

August 2016

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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

On-Site Management
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manager@miralagoshoa.com

Matt Urbaniak,
Assistant Manager
Matt.Urbaniak@fsresidential.com

Cynthia Prox, Administrative Assistant
Cynthia.prox@fsresidential.com

817-473-6787 (office)
817-473-4978 (fax)

South Pool Office "Veranda"
3025 S. Camino Lagos
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:
New 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

Carlos Cucalon
communications@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: monthly

Social

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

Landscape

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

Welcome

Elissa Sherlock
welcome@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: monthly/electronically

Pool and Sports

Mike Joffrion
poolandsports@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
Meetings:
1st Tuesday monthly



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HSNT Welcome Home Adoption Center
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HSNT Keller Regional Adoption Center
330 Rufe Snow Dr. • Keller, TX 76248
Open 12 pm - 6 pm Monday - Saturday
817-743-4711 • Keller@hsnt.org • www.hsnt.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.

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Home Improvements

Summer-time, also means home improvement time. So, before you get started on that long “Honey Do” list, please make sure you have submitted the appropriate Architectural Modification Form (ACC) as well as checked with the city for any possible permits or requirements. An ACC Form is usually required and approval is needed if you are planning any home improvement project that will impact the exterior of your home (solar screens, porch lighting, sheds, fences, porches or new landscaping, etc.).

We need to hear from you before work commences. Performing improvements without HOA approval can impact your ability to sell your home in the future. So please plan ahead. Please fill out the appropriate form with a detailed description of the work you are requesting to have done (include height, color, location, drawing on plat, etc). Your request will be reviewed and a response will be mailed to you within 30 days. The Architectural Modification Form can be located at: <http://texas.fsrconnect.com/miralagos> or miralagoshoa.com.

Please see the back page of this publication for an additional copy of the ACC Approval form.

Welcome Reception
August 7 • 4:30-6:00pm
Grand Model Home ~ Las Brisas
7404 Brisa Court
Food, drinks & prizes.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



PLEASE UPDATE YOUR REMIT TO ADDRESS FOR YOUR HOA PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

New Lockbox Address:
 Mira Lagos Homeowner's Association
 c/o FirstService Residential
 P. O. Box 60200
 Los Angeles, CA 90060-0200
STARTING IMMEDIATELY!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST UPCOMING EVENTS

- 08/01 through 08/13 - Community Backpack Event
- 08/15 – Summer Olympics begin in Rio
- 08/11 – CPR Class at Rush Creek 6:00- 9:00 p.m.
- 08/13 – Movie Night – South Pool – “UP” 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- 08/22 – MISD School Starts August 22nd
- 08/25 – First Aid – Rush Creek 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



What's Happening



August Dollar Days

Date: All month long

Location: Dallas Arboretum

8525 Garland Road

Dallas, TX 75218

The dog days of summer bring in Dollar Days in August at the Arboretum. Throughout the entire month, visitors can enjoy general admission for only \$1 and parking for \$5. Members receive free general admission and parking year-round, so be sure to spread the word about this great discount to friends and neighbors. For an additional \$1 per person, guests can enjoy a summer day filled with wonders and excitement in our 8-acre Children's Adventure Garden.

Be the Dinosaur

Date: All month long

Location: Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau

636 S. Main St.

Grapevine, TX 76051

"Be the Dinosaur" uses state-of-the-art video game technology in a hands-on exhibit featuring full-size dinosaur bones, a paleontology field station, a Safari Jeep and more. Visitors of all ages can virtually "be the dinosaur" as they explore questions about dinosaur life including, "How do I find food? Should I go it alone or join a herd? How do I defend myself against a marauding T. Rex? Can dinosaurs swim?" See full scale T. Rex and Triceratops skulls, flesh restoration T. Rex head, and Pteranodon and other exciting hands-on fossil replicas.

