



# ACIA

## *Happenings*

*Ivy Point, Pinehurst, Club Point, Golf Villas, The Shores, The Pines and Estates of Pinehurst*

January 2016

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 6, Issue 1



# CHRISTMAS YARD *of the* MONTH

Congrats to Ron and Courtney McMaster @ 19638 Firesign Dr. (Pic # 2) and Jeffrey Stemer @ 20219 Hickory Wind Dr. (Pic # 1) for December Christmas Yard of the Month. Very nice jobs by each of you. Thank you for participating. There were many other beautiful yards and the Atascocita Garden Club would like to thank each of you for your early decorating again this year.



# COMMUNITY CONTACTS

## BOARD MEMBERS

Ric Halbrook, President ..... rhalbrookacia@yahoo.com  
 Bob Garlington  
 Sue Boaz Raymond, Secretary  
 ..... sueboazraymond@comcast.net  
 Patti Speer, Treasurer ..... patti.speeracia@gmail.com  
 Edwin D'Artois, Trustee ..... dartois@embarquemail.com  
 Sterling Assoc. Services ..... servicedesk@sterlingasi.com

## TENNIS COMMITTEE

Sue Raymond, Chair ..... sueboazraymond@comcast.net  
 Pam Hailey ..... pamelagenehailey@yahoo.com

## CONTRACT / PROJECT REVIEW

Ric Halbrook ..... Chair  
 Bob Garlington .....  
 Gregg Mielke .....  
 Anthony Karasiewicz .....

## ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Rebecca Fortenberry ..... kayefortenberry@yahoo.com  
 Robert Comstock ..... rcomstock1@comcast.net  
 Chris Peck ..... chris67200@aol.com  
 Kyle Fuller ..... kylefuller222@hotmail.com  
 Ed D'Artois, Chair ..... dartois@embarquemail.com

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

**Fire, Medical or Life Threatening Emergency ..... 9-1-1**  
 P-4 Constable Dispatch ..... 281-376-3472  
 Humble ISD Police (Schools) ..... 281-641-7900  
 Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept (AVFD)  
     *Non-Emergency Number* ..... 281-852-2181  
 Harris County Animal Control ..... 281-999-3191  
 Texas Poison Control Center ..... 800-222-1222

## UTILITIES

Electric, (multiple providers) ..... www.powertochoose.org  
     *Power Outages* ..... 713-207-7777  
     *Street Light Outages* ..... 713-207-2222  
 Gas, Centerpoint Energy ..... 713-659-2111  
     *Gas Leaks* ..... 713-659-2111  
 Water, Severn Trent ..... 281-579-4500  
     *24 Hour Emergency Number* ..... 281-209-2100  
 Telephone, Centurylink ..... 877-290-5458  
 Trash, Waste Management ..... 888-964-9734  
 Humble Post Office ..... 281-540-1775  
 Harris County MUD #132 ..... www.hcmud132.com  
 Harris County MUD #151 ..... www.hcmud151.org

## SCHOOLS

Humble ISD ..... 281-641-1000  
     *Website* ..... www.humble.k12.tx.us  
 Pine Forest Elementary ..... 281-641-2100  
 Maplebrook Elementary ..... 281-641-2900  
 Atascocita Middle School ..... 281-641-1000  
 Atascocita High School ..... 281-641-7500

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor - Sue Boaz Raymond ..... sueboazraymond@comcast.net  
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# BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

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**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).



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## LAKE HOUSTON LADIES CLUB JANUARY MEETING

Lake Houston Ladies Club will have their meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden Forest, Humble TX 77346. Our speaker will be Trudy Chuoke LeSage. Trudy continues in her father, Johnnie Chuoke Jr.'s footsteps, and now writes "The Happy Handy Man" newspaper articles. She will answer questions, offer product suggestions, give tips for those hard-to-solve jobs and provide DIY advice. Lake Houston Ladies Club is a social organization that welcomes new members from all surrounding areas. Several Interest groups are available which include: Reader's Choice, Bridge, Bunco, Lunch and Look, Tea Time, Movie Group, Supper Club, Mah Jongg, and Girl's Night Out. Please join us. New members are always welcome. Reservations need to be made by Friday, January 8, 2016. For more information about the club and for luncheon reservations go to <http://www.lakehoustonladiesclub.com/> or call Linda at 832-379-3009.

