



April / June 2009

CLEAR LAKE CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATOR

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visit us at

www.clcca.org

WELCOME LESLIE ALVAREZ!

The CLCCA Board of Trustees welcomes Ms. Leslie Alvarez as General Manager. Ms. Alvarez, a Professional Community Association Manager, comes to us with many years experience, many of those in the management of large community associations similar to the CLCCA. Ms. Alvarez has already begun implementing improvements in our facilities. She's also working with the CLCCA staff to get our outdoor pools ready for the pool season. She has numerous engaging ideas for making our community a more desirable place to live. Look for details on the website soon or stop by the office to meet her.

Hello, Clear Lake City Residents. I was recently hired by the Board of Trustees to serve as your new General Manager. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

I have over 11 years experience in the management of Planned Communities. I am a native of Houston, but have lived most recently in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and have also lived in Atlanta, Georgia. I am the proud parent of two children ages 10 and 7 and am very involved in their school and sports activities.



I believe very strongly that Clear Lake City is a GREAT community! There are many places for improvement and growth and I hope to help accomplish many things in the coming months. I am working on designing a new recreational program that will include many events, upgrading the website, and in general helping the community grow with the technology available.

I welcome ideas and suggestions, please feel free to stop in and introduce yourself. I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible in the coming months.

Leslie

DOES YOUR HOUSE HAVE ALUMINUM WIRING?

Consumers who live in homes with aluminum wiring can reduce the potential risk of fire and the possibility of dangerous overheating. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission suggests the following when dealing with aluminum wiring.

Consumers who have not had thorough electrical training should not attempt to inspect their home wiring system or make any electrical repairs or adjustments before seeking expert advice. Serious or fatal electric shock could result.

Ask a knowledgeable electrician or other qualified individual to determine whether your home is wired completely with aluminum. If aluminum wiring was used, have the electrician or individual check the connections on heavily loaded and constantly loaded circuits to determine if the electrical connections have been made properly or show evidence of deterioration.

If any of the following trouble signals associated with aluminum wiring are present in your home, seek expert advice immediately:

- * warm switch or receptacle face plates.
- * strange or distinctive odor or the smell of burning plastic in the vicinity of a receptacle or switch.
- * flickering of lights not traceable to appliances or obvious external causes.

If it is necessary to replace wall switches and receptacle outlets, only devices which are designed specifically for use with aluminum wiring should be used. These devices are labeled CO/ALR.

Proper installation of the CO/ALR device is critical. The work should be performed only by a qualified electrician or individual familiar with the techniques of using aluminum wiring. Proper techniques include the ability to remove the wire insulation without nicking the wire, to wrap the wire with proper distance and direction around the terminal screw, to tighten the screw with the proper torque, and to position the wires within the outlet box to avoid loosening the terminal connection. Complete installation procedures are available at no cost by writing to Aluminum Wire Installations, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

2009 POOL SEASON

by Sarah Oziomek, Aquatics Director

The 2009 Summer Pool Season is quickly approaching! We will be opening the Outdoor Recreation Pool the weekends starting Memorial Day weekend, May 23rd - 25th, from noon - 8 pm. All outlying pools, including Oakbrook West, Camino South, and Meadowgreen will open following a rotating schedule Monday, June 8th. The schedule for June and July will be as follows:

- **Outdoor Recreation Center Pool** will be OPEN
Noon - 8 pm — Seven days a week
- **Oakbrook West Pool** will be OPEN
Noon - 8 pm — Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays
- **Camino South Pool** will be OPEN
Noon - 8 pm — Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays
- **Meadowgreen Pool** will be OPEN
Noon - 8 pm — Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays

Beginning in August, all outlying pools, including Oakbrook West, Camino South, and Meadowgreen will be open following the same rotating schedule from 4 pm - 8 pm. The Outdoor Recreation Center Pool will continue to be open seven days a week, from noon - 8 pm.

