

Trail Writer

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

Volume 8, Issue 1
www.winchestertrails.com

January 2012

Happy New Year!

I trust you had wonderful Christmas Holiday. We all look forward to the New Year with all the promise it brings. It has been a difficult few years economically, but your Board has been committed to maintain the high standard of the Trails while keeping a tight rein on the budget. Please continue to send in the Architectural Review forms if you plan to make improvements to your home such as painting, adding a pool or deck, new fencing, landscaping, or something else. If in doubt, please call PCMI. The forms are on the website for easy retrieval. This helps us to maintain our neighborhood to its high standards.

The Board of Directors has been busy these past few months as we renewed our contract with the Harris County Sheriff's Office to continue with the contract deputy program. We are very fortunate to have Officer Sustaita with us again in the coming year. There has been some activity in the neighborhood with someone breaking into vehicles that are parked on the street or in the driveway. The best place to keep your car or truck is in the garage; realizing that that may not be a good option, please make sure your car is locked. Please keep an eye out for suspicious activities and report them to the Sheriff's Office.

We have also renewed the contract with GHPM to manage the pool again this coming year. In addition, the pool will be resurfaced this winter as some parts have broken off. The last resurfacing did last its anticipated life. This time we are going to see if we can extend that life with higher strength material.

As a reminder, the next Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 1 in the clubhouse. We hope to see you there.

Until next month...

Holiday in the Trails

We had a great turn-out for the 2011 Holiday in the Trails event! We had delicious cookies and milk with Santa, fun with the snowman, and, as always, a very enjoyable hayride to see the holiday lights. And, we had perfect weather for our wintry holiday gathering.

Thanks to Paulette Walker for organizing the event, to Danette Isaacs and Ana Garza for helping, Bob Almonte for the hayride, and to Dens 3 and 4 from Cub Scout Pack 200 for decorating the tree and clubhouse.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2012

01

Happy New Year!

02-03

CFISD Student Holiday

16

Martin Luther King Day /
CFISD Student Holiday

Winchester Trails

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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9-5)281-870-0585

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

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls713-221-6000

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NEWSLETTER

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Feb. 1, 2012
9 am - 2 pm
6 - 8 pm

GREEN THUMB CORNER

The weather outside may be cold and uninviting, but there's plenty of work to be done out there, and we could probably benefit from a little exercise if we relaxed too much over the holiday season. This is the best month for working with trees (planting, moving, pruning and spraying), and it's also a good time for soil cultivation and general clean-up and maintenance.

Arbor Day is intended to encourage the planting of trees and in the Houston region, it's observed on the third Friday in January. But any time this month (or next) is ideal for planting new trees or transplanting existing ones. Be sure to choose a reasonable location, taking into account the growth habit and eventual size of the tree, and don't plant too close to the house slab. Also remember the importance of good drainage and don't feed a new tree in its first season of growth, except for a little root stimulator.

Fruit trees should be planted this month, and established trees should be pruned to eliminate any dead growth and to open up the center for light and air circulation. Other trees and woody shrubs may also be pruned, except for the spring bloomers where you might be cutting off this season's potential blooms. Crape myrtles can tolerate heavy pruning – cut them back to a few “broomstick” stems if you

(Continued on Page 4)

YARD OF THE MONTH



9202 Bent Spur Lane
Coe and Leigh Wilson

Congratulations!

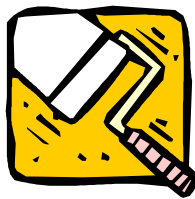
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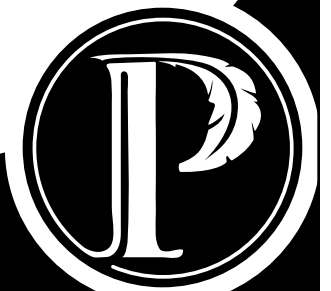
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community newsletters



Winchester Trails

Green Thumb Corner - (Continued from Page 3)

wish, or groom to any shape you desire. Nandina and similar shrubs can be pruned by cutting out unwanted canes at the base.

The fruit trees (and others) can be sprayed with dormant oil this month to eliminate scale and other insect pests that may have overwintered in the bark. The "dormant" label refers to the fact that the oil is applied when the tree is dormant, and the oil is not an insecticide but kills the bugs by suffocation.

Take the opportunity to fill in any low spots in the lawn while they are easy to spot during this period when the grass is dormant. Use weed-free top soil or sand and don't bury the grass too deeply at each application – try to leave the tips of the grass blades sticking out to encourage it to grow through.

Azaleas and camellias may be moved, and bare-root roses may be planted. Hard pruning of established roses is usually left until the middle of February. Keep these and other shrubs moist and well-mulched to guard against winter drought or freeze damage.