## Making Any Changes?

### *Don't Forget To Obtain Approval First!*

Our governing documents require that the Association approve all proposed architectural changes before any work is started. The importance of this requirement cannot be overstated when you consider the reason for such a restriction.

Membership in a community association requires compliance to pre-existing conditions and regulations. One of the biggest advantages of these conditions is the protection of our property values. The value of your home is directly related to the condition, appearances and aesthetics of our community as a whole. By regulating the kind and types of architectural changes that can be done, our Association is better able to maintain our property values.

Getting our Association to approve all proposed architectural changes is not just a good idea to protect your investment, it is a requirement! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sterling Association Services at [servicedesk@sterlingasi.com](mailto:servicedesk@sterlingasi.com) or call 281-832-4500.

## Start 2016 with a bang

Here's a few things to consider as we start the year:

Shop Energy rates - history shows January is a good month to get great energy rates. A great website to help compare rates is [www.powertochoose.org](http://www.powertochoose.org)

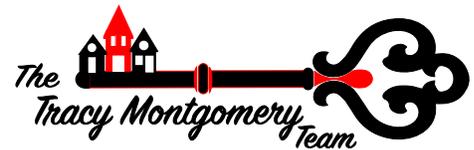
Home repairs - If there's a chance you'll be moving this year, January is a great time to start thinking about home repairs. Here's a few things you can do that will cost you very little and yet have a huge impact on your home:

- Clean the gutters
- Power wash the driveway
- Landscaping - this doesn't have to be complicated. Fresh mulch and trimming the trees is a great start
- Fresh paint - interior and exterior
- Professional carpet cleaning

New homeowner's - don't forget to file for your homestead. You can do so between January and April. Do not delay. The website to get your form is [www.hcad.org/pdf/forms/2015/11-13\\_v1015.pdf](http://www.hcad.org/pdf/forms/2015/11-13_v1015.pdf) If you have any questions please feel free to give us a call.

We wish you a happy and successful 2016. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives. We look forward to helping with all your real estate needs in 2016.

- The Tracy Montgomery Team



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## The Benefits of Hosting *Span Borders*

Traveling the world and experiencing new cultures is something many dream of but few are able to do. Hosting an Ayusa exchange student provides the opportunity to experience the world while bringing other benefits to their family and local community.

For schools, opening their doors to an exchange student provides their students the opportunity to experience new cultures and expand their understanding of the global society. Not only will students be able to expand their circle of friends, they will be able to reference different perspectives of world events. The new perspectives that both local and exchange students gain through the exchange experience are invaluable for the ever-expanding global community.

Ayusa exchange students are eager to learn and participate in school and community programs. They take their role as ambassadors for their country seriously. Ayusa students are not simply bystanders to their program year; they are active participants looking to make a difference in their host school and community.

Ayusa exchange students are strong academic performers, well-rounded, and open-minded. Prospective students go through an extensive interview process in their home countries and are evaluated for maturity, strength of goals, leadership skills, and academic background. Ayusa honors all school enrollment standards, academic requirements and student placement criteria specified in school or district policies.

Host families also reap the benefits of opening their home by sharing their America. When they share with their exchange student, they are also able to see America with fresh eyes through the student. Families often learn new things about the U.S. and have different perspectives after hosting. The experiences and memories that are shared during the program last a lifetime and span international borders.

For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at [www.ayusa.org](http://www.ayusa.org).

### About Ayusa

Ayusa is a non-profit educational organization that promotes global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and leadership program programs for high school students from around the world. Ayusa offers unique, richly personal cross-cultural experiences for students, volunteer host families, schools, and local communities.

## NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Dear Homeowners:

The Board of Directors for the Atascocita Community Improvement Association will hold a regular meeting on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at The Overlook, 20114 Pinehurst Drive, Atascocita, TX 77346.

The subject of the meeting is general business of the Association, including discussion of items related to the Association budget and expenditures as well as discussion of items related to the assets owned by the Association.

Items that may be discussed in executive session include: actions involving personnel, pending or threatened litigation, contract negotiations, enforcement actions, confidential communications with the Association attorney, and other business that is confidential by request of the affected party.