Nonsense

Date: 08/01/2016 – 08/07/2016

Location: Courtyard Theater of Plano

1509 H Ave.

Plano, TX 75074

Brick Road Theatre presents "Nonsense." When the Little Sisters of Hoboken discover that their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, has accidentally poisoned 52 of the sisters, they are in dire need of funds for the burials. The sisters decide that the best way to raise the money is to put on a variety show, so they take over the school auditorium, which is currently set up for the eighth grade production of "Grease." Here we meet Reverend Mother Regina, a former circus performer; Sister Mary Hubert, the Mistress of Novices; a streetwise nun from Brooklyn named Sister Robert Anne; Sister Mary Leo, a novice who is a wannabe ballerina; and the delightfully wacky Sister Mary Amnesia, the nun who lost her memory when a crucifix fell on her head. Featuring star turns, tap and ballet dancing, an audience quiz, and comic surprises.

Website: http://www.brickroadtheatre.org/?_ga=1.226434770.979082720.1467949538

Exciting Samba Dance

Date: 08/01/2016 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Location: Main Library

901 Conover Dr.

Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

Get ready for Rio's Summer Olympics by learning more about one of their most colorful, exciting dances - the Samba! Dancers from the United Dance Academy perform and share their dance and music. This program features a dance performance, a dance game and audience interaction/education and photos with dancers!

Best of the New York Children's Film Festival:

Kid Flix 1, First Half (Ages 3-8)

Date: 08/02/2016 – 11:00 a.m.

Kid Flix 2, First Half

(Ages 8 and Up)

Date: 08/02/2016 – 2:00 p.m.

Kid Flix 1, Second Half (Ages 3-8)

Date: 08/03/2016 – 11:00 a.m.

Kid Flix 2, Second Half (Ages 8 and Up)

Date: 08/03/2016 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

3200 Darnell St.

Fort Worth, TX 76107

Films are shown in the auditorium at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. Admission is free and open to the public. Seating is limited to the first 250 guests. The age ranges listed are recommendations. Gallery admission is free for film attendees and adult chaperone on the day of the film.

Take a break from the Texas heat for Modern Kids - Summer Flicks! Share the art of the screen with your children as they watch stories unfold and ideas form in delightful and innovative films. The bonus for seeing these films at the Modern is the opportunity to visit the galleries before or after and experience the wonder of the paintings, sculptures, installations, and videos throughout the museum.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey: Circus Xtreme

Date: 08/03/2016 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: American Airlines Center

2500 Victory Ave.

Dallas, TX 75219

High-wire wizards, powerful strongmen, BMX trick riders, trampoline daredevils, inconceivable contortionists, a high-flying human cannonball, and a bungee aerial skydiving display provide thrilling entertainment for circus goers.

Art and Wine Walk

Date: 08/11/2016 – 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Downtown Plano

15th Street and K Avenue

Plano, TX 75074

Sample selected wines at shops throughout the Plano arts district while enjoying live music and curated art exhibitions. The monthly Art &

Wine Walk is scheduled monthly, April through November, on the second Thursday of each month.

Website: <http://www.visitdowntownplano.com/>

Brick 2016

Date: 08/11/2016 – 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas

500 W. Las Colinas Blvd.

Irving, TX 75039

A celebration of all things LEGO, this show has something for everyone. See life size LEGO models from Superman to Cinderella, meet professional builders live on stage, watch build demonstrations, participate in contests and much more. Participate in a group build or focused workshops, shop in the official LEGO store or find unique LEGO gifts and accessories for sale in Brick Lane.

Website: <http://brickshowslive.com/>

Owl Prowl

Date: 08/11/2016 – 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Trinity River Audubon Center

6500 Great Trinity Forest Way

Dallas, TX 75217

Bring the whole flock out to learn a bit about these amazing and mysterious birds of the night. We'll learn to call owls, learn ways to attract owls to your yard, and make your community more owl-friendly. Learn about the owls that call Dallas home and study owl anatomy, hunting techniques, and their amazing powers of sight and hearing. Join us - we're sure to have a hoot!

Website: <http://camperregsecure.com/trinityriver/index.php>

Photo Safari

Date: 08/20/2016 – 8:00 a.m.

Location: Fort Worth Zoo

1989 Colonial Pkwy.

Fort Worth, TX 76110

Professional and amateur photographers alike can register for a Fort Worth Zoo Photo Safari session. Each session provides participants the opportunity to capture Zoo animals exhibiting natural behaviors. In addition to a unique photo opportunity, each session includes coffee and a Danish, expert information about your photo subjects by a zookeeper and all-day admission to the Zoo. Photographers must be at least 16 years old and supply their own equipment. Session size is limited. (Minimum class size required for class to take place.)

