

Woodwind Lakes

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

2023 Winners Best Halloween Decorations

Gift Cards were awarded to all winners for Sections 1-4

SECTION 1



8010 Sonata Court

SECTION 1



9207 Brahms Lane

SECTION 2



8107 Waynemer Way

SECTION 2



7722 Melody Circle

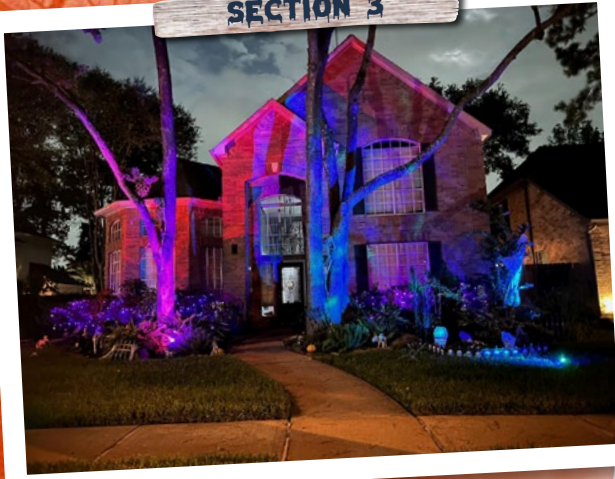
More winners on next page

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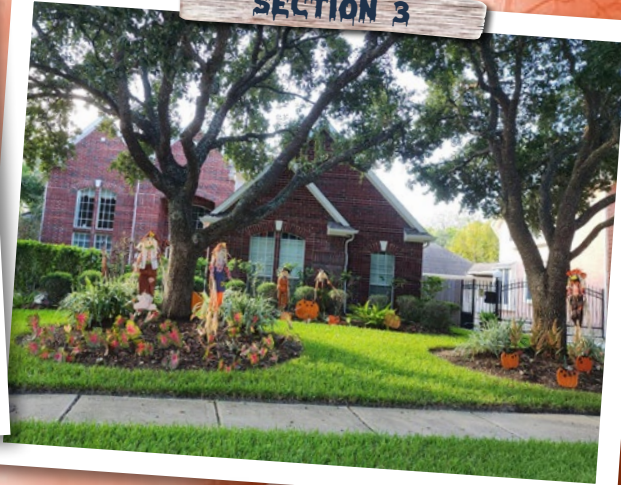
SOME FRIGHTFULLY GOOD CHOICES

SECTION 3



7922 Adagio Drive

SECTION 3



8623 Prelude Court

SECTION 1



9411 Oratorio Court

SECTION 1



9346 Adagio Lane

Lots of festivities happened in October

On Sunday, October 29th there was a fun pumpkin carving contest held at The Pavilion. Prizes were awarded, a food truck was present, and a good time was had by all. Thanks, Kate Weatherford, for organizing these community events!



