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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
Stacy McGrath, General Manager
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:
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
landscape@miralagoshoa.com
Meetings: 1st Wednesday monthly

Welcome

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

Sports

Erik Shinkle
sports@miralagoshoa.com
3rd Tuesday (Apr-Sept)

New Members welcome on all committees!

Safety

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

Board of Directors

Joshua Spare, President
Eric Blackwell, Vice President
Robert McLain, Secretary
Dee Garret, Director
John Hughes, Director
board@miralagoshoa.com



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.

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Mira Lagos does not in any way endorse or support, nor does it take any credit or responsibility for the services, paid or volunteer, nor the statements made in articles or letters published herein not endorsed by the association or the group decision of the Board of Directors.

Do You Know Where Your Association Documents Are?

If you are like most homeowners, reading lengthy documents before closing seems an impossible task. In some cases, we have found that residents do not remember receiving their community documents or they may have been lost in the move.

As a homeowner, it is your right and responsibility to read and understand your documents as they involve compliance conditions that are put in place to uphold property values. They also include rules and regulations that all homeowners are expected to support. If you do not have a copy of your documents or have a question concerning such, please contact me so I may be of assistance.

You will also need to register on FSRConnect so you can have access to the documents online. By registering, you will have access to other important information about the association as well as stay informed. There is an FAQ regarding homeowner's associations posted online that might also be helpful.



Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached at 817-473-6787 or through email at manager@miralagoshoa.com

Wishing everyone a great start to Fall! Thank you for being a resident of Mira Lagos.

Stacy McGrath



Blood Drive

Saturday, November 4, 2017
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

3025 S. Camino Lagos HOA Office
Carter BloodCare Bus Grand
Prairie, TX 75054

Erik Shinkle
Volunteer Drive Coordinator 805.291.2236

Your blood donation makes a difference in someone's life. There is no substitute for blood and you will be replenishing the community blood supply. Thank you!

#GIVEFORLIFE



CarterBloodCare.org

Questions about your eligibility to give with Carter BloodCare? Call 1-888-480-8200. If you were already planning to give in your community, we thank you. For information about our privacy policy, please [click here](#).
© 2015 Carter BloodCare 2205 Highway 121 Bedford, Texas 76021-1-800-366-2834

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for 36 months
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at signing

*\$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.

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

Mercedes-Benz





UPCOMING EVENTS

Farmer Market: Epic Waters Day

Date: 11/04/2017 8:00 AM - 1:00

Location: Farmers Market

120 W. Main St.

Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

The folks from Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark will be out to show off their new park. There will be games, giveaways and lots of epic things to get you ready for their grand opening.

Veterans Day Ceremony

Date: Saturday, November 11, 2017

Time: Gather at 9:30 a.m.; Ceremony at 10 a.m.

Location: Veterans Memorial, 925 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie, TX 75051

Join us as we pay tribute to our Veterans at this special event. The ceremony will include a color guard, bagpiper, trumpeter, 21-gun salute, a vintage aircraft flyover, band, and a free All-American lunch of hot dogs and lemonade provided by our local Rotary Clubs.

The guest speaker is Staff Sergeant, Eugene Pugh, RT-ASP who served in Vietnam in the Military Assistance Command Vietnam Studies and Observation Group.

Paw Patrol Live! Race to the Rescue

Date: 11/18/2017 2:00 PM

Location: Verizon Theatre

1001 Performance Place

Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

2017 Magical Winter Lights Dallas Lantern Festival and Holiday Celebration

Date: 11/17/2017 - 01/07/2018

Location: Lone Star Park

1000 Lone Star Pkwy

Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

Magical Winter Lights, Houston's annual lantern festival and holiday celebration, is expanding to Dallas-Fort Worth in partnership with Lone Star Park. The festival bases its designs from Chinese lanterns and transforms them into larger-than-life remakes of well-known landmarks.

The DFW festival will feature an entrance castle lantern inspired by the Dallas County Courthouse, a giant cowboy, and Dallas' iconic Pegasus. There are several themed sections including Magical Wonderland, Christmas Candy Land, The Lone Star State, Dinosaur Land and Mystery of the East.

During your visit, you can also enjoy Chinese acrobatic performances (included in admission), dinosaur rides for children and a full-size food court.

