

Westcreek Times

Oct - Dec 2014 4th Quarter

Villages of Westcreek Newsletter



President's Message

by Kevin Drummonds President, VWOA Board of Directors



I was asked by our Community Manager to put together an article for the quarterly newsletter, and as I was thinking of what to write about, dozens of subjects came to mind. Of course, none of them are new, but there may be some of which homeowners are not aware. So, I thought, why not just let everyone know of the projects the staff, board, and volunteers are working on throughout our community.

We have been working with the Emergency Services District #2 (ESD2) to have a fire station located next to the Community Center on the Grosenbacher side. We had several of the ESD2 Board or Directors attend our Board meetings and they were very receptive to the idea. We have been collaborating with Westcreek homeowners, Mr. Kenneth Lemanski and Gil Perez (President of the Board for ESD2), as well as Al Castillo (ESD2 Fire Chief). Currently, the plan is for them to place a temporary emergency services facility, which is essentially an EMS vehicle with fulltime manning in a small trailer next to the overflow parking lot and adjacent to the community center pool in October of this year. They will then begin the process to engineer and build a full-up fire station on the same land that we are leasing to them. This project will be at no cost to the association and should benefit us in improved services (i.e., reduced response times), while helping to decrease our home insurance rates. They even agreed to run with only lights until they are out of the immediate area of the station.

We also have a very active Sports Park Committee that has been working on park improvement recommendations. Their number one priority, which has been approved by the Board, is for an additional restroom facility in the park. The staff, working with members of the committee, developed a request for proposal outlining all of our requirements, and this will be going out very soon. We hope to see them break ground over the next few months.

Our maintenance staff has been working hard on many improvements and repairs, as well as their day to day operations. We have had some issues with the pools ranging from resurfacing the Sports Park pool deck, to pumps going out. Additionally, the Community Center deck will have to be resurfaced after the pool closes for the season. We have placed a lot of emphasis on the Sports Park main field and accomplished a lot of repairs on it over the past two years. However, the rest of the fields are also in need of repair. We recently placed top dressing on the small fields and continue to work on the irrigation systems. Hopefully you have noticed the automatic door opener we installed at the Community Center to make our facility friendlier to our handicapped members.

The By-Laws Committee has completed a review of the VWOA By-Laws. This process takes several meetings over many months. Every member of the committee is heard, and their comments are collectively included in the proposal to the community.

The Standards Revision Committee has also been working hard on updating the VWOA Standards. This process has been going on for several months also, and is coming closer to completion. If you want to have an input, come join us at one of these meetings. Please read over the standards (they are online), and have your comments ready so we do not have to go back over previously covered material.

We have an active soccer program. This season we have over 350 participants and as you can imagine, it (Continued on page 2)

President's Message (Continued)

has come with its share of problems. However, with the help of the staff and the Sports Committee, those items have been ironed out, and we look forward to having the most successful season thus far. We are always looking for ways to improve and we will continue to work together to make things better. The Recreation Department oversees all of the VWOA activities, not just They have been working on planning for soccer. National Night Out and Fall Fest, VWOA Angel Tree, and much more, as well as managing the pools and the park. This is one of our most active departments, and they have a huge job. They have the support of the staff in other departments, but they always welcome the help of volunteers and appreciate your patience when working these programs.

The Finance Committee has been working on the budget for several months now. They have submitted their recommendations to the Board and these will be brought to the open Board meeting in October. The committee gave several options in their recommendation, including options for raising assessments. The Board will be holding meetings prior to the regular Board meeting to discuss the details, but the final decision will be made in open session (as always).

Members of the community have expressed concern to the Board and the staff about having the Helotes Weekly thrown throughout our community. I have personally contacted the Express News on several occasions and cancelled my subscription to the regular paper to get them to stop. Nothing has worked. It is distressing to see the paper all over our streets and yards for many days. We are open to ideas, but would appreciate it if you would contact the Express News and let them know your opinion as well.

As you can see, our staff, BOD and committee members have been very busy working to improve our community. We welcome anyone interested to join our committees, attend the meetings, and become active in our association.



Manager's Corner

by Jennifer Bell Community Manager



Here come the cooler temperatures-hopefully! This summer was hot and dry, but as we enter autumn, the temperatures drop, daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 2, and we begin to celebrate the Holiday season. Halloween falls on Friday, October 31, 2014. In recent years, we received many calls from residents wanting to know the appropriate times for trick-or-treating. Each year we contact Bexar County and they give us recommended times but nothing concrete. VWOA suggests 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Please remember some basic safety tips about trick or treating:

- 1. Wear reflective clothing.
- 2. If your residence is participating in the festivities, turn your porch light on.
- 3. Carry a flashlight.
- 4. Parents/guardians-go with the children and stay in groups.
- 5. Pedestrians-be careful when crossing the streets.
- 6. Drivers-please go slow and be attentive to the numerous children and families that are enjoying the festivities.
- 7. Parents/guardians-always check your children's goodies from the evening to ensure the candies are safe and have not been tampered with.

