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@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



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www.miralagoshoa.com

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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
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 HOA
Bi-Annual Community**



MIRALAGOS FALL GARAGE SALE – SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
Time to clear out your closets, kitchen, garage for the ML Fall Garage Sale the weekend of September 16, 2017! Don't forget to register with the City of Grand Prairie and post your permit in a visible location. You may register for the entire weekend or just Saturday. Go to: www.gptx.org and click on Garage Sale Permits.

**Saturday, September 16,
7:00 am-3:00 pm**

Apply for your permit via the City of Grand Prairie website:
www.gptx.org

- click "City Government"
- click "Departments"
- click "Code Enforcement"
- click "Garage Sale Permit"

Please forward permit information asap to social@miralagoshoa.com in order to be added to the flyer. Please include your name, permit number, address AND village.

You may opt to sell items on 1 to 3 days during the scheduled weekend. The advertised day is only on Saturday.

**Something is Hidden.
Can you find it?**



We have hidden in the Mira Lagos Messenger, a **sapphire** 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.**



**October 14, 2017
11:00 am-1:00 pm**

Mark your calendars for a spectacular day of family fun at the Mira Lagos Fall Vendor Fair! Join us for pumpkin patch and face painting, bounce houses, music, local crafters and entrepreneurs! We will toss in a little comfort food too.

Community Entrepreneurs/Crafters: Let the community know what you do! Reserve a space at the Fall Vendor Fair to showcase your business, products, and/or those holiday items. Let's not forget the holidays are right around the corner!

A small \$25 REFUNDABLE entry fee for homeowners and NON-REFUNDABLE for non-homeowners holds a space for you.

Send your registration to ML HOA-Fall Vendor Fair,
3025 S. Camino Lagos, Grand Prairie, TX 75054
before October 14, 2017.

See You at the Fall Vendor Fair!!!
Mira Lagos Social Committee



Fall Welcome Reception

Sunday, September 10th
4:30pm – 6:00pm
Grand Homes Model Home
7404 Brisas Court

If you have moved into Mira Lagos in the past six months, please join us!

The Mira Lagos Welcome Committee is hosting a reception for our newest neighbors! Refreshments will be served and there will be door prizes. Your entire family is welcome! We look forward to meeting you! Please RSVP to: welcome@miralagoshoa.com





Grand Prairie Library has installed a Little Free Library at 2550 N. Grand Peninsula.

Little Free Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. There are more than 50,000 registered Little Free Libraries worldwide, in all 50 states and 70 countries. Through Little Free Libraries, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds. The Little Free Library nonprofit is based in Hudson, Wisconsin, United States. Also take advantage of the book locker located outside the Lake Parks Administration building, 5700 Lake Ridge Parkway. Reserve material online using your library card and choose the Book Locker as the pick-up location. We will notify you when your material is ready for pick-up! Need to return books or DVD's? Drop them off at the Book Locker, even if they were checked out at any of our three locations.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Comic Con

Date: 09/02/2017 - 09/03/2017

Location: Traders Village

2602 Mayfield Road, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052

Trader's Village's first ever Comic Con! Come out and see celebrity authors, illustrators, cosplay groups and appearances from the Ninja Turtles and Star Wars.

Uptown Film Series: Sully

Date: 09/12/2017 6:00 PM

Location: Uptown Theater

120 E. Main Street, Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

The Uptown Theater presents a movie showing of "Sully."

Tickets: \$5 for individual; \$10 for family

FREE to Uptown Presenting Series Subscribers

For more information, visit UptownTheaterGP.com or call 972-237-8786

Farmers Market: Craft Fair

Date: 09/23/2017 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Farmers Market

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

There will be additional artisan craft vendors out on September 23, so get a head start on your holiday gift lists! Grand Prairie Farmers Market at Market Square is open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays from April through mid-December and features locally grown fruits and vegetables, baked goods, tamales, salsas, dips, relishes, eggs, honey, chips, plants, soaps, candles and more.

Flight of the Monarch

The Flight of the Monarch annual event celebrates the annual migration of the monarch butterfly from North America to Central Mexico.

