

Trail Writer

*The Official Publication of the
Winchester Trails
Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee*

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www.winchestertrails.com

May 2011

New Welcome Committee

We want to thank Debbie Griesbach for chairing the new Welcome group. We are going to be changing up this committee in order to reach new residents and get information to residents as soon as possible. Debbie will be heading up this effort, and she is looking for a block captain for every street in the Trails. If she calls, please say yes. Help us out. We need block captains to notify new residents and get them to complete a new resident form. Block Captains will also have vehicle decals to hand out and can give new residents information about our website and finding the services we provide. So, we will be calling on residents to perform these simple tasks. If we have a contact for each street, the job will be smaller for everyone. No one person can handle the entire subdivision.

We want to thank Tracy Wormuth for her support and input as the former Welcome group committee. She will continue to contribute as a block captain for Crazy Horse. You can reach Debbie at welcome@winchestertrails.com. Come on, sign up as a block captain!

Upcoming Events

MAY 2011

7 - Pool opens on weekends from
10:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Green Thumb Corner

The weather is warming up, and the colorful bedding plants of spring and early summer are making a welcome appearance to provide color throughout the neighborhood. Don't worry if you haven't had chance to get your yard in shape yet - there's still a good selection of bedding plants at the nurseries, and May is a good time for planting annuals (or perennials) to provide summer color. Summer bulbs may still be planted, but make sure you plan the appropriate plant height for your intended location and take account of exposure. Vinca, petunia, lantana, marigolds, and begonias are sunloving favorites, but keep impatiens and caladiums to the shaded areas. Consider plants like euryops (a yellow daisylike evergreen shrub), Dahlberg daisy (a lowgrowing daisy with a profusion of yellow blooms) and Mexican heather, all of which have become popular in recent years. And don't forget reliable standbys like shasta daisies (actually a chrysanthemum) and Gerber daisies.

Keep beds well mulched to preserve soil moisture as the weather warms up, and stay on top of the weeds by pulling a few at a time whenever you have a few moments to spare - don't wait until they become a major problem.

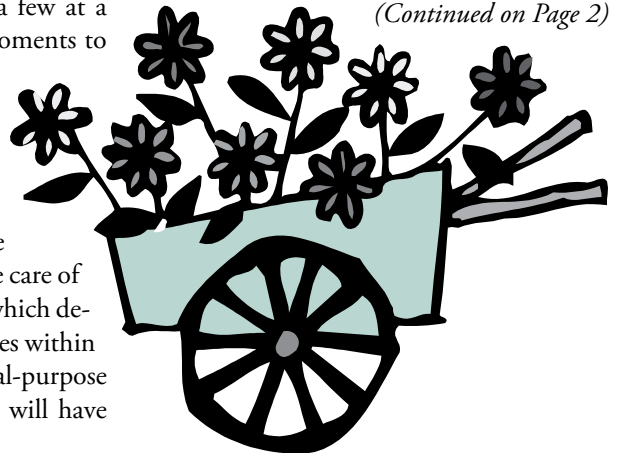
This is a good time to feed crape myrtles with a balanced fertilizer to promote summer bloom. This shrub is very susceptible to white powdery mildew, but you can take care of it with Consan Triple Action 20, which delivers a "quick kill" and biodegrades within 24 hours. Or you can use a general-purpose fungicide (such as Daconyl) that will have

a longerlasting effect. Also watch out for powdery mildew on golden euonymus.

If you fed the lawn in early spring, you can consider supplementing with a high nitrogen fertilizer or with the usual 15510 or 16-8-8 ratio recommended for Texas grass. And it's often worth paying an extra couple of dollars to get a fertilizer with added nutrients such as iron and sulfur to increase acidity - particularly useful around the pine trees if they're looking "tired" and showing yellowish needles. Treat with pesticide granules for chinch bugs and to control fleas and ants; apply Terraclor granules if you have a problem with brown patch fungus.

Azaleas can be pruned and should be fed lightly every few weeks until the end of June (but no later than that), preferably with one of the special high-acid formulas. Or you can use general purpose 12-24-12 and add a soil acidifier such as copperas. The high-phosphorous 12-24-12 is also good for roses and hibiscus, both of which benefit from a monthly feeding schedule. You can save yourself a lot of time and trouble with roses

(Continued on Page 2)



Winchester Trails

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Planned Community Management, Inc. PCMI Winchester

Trails management company subdivision questions call (Office 9-5).....281-870-0585

Office number is answered 24/7/365. After hours pager on call.

