



ACIA *Happenings*

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

March 2016

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 6, Issue 3

The Friends of the Atascocita Library – Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Atascocita Library (FOAL) will hold a used book sale Saturday, March 5, from 10AM - 5PM at the Atascocita Library, 19520 Pinehurst Trail Dr. Individuals with disabilities may shop from 9AM -10AM. Preview sale for FOAL members is Friday evening from 5PM-7PM, with memberships available at the door. Individual memberships are \$5 & families \$10 per year. There is a large selection including fiction & nonfiction, hard backs & paperbacks, children's books, music CD's, magazines & much more. Most are priced at \$.50 - \$1.00 with music CD's & magazines 25¢ each. FOAL reusable book bags are available for \$3. Due to space limitations, no wheeled carts or strollers are allowed. Donations of used books & magazines are welcome anytime during regular library hours.

Visit www.hcpl.net for library hours & www.foal.ws for more information, or email contact@foal.ws. All proceeds benefit the Atascocita Library.



YARD *of the* MONTH

In conjunction with the Atascocita Garden Club and the ACIA Board, the YARD OF THE MONTH program will begin again in April. Each month through September one yard nominated will be picked from submissions sent in by members of ACIA. Any member of ACIA can submit a nomination. So when you notice that perfect yard, snap a picture or send the address to Tammy Broussard at Tbrouss@embarqmail.com OR any board member by email. Email addresses are printed on page 2 of the newsletter and posted on the website.



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

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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
 Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com

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.

PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS

FREE! CURB ALERT! FREE! Five + Year Old Power Pole Located on top of bridge on Pine Cup near Pine Forest Elementary. Just make it go away! Harris County Precinct 4 passed ACIA to Centerpoint. Centerpoint passed ACIA to Precinct 4. No one wants to own this pole. Perhaps someone could cut this up and use it in their back yard fire pit.

Classified Ads
Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Atascocita CIA residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail sueboazraymond@comcast.net.

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LAKE HOUSTON *Ladies Club* MARCH MEETING

Lake Houston Ladies Club will have their meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden Forest, Humble TX 77346. Captain Al Bennett, Community Liaison and 18 year member of the Houston Fire Department, will be this month's speaker. He is also a current member of the HFD Haz-Mat team and will be presenting an informative and interesting program on Fire Safety. 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, March 4, 2016. For luncheon reservations go to: <http://www.lakehoustonladiesclub.com/> For more information about the club call Linda at 832-379-3009.

Atascocita Community Improvement Association's Annual Spring Community Wide Garage Sale

When: Friday & Saturday, April 1 and 2, 2016.

Time: All Day

Where: The garage sale area includes all section of Pinehurst, Pines, Shores, Golf Villas, Club Point and Ivy Point.

Residents will sell various personal and household items at their private residences.

Shoppers may find some fantastic deals on hard-to-find or one-of-a-kind items, household items, kitchen gadgets, clothing, baby items, and the possibilities are endless on the finds one may encounter during this garage sale.

SPRING MAKEOVER

Spring is such a beautiful time of year in Houston. One can't help but feel the refreshing power of this season when flowers are in full bloom. As the sun will certainly shine a little more, we will want to spend more time in the great outdoors. This will lead to "spring cleaning" and the opportunity to give our homes a little makeover.

Whether you're looking to sell your home or just want to make some home improvements, we want to help you get the most out of your hard earned dollar. Below are a few of my personal tips that will be sure to impress:

Landscaping

The Power of Flowers - Weed free flowerbeds and colorful flowers wins buyers hearts

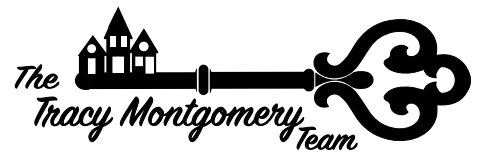
Trimmed lawns, trees, and bushes - Send a positive message to buyers and neighbors; a well-cared for yard represents a well-cared for home.

Interior

Walls - A fresh coat of paint can do wonders for a home. Conservative/neutral paints are the best option if you are planning on selling and most often give a home an open feeling.

Lighting - With so many low energy options the task of finding bright bulbs that don't give off unnatural lighting is often easier said than done. Most of the large box stores will allow you to take back lights you don't like. Buy a few varieties, find the one you like, and take the rest back. Once you find the right "bright" light you'll find your home to be more cheerful and inviting.

If you're been thinking about selling call the Tracy Montgomery Team before spending any money. Interest rates are incredibly low, homes are in high demand, and buying power for many remains strong. The Tracy Montgomery Team of experienced listing agents will help ensure you get the most out of your home investment.



