

Neighborhood Notes

FEBRUARY 2026

Committee Updates

NEIGHBORS: A CONSISTENT THEME IN THESE UPDATES is the need for additional volunteers across multiple committees. Woodwind Lakes is a community renowned for its natural features; however, as the neighborhood matures, ongoing stewardship of these assets becomes essential.

Resident participation helps distribute responsibilities more equitably and lightens the load for all volunteers. Volunteering your time also presents a valuable opportunity to engage with fellow community members. We are seeking volunteers for the Grounds, Trees and Trails and Assets Committees.

The January board meeting had 14 residents in attendance.

The next board meeting will be on February 19 at 9110 Rodney Ray Blvd.

Resident attendance is highly encouraged!



Grounds Committee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Superior Landscaping comes bi-weekly during the winter months which is normal for landscaping vendors. They will start weekly in March.



- Bicycles are prohibited on the lakes. Ruts in the lake paths have been noted. Please refrain from riding bicycles on the lake paths.
- The pump in Lake 2 was replaced in late December and irrigation is now functioning.
- There is a broken pipe under Windfern causing a fairly major leak and affecting the irrigation on Lake 1. Site visits and bids are in process with four vendors.
- All cul-de-sacs have been winterized by Mr. Irrigation
- Regarding the Winter plantings by Superior:
 - The Grounds Committee voiced dissatisfaction with the winter planting. Superior explained that the winter flowers came from a different vendor than they normally use. Superior recently replaced pansies and violas that had died off.

- We have been assured that the spring planting will be better. We expect that the plantings will be more established and noticeably improved in size and quality.
- Planting and hardwood mulch will be in late February or early March.
- There have been complaints about large limbs around the lakes. Limbs are gathered into piles for Superior to pick up on their bi-weekly visits.

Assets Committee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This committee is responsible for maintaining the physical assets of our community including the pavilion, tennis courts, pools, pool equipment and furniture, storage sheds, dog parks, lake fountains (including lights and irrigation pump) and dog park. Members of the committee perform or monitor maintenance functions and advise the Board of Directors on anticipated future repairs and/or replacement.

Trees and Trails Committee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Committee members walked all three lakes and marked trees for potential removal; an arborist will verify them

prior to removal and pending expense approval by the board.

- Starting to develop the framework for tree sustainability with all expenses to be approved by the board.

Finance Committee

- Financial review for 2025 is ongoing
- Moving forward, new processes for financial review of previous 30 days will be implemented
- Reserve study is under review

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee was formed at the end of 2025 to manage outgoing messaging to Woodwind Lakes residents and to promote community involvement. The committee has several initiatives in the works, including:

- Newsletter updates — committee and board reports, resident profiles and contributions plus local places of interest
- Social media channel expansion
- Streamlining website and resources



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Notable Residents

Brian Loeb HOA Board President

Profession: Loan Officer, Woodwind Lakes Resident since 2017

Each month we will select a notable resident to profile. We kick off this new feature with our HOA Board President, Brian Loeb.



What is your #1 goal or primary focus as a board member?

My number one goal and primary focus as a board member is bringing the community together.

Favorite Houston restaurant (or one of your favorites)?

My favorite Houston restaurant has always been the original Carrabba's.

Best way to spend down time and/or what are your hobbies?

Some of my hobbies include research and knowledge gathering, and I always love being on the water fishing, whether it's out at sea or in the bay.

Is there a community activity that you would like to see happen in the future?

One activity I've thought about and still want to explore is remote-controlled boat racing on one of the lakes with awards. I think that would be fun.

What are you binge watching?

I'm not really a binge watcher. I mostly watch news, and I like to sprinkle in real-life documentaries. The last one I watched was The Beatles and Abbey Road.

What is your walk-up song?

My walk-up song has always been "We Are the Champions." It reminds me of when I won the championship in soccer in seventh grade.

What is the #1 travel destination on your bucket list?

My number one travel destination is Italy.

Do you have an irrational fear?

I'm not totally sure what counts as an irrational fear, but the only real fear that comes to mind is not being prepared.

Do you have a life motto?

My personal motto is: Don't get ready, be ready.

What astrological sign are you?

I'm on the cusp of the astrological signs around the summer solstice — born June 21st.

Do you have any artistic talents?

I love dancing and karaoke, and I love watching other people sing — both those who can and those who can't — because there's a certain kind of magic in it.

THE WAY TO GET STARTED IS TO QUIT TALKING AND BEGIN DOING.

WALT DISNEY



NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT HIGHLIGHT

Senate Avenue Brewing

Senate Avenue Brewing (SAB) is a nanobrewery, operating on an exceptionally small scale to produce beer in limited batches—substantially smaller than those of a microbrewery. As a fully Jersey Village-owned establishment, SAB is dedicated to fostering local engagement through direct involvement with the community. The brewery organizes several game nights each month, including events such as team-based puzzle competitions and music trivia sessions. The schedule for these activities is released at the beginning of each month.