Website: <https://www.fortworthzoo.org/education/camps-programs/photo-safari>

Important links

Get Fit GP: www.gptx.org/GetFitGP

Fort Worth: www.fortworth.com/events/

MIRA LAGOS MOVIE NIGHT AUGUST 13, 2016



Join us for Mira Lagos' Summer Movie Night on Saturday, August 13, 2016 at the South Pool, 3025 S. Camino Lagos. We'll have the popcorn. You bring the family, your chairs, blankets and snacks for your family. No alcoholic beverages please. The family movie will begin at dusk.

The Social Committee is seeking Teen Volunteers! Earn your community service hours during the Mira Lagos Social Events and Activities. Contact the Social Committee at social@miralagoshoa.com for more information.

Mira Lagos HOA Social Committee

CPR CLASS

Hosted by the Mira Lagos HOA Safety Committee at The Church on Rush Creek
CPR Class - Taught by Grand Prairie Fireman,
Brad Smith
Thursday, August 11, 2016
6:00pm-9:30pm

Residents will learn how to perform life-saving CPR. At the completion of this class American Heart Association CPR cards will be issued. Must attend entire class. Arrive on time and ready to learn.

RSVP to: Safety@MiraLagosHoa.com



Safety COMMUNICATION

Dear Residents,

Safety within our communities is always our top priority. Feeling safe where you live is important to all of you, and the same for us at FirstService Residential. As a resident in Mira Lagos we wanted to inform you that FirstService Residential Association Representatives and Community Vendors visit your property to perform their roles within the community. At times, these visits may be at odd times of the day or evenings (i.e. at night for an irrigation leak). If you ever see anyone in the community that is suspicious to you, call 911 immediately. Please do not engage with a suspicious person on your own.

Most vendors will drive vehicles that are noticeably marked with the company logo, but not always, especially when addressing after-hours emergencies. Directly approaching any vehicle driven by someone you do not know is a safety risk, therefore we discourage you from doing so.

If you have any questions about your community, or this memo, we encourage you to contact our 24/7 Customer Care Center at 877-378-2388.

It is our goal to properly maintain your community and work with local enforcement to promote safety. Thank you for your help in this effort.

Stacy McGrath
General Manager

First Aid Class



Hosted by the Mira Lagos HOA Safety Committee
at The Church on Rush Creek
First Aid Class - Taught by Grand Prairie Fireman,
Brad Smith
Thursday, August 25, 2016
6:00pm-10:00pm

Residents will learn basic first aid. At the completion of this class American Heart Association First Aid cards will be issued. Must attend entire class. Arrive on time and ready to learn.

RSVP to: Safety@MiraLagosHoa.com

Congratulations Yard of the Month Winners

July 2016 Yard of the Month Winners: Congratulations! Please stop by the onsite office for your prize! - Mira Lagos Landscape Committee

- 1. Marbella – 2704 Fuente
- 2. Valencia – 2732 Ponce de Leon
- 3. El Mirador – 2815 Mastil
- 4. El Sendero – 2824 N Camino Lagos
- 5. La Tierra – 2831 Pino

- 6. El Llano – 2911 La Roda
- 7. La Ensenada – 2943 Barco
- 8. Cordova – 3031 Nadar
- 9. Bella Vista – 3035 England Parkway
- 10. La Pradera – 3048 S Camino Lagos

- 11. El Arroyo – 3163 Serpis
- 12. Sonora – 6933 Nava
- 13. Escondido – 7003 Palencia
- 14. Las Brisas – 7323 Vienta Pt



Keeping Our Community Beautiful



Community-Wide FILL-A-BACKPACK Event July 9, 2016–August 13, 2016

All Mira Lagos residents are invited to participate in the Community-Wide Sharing Event to Fill-A-Backpack with school supplies and/or non-perishable food items for 75 children at Erma Nash Elementary School (Broad St, Mansfield, TX). The Social Committee will have boxes located at the HOA Office on S. Camino Lagos for residents to drop off school supplies and non-perishable can goods or food items between July 9, 2016 and August 13, 2016.