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls713-221-6000

Report vehical tag number/type or description of person; as appropriate

NEWSLETTER

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Green Thumb Corner- (Continued from Cover Page)

if you use one of the products that contain systemic fungicide and pesticide, so that you don't have to mess with regular spraying. All spring flowering shrubs may be safely pruned after blooming.

In the vegetable garden, it's time to complete the main planting of summer vegetables. Peppers, eggplant and okra plants can go in now (they love the summer heat) and you can plant seeds for beans, blackeyed peas, melons, cantaloupe and pumpkin. Consider multiple plantings of beans at threeweek intervals to provide a succession of crops through the summer, and use a spacesaving trellis or other arrangement for vertical climbing (or you can try the bush variety).

If you ran into trouble with those voracious green caterpillars on broccoli or other green vegetables, there are a couple of solutions. One approach (if you're not too squeamish!) is picking them off and squashing the little pests. The other is to use *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (just call it BT). This is not a chemical pesticide but is a natural bacteriological method that causes the caterpillars to become sick, quit eating and then die. It may be applied as a dust or in spray form, and does not appear to harm beneficial insects such as ladybugs. THIS MONTH'S TIP: Marigolds are reputed to be effective natural pest repellents when planted amongst the tomatoes.

Phil Richards

prich8935@aol.com

Reprinted from May, 2010 Trail Writer

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you help us with the yard of the month program?

We recently lost both the sponsor of the yard of the month program and the resident volunteer. Until we get a new volunteer, we will suspend this program.

Thanks to Sandra Keyser for supporting the program for TEN years. What a commitment! Also, thanks to Angie Drouin for all her efforts as the yard of the month chairperson. Both of these people have done a wonderful job for the subdivision. Angie and her family are moving out of the Trails, and we hate to see them go.

We are looking for a new resident volunteer to get this program going again, so that we can continue to recognize residents who spend the time and effort to make their yard beautiful. Please consider volunteering for this committee. We need help. We need volunteers! Contact info@winchestertrails.com for more information.

Stork committee

We are looking for someone to manage the stork committee. The stork committee announces the birth of new babies born to neighborhood residents. The stork committee uses a form to gather information from the new parents and then passes the form to the newsletter. They also place the stork sign in the resident's front yard when the child is born.

One person can easily manage this committee, as it doesn't take much time--approximately five hours a year. There were two births announced in the neighborhood last year.

If we do not have a volunteer for this program, this program will also be suspended. Please consider volunteering. Contact info@winchestertrails.com for more information.

Parked Cars Vandalized

In April, we continued to see cars vandalized that are parked on the street. If your car is of any value to you, don't park it on the street. Keep your garage doors down, even during the day, and keep your garage door locked. Garage doors are the number one opportunity for burglary entry. This is not hard to remember, residents just need to do it, every night! Every resident needs to be responsible. This keeps the Trails subdivision from looking like an easy target to outsiders. We don't want neighbor's garages or homes broken into. That's dangerous for everyone. Help keep our subdivision safe and do your part! Park in your drive and lock up! Thank you,



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LEARN CPR



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Increasing water safety awareness and standards

Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1-14.

May is National Water Safety Month.

NO ONE is "drownproof", but drowning is PREVENTABLE.



BE SAFE IN THE WATER & HAVE THE BEST SUMMER EVER!

Join us in getting ready for a safe summer in the water!

Colin's Hope Night at Eastside Movies in the Park
Tuesday, May 3rd, Doors open at 6PM, Movie at sundown
Join us at The Expedition School Lagoon (On Lady Bird Lake in East Austin next to Fiesta Gardens) for a screening of Whale Rider. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the movie under the stars.

Colin's Hope Day at Schlitterbahn-New Braunfels
Saturday, May 21st
Join us for a day to promote Water Safety and Drowning Prevention at Schlitterbahn-New Braunfels! Special tickets are available from Colin's Hope. Email alissa.magrum@colinshope.org for more information.