It is hard to believe that once we get through Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. Many residents enjoy decking out their properties with adornments to celebrate the holidays. Please remember to follow the VWOA Standards regarding specific time frames for putting out your decorations. The Standards can be viewed on our website: www.villagesofwestcreek.com.

The BOD will be determining the 2015 assessments for VWOA homeowners at the October meeting. In late November, the 2015 Assessment reminder cards will be sent out to homeowners. Please make sure the VWOA office has a current address if you no longer live here. We only send the reminders out once a year as required by our governing documents.

VWOA continues to strive for great customer service, opportunities to participate in events and on committees, and keep our community a beautiful place to live. We welcome your constructive feedback and value our residents' input.



Architectural Review Meetings

The ARC will not be meeting during the Thanksgiving (11/25), Christmas (12/23), and New Year's (12/30) Holidays. If you wish to do any home improvements over the upcoming holidays, applications must be submitted for review by Monday the weeks prior.



Trick or Treating is on a Friday this year. Please try to limit your trick or treating from 6-9pm. Please don't forget to watch out for the children running up and down the street from house to house. And if you choose not to hand out any treats, please refrain from turning on your porch light that evening until after 10pm.

2014 HOLIDAY OFFICE SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec 22 - 9am-1pm Tuesday, Dec 23 - 12pm-4pm Wednesday, Dec 24 - Closed Thursday, Dec 25 - Closed Friday, Dec 26 - Closed

Monday, Dec 29 - 9am-1pm Tuesday, Dec 30 - 12pm-4pm Wednesday, Dec 31 - Closed Thursday, Jan 1 - Closed Friday, Jan 2 - 9am-1pm



Please mail payments to the VWOA office.

The PO Box has been closed.

Soccer Firsts for VWOA

Once again, this season has hit an all-time high for children registered: 357

This season the 9-14 age players will be playing 11 on 11 on a full 100 yard field. This gives them more space to practice offensive & defensive techniques as well as gain more experience for those who might want to play soccer for their high school. Fall 2014 our 12-14 age division will be combined in a league with The Great Northwest Homeowners Association. This season began on September 13 and will run through November 15.

As we continue to make changes & grow, we are extremely thankful for our Volunteer Coaches who make this all possible every season. They spend countless hours both on and off the field making sure our children have a positive and productive learning experience.

Thank you, Coaches!





To stay updated
on community
events and information,
go to our website:
www.villagesofwestcreek.com
and sign up for our free
email service.



You can also find us on Facebook!



Standards Reminders

by Adrian Suttles Superintendent of Standards



The holidays are upon us. Here are some friendly reminders from the Standards Department during your festivities:

Outdoor decorations for the holidays may be displayed on the outside premises of residential properties, without ARC approval, if they are displayed no earlier than

- ·- Forty (40) days before Christmas
- ·- Thirty (30) days before all other holidays
- ·- Removed no later than fifteen (15) days following the actual holiday's date (January 1 for the Christmas/New Year's holidays).

Therefore, this means that Halloween decorations can be put up on October 1st, and must be removed by November 15th. Thanksgiving decorations can be put up on October 28th, and removed by December 12th. Christmas decorations, however, can be put up on November 15th, and removed by January 16th.

Please keep in mind that if you attach lights on your house, the clips or nails need to be removed as well. This is not only for esthetic purposes but also to prevent damage. If nails are used and kept in the wood of the house, they end up rusting and therefore discoloring the fascia. This also allows water to penetrate into the fascia boards and promotes wood rot.

Fireworks: Unless a fire ban is in effect, they are permitted outside the City Limits, but not on

- ·- Utility easements
- ·- Grassy and weeded areas
- ·- Military Drive West, Westcreek Oaks, Westcreek View and Grosenbacher Road
- ·- Any common properties within the Villages of Westcreek.

All trash/debris must be removed from the property/streets by 9 AM the following day.

We hope that all of our Westcreek residents have a wonderful and safe holiday season. If there is anything we can assist you with, please call the office at 679-8761.



News You Can Use

by Melynda Porter Administrative Superintendent



We are now in the 4th and final quarter of 2014. The due date for assessments was October 1, 2014. Please keep in mind that if the assessments are not paid before the 31st of October, your account will be charged with finance charges. In November, we will be mailing out the coupon cards for the up-coming year (2015), and we do not send out quarterly reminder statements. If you do receive a statement, this is due to the fact that your assessments are considered late and finance charges have been applied. There are a few different ways that you can pay your assessments. The first option is for you to come into the office and pay by check, cash, money order or credit card. The second option is to set up your payment through your bank as a bill pay. If you choose this option, please remember to use your property address as your account number so we can reference it when processing the payment. The third option is to use the after-hours drop box that is located next to the front door, but please remember to put your payment in an envelope and reference your property address. We will process the payment the next business day.

