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THE TOWN CRIER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TOWNGATE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
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HOA BOARD ELECTIONS

It may seem a bit early for me to talk about Board elections since they aren't until February. However, I believe it to be a very important subject for me to put out there now for your consideration because there will be four vacancies that will need to be filled in February. Four vacancies is a significant number of positions to be filled as there are 7 Board members. In the past several years of elections we have barely had enough candidates to consider for far fewer openings.

I have had the pleasure and privilege of serving on the Board for the past 4 years and will be one of the four positions going off in February. I know there are so, so many of you that do care about your community because I have talked personally with many of you. I am encouraging you to consider running for one of the vacant Board positions if you truly do care about how you community is run. Caring is not enough. You must become involved. It doesn't take a great deal of your time to serve as a Board member. There is a once monthly meeting and a few special occasions you will get to visit with other residents. As a Board member you participate in the governing of the community. If you want to keep it beautiful as we've tried over the past years or if you would like to see some changes made, one way to do it is to serve!!

Please, consider getting involved and run for a Board position!

Thank you,

Susan Faulkner
President, TGHOA



Welcome to our new Homeowners:

Jason & Misty Owens

Danny & Betty Roberson

Birhanu Yimer



FROM ANNE

Another summer has come and gone and we survived the Texas heat another year.

Just a reminder that your dues are due by the 10th of the month or a \$20 late fee will be assessed.

SWIMMING POOL WILL CLOSE OCT. 1

Need an additional or replacement trash can?



Creating Community By Getting to Know Your Neighbors

By Katrina McCune

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.

**IF YOUR DOG
POOPS**



YOU SCOOP

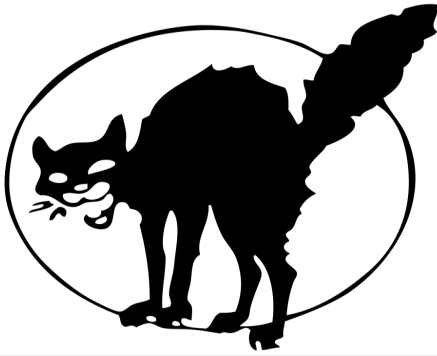
Please email your favorite holiday recipe to the office at

garlandtowngatehoa@gmail.com

To be put in our December newsletter. Deadline is December 1.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

THE TOWNGATE HOA IS HAVING A HALLOWEEN PARTY ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 BEGINNING AT 7PM. THERE WILL BE GAMES, BOBBING FOR APPLES, ALONG WITH BEST DRESSED CONTEST. WE WILL BE SET UP AT THE TENNIS COURT WITH CANDY. COME AND JOIN THE FUN.



LANDSCAPING PREPARATION BEFORE THE WINTER

By Gabby

Fall landscaping chores are your last chance to prepare your property for winter, and to protect that curb appeal you've worked so hard to create. So pull on some gloves, grab your tools and get ready to mulch, prune, and plant before snow and frozen ground turn the lights out on your landscaping. Spread 2 to 3 inches of fresh mulch around shrubs and trees. hardwood shredded mulch from home and garden centers is recommended.

Remove the Dead and Dying

Fall is the time to neaten your landscaping before putting it to bed for the winter. Deadhead spent blooms, and cut back dead and desiccated ornamental grasses and perennials. Lightly prune dead and dying branches from shrubs and trees. Carefully remove dried blossoms from hydrangea, but don't remove dead-looking stalks, where new buds will form in spring. After the first frost, cut back tea roses to about a third of their height. Wrap Delicate Shrubs. Remove dead annuals

Heavy snow, ice, and high winds can dry and split your delicate and pricey shrubs. To protect your landscaping from the winter elements:

Hide small plants under overturned plastic pots or buckets. Wrap shrubs, such as boxwoods, in burlap. Surround vulnerable trees with shredded leaves

Early fall until the ground freezes is a good time to plant trees and shrubs. Not only do cooler weather and autumn rain put less stress on young landscaping plants, nurseries often have sales to empty their shelves before winter.

TRASH—If the City fails to pick up trash that is properly put out please call

972-205-3500 and report it.

Architectural

By Jay

School is back in session! Be sure to watch out for those kiddos waiting on or being dropped off by buses.

I wanted also to send out a huge "Thank You" to all of those in our neighborhood who stepped up and took care of some needed repairs.

While we know the letters are no fun, we are doing our best to help make sure this neighborhood stays as nice as when we all decided to become residents. Since I think we all know what is "ok" and "not ok" as far as regulations in the HOA go, I wanted to instead briefly mention some local issues. Our neighborhood and others around us have all noticed, and mentioned the sudden influx of homelessness and what appears to be prostitutes around our area. Please, make sure you are being vigilant when it comes to suspicious people roaming the neighborhood. Call the police, describe the individual(s), report any suspicious activities. Make sure you are keeping your cars and garages locked at night, as it is very common for thieves to check the handles as they walk down the street.

Let's all make sure we are being safe and continue doing a good job keeping up our neighborhood.

CHICKEN QUESO

BY Anne

With fall approaching this is a easy queso to make and enjoy. I think it is best with the small Fritos.

1 can evaporated milk

1 can chunk chicken drained

1 can cream of chicken soup

1 can diced green chilies

1 can cheddar cheese soup

Mix all together and heat, stirring often. Use as a dip or serve on top of a bowl of Fritos.

PAINTING

BY Laura

If you have made recent repairs of the wood on your home and are in need of touch up paint, please contact Anne in the office. Only assigned paint colors may be used.

CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE

As Fall approaches and the temperature drops, more of us will be using our fireplaces as a source of warmth and pleasure. A cozy blaze can become a fire hazard without proper fireplace safety. A fireplace that has a build-up of creosote and soot is dangerous and a major source of chimney fires. It is recommended that you have your fireplace cleaned periodically to eliminate the excess build-up that can occur over time. Preventive maintenance is a good way to ensure that using your fireplace will be safe and enjoyable for years to come.

TREASURE REPORT

EXPENSE HIGHLIGHTS

as of AUGUST 31, 2016

Landscape: Weekly Maintenance	\$ 27,322
Improvements	\$ 9,394
Tree Trimming	\$ 8,821
Pools: chemicals/repairs/maint	\$ 5,861
Sprinkler Repairs	\$ 1,353
Electricity	\$ 5,125
Water	\$ 9,076
Painting	\$25,098
Insurance	\$ 3,574
Town Hall Maintenance	\$ 1,160
Telephone/Communications	\$ 1,839

2016 BOARD MEMEBERS

PRESIDENT - Susan -972-896-2205

**VICE PRESIDENT- POOLS- Katrina
972-896-3336**

TREASURER - Reneé -214-288-3688

SECRETARY - Mary -972-271-0298

LANDSCAPE - Gaby - 479-530-7367

ARCHITECTURAL - Jay - 214-497-9765

PAINTING - Laura - 214-906-5223

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

**Code enforcement 972-485-6400-
jprewitt@garlandtx.gov**

**Neighborhood Police Officer—Matt StClair
stclairm@garlandtx.gov**

WEBSITE: www.tghoa.net

EMAIL: garlandtowngatehoa@gmail.com