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THE TOWN CRIER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TOWNGATE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
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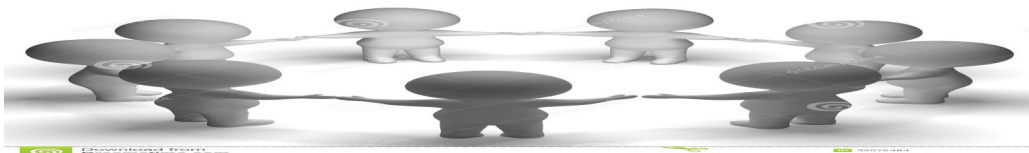
September 2019

PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY Rene

In our fast-paced, stress-filled world we often don't seek the opportunities that we need in order to get to know our neighbors. In days past, good neighbor relations were the staple of every strong community. Being able to share life's experiences with those who live so close to us was once considered one of life's greatest blessings. These days it is the exception rather than the rule to take the time to create strong relationships with the people we share our community with...and we are each the poorer because of it. Each one of us has a story to tell, a hand to lend, a laugh to share, and friendship to give. Someone once said, "If you always do the things you did, you'll always get the things you got." If we want to grow as a community then we have to risk breaking free from the bonds of isolation that are so easily created by and for us. We must reach out to our neighbors and let them know that they matter and that we care. If we do that, even in the most seemingly insignificant of ways - like a wave as we pass on the street - then we are moving toward a better community and a better way to live. Just because our culture has pushed us away from ourselves doesn't mean it is right, it just means that we have to work that much harder in order to reconnect with one another and create a better environment in which to live. Please be kind and show respect to one another.





Welcome to our new Homeowners:

Alondra Plancarte

IT'S THE LAW

When walking your dogs they must be on a leash and you must pickup their waste and dispose of it in the trash. These are City of Garland codes and if not complied with you may be fined and/or your animal can be impounded. Please help keep our neighborhood safe and clean by keeping your animals on a leash when walking them and cleaning up after them.

CLUBHOUSE/POOLS

BY Laura

Clubhouse

Now is a good time to get the reservations for your clubhouse rental booked for the soon approaching fall/holiday season. There is a \$150 cash deposit at the time of booking to hold your reservation and \$75 rental fee due when you pick up your key. If you do decide to rent the clubhouse make sure to read and follow the rules and guidelines carefully to ensure the return of your deposit. Please contact Anne at the Towngate office for additional information and scheduling. 972-840-1680

Pool

We've had an enjoyable swim season this year but it will soon be coming to an end. The pool will remain open until the end of September and reopen in May.

HOT HOT HOT

by Sheila Raines

This has been a hot summer in Towngate. Our yards are showing some stress! The water bill for our neighborhood is a high cost with Towngate sprinklers running twice a week for the month of August and September, some personal care is needed to keep a green yard. Look at your lawn and answer a question. Are your sprinklers working? Feel the grass on Thursday and Sunday morning and they should be wet. If not wet to the touch, report to the landscape board member, Bridget Brantley 214-907-7511 or Town Hall 972-840-1680

The best yards are the ones that homeowners give their yard an extra watering during the week. We are entering the fall season and having a healthy yard now prepares for winter temperatures and spring growth. Most years, Towngate fertilizes a pre-emergence type of fertilizer in March when it starts to get warm and the rains have begun. Fertilizing your yard three times a year, March, July, and October, encourages healthy growth along with the extra watering. To be honest if you water extra, a healthy yard will grow and choke out the weeds. Best results from using fertilizer is to use Scott Turf Builder Southern Lawns.

Our lawn service is just that, a mow your yard and trim, and shape your bushes. The big job of raking up leaves as they fall is also in our landscape contract. Towngate does not do personal work in the yards. A little time working in your yard, extra watering once a week and fertilizing will surprise you with the results. The flower beds are yours to express your creativity.

We have a lot of walkers that enjoy the neighborhood, come join us.

PAINTING



By Jack

The exterior painting for this year has been completed and the South side of Towngate Drive will be done in 2020. If you have done work that needs painting, see Anne in the office for paint. You may want to start early doing necessary repairs before painting starts next year. Towngate HOA has one of the best HOA around. Let's keep it that way.

YARD CONTEST

BY Gaby

Judging will be on October 15

CATEGORIES ARE

- DAY OF THE DEAD**
- BOO SPECTACULAR**
- MADE ME JUMP**

I look forward to seeing all the decorations.

Amalia's Corner

A note from your friendly treasurer, Autumn is almost upon us. It will soon start to get darker earlier. With that in mind, lighting is important. A good suggestion is motion sensor lights for your garages and/front porch areas.

TIMELY ASSESSMENT PAYMENT SAVES US ALL MONEY By Laura

In order to meet its financial obligations, our association depends upon the timely receipt of our monthly assessments from the owners. When the budget is approved by the Board, it assumes two things: the amount of income must equal the amount of expenses, and, that each homeowner will pay his or her dues in a timely manner. If one or the other fails to happen, we have a cash flow problem and it usually results in costing all of us more money in the long run. Our community depends entirely upon the monthly dues to pay its bills. There is no other source of income available to make up for the shortage. Ultimately, when even a few homeowners fail to pay their dues on time it creates a cash flow problem and creates a need to raise our monthly dues. We can all take part in keeping our community's expenses down and one of the best ways is to make sure that your monthly dues check is sent on time.

