

# Trail Writer

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

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www.winchestertrails.com

March 2012

## Letter from the President

### Greetings,

The Board of Directors held its meeting on February 1 with a focus on planning for the coming months. It is hard to believe, but the pool season is about two months away. We have been looking at optimizing the pool schedule based on the number of swimmers who attend at times during the week. One of the quietest days tends to be on Sunday evenings. So the pool will be closing at 8:00 PM on Sundays instead of 9:00 PM. A few years ago, we did a similar evaluation to find that there was little use of the pool before noon on Sunday, so we changed the opening from 10:00 AM to noon. We have left the hours the same for the rest of the week.

As indicated in the January newsletter, we had GHM resurface the pool and make upgrades to the pool that were either required by law or were needed due to wear. Those improvements have mostly been complete with the majority of the noisy work being finished.

Your Board is available to talk with you should you have an issue. Our phone numbers are in the newsletter and on the website. If you should get our voicemail, please leave your name and phone number. There have been a few instances where we have been unable to return calls as we did not have the correct phone number.

As a reminder, the next Board meeting is scheduled Wednesday, April 4 in the clubhouse. As with all meetings, we need to have a quorum to hold the meeting, and there are times that your volunteer Board's personal or business issues prevent us from having a meeting. If the date of the meeting changes, the new time will be posted in various locations including the website. We hope to see you there.

*Until next month...*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 2012

11

Daylight Savings Time Begins

12 16

CFISD Student Holiday

17

St. Patrick's Day

20

First Day of Spring

## Green Thumb Corner

We've had pretty mild conditions during the first part of this year, with the result that the winter weeds have been growing, so it's time to get down to some serious work during the spring season to get the yard and garden in good shape before the warm weather arrives.

For an impressive display of spring and summer color, this is a good time to get started with transplants. There were some nice displays of pansies during the last few months but they won't be very happy in warm weather after the end of March, so pull them up and replace with petunias, marigolds, vinca (periwinkle), begonias or geraniums. Lantana is also very good - as a regional native, it is tolerant to heat and drought and is very hardy in summer conditions (although it may not survive winter frosts if you try to keep it going as a perennial). Plant caladiums and impatiens in the shady areas.

Complete the winter pruning, if not done already. We suffered a little freeze damage this year, so make sure you remove any dead wood and cut back to green growth. Try to complete all tree and shrub planting now, before the first full burst of spring growth, and divide

*(Continued on Page 3)*

# Winchester Trails

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Jim Malone is the security representative for WT.  
His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

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Trails management company subdivision questions call (Office  
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## Cypress Christian *Prospective K-12 Parent Open House*

On March 22, 2012, from 9-11 am, parents considering enrolling their child for the 2012-2013 school year will have the opportunity to visit classes and gather information. Visit [CypressChristian.org](http://CypressChristian.org) for more information.

## Kirk Elementary *Spring Festival*

*Friday April 27, 2012 // 4:30-7:30 pm // (713) 849-8250*

- Basket Raffle, Bouncy Houses, Cake Walk, Dunking Booth, Face Painting, Games, Food and Family Fun!
- ^12421 Tanner Road, Houston, Texas 77041

Green Thumb Corner - (Continued from Cover Page)

and transplant perennials. We reviewed tree-feeding in last month's article but it's not too late to do it in March/April (for established trees, not newly planted) and don't forget an acidifier (such as Ironite) if the pine trees are looking yellow.

If you're feeling energetic, the lawn will benefit from a good thatch-raking and also aeration by spiking with a spading fork (special mower attachments make both jobs a lot easier). On the subject of mowers, some routine annual maintenance is advisable before the heavy usage begins: sharpen the blade, check the spark plug, change the oil, and you'll get better performance and reliability. A nice clean cut from a sharp mower blade produces a better appearance than the ragged and bruised grass stems that result from a dull edge.

Azaleas can be pruned and fertilized immediately AFTER blooming, and you can give the grass its first feed of the season (use something like 15-5-10) as soon as it has started to green-up. Begin a monthly feeding program with roses (12-24-12 is a good general-purpose fertilizer), and feed all established plants and shrubs. Surface cultivation will mix the fertilizer into the soil and is important to promote good growth and rapid development. And of course, mulch well.

I try to limit the use of chemicals, but it's almost impossible to grow roses in the Houston climate without resorting to pesticides

and fungicides. Spray weekly with Daconil to control Black Spot fungus, and Malathion for aphids (you can mix the two treatments in the same spray solution). Unfortunately, spraying is also necessary for successful fruit trees. Use a "fruit and nut" spray and make the first application when three-quarters of the blossoms have dropped, then continue at 10-day or two-week intervals until a couple of weeks before harvest. I've tried skipping the spray regimen with peaches and plums, and the result has been 100% infestation of the crop by wasp larvae.

In the vegetable garden, set out tomato and pepper plants this month (and if you hurry it may not be too late for broccoli). Plant seeds for beets and carrots now, but wait until April before planting corn, beans, squash, cucumber, cantaloupe and melons (when the soil is warmer for faster and more consistent germination).