Tracy Montgomery
Cell: 713.825.5905

Sandy Brabham
Cell: 713.503.8110

Lisa Hughes
Cell: 281.323.5894

Melissa Nelson
Cell: 832.527.4989



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ACIA HAPPENINGS

IMPORTANT

TO ALL HOMEOWNERS: Please be advised that there are 2,496 homes covered in this ACIA. Each homeowner is crucial and much needed to ensure the success of this community and the homeowner's board. Your ACIA Board is comprised of five members who dedicate endless hours every week to protect each home, care for the beatification of the esplanades, the pools, tennis courts and park area, maintaining the functionality and safety of park slides, pools, etc. and the overall value of this beautiful community. There are only 938 homeowners of the 2496 signed in to the awesome and very friendly to use ACIA website. All those NOT signed up are missing out on all immediate "BLAST e-MAILs". Blasts are sent with "just the click of a button".

All pertinent information is on this site. Everything is listed from deed restrictions to upcoming social events to include Easter and 4th of July.

Your ACIA Board would like for you to be the first to know of all exciting things that are forthcoming. Many things are put in this wonderful (free) newsletter. However, it only comes out once a month. Many residents are already advising they are not even getting this newsletter. The website not only allows you to register to receive

all immediate notifications by our "BLAST", but also allows you to request this newsletter if you are not receiving it. Please complete all necessary forms for the amenities and this will also allow you to advertise your garage sale, etc. Check it out!

Each homeowner is strongly encouraged to put their name and address in this system at aciahomeowners.org. You could post things like lost or found pets, burglaries of one's vehicle, best place around ACIA to eat, who has a new baby, grandbaby, etc. It could be used just like our personal FB page but just for ACIA.

Your ACIA Board is very excited about the much-needed improvements that are now being done and the ones already in the works for 2016.

The ACIA Board is ready to assist in serving the needs of our community. What an awesome honor to be associated with such qualified board members who have tons of experience in matters of HOA and impeccable character, but also just happen to be really nice folks. Thanks to all of you for working hard to improve our ACIA Community.

Sue Raymond
ACIA Trustee



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12x42	756	\$340/mo.

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ACIA HAPPENINGS

Your Community Newsletter

The Atascocita Happenings newsletter is a great tool for the community and the ACIA board to share information. This publication will grow if everyone participates. If you are involved in a community club or activity, please e-mail information about your activities and meeting for inclusion in the newsletter to sueboazraymond@comcast.net, or any ACIA Board Member. If you have any ideas for the newsletter, please let us know and we will try and incorporate them into the publication. The deadline for submission is the 8th day of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Also would like to ask everyone to sign up at our website: aciahomeowners.org



NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Dear Homeowners:

The Board of Directors for the Atascocita Community Improvement Association will hold a regular meeting on Monday, March 28, 2014 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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ACIA HAPPENINGS

FINDING FATE

Is it Luck or is it Fate?

As we rapidly approach the luckiest day of the year (i.e. St. Patrick's Day) I've been thinking about how much luck actually plays in our lives. It can be just about guaranteed that come March 17th you, me, and your mother will all be wearing green and pinching people for good luck. But how much does luck really account for in our lives?

And, of course, there's the question of fate. The constantly sought yet ever-elusive thing everyone consistently seeks and desires to control. Can fate be controlled? Just what exactly is fate? One might consider it to be the inevitable, predestined course in life, a coincidence, or even chance. This thought leads to a rather worrisome question--Are we predestined to live exactly as a plan woven in some great tapestry of life? Or are we lucky enough in life to choose our fate?

What if there was another choice besides just blindly choosing to trust in fate or luck? I believe there is, and I learned that best from my horse!

When I'm riding, I refuse to count on luck and my fate does not rest in the horse's hands (hooves?). Trusting my safety to either of those is asking for a bruising, and I just don't bounce back from such bruising's the same way anymore. I know that I am safe when I ride because I have faith--Faith in God to keep me safe and to show me when it something is unsafe. Faith that things will be better, and will continue to get better on my darkest days. When my faith is shaken and I'm wondering how I can keep going, all I need to do is sit with my horse and everything suddenly seems to grow brighter.

I have found that horses are hands-down the best non-verbal therapists and the perfect teachers of how to practice faith. They not only help us find our faith and belief in God's presence with their beauty, power, and spirit, but actively demonstrate faith in everything they do. Talk about role models!