We stopped by SAB on a Tuesday at about 1:00 PM, finding it to be a calm time with plenty of open tables available. There was no line at the counter, and you could also choose to order directly from your

table via the online menu. We tried the Hassle Light, a crisp and light blonde ale — very easy to drink, full of flavor, and without any bitterness, making it ideal for those who prefer lighter options. In addition to non-alcoholic drinks, there are many varieties of beer, wine, seltzers, and ciders. SAB provides 16- and 32-ounce crowler fills (in aluminum cans), 64-ounce growler fills (in amber glass), and kegs.

Senate Avenue Brewing features a full-service kitchen and presents a diverse selection of bar fare, such as appetizers, burgers, pizzas, sandwiches, and various entrees. The brioche chicken sandwich accompanied by fries, as well as the pepperoni pizza, were sampled during our visit. The food is prepared

with freshness and demonstrates potential. The fries appeared to be house made, fresh cut and well-seasoned.

They were a favorite. We anticipate returning to further explore the menu offerings.

Senate Avenue Brewing welcomes families, and if you're bringing children, you can encourage them to search for the golden rock hidden in the rock pit. Dogs are permitted on the patio, and SAB is also a popular spot for hosting private events.

Online: www.senateave.com
www.facebook.com/senateave



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

CREAMY CHICKEN POBLANO SOUP

The recipe of the month comes from Sara Francovic, who highly recommends Joanna Gaines' recipe for Creamy Chicken Poblano Soup. Sara reports that she has made this soup many times and that it even won a neighborhood soup contest! Thanks, Sara!

Ingredients

8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter
2 cups small-diced yellow onion (about 1 large)
4 celery stalks, cut into medium dice
3 carrots, cut into medium dice*
2 garlic cloves, minced
3 medium poblano peppers, seeded and cut into medium dice*
1-½ teaspoons kosher salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 teaspoon ground cumin
¼ teaspoon dried thyme
8 cups (2 quarts) chicken broth
2 cups heavy cream
3 cups shredded cooked chicken breast (home-roasted or rotisserie chicken)
¼ cup cilantro, chopped
Tortilla strips and sliced radishes for garnish

Directions

1. In a large soup pot, melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the onion, celery, carrots, garlic, and poblanos and sauté, stirring often, until tender, 12 to 15 minutes. Add the salt, pepper, cumin, and thyme and sauté until caramelized and fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes longer.
2. Add the broth and cream, bring to a simmer, then reduce the heat to medium-low and cook, stirring often, for 15 to 20 minutes to meld the flavors.
3. Use an immersion blender to carefully blend the soup until smooth. (Alternatively, let cool slightly and, working in batches as necessary, process in a stand blender until smooth, filling the blender no more than half-full and removing the lid slowly after blending. Pour the soup back into the pot.)
4. Add the chicken and simmer for 15 to 30 minutes to meld the flavors to your liking.
5. Serve warm, garnished with tortilla strips, sliced radishes, and cilantro.
6. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 3 days or in the freezer for up to 1 month.

Magnolia Table: A Collection of Recipes for Gathering, Volume 2 by Joanna Gaines®

* Medium dice is about ½ inch × ½ inch × ½ inch

Be kind. Work hard. Save doodles.

The rise of Doodle Dandy Rescue

One of the enjoyable things about getting to know our neighbors is also getting to know their fur babies! Many of us in the WWL community are animal lovers and at some point, have adopted a dog or cat from an area shelter or rescue.

You may or may not have heard of Doodle Dandy Rescue. It's an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization with a mission to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome poodle-mixes in crisis so they are adoptable into safe and loving homes in Texas. Founded in 2018 by a small group of individuals in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, with years of rescue experience, DDR was built on kindness, strong ethics and best-in-class care.

"Owning a rescue was not on my vision board," said Sally Hammond, DDR director/co-founder and business owner. "But it became one of the most rewarding things I've ever done."

From day one, DDR was designed to be a "boutique rescue" — taking in 15 to 20 dogs at a time and giving them top-notch treatment and care.

"We knew right from the beginning

that we wanted to have the best practices and set up the rescue to be closely monitored with great veterinarians," Hammond added.

She recalled DDR's very first intakes: a cocker spaniel and a scruffy little stray named Benji, who truly looked like he had wandered straight out of a classic movie. The first year for DDR brought in 25 dogs, which fit into the plan to be a boutique.

Then COVID-19 changed the rescue's trajectory.

"The pandemic kept all of us at home, and everyone wanted to foster or adopt a dog," Hammond said. "We had an abundance of fosters, so we had to scramble to find dogs, but the word got out and the rehoming became a big thing at the time."

Then, when everyone had to go back to the office, the foster base dropped, and DDR had a new issue on its hands: training poorly behaved dogs that were conditioned to be with their owners 24/7 and had never been left alone. Through this and other reasons, the rescue quickly grew — adding more fosters, volunteers, vets and having to bring in behaviorists and trainers to help the COVID dogs.

The rescue had evolved into a serious business. Eventually, DDR expanded into Austin, San Antonio, and then Houston as an increasing number of foster families raised their hands, and communities opened their doors.

