



Notes by Diego Torres – President

Fall has arrived and with it some much needed rain. We should be on the alert for mosquitoes, ants, and the rapid weed growth. Our ground crew is busy trying to keep up with all the work associated with it.

We are still waiting for the city to act on the West Bank trimming and the Daffodil left turn markings which is causing driver confusion on driving lane usage. We keep getting the same response “the items are being reviewed.” I will attempt to get a better response next week.

A fond farewell to our long-time neighbors **Joe and Irene Black**. They were great friends and will be missed. With more homes being offered *For Sale*, we will be seeing a change in ideas and lifestyles and we must have discussion meetings to be able to adapt to those changes.

Village of Westlakes
Board Meeting
3rd Tue. / Martes,
Oct. 21, 2014
7:00 P.M.
Clubhouse

Our congratulations are in order for **Dr. Nedra Kinerk** on being chosen by the McAllen Chamber as “*Woman of the Year.*” Well deserved, **Nedra**.

An important reminder that October 17th is the deadline for nominations for the Board vacancies. Make a difference, sign up.

TLC has started the Post Emergent and Fertilizer on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. They will continue until all the homes are treated.

On behalf of the Board, we wish you a happy and safe Halloween.

Remember our military men and women.

Dog Attack Injures Resident and Dog

A large stray dog attacked and injured **Amethyst Goss** (4117 Camellia Court) and her dog Noel on the afternoon of September 22 as they were walking on Camellia Court. The unprovoked attack left **Amethyst’s** dog severely bitten and bleeding and **Amethyst** with bites on her hand as she tried to rescue her dog.

The dog was captured by McAllen Animal Control due to the quick work by neighbor **Michael Alebis**. Rabies tests are being conducted on the dog with the possibility of rabies shots for **Amythest**.

Protect yourself and your pet

Amethyst’s mother, **Mary Goss** has learned that a canister of **SprayShield** is recommended as an animal-deterrent spray at Pet Smart. It affects the dog short term with no permanent damage — unlike pepper spray. The main ingredient is citronella. It is highly effective in discouraging aggressive animals with no harmful side effects..



Thanks and Gratitude to Michael Alebis

About 30 seconds into the dog attack on **Amethyst** and her dog, **Michael Alebis** (4110 Camellia Court) who was backing out of his driveway, saw and responded immediately to help. Grabbing a sun visor from his car, **Michael** slowly coaxed the attacking dog off of **Amethyst’s** pet allowing both of them to escape by running home. **Michael** pursued the



dog to the VWL maintenance work area and called Animal Control. He stayed with the dog until Animal Control arrived and was able to capture the dog.

Michael’s quick thinking saved the dog Noel from possibly fatal bites and kept **Amethyst** from more extensive injury. We are blessed and thankful to have a neighbor like **Michael Alebis**.



VWL Nominations Committee to present Nominees for VWL Board of Directors

Jim Gressinger and **Ruth Bostick**, co-chairs of the VWL Nominations Committee, will present candidate names for the office of Board Director at the October 21st Board meeting. Nominations may be submitted to the committee now until October 17. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the November 18th Board meeting. Board positions to be filled are:

DIRECTOR C (3-YEAR TERM)

DIRECTOR D (3-YEAR TERM)

DIRECTOR A (1-YEAR TERM)

See pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter for the nomination form and procedures.

Nominees should be familiar with the VWL COVENANTS, BYLAWS and RULES AND REGULATIONS. Knowing parliamentary procedures is also helpful. Before everyone is “scared off” remember that a lot can be learned in a hurry if you decide to help govern our community. The biggest asset for a Board member is to care about our community enough to ensure that it is running smoothly.



Volunteer to keep our VWL community a good place to live. Board members and committee volunteers are needed.

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



Que Pasa?
at the
Village of Westlakes

for October 2014

VILLAGE OF WESTLAKES BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCT. 21 — 7:00 P.M.

VWL ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, DEC. 14, 2014

Golf League play resumes October 7

Golf - Mixed: Tue., at 10:00 A.M.

Golf - Mixed: Wed., at 10:00 A.M.

Golf - Mixed Best Ball: Fri., at 10:00 A.M.

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

Fri., at 10:00 A.M.

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

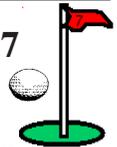
Ladies Lunch: 2nd Mon., monthly.

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., Oct. 13, 2014, at 11:30 A.M.

Masterpiece Cafe

4500 N. Tenth Street

McAllen

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



COFFEE TIME

The monthly coffee get-togethers are a popular morning session. Join us for the October “coffee” which will be Monday, October 6 from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M. Thanks to Social Committee members **Kathy Ament, Judy Boyle, Connie Gressinger, and Juli Groepper.**



Hey Golfers,



Golf league play starts Tuesday, October 7th at 10:00 A.M. As in the past, League play will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday at 10:00 A.M., and Best Ball on Friday at 10:00 A.M. Looking forward to seeing you all on the golf course.

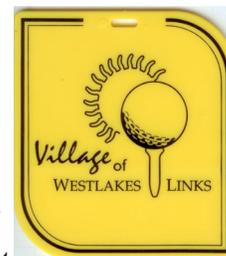
Golf Committee:
Marsha Davis,
Norma Rodriguez,
Iva Keacher



Get Your BAG TAG and Visibly Carry it on the VWL Golf Course

See VWL President Diego Torres for bag tags.

The VWL golf course and common ground is privately owned — by us the owners. Display your VWL yellow golf BAGTAG in a visible manner when you and your guests are golfing. If you golf without a BAGTAG, or without the BAGTAG showing, you appear to be a trespasser. Don't expect others to guess if you belong — show your BAGTAG.



Bentsen Road Hike and Bