May 17.

High School Exam Early Release Days are the last two days of each semester (Dec 19-20 and May 30-31). Additionally, high schools have late arrival every Thursday except for Aug. 23, Sept. 6, Oct. 11, Nov. 15, Jan. 10, Jan. 24, Feb. 21, April 11, May 9, and May 23.

Campuses reserve the right to cancel or modify early release or late arrival schedules to accommodate special school activities.

Inclement Weather Days: Feb. 18 and April 22

May become student school days if time is lost to bad weather.
Otherwise, will be Student Holiday/Professional Growth Workdays.

- Holiday
- Semester Begins/Ends
- Professional Growth Day, Student Holiday
- Summer Closing Days

PROJECTED State Testing Days affecting individual grade levels:
 STAAR/EOC

All grade levels (K-12) will have 9-week grading periods.

July 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2018						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2019						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

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Become a Host Family - FAQs

What does hosting mean? Hosting means you open your heart and home to a teenager from another country. You provide the same loving, caring environment for them as you do a member of your own family.

What kinds of families are acceptable? We accept many types of families: single parent families, families with children of any age, childless families and families with grown children.

What is the host family responsible for? The host family is responsible of providing three meals a day, registering the student in school, a separate bed and a quiet place to study. The STSF local LC will obtain the signed school acceptance form prior to the student's arrive to the country.

What happens if the student is ill or in an accident? Our students have their own medical insurance. Each student should have an ID card and claim forms before they arrive. STSF will help with the filing of claims.

What about spending money? The student's natural parents agree to send adequate spending money. This money should be enough for clothing, social activities, trips, school expenses, and telephone calls to their home country. Ideally, students will already have a bank account when they come over that they can access with an ATM card. Host Families can also assist their students in setting up savings or teen account.

Are we supposed to show them America? Trips are organized and available to the students through their Regional Directors or through an STSF approved travel organization. Keep in mind that this is an academic program with opportunities for travel for students who are meeting academic standards. RDs also sponsor trips for students. More information about these trips will be given throughout the year.

What is expected of the exchange student? Our students are here on an academic program. This means, they must attend all of their classes, participate in class and maintain at least a C or above in each class. The student has an orientation that explains the rules they agree to abide by. These include obeying all local, state and federal laws. They may be immediately dismissed from the program and sent home for violation of these laws. They are expected to follow host family rules concerning family responsibilities such as chores. They must also obey curfews established by the host family.

What is the length of stay? Most of our students arrive in august for a 10 month academic stay. They must return to their home country 7 to 10 days after the last day of school. These are a few students who only come for a semester. Some arrive in January and stay until December. How do you match students to Host Families? We try to find students whose hobbies and interest match the family members. We look for common interest in the arts, sports, and religious involvement. The host Family may request a student from a country they have special interest in. We try and match as much as possible to ensure a successful experience.

Are Host Families paid to host? No, but host families receive a \$50.00 tax deduction (Charitable Contribution) per month for each month the students live with you.

What are the rewards of hosting? Your family gains a new family member. The relationship that evolves throughout your year as a host parent will last a lifetime. The focus of this program is to have host families and students learn from each other.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Vicki Odom at 832-455-7881 or vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com.

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PARK LAKES

The Killdeer - A Skilled Actor *By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*

A concerned citizen who came across a nest on the ground with eggs in it and an injured mama nearby contacted us via Facebook. The lady wanted to know what she could do to help. She posted pictures to help us identify the bird. Not being familiar with the hundreds of bird species we have here, I reached out to our former Executive Director who not only identified the bird but also shared some interesting information about the species.

The bird was a Killdeer. They find small depressions in the ground and build their nests with sticks, grass, weeds, shells or rocks. Their nests can be found in parking lots, golf courses, lawns, athletic fields, etc. Their nests are often overlooked because they are almost level with the ground around it. What makes this bird so fascinating is that females will fake injuries to lure predators away from their nests. As a predator approaches, she will drag herself farther and farther away from her nest continuing to fake her injuries. It's also been observed that she may roll completely over, pant and gasp for air—all an act. Another tactic they use to protect the nest is by pretending to build a nest. When a predator approaches the real nest, the Killdeer will move away, find a depression in the ground and pretend to be covering her non-existent eggs. As the predator approaches the fake nest, the Killdeer will leave only to repeat this fake-out until the enemy tires of her games and flies away.

Sometimes groups of Killdeer get in on the action of chasing away real or perceived predators. The first one to spot the enemy will fly very close to the face of the animal while making a loud, shrill cry as if to be yelling at it. Soon others join in with the same loud cries. In most cases, this is enough to scare anything away.

Because Killdeer build their nests on the ground, it can take up to six attempts in a season to successfully hatch their eggs. Pesticides, other lawn chemicals and cats are the biggest threats.

The Killdeer is a member of the plover family. Plover, as defined by the Free Dictionary, is, "Any of various widely distributed shorebirds of the family Charadriidae, having rounded bodies, short tails, and short bills". Although defined as a shorebird, it's equally happy in dry or wet locations. It is classified, as migratory but is a year-round resident in most areas of Texas.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Killdeer is one of the noisiest birds in America. Their name was derived from their call—a loud "KILL-DEER".