OFFICE TIDBITS FROM Anne

NEW OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Wednesday-Thursday
9 AM-1 PM**

Tuesday 8 AM-12 PM

FRIDAY—2 PM-6 PM

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY—CLOSED
HOLIDAYS—CLOSED**

If you want to reserve the Clubhouse you must pay the \$150 cash deposit and complete the reservation form to hold your date. 1st come basis.

We do NOT do bank draft nor accept payment thru Zelle as our bank will not let us do that. You can pay by check, cash, or money order or you can go online to your bank account and set it up as a bill pay and your bank will mail us a check. Payments can be made in person or drop it in the mailbox on the clubhouse door.

TASTY DRINKS FROM John Taylor

NON ALCOHOLIC APPLE PIE PUNCH

4 Cups Apple Cider
1 Cup Pear Nectar (Can substitute with White Grape Juice if you cannot find any.)
3 Cups Ginger Ale
1 Apple, diced (Cortland, Spartan, Empire, and Gala work well!)
Directions: Combine all ingredients into a pitcher or punch bowl

Apple Cider Mojitos

INGREDIENTS:

Ice
Juice of 1 lemon
1/2 c. gold rum
apple cider
Mint, for garnish
Apple slices, for garnish
Cinnamon sticks, for garnish

DIRECTIONS: Fill 2 glasses with ice. Add the juice of half a lemon to each glass. Divide the rum between the two glasses, then fill 3/4 of the way full with apple cider. Top each with a splash of seltzer and stir to combine. Garnish with mint, thyme, and a slice of apple



HALLOWEEN

WE ARE HAVING OUR ANNUAL TRICK OR TREAT AT CLUBHOUSE/TENNIS COURTS ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 31 FROM 6-8 PM. WE WELCOME ANYONE TO COME UP AND HAND OUT CANDY ALONG WITH THE BOARD MEMBERS. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.



Need an additional or replacement trash can or if your trash is not picked up. Call 972-205-3500



LANDSCAPE

By Bridget

Hello Residents of Towngate community. My name is Bridget Brantley and I am the new Landscape Board Member. I was voted in by the Board of Directors in July to fulfill a open position that was vacated in the middle of the year. I welcomed the opportunity to serve you and our Towngate Community on the Landscape Committee. According to the HOA guidelines I/we are responsible for keeping our community looking well maintained. What does this mean? Your HOA fees pay for, but not limited to the following.

- Mowing—once a week
- Edging—one a week
- Watering—once to twice a week (Summer Months)
- Trimming shrubs
- Replacing dead trees and shrubs when necessary
- Spraying and fertilizing shall be done as required

Let me know if there are any problems.

Thank you in advance for your help with keeping our community looking great.

SAVE ON ADMISSION AND YOUR FAVORITE STATE FAIR FOODS

POSTED ON SEP 10, 2019 BY ASHLEY TURNER

The State Fair of Texas opens Sept. 27 and we're counting down the days to get our Fletcher's Corny Dog fix. Luckily for us, the fair offers plenty of discounts to save on admission so you can put your hard-earned dollars toward the important stuff – like a ride on the Texas Star, tickets to one of the football games or some handmade goodies featured in the Creative Arts Building. Any way we can save a few dollars, we'll take it! New to the fair? See our First-Timer's Guide to the State Fair of Texas.

Tuesdays (Oct. 1, 8 and 15)

Come to the Fair for Dr. Pepper half-price Tuesdays. Bring an empty Dr. Pepper can and receive a \$9 admission ticket.

Wednesdays (Oct. 2, 9 and 16)

Bring four cans of food to the Fair gates as a donation towards the North Texas Food Bank on any Wednesday and receive a \$4 admission ticket. Keep in mind – one four-can donation per person!

Thursdays (Oct. 3, 10 and 17)

Experience the Fair during Thrifty Thursdays! Every Thursday, most items, including the popular cotton candy, corny dogs and funnel cakes, are between two and seven coupons, saving almost half the cost on most items. Senior citizens 60 years and better get into the Fair **FREE** every Thursday.

Bring an empty 20 oz. bottle of any Coca-Cola product and receive \$9 admission.

We'll keep adding to this list as more discounts are announced. For a full rundown of discounts – and all the fine print for each of these – head to BigTex.com.

2019 BOARD MEMEBERS

PRESIDENT - Rene-214-288-3688

VICE PRESIDENT- Laura—214-906-5223

TREASURER – Amalia—214-697-5125

SECRETARY – John –469-995-0909

LANDSCAPE – Bridget —214-907-7511

CLUBHOUSE/POOLS-Laura-214-906-5223

**ARCHITECTURAL /Social
Gaby—214-725-7021**

PAINTING - Jack—214-695-3835

Randy Dale- Landscaper/Pool Maintenance 214-882-4251

**Code enforcement Danny Moore—972-485-6414
– DaMoore@garlandTx.gov
Neighborhood Police Officer—Matt StClair
stclairm@garlandtx.gov**

WEBSITE: www.tghoa.net

EMAIL: garlandtowngatehoa@gmail.com