We will need...**75 new backpacks** to fill with **general school supplies** including

but not limited to pencils, erasers, ink pens, paper, notebooks, construction paper, manila paper, wide-ruled paper, rulers, pencil cases, markers, crayons, folders with brags and without (red, yellow, blue, green, purple), glue and glue sticks, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, scissors, gallon and quart-sized baggies, water colors, etc.

Non-perishable food may include easy-to-cook or fix items such as peanut butter, jelly, tuna, mac n cheese, spaghetti and sauce, various soups, instant hot cereals, cold cereal, canned or packaged tuna or chicken salad, fruit or granola bars, fruit roll-ups, pudding packs, fruit cups (peaches, pears, mango, fruit cocktail, etc), crackers (peanut butter, cheese, Goldfish, Club, Ritz, saltine, etc), fruit juice boxes, and canned vegetables.

Please make sure all donated items are new, unopened and have an unexpired "use by" date. We will not distribute single packets of instant oatmeal, grits, cream of wheat from an open box or expired can goods.

We'd appreciate your help in reaching our goal to Fill 75 Backpacks this summer!

The Social Committee is seeking Teen Volunteers! Earn your community service hours during the Mira Lagos Social Events and Activities. Contact the Social Committee at social@miralagoshoa.com for more information.

**Mira Lagos HOA
Social Committee**

Brought to You By Your Neighbor &
Mira Lagos Expert



Get Ready to Cheer On
America's Team!
Century 21 Judge Fite Co.
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Company of the
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FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
Christina Kang 817.739.7433

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)

New Fire Station #10



Growth in the city’s southern region has led to city officials to build a new fire station. Fire Station No. 10, which city officials broke ground in July 2015, is a \$5 million, 12,000-square-foot facility that will be located at the corner of Balboa and Grand Peninsula Drive. It’s scheduled to open in May 2016. Fire Chief Robert Fite said the station is being built because the number of people, homes and businesses in that area has increased quickly. He said density has outstripped services and the fire station is needed. “The closest fire station is 4 miles away,” Fite said. “We found out that people who were buying homes on the peninsula were having to

pay so much more for homeowners insurance than others because there wasn’t a fire station nearby.” Fite said the new station will house 18 additional personnel, all firefighters and paramedics.

Grand Prairie and Cedar Hill share a station farther south on Lakeridge Parkway. However, Fite said the 10-year agreement with Cedar Hill expires in 2017.

“We will still have written, auto-aid agreements with Cedar Hill and Mansfield that will create a borderless system of response,” Fite said. The chief said that

Grand Prairie might respond to a Cedar Hill or Mansfield fire or emergency or vice versa depending on which unit is free.

“If we’re the closest responder and everyone else is busy, we’re coming to the Kroger at Broad Street at [State Highway] 360 even though it’s in Mansfield,” he said. “Eventually, we’ll hook up our computer systems together. They’re all the same type of computer system. That’s coming soon.”

Written by Herb Booth July 2015 from City of GP website

STAR SERVICE

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

Be Genuinely Helpful

Aim High

Improve It

Build Great Relationships

Own It

Do What's Right

Covenants Corner

Recreational Vehicles

As residents of Mira Lagos, we are fortunate to enjoy many outdoor activities within our city. It is a pleasure to see neighbors out enjoying the sunny weather with their families and friends during this time of year. We understand that at the end of a long day on the boat or out playing on the jet skis, the last thing on many of our minds is whether or not our recreational vehicle is properly stored. Proper storage of trailers, boats and other large vehicles is essential not only for aesthetic reasons, but also for safe passage of automobiles through the streets and clear sight of motorists as children play. Please help keep our city safe and beautiful by storing your recreational vehicles, (i.e. boats, trailers, jet skis, campers, etc.), not in your driveway, or in the street. Remember, storage/parking of any recreation or commercial vehicle on any street within Mira Lagos is not permitted. Please reference Section 4.12 in your Governing Documents for more information on vehicle restrictions.

