

July 2017

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MIRA LAGOS

Messenger



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Who to Follow on Twitter

@MiraLagosHOA

Association Information and Neighborly News

@GrandPrairiePD

Grand Prairie Police Department

@gp_tx

City of Grand Prairie, Texas

@GrandFunGP

City Parks, Arts and Recreation Department

@mansfieldisd

Mansfield Independent School District

@Gpscanner

Grand Prairie Scanner, local Police, Fire, EMS

@DFWscanner

DFW Scanner, area Fire, Police, EMS

Who's your favorite? Tweet to @MiraLagosHOA with hashtag #MLMessenger!

Find us online at:

www.facebook.com/MiraLagosHOA

www.twitter.com/MiraLagosHOA



Association Contact Information

www.miralagoshoa.com

www.texas.fsrconnect.com/miralagos

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South Pool Office "Veranda"
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Grand Prairie, TX 75054

Office Hours
Tuesday-Saturday
8:30 am-4:30 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

FirstService Residential
Customer Service
(877) 378-2388

Mail Payments to:
Lockbox Address
Mira Lagos Homeowner's Association
c/o FirstService Residential
P. O. Box 60200
Los Angeles, CA 90060-0200



Relationships based on respect, trust and effective communication are the cornerstone of our success.



Committee Chairs
Chair Meetings: Bi-monthly



Communications

Erik Shinkle
communications@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: monthly

Social

Deirdre Garrett
social@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday monthly

Landscape

Pam Downs and Lisa Watkins,
Co-Chairs
landscape@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: 1st Wednesday monthly

Welcome

Susan Kennedy
welcome@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: monthly/electronically

Pool and Sports

Mike Joffrion
poolsandsports@miralagoshoa.com
3rd Tuesday (Apr-Sept)

New Members welcome on all committees!

Board of Directors

Joshua Spare, President
Eric Blackwell, Vice President
Robert McLain, Secretary
Jessica Cafferata, Treasurer
John Hughes, Director
board@miralagoshoa.com

Safety

Robert McLain, Chairman
safety@miralagoshoa.com
Co-chair : Cheyanne McLain
Meetings:
1st Tuesday monthly



As a nonprofit hunger relief organization, we distribute donated, purchased and prepared foods through a network of more than 340 Food Assistance Partners in 13 counties. Every day, we support the nutritional needs of children, families and seniors through education, advocacy and strategic partnerships.



North Texas Food Bank
4500 S. Cockrell Hill Road
Dallas, TX 75236-2028
214.330.1396
ntfb.org

Mira Lagos Messenger

Is the only authorized and official monthly publication for the residents of the Mira Lagos Community with news and calendar of community events endorsed by the Mira Lagos HOA & its members.

PUBLISHED BY Community News Connection, Inc.
206 W. McDermott Drive, Suite 120 • Allen, Texas 75013 • 972-396-8855
www.communitynewsconnection.com

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Park and Recreation Month

If you haven't already made plans to visit a national park this summer, consider doing so in July, which has been designated Park and Recreation Month by Congress.

Each year since 1985, Americans have celebrated national Park and Recreation Month during the month of July to recognize the importance of parks and recreation in establishing and maintaining the quality of life for, and contributing to the physical, economic and environmental well-being of communities.

Through efforts by the National Recreation and Park Association, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an official resolution for Park and Recreation Month in 2009. The association supports the national park and recreation community and the general public in promoting summer programming and celebrations in support of the field.

This year's theme is Celebrate, Advocate, Recreate! NRPA will support park and recreation agencies and citizens as they plan special events and initiatives that remind local decision makers and the community of the exciting and vital role that parks and recreation play in the lives of Americans.

Texas has Many to choose from you can learn more at NRPA.org



Farmers Market: Ice Cream Challenge



Date: 07/08/2017 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Farmers Market

120 W. Main St. • Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

The Grand Prairie Farmers Market will host the second annual Farmers Market Ice Cream Challenge from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (or until sold out). Charities will go head-to-head to see who has the best homemade ice cream recipe in order to be crowned the champions and win money for their charity. Tickets to sample all charities homemade ice cream and vote for your favorite will be on sale the day of the event.

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*\$369 monthly lease payment for 36 months based on MSRP of \$41,725 less the suggested dealer contribution resulting in a total gross capitalized cost of \$39,716. Cash due at signing includes \$2,999 capitalized cost reduction, \$795 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment. No security deposit required. 10,000 miles allowed per year. Residual value of \$25,035 plus taxes. With approved credit to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services through June 30, 2017. See Park Place Motorcars for complete details.