Yard sales are very popular in the Villages of Westcreek, and there are a few things to remember when planning your next sale. As a resident/tenant of the VWOA, you are permitted 2 yard sales per calendar year. You must obtain a permit from the office prior to having the sale, and the cost for the permit is \$15.00. Sales are allowed on the second Saturday of each month from 7a.m. to 7p.m.

We attempt to keep all of our residents up to date with upcoming events and happenings in our community. If you are not yet receiving our weekly Constant Contact, please take a minute to visit our website, www.villagesofwestcreek.com and add your email to our mailing list. Our website has many areas for our residents to explore for information ranging from facility room contracts and the classes available in the community center, to volunteer information and upcoming committee meetings.

****IMPORTANT**** Your ID cards must be current to have access to the park, pools, and any VWOA events. Valid ID card stickers must be at least 4:4 to be current for the quarter. If you do not have the cards with you when you come in to pay, please feel free to leave them in our drop box and we will update and return them to you.

Advertising In The WC Times

A complete list of guidelines for advertising in the Westcreek Times, as well as required submission forms, are available on our website or at the VWOA office. Full page (7.5"wx10"h) \$450; Half page (7.5"wx5"h or 3.75"wx10"h) \$250; Quarter page (3.75"wx5"h) \$150; Eighth page (3.75"wx2.5"h) \$80.00.

Classified advertisements are \$10 for three lines of text (55 characters per line); additional lines are \$2 each. Ads should be emailed in high resolution color .jpg format to vwoaacm@sbcglobal.net; payment and forms should be dropped off at the VWOA office or mailed to Villages of Westcreek Advertising, 12395 Military Drive West, San Antonio, TX 78253.

The deadline for submission is the 10th day of the month prior to publication. All ads are subject to editing or rejection, and VWOA is not responsible for errors in original copy. For our errors, VWOA liability is limited to running one corrected ad. Neither VWOA nor its Board of Directors endorses any product or service advertised by this publication. Ads will be accepted on a first-come, space available basis. Therefore, all ads shall be submitted and paid for at the time, or put on a waiting list if need be. (Classified ads excluded).

DAYLIGHT SAYINGS TIME

ends Nox 2.
Don't forget to
Change your
Clocks back
1 hour?





The VWOA office will be closed the following upcoming holidays:

October 13th for Columbus Day November 11th for Veterans Day November 27th & 28th for Thanksgiving December 24th & 25th for Christmas

VWOA Community Info

Phone: (210) 679-8761 Fax: (210) 679-0040

After Hours Duty Phone (Emergency Only):

(210) 854-9282

Address: 12395 Military Drive West

San Antonio, Texas 78253

Office Hours: Sat-Sun - Closed; Monday 9am-6pm Tuesday-Friday 9am-5:30pm; The office will be open

Saturday, Oct 11, 2014 9:00am to 12:00 pm.

Website: www.villagesofwestcreek.com Email: board@villagesofwestcreek.com staff@villagesofwestcreek.com

Board of Directors:

President - Kevin Drummonds Vice President - Kenneth Fowler Secretary - Guy Oliver Asst. Secretary - Ismael Padilla Treasurer - Anthony Hoffman

Staff:

Jennifer Bell, Community Manager Sylvia Mennel, Assistant Community Manager Adrian Suttles, Superintendent of Standards Nancy Griffin, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation Jamie Esquivel, Superintendent of Maintenance Melynda Porter, Administrative Superintendent Melissa Garcia, Administrative Assistant

Committees & Chairs:

Finance Committee - Anthony Hoffman Strategic Planning Committee - Rick Severs Sports Park Committee - Melynda Porter Sports Committee - Varnell Johnson Communications Committee - Bill Fenstermacher Architectural Review Committee - Gene Hopkins Public Safety Committee- Nick Giardino

Westcreek Times:

Publisher - VWOA Board of Directors Editor - VWOA Staff Design and Layout - Paula Roberts Webmaster - VWOA Staff

YOUR AD HERE!

Advertise with the Westcreek Newsletter

vwoaacm@sbcglobal.net (210) 679-8761



Our Angel Tree Program will be kicking off on Monday, November 3, 2014. The VWOA office will start receiving applicants in need of some Holiday spirit. We are always grateful to those that give to our local families in need, so if you are able to give a little extra this holiday season, please come by the office and sign up to be an Angel this year. If you know of someone in need, or are in need yourself, please come to the office to complete a registration form. The Angels in need will start being adopted out on Monday, November 17, 2014.



Tuesday
Oct 7th
5pm-8pm
at the Sports Park

Villages of Westcreek Owners' Assessment Coupon

\$78.00 DUE 1/1/2015

4th Quarter 2014

Property Address:

Mail coupon with payment to VWOA
12395 Military Drive West San Antonio, Texas 78253



Villages of Westcreek 12395 Military Drive West San Antonio, TX 78253