



# Savannah Times

Official Newsletter for the  
Residents of Lakes of Savannah  
Volume 1, Issue 4  
June 2010

## Summer Kickoff 2010

The Events Committee is planning this year's Summer Kickoff event, Lakes of Savannah's annual start of the summer. Each year we welcome you and your family to the pool for music, food, fun and games. You don't want to miss it. Mark your calendars NOW!!!! Saturday, June 5, 3-5 p.m. at the Lakes of Savannah Clubhouse.

## Sports & Recreation Committee Summer Schedule

*By Fatiyauh Jones, Sports and Recreation  
Committee Chair*

The Sports and Recreation Committee is ready to hit the ground running this season. Listed below are the confirmed events for this summer. We will need assistance and cooperation from dedicated residents to make these events happen. Please come out to the Sports and Recreation Committee meetings to learn how you can help. These meetings are held at the Clubhouse on the first Thursday of each month. There are other proposed events, but we need more help from the community. I'm looking forward to working with you.

### MEETING DATES

June 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

July 8 @ 6:30 p.m.

August 5 @ 6:30 p.m.

September 2 @ 6:30 p.m.

*(Cont. on Pg 3)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE Executive Chair

*By Otavia Rhone, Executive Committee Chair*

We are entering summer and our Lakes of Savannah committees are growing at an exciting rate. Communication between Friendswood Development Company, AMI and the community is becoming stronger. I would like to encourage everyone to keep supporting the different committees we have in the community. Change comes through growth and education. If you have even a small interest in a committee, I urge you to attend a meeting and see what behind the scene tasks need to be done.

Keep our community beautiful. This is an effort and task for all residents in the community. If you have a dog, please remember to bring your doggie bag with you on every walk so you can clean up after your pet. If all of us forget that bag just one time during the week the community will feel the consequence. Be sensitive to yards. While we can't prevent our pets from making a deposit, we can definitely clean up behind them. Let's also be cautious about our dogs and cats running loose. While your dog may be trained, you never know when they might have the urge to try and make a friend. This will protect not only the dog but the residents and children that are walking and playing. We have had an influx of loose cats as well. Be courteous to your neighbors.

The summer is a time for water bottles and other containers for cold beverages. Please remember to throw your garbage in a trash can or just take it home with you to dispose of it. New picnic tables and trash cans have been added throughout the community. We will be adding more trash cans when funds allow. This will help with the increasing trash problem in the community!

Please remember that pool cards will be closely monitored this summer. Please make sure your community assessment fee is paid in full. Running and maintaining the pool is one of the many uses of these funds. If you are having problems paying your community assessment fee, please contact AMI immediately.

Lastly, I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in June. The date and time will be announced in the near future, so watch your email.

Have an awesome June!

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### Executive Committee Chair

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#### Welcome Committee Chair

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### COMMUNITY GROUPS/CLUBS

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**Mommy Group Chair**..... Otavia Rhone  
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### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT, INC. (AMI)

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### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Andrea Cammack, Hannah Smith, Phyllis Jones, Renae Medlock, Angela Perez, Matthew Stone, Sheryl Stone, Andray Stroud, Bonnie Thompson, and Jing Xiao

*The newsletter committee would like to thank everyone that contributed to the newsletter. Without your help, this publication would not have been possible.*

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181  
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com

### DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR THE MAIL?

View the current issue of the *Savannah Times* on the 1st day of each month at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)

## DEVELOPER'S CORNER

*By Misty Watkins, Marketing Director – Lakes of Savannah, Friendswood Development Company*

Construction is nearing completion on two new sections within the community – Savannah Meadows Section 7 and Savannah Bend Section 2.

Westin Homes has joined our homebuilding team and will soon begin construction in the newest section of Savannah Bend, as well as Savannah Cove. Westin Homes will soon begin construction of a new model home in Savannah Bend, Section 2.

Lennar Homes will continue building in this newest section of Savannah Meadows. Brighton Homes has opted not to continue in this new section and will be replaced with a new homebuilder, which will be announced upon entering into a formal contracts with the builder.

### FIRE STATION UPDATE:

Friendswood Development Company, along with Brazoria County M.U.D.s 21 and 22, have allocated and committed funds for the construction of Pearland Fire Station #6 in Lakes of Savannah. Construction is estimated to begin this fall with estimated occupancy of mid-summer 2011.

*We wish you all a safe and fun summer!*



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US COMPOSTING

Sports - (Cont. from Cover)

## CONFIRMED SUMMER EVENTS

**Swim Clinic - May 29 - Clubhouse - 8-10 a.m.**

Please bring your child for a free swim lesson

Ages: 8 and older will be instructed from 8 to 9 a.m.

Ages 7 and younger will be instructed from 9 to 10 a.m.

**Summer Kick-Off Party - June 5 - Clubhouse - 3-5 p.m.**

\*Volunteers needed for set up, food preparation and clean up.\*

**Dive in Movie Night - June 19 - Clubhouse - 8:30 p.m.**

\*Volunteers needed for set up and clean up.\*

**Dive in Movie Night - August 7 - Clubhouse - 8:30 p.m.**

\*Volunteers needed for set up and clean up.\*

## May 2010 Yard of the Month Winners

*Congratulations Neighbors!*



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from  
the heart



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COLIN'S HOPE

## MORE THAN TWO OF MULCH IS TOO MUCH

By Bryan Nikolai, Landscape Committee

A frequent question we receive about landscaping relates to the use of mulch in the home garden. Mulch serves multiple purposes, since it is both functional and aesthetic. A mulched tree, flowerbed, or garden will retain more moisture during extreme heat and protect plants from drought and desiccation. Moreover, mulch suppresses weed growth and is available in a variety of natural and synthetic colors and even scents to compliment your home's exterior and garden ambience. Some specialty mulches are suggested to repel certain insects and/or deliver important nutrients to the soil. Talk to your local garden center or hardware store employee about a mulch that suits your needs and goals. Here we discuss quantity, methods, maintenance, and potential hazards of using mulch in your landscape.