Tickets will be on sale soon for Magical Winter Lights D-FW, which will run from Nov. 17 through Jan. 7, 2018, including holidays. Information: magicalwinterlights.com/dfw

Cyclin' with the Mayor: Prairie Lights Ride

Date: 11/20/2017 6:00 PM

Location: Prairie Lights

5610 Lake Ridge Parkway

Grand Prairie, Texas 75052

Gather at 6 p.m. for the 3-mile ride starting at 6:30 p.m.

This event is the last "Cyclin' with the Mayor" community bike ride of 2017.

Grand Prairie Mayor Ron Jensen hosts Cyclin' with the Mayor monthly bike rides as part of the Get Fit GP community wellness initiative. The rides take place at a different location each month, usually April through November.

Something is Hidden. Can you find it?

Find the harvest photo in this issue. 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.



As we express our *gratitude*
we must never forget that the highest
appreciation is not to utter words, but
to *live* by them. John F. Kennedy



Upcoming Events and Holidays

11/01 All Saints Day
 11/04 Mira Lagos HOA Blood Drive
 11/05 Daylight Saving Time Ends
 11/07 Election Day
 11/11 Veterans Day
 11/11 Mira Lagos HOA/ Grand Prairie Santa Cop
 11/13 World Kindness Day
 11/16 Great American Smoke Out
 11/19 International Men's Day
 11/23 Thanksgiving
 11/23 -25 Onsite Office Closed
 11/28 Giving Tuesday
 11/30 Mawlid Un Nabi




The Grand Prairie Police Department MISSION, VALUES, MOTTO

Mission

The Grand Prairie Police Department is dedicated to service and partnering with our community to maintain a safe environment with a high quality of life.

Values

Commitment – to service through community partnerships, innovation and a holistic approach to policing.

Pride – in our appearance, in our professionalism and in safeguarding our community.

Respect – for our profession and for those we serve.

Motto

We Protect and Serve

VACATION WATCH SERVICE

With Holiday fast approaching – take the steps necessary to protect your home and belongings. You can submit a Vacation Watch Request to have your home checked by uniformed police officers or Citizens On Patrol when time and call load permits. (The city of Grand Prairie cannot guarantee that this will keep your home from being damaged or broken into. Be sure to notify the police if you return earlier than scheduled.)

See something, say something!

Get to know your neighbors!

<http://www.gptx.org/city-government/city-departments/police-department>



The Ending Daylight Saving Time

The first Sunday in November marks the end of Daylight Savings time in the US. On this day, clocks are set back 1 hour, except for Hawaii and parts of Arizona which do not observe DST.

Daylight Saving Time Ends Facts

- In 2017, DST falls on the 5th of November.
- The dates for DST to begin and end were set forth by the US Congress in the Energy Act of 2005.
- Arizona, Hawaii, and four US territories (Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) do not observe Daylight Savings Time.
- Research suggest that daylight savings time is related to a rise in heart attacks, while the end of daylight savings time saw a slight decrease the first three days after the time change.



NOTARY SERVICES

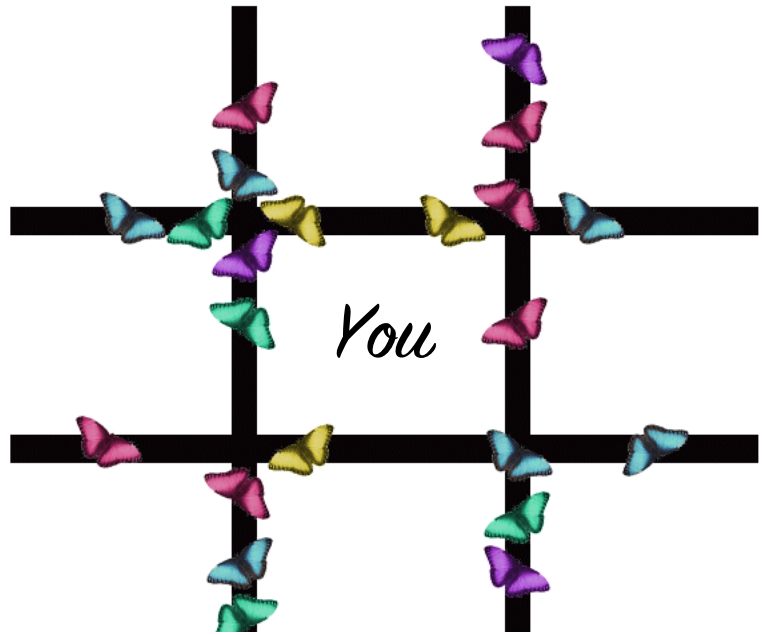
The On-site Manager, Stacy McGrath, and Assistant Manager, Matt Urbaniak are Notaries for Mira Lagos. This is a free service for residents and homeowners. Please make an appointment at manager@miralagoshoa.com.