There is a bigger plan for our lives, but you have to make the choice to pursue it. Choose Faith. Faith in Jesus is the only thing you can always count on & do not need to seek. It's always there, waiting patiently for you to notice it & pick it up. It comes in many colors, sizes, and shapes, and can be all but invisible much of the time. Nonetheless, no matter how big, small or percentage of visibility, I will choose to live my life according to my faith rather than fate or luck each and every time.

So, don't count on seeing me in green this St. Patrick's Day, but you can bet that you'll find me on a horse!

Tara Chatterson works at Five Horses, LLC in Waller, TX. To find out more about how horses can help you, check out the natural horsemanship program, as well as the equine assisted learning workshops provided here: www.fivehorses.com.

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



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ACIA HAPPENINGS



Zika Virus

Zika virus is transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes and there is no specific treatment or vaccine currently available. The best way to avoid getting the virus is to avoid being bitten by infected mosquitoes. About 20% of people with Zika virus actually get ill. Severe disease, requiring hospitalization, is uncommon and death due to the virus is rare.

The incubation period of Zika virus is thought to be a few days to a week, but is still unknown. Symptoms include fever, skin rash, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, and headache. Symptoms tend to be mild and last from 2-7 days. Zika virus can be contracted through the bite of an infected mosquito, through blood transfusions, through sexual contact, and from mother to child during pregnancy.

The mosquitoes that are able to transmit Zika virus are also able to transmit dengue and Chikungunya viruses. These mosquitoes are daytime biters, but can also bite at night. Aedes mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water- buckets, tires, tree holes, animal water dishes, etc.

To protect yourself from mosquito bites, wear light-colored clothing that covers as much skin as possible, use insect repellent (read and follow label instructions), use screening on doors and windows, use mosquito netting (if needed) while sleeping, and reduce standing water areas.

For more information on Zika virus, please see the CDC website here <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>

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

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Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

NORTHWEST FLYERS TRACK CLUB

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is now registering middle and high school athletes for the spring and summer 2016 season. The team is sanctioned by USA Track & Field, and provides a full program of “track” events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and “field” events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. It is an excellent “off-season” program for young athletes who compete on their middle school or high school track teams.

The team was founded 29 years ago by local Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the northwest Houston area. In July, 2015 the Northwest Flyers had one of its most successful competitions ever at the Junior Olympics in Jacksonville, Florida.

For additional information about the Northwest Flyers, visit the team website at www.northwestflyers.org, email linette.roach@sbglobal.net, or “Like” the club on Facebook.

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WHY ACUPUNCTURE?

Some people have regular acupuncture maintenance treatments as part of their pursuit to stay healthy and active, others prefer acupuncture to Western medicine because:

1. They have a condition that does not respond to conventional care, so that they have to look for alternative health care options.
2. Conventional care often involves drugs with undesirable side effects or unwanted, perhaps risky medical procedures.
3. Western drugs are expensive and when multiple drugs are used at the same time, they could interfere with each other.
4. Patients prefer a natural, holistic medical approach to healthcare.

Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) are safe with little side effects, because the herbal ingredients are combined to minimize and counteract the possible side effects. They work together to balance the body and allow the body to heal itself.

Does it Hurt?

Acupuncture needles are very different from clinical, hollow needles used for ordinary injection, vaccinations, etc. Acupuncture needles are not much thicker than a human hair and insertion of an acupuncture needle is practically painless. In some cases, you may not even know the needles are in place, in others, there may be some

tingling, warming, heaviness, or a feeling of the Qi moving up and down the channels in your body. Most people find acupuncture extremely relaxing and many fall asleep during the treatment.

What are the main objectives of acupuncture treatment?

The main objectives of an acupuncture treatment can be summarized in five main categories:

1. Relieve pain and other symptoms.
2. Relieve stress and emotional issues.
3. Treat addictions and substance abuse.
4. Strengthen the immune system.
5. Balance, harmonize and integrate functions of organs with each other, making for a unified and healthy person.

Talk to your licensed Acupuncturist about what acupuncture and TCM can do for you. For more information, please visit www.amaranthacupuncture.com or www.facebook.com/amaranthacupuncture.

What does the World Health Organization say about acupuncture?

The World Health Organization (WHO) updated their list of conditions, symptoms or illnesses that may be treatable with acupuncture. The list of indications for acupuncture includes over

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ACIA HAPPENINGS

(Continued from Page 9)

100 conditions, including lower back pain, neck pain, sciatica, tennis elbow, knee pain, peri-arthritis of the shoulder, sprains, facial pain, headache, dental pain, temporomandibular (TMJ) dysfunction, rheumatoid arthritis, induction of labor, correction of malposition of fetus, morning sickness, nausea and vomiting, postoperative pain, stroke, essential hypertension, primary hypotension, renal colic, leucopenia, adverse reactions to radiation or chemotherapy, allergic rhinitis, including hay fever, biliary colic, depression, acute epigastralgis, peptic ulcer, acute and chronic gastritis, etc.