Date: Saturday, September 23, 2017

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Grand Central, 2975 Esplanade, Grand Prairie, TX 75052 (State Highway 161 between Arkansas Lane and Warrior Trail)

Remote parking is available to and from the event.

Arts and Crafts; Business Expo; Live Music; Food; KIDSZONE; Photos with Mater and Grease Lightening; Petting Zoo; Kids Costume Contest. More Information: Parks, Arts & Recreation Department, Mae Smith, 972-237-8107

Autumn Moon Festival

Date: 09/30/2017 - 10/01/2017

Location: Asia Times Square

2615 W. Pioneer Parkway, Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

For more information visit, asiatimesquare.com or call 972-988-8811.

Halloween Decorating Contest



The Annual Halloween Decorating Contest will be held in October once again. The Landscape Committee will be on the lookout for ghouls and goblins and boo-tiful Halloween decorations all over Mira Lagos. Prizes will be awarded for the most spook-tacular homes. All decorated homes will automatically be in the contest, no need to enter to win. Weather permitting, judges will be making the rounds between October 26 – October 31st, so pull your skeletons out of the closet and get ready to scare the daylights out of your neighbors.

Happy Haunting!



Reach Your Neighbors! Advertise in this Magazine!



Contact Community News Connection
for more information:

972-396-8855

info@communitynewsconnection.com

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LABOR DAY

Labor Day in the United States is a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of the country. It is the Monday of the long weekend known as Labor Day Weekend and it is considered the unofficial end of summer in the United States. The holiday is also a federal holiday.

Beginning in the late 19th century, as the trade union and labor movements grew, trade unionists proposed that a day be set aside to celebrate labor. "Labor Day" was promoted by the Central Labor Union and the Knights of Labor, which organized the first parade in New York City. In 1887, Oregon was the first state of the United States to make it an official public holiday. By the time it became an official federal holiday in 1894, thirty U.S. states officially celebrated

Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the summer and typically celebrated with picnics, barbecues, parties, parades and other events. Labor Day in Grand Prairie TX is not just the end of summer but a chance to have a holiday from work or school and kick off the NFL & college football seasons. Some things to do on Labor Day 2017 Grand Prairie include camping, fishing and golfing.



**Mira Lagos Pools close for the season
September 5th
(day after Labor Day)**

-Thompson Family Photo

I Found It Winners!



July Winner
Humphries Family



August Winner
Mrs. Spence

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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September 2017
Holidays and Observances

- September 4 Labor Day
- September 11 9/11 Remembrance Day
- September 17 Constitution Day
- September 21 International Peace Day
- September 28 National Good Neighbors Day

Congratulations Yard of the Month Winners

- 1. Marbella 2704 Fuente
- 2. La Tierra 2835 Pino
- 3. El Sendero 2836 North Camino Lagos
- 4. Escondido 2907 Lavanda
- 5. El Llano 2963 Montalbo

- 6. Bella Vista 3027 England Pkwy
- 7. El Arroyo 3232 Yeltes
- 8. El Mirador 6860 Ensenada
- 9. Sonora 6947 Nava

- 10. La Ensenada 7024 Playa
- 11. Cordova 7096 Carmona
- 12. La Pradera 7239 Herboso
- 13. Las Brisas 7363 Vienta Pt



*Thank You For Keeping
Our Community
Beautiful*

Recipes of the Month

Tea Sangría



Ingredients

- 1 (10-oz.) package frozen raspberries, thawed
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 family-size tea bag
- 2 cups red grape juice
- 1 lemon, sliced
- 1 lime, sliced
- 1 (16-oz.) bottle orange soft drink, chilled

How to Make It

Step 1: Process raspberries in a

blender or food processor until smooth, stopping to scrape down sides. Pour puree through a fine wire-mesh strainer into a large container, discarding raspberry seeds.

Step 2: Bring sugar and 3 cups water to a boil in a saucepan, stirring often. Remove from heat; add tea bag. Cover and steep 5 minutes

Step 3: Remove tea bag with a slotted spoon, squeezing gently; cool tea mixture slightly. Stir together raspberry puree, tea mixture, grape juice, and lemon and lime slices. Cover and chill 2 to 24 hours. Stir in orange soft drink, and serve immediately over ice.