Fundraising events and calls for donations through the organization's robust social media channels became the norm, and

generous people started pitching in to help pay for vet bills, food, supplies and other needs.

As the rescue enters its ninth year in operation, it has, on average, anywhere between 400 to 500 volunteers and fosters. In 2025, DDR placed 420 dogs — a record number, into forever homes.

While the organization has grown far beyond its early days, its guiding motto remains the same: *Be kind. Work hard. Save doodles.*

To learn more about DDR, including how to volunteer, be a foster or a fur-ever paw-rent to a doodle, visit www.doodledandyrescue.org/.



Welcome to New Residents!

The following residents are new to the neighborhood.

 **Fountain Family**
Section 1

 **Hiller Family**
Section 4

 **Garcia-Estrada Family**
Section 2

It's Safety First at The Women's Club meeting

The January Women's Club meeting, graciously hosted at the home of Elizabeth Blanchard, featured Deputy Duncan, our primary HCSO officer. Conversation centered on WWL patrols, community safety, and neighborhood issues.

The Women's Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month. In February, there will be an outing to KPRC with lunch following.



More photos on next page

It's Safety First at The Women's Club meeting



What's in your leaf litter?

You probably have heard of the phrase “leave the leaves”, but do you know why we encourage people to let leaves stay on the ground? Leaf litter can create a wonderful insulating habitat for various arthropods, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. If you rake your leaves and place them in bags on the curb for disposal, you're not only getting rid of the cozy insulation for many animals, but you may also be getting rid of many arthropods along with the leaves.

Leaf litter provides protection for an amazing array of critters

Many arthropods use leaf litter as an overwintering location. While some arthropods may be found in the leaf litter itself, others will be in the soil under leaf litter. In both cases, the leaf litter provides a protective layer, hiding spots, and shelter. Some arthropods that you can find in or on the soil under leaf litter may include things like

bumble bee queens, isopods, springtails, millipedes, centipedes, and spiders.

In the leaf litter you may discover adult and nymphal stages of assassin bugs, damsel bugs, minute pirate bugs, and boxelder bugs. Other adults you may find are lady beetles clustering together for warmth, fireflies, or mourning cloak and question mark butterflies. Eggs of walkingsticks and hairstreak butterflies can be found in leaf litter (walkingsticks) or on fallen oak leaves (hairstreaks). Larvae of tiger moths (woollybear caterpillars), fireflies, and soldier beetles spend the winter in leaf litter. Some insects create a pupal case



You don't have to throw away those leaves in your garden. Leave the leaves, or move them just a bit.

using leaves as an outer casing material (certain silk moths) while others have a pupal case that mimics leaves (swallowtail butterflies, fritillary butterflies) to blend in with leaf litter.

Helping the bees is important

If you want to take things a step further and provide more shelter for insects during colder times of the year, consider leaving hollow and pithy stemmed plants until the following warm up and insect emergence in spring. The majority of native bee species are burrowers or tunnel nesters. Leaving leaf litter can help ground nesting burrower bees while leaving plant

stems can help those that tunnel.

If keeping a tidy yard is needed, then you can rake leaves into beds or move into a section of the yard that isn't seen from the street. Leaves give the added benefit of providing organic matter to the soil as they break down. If you want to help conserve the arthropods that are in leaf litter, avoid mulching it with a mower.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Serv. Program Specialist at ebrown@ag.tamu.edu.

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What in the world is an arthropod?

Arthropods are a motley crew: cockroaches, crabs, butterflies, beetles, centipedes, scorpions, shrimp, spiders, lobsters, lice, ticks, termites, potato bugs, and sea monkeys — they're all examples of arthropods. These evolutionary cousins can trace their family history back to a common ancestor that lived in the ancient oceans 600 million years ago, before vertebrates or land plants even existed.





Special thanks to our Super Star silent auction sponsors for another successful Christmas on the Lake event

★ Adriatic Cafe

★ Little Kitchen HTX

★ ZAF Cleaners

★ Amazon

★ Los Cucos

★ Marianne West

★ Aroy Dee

★ Natalita's Mexican

★ Gail Tharp

★ Blue Claw

★ Me Time Nails

★ Jo Preston

★ Blue Iris Florist

★ Potbelly

★ Terry Buckner

★ Picante

★ Rudy's BBQ

★ April Zaharis

★ Chipotle

★ Scruples Boutique

★ Bob Magee

★ Cut and Curl

★ Senate Avenue Brewery

★ Darlene Guidry

★ Friends & Companions

★ Soto's Restaurant Little York

★ Donna Jackson

★ Goode Company BBQ

★ Union Kitchen

★ Hacienda Don Jose

★ Willie's Ice House

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It wouldn't have been possible without the participation of our awesome community and our fantastic volunteers!
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January Yard of the Month Winners

SECTION 1



9206 BRAHMS LANE

SECTION 2



7907 SCHERZO LANE

SECTION 3



8706 GOLDEN CHORD

SECTION 4



8107 CLARION WAY

Congratulations!
And thanks for keeping our community looking its best!