Prepare new beds and redesign existing ones, correcting any drainage problems, and cultivate with gypsum (to break up the clay) and lots of organic material. Prepare vegetable beds as soon as you can, and allow time for them to settle so that you can be ready to plant cool-weather varieties next month.

And while you're out in the garden, don't forget our feathered friends – they will appreciate some food and especially fresh water at this time of year.

Phil Richards / Prich8935@aol.com

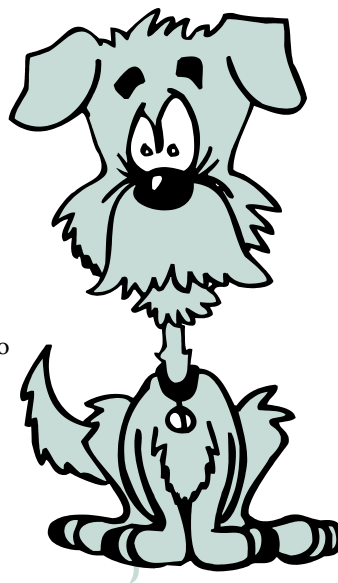


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Lost and Found Pets

If you have lost a pet or found a stray pet, you can notify your Winchester Trails neighbors by using the neighborhood eblast email system. Including a photo of the lost or found pet is very helpful. Please do not post signs, as the signs frequently turn into litter.

To notify the neighborhood of a lost or found pet, send an email to eblast@winchestertrails.com, and the eblast administrator will ensure that the information is distributed to the neighborhood through the eblast system. If you are not registered to receive the eblast emails, send an email to eblast@winchestertrails.com to request to be added.





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Crime report

November 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 November 2011 are as follows:

Theft from Vehicle - Dude Road
Theft from Vehicle - Dude Road

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



Picking up after your pet

When you take your pet for walks in the neighborhood, please remember to carry waste bags with you so that you can pick up after your pet. No one likes to pick up after someone else's dog, so please be considerate of your neighbors and help to keep the neighborhood clean.

*Do You Have Reason
to Celebrate?*

We want to hear from you! Email newsletter@winchester-trails.com to let the community know!



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Winchester Trails

MILESTONES

NEW TEENAGERS - HAPPY 13TH!

01/21 - Tristen Taylor
01/29 - Matthew Garcia

NEW DRIVERS - HAPPY 16TH!

01/21 - Carlos Barrios III
01/23 - Rick Cary

NEW VOTERS - HAPPY 18TH!

01/06 - Austin Thayer
01/19 - Voight Hansberger

NEW ADULTS - HAPPY 21ST!

01/04 - John McHale
01/09 - Kimberly Tang
01/10 - Amanda Caple

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

01/10 - David & Missy Fouts
01/15 - James & Carmel Giese

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

01/15 - Lee & Virginia Rutherford

Melissa Zmerzlikar
directory@winchestertrails.com

U.S.A. Track Olympian

to Speak at Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Registration Breakfast on February 4th

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 25th Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free information / registration breakfast on Saturday, February 4, 2012, for all boys, girls and their parents who are interested in joining for the 2012 track season. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The free breakfast is the opportunity for youth athletes to register for the club's 2012 spring/summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches, staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization. All new parents and athletes interested in joining the Northwest Flyers must attend.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin. The Northwest Flyers has approximately 275 members. The club was founded 25 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area.

The Northwest Flyers is a member of the "Win with Integrity" program, a partnership between USATF and the American College of Sports Medicine. "Win with Integrity" brings elite track & field athletes and school-aged kids together to promote healthy lifestyles, keeping active, and living with integrity through the sport of track & field.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.



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4th Annual Junior Tiger Fun Run & Meet the Tigers

Saturday, January 28, 2012

SIGN IN 8:00 AM FIRST RUN BEGINS @ 9:00 AM

Klein Collins High School Track, 20811 Ella, Spring, TX 77388
Track and field season kick-off event and fundraiser for the Klein Collins Cross Country and Track and Field Teams. Open to all kids from K through 6th grade the "Junior Tiger Fun Run", is a one-mile fun run for youth in Kindergarten through 4th grade and 1.8 miles for grades 5 - 6. Prizes will be awarded to Top Five finishers in each category. First 150 participants to register will receive a fun-run t-shirt and goodie bag! Join us immediately following races for Meet the Tigers Event! Sponsorship opportunities available.

- **Event Info:** http://www.kcxctrack.com/jr_tiger_fun_run.html
- **Online Registration:** <http://4th-annual-jr-tiger-fun-run.eventbrite.com/?ref=ecount>
- **Mail-In Registration:** <http://www.kcxctrack.com/docs/FunRun/2012FunRun%20Brochure.pdf>
- **Cost:** \$15 Entry Fee for runners K - 6. Pre-registration is required. Free for Spectators.
- **Contact:** David Windsor 832-797-1230, windsordavid@sbcglobal.net, www.kcxctrack.com



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to Celebrate?*

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