Get To Know Your Neighbor Challenge

Do you know your neighbor? Do you know their first names? Most disputes in communities can be solved quickly and easily if people have communication and a cordial relationship with their neighbors. A few times during the week we will have homeowners come into the office to talk to me about something that their neighbor is doing or not doing that could come to a quick resolution if only the homeowners talked. One of the first things we will ask them is, "have you talked to them?", and often the answer is, "no". Mira Lagos is a very diverse community and sometimes a communication breakdown is the culprit in causing a dispute between homeowners. Each and every one of you moved to Mira Lagos because you wanted to live in a community not just a neighborhood. Building community relationships not only helps to solve disputes, it also helps to prevent crime and creates an harmonious and relaxing atmosphere to live in.

That being said, we would like to challenge you to get to know your 8 closest neighbors.

The Challenge!! Place this tic tac toe board on your refrigerator or by your front door and challenge yourself and your family to fill in all the boxes on the board with the first names of your neighbors. If you don't know them, take the time to just say hello and introduce yourself, a handshake and a smile will go a long way. This will help to further build the community atmosphere that you expected when you bought into Mira Lagos.



Share your stories and progress with us and the rest of your neighbors on our facebook page. We look forward to seeing you there!!

Neighborhood Crime Watch

Each year, 10 million serious crimes - more than half of the nation's total - go unreported. That's why Neighborhood Watch was initiated.

- The Neighborhood Watch program is simply you and your neighbors working together and with your local police to reduce criminal opportunity on your streets.
- Neighborhood Watch operates to educate participants in the principles of deterrence, delay and detection. The program depends on a communication network organized with three levels of participants - the resident, block captains and co-captains, and a local law enforcement representative.
- The Grand Prairie Police Department needs your help to function effectively. Police officers that patrol your neighborhood regularly could be called away on an emergency or may not be able to recognize a stranger in your yard.
- But your neighbors are there. They know you and your family, what type of car you drive and when you will be away. Your neighbor could be the first to spot a burglar in your window or a strange car in your driveway.
- Vigilante actions are in no way condoned by the Neighborhood Watch program. No one is asked to take personal risks or be a hero.
- But think about what may happen if you didn't call and think of how important and effective it is to join with the police in a cooperative effort of reducing criminal opportunity in your neighborhood.



For more information on how you can participate in Neighborhood Watch, contact one of your area's Crime Prevention Officers: Officer Greg New: 972-237-7545 Officer Joe Wood: 972-237 8966

<http://www.gptx.org/city-government/city-departments/policedepartment/field-operations-bureau/community-services-division/neighborhood-watch>

**I Can
I Will
I Got This**

Ariana Tatum Osborne



This saying was created by my granddaughter Ariana Tatum-Osborne. Last year, at the age of 8, I invited her to a Vision Board party that I hosted for my granddaughters. This inspiring event was my way of giving back to the next generation. Ariana came to the Vision Board party filled with excitement, joy and a dream of one day becoming a doctor. Ariana is a child that has faced many obstacles. Her early childhood was filled with challenges that no child should have to face at any age. Some of those challenges consisted of living with a family member with cancer, divorced parents, a new blended family, and the stress of losing two close family members in the same year. Despite these life changing events, she created the slogan "I Can, I Will, I Got This!" Many of our children face challenges far beyond what we can imagine; however, they continue to persevere.