Mercedes-Benz

PARK PLACE MOTORCARS ARLINGTON
4201 Beltway Place | 817.807.4800
ParkPlace.com





Movie Night at Loyd Park at Joe Pool Lake

**Location: Loyd Park at Joe Pool Lake:
3401 Ragland Rd, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052
Cost: \$10/vehicle**



A starlit movie on the beach! Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a special night at Loyd Park at Joe Pool Lake.

- July 3: Hotel Transylvania
- July 9: Minions
- July 16: Star Wars: The Force Awakens
- July 23: Goonies
- July 30: Monsters University
- August 6: RV
- August 13: Brave

Website: www.grandfungp.org

Contact Phone: 972-237-4120 • Contact Email: bhicks@gptx.org



Full Steam Ahead: STEAM Art Summer Reading Club

Date: 07/05/2017 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Location: Main Library
901 Conover Drive
Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

For elementary school grades 1-5. Come hang out and join in fun art, math, engineering, literacy and science activities with your friends. This elementary school program focuses on STEAM and social/emotional interactions.

S.T.E.A.M. Art (Summer Time Exciting Amazing Magnificent ART). Pop in for an awesome art lab experience with an abstract theme!

Kids' Movie: Finding Dory Summer Reading Club

Date: 07/12/2017 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM
Location: Betty Warmack Library
760 Bardin Rd.
Grand Prairie, Texas 75052

Conversational English for Non-Native Speakers

Date: 07/20/2017 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Main Library
901 Conover Drive
Grand Prairie, Texas 75051
Introduction: Please register for this series. Por favor regístrate para esta serie.
Learn beginner level English in this 8 week series. Please register with Ana Soto at asoto@gptx.org or by calling 972-237-7542.

Aprenda inglés de nivel principiante en esta serie de 8 semanas. Por favor regístrate con Ana Soto en asoto@gptx.org o llamando al 972-237-7542.



HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July. Grand Prairie will host a celebration at Lone Star Park starting at 5 PM Located at 1000 Lone Star Parkway, 75050

Something is Hidden. Can you find it?



We have hidden in the Mira Lagos Messenger, small **Popsicle** Please email manager@miralagoshoa.com in the subject line put "I FOUND IT", a random drawing, WINS! Provide page item is on, name, address and phone number in the email.

**Good Luck and have fun!
If you find it there is a \$25.00 gift card.**

Fill-A-Backpack 2017



Alright, I know the 2016/17 school year just ended and it's time to hit the beach or travel. When you return, please think about the children who are not as fortunate as our own. The ML HOA Social Committee is starting early with our annual Community Sharing Event to fill 50 backpacks for children at Erma Nash Elementary School in Mansfield. From June 1st thru August 5th

let's pay it forward by helping families and especially the children in our neighboring community. **We welcome your donations to Fill-A-Backpack in 2017!**

We are seeking the following donations:

- New backpacks
- All basic school supplies for children (Kindergarten through 4th grade)
- Non-perishable food products – PLEASE DO NOT SEND expired products or open packets of food.

Donations can be dropped off at the HOA Office on S Camino Lagos (South Pool) during regular business hours Tuesday through Saturday between 6/1/2017 and 8/5/2017. Donations will be delivered to the school the week of 8/6/2017. Thank you!

~ Mira Lagos Social Committee

Grand Prairie Lone Stars & Stripes Fireworks Celebration

Date: 07/04/2017 5:00 PM
 Location: Lone Star Park
 1000 Lone Star Pkwy • Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

Experience giveaways, fireworks, family fun park and receive a military discount at the Lone Stars & Stripes Fireworks Celebration. Live Racing begins at 5 pm.

For more information visit, lonestarpark.com or call 972-263-RACE



Popsicles with the Grand Prairie Police



Come out to join us in a joint event with the Mira Lagos HOA and Grand Peninsula HOA!

Enjoy a popsicle with local Police Officers, meet some of your neighbors and build lasting relationships in your community!!

When: Saturday, July 15, 2017

Where: Grand Peninsula HOA Clubhouse

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm



Summer Camp - Grand Prairie Action Skate Park

Date: 07/10/2017 - 07/14/2017
 Location: Action Skate Park
 1002 Lone Star Parkway
 Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

For more information visit, actionparkgp.com or call (972) 262-4479.