Very Truly Yours,

Atascocita Community Improvement Association

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## Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Free Registration Breakfast

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 29th Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free Registration/Orientation Breakfast on Saturday, February 6th, 2016. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

In July, 2015 the club had one of its most successful competitions ever at the Junior Olympics in Jacksonville, Florida. All boys and girls who wish to join the team for the 2016 spring/summer track season must attend the orientation, which will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization (USATF).

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USATF, that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org>; contact Linette Roach at [linette.roach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linette.roach@sbcglobal.net); or "Like" the club on Facebook.

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281-359-7280**

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# ACIA HAPPENINGS

## Springtails

Springtails are very small, jumping insects that can sometimes become a problem inside homes. Springtails are usually found in areas of moisture, so indoors they may be located near potted plants, sinks, bath tubs or kitchen compost areas. These insects are typically found outside in gardens, near swimming pools or near where there is excessive moisture or standing water.

Springtails are small (about 1/16 of an inch long), wingless and come in various colors. These insects have a "tail" that latches into a space on the underside of the body that they can use to "jump" several inches into the air.

Springtails are considered a nuisance insect, but some may chew on roots and leaves of sapling plants. They usually do not cause enough damage to warrant control measures to be taken. If you have springtails in your home it points to a moisture problem that should be fixed.

Options for helping reduce springtail problems:

- Remove excessive mulch and/ or leaf litter near the home
- Change watering schedule to reduce the amount of moisture near the home

• Use fans or dehumidifiers to reduce moisture indoors

- Seal cracks, crevices, pipe & wire penetrations on the outside of the home
- Replace or repair any screening on doors and windows that is damaged
- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows that does not provide a good seal
- Suck up any indoor infestations with a vacuum

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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10x10	100	\$69/mo.	\$88/mo.
10x15	150	\$85/mo.	\$138/mo.
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12x36	432	\$164/mo.
12x39	468	\$180/mo.
12x42	756	\$340/mo.

[www.fairlakestorage.com](http://www.fairlakestorage.com)

**FACT:**

A four-year-old may ask constant “why” questions to understand the world.



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# ACIA HAPPENINGS

## Waste Management Disposal

Please remember large item pickup is the second day of the week of your normal garbage pickup. Please do not use the dumpsters at The Overlook Country Club. Also, please do not use the storm drains for pine needles and leaves. These must be put in containers for trash pickup.

As a reminder the following are the guidelines for garbage pickup.

Atascocita Community Association Residents:

Garbage Collection Service Guidelines

Service days are

Tuesday & Friday

**CURBSIDE SERVICE**

Please have your trash out by 7am on your service day.

Household garbage, grass clippings, leaves, branches and tree trimmings are collected at the curb. Important! - For the safety and protection of our employees and equipment, we do require that branches and tree trimmings be no greater than three inches (3") in diameter and be cut, tied and bundled in four foot (4') lengths weighing no more than forty to fifty pounds (40-50 lbs.) Containers over 45 gallons must have all trash bagged. Due to safety concerns WM will not service anything over 65 gallons

10 items per service day (can/ bag/ bundle)

### BULK TRASH COLLECTION

Provided on the second collection day of each week for moving boxes (please break them down and bundle them), old furniture and appliances. Please note that we can no longer dispose of CFC refrigerant containing items (i.e., refrigerators, freezers, etc.) without certification that the freon has been properly removed and recycled, pursuant to current Federal law. 2 items second collection day of the week

### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Gasoline motor oil (and used filters) paint

Vehicle tires batteries large pieces of metal

Construction debris (disposed of by the contractor performing the work).

### HOLIDAYS

NEW YEAR'S DAY MEMORIAL DAY INDEPENDENCE DAY

LABOR DAY THANKSGIVING DAY CHRISTMAS DAY

No service on these holidays. Service on the next regularly scheduled collection day.