Our children need us to celebrate them. As parents and grandparents, life keeps us moving so fast that we forget to take the time to say... "I am so proud of you!". I write this in honor of all the children and grandchildren like Ariana that face challenges beyond their control. We salute the parents who hang in there despite change, obstacles, and happenstances. I encourage you today to hang in there, keep your chin up and know that I support you! Ariana is my future life-coach. Take the time and ask who are you preparing for the next generation? Let us encourage the next generation by saying "We Can, We Will, and We got this!"



Verdell Osborne M.S.,CCC

Verdell Osborne is a successful Certified Community Life Coach, training professional, contributing writer & speaker for various organizations throughout the country. She holds a Master of Science Degree in Leadership and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Adult Education. Her passion is building relationships, enhancing communications & constructing cultural support networks which allow communities to function at their optimal potential. Her professionally crafted coaching and speaking skills blend synergistically with large and small organizations and her individual coaching sessions are a highly sought after commodity. Verdell invites feedback and your ideas on how to enhance community's one neighborhood at a time. Reach out to Verdell at (682) 438-1629 or via email at vosborne112@gmail.com

Mira Lagos HOA to Give Back to Families in Grand Prairie – Safety Committee



Photo by Mistydawn Jurik

Fire Station #10

2645 S. Grand Peninsula

On Saturday November 11, 9am-11am at Fire Station #10, residents of Mira Lagos will be on hand to collect donations for the Grand Prairie Santa Cop and Santa Spot program. These programs are collecting new, unwrapped toys, non-perishable food items and cash donations for Grand Prairie families in need during the holidays.

Mira Lagos residents have been especially generous in past years and have brightened the holidays for families in our own city. We hope to break past donation records! Your help will make this a reality.

Santa Cop and Santa Spot are charitable programs endorsed by the Grand Prairie Police (Cop) and Fire (Spot) Depts. They collect new toys and food items for children at Christmas and other times of need. Please stop by and drop off your donation and visit with us. Volunteers will be on site to unload the donation from your vehicle if you would prefer.

When: Saturday, November 11, 9am – 11am
When: Fire Station #10 2645 S Grand Peninsula Dr,
Grand Prairie, TX 75054

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

We were going to let a little rain stop Mira Lagos!

It was a great event in a couple of locations in Mira Lagos! The Tranquilo St. neighbors got together and hosted a block party to grill hot dogs and hamburgers as well as meet local officers and officials. Fun to be had by all in their matching t-shirts and smiling faces! Thanks for coordinating this for your block, Jose Martinez and Reggie Scott!

The Safety Committee also hosted an event at

Rush Creek Church with face painters, Tabitha and bounce house from DFW Bounce! Thanks Jason for setting up and taking down as soon as the rain hit!

We would like to thank all those that came to visit and set up at the event, from the Boy Scout Troop #788, selling popcorn, Sentry Security, Trend Security Screens, Code Compliance, and Home Team's Pest Defense. Prizes were won by many, including a "Ring" doorbell camera system. Chic Fil A for having the cow come by with sandwiches and tea for all.

Officials we'd like to thank for stopping in are Chief Steve Dye and a few of his officers, Commissioner Andy Nguyen, Mayor Pro Tem Wooldridge, Councilman Copeland and Councilman Giessner, the Code Enforcement team, Police Explorers as well as the Texas Search and Rescue teams – that aided Houston during the Harvey hurricane.

Check out <http://www.gptxtv.org/news-clips/10042017-929>
Thank you for participating!



MIRA LAGOS is CPR TRAINED!

Due to high demand, Mira Lagos HOA Safety Committee hosted 2 additional CPR training classes on the evenings of Thursday, September 21st and October 5th. We had quite a few residents gathered at Cora Spencer Elementary School both nights and worked on life-saving skills – including adult, infant and child CPR, how to assist when someone is choking, what to do in the case of an emergency and proper use of an AED.

Brad Smith, Grand Prairie Fire fighter (Station #10 on Grand Peninsula Parkway) returned with nurse, Deana Reed, to lead residents through scenarios, practice drills and discuss a few real-life saving situations Brad has faced during his career. Residents that completed all of the skills during the 3 ½ hour class received a CPR certification card from the American Heart Association.

This annual event is free for Mira Lagos residents. Thank you to all that attended. Hope to see you next year!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!





Wassail Punch

- 2 quarts apple cider
- 2 cups orange juice
- ½ cup lemon juice
- 12 whole cloves
- 4 cinnamon sticks
- 1 pinch of ginger
- 1 pinch ground nutmeg

Directions - Prep: 5 mins Cook: 8 h
 In a slow-cooker or a large pot over low heat, combine apple cider, orange juice and lemon juice. Season with cloves, ginger and nutmeg. Bring to a simmer. If using a slow cooker, allow to simmer all day. Serve hot.

Recipe of the Month

What to do with left-over turkey?

Turkey Enchiladas

by Rachel Paxton

- 4 c. cubed turkey
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 small cans tomato sauce
- 2 cans green chilies
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 6 flour tortillas
- 1 1/2 c. sour cream
- 1/2 cup grated pepper jack cheese



Mix cubed turkey, chopped onion, tomato sauce, and green chilies together and pour onto flour tortillas. Fold and roll tortillas and place in greased 13x9x2-inch baking dish. Heat soup and sour cream. Pour over tortillas and sprinkle cheese over the top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

<http://www.creativehomemaking.com/reprints/recipes.shtml>



Reach Your Neighbors!

Advertise in this Magazine!



Contact Community News Connection
 for more information:

972-396-8855

info@communitynewsconnection.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.

An Intentional Act of Kindness

By: Susan Richardson

When I headed out for a walk in early September my only anticipation was to get some exercise and fresh air. Little did I know I would witness an amazing act of intentional kindness on behalf of my fellow Mira Lagos neighbor - Samantha Tran. It is my hope this picture coupled with my informal interview with Samantha will depict the depth of love, compassion, kindness, determination, and pure selflessness that this amazing story is based on.

SR Tell us about your family?

ST My Husband Don and I have four children, all boys ages; 15, 11, 2 & 1 years old.

SR How long have you resided in Mira Lagos?

ST I've lived here almost eight years.

SR Why do you like helping others?

ST I am fortunate to be in a position to help make a difference in people's lives especially for those who were affected most by Harvey that brought so much deviation to my hometown of Port Arthur, TX. My relatives and friends were directly impacted by the hurricane inspired me to help them in any way I could.

SR Have you done volunteer work prior to Hurricane Harvey?

ST Yes I have. However, my volunteer work prior to Hurricane Harvey was limited based my busy life raising my children. But this effort was different; the hurricane impacted me personally-on so many levels. When I called my mother-in-law in Beaumont, TX to check on her welfare and the welfare of our youngest son who she was caring for while we were out of the country, she advised me that two days after Harvey made land fall that they were without running water and electricity and that she was boiling rain water for cooking. It was then that it hit me. This disaster was very bad and I stopped everything and immediately went into action mode. From our hotel room in Spain, I set up a network for donations, rescue assistance, and made provisions for transportation of the donated goods so once our plane landed, I could hit the ground running and help the people of Southeast Texas as soon as possible.

SR How did you solicit and collect so many donations?

ST First, I went to Facebook and asked for donations from my friends and family. Then, I set up six drop-off locations for donated goods throughout the DFW metroplex to increase the outreach for people who were wanting to donate goods but did not know where to take them. I then set up a YouCaring.com account to handle the monetary donations that people were wanting to donate.

SR Tell me about the truck that was used in the relief effort?

ST The first load of donations and supplies was transported in a U-Haul that we rented. The box truck that hauled loads two, three, four, five and six was donated by Greg Sutton of XL Supply in Arlington, TX along with an unlimited number of corrugated boxes, packing and shipping supplies, of which Donna Pham of XL Supply helped to coordinate. Don Nguyen, the Owner of Arc Commercial Development in Dallas, made continual trips to the

already overflowing DFW drop sites. In addition, Don made several pickups at private residences and businesses that were adamant about donating.

SR Why do you enjoy volunteering?

ST Because it's a way I can bring hope into other people's lives. I know that I cannot save the world, but I can be one small helping hand that when extended can mean a lot to another person. It's also about the life experience; when you see the impact your efforts have made firsthand, the joy it brings to others, and the instant appreciation you get when you are face to face with the person you are helping. Another thing that really touched me was how everyone came together and believed we could make a difference. Equally amazing was the level of trust that the donors placed in me knowing their donations would be placed directly into the hands of those in need.