LUAU 2017 at Hawaiian Falls

What a great time we had at the ML Annual Luau held on Saturday, May 27, 2017. This was the first year we celebrated at Hawaiian Falls in Mansfield and the accommodations were fantastic! Several hundred of Mira Lagos' families, friends, and neighbors had an opportunity to check out all the featured attractions and water slides all day and once the park closed to the public, Mira Lagos' residents were entertained by our featured guests, the Hawaiian (and New Zealand) Dancers. All in attendance enjoyed unlimited soft drinks, a great ICEE and a summer meal served by the Hawaiian Falls staff. I believe everyone enjoyed watching the children and parents show off their authentic Hawaiian dance and "warrior" skills! It was a fantastic way to begin the summer. Aloha!!

~ Mira Lagos Social Committee



Congratulations Yard of the Month Winners

1. La Tierra 2843 Pino
2. Las Brisas 2847 Vienta Ct
3. El Llano 2911 La Roda
4. La Pradera 3104 Pamplona
5. El Arroyo 3172 Porma

6. Marbella 7220 Rueda
7. Valencia 7323 Compas
8. Bella Vista 2855 England Pkwy
9. Bella Vista 3036 England Pkwy
10. Cordova 3051 Nadar

11. La Ensenada 2915 Barco
12. Escondido 2916 Benissa
13. Sonora 6931 Sarria
14. El Mirador 6855 Molina
15. El Sendero 6959 Alcalá



Recipes of the Month

Waco Style Hot Dogs

Ingredients:

- Hot dogs
- Hot dog buns, the bigger the bun the more stuff it can hold (Stadium or outdoor rolls work great)
- Sliced bacon, fried and crumbled
- Onion, chopped (to taste)
- Sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- Tomatoes, diced (grape and roma tomatoes best on these)
- Barbecue sauce, to taste
- Jalapeno pepper, seeded and diced

Directions:

- Grill dogs to desired doneness; a little char can add nice flavor!
- Toast buns if you like, then layer ingredients ~ sauce, dog, cheese, bacon, onions, tomatoes and jalapeno
- Add more sauce if needed.



Watermelon Cooler

- 4-5 cups of seedless watermelon (1 medium-sized watermelon), cut into chunks
- 1/2 peeled cucumber, cut into chunks
- 5 -10 mint leaves roughly chopped
- 3 tablespoons of sugar
- 1 tablespoon of fresh lime juice
- a pinch of salt

Directions

1. Divide your ingredients in half, and process it twice if need be. Place all the ingredients in a blender, and process until it smooth. Pour the mixture through a strainer into a bowl, pressing the solids with a wooden spoon to get all the liquid out.

2. Place the watermelon mixture back in your blender and add ice cubes. Depending on how slushy you want it, add your ice cubes accordingly. I wanted mine very slushy, almost like a snow cone, so I used lots of ice cubes. Serve immediately



Graduation Announcement



**PHILLIP
JORDAN
EPPS**

School name: University of the Incarnate Word San Antonio

Parent's name: Phillip & Janice Epps

Plans for after graduation: Continuing education to get Master's degree in Engineering Management

Dear Erik

Hello neighbors my name is Erik Shinkle, I moved here 8 months ago from California. I am married to my lovely wife going on 15 years and we have two children. I spent 13 years in the military and so far, love Texas and the opportunities it has given our family. I am the new chairperson for our HOA communications committee.

I would like to start a section of our newsletter designed for our residents to ask questions and have them answered by me. Please ask me anything, from HOA questions to Military advice, from cooking to Guns and I will select a few to be answered each month. Questions can be emailed to me directly at communications@miralagoshoa.com. I hope to hear from you.

Erik Shinkle



**A message from our local Ducks!!
Thank you for not feeding us bread.**

Bread makes us ill, as it does not contain the right nutrition or calories that we need to keep us warm in the winter.

Rotting bread pollutes our water and causes nasty surface algae, which kills our fish and gives us diseases. It also makes our water smell.

We do like:

- Half cut seedless grapes
- Cooked rice
- Birdseed (any type of mix)
- Peas
- Corn
- Oats
- Chopped lettuce



**Reach Your Neighbors!
Advertise in this Magazine!**



Contact Community News Connection for more information:

972-396-8855

info@communitynewsconnection.com

Tips For keeping Kids Hydrated This Summer



No Sweat

Children are much more prone to dehydration than adults because their bodies don't cool down as efficiently, and they are never more at risk than during the heat of summer. The danger arises when fluids are leaving the body through sweating faster than they are being replaced, and severe dehydration can be life-threatening. Taking a few simple precautions will protect your child and allow him to enjoy the summer fun safely.