For more info visit our website at www.colinshope.org

Winchester Trails

Foundation for Foreign Study

Families from all over the Houston area are opening up their homes and lives to foreign exchange students through the EF Foundation for Foreign Study.

EF Foundation is a leader in high school foreign exchange, bringing more students to the United States than any other exchange program. A nonprofit committed to promoting global awareness for over 30 years; EF Foundation leverages a committed network of local coordinators to connect thousands of students with caring American families each year.

EF exchange students come from more than 30 countries around the world and are between the ages of 15 and 18. The majority of students stay for a full high school year. In the past, exchange students have come to live in Texas from as far away as Germany, Hong Kong, Australia and Norway, to name a few.

I am an International Exchange Coordinator for EF Foundation. I will be working with the community to secure host families for a number of students this year.

In order to raise awareness of this life-changing opportunity, we need the community to see local narratives of the wonderful families and students who have had unforgettable experiences through the program.

CHECK OUT OUR INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS!

- <http://vimeo.com/1154826>
- <http://vimeo.com/10247951>
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLldRF-4x04&feature=player_embedded
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSFCbQFCT5k&feature=player_embedded

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any inquiries, as we would be happy to work with you.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Tausworthe
EF Foundation for Foreign Study
713-203-6556
jenn423124@aol.com
www.effoundation.org



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“Bush 41” Presidential Library Did Us Proud

A group of Trails Seniors (50+) enjoyed an educational tour of the President Bush (41) Library on the campus of Texas A&M University.

Summer is around the corner, so put it on your calendar to visit. We were warmly welcomed at the Cotton Patch Cafe for lunch. Returning to Houston, we made a short stop at the Dilorios Farmers Market for fruits and vegetables. Another fun day for all!

Blue Bonnets & Indian Paintbrush

On April 14th, the Trails Seniors (50+) will visit the Brenham Heritage Museum, shop the antique stores, luncheon at Must Be Heaven and tour the Blue Bell Creamery.

Of course, we'll enjoy the scenery of our beautiful Texas Bluebonnets and Indian Paintbrush that will be in full bloom.

Vacation Bible School at Messiah Lutheran Church

This summer, there is a cool way to meet new friends, play mind-blowing games and eat wacky snacks. At Messiah Lutheran Church, Panda Mania has broken out and is going to show you just how WILD God is about you! Ages 3 through Grade 5 are invited to spend their vacation looking for adventure at Messiah's Vacation Bible School, June 13th-17th, 9:00-Noon. For more information, contact us at (281)890-3013 or you can register at www.messiahlc.org.

MILESTONES

New Teenagers - Happy 13th!

05/04 - Mitchell Roselius

05/08 - Matthew Wenske

05/21 - Kyle Gruller

Happy 5th Anniversary!

05/05 - Alan & Tracy Wormuth

05/06 - David & Debbie Holbird

Happy 10th Anniversary!

05/18 - Charles & Jana Turco

05/19 - Ed & Ianthe Sarrazin

05/27 - Russell & Kerry Thomas

New Drivers - Happy 16th!

05/15 - Daniel Mulholland

05/26 - Tyler Hebert

05/31 - Matthew Van Zuilekom

Happy 15th Anniversary!

05/18 - Douglas & Wendy Bischoff

New Voters - Happy 18th!

05/05 - Brooke Williford

05/08 - Maria Alza

Happy 20th Anniversary!

05/03 - Clay & Connie Hudgins

New Adults - Happy 21st!

05/14 - Eric Lee

05/21 - Ariel McCain

Happy 25th Anniversary!

05/24 - Joe & Julie Norton

Melissa Zmerzlikar directory@winchestertrails.com

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CAMP HOPE 3 RING CIRCUS

You don't have to sit at home, bored this summer! Kids ages 5 years old - 6th grade can catch high-flying fun with crafts, games, activities, splash days and more at Messiah Lutheran Church's 3-Ring-Circus, Camp Hope! Worship, Bible Study and expressive arts are going to wow your mind and heart in this big-top summer day camp. Week 1 - July 11-15, Week 2 - July 18-22 and Week 3 - July 25-29, 9:30-3:30 each day, are going to be three action-packed rings of outrageous adventure. For more information, contact us at (281)890-3013 or register at www.messiahlc.org.



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