SR What is the story behind the Southeast Texas We Care! T-Shirt?

ST I designed the Southeast Texas We Care! logo. We purchased the shirts that were screen printed via donation by Fusion Signs & Graphics in Hurst, TX. Our volunteers wore the T-Shirts so they could be identified as a person of assistance. The shirts were also mini billboards conveying the message that We Care! as we helped our fellow Texans recover from the raging aftermath of Harvey.

SR What was the most rewarding experience that you encountered with Hurricane Harvey relief?

ST There were several. I was amazed; within 24 hours of establishing a YouCaring.com account donations exceeded \$10K and 48 hours later the fund was at 22K. In addition, we collected at least, 50K worth of donated items in the first week of our relief efforts. It broke my heart to see the amount of elderly people come for supplies pushing shopping carts and wheel chairs to the distribution center we had set up at the Queen of Vietnam Catholic Church in Port Arthur, TX. However, it was truly rewarding that our volunteers were there to take them, their wheel chairs and supplies back to their homes safely. Equally amazing was the sheer number of phone calls I received from different sources asking how and where they could donate items. I received calls from private individuals wanting to donate the entire contents of their homes. CouponMom.com members offered to donate garages full of couponed goods, and my Facebook friends from the DFW Mommies donated an amazing number of items as well.

SR What do you do in your free time?

ST There is no such thing as "free time" LOL. With four boys, my life is very busy.

SR Is there anything else that you would like to add?

ST Coming to the realization of the sheer magnitude of the loss that people suffered was the hardest part of this entire experience. Even after our best efforts to get twenty-two boats to help rescue patients from a nursing home, it wasn't enough. People still perished. So sad, so very sad. In many instances, we went door to door helping people in areas where the Red Cross and FEMA had yet to reach. Just seeing the appreciation on people's faces was worth the effort we put forth to help them. It was



L-R: Victor Cheung, Don Nguyen, Hung Ha, Samantha Tran, Nga Pham, Becky Nguyen, Mimi Tran

inspirational, to see how many fellow Texans came from ALL over the state to help wherever there was a need-big or small. Don Nguyen continues to assist affected home owners by ensuring they are receiving fair and reasonable construction estimates to rebuild their homes in areas where 90 percent of homeowners did not have flood insurance. Word of our relief efforts spread via Facebook and a real-estate organization in San Jose, CA contacted me about wanting to raise 100K to assist five Southeast Texas families to rebuild their homes. Seeing our good deeds inspire others warmed my heart. We saw so many people in need and so many heroes in action. And yet, there is so much yet to be done to begin to rebuild these areas these areas. It simply tore my heart to see the level of devastation and loss that my friends, family and my fellow Texans endured because of Hurricane Harvey.

I could not end this story without mentioning that Samantha and her team of volunteers did not seek out the attention of this story. I encouraged her to share her amazing relief efforts in hopes that it would inspire others and show how an ordinary, everyday person, can spearhead a relief effort of this magnitude. Purely a selfless effort that continues to spread so much love and kindness upon those who suffered from possibly the most significant natural disaster in modern U.S. history to date.

To contribute to the YouCaring.com fund please go to: <https://youcaring.com/wecare-921656>



Southeast Texas We Care! T-Shirts can be purchased for \$20 with 100 percent of the proceeds going directly to help Southeast Texans.

Visit Samantha Tran's Facebook page to view more photos and read in detail how a mother, wife, sister, daughter, cousin, neighbor and friend, said "That's it;

I have to do something now!" And Samantha Tran did just that!

Paperbag Scarecrow



Supplies:

- Paper Bag
- Newspaper
- Raffia
- Yellow Construction Paper
- Googly Eyes
- Red and Black Marker
- Glue
- Leaf Stickers (optional)

Directions:

1. Fill 1/3 to 1/2 of your bag with newspaper
2. Cut a piece of Raffia and tie the top of your bag off
3. Cut a hat shape out of yellow construction paper and glue to your bag
4. Glue your googly eyes onto your bag
5. Glue some raffia pieces onto the sides of your bag for hair
6. Use a sharpie or marker to make a nose and mouth
7. Glue some decorations to your hat to finish it off

VETERANS DAY

By Erik Shinkle

On November 11th every year we celebrate Veterans Day, in other countries its known as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day. It is to honor military veterans, those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It marks the end of World War I, and is not to be confused with Memorial Day for those who gave their life in the armed forces and Armed Forces Day recognizing those who are currently serving in the US military.