Power Aid

Perhaps the best way to keep your child hydrated is to get her used to drinking liquids regularly. Offer healthy beverages at every meal and with snacks. And if you know a particularly busy or strenuous day is coming up in your child's schedule, add some extra hydration in her first meal of the day or even the night before. The American College of Sports Medicine recommends drinking the equivalent of a standard bottle of water (16.9 oz.) about 2 hours before vigorous exercise.

Get it for them

Don't wait until your child is thirsty to offer refreshment; by that time he is already dehydrated. Three studies by the University of Connecticut found that more than half of the children at sports camps were significantly dehydrated despite the availability of water and sports drinks and the encouragement to drink liquids. Get your child in the habit early on by scheduling frequent beverage breaks during activity, about every 20 minutes or so in hot weather. If possible, take all hydration breaks in a shady spot.

Raise a Glass

Following an organized game, kids are usually wild with excitement at a win or despondent in defeat. Keep your team focused by making a healthy beverage and snack part of the after-activity celebration or cooldown. Toast the efforts or success of the team to encourage your little athletes to drink the necessary quantities for good health.

Water Weight

How can you tell that your child is getting enough liquids? The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that children drink six glasses of water on an average day. During activity, however, your child can lose up to a half-liter of fluid per hour. The AAP suggests about 5 ounces (or two kid-size gulps) of water or a sports drink every 20 minutes for an 88-pound child. Kids and teens weighing about 132 pounds should drink 9 ounces.

Safety on Ice

Water is generally considered nature's perfect drink and the best liquid for routine hydration. It's inexpensive (often free), widely available, and suitable for everyone. When you pack a cooler for a game, freeze a number of water bottles ahead of time. The frozen bottles will keep the others cool and you will be able to pack more drinks in the cooler instead of filling the cooler with ice.

Keep in mind that while ice-cold beverages might seem like the perfect remedy for thirst, it's much better to provide liquids at a moderate temperature. Those first cold sips might be refreshing but it's hard for children (and even adults) to drink the necessary quantities at extreme temperatures.

Flavor Wins

Sports drinks might be your best bet for getting adequate amounts of liquids into your child during activities. Studies have shown that children routinely prefer flavored beverages to plain water and will drink up to 90 percent more when it is offered to them. Sports drinks also replace electrolytes lost from the body through sweating. Such beverages should be limited to use during athletic competitions or active play on a hot day, as they are generally high in carbohydrates and calories.

Kick the Caffeine

When choosing drinks for kids, avoid those that have caffeine, such as iced tea or many sodas. As a diuretic, caffeine can contribute

to the dehydration process by increasing fluid loss. In addition, as a stimulant, it can depress the symptoms of dehydration. Beverages such as soda or juice-flavored drinks might taste refreshing, but the high sugar content is unhealthy for many reasons and should be avoided for hydration except as a last resort.

Cool Idea

Kids can get caught up in their activities and are easily distracted by games, so chances are they won't jump at the chance for a rest period. If you have a hard time convincing your child to take a break from play to drink a beverage, offer a Popsicle. These frozen treats have high water content (a two-stick Popsicle has just about the right amount for a young child's needs), and their juicy flavors make them more appealing to kids.

Sweet Choices

Many fruits are excellent sources of water as well as being a nutritious snack. Offer fruits often during playtime and throw them in the cooler for after-game snacks. Fruit juice has a higher concentration of sugar than whole fruit and because of that, it's not the best beverage choice for hydration during strenuous exercise. But the AAP (American Academy of Pediatric) does see a place for it among your options: for activity periods longer than three hours, the AAP suggests a drink of half water and half 100-percent juice.

Eat Your Veggies

Always include high-water-content foods in your daily meal planning to help your family stay well-hydrated at all times so strenuous activities don't find them in a deficit. In addition to water, fruit, fruit juice, and many vegetables are excellent sources of hydration. Clear soup, especially when made with vegetables, offers an ideal way to get liquid into the diet along with good nutrition.

Winning Strategy

As they get older, you won't be able to follow your kids everywhere to ensure they're getting the liquids they need. But you can help them to understand the importance of hydrating frequently for good health. Instill in them early on the habits of frequent beverage breaks and choosing liquids wisely. Help those good habits along by always packing good sources of hydration into their lunchboxes or backpacks as not-so-subtle reminders to keep up the good work!

