



Notes by Diego Torres – President

Well, We made it through the “Hot Days of Summer” (La Canicula) and with our young people back in school, we hope the pranks to our pool and golf course are over. I still urge our residents to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to the Board or the Police.

I want to thank the Activities, Pool, Ladies Lunch, and Club House Committees for their work keeping our residents involved and interested in our community.

I have been in contact with McAllen Parks and Recreation regarding the “west bank” weed removal. We should see some results within the next couple of weeks. The Daffodil Avenue “left turn” marking into our subdivision on 41st and 43rd Streets is being reviewed by the City Traffic Department and we should see some action soon.

Village of Westlakes
Board Meeting
3rd Tue. / Martes,
Sep. 17, 2013
7:00 P.M.
Clubhouse

The Fertilizing Company “TLC” will be applying the Post emergent and Fertilizer in early September. They will notify you prior to the application.

There will be two 3-year and one 1-year vacancies at this year’s VWL Annual Meeting election and we request that anyone interested serving on the board to contact the Nominating Committee **Jim Gressinger** or **Ruth Bostick**.

On behalf of your Board, we wish you a Happy and Safe Labor Day.

Nominees Sought for Election as Directors C, D, A to VWL Board

The Village of Westlakes has a great reputation in McAllen for its beauty and for its strong Homeowners Association. We are grateful to all who have served (without pay) since 1998 and before to keep our community well-maintained and solvent.

We need some of you to take a turn to serve as Directors on the VWL Board. It takes some time and some work, and there are people who complain no matter what you do or don’t do. Regardless, there are rewards in helping to keep this an outstanding neighborhood in which to live, getting to know more of the good people who live here, and knowing you have made a difference.

The VWL is a good place because residents do volunteer to help. Please, consider taking a turn yourself — whether you are a long-term or a recent owner. If you have worked in leadership positions in the past, please consider running for the Board of Directors or helping



Gressinger and Bostick Co-chair VWL Nominations Committee; 3 Directors to be Elected

Jim Gressinger - (4101 Whitewing) and **Ruth Bostick** (4221 Harvey Avenue) have been appointed to serve on the VWL Nominations Committee. This committee will accept written nominations from September 1st through October 17th for the office of:

- DIRECTOR C (3-YEAR TERM)
- DIRECTOR D (3-YEAR TERM)
- DIRECTOR A (1-YEAR TERM)

See pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter for nomination form and procedures. Nominations may be made from the floor at the November Board Meeting.

on one of the Committees. If you absolutely can not help, then take the time to thank those who have served you and our neighborhood.

See the VWL Directors C, D, and A Nomination Form on page 6 of this newsletter.



Water Trees and Plants and Lawns!

Trees, plants, and lawns suffer during prolonged heat. Give young trees a 1½ hour soaking. Older trees, use an open, slow-running hose laid on the ground. *Drought and heat stress can set trees up for decline, insects, and diseases in following years.* The best time to water is between 10:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. There is less evaporation during the late night hours, providing more water in the soil. Pest problems are minimized when watering during the night. Bushes also need



to be watered and is best done between 5:00 A.M. to noon to give leaves time to dry out completely to avoid developing a fungus that can also kill the plants. Lawns need watering once or twice a week.

Thanks to

Wilma Langhamer for donating a ream of computer paper toward the work of putting out the VWL newsletter. It was a “first” since doing the newsletter and a pleasant surprise.



COFFEE TIME

The monthly coffee get-togethers are a popular morning session. Join us for the September “coffee” which will be Monday, September 1 from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M. Thanks to Social Committee members **Kathy Ament** and **Connie Gressinger**.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Que Pasa?

at the Village of Westlakes

for September 2014

VILLAGE OF WESTLAKES BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEP. 16 — 7:00 P.M.
VWL ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, DEC. 14, 2014

Golf League play resumes in October.

Summer Golfers usually start at 9:00 A.M.

Pool-Water Aerobics: Tue., Wed., Fri. at 4:00 P.M.

Coffee Time: Mon., Sep. 1 at 9:30 to 11:00 A.M.

Ladies Lunch: 2nd Mon., monthly.

Meet at 11:30 A.M., at the restaurant.

Social/Cocktails: each Thu. 5:00 P.M.

Potluck: 3rd Thursday, 6:00 P.M.

**Sign up sheet at Clubhouse.*

Ladies Lunch



Mon., Sep. 8, 2014, at 11:30 A.M.

B.J.'s Restaurant

3200 Expressway 83

McAllen

Call **Carol Lund** at 683-9522 by Sunday night for reservations.



Honors Our American Workers



Water Aerobics — Aeróbicos en el agua

from Marsha Davis, Pool Committee

Hours For August, September, October

Tuesday - Wednesday - Friday — 4:00 P.M.

Nobody else is permitted in the pool during the 45 minute water aerobics class!

Horarios para el mes de agosto - septiembre - octubre

Martes - miércoles - viernes — 4:00 P.M.

Nadie le está permitido en la piscina durante los 45 minutos de aeróbicos en el agua!



Bentsen Road Hike and Bike Trail and Wildscape Restoration West of VWL

The City of McAllen promised the VWL the restoration of the wildscape area west of our 43rd Street homes and a landscaped hike and bike trail adjacent to the Bentsen Road seven years ago when the widening of Bentsen Road was started. The Commissioners and City Manager have been reminded of this promise several times this month and have been asked to include the expense for the wildscape restoration in the 2015 budget — which was also promised at one point. Commissioner Hilda Salinas has been working to help us accomplish this task. There is a grant for the landscaping of the hike and bike trail, but no plan has yet been developed.

VWL President **Diego Torres** will appoint VWL Master Gardeners **Dennis Mandsager**, **Wilma Longhamer**, and **Greg Groepper** to meet with Assistant City Manager Joe Vera and Horticulture Manager Brad Bentsen — appointed by Park Director Sally Gavlik — to develop a plan for the wildscape restoration and for landscaping of the hike and bike trail.

A preliminary survey of VWL residents on 43rd Street was done on the cutting or not cutting of the wildscape area. **We have requested that all VWL homeowners be included on any survey regarding the cutting or restoration of the wildscape area and of the hike and bike trail landscaping. These two separate issues affect the property values of all of our VWL homes and both restoration and landscaping were promised to us by the City when the Bentsen Road project started and the wildscape area was destroyed.**

The Village of Westlakes earned a *Texas Wildscape Community* designation May 9, 2005. VWL was awarded a *Backyard Steward Habitat Certification* by Quinta Mazatlan December 14, 2011. We have twice been commended by planning and architectural consultants hired by the City of McAllen. *Vision 2000* (American Institute

City Manager says “YES” to Recommendation for Bensten Road Wildscape Funding — 8/29/14

by Nedra S. Kinerk

After a discussion of the long-promised wildscape restoration west of VWL, City Manager Roy Rodriguez said “YES” that he would recommend funding to initiate the project in the 2015 City Budget.

The project will be planned and guided by Brad Bensen (appointed by Park Director Sally Gavlik), Joe Vera (appointed by City Manager Roy Rodriguez), and the VWL Master Gardeners **Dennis Mandsager**, **Gregg Groepper** and **Wilma Langhamer** (appointed by VWL President **Diego Torres**). The goal is to have a managed wildscape which will attract birds somewhat on the order of Quinta Mazatlan. The City–VWL Committee would also plan and guide the landscaping of the adjacent Hike and Bike trail which has preliminary funding already. It is hoped that additional grants be found to expand the work on both projects.



The City Commission has the final approval of the Budget. Commissioner Hilda Salinas has been helping on this for a long time, as has Park Director Sally Gavlik and the Park Department. Thanks to all who care about our neighborhood and our city.

of Architects) listed Village of Westlakes as *“One of only three communities in McAllen ... exemplifying good planning.”* A second commendation was given by *Foresight McAllen, a Growth Management Guide Plan Project to 2025* by Kendig Keast Consultants which was commissioned by McAllen in 2006-07 which stated, *“Village of Westlakes ... Make it the rule, not the exception ... a glimpse of what’s possible in design.”*



Daffodil Avenue Lane Changes

by Sue Lewis

The Traffic Department has been contacted by **Sue Lewis** and by **Karen Kinerk** (who is on the Traffic Commission Board) regarding access to the turn lanes on the newly striped areas on Daffodil Avenue. Jose from the McAllen Traffic Department advised that the middle lane on Daffodil is to be used as a designated turning lane even though the lane is surrounded by a single solid yellow line and also a diagonal line area. A single yellow line is legal to cross, but two solid yellow lines are not legal to cross. He advised drivers should use their own discretion as to when to make the lane changes. This will only affect left-hand turns off Daffodil in our immediate area. **Sue** asked for better ways to designate the turn area — perhaps with turn arrows. **Karen** reports that Traffic Director Eduardo Mendoza will also look into the issue.

“Wildlife Landscape” at VWL

“Wildlife Landscape” took on a new scope

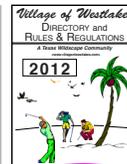


on the morning of August 29th. The Village was “visited” by a pregnant llama! The llama was delivered the day before to an animal refuge

owned by Ophelia Rojas on Taylor Road north of Adobe Wells. The mama llama decided to go visiting, jumped the fence and hitailed it all the way to VWL. Animal Control was called to help which caused the llama to jump into the lake behind the Mandsager home. Finally she was corralled and secured to a tree where she docily watched the VWL audience she had captivated. Finally her owner was able to prod her into a cart and we bid adieu as our visiting llama returned home.