Chef's Notes: You can substitute 1 cup orange juice and 1 cup lemon-lime soft drink for orange soft drink

Philly Cheesesteak Casserole

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 orange bell pepper, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 lb. beef steak, thinly sliced
- 1 c. red wine (optional)
- 1/2 c. ketchup
- 1/4 c. soy sauce
- 2 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tbsp. sriracha
- 1 tbsp. ground ginger
- 2 c. provolone cheese, sliced
- Hoagie rolls, for serving



3. Add beef steak and stir, breaking up and browning. Cook until the beef turns brown. Drain any remaining grease.

4. Add the wine, ketchup, soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, Sriracha, and ginger to the saucepan and stir to combine. Simmer for 5 minutes.

5. Pour the mixture into the baking dish and top with cheese.

6. Bake until the cheese is bubbling, 20 minutes. Serve hot with hoagie rolls.

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 400° and lightly coat a 9"-x-13" baking dish with cooking spray.

2. In a large saucepan over medium heat, heat oil. Add the onion, bell peppers, and garlic, and sauté until soft, about 5 minutes.

10 totally awesome STAY-AT-HOME DATE IDEAS



- **Sit outside with a glass of wine and watch the stars together** — the beauty of just sitting outside is awesome conversation is sparked from the peace.
- **Popcorn & a movie** — I know this sounds so cliché but it's a blast every time! Needing movie inspiration? Check online for a list of romantic comedies or movies you both enjoy
- **Camp out in the living room** — There's something magical about snuggling up under a big pile of blankets.
- **Bake together in the kitchen** — pick something scrumptious you both love and is fun to make. Baklava is always a fun one to make!
- **Play video games together** — If you have a Wii or Kinect it's fun to get a little active and silly together! Or try your hand at your husband's favorite game or make him try yours, you may not be as bad as you think.
- **Play a game** — Pick a game that doesn't require hours to complete, Card games with a fun reward for the winner, or a board game that doesn't involve houses or hotels
- **Play indoor golf** — Set up a mini course in your living room, down the hall and around to the kitchen using plastic cups or a small cardboard box on its side as the hole. If the ball touches the wall it counts as an extra turn.
- **Surprise pizza night** — Order delivery pizza & leave him a note telling him his dinner surprise will be arriving at the door in 15 minutes.
- **Pack a picnic** — Spread out your blanket on the living room floor or in your backyard and enjoy some fun treats that you don't normally have.
- **Truth or Dare** — Come up with 5 -10 dares place them in a bowl and take turns asking silly or fun questions about your partner. Every 2 turns are dare time! As time passes so does your partners interests and desires take this opportunity to inquire in a fun environment.

Breakfast Month



School has started and summer is coming to end. The holiday season is right around the corner but really isn't a focus yet. So, what's going on in September? Breakfast! September is National Breakfast Month, and September 26th is recognized as Better Breakfast Day. For many families, breakfast is a low priority or not one at all. If you think you are saving time or cutting calories by skipping breakfast, think again! Making a healthy breakfast a part of your morning can get you (and your family) on track to make healthier choices through the day and curb overeating at other meals.

Finding time to make your child breakfast, not to mention getting them to eat it, can be a struggle. The most important thing about breakfast is to get some good nutrition into your little one's tummy- whether that is from a Mickey Mouse pancake or an egg scramble mixed with leftovers from the night before. For those of you with school-age children, research shows a clear link between breakfast and school performance. Eating in the morning a mix of carbohydrates, protein, and fat is linked with helping kids concentrate and do well in school.

Don't forget, a simple breakfast goes a long way, that means you and the big kids too. Cottage cheese mixed with fruit or peanut butter on an English muffin + a glass of milk has no frills, but will noticeably fuel your body and brain to get you through a busy day.

Again, aim for some protein yogurt, milk, cottage cheese, eggs + carbohydrate oatmeal, toast, cereal + fat already included in the foods you choose for a balanced wake-up call!

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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)

Get Involved! Help Keep Watch on Mira Lagos!