Grand Prairie Water Restrictions

To keep the city's water supply at a safe level and to comply with the city's wholesale water purchase contracts, the following restrictions apply at all times:

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- No watering on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday.
- Even numbered addresses may water on Mondays and Thursdays.
- Odd numbered addresses may water on Tuesday and Fridays.
- When watering, a constant stream of water should not be allowed to flow into the street drainage.
- Watering during precipitation is prohibited. Rain sensors are required on newer watering systems.

Allowed:

- Handheld and soaker hoses can be used any time.



Drought Contingency Plan (Emergency Water Use Plan) Information:

The Drought Contingency Plan may, depending on need, also prohibit all or some of the following non-essential uses (water use that does not directly benefit or maintain health, personal cleanliness, or firefighting purposes):

1. Irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
2. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle; except as otherwise provided under this plan.
3. Use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
4. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
5. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run in any gutter or street, except as part of water quality management to flush stagnant water or enhance disinfection residuals;
6. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools;
7. Use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
8. Failure to repair a leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s) and;
9. Use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than firefighting.
10. Use of water from public drinking supply for gas well operations including fracturing and drilling

Ideas for Summer Learning and FUN!



Create an Imagination Box

A simple activity like taking apart an object can keep your kids learning and entertained this summer.

Gather broken or old mechanical items, some tools, a bin or box and create an imagination box. Place a keyboard, an alarm clock, a calculator, a radio, or even a toaster in the box as well as a magnifying glass, a screwdriver (with optional heads), a pair of pliers, a wrench, a small hammer then let your kids begin to take apart the items. By taking apart mechanical objects or anything with moving parts, your kids will be using fine motor skills, concentration, critical thinking and their imaginations! (Be sure to avoid items that could be dangerous. An electrical cord to an item should have the wire cut completely off as close to the item as possible. Adult supervision is recommended.)

Fairy or Dinosaur Garden

Creating a fairy, dinosaur or any play garden using a galvanized bucket (any large opening container will work) filled with dirt or soil and good ole resourcefulness can provide hours of outdoor fun and learning! Have your kids collect small toy dinosaurs, toy fairies or figurines, toy animals, toy trucks and cars as well as gather rocks, sticks, and leaves from your yard. With all the toys and nature collected, your kids can plan a city, a village, a jungle, or a forest where dinosaurs roam, fairies fly and super heroes save the day! Kids can use a watering can to make rain, glitter for fairy dust and sand to create roads. A plastic lid can be used to create a water feature in their garden. Along with having fun, encouraging your kids to play outside engages imagination, increases physical activity, and helps with concentration and focus.

Rock Fun

Rocks can be fun! Painting rocks is a great outdoor activity. Kids can paint the letters of the alphabet on rocks to spell words and names to continue spelling lessons during the summer. Or kids paint numbers on the rocks for adding and subtracting. Rocks can be painted to look like vegetables and fruit for pretend farming, cooking or grocery shopping. Another idea is to paint domino dots on rocks. After painting the dots correctly on the rocks, enjoy playing dominoes with the family. Also, let your kids have fun creating rock art. Then display their artful rocks in flower beds and potted plants. Painting encourages self-expression, motor skills, color awareness and inventiveness. Acrylic paint can be used on the rocks. Once the paint is dry, an adult can spray a paint sealer on the rocks for weather proofing.

THAT STREET LIGHT IS OUT!

ONCOR Electric owns and maintains the tall street lights scattered throughout Mira Lagos. Should you observe a nonfunctional street light in need of service, please report the issue directly to ONCOR Electric for a prompt repair.

The company's website is www.oncor.com or call 888-317-4747.

The website is very user friendly, allowing you to input your street address and navigate with ease to the light in question. As ONCOR says, "Thanks for helping keep the lights on!"



Pool Drowning Prevention



Put the Phone Down

While your children are playing, pay Attention, If you have an emergency phone call ask your children to get out of the pool. Nothing is more important than your children's safety. Closely supervising your children is the key to prevent drownings

Layers of Protection

In addition to close supervision, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recommends layers of protection, including barriers, such as a fence with self-closing, self-latching gates, completely surrounding pools to prevent unsupervised access by young children. If the house forms a side of the barrier, use alarms on doors leading to the pool area or a power safety cover over the pool. It is important to always be prepared for an emergency by having rescue equipment and a phone near the pool. Also, parents should learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Look in the Pool First

There are about 300 drowning deaths of children younger than 5 each year in swimming pools. Most of the victims had been missing for 5 minutes or less when they were found. Precious time is often wasted looking for missing children anywhere but in the pool. Since every second counts, always look for a missing child in the pool or spa first.