WOMEN'S CLUB

Tuesday, November 14

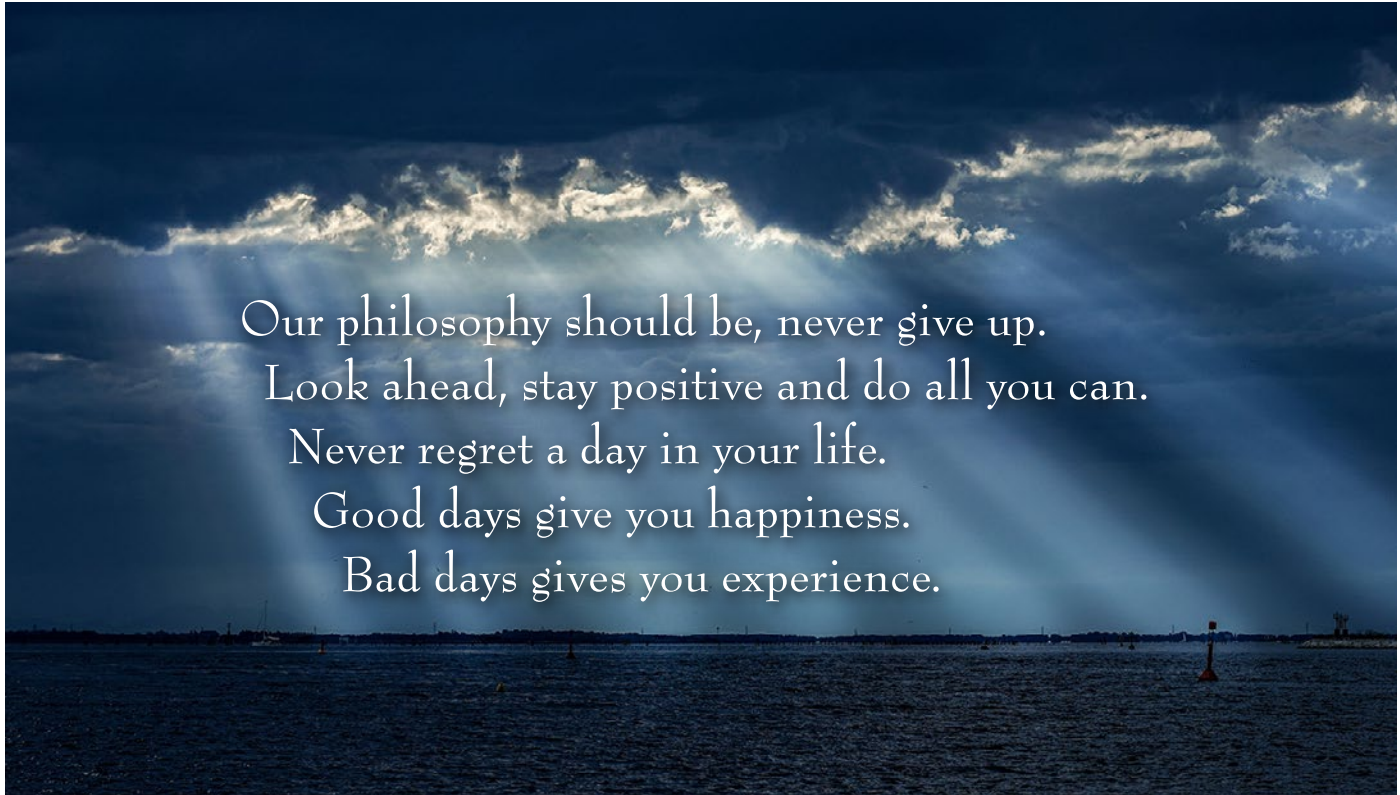
THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

10:00 am, Windfern Forest MUD Building, 14410 Mauna Loa

For more information or to RSVP contact Ann Tatum:

anntatum9203@gmail.com

Hope we see you there!



Our philosophy should be, never give up.
Look ahead, stay positive and do all you can.
Never regret a day in your life.
Good days give you happiness.
Bad days gives you experience.

Help wanted with wreath refurbishing!



Every year the Christmas Committee, with help from friends, refurbishes the beautiful Christmas Wreaths we display around our neighborhood just before Thanksgiving.

Would you be one of those friends?

We get out our trusty glue guns and snippers, replace faded balls, bows and add some “sparkle” and like magic the wreaths are new again. But it isn’t magic. It’s work...and we need volunteers to help!



The fun will get under way at 9:30 am on Saturday, November 11th at the Pavilion. Bring a glue gun if you have it, but not to worry, we will have extras! When we have finished our beautification project, we will reward ourselves with pizza from Winners’ Pizza who has supported our silent auction for many years.

So please, kick off the holiday season by giving to your neighborhood, even if it can only be an hour or so. All help is appreciated! For more information, please contact Terry Buckner, terry214@live.com.

National Night Out

Our National Night Out event was incredible! Despite the rain coming down in droves all day long, the skies cleared just in time. We had a good number of families attend, which was fantastic!