Talk to your licensed Acupuncturist about what acupuncture and TCM can do for you.



SUDOKU

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View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.



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ACIA HAPPENINGS

Are you a Cheap, Thrifty or Frugal?

Webster's.com says: "Cheap = stingy or miserly." Example...do you water down hydrogen peroxide to make it go farther? Do your own dental work? Time yourself when opening the fridge? You might be frugal if you save leftover bars of soap in a jar with water to make your own soft soap. (OK. I'll confess to trying this one, but with dismal success.) "Frugal = not wasteful and careful." The word "thrifty" sounds even better than "frugal" and has a tremendously positive definition. Noted at Webster's.com as Thrifty = "Successful, wisely economical". As you hunt and experience the thrill of shopping at a resale/thrift stores, think to yourself "I am thrifty! I am successful! I am wisely economical" and laugh all the way to the bank. At times in my life, I have been all three.

The perception of thrift stores several years ago was that many smelled like old socks and Fritos. What you can expect to find in most of today's shops are cheerful, eager volunteers or staff, a daily change of inventory, clean fitting rooms, thrifty pricing, lots of used coffee mugs, and stores offering sales.

Some of the items I have found at local stores are. New Prada scarf--\$1.00, Fossil Leather purse new with tag--\$3.00, New Suede Pants with bead embellishments --\$7.99 and Whoohoo!,

they sported a new \$230 tag. Genuine Brighton purses and shoes have been purchased too.

I have been shopping thrift for years and have developed the following:

Ten Successful and Wisely Economical Thrift Store Tips to save time AND money:

- Always take donations to drop off if you are planning to bring some things home. Simultaneously bring out and bring in and always clean up your clutter. Make a detailed list for taxes.
- Find a thrift store by your home, visit frequently and check out store websites for sale calendars. Inventory changes daily.
- Have a list when you go in to the store. The clothing in most thrift stores is sorted by color not size. Don't become overwhelmed. If it was super quick to find a deal, wouldn't everyone be doing it?
- Don't buy clothing if it doesn't fit. This is a frugal thing to do. Are you really going to lose 5-10 pounds?
- Wear bike shorts and slip on shoes for quick changes.
- Look outside the box. You'll need to shop when people are cleaning out their closets and not when retail stores would typically have

(Continued on Page 13)

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ACIA HAPPENINGS

(Continued from Page 12)

sales. Shop June through September for long underwear and seek out Hawaiian Shirts in November. Housewares, baby items, toys and furniture are good finds at any month. I feel the best time to shop is second or third week of June, and second or third week of January when de-cluttering typically occurs.

- Buy essential wardrobe pieces
- Black turtle neck sweater
- Hawaiian shirt
- Purses
- Jackets, Scour through tons of women's dress and denim jackets.
- Pants that fit. Seek moderate sportswear labels if you are a label snob. Chicos, Liz Claiborne, Banana Republic can be found at \$7.99 vs \$60.00.
- Silk Black Tank Top--easy to find after Christmas.
- Western Shirt. We ARE in Texas. Someone is always having a party or Go Western Day in February/March Look for shirts in April- Summer.
- Ties. Find a good funeral tie or ripe, ugly tie for about \$2.00 instead of \$20++.
- Try to find someone in the aisle to brag about what you have found, but to avoid spreading the word about your thrift store gold mines, just call it a "boutique near your home" when talking to friends.

- Play right. Don't take more than the recommended items in the dressing rooms and put back what you don't want.
- Take everything to a \$1.75 cleaners on the same day. This feels like you have been shopping retail. Be "frugal" and buy many clothes that are machine washable, but find yourself a "good, but cheap" dry cleaners.

The National Thrift Shop Day will be August 21st. Yes, it even has its own "day", but I personally think every day is a great thrift store day--Good luck.



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We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.