Bienvenidos
WELCOME
NEW NEIGHBORS



Tony Niemeier & Alison DeMuth

4132 Carnation Court lot 22L
956-793-1323
traymond_nie@msn.com

Dyan Edwards Cagley

4217 Harvey Avenue lot 48
956-340-3025
dedwardscagley@gmail.com

Mikki & Jim Rohrman

2713 N. 41st Street lot 64
214 728-1727
mikkirohrman@aol.com

Maggie & Rick Salinas

4112 Camellia Court lot 52L
956 459-8198 (M) 956 466-0940 (R)
magdalena213@yahoo.com

In Our Prayers



Sherrie Mandsager (2800

N. 43rd Street). Sherrie continues treatment at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Dotti Egger (2809 N. 43rd Street) is

recovering from a fall and other health problems.

Prayers for all neighbors who are ill but not included by name.

Our Sympathy — We
lost long-time resident **Ruth**
Thoennes (4144 Carnation Court) who passed away August 8 in Minnesota. **Ed** and **Ruth** moved to VWL in March 1991. Our sympathy to **Ed** and their family.

The Link – a voice for VWL HOMEOWNERS
VWL BOARD OFFICERS

Diego Torres	President/Board member
Lydia Mora	Vice President/Board member
Gregg Groepper	Treasurer/Board member
Karen Kinerk	Secretary/Board member
Norm Sands	Bookkeeper
Nedra S. Kinerk	<i>The Link</i> Editor

Board of Directors VWL Election Procedure

- A nominating committee will be appointed in September.
- In October, the nominating committee shall present its slate of Owners who have agreed to run for the Board. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the November meeting. Candidates will be nominated for a specific term (3-year, 2-year, or 1-year).
- The Secretary will mail an absentee ballot/proxy with the notice of the annual meeting. Information of how to vote via email or fax will be given with this notice.
- The candidates' names will be listed alphabetically by type of term (designated by years) on the ballot.
- All ballots received before the annual meeting will be opened and counted at the annual meeting. Printed emails and faxes will be placed in a sealed envelope and then opened and counted at the annual meeting.
- Owners may vote for an equal number of candidates as Director positions that are currently open for each category (designated by years).
- If only one (1) position of Director is open in a specific category, the candidate receiving the most votes will be declared the winner of that category. If two (2) positions are open in a specific category, the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared the winners of that category, and so on depending upon the number of open positions.

Junta directiva el procedimiento de la elección VWL

- En septiembre se nombrará un Comité de nominación.
- En octubre, el Comité de candidaturas presentará su pizarra de propietarios que han acordado por la Junta. También se aceptarán candidaturas de la palabra en la reunión de noviembre. Candidatos serán nominados para un término específico (3 años, 2 años, o 1 año).
- La secretaria enviará una balota de ausente/un poder con el aviso de la reunión anual. La información de cómo votar vía correo electrónico o fax será dada con este aviso.
- Nombres de los candidatos los' serán enumerados alfabéticamente por tipo el término (señalado por años) en la balota.
- Todas las balotas recibidas antes de la reunión anual serán abiertas y contadas en la reunión anual. Los email y los faxes impresos serán colocados en un sobre sellado y después abiertos y contados en la reunión anual.
- Los propietarios pueden votar por un número igual de candidatos pues las posiciones del director que son actualmente abiertas para cada categoría (señalada por años).
- Si solamente una (1) posición del director está abierta en una categoría específica, declararán el candidato que recibe la mayoría de los votos el ganador. Si dos (2) posiciones son abiertas en una categoría específica, declararán los dos (2) candidatos que reciben la mayoría de los votos los ganadores de esa categoría, y así sucesivamente dependiendo del número de posiciones.

Nomination Form / Forma de Nominación
Village of Westlakes
Board of Directors / Directores:
for December 14, 2014 – Annual Meeting
para 14 de Diciembre, 2014 – Junta Anual

PLEASE PRINT EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE SIGNATURE.
 POR FAVOR ESCRIBA CON LETRA DE MOLDE TODO EXCEPTO LA FIRMA.

I / Yo, _____,
 NOMINATOR / NOMINADOR

nominate / nomino a _____
 NOMINEE / CANDIDATO

for a position on the Village of Westlakes Board of Directors.
 para un puesto Directivo de Village de Westlakes.

_____ A three (3) year term (for Director C, or Director D).
 _____ Un (3) un término del año tres para Director C o Director D).

_____ A one (1) year term (for Director A).
 _____ Un (1) un término del año uno para Director A).

I understand the election will be held in December 2014.
 Entiendo que la elección será en diciembre 2014.

NOMINEE / NOMINADO
NAME / NOMBRE:

NOMINATOR / NOMINADOR
NAME / NOMBRE:

 LOT / LOTE # _____

 LOT / LOTE # _____

I ACCEPT / ACEPTO:

I NOMINATE / NOMINO:

 SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE / LA FIRMA DE CANDIDATO

 SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR / LA FIRMA DE NOMINADOR