Til Debt Do Us Part

It has been said that the two certainties in life are death and taxes. Although originally intended to be humorous, these days it isn't so funny. Taxes, it seems, have long since been accepted as inevitable and necessary. This fact is mentioned here only as a side bar. The initial resistance to the federal income tax has lessened considerably and today it's just the way it's always been. If enough people accept a thing for a long enough time it just becomes what we do. So it is with debt. The difference between taxes and debt is taxes are forced upon us by law and debt is offered to us by option.

We have been advertised to and convinced by lending institutions that debt (credit) is the acceptable fast track to the life we all deserve and should have and have it now. Instead of developing a solid and sound net worth we are impressed by our credit rating. Credit worthiness has replaced financial solvency. The totality of all the areas of our lives this has been detrimental to is to extensive to cover at this time. There is one area that is of great concern to myself and many others. That area is marriage and family. Family is the cornerstone of any society. From its basic structure we can produce great cultures that benefit each and every one. Before it took a village, it took the family.

There are many challenges families face today. I don't want to diminish the impact of any of them on the family, but I do want to highlight the effect private (personal) and public (government) debt is having on it. In order to do so we have to examine the one major cause for debt which is the acquisition of money we wish to have but haven't actually earned. The simple slogan "Buy now, pay later" sums it up quite well. I want to interject that borrowing and lending of themselves are not necessarily bad things. We all do it in some form. We may think of it more as sharing. When it involves institutional borrowing or lending of money, the dynamic changes and the rules are different.

The rules of the money game are not as well understood as one might think. I speak from



personal experience and from talking to others about it. We tend to learn the bare minimum about money and how it works then leave the rest to "The Experts". There are no areas of personal finance that we should be willing to leave to someone else. I believe the reason we do is because we don't have the right perspective or view of money. Just as we all have a worldview, we all have a money view.

Your money view is the lens that you use to define your personal philosophy of money. How you interpret its purpose and use. There are at least ten popular money views that we have held at one time or another depending on where and/or from whom we get our information about money. Here are five for us to consider.

1. Money as a mystery - In this money view, people seem to have no clue how money is made, how it is retained, and how it works. As a result, those with this view tend to think that others who are successful financially are somehow "lucky." People with this view stay financially strapped until they adopt another, more accurate view and begin applying good principles of financial fitness.
2. Money as a master - A person who has this perspective lives a life in bondage to paying the bills. Their focus is constantly on the lack of money, the need for more money, and the drudgery of scraping by. Common statements made to their family are, "We can't afford that.... We can't afford this.... We just can't afford it, honey." Sadly, at the same time, they often use consumer debt on a daily basis to purchase things they believe they can't afford — but must have. As a result, they are always behind in their finances and live their lives feeling enslaved to paying off their debts.
3. Money as a monster - This condition occurs when "Money as a master" problems

last a long time and get increasingly worse. The financial pressures get so intense they dominate a person's thoughts and can lead to the breakdown of emotional and physical health as well as relationships. Every discussion seems to revolve around money problems.

4. Money as a motivator - In this scenario money is used to push one to higher achievement and greater contribution. This can be motivating for selfless or selfish reasons — usually a mix of both. TAKE CAUTION, this money view can often create unhealthy approaches to work, relationships, and life. A healthy approach is to see money as a tool to motivate one toward a higher goal and life purpose that reflects good stewardship.
5. Money as a maximizer - With this view a person is driven to utilize his or her money to make a greater contribution and maximize his or her potential. This is usually much more selfless and altruistic than # 4 above. True maximization helps you live up to your potential while helping others to do the same. With this money view people discipline themselves to live by sound principles of financial fitness, make financial decisions based on a long term vision, adopt the habit of delayed gratification, and use the compounding nature of money to create true wealth and achieve their dreams.

In conclusion, don't allow debt to get out of control and threaten our families and marriages. With the learning of solid financial fitness principles, debt can be eliminated from our personal finances and allow us to live the life we've always wanted. For additional information to leave a comment please contact me at lupe@lupegamez.com.

Money matters!



Back-to-School To-Do's

Parents themselves can be a little nervous about the first day of school, especially if they're seeing their little one off for the first time or if their child will be attending a new school.