Drowning is Silent

Parents may think that if their child falls in the water, they will hear lots of splashing and screaming, and that they will be able to come to the rescue. Many times, however, children slip under the water silently. Even people near or in the pool have reported hearing nothing out of the ordinary during drowning incidents.



At FirstService Residential we have very strong values!

We strive to meet these values every day for our residents and hope you will join us in recognizing those individuals who go above and beyond in delivering great customer service.

- ▶ Have you witnessed an associate doing something great?
- ▶ Have you been exceptionally pleased with the service you have received?
- ▶ Do you want to let others know how awesome someone is?

Help us show recognition to our Star Performers. Please email your feedback to starserviceonsite@fsresidential.com. Be sure to list the Star performers' name and community. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Your HOA Management Team










NOTARY SERVICES



The On-site Manager, Stacy McGrath, and Assistant Manager, Matt Urbaniak are Notaries for Mira Lagos. This is a free service for residents and homeowners. Please make an appointment at manager@miralagoshoa.com.



Is your street interested in throwing a block party? Not sure what you need to do? Let's cover the basics. Block parties can be a great way to meet your neighbors, build relationships and have fun. Where should you start?

1. Pick a date, get a few organizers together and delegate duties. Pick 2-3 dates and ask your neighbors what dates they can attend, to maximize participation. Pick a theme, have name tags you may know everyone but not all your neighbors know one another.

2. Block off the street to be safe you will need to get a block party application approved by the GPPD. Visit gptx.org and search for Block party application, you will need this form to have your street blocked off. The concern of accident liability has many steering clear of allowing the BBQ grill or bounce house on their property. How to handle this worry? One source said they have homeowners sign a waiver to protect homeowners and reduce potential neighborhood tension.

3. What to eat? BBQing, catering, potluck so many options, manning the grill and enjoying a beverage is my favorite, whatever your street decides, make sure everyone is on board, maybe a few neighbors want their entrée catered and others want to cook, go for it. The intent is to mingle and enjoy each other. Many neighborhoods opt for each family to bring their own beverages (although some will provide soft drinks) and often ask every family to donate a set amount to offset the cost of the meat, prizes for the kiddies and entertainment.

4. Entertainment, DJ's, block rockers, garage-stereos, bounce houses, bean-bag toss, washers, face paintings, snow cones, sack races, make it fun! Come up with games for all ages, maybe get a street block party trophy, for the winner. Have a pie eating contest, or egg toss (please clean the street if you do) water balloon toss for the kids or adults. There are way too many ideas to list, talk to your neighbors and see what they like.

5. Other ideas, Ask the local police and fire department if they would stop by for a mini hands on seminar for the kids. Have a bike decorating contest, chili cook off, or live entertainment.

6. Have a plan, be safe, have sunscreen, first aid kits, water and shade available. If you're going to have alcohol be safe. Don't try and ride a mini dirt bike with a fire-works mortar launcher duct-taped to a helmet and shoot off fire-works while popping a wheelie! Let's have the neighbors talking about what a great time they had and not telling the story of how the fire depart showed up.

7. Clean up! Nothing is worse than being the neighbor that didn't help, if you played help clean up. Designate a house for trash. Make sure you have bags, and containers out for trash and recyclables.

Important Information!



Please note the following important changes being made to Online Payments

ClickPay will be our new and preferred provider for accepting homeowner payments made online began May 22, 2017.

Payments made by e-check (ACH) and credit or debit card through our existing online payment provider will be disabled on May 21, 2017. Homeowners will be required to activate their new account with ClickPay on or after May 22, 2017 in order to make payments online.

For questions about these upcoming changes, please contact ClickPay@FSResidential.com.

Grand Prairie Snap & Send!



Grand Prairie residents using the city's new "Snap and Send" app can now report issues, such as street light outages and code violations, using their smartphones. The app, currently compatible with iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, allows users to specify the location of an issue and attach a photo to send directly to city staff as well as track the status of their service requests.

Search "Snap and Send Grand Prairie TX" in the Apple App Store and download for free. The city plans to make the app available for Android users in the future.

Residents can also report issues directly through the city's website at gptx.org/report or call city offices at 972-237-8000.

Fun *STEAM* Programs Keep Kids Sharp Over The Summer



Fun STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) programs throughout the summer help keep kids sharp and ready for school in the fall. All Grand Prairie library locations have free programs on astronomy, 3D printing, and more. We welcome special guests like Symphony Arlington, the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, the Perot Museum Tech Truck, and Kidz Science Safari.