The firetruck was there, as was our evening constable, Sgt. Guzman. Dana Patterson and Rose Moriarity bought pizzas and Dana brought drinks. All-in-all, it was a HUGE success! We’re looking forward to making this an annual event.





Love is in the air

Cheryl Conley, Lake Creek Preserve Board of Directors

Yep, it's that time of year. White-tailed bucks are checking out the girls. They aren't very particular, however, and certainly aren't faithful to only one doe. Bucks mate with a number of does and there's only a small percentage of males that mate with most of the females.

Generally speaking, a doe will give birth for the first time at about two years old. White-tailed does go into heat multiple times during the breeding season and the heat period lasts 24 hours. If the doe doesn't conceive during a heat period, she'll go into another heat period 28 days later. Once pregnant, the gestation period is about 200 days and she won't show any signs of pregnancy until the third trimester. Her belly will be enlarged, she cleans her fur frequently and she appears to be on high alert. It's not uncommon to see several does traveling together in groups for safety. Once it's time to give birth, Mom will look for an area of tall grass or an area with heavy vegetation so the fawn will be well hidden. Most does give

birth to twins but they can give birth to 1, 2, 3 or even 4 fawns.

The birthing process is similar to many other mammals. The doe will lie on her side and once the baby is partially out, she will stand up. Once the baby is completely out, it will have the first feeding. She cleans the baby which removes any traces of her scent. This

*In the Gulf Coast Prairie
area of Texas, the deer population
is estimated at 42,600*

leaves the baby nearly scentless which protects it from predators. The baby can usually stand within 20 minutes of birth at which time Mom will move it to another vegetated area.

For the first few weeks, the baby is fragile and has difficulty keeping up with the mom so it doesn't even try. I don't know how she does it but somehow Mom "tells" the babies to

If you wonder about what kind of wildlife can be found in and around the Houston area, according to Barc Animal Shelter the following wild animals may be seen:

Raccoons	Alligators
Bats	Deer
Skunks	Opossums
Coyotes	Armadillos
Foxes	Rats & Mice
Bobcats	Squirrels
Turtles	Hawks & Owls
Snakes & Reptiles	

stay put until she gets back. She then heads out to forage. She can be gone for several hours and will occasionally go back to nurse if the coast is clear. This is when people with good intentions "kidnap" fawns thinking they are helping them. The best thing to do if you find a fawn is to observe from a distance. In the majority of cases, the mom will return to her baby. If a fawn should stray from the spot where the mom "parked" it, the fawn is innately trained to go back to the spot where the doe last left it.

At about a month of age, the fawn is strong enough to run and keep up with Mom. They are still considered fawns until they're a year old and then they are referred to as yearlings. Fawns and yearlings are at the greatest risk from predators and the mortality rate is about 40%.

During the second year of life, the males will be driven off by the mother prior to mating season to avoid inbreeding. Females will leave after two years or they may choose to stay around and form a family group.

I'm fortunate to live on an acreage in the 'burbs where there are numerous deer. Every spring I look forward to seeing the fawns and watching them run as fast as their little legs will carry them trying to keep up with Mom. Simply adorable.



2023 Woodwind Lakes HOA Board election

Congratulations
to the winners for the
three positions that were open this year:

Merrell Greene
Brian Loeb
Chad Overton



Merrell



Brian



Chad

Your 2023-2024 Board of Directors* are:

Merrell Greene
Daniel Kallus
Jeffrey Krahn
Brian Loeb
Chad Overton

*A sincere Thank You to all the
candidates who participated in the
2023 election as well as to the
outgoing board members.*

*Officers will be decided by Board members at the November meeting

Residents often refer to the Board as “The HOA,” but actually that is not correct. Every homeowner is automatically a member of the Homeowners Association – so **you** are The HOA (official name: *Association of Woodwind Lakes Homeowners, Inc., a non-profit corporation*). The Board is made up of your elected representatives to fulfill the duties required in the by-laws as outlined below.