All outlying pools will close after Labor Day Weekend. The Outdoor Recreation Center Pool's closing date is still in discussion.

FUN FOR 2009

by Larry Wilson, *Gym Supervisor*

Hi Folks. I hope you are all doing well and are looking forward to a fun filled spring and summer. There have been some changes here at the Clear Lake Recreation Center. The CLCCA Board of Trustees has found a new General Manager and I strongly feel they have chosen the right leader for everyone.

Our new General Manager is Leslie Alvarez. Ms. Alvarez has many ideas and a positive and uplifting vision for the future of our Recreation Center, outlying pools, and parks. One of the many items Ms. Alvarez is focusing on is the lack of use of the gym during idle times. She has several ideas to help generate more activity at our main facility during slack times.

The evenings here at the Recreation Center are energetic as usual. Clear Lake Boys Basketball has just finished their winter league and they will be using us, as always, for their summer league when that time arrives. Gulf Coast Volleyball Association is still with us using the gym more than ever and we look forward to having them all year long for years to come. Clear Lake High Lacrosse will be here again for their practices and, just like the other clubs, we look forward to their return.

I'm not sure what else is planned for the upcoming summer months, but with Ms. Alvarez' ideas and visions, I'm certain we will be busy and have a lot of excitement and fun to fill those hot summer days. I also believe all of you that use our pools to stay cool and keep your children busy will have a wonderful summer.

There are positive changes taking place as I write this article. Please stop by and welcome our new General Manager, Leslie Alvarez. As always, we appreciate your comments and ideas and are happy to answer your questions. I personally wish you all a pleasant summer with CLCCA and look forward to the amenities that come with a "HIGH STANDARD APPROACH."

SMALL THINGS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

by Alice Purcell, *Meadowgreen Trustee*

"If I have to look at those weeds one more day, I'm going to blow my top!" Most residents have felt the frustration of a neighbor's failure to keep his home and lot neat and attractive. If we all sat on 5 or 20 acres, we probably wouldn't mind so much; however, we live close to one another on relatively small lots. How our neighbors maintain their property affects us for good or bad.

For example, I delight to drive past a particular home in Meadowgreen. Their grass is always neatly groomed, and bright lovely blossoms splash their landscape with color. Beauty is indeed good for the soul.

However, there is another home that only mows about twice a year. Weeds abound. It isn't unusual to see trash piled in front of their garage and the trash can left in the street for several days after trash pick up.

For those who sacrifice time, energy, and resources to provide a pleasant place to live, a resident's lack of concern amounts to outright disrespect for his neighbors. That's where deed restrictions benefit us all. When we purchase property in CLCCA, we all agree to abide by our deed restrictions. This set of rules give us some minimal standards in showing respect to one another, so that we can live in peace among our neighbors and enjoy our lives in the one place that should serve as a respite: our homes. However, many situations may call for going beyond the rules set by the deed restrictions in demonstrating respect.

As a general rule, if the fence is down between my neighbor's backyard and mine, I should pay half the cost of repair. Similarly, if my son's guitar practice is distracting my neighbor, my son should tone it down. If my car parked in the street causes my neighbor difficulty in backing out of her driveway, I should choose another spot to park. Selfishness and disrespect have no place in our "close-living" society.

A few easily-remedied problems which are common are as follows:

Problem

Trash cans visible from street
Weeds in yards & gardens
Cars parked on grass
Mildew on siding
Fences in disrepair after Ike
Inoperable autos on property
Dog droppings in neighbors' yards

Remedy

Put cans behind the gate or a shrub
Mow, fertilize, pull the weeds
Only park on the pavement
Wash it
Repair them
Donate the car to charity
Pick up the poop

HELP WITH DEED RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS

Is someone in your neighborhood violating a Deed Restriction? Has your community association been unable to successfully address the violation? There is a City of Houston alternative available to help with the enforcement of Deed Restrictions, the City Attorney's Deed Restriction Enforcement Team. The following are the phone numbers and web site for this team.