The Grand Prairie Police Department's Citizens On Patrol (COP) program provides the opportunity for trained citizen volunteers to assist their police department with designated non-confrontational activities as citizen patrollers and administrative volunteers in order to increase citizen understanding and participation in police activities, enhance crime prevention, and provide additional resources to improve service to the community.

COP volunteers help patrol the city in specially marked decommissioned police cars. Members are trained to work with the police department to act as additional "eyes and ears" to help to report criminal activity and issues requiring the attention of city resources.

Citizens who are interested in volunteering should first sign up to attend the next Citizen Police Academy. The Grand Prairie Police Department offers two Citizen Police Academy classes per year, and citizens can submit an application to be on the waiting list.



**For information about joining Citizens On Patrol: Contact ebaliet@gptx.org.
<http://www.gptx.org/city-government>**

Meet Pam Downs - Landscape Committee Chair



1. Tell us a little about yourself, (whatever you feel comfortable sharing with our community)

I am originally from the East Coast, and moved to Texas in the 1980's due to a career relocation. My background includes Cosmetology, Airline Industry, Electronics, Mechanical, and IT. I am currently retired and keeping busy volunteering, traveling and visiting friends and family.

2. What drew you to Mira Lagos?

I lived in Mansfield for 25+ years and watched the area grow from a small farm town to one of the fastest growing cities in North Texas. When I was ready to downsize, I found a house in Mira Lagos that suited my needs and moved right across the City line to the Peninsula.

3. Why did you choose to volunteer for the landscaping committee?

I have always enjoyed volunteer activities, and I wanted to be an active part of my new community. Gardening and Landscaping is a lifelong hobby, so it seems like a good way to give back.

4. What do you hope to accomplish as the chair person?

The mission of the Landscape Committee is to maximize property values in Mira Lagos, by encouraging and educating homeowners in basic landscaping techniques, through articles in the newsletter, and community programs designed to preserve and enhance

curb appeal and promote pride of ownership.

As chair person I hope to raise awareness about the relationship between property values and visual appeal, and inspire homeowners to enjoy nature, exercise, and the outdoors through Landscaping.

5. What would you like to see changed if anything with the landscaping committee?

I would like to see more community participation and volunteers.

6. How/what can our neighbors get involved with the landscaping committee?

Residents interested in volunteering can email landscape@miralagoshoa.com for information.

7. Final thoughts or anything you would like to share about the landscaping committee?

We are excited about future possibilities to incorporate the new Amenity center in 2018. As always, we welcome all ideas and constructive comments.

BOY SCOUTS ROCKET LAUNCH

Saturday, July 21st – Scouts from Cub Scout Pack 788 and their families enjoyed a little fun in the sun out by the south pool. With water bottle rocket launchers provided for the event from Lockheed Martin; the scouts had a wild and wet time while learning about physics and range safety. After working up an appetite, they chomped on hot dogs and homemade cookies, and washed it down with some cool lemonade.

If scouting is something you'd like to look into for your 1st-4th grader, please come visit our tables at the two Meet the Teacher events at the four schools in the Peninsula area on Aug 14th or be on the lookout for our recruitment rallies at these two schools in late August. You can also email the pack at cubmaster788@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

Robert Sauermann



Mira Lagos CPR Class



On the evening of Thursday, July 13 the Mira Lagos HOA Safety Committee hosted its 7th annual CPR training. Twenty residents gathered at Cora Spencer Elementary School 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.



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.



SHOTWELL LIBRARY CLOSURES FOR REMODELING AND EXPANSION

The Tony Shotwell Branch Library will be closed beginning August 28 and lasting into January of 2018. The Shotwell Library is being expanded and renovated to better meet the needs of customers, defining areas for children, teens and adults, and creating higher visibility within the Shotwell Recreation center.

With movable book stacks, a central customer service counter, more functional staff area, and new children's programming space, the larger library will still offer computers, gaming, books for all ages, graphic novels, a Spanish collection and DVDs in an updated, organized layout. Pardon our closure and dust as your library system continually strives to be relentlessly relevant to our Grand Prairie community.

Many programs will continue during construction, taking place in a Shotwell Center program room. Teen Time will continue to meet each week, as well as children's programs like Book Babies, Toddler Time, Kinder Ready, and Read Play Learn.