From our website

The Homeowners Association Board of Directors

The Woodwind Lakes Homeowners Association Board is made up of 5 directors elected at the annual homeowners meeting held in October. Each director is elected to serve a two-year term* and is charged with the duties outlined in the Amended By-Laws of Association of Woodwind Lakes Homeowners, Inc. Deed Restrictions (Article VII, Section 1) that is provided to every homeowner who purchases a home in our community. The board oversees all the architectural requests, capital projects, budget, and works with a Property Management Company and the Grounds Committee on the overall maintenance of the common properties.

The 5 member board oversees the needs of the 631 households and common areas in the community. Although the directors are elected, it is a non-paid voluntary position and requires commitment and time. The HOA Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Windfern Forest Utility District building (14400 Mauna Loa at Gessner). The executive board meets at 5:30 pm. At 6:30 pm, residents are invited for an “open discussion”. Residents have a 3-minute time limit each to address the board with any questions or concerns. The board is here to address the issues of our community and wants to hear your concerns.

* To assure continuity, three positions are up for election one year, and two positions are up for election the following year.



Woodwind Lakes Monthly Services Update

OCTOBER 2023

ITEMS COMPLETED

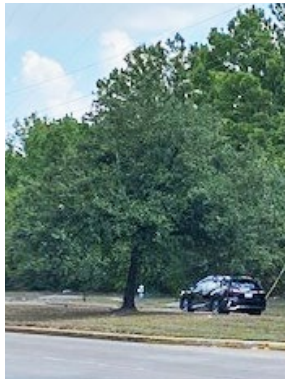
- Tree canopy lifting on Fairbanks N. Houston esplanades completed 10/6.
- Tree canopy lifting on Gessner esplanades completed 10/6.
- Cleaned curb lines dirt build up at all park and pool entrances completed 10/6.
- Initial irrigation inspection completed 10/9.
- Heavy bed detailing at Sonority gated entry and Woodwind Lakes Blvd. esplanades completed 10/14.
- Brush and limb removal on Windfern and Gessner setbacks started 10/14 will be ongoing project.
- Ant bait application on all turf areas on property completed 10/20.
- Completed the stuck valve replacement at the Tocatta and Fairbanks N. Houston to restore water 10/25.

DETAILS WE ARE FOCUSING ON THIS MONTH

- Remove bad plants or dead plants in phases.
- Identify safety concerns on property and report.
- Insect and disease inspection of trees, shrubs and turf on property.

Some problem areas and views after trimming to enhance driver's visibility for improved safety

FAIRBANKS N. HOUSTON



GESSNER



Note for the squeamish and arachnophobic – the next page may be something you may wish to skip past. If so, please click [here](#) and you will be directed to a following page that has no creepy-crawlies.



Tarantulas *(Please – no screaming, crying, shrieking or fainting!)*

This little tarantula fits on your fingertip

Tarantulas, also known as baboon spiders in Africa or hairy spiders in South America, are the largest spiders in the world. They can be found on every continent except Antarctica. Tarantulas have two body regions, eight legs and hairy bodies. Tarantulas that are found in North and South America have hairs used in defense. These tarantulas use their legs to flick hairs off their abdomen and into the face of predators. Hairs cause irritation to the eyes and mucous membranes. Tarantulas can be attacked by birds, lizards, snakes and tarantula hawk wasps.

Night time is their time

Tarantulas are nocturnal predators and feed on insects, other spiders, small lizards, frogs and snakes. When prey is captured, it is then bitten with the spider's fangs and injected with venom with digestive enzymes that kills and liquefies the prey. Once prey is soupy, the tarantula sucks up juices through their fangs. While tarantulas are capable of biting humans, their venom does not react with our body chemistry like widow or recluse spiders. Tarantula bites are comparable to a bee sting.