- Neighborhood Services: 832.393.6491
- Deed Restriction Hotline: 832.393.6333
- <http://www.houstontx.gov/legal/deed.html>

The Deed Restriction Enforcement Team interfaces directly with neighborhood associations and citizens in order to prosecute nuisances and violations that negatively affect the preservation and protection of neighborhoods and the general quality of life in the community. They are responsible for Crime-based nuisance abatement, deed restriction enforcement, dangerous buildings abatement, Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission protests, and the title work to support these activities.

For those problems that may not fall under the Deed Restriction that you feel are none the less violation of the law, below is the City Of Houston Code of Ordinances website.

- <http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10123&sid=43>

ANNOUNCEMENT

Cash will no longer be accepted for payments in the CLCCA office starting May 18, 2009. Payments can be made with checks, money orders, and credit cards (Visa and MasterCard). Nearby grocery stores are available to purchase money orders. Cash will still be accepted at the Recreation Center pools, gym, and fitness room.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

DON'T MESS WITH CLCCA

It's time to work on keeping our neighborhoods clean. It has been over six months now, so no more HURRICANE IKE excuses allowed. Please keep the following reminders about trash collection in mind:

- Trash cans and yard waste products must only be placed on the curb after 6:00 pm the day before pickup. (See calendar)
- Yard waste must be out of site until after 6:00 pm the day before pickup.
- Junk waste (even months) and Heavy Tree waste (odd months) are only picked up once a month.

- Regular weekly tree waste must be in bags and/or bundles.
- Extra garbage must be in bags with stickers.
- Trash cans must remain out of sight between 10:00 pm on trash pickup day and 6:00 pm the next week on the day before pickup.
- Don't prevent waste product collection by parking vehicles in the path of the automated trucks.

These are all City of Houston Ordinances. You may receive letters from CLCCA addressing these items if you do not comply.

COMMUNITY	AUTOMATED GARBAGE DAY weekly on . . .	PILOT AUTOMATED RECYCLING DAY every other week on . . .	YARD TRIMMINGS DAY weekly on . . .	HEAVY TRASH DAY	
				TREE Waste will be each Odd month on . . .	JUNK Waste will be each Even month on . . .
Camino South	THURSDAY	N/A	THURSDAY	2nd THURSDAY	2nd THURSDAY
Meadowgreen	THURSDAY	N/A	THURSDAY	2nd FRIDAY	2nd FRIDAY
Oakbrook	THURSDAY	THURSDAY	THURSDAY	2nd MONDAY	2nd MONDAY
Oakbrook West	THURSDAY	N/A	THURSDAY	2nd TUESDAY	2nd TUESDAY

April

2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
O = Oakbrook OW = Oakbrook West CS = Camino South MG = Meadowgreen		1	2 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Recycling Pickup O	3	4
6	7	8	9 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Heavy Trash Pickup CS	10 Heavy Trash Pickup MG	11
13 Heavy Trash Pickup O	14 Heavy Trash Pickup OW	15	16 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Recycling Pickup O	17	18
20	21	22	23 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup	24	25
27	28	29	30 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Recycling Pickup O		

May

2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2
4	5	6	7 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup	8 Heavy Trash Pickup MG	9
11 Heavy Trash Pickup O	12 Heavy Trash Pickup OW	13	14 Trash/Yard Waste/ Recycling Pickup O Heavy Trash Pickup CS	15	16
18	19	20	21 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup	22	23
25	26	27	28 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Recycling Pickup O	29	30

June

2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup	5	6
8 Heavy Trash Pickup O	9 Heavy Trash Pickup OW	10	11 Trash/Yard Waste/ Recycling Pickup O Heavy Trash Pickup CS	12 Heavy Trash Pickup MG	13
15	16	17	18 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup	19	20
22	23	24	25 Trash/Yard Waste Pickup Recycling Pickup O	26	27
29	30				