- July 5. 3 p.m. at the Main Library: Full STEAM Ahead: STEAM Art Party. Pop in for an awesome art lab experience with an abstract theme! For kids in grades 1-5.
- July 11. 6 p.m. at the Main Library: Family Science Night. How Tall Can You Go – Come build a tower out of index cards and tape. Let's see whose tower is the tallest.
- July 13. 2:30 p.m. at the Warmack Library: Lego-palooza. All ages welcome. Come build with Legos and Duplo blocks.
- July 18: Noon at the Main Library: Byte Size Tech. Kids in grades 3-8 are invited to learn more about 3D printing in this fun, hands-on program. Participants will be able to use 3D software to create objects and view the 3D printer in action!
- July 20. 3:30 p.m. at the Warmack Library: Full STEAM Ahead: Perot Tech Truck. All ages welcome.
- July 21, 4:30 at the Main Library: Wild About Engineering. Join us for this family program as an engineer from Lockheed Martin leads us in a hands on STEM activity. For elementary ages and up.
- July 25. 3 p.m. at the Shotwell Library: Full STEAM Ahead: Sun, Moon and YOU! Prepare for the Eclipse. For the first time in 26 years, a total solar eclipse will occur in our great country on August 21. Prepare for the opportunity of a lifetime - to see the most beautiful thing on the planet. We'll talk about eclipses and build a pinhole camera for safe viewing of the eclipse in August. For kids in grades 1-5.
- August 8. 3 p.m. at the Shotwell Library: Full STEAM Ahead: Leave Your Mark on SHOTWELL. Art materials will be provided to leave your mark on designated Shotwell Library Walls. Say goodbye to our space before our remodel begins and help create a living art space. For kids in grades 1-5.
- August 9. 3 p.m. at the Main Library: Full STEAM Ahead: Block Party. Hang out with old and new friends at the library block party featuring centers with a variety of building blocks. Create amazing structures while recapping your summer! For kids in grades 1-5.
- August 15: Noon at the Shotwell Library: Byte Size Tech. Kids in grades 3-8 are invited to learn more about 3D printing in this fun, hands-on program. Participants will be able to use 3D software to create objects and view the 3D printer in action!
- August 16. 4 p.m. at the Warmack Library: Full STEAM Ahead: The Magic of Monarchs. Learn more about the beautiful travelers known as Monarch butterflies. Made possible by the Texas Wildlife Association.
- August 19. 10 to noon at the Main Library. Summer Reading Club Grand Finale: Come join us for our final SRC program with the Perot Tech Truck and Kidz Science Safari. Get amazed by these incredible, hands-on science experiments and STEAM activities. Supplies are limited.

**The Grand Prairie Main Library is located at
901 Conover Dr. 972-237-5700.
Visit us online at www.gptx.org/library**

Emergency Supply Kit and Plan

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) suggests that families have an emergency kit and a plan in place before an emergency occurs or disaster strikes. Texas weather is unpredictable and conditions change rapidly. Is your family ready? Does your family have a plan for emergencies?

Emergency Kits should include:

- Water - three days' worth of water for drinking and sanitation purposes; a gallon per person, per day
- Food - three days' worth of non-perishable food and a manual can opener
- Radio – hand crank, battery powered radio and a NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radio which is a nationwide network radio that broadcast continuous weather warnings, watches and forecasts 24/7.
- Matches – in a jar or waterproof container
- Flashlights - extra batteries
- Family documents – insurance policies,

identification, bank account numbers in waterproof container

- Wrench or pliers - to turn off utilities
- Pet supplies – food, medications, leashes and extra water
- Cell phone supplies – portable battery operated or solar powered cell phone charger
- Special supplies – female, personal hygiene and package moist wipes
- Dust Masks – to filter contaminated air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape – to shelter in place
- First-aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Utility knife
- Cash
- Medications
- Glasses
- Local Maps

Family emergency plan suggestions:

As a family, routinely discuss a fire escape plan, what to do in a natural disaster or in



severe weather conditions including tornadoes and hail. Also, families need to discuss how to respond to terrorist attacks. Have an emergency place to meet should something happen to your home or during school and work hours, as well as a list of contact names and phone numbers.

Be ready and prepared before an emergency happens.

Mosquito Repellent by Thermacell



The results are positive and the reviews are high for Thermacell Mosquito Repellent products! This is fabulous news for North Texas outdoor lovers and mosquito haters! Besides being annoying and pesky, mosquitoes are known for spreading diseases to people all over the world and Texas mosquitoes are notorious for spreading West Nile virus.

