



THE TOWN CRIER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TOWNGATE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
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Season's Greetings

Friends and Kids Around the Christmas Tree
Presents there for you and me
Kids looking for Santa tonight
With his sleigh and tiny reindeers in flight.

They will go to bed with Joy and Dreams
Christmas will never get here it seems
Kids have thought of this all Year and
Seemed like Christmas would never get here.

In the morning they will bounce out of bed.
Candy and Toys running through their heads
Soon they will open their presents from you and me
Jumping and screaming loud with glee

Yet all the while through this festive time
What Really bears upon my mind
I haven't heard anyone say
This is our Lord and Savior's Birthday.

By
Jack VanZant
(reprinted from 2015)



Welcome to our new Homeowners:

**L M Walters Inc.
Eladio & Maria Maldonado
Tesfaye Esayas
Craig & Sally Meyers**

DOG LEASH LAW

BY Sheila Raines

I know this has been posted before but for the newcomers here, Garland has a law requiring dogs to be leashed when outside your home. I was recently told that they are about to start patrolling and writing tickets for not having your animal on a leash. The police have not done much in ticket writing in past but “no leashes” have become a big problem that they have decided to start enforcing this law. I have learned the fine will be \$192 plus court cost but a trip out in the front yard could actually cost a lot more in medical bills than the fine should your dog run out and encounter an aggressive dog or run out in front of a car chasing a squirrel. (Leash laws do not apply to cats.)

ANATICS FROM ANNE

Another year has come and almost gone and it is hard to believe I have been here going on 13 years. I have come to know many of you on a personal level and really enjoy being part of this community. May each of you have a joyous Holiday season and a prosperous 2022. If you haven't met me come by the office and introduce yourself. If you have any questions feel free to call the office.

Need an additional or replacement trash can or if your trash is not picked up.

**Call
972-205-3500**



Congratulations to our Halloween Contest Winners

Day of the Dead

2017 Court Place— J Ewing

Boo Spectacular

2016 Town Place—J Catchings

Made Me Jump

2003 Town Court—M Borminski

Our Christmas yard contest is December 18. Categories are:

Most Creative

Best of Season

Traditional

Have fun decorating!!!!

HOA BOARD

Board Elections are coming up in February. There are 3 positions up for election in 2022. The elective term is 2 years and a member may serve 2 consecutive terms. You must be a homeowner to be on the board and be willing to attend a monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7PM and give of your time for other duties. Board members whose 1st term expire are Pat Hartley, Nate Smith, and Bridget Brantley. If you want to be a part of making decisions for your neighborhood please complete the enclosed form and submit to the office. Deadline to get your name on the ballot is January 10, 2022. The election will be on February 17th at the annual meeting. Ballots will be mailed out on January 14th.

Porch Pirates

By Kim

'Tis the Season for delivered packages! We all hear about 'porch pirates' and Amazon has an alternative. If you have a package being delivered from Amazon, you can have it delivered to a pick-up location instead of your home. There are multiple locations for our area, but three I found in our immediate vicinity are:

Smokestack - 1717 Northwest Highway, at 7-Eleven, Garland, TX, 75041-5234

Page Call Wireless - 1402 Northwest Highway, Suite 105 B, Garland, TX, 75041

Phone Crush Repairs & Accessor - 4301 Saturn Rd, Unit 215, Garland, TX, 75041

I've never used any of these locations, but I have used this option elsewhere. A minor inconvenience for having to stop and pick up your purchases vs the risks of losing your purchase to a thief!! For other retailers, I know they have their own pick-up services at their location even while offering home delivery. I personally have never had anything stolen from my porch, but the Next Door app posts these types of notices all the time. Security for devices · Another 'Tis the Season' helpful hint. A lot of people shop on-line, social media, phone. Here are helpful suggestions you might consider (if not already doing so): · Never install unapproved software · Verify attachments are safe before downloading · Verify links before clicking · Secure your devices when not in use (lock your phone/computer) · Create and use strong passwords o Helpful hint – make your password a sentence that you would remember and then use first letter of each word § Sentence example – I work at IDX in Dallas TX-14303 · lw@IDXnDTX-14303 (example made up for this article) § Use a sentence that means something to you and would be easier to remember § You should never use 'regular' words or names found in a dictionary. A hacker's device can easily determine what your password is. Stay safe out there and do what you can to protect your identity!

Pools By Laura

Every year at the end of the swim season the pools and surrounding areas are evaluated for any needed maintenance or repairs. This year the large pool that is closest to the playground was due for a facelift. The pool has been re-plastered and freshened up with nice new blue tiles. The other two pools will follow suit in the future and will be upgraded with the same blue tiles as the budget allows.



Flower Bed Remodel

By Sheila Raines

A group of neighbors have noticed that we spend money on annuals in the flowerbeds at the clubhouse and proposed to the Board that planting and maintaining perennials is a better use of these beds. After the initial cost, only fertilizer and mulch would be the only annual cost since the labor is free. The initial cost of planting the beds will be spread over a couple of years.

This neighborhood group will put in the labor of cleaning out the beds of dead and unwanted growth plus the upkeep of the new plants. The choice of plants will be chosen by the group but a strict guideline of sun exposure, soil type, bloom time, flower color, mature size, plant type and hardiness zones will be considered for maximum success.

The Board approved this project. The group is called the Towngate Gardeners and would like to invite you to join us. Call Sheila and leave a message if you are interested. She will update what the group is doing and how you can help. 214-274-6412



Friends By Rene

Staying in touch with the important people in our lives is a rewarding but challenging task. Busy, busy, busy, rush, rush, rush. It's too easy to lose track of the people you care about. Remember when you were a kid. You and your best friend tied two tin cans together with a string. They kept you connected to loved ones. For many people the thought of expressing feelings and emotions on paper is downright daunting., but it doesn't need to be! After all, the words themselves are not nearly as important as the thought behind them celebrating your thoughtfulness takes the most simple sentiments and turns them into gestures of kindness and gratitude, love, and celebration, sympathy and support. Your thoughtfulness reaches out to the people you care about and reminds them that they are in your thoughts, your heart, and even your prayers. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

2020 BOARD MEMEBERS

PRESIDENT - Rene-214-288-3688

VICE PRESIDENT- Kim -214-533-6917

TREASURER - Amalia—214-697-5125

SECRETARY - Bridget —214-907-7511

LANDSCAPE - Kim -214-533-6917

CLUBHOUSE/POOLS-Laura-214-906-5223

ARCHITECTURAL -Patricia 214-546-3187

PAINTING - Nate-479-530-4439

Randy Dale- Landscaper/Pool Maintenance 214-882-4251 Code enforcement Danny Moore—972-485-6414- DaMoore@garlandTx.gov Neighborhood Police Officer—morillosj@garlandtx.gov City Councilman—Rich Aubin, Council5@garlandtx.gov Tennis Court code CZ2006

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