Local Recycling Centers

Ellington Field

Open 7 Days a Week
8 AM - 8 PM @ Ellington Field
*Newspapers, Catalogs,
Phone Books, Magazines,
Cardboard, Plastic, Glass, Cans
(steel, aluminum, tin, aerosol)*

For more information, call City of
Houston Service Helpline @ 311

Metal Recycling Center

1211 College @ I-45
M - F 8:30 AM - 5 PM
Sat - Sun 9 AM - Noon
(713) 943-8456
*Cans, Copper, Brass,
Stainless Steel, Batteries*

Armand Bayou Nature Center

8500 Bay Area Blvd.
*Newspapers, Magazines,
Paper Products*

Clear Lake Elementary

Newspapers, Magazines

Freeman Library

Newspapers, Magazines

Space Center Intermediate

Continuous Newspapers

Clear Lake High School

Continuous Newspapers

GOOD USED BOOKS

*Freeman Library
Friends Bookstore*



THE CLCCA & PERIMETER FENCING

by Glenda Stroud, *Camino South Trustee*

In 1963, Friendswood began the development of Clear Lake City with a master plan. The first homes were built in Oakbrook, but Sections 1 in both Camino South and Oakbrook West soon followed. Some residents can remember when El Dorado ended at Hwy. 3. El Camino Real stopped with a barricade about half way toward what is now Pineloch: open fields of undeveloped land stretched beyond the barricade. Beginning in September, 1977, clearing land for Meadowgreen was begun.

Friendswood installed the first perimeter fencing in Camino South along El Dorado and El Camino Real. It was a wood fence consisting of narrow boards erected between brick columns. Friendswood painted it a bluish-gray. As Oakbrook flourished, the concrete walls were erected on Bay Area Blvd. In Oakbrook West and Meadowgreen, Friendswood first installed plain wooden fencing along El Dorado and El Camino Real, then later finished the perimeter fencing using the heavy concrete slatted fencing along El Camino Real and Pineloch.

During the years, most of the original wood fencing has been replaced. When Hurricane Ike damaged the perimeter fencing, much of it has had to be replaced. Some people wonder why the CLCCA did not seize the opportunity and replace the perimeter fencing as our neighboring association has done prior to Ike. Pineloch Association owns their perimeter fencing and each homeowner within its boundaries paid \$800 for that new brick fence: i.e. each homeowner paid the fee, not just those who had a perimeter fence in their backyard. Likewise, Bay Oaks homeowners are facing a similar cost---perhaps \$1200/household.

The CLCCA does not own the perimeter fences nor the perimeter easements within its boundaries. It is the responsibility of the individual homeowner to repair or to replace the perimeter fencing. Consequently, not all the fencing is replaced at the same time. Once the new fencing weathers, the difference will not be as noticeable. Should any individual or a corporation wish to contribute enough \$\$\$ for the replacement of all the perimeter fencing within the CLCCA, please send us your donation!

RECENT CHANGES TO BYLAWS AND POLICIES

by Alice Purcell, *Meadowgreen Trustee*
Bylaws and Policies Committee Chair

How boring! Bylaws, articles of incorporation, policies, deed restrictions, clarification instruments. Although these documents may appear boring on the surface, as the governing documents of the CLCCA, they play a significant role in the operations, direction, and controversies we hear about surrounding our community association.

While some of the documents can never be changed, the Bylaws and Policies have changed a number of times over the years. For example, changes to the election policy in 2006 led to anger and frustration when some homeowners came to vote and were not allowed for various reasons. The state legislature changed the law, and our Bylaws were amended in February to make sure that all resident homeowners of record are allowed to cast a ballot.

Although any resident homeowner or business proprietor can vote, trustee candidates must still be current in all assessments and fees.

The recall provision was also recently amended to require a minimum number of voters to cast a ballot in a recall election for the recall to carry.

In August 2008, Article 6.5 was amended to allow for Emergency Meetings to take place on short notice to address critical time-sensitive items like a water main break while allowing the Board to comply with the Open Meetings Act, which the CLCCA became subject to Sept 1, 2007.