Enjoying outdoor spaces, sporting events, camping, fishing and dining in your own backyard are almost impossible in Texas due to mosquitoes. Every summer stores load shelves with numerous insect and mosquito

repellent products, it can be overwhelming.

Be overwhelmed no more. Thermacell Mosquito Repellent has made breakthroughs in mosquito repellent using a synthetic form of a chemical that occurs naturally in chrysanthemum flowers. This flower chemical will not harm humans or pets. Tested by government agencies and universities have shown Thermacell is 96% effective in repelling mosquitoes.

Thermacell Mosquito Repellent products create a 15' x 15' protection zone on your patio, at campsites and even around you as you hike. Their



products range from small portable devices, lanterns and torches to a contemporary design called Halo. These products will protect from 12 to 48 hours depending on the product. The products are powered by butane cartridges which are cordless. The butane heats a metal grill on the device which holds a small mat saturated with repellent. As the mat heats up it disperses repellent into the air creating a zone of protection. Thermacell products and accessories

are guaranteed against defects for one year and are sold at sporting stores, DIY stores, and hardware stores as well as online.

This summer try creating a mosquito repellent protection zone with Thermacell products and take back your patio and outdoor spaces.



POOL NEWS

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

Inclement weather will follow these guidelines this pool season:

- Thunder – Pools closed until after 30 minutes from last heard thunder.
- Lightening – Complex closed until after 30 minutes from last seen lightening.

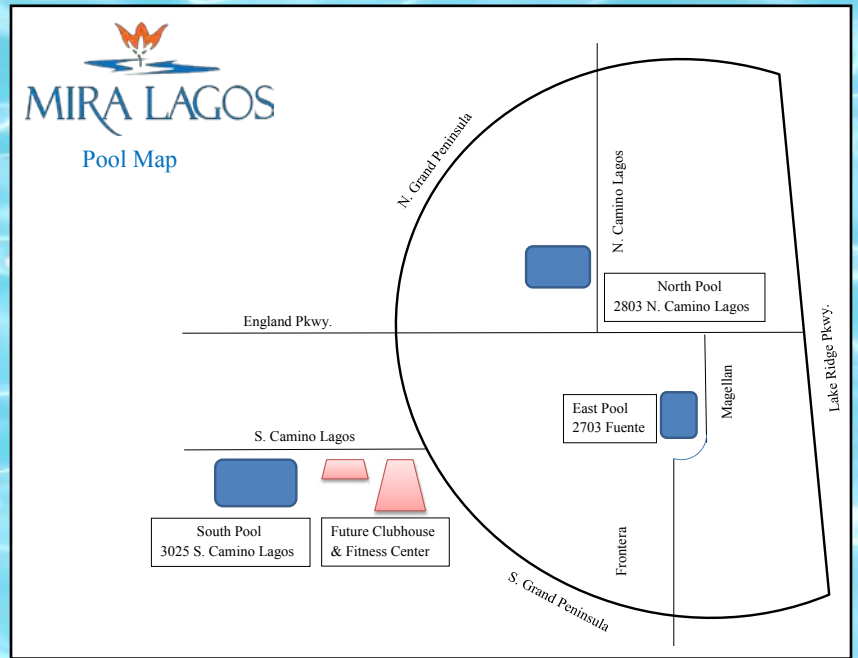
Remember, if you can hear it “clear it” and if you can see it “flee it”

CONTAMINATION PROCEDURES

Should there be a contamination in the pool this season, here is how it will be handled:

- Vomiting – Closed up to 60 min to neutralize contaminant
- Fecal – Closed up to remainder of the day to neutralize contaminant

** Utilize 5 minutes for restroom breaks and to properly hydrate. **



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How To Select a Great Realtor

DO NOT blindly walk into or call a neighborhood firm and ask for an agent at random.

Ask friends and family for recommendations.

Pay attention to whether a potential agent is listening closely to what you say. Is he or she asking follow-up questions which prompt further explanation and help him or her understand exactly your needs and wants?

Give a potential agent the opportunity to educate you. A good agent should walk a customer through the buying or selling process before ever showing properties or discussing a specific transaction.

Have a good idea of what you expect from an agent and communicate those expectations. How often do you want to hear from your agent? Do you want to hold meetings at your house rather than the real estate office?

Evaluate the agent's firm and/or office. Look for a real estate organization whose agents can empower you with real estate expertise and resources and provide first-rate customer service.

Broker & State Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser (# TX-1336180-R)