Home is a burrow

There are fifteen species of tarantulas in Texas and they create burrows in the ground, typically in well-drained soil. They use their webbing to line burrows which helps to shore up tunnels so they do not collapse. Webbing can also be used to create a molting mat which is laid down before the tarantula sheds its exoskeleton as well as used for handling prey. In other parts of the world, tarantulas live in trees and may use webbing to create a sling as a nest. Tarantulas are solitary, so there will only be one tarantula per burrow.

An odd way to "change clothes"

Tarantulas are arthropods, so they have an exoskeleton which requires them to molt numerous times throughout their life to grow. When ready to molt, which is controlled and signaled by hormones that only arthropods have, the tarantula lays down a silken molting mat, flips over on its back and pops open the old exoskeleton along a weakened area called the ecdysial cleavage line. The spider must push its way out of the old exoskeleton by expanding and



contracting its body to help wiggle its way out. Once the spider has

emerged from the old exoskeleton, it stays in place on its back until the new exoskeleton hardens and then it will flip back over.

Looking for love

Some in Texas may come across mass "migrations" of tarantulas. These are not true migrations as the tarantulas are not moving to live in a new area but instead are males out searching for females for mating.

While tarantulas may be disconcerting for people when they venture indoors, they really are not a pest and don't warrant control. The best thing to do is to keep tarantulas outside where they belong.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.

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The world's largest tarantula:
The Goliath Bird-eating Tarantula.*

*Don't worry – none have ever been found in Woodwind Lakes. The nearest ones are over 2,000 miles away in Venezuela.



It's pumpkin season y'all

Many people think of pumpkins as little more than decorations or for a Thanksgiving pie filling. Many can't wait to get pumpkin- "flavored" lattes but let's step aside from the artificial pumpkin flavors for a moment.

Would the **real** pumpkin please stand up and share its wide range of benefits?

Ok, here are some fast facts about pumpkins...

- The potassium contained within pumpkins can have a positive effect on blood pressure.
- The antioxidants in pumpkins could help prevent degenerative damage to the eyes.
- Avoid canned pumpkin pie mix as it typically contains added sugars and syrups.

- Pumpkin puree or canned pumpkin can be used as a replacement for butter or oil in baking recipes.
- Pumpkins contain one of the best-known sources for beta-carotene, which may reduce the risk of developing certain types of cancer, offer protection against asthma and heart disease and delay aging and body degeneration.
- Pumpkins are a powerful source of FIBER which slows the rate of sugar absorption into the blood. It can also help to control diabetes by helping the absorption of glucose into the tissues and intestines, as well as balancing levels of liver glucose.

Take Good Care,

Sincerely, Donna Konopka

One-Bowl Pumpkin Brownies

INGREDIENTS

1 ¼ cups pumpkin puree (not pumpkin pie filling)
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 large eggs
¼ cup avocado oil or coconut oil
¼ cup milk
½ cup coconut sugar
1½ cup white whole wheat flour
⅓ cup cocoa powder
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup chocolate chips plus extra for topping

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 350° and line a 9×9 pan with parchment paper or grease it well with additional oil. Set aside.
In a medium bowl, combine pumpkin puree, vanilla, eggs, oil and milk. Whisk together.
Add remaining ingredients (except the chocolate chips) to the bowl and mix until mixture is smooth.
Fold in chocolate chips.
Pour batter into prepared pan. Sprinkle additional chocolate chips on top if desired.
Bake for 30-35 minutes or until the top of brownies is set and dry to the touch.
Let cool completely before slicing. Let chill in the fridge for a bit.
Slice and enjoy. Store leftovers in fridge for 4 days.