To help make going to school a little easier on everyone, here's a handy checklist:

What to wear, bring, and eat:

- Does the school have a dress code? Are there certain things students can't wear?
- Will kids need a change of clothes for PE or art class?
- Do your kids have a safe backpack that's lightweight, with two wide, padded shoulder straps, a waist belt, a padded back, and multiple compartments?
- Do kids know not to overload their backpacks and to stow them safely at home and school?

- Will your kids buy lunch at school or bring it from home? If they buy a school lunch, how much will it cost per day or per week? Do you have a weekly or monthly menu of what will be served?
- Have you stocked up on all of the necessary school supplies? (Letting kids pick out a new lunchbox and a set of pens, pencils, binders, etc., helps get them geared up for going back to school.)

Medical issues:

- Have your kids received all necessary immunizations?
- Have you filled out any forms that the school has sent home, such as emergency contact and health information forms?
- Do the school nurse and teachers know about any medical conditions your child may have, particularly food allergies, asthma, diabetes, and any other conditions that may need to be managed during the school day?
- Have you made arrangements with the school nurse to administer any medications your child might need?



- Do the teachers know about any conditions that may affect how your child learns? For example, kids with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) should be seated in the front of the room, and a child with vision problems should sit near the board.

Transportation and safety:

- Do you know what time school starts and how your kids will get there?
- If they're riding the bus, do you know where the bus stop is and what time they'll be picked up and dropped off?
- Do you know where the school's designated drop-off and pick-up area is?
- Are there any regulations on bicycles or other vehicles, such as scooters?
- Have you gone over traffic safety information, stressing the importance of crossing at the crosswalk (never between parked cars or in front of the school bus), waiting for the bus to stop before approaching it, and understanding traffic signals and signs?
- If your child walks or bikes to school, have you mapped out a safe route? Does your child understand that it's never OK to accept rides, candy, or any other type of invitation from strangers?

Resource: <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/back-school.html>

Whether their summer was jam-packed with activities or filled with complaints about being bored with nothing to do, kids often have a tough time making the back-to-school transition.

BATTLING THE BUTTERFLIES

As with any new or potentially unsettling situation — like starting school for the first time or entering a new grade or new school — allow kids time to adjust. Remind them that everyone feels a little nervous about the first day of school and that it will all become an everyday routine in no time.

Emphasize the positive things about going back to school, such as hanging out with old friends, meeting new classmates, buying cool school supplies, getting involved in sports and other activities, and showing off the new duds (or snazzy accessories if your child has to wear a uniform).

It's also important to talk to kids about what worries them and offer reassurance: Are they afraid they won't make new friends or get along with their teachers? Is the thought of schoolwork stressing them out? Are they worried about the bully from last year?

Consider adjusting your own schedule to make the transition smoother. If possible, it's especially beneficial for parents to be home

at the end of the school day for the first week. But many working moms and dads just don't have that flexibility. Instead, try to arrange your evenings so you can give kids as much time as they need, especially during those first few days. If your child is starting a new school, contact the school before the first day to arrange a visit. And ask if your child can be paired up with another student, or "buddy," and if you can be connected with other new parents. This will help both of you with the adjustment to new people and surroundings. Some schools give kids maps to use until things become more familiar.

To help ease back-to-school butterflies, try to transition kids into a consistent school-night routine a few weeks before school starts. Also make sure that they:

- get enough sleep (establish a reasonable bedtime so that they'll be well-rested and ready to learn in the morning)
- eat a healthy breakfast (they're more alert and do better in school if they eat a good breakfast every day)
- write down the need-to-know info to help them remember details such as their locker combination, what time classes and lunch start and end, their homeroom and classroom numbers, teachers' and/or bus drivers' names, etc.
- use a wall calendar or personal planner to

record when assignments are due, tests will be given, extracurricular practices and rehearsals will be held, etc.

- have them organize and set out what they need the night before (homework and books should be put in their backpacks by the door and clothes should be laid out in their bedrooms)

Although it's normal to be anxious in any new situation, a few kids develop real physical symptoms, such as headaches or stomachaches, associated with the start of school. If you're concerned that your child's worries go beyond the normal back-to-school jitters, speak with your child's doctor, teacher, or school counselor.