It is important to remember, as with most things, too much mulch can be a bad thing. Using excessive mulch around trees and shrubs can actually hurt them by providing a breeding ground for mold and fungus that can damage the roots or trunk. Mulch should be applied no more than six inches thick for most applications. When mulching trees, try to form a ring that will help funnel and retain moisture while keeping the mulch away from the trunk. Many people make the mistake of piling the mulch up near the trunk in a cone shape.

This can actually deflect water away from the tree and neglect it of deep water, a major cause of the small shoots that appear around trees lacking proper deep-feeding. One bag or about two cubic feet is plenty of mulch for most trees.

Once or twice a year, mulch should be turned to prevent rot and loosen the soil around your plants and trees. Use a hard rake or small hand tiller to gently loosen the mulch, being careful to avoid harming the roots of nearby plants. Remove any weeds or debris and spread the turned mulch evenly before top-dressing with fresh mulch. Maintenance will not only benefit your plants and trees by loosening hard and compacted mulch, but also save money since less mulch is required for top-dressing.

Finally, one should always exercise caution when mulching near fences and foundations. Mulch is a product of the timber industry, and there is potential for introducing unwanted pests such as termites into your yard. Most commercially available mulch is treated and screened for contamination, but a termite's appetite for wood should never be underestimated. If you buy your mulch in bags, you probably have less to worry about but it is still wise to keep your mulch well below the weep holes of your foundation and avoid contact with your

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More Than Two - (Continued from Page 4)

fence. If you prefer to buy bulk mulch from a source that has large piles, ask them what they do to prevent termite infestation. Lastly, familiarize yourself with termite identification and have your home's perimeter treated regularly to prevent infestation and protect your investment.

## CALLING ALL

*Young Writers!*

We would like to print items written by the youth in our community. If your child has a story, a poem or an informational article that you would like to share with the community, please email it to [slwstone@comcast.net](mailto:slwstone@comcast.net). We would love to hear from you! All material turned in is subject to board approval. Due to space limitations in the newsletter, all pieces may not be able to run.

## LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

### *Policy Ratified*

As of April 2010 a Board resolution of the Savannah South Community Association, Inc. regarding ratification of the Landscape Maintenance Policy was passed. The recently adopted landscape maintenance policy is as follows.

Lack of improper maintenance of yard and landscaping of property: This includes but is not limited to grass, flower beds, weeds, waste in yards, lack of watering, mowing and weeding lawns and flower beds. The Board resolves to keep all properties in an overall pleasing appearance to the entire community.

### **FOR ANY SUCH RULES OR DEED RESTRICTIONS VIOLATIONS, THE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

- **First Occurrence:** Letter sent to property owner and request to maintain and cut yard to no higher than a four inch height within 5 days;
- **Second Occurrence:** Second letter to property owner and Association will mow and clean up yard. All charges will be billed back to property owners account;
- **Third Occurrence:** If homeowner receives two letters within one calendar year, the Association has the right to cut and maintain yard without any further notice on the third occurrence of the violation.

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## Steering Clear of Car Cloning *Some Advice and Solutions*

### From the Federal Bureau of Investigations

Car cloning is stealing the identity of a legitimately owned vehicle and slapping it onto a stolen car. It's a serious crime problem that's being aggressively investigated by law enforcement.

### How Does Car Cloning Work?

It begins with a stolen vehicle—usually a luxury car or fully-loaded SUV. Then, the vehicle is “cloned”—its manufacturer-installed Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) plate is pried off and replaced with another one. This second VIN plate actually holds a legitimate number that came from a vehicle of a similar make and model in a different state. Other phony ownership documents complete the cloning. At that point it can be easily registered with a motor vehicle agency in another state.

Once the stolen vehicle is registered anew, it can be sold. More than 1,000 cloned cars were sold to witting and unwitting buyers in 20 states and several countries, with estimated losses of more than \$25 million to consumers, auto insurers, and other victims.

So how big is the possible impact of cloning on consumers? Huge! If you buy a cloned vehicle and its true pedigree is discovered, the car

will be confiscated, and you'll still be responsible for any outstanding loans. If your vehicle is the victim of car cloning, you could be accused of a variety of offenses—from parking tickets or cutting somebody off in traffic...to serious criminal activity like organized crime. And you could spend a great deal of time and money trying to prove that it wasn't you or your car after all.

Enter NMVTIS, or the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System. This Department of Justice database, operated by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, is an electronic system that links state motor vehicle departments together...and once fully operational should go a long way towards shutting down car cloning activities. If a car is titled in one state, a criminal should not be able to steal its VIN and use it on another vehicle in another state—the database will spit out a hit showing that the number is already in use.

So far, 37 states participate or are in the process of participating in the system. A federal law mandated the creation of the database and the participation of all 50 states by next year.

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## Steering Clear of Car Cloning - (Continued from Page 6)

### Tips on How to Steer Clear of Car Cloning:

- If you think your car was cloned (for instance, you receive notice of unpaid parking tickets that aren't yours), contact your local police.
- If you're car shopping, beware of a car being sold for substantially less than comparable makes and models.
- Get a copy of the car's vehicle history report.
- Check out the VIN plate on the dashboard for any evidence of tampering (scratches, etc.).
- Look for incorrect spellings on paperwork, like vehicle titles.
- Trust your intuition—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

## Community Website

Visit the community website to get up-to-date information about our community and sign up to receive community information sent right to your email inbox.

[www.lakesofsavannahsouthca.org](http://www.lakesofsavannahsouthca.org)

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