

Trail Writer

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

Volume 7, Issue 8
www.winchestertrails.com

August 2011

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The Trails of Winchester Trails had its annual Independence Day celebration on Sunday, June 26th. Thanks so much to all of the volunteers and their extra effort that made this another fun neighborhood event!

We kicked off the celebration with a parade down Rio Grande, escorted by the volunteer fire department. To the delight of all attendees, the fire department treated us to a lively spraying of the fire hose. We had delicious hot dogs and fun games at the pool.



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 2011

3

Board Meeting 7 PM
at the clubhouse

22

First day of School

26

Trails 50+ Precinct
4 Bus trip to Moody
Gardens, 8:00am.

Please contact Alice
Brunson 281-955-
9045.

27

Pool hours return to
weekend schedule
10:00 AM to 9:00 PM

September 2011

5

Labor Day / CFISD
Holiday

6

Pool closes

Winchester Trails

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Clubhouse Rentals
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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.
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TRAILS 50+ NEWS

The Trails 50+ Pot-Luck Luncheon on June 16th was a great success with a Red-White-and Blue USA theme. Thanks to everyone for the great food and fellowship. Prizes were awarded to the Mexican Train and Bingo winners. Sara Price won the attendance door price of an American Flag. This is a great event for those Trails residents who would like to get out of the house for a few hours. Our next Pot-luck luncheon will be Friday, July 29th with a Luau theme. Wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt, sea shell necklace or flip-flops.

The next Precinct #4 Bus event will be Friday, August 26th with a trip to Moody Gardens in Galveston. Our last trip for the year will be Friday, September 16th. Additional information will be forthcoming. If you would like to be added to the notification list of upcoming Trails 50+ events, please call or email Alice Brunson at 281-955-9045, abbcmail-apb@yahoo.com or Paulette Walker at 281-894-5708.

YARD OF THE MONTH



10414 Wagon Trail
Richard & Charlotte Wisnoski

Congratulations!

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We've had a beautiful new addition to the neighborhood!



Annabelle Susan Boone was born Thursday, June 23rd at 6:15 in the evening. She was 6 lb, 9 oz and 18.5 inches long. Congratulations to new parents Angie and Cameron Boone on South Pass Lane!

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Winchester Trails



GREEN THUMB CORNER

Be prepared to keep watering to maintain healthy grass if this year's lack of rain continues in the August heat (and be ready for an expensive water bill!). Watch for the tell-tale signs of drought - often shown by patches of grass taking on a shiny, metallic, "brassy" appearance - and give the lawn a good soaking before it's too late. If you have any dead spots, or areas where Bermuda grass and opportunistic weeds have taken over from the St. Augustine, the best remedy is water and food. Healthy St. Augustine will choke out the weeds. Any stressed areas of grass are also more susceptible to chinch bug damage, so keep up the six-weekly application of granular pesticide. But make sure that you water it in well, and that's doubly important if you decide to apply a light feeding of 15-5-10; the grass can "burn" very easily in this heat.

If you've been out of town on vacation, it's disheartening to get back and find a heavy load of "catchup" yard work awaiting your return, and the oppressive heat and humidity of August don't exactly encourage you to get back to work again. But sooner or later, it has

to be done. As usual, try to work in the relative cool of the early morning or evening, and remember to cover up during the day to avoid sunburn.

Clean up the beds, removing fallen foliage, yellowed leaves and dead wood, and cut off any faded blossoms. Removal of seed pods from crape myrtles will prolong the flowering period. Cut back those "leggy" annuals to encourage fresh growth and new blooms; this works particularly well on begonias and impatiens. Dahlias should be cut back after the first crop, leaving about half the growth.

Water azaleas regularly and well. They are setting buds now and if they have not bloomed well in the past, check overhead to see that they are receiving some sunlight during the months of July and August. Azaleas don't like too much direct sun, preferring it to be filtered through a high canopy of trees, but they need enough to promote bud formation. Don't be tempted to feed. May was the last month to fertilize azaleas. Light green leaves (particularly if the

(Continued on Page 5)

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Green Thumb Corner- (Continued from page 4)

veins stand out) may signify chlorosis (lack of iron).

On the other hand, this month is the appropriate time for feeding chrysanthemums to promote fall blooms. Continue pinching back tip growth to encourage compact growth and more flower buds.

Summer rose care consists of pruning, light applications of a high nitrogen fertilizer to encourage fall growth, a regular pest/fungus spray program every ten to fifteen days, plenty of water and a good layer of mulch.

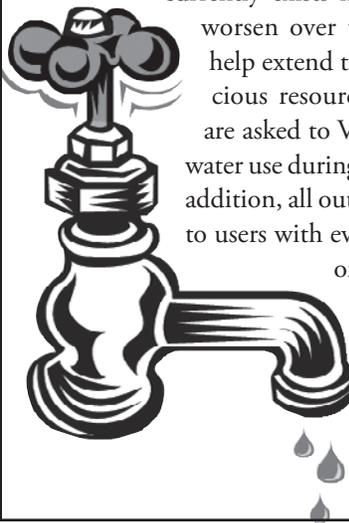
If you like to grow your own bedding plants from seed, this is the traditional month to sow seeds in flats for fall and spring bloomers, and many perennials can be sown now for flowering next year. And don't forget that you can sow bluebonnet seeds directly on the ground anytime from July to the end of the year.

THIS MONTH'S TIP: It's easy to forget to sweep up the grass clippings from the curbside after the mowing and edging is finished, but that last little clean-up task can make a big difference to the overall appearance.

Phil Richards
Prich8935@aol.com

VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION EFFORT

West Harris County MUD #9 has implemented a VOLUNTARY conservation plan at the request of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). A mild drought condition currently exists in the area, and conditions may



worsen over the next few months. This will help extend the availability of a necessary precious resource. WHC MUD #9 consumers are asked to VOLUNTARILY reduce outdoor water use during the hours of 10 AM to 6 PM. In addition, all outdoor water use should be limited to users with even-numbered addresses to water on even-numbered days and odd-numbered addresses to water on odd-numbered days.

If you have any questions, please contact Advantage Water offices at 281-807-9500.



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DROWNING ALERT!!!



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Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Pool Safety Campaign www.poolsafely.gov

For more information, check out our website at www.colinshope.org

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

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NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning can occur in less than 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage can occur in 4 minutes or less.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown may not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They can silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

Winchester Trails

CRIME REPORT JUNE 2011

According to the reports by the Harris County Sheriff's Office, published on <http://www.CrimeReports.com>, the crimes reported in the Winchester Trails neighborhood during the month of June 2011 are as follows:

Simple Assault..... Bent Spur Lane

Please report anything suspicious to the Harris County Sheriff's Department at 713.221.6000.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Fourth Annual Trails Treasures Luncheon will be October 2, 2011 at the Clubhouse from 11:00am until 3:00pm

RSVP Yvonne Fortner, 281-970-1894
or fortnerjoe@sbcglobal.net.

Mark your calendars and join us for food and fun.

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Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to newsletter@winchestertrails.com.

Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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