The Tony Shotwell Library is located inside the Tony Shotwell Life Center at 2750 Graham St. It is the newest branch library in the Grand Public Library System. For more information about the Grand Prairie Libraries, call 972-237-5700 or visit us online at www.gptx.org/library.

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

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.



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.

Mira Lagos Club House and Amenity Center Update

The plumbing has been installed, concrete is on its way, framing is soon.

Drive by to see the latest progress to the buildings.



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.



**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



Parking within Mira Lagos

According to the Grand Prairie Code Enforcement department, vehicles cannot be parked in the front, side or rear yard, unless on asphalt or concrete. No parking of oversized vehicles (over 1.5 tons, width of 8 feet and length of more than 16 feet) in residential neighborhoods. Vehicles are not allowed to stand or park unattended for a continuous period of 48 hours on a public street.

According to Section 545.302 (a) an operator may not park a vehicle: on the roadway side of a vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street; on a sidewalk; in an intersection; on a crosswalk; between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within 30 feet on the curb opposite of the safety zone; alongside or opposite a street excavation or if the parked vehicle would obstruct traffic; on a bridge or in a tunnel; on a railroad track; where an official sign or other Texas

parking law prohibits parking. (b) under Texas parking laws, a person cannot temporarily park: in front of a public or private driveway; within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; within 20 feet of a crosswalk; with 30 feet of a flashing signal; within 20 feet of a driveway entrance; with

50 feet of the nearest fail or railroad crossing; where an official sign prohibits parking.

These laws help create a safe environment for all of us and it's imperative that we follow them as it can prevent accidents, damage between members of our community.

For any of the above infractions or for more information you can contact:

City of Grand Prairie Code Enforcement
206 W. Church St.
Grand Prairie, TX 75050
Phone: 972-237-8049 or 972-237-8296

Grand Prairie Police Department
Non-Emergency Dispatcher: 972-237-8700
www.gptx.org



Welcome New Members

Few events in life are more exciting than buying your first home. We're glad you've chosen us! You're now a member of our community association. We're proud of our association and trust it will contribute to the quality of your experience in our community. Here are a few tips and bits of information to help you make the most of community association living.

Your Own Space

There's one important difference between renting and owning a home that you need to keep in mind. Unlike renting, your unit and its upkeep belong entirely to you. You're responsible for all maintenance for any part of your home that is used only by you or your family. So, when the faucet leaks, the first person to call is your favorite plumber, not the association manager.

Common Elements and Assessments

The community has a number of common areas and services—like the grounds and the maintenance to keep them attractive and enjoyable. We share these areas and their expenses when we pay our assessments.

Community Rules

Because many residents share the common areas, it's necessary to have a few basic rules so everyone can enjoy the community. If you don't have a copy of the community rules, please call the manager.

Membership

When you bought your new home, you became a member of our community association. Membership entitles you to attend and observe board meetings and vote in board elections. You may even want to consider running for a board seat yourself. Our community thrives because residents volunteer for committee assignments and eagerly stand for board elections. Get involved—we need you.

Please contact the manager for more information or if you have questions about the association.



Preparing for *FLU SEASON*

The Flu is coming. With no cure in sight for the cold or the flu, over-the-counter treatments can at best bring symptom relief or shorten the duration of those symptoms. Or you can take the natural approach. WebMD has some home remedies that may help you feel better along the way.

No. 1: Blow Your Nose Often -- and the Right Way

It's important to blow your nose regularly when you have a cold rather than sniffing mucus back into your head. But when you blow hard, pressure can cause an earache. The best way to blow your nose: Press a finger over one nostril while you blow gently to clear the other. Wash your hands after blowing your nose.

No. 2: Stay Rested

Resting when you first come down with a cold or the flu helps your body direct its energy toward the immune battle. This battle taxes the body. So give it a little help by lying down under a blanket.