Resource: <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/back-school.html>





Kids Corner



BUNNY BENTO LUNCH BOX

- Use a biscuit cutter (or an upside down drinking glass) to give the sandwich its round bunny face.
- Make a cute carrot side by tucking together a carrot stick and a broccoli floret for the leafy top.
- The ears are folded and filled with jelly, but you can use any spread your kids likes: peanut butter or hummus would work well, too.
- For the fruit side, slice an apple and peel a thick strip on each slice halfway back. Then cut a "V" shape to make bunny apple ears.
- Corn-stuffed tomatoes and a ham flower round out the bunny bento.

Antichoking warning: Remember to remove toothpicks and cut up blueberries, grapes, carrots and other food for children under 4.



Website: <http://www.parenting.com/gallery/bento-lunch-boxes>

HELPING HOMEWORK



Love it or hate it, homework is a very important part of school. To help kids get back into the scholastic swing of things:

- Make sure there's a quiet place that's free of distractions to do homework.
- Don't let kids watch TV when doing homework or studying. Set rules for when homework and studying need to be done, and when the TV can be turned on and should be turned off. The less TV, the better, especially on school nights.

- If your kids are involved in social media, be sure to limit the time spent on these activities during homework time.
- Keep text messaging to a minimum to avoid frequent interruptions.
- Never do their homework or projects yourself. Instead, make it clear that you're always available to help or answer any questions.
- Review homework assignments nightly, not necessarily to check up, but to make sure they understand everything.

Encourage kids to:

- develop good work habits from the get-go, like taking notes, writing down assignments, and turning in homework on time
- take their time with schoolwork
- ask the teacher if they don't understand something

To ensure kids get the most out of school, maintain an open channel of communication with the teachers by e-mailing or talking with them throughout the school year to discuss your kids' academic strengths as well as weaknesses.

Most of all, whether it's the first day of school or the last, make sure your kids know you're there to listen to their feelings and concerns, and that you don't expect perfection — only that they try their best.

Resource: <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/back-school.html>

ACC Use Only

Rq. No.

Phase

Mira Lagos Homeowners Association - ACC
Property Modification Approval Request Form

As each of us bought our property in Mira Lagos, we agreed by our signatures to abide by the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (a.k.a. CCRs or Deed Restrictions). The Deed Restrictions protect our property values by keeping Mira Lagos a highly desirable place to live. ACC (Architectural Control Committee) approval must be obtained prior to the start of your project. To avoid delay, make your request as complete as possible and type or print legibly. Incomplete requests will be returned for additional information. Incorrect information or changes made after approval invalidates approval. The ACC tries to assure that all changes to our properties conform to the appropriate Deed Restrictions. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

1. ABOUT THE RESIDENT(S) EMAIL ADDRESS:

<i>Name(s)</i>	
<i>Address</i>	
<i>Phone</i>	
<i>Best time to call:</i>	

2. ABOUT THE PROJECT

<i>Proposed start date</i>	<i>Proposed completion date</i>
<i>Describe the nature of the project (attach pages as necessary)</i>	
<i>Location (attach sketch/drawing)</i>	
<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Distance from fences and easements</i>
<i>Colors</i>	<i>Shape</i>
<i>Materials</i>	
<i>Builder</i>	
<i>Other (specify)</i>	

IMPORTANT: Include plan view and elevation drawings (to scale) plus any other supporting documents indicating project's location and its relationship to property lines, neighbors, construction, easements, etc.

3. ABOUT THE REQUIREMENTS

YES	NO	N/A	
			I/We have read the appropriate Deed Restrictions
			I/We have obtained a Grand Prairie building permit (attach copy) City approval does not supersede deed restrictions.
			This project will require a fence removal (if yes, inform Association Manager)
			Completed project will be visible from the street
Check any that apply:			<input type="checkbox"/> Corner lot <input type="checkbox"/> Iron park fencing <input type="checkbox"/> Project already started

<i>Homeowner's Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
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Signature constitutes permission for ACC members to inspect property and agreement to abide by ACC's decision.

Mail this request, along with all supporting documents, drawings, photographs, etc. to:

FirstService Residential
 3102 Oak Lawn Ave, Ste 202
 Dallas, Texas 75219

**For additional information call:
 817-473-6787**

Stacy McGrath
 Association Manager

Email – manager@miralagoshoa.com