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

Waste Management Customer Service Department is at 800-500-5804. Our office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



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## Your Vehicles and Your Neighborhood

To keep our neighborhood looking the way the developer intended there are sections in our Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions in regard to vehicles. The following points should be followed by all who live in our subdivision and to the greatest extent practicable, utilize their garages for the garaging of vehicles belonging to them

No trucks larger than three-quarters of a ton, motor vehicles not currently licensed, boats, trailers, campers, motor or mobile homes or other vehicles should be parked on any lot, except in a closed garage. Passenger cars and trucks smaller than three-quarters of a ton may be parked on the street in front of the lot for a period not to exceed twelve hours in any twenty-four hour period.

No repair work, dismantling, or assembling of motor vehicles or other machinery or equipment is permitted on any street, driveway or portion of our common properties.

The ACIA Board may disallow motor bikes, motorcycles, motor scooters, go-carts or other similar vehicles to be operated in the properties, if deemed noise or fumes emitted or by reason of manner of use shall constitute a nuisance.

If our Management Company should send you a letter, please respond to them or call Sterling Association Services at 832-678-4500 for clarification or more information. All of our ACIA neighborhood Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions are available for you to read on our website: [aciahomeowners.org](http://aciahomeowners.org)

## The “Take Care of Texas” Guide to Yard Care

### Plant Selection and Care

Using native and well-adapted plants is one of the easiest ways to create a low-maintenance and environmentally sound yard.

The many advantages of using native plants include using less water, reducing the need for soil modification, and using little or no fertilizer. They are less susceptible to pest problems, and are tolerant of stressful environments such as drought.

Incorporate a variety of plants to provide food and cover for a variety of living things. Diversity also minimizes damage from pests because many of them attack only one plant species. Dense plantings can provide shade that keeps out invading weeds.

Avoid frequent or deep cultivation, which can damage plant roots, dry out the soil, disturb healthy soil organisms, and bring weed seeds to the surface where they can germinate. Cover all bare soil between plants with a solid mulch layer.

Visit [www.KeepCyFairBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepCyFairBeautiful.org) to access free “Take Care of Texas” publications and a Guide to Native Plants

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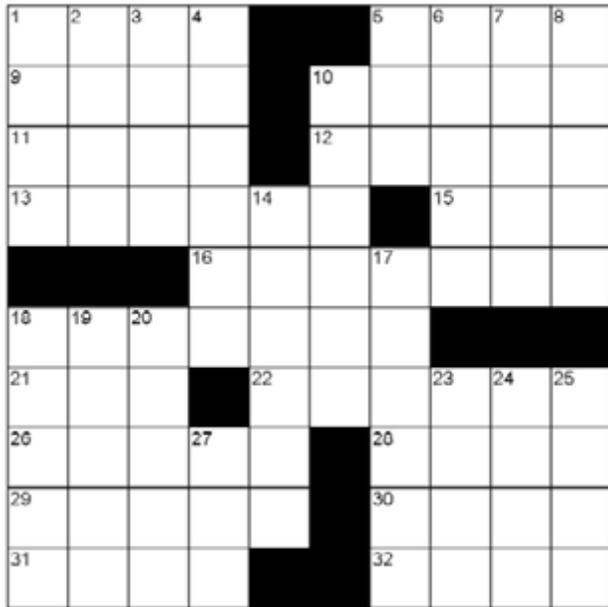
RAIN PROOF DESIGN



The advertisement features a large central image of a two-story house with a covered patio. To the right, there are three smaller images showing different patio structures: a pergola, a covered patio with a stone fireplace, and another covered patio. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout with a mix of bold and italicized fonts.

# ACIA HAPPENINGS

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

1. Charge
5. Syrian bishop
9. Against
10. Landing
11. Leaves
12. Boom box
13. Allure
15. African antelope
16. Polite
18. Leafy green
21. Marry
22. Esophagus
26. Woken
28. Goad
29. Type of tooth
30. Refer
31. Posttraumatic stress disorder
32. Sieve

### DOWN

1. Nativity scene piece
2. Competition at the Greek games
3. Capital of the Ukraine
4. Symbol
5. Expression of surprise
6. Emblem
7. Pickle juice
8. A ball out of bounds (2 wds.)
10. Twist violently
14. Ripper
17. Strums
18. Slough
19. Ross \_\_\_\_, philanthropist
20. Gods
23. Brand of sandwich cookie
24. Seaweed substance
25. Cabana
27. Blue

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