No. 3: Gargle

Gargling can moisten a sore throat and bring temporary relief. Try a teaspoon of salt dissolved in warm water, four times daily. To reduce the tickle in your throat, try an astringent gargle --

such as tea that contains tannin -- to tighten the membranes. Or use a thick, viscous gargle made with honey or a mixture of honey and apple cider vinegar, a popular folk remedy. Steep one tablespoon of raspberry leaves or lemon juice in two cups of hot water and mix in one teaspoon of honey. Let the mixture cool to room temperature before gargling. Honey should never be given to children under age 1.

No. 4: Drink Hot Liquids

Hot liquids relieve nasal congestion, help prevent dehydration, and soothe the uncomfortably inflamed membranes that line your nose and throat.

No. 5: Take a Steamy Shower

Steamy showers moisturize your nasal passages and relax you. If you're dizzy from the flu, run a steamy shower while you sit on a chair nearby and take a sponge bath.

No. 6: Apply Hot or Cold Packs Around Your Congested Sinuses

Either temperature may help you feel more comfortable. You can buy reusable hot or cold packs at a drugstore. Or make your own. Take a damp washcloth and heat it for 55 seconds in

a microwave (test the temperature first to make sure it's not scalding). Or take a small bag of frozen peas to use as a cold pack.

No. 7: Sleep with an Extra Pillow Under Your Head

This will help with the drainage of nasal passages. If the angle is too awkward, try placing the pillows between the mattress and the box springs to create a more gradual slope.

No. 8: Don't Fly Unless Necessary

There's no point adding stress to your already stressed-out upper respiratory system, and that's what the change in air pressure will do. Flying with cold or flu congestion can hurt your eardrums as a result of pressure changes during takeoff and landing. If you must fly, use a decongestant and carry a nasal spray with you to use just before takeoff and landing. Chewing gum and swallowing frequently can also help relieve pressure.

Remember, serious conditions can masquerade as the common cold and a mild infection can evolve into something more serious. If you have severe symptoms or are feeling sicker with each passing day, see a doctor.

Stop That Barking!



Dogs left alone all day get bored and restless, and many find relief in barking. Some respond noisily to any and all activity. But, nothing is as annoying as incessant barking—even for dog lovers. If your dog is a yapper or a yowler, please consider some of these bark-abatement ideas to keep the noise down in your area. Your neighbors will thank you!