THIS MONTH'S TIP: As we get into the warmth and humidity of spring, watch out for Brown Patch lawn fungus, visible as an expanding circle of dead grass. Apply Terraclor granules and feed to encourage new growth - leaves and stems may be dead, but the grass will come back from the roots.

Phil Richards  
Prich8935@aol.com

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# Winchester Trails

## Neighborhood Social Chairperson Needed

We need someone to serve as the social chairperson for the neighborhood. The person that fills the role of social chairperson helps in the budget planning for each social event in the neighborhood, but should not be responsible for planning each event, as we frequently have other volunteers that will serve as event coordinators.

Would you be willing to share your time to help us have some great events in our neighborhood?

Contact Paulette Walker at 281-894-5708 or at [paulette\\_walker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulette_walker@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

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Locally you can contact Vicki Odom at [vickiayusa@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiayusa@yahoo.com) or call 832-455-7881 for more information as well.

## Northwest Houston Mother of Multiples

Northwest Houston Mothers of Multiples (NWHMOM) meets at 7PM, the third Thursday of every month, at Event with Elegance, 20320 Northwest Freeway, Suite 900 Houston, Texas 77065 (off 290 at Huffmeister). NWHMOM assists mothers of multiple birth children by lending them support; sharing information and relating experiences of the joys and struggles of raising multiples. We have playgroups for children newborn to school age, as well as weekend playgroups. We celebrate most holidays with family style get togethers and even have adult social gatherings for a night away from the kiddos. We welcome all expectant, newly delivered and seasoned (veteran) mothers of multiples. For more information please visit [www.nwhmom.org](http://www.nwhmom.org) or just come by one of our meetings! We would love to have you!

# MILESTONES

### NEW TEENAGERS - HAPPY 13TH!

03/02 - Dustin Smith

03/03 - Robert Dunn

03/11 - Gabrielle Wooldridge

03/17 - Kaitlyn Zera

### NEW DRIVERS - HAPPY 16TH!

03/13 - Emily Gwynne

03/26 - Raegan Mitcham

New Voters - Happy 18th!

03/02 - Nocholas Gonzales

03/21 - Allison Artz

### NEW ADULTS - HAPPY 21ST!

03/02 - Kord Douglas

03/03 - Whitney Kanke

03/03 - Ryan Slaven

03/17 - Joshua Criswell

### HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY!

03/09 - Bryan & Mindy Gross

### HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY!

03/08 - James & Kimberly Kanke

### HAPPY 20TH ANNIVERSARY

03/14 - Baron & Tana Foreman

### HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

03/28 - Gary & Denise Wardwell

### HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

03/24 - Don & Deborah Roper

*Melissa Zmerzlikar*

*[directory@winchestertrails.com](mailto:directory@winchestertrails.com)*



# Yard of the Month

Edmundo and Esther Flores  
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# Winchester Trails

## ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

### IT MAY NOT BE “JUST A TOOTHACHE”.

Going to the dentist may not be on the top of your To Do list, but if you're experiencing dental pain, a trip to the dentist may be just what you need. If you have a toothache that lasts more than one or two days, you notice swelling around a tooth, bleeding, or experience severe pain or fever, it's time to make an appointment with the dentist as soon as possible. A thorough examination and diagnosis is important to prevent more serious complications to your teeth, jaw, and gums. Dental decay and gum disease are progres-

sive in nature. Early diagnosis is essential to a quicker and easier treatment.

### THERE ARE SEVERAL CAUSES OF DENTAL PAIN, INCLUDING:

- Tooth decay affecting the enamel and the dentin, or inner layer of the tooth
- Tooth abscess caused by severe tooth decay or a trauma causing an infection at the root of the tooth or between the gum and tooth
- Damage to existing fillings due to pressure from chewing, grinding, or clenching
- Teeth grinding that causes fracturing, loosening, and excessive wear
- A fractured tooth from a traumatic dental injury

- Infected gums as a result of gingivitis or gum disease (periodontitis)

During your exam, your dentist will typically ask about the nature of your dental pain, when it started, and if anything makes it better or worse. Then, your dentist will conduct a physical examination of your mouth, teeth, gums, jaws, tongue, and throat. X-rays and other tests may be recommended, depending on what the dentist suspects is causing your toothache.

Once your dentist has determined the cause of your dental pain, you will be presented with treatment options. If a cavity is causing your pain, a simple filling may do the trick. However, if there is an infection that has spread to the tooth's nerve, a root canal may be necessary. An antibiotic may also be prescribed if you have swelling of the jaw or a fever.

### DENTAL PAIN IS PREVENTABLE!

Because most toothaches are caused by decay, practicing good oral hygiene is the easiest way to prevent dental pain. This includes brushing and flossing every day and visiting your dentist for professional cleanings and checkups on the schedule determined by the Dental Hygienist. In addition, eating a healthy, balanced diet that is low in sugar will not only help you prevent cavities but will improve your body's overall health.

*Submitted by Dr. Flury*



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