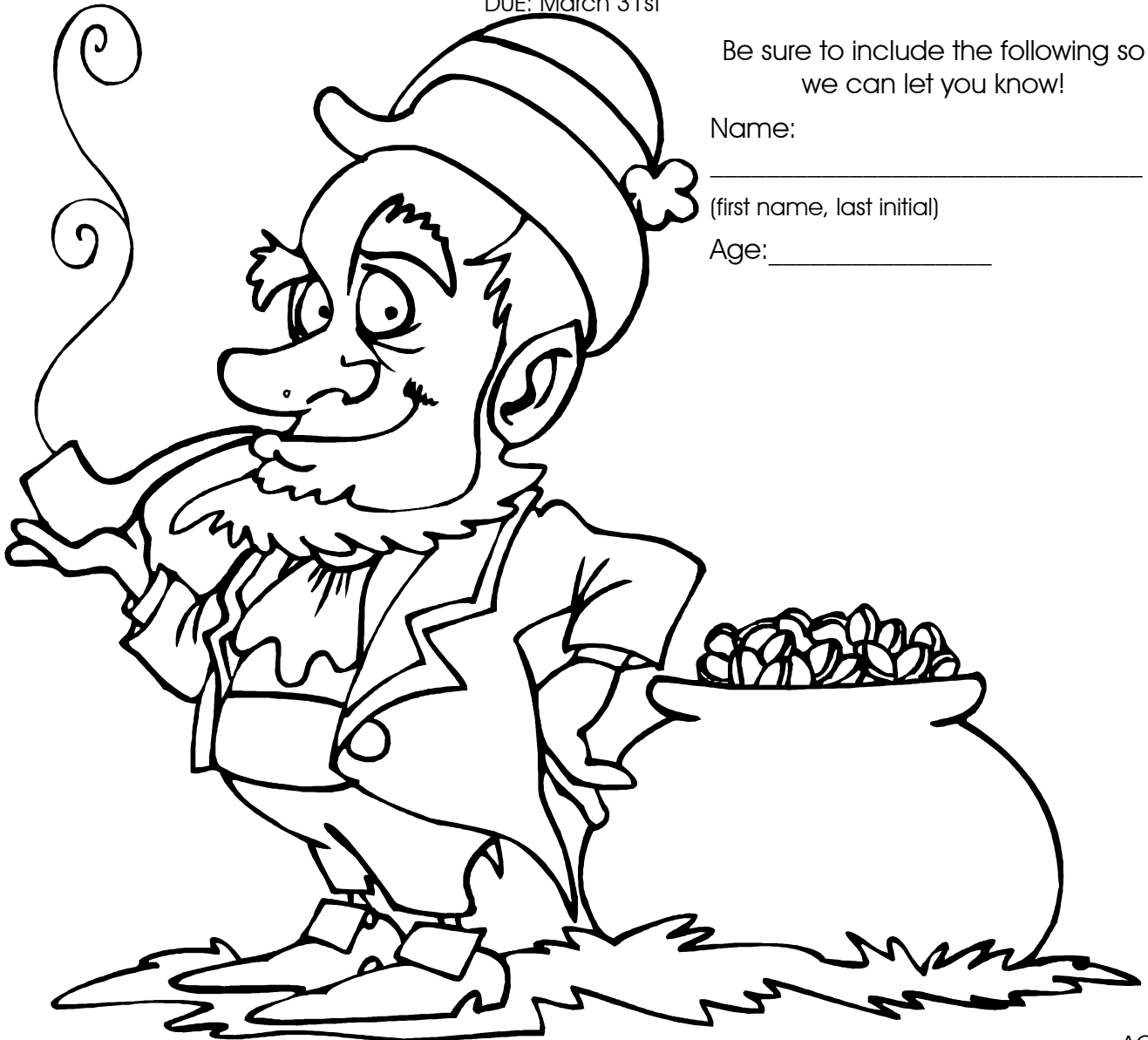
DUE: March 31st

Be sure to include the following so
we can let you know!

Name: _____

(first name, last initial)

Age: _____



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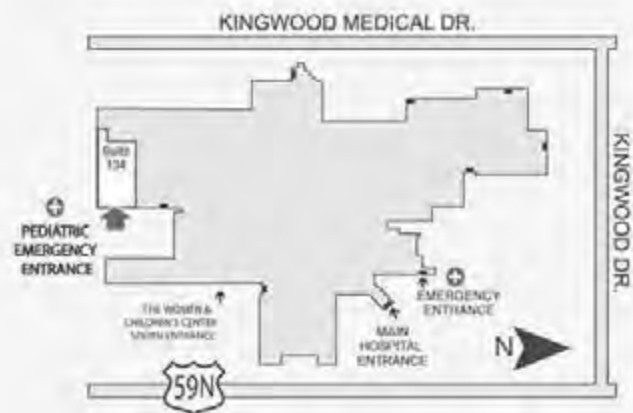
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