The Bylaws and Policies Committee will be holding open meetings to further examine our Bylaws to determine what changes are needed. We will be looking at the purpose of the association, number of trustees, how to fill trustee vacancies, rules governing meetings, officer positions, and other general provisions. Check the website at clcca.org for notices about meetings. You may email me at mgreen.trustee@yahoo.com with comments and suggestions for changes to the bylaws and policies.

DOG PARK ANNOUNCEMENT

Harris County Precinct Two Commissioner Sylvia R. Garcia has authorized the creation of a Fenced Dog Park in the Clear Lake Area. The Dog Park is located at the Harris County Bay Area Park; 7500 Bay Area Blvd, Pasadena, Texas 77507.

<http://www.hctx.net/CmpDocuments/2/Parks/BayArea.pdf>

Bay Area Running K9s (BARK9) is not authorized to make any official announcement on behalf of Harris County nor act as an official spokesperson for Harris County. However, the items listed below are observations as the Dog Park construction proceeds and looking at the on site job plans.

This dog park will contain separate fence enclosures for large and small dogs, with separate double entry/exit gates. Presently there is no target date for opening at this time, but is planned for the spring of 2009.

The large dog enclosure will be approximately 5.5 acres and the small dog area will be approximately 1.5 acres totaling 7 acres all together. The dog park will border the eastbound traffic of Bay Area Blvd, northwest of Armand Bayou Nature Center. On-site restrooms, pay phone, and park office are nearby, behind the children's play area.

Each section will have drinking fountains, dog waste bag stations and trash receptacles. It appears to be planned with covered areas with benches, as well as several additional benches scattered throughout each section of the park. The overall dog park will have walking trails in each section. The plans call for a shared shower station, near the parking area, to cool the dogs during hot weather and to rinse off dirt & debris.

Visit our website to see announcements of dog related events and help us to lobby our elected officials to create additional dog friendly venues throughout Southeast Harris County and Northern Galveston County.

Fred Swerdlin
BARK9 President

Bay Area Running K9s (BARK9) is a not-for-profit state of Texas and 501 (c) (3) Charitable Organization with the IRS. We are dedicated to educating the public as to the benefits of green and open spaces for fenced, off-leash dog parks. Our principal goal is to work with communities in the Houston Bay Area that surround Clear Lake on the establishment and maintenance of such properties.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

CLCCA - office
(281) 488-0360

CLCCA - fitness room
(281) 488-0239

City of Houston Service Helpline 311



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police, Fire, Ambulance
911

Poison Control Center
1-800-POISON-1



NON EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Clear Lake Police Substation
(281) 218-3800

HPD Dispatch

(713) 884-3131

Constable Bill Bailey
(281) 488-4040

Sheriff
(281) 488-4717

Houston Fire Department
(713) 884-3143



HOSPITALS

St. John
(281) 333-5503

Clear Lake Regional
(281) 332-2511

Memorial Southeast
(281) 929-6100



UTILITIES

Reliant Energy
(713) 207-7777

Centerpoint Energy
(713) 659-2111

Clear Lake City Water
(281) 488-1164



OTHER

Freeman Library
(281) 488-1906

Space Center Houston
(281) 244-2100

Armand Bayou Nature Center
(281) 474-2551

Harris County Courthouse Annex
(281) 486-7250

ELECTION TIME FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The CLCCA will elect new members for the Board of Trustees at our annual election on Saturday, May 2, 2009, between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The election will be for candidates from the Meadowgreen, Oakbrook, Oakbrook West, and Commercial/Industrial areas for 3 year terms.

The dates and times for early voting are
April 20, 2009 through May 1, 2009 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

LIFEGUARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Are you interested in being a lifeguard? CLCCA has positions available this summer.

Contact Sarah Oziomek at 281-488-0360 to find out how you can get your certification and become a lifeguard.



16511 Diana Lane • Houston, Texas 77062
281.488.0360

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