On the 1-year anniversary of the end of World War I President Woodrow Wilson addressed the country expressing his relief that the war was over, and highlighting the those who served. It took congress a few years to adopt a resolution and request that President Coolidge issue an annual observance on November 11th each year.

Veterans make up less than 1 percent of the American population, yet at one point agreed to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. They served at the expense of missing Holidays, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Family celebrations, and in my case the birth of my daughter.

On this November 11th I would ask that you think about the veterans, think about the sacrifices they have had to endure, think about what they have done for this great nation of ours. On Veterans Day a wreath is laid on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, along with many other celebrations, memorials and observations. Thank you to ALL the Veterans living in Mira Lagos.

Brought to You By Your Neighbor &
Mira Lagos Expert



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America's Team!
Century 21 Judge Fite Co.
Is The Official Real Estate
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FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
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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)



Looking to meet new people with your same interests and have fun doing it? Look no further, Mira Lagos has many Activity Groups to choose from.

Lucky River Poker Club

Contact Mike Watkins, Watkins9111@att.net

Ladies Game Night brought to you by AllMyHomeGirls

LCR (Left,Right,Center) Is the 1st Monday of the month, 7:00 pm.

BunKo is the 2nd Monday of the month, 7:00 pm.

LCR Wild is the LAST Monday of the month, 7:00 pm.

A nice way to make new friends. Ladies Game Nights are hosted and/or co-hosted by attendees - no pressure to host until you have attended several and feel comfortable with the group! We are booked for hostesses through December 2017 (don't want to frighten anyone away until they have met us!)

Contact: Elissa Sherlock esherlock@me.com or Susan Kennedy (Welcome Chair)

Have an organized group not listed? Jeep Club, Music, Sports, Classic Cars, Mommy Groups?
Please contact communications@miralagoshoa.com.

Garbage and Recycling Schedule

The City of Grand Prairie provides garbage collection to each residence twice a week. Recycling collection is on one of your regular garbage days. Separate trucks pick up garbage and recycling. All garbage and recycling must be set out by 7 a.m. on your scheduled collection day but no earlier than 8 p.m. the night before your collection day.

Garbage Holiday Schedule

There will be no garbage or recycling collection on the following dates:

- Thursday, Nov. 23, 2016 (Thanksgiving Day)
- Monday, Dec. 25, 2017 (Christmas Day)
- Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 (New Year's Day)

Note: There will be no makeup collection for the holiday. Please set out your garbage and/or recycling on your next regularly scheduled collection day.

Brush and Yard Waste

For your tree limbs and brush to be picked up with your regular garbage, just bundle into 6-foot lengths no larger than 1 cubic yard and no heavier than 50 lbs, and place it next to your household garbage. If you have contractors that cut and prune your trees and shrubs, make sure the limbs are either cut and bundled or taken to the landfill by the contractor.

Bagged leaves and shrubs will be collected with household garbage, but not grass clippings. Grass clippings can simply be left on your lawn or used as compost for gardens. (For information on the "Don't Bag It" Yard Care or Master Composter programs, call 972-237-8061 or e-mail composting@gptx.org.)

The City of Grand Prairie also operates a Limb and Brush Pickup Program year round on a rotation basis from north to south week by week and provides curbside pickup of brush that is not practical or eligible for collection by the city's weekly garbage collection. Call 972-237-8525 for more information.

Mira Lagos HOA Pet Tags

by Erik Shinkle



There are Free Mira Lagos Pet tags at the HOA office. Please see Cynthia at the HOA office to receive your tag. Each pet registered will have a unique number assigned in the event your pet gets out and is found. My dog Mia got hers and she loves all the fancy jewelry on her collar.

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!"

Preserve Pumpkins and Gourds

Decorating with colorful pumpkins and gourds during autumn is an easy way to bring seasonal design inside your home. It can be a challenge however to keep gourds and pumpkins looking fresh especially if you plan to use them through to Thanksgiving.