Chewy Oatmeal Pumpkin Cookies

INGREDIENTS

1 cup quick-cooking "instant" oats
1 cup white whole wheat flour
1 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup cane sugar, or coconut sugar
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
½ cup pumpkin puree
¼ cup melted coconut oil or butter
1 large egg
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
½ cup chocolate chips, or to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

In a medium bowl, combine flour, oats, salt, baking powder, sugar, pumpkin pie spice and nutmeg. Whisk together and set aside.
In another bowl, combine pumpkin puree, egg, melted butter or oil, and vanilla. Whisk together.
Pour wet ingredients into the bowl with the dry ingredients and mix until everything is combined and dough has an even consistency.
Fold in chocolate chips. Chill dough in fridge for 30 minutes.
While your dough is chilling, preheat oven to 350° and line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Set aside.
Using a heaping tablespoon or small cookie scoop, portion the dough out onto the prepared cookie sheet, leaving room in between each cookie. Gently press down with your hand to flatten each cookie a bit.
Bake for 15-18 minutes. Let cool on cookie sheet for 5-10 minutes before transferring to a cooling rack. Enjoy or cool completely before storing in an air tight container for 4 days or in freezer for months.

November Yard of the Month winners

SECTION 1



8027 ENSEMBLE DRIVE

SECTION 2



8910 ANDANTE DRIVE

SECTION 3



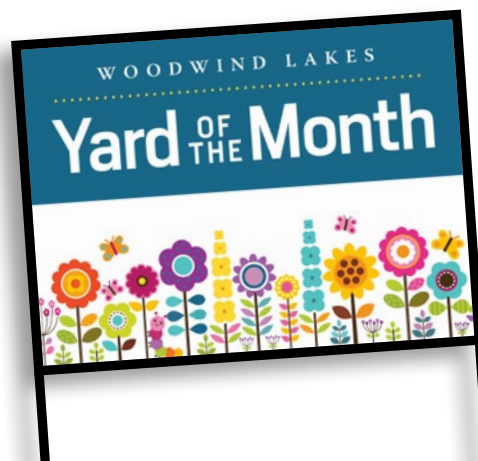
7926 ADAGIO AVENUE

SECTION 4



9427 ORATORIO COURT

Congratulations!





HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 4

CONSTABLE MARK HERMAN

"Proudly Serving the Citizens of Precinct 4"

6831 Cypresswood Drive ★ Spring, Texas 77379 ★ (281) 376-3472 ★ www.ConstablePct4.com

Monthly Contract Stats

WOODWIND LAKES

For October 2023

Categories

Burglary Habitation: 0	Burglary Vehicle: 0	Theft Habitation: 0
Theft Vehicle: 0	Theft Other: 0	Robbery: 0
Assault: 0	Sexual Assault: 0	Criminal Mischief: 0
Disturbance Family: 0	Disturbance Juvenile: 0	Disturbance Other: 0
Alarms: 3	Suspicious Vehicles: 0	Suspicious Persons: 2
Runaways: 0	Phone Harrassment: 0	Other Calls: 21

Detailed Statistics By Deputy

Unit Number	Contract Calls	District Calls	Reports Taken	Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Tickets Issued	Recovered Property	Charges Filed	Mileage Driven	Days Worked
W14	0	50	16	2	2	17	0	4	1150	17
W15	50	33	6	0	0	16	0	0	739	18
TOTAL	50	83	22	2	2	33	0	4	1889	35

Summary of Events

Alarms:

Deputies responded to 3 residential alarms that were all cleared as false or cancelled.

Suspicious Vehicles:

Deputies responded to a 0 suspicious vehicle calls that were all cleared as GOA or information.

Suspicious Persons:

Deputies responded to 2 suspicious person calls that were all cleared as GOA or information.

Deputies conducted multiple traffic stops and issued multiple citations within the contract reducing the possibility of accidents.

Deputies conducted multiple contract, neighborhood and business checks within the contract increasing visibility while performing regular patrol duties.

Deputies responded to 21 other calls within the contract including:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	Follow Up Investigations	Stranded Motorist
Animal Humane	Information Calls	Traffic Hazard
Child Custody Disputes	Meet The Officer	Unknown Medical Emergency
Domestic Preventions	Lost Found Property	Abandoned/Speeding Vehicles
D.W.I.	Sex Offender Verification	Welfare Checks