Nature is amazing, isn't it?

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PARK LAKES

GERMAN PANCAKES

At least twice a week, German pancakes are my go-to for breakfast. Known alternately as Dutch babies or little Bismarcks, my family loves them. This particular recipe came with my great grandparents from Germany.

I make the batter the night before and store it in the fridge for easy morning prep. The batter can be cut in half, doubled, or tripled. You can make it in virtually any pan that has sides. Just be sure to spray the entire baking vessel with a little Pam, as this pancake crawls up the sides as it bakes and could stick. The batter must be poured into a hot pan.

The below recipe fits nicely in a medium skillet.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Melt ½ stick of butter in an oven proof pan in the oven, so the pan gets nice and hot.

Mix together 2 eggs, ½ cup flour and ½ cup milk with a pinch of salt. It may have some lumps and that's okay. Pour the batter into the melted butter in the skillet, return to oven and bake for 12-15 minutes, until risen and a golden brown. It will deflate a bit once you cut it.

Top with syrup, fruit, powdered sugar, or nothing. It tastes

delicious all on its own.

Nota bene: Sometimes these pancakes don't rise. No one knows why. Just try again with different flour or butter or eggs. It's only occurred to me three times in the 25 years I've been making them. You can also cut the butter down to as much as half, but Julia Childs would surely not advise that.

Would you like to share a specific recipe? Your neighbors would love to read about it! Email me at tiffivelytx@gmail.com. If I don't, my Cordon Bleu trained stepmother will!



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Mosquitoes



Mosquitoes can not only be irritating by biting, but they also are able to transmit various diseases to humans and animals. They are known to transmit heartworm in dogs and cats, and they can spread encephalitis (including West Nile Virus), Chikungunya, Zika, dengue, yellow fever, malaria and filariasis among humans.

Most female mosquitoes require a blood meal for egg production whereas males feed on nectar and do not bite. Eggs are laid on the surface of water or in dry locations that can be flooded by water. Eggs laid in dry locations can remain dormant under for several months. Eggs hatch into larvae, or wigglers. Mosquito larvae live in water and feed on organic debris or microscopic plants and animals. Larvae molt into pupae which are non-feeding. Mosquito pupae spend the majority of their time at the surface of the water, only moving when disturbed.

Many things can help to reduce mosquito problems around the home. Since three of the four life stages of mosquitoes are in or near water, it is best to eliminate all sources of standing water. Containers such as watering cans, buckets and bottles can turn into mosquito breeding grounds. Water should be drained from birdbaths, gutters, flowerpots and pet dishes at least once a week. Children's wading pools should be emptied of water at least once a week and stored so they cannot collect water when not in use. Tree holes should be filled in with sand or mortar, or drained after each rain. Leaky faucets and pipes located outside should be repaired.

Areas that cannot be drained, such as ponds or large rain collection systems, can be stocked with fish that eat mosquito larvae. Dunks can also be used in these areas. Dunks are a small, donut-shaped

product that contains *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israeliensis*. The donut disrupts the life cycle of the mosquito and is non-toxic to humans, amphibians and fish.

Avoiding outdoor activities during peak mosquito hours is the best method to avoid being bitten. When outside, wear loose-fitting, light colored clothing with long sleeves & long pants. Repellants containing active ingredients such as DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE), para-methane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone can be effective to keep mosquitoes from biting when evening activities cannot be rescheduled.

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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PARK LAKES

Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

We would like to recognize our graduating seniors by including a small picture and a few lines about where your child will be attending college. Please send your information to articles@peelinc.com (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).



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First Grade $11 + 12 = \underline{\quad}$

Sixth Grade Halfway through the second quarter, how much of the game is left?

Second Grade $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 = \underline{\quad}$

Seventh Grade How much is $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ of 250?

Third Grade How much is 99 plus 99 plus 99?

Pre-Algebra On a certain map, 6 inches represents 25 miles. How many miles does 15 inches represent?

Fourth Grade Count by $1\frac{3}{4}$ from 0 to 7.

Algebra When you take 3 away from twice a number, the answer is 8. What is the number?

Fifth Grade Which is greatest: $\frac{17}{18}$, $\frac{23}{30}$, or $\frac{18}{19}$?
(Explain how you got your answer.)

Geometry What is the Absolute Value of the point (3, 4)?

For answers and explanations visit: mathnasium.com/answers

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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.



The graphic features a blue sky background with white clouds. In the top left, there is a green outline of the state of Texas with a yellow flame-like shape behind it. A soccer ball is positioned over the word "TEXAS". Below this, the word "HEATWAVE" is written in large, bold, orange letters with a black outline. To the right of the Texas map, the text "Love the ball...and the Sport!" is written in a large, bold, black font. Below this, the text "Registration opens in June for Fall 2019 Recreational Soccer! Youth Boys and Girls Ages 4-18 Don't Miss Out! Registration Ends August 15th!" is written in a smaller, bold, black font. At the bottom of the graphic, there is a soccer goal with a white net and a silver soccer ball in front of it. The goal is set on a green grass field. At the bottom right, the website "www.txheatwave.com" and the phone number "281-359-7280" are displayed in a bold, black font.

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