Here is a little suggestion to preserve pumpkins and gourds:

- Mix one gallon water, two tablespoons of bleach and a squirt of dish soap in a tub, bowl or kitchen sink.
- Soak pumpkins and gourds for about 30 minutes, rinse and dry well.
- Use a spray matte sealer to coat pumpkins and gourds giving them an extra boost of preservation.

Happy Decorating!



Scrubby Soap

Soap and a scrubby, ingeniously combined into one bar! These cute scrubby soap bars are super for ridding your hands of the toughest dirt and grim, grease, paint, and oils. Scrubby Soap is gentle and mild on your skin.

Scrubby Soap is made with all-natural ingredients from the essential oils of lemon, lime, oranges, and lavender. There are no synthetic cleaning agents in the ingredients so using a Scrubby is safe for you and our planet. The natural soap is infused into a special scrubber for deep cleaning, exfoliation and the essential oils moisturize your skin.

There is a bath and body line of Scrubby Soap made from rich, pure olive oil, English goat milk and lavender oil. You can use these Scrubby Soaps for a spa experience in your bath or shower for smooth, soft, fresh smelling skin. The pure oils are strong and aromatic naturally, no fragrances are added.

Scrubby Soap is a family owned and operated company in Florida. The Scrubby Soap family was inspired by Florida oranges to create these brilliant soap bars and is manufactured in the USA. Scrubby Soap can be purchased on their website at <https://www.scrubbysoap.com> or use their online store locator map for the names and locations of local shops around town.

The Scrubby Soap is an absolute perfect gift or stocking stuffer for family and friends. These soap bars are excellent for cooks, fishermen, hunters, gardeners, artists, mechanics, and campers! They will be a favorite go-to gift for teachers and new moms. Scrubby Soap is sure to become a standard cleaning product in your kitchen, bath and laundry room.

Haven't tried Scrubby Soap yet, don't wait any longer! Your first Scrubby Soap won't be your last.



2017 CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST



HO HO HO! The 2017 Christmas Decorating Contest will be held again this year. The Landscape Committee will be making a list and checking it twice to find the most festive houses in Mira Lagos. All decorated houses in every village will be considered for prizes. No need to enter, just decorate your houses with holiday cheer! Judging will be starting on December 14th and will be finalized by December 25th. You may nominate your favorite house for consideration by sending an email with the address to landscape@miralagoshoa.com.



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



Thankful Ideas for Thanksgiving



Do you ever think that Thanksgiving is just another lunch or dinner? Or that the meaning of Thanksgiving is lost in the details of cleaning, decorating, cooking and watching football? Do you want to bring a little 'thanks' to your Thanksgiving? Here are a few ideas to help:

Thankful Leaves – you need a few permanent markers and bag of artificial fall leaves. Ask your family and guests to write one thing they are thankful for on the leaf. Set the leaves on your

Thanksgiving table as decoration and read them out loud during meal time.

Thankful Guest Book – purchase a guest book and markers. Have your guests and family members write something they are thankful for and their names. Bring the guest book out each Thanksgiving as a reminder for years to come.

Thankful Rolls – you will need small strips of parchment paper, pen and crescent rolls. As your

family and guests arrive have them write one thing they are thankful for on the strip of paper. Tuck the paper in the crescent rolls before baking. (Be sure and tell everyone to be looking for the paper in the rolls before they eat them.) As each guest tears into their rolls, have them read the words of thankfulness.

Thanksgiving Donation – ask your family and guests to bring an item to donate such as clothing, blanket or food for a nearby shelter or food pantry.

Holly Days Christmas Market

November 11, 2017

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Methodist Mansfield Medical Center

2700 East Broad Street

Mansfield, TX 76063

Holly Days Christmas Market is once again being presented by the Methodist Mansfield Auxiliary. We will have 24 - 30 vendors with a wide array of gift items - for yourself or holiday gift giving. We will have the Country Store with homemade jellies, jams, pickles and baked goods. We will have lots of items for the raffles. Santa will be available from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. You will be able to take your own pictures with Santa in time for Christmas cards. Carolers from the Music Place Mansfield will be singing. All proceeds benefit the Methodist Mansfield Medical Center. For more information, call 817-320-5163.