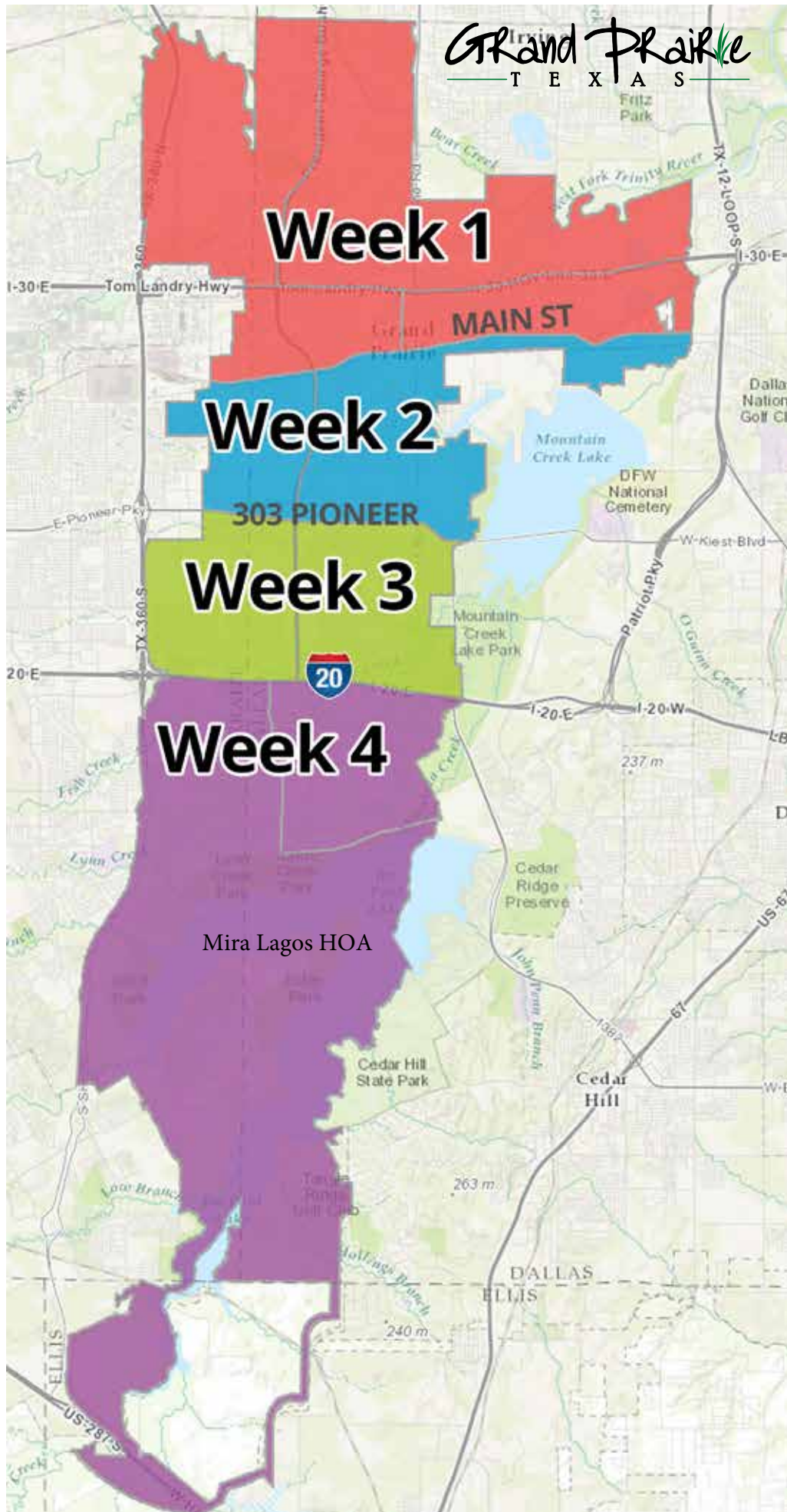
Training. Always the first recommendation for any behavioral problem! Help is as close as the Yellow Pages. Training not only helps your dog, you'll be surprised how much it helps you, too. You may get some insight into why your dog barks so much, or what it is trying to communicate.

Citronella collars. A humane alternative to the electric-shock, anti-barking collar and costs about the same. Available on the web and in pet stores.

Confinement. Sometimes simply bringing an outspoken dog indoors or confining it to a crate can cut down on the disturbance to neighbors.

Reduce Stimulus. Close drapes to help muffle street noise, or leave a radio on to mask it. Disconnect telephones and doorbells before leaving your home if they upset your dog or make it bark.

Companionship. Dogs are pack animals; they need companionship—a cat, bird, or another dog. Consider a mid-day visit from a pet-sitting service, or drop your pooch off at a friend's place or a day-care facility once or twice a week.



Limb & Brush Pickup Schedule

The tree limbs and brush must be stacked at the front curb (roadside if no curb), the Monday morning (no later than 7 a.m.) of the designated week for your area or it will be the following month before we are back in your area. The Crew will work each area all week. No appointment is necessary. The Limb & Brush Program cannot pick up in the alley.

Week #1 If you live...

North of Main Street, stack brush at the curb by 7 a.m. the **1st Monday** of the month.

Week #2 If you live...

South of Main Street but north of 303, stack brush at the curb by 7 a.m. the **2nd Monday** of the month.

Week #3 If you live...

South of 303 but north of I-20, stack brush at the curb by 7 a.m. the **3rd Monday** of the month.

Week #4 If you live...

South of I-20, stack brush at the curb by 7 a.m. the **4th Monday** of the month.

Requirements:

Limbs and brush must be neatly piled at least two feet away from utility poles, trees, gas and water meters, fire hydrants, fences, mailboxes, sprinkler heads, and any other obstacles that would prevent collection. No vehicles should be parked in front of brush. Brush must not obstruct any city sidewalk, right-of-way, or view of traffic.

Allowed: Brush includes tree limbs up to 10 inches in diameter, shrubs, other parts of shrubs and trees.

NOT Allowed: Grass clippings, leaves, stumps, root balls, weeds, flowers, wire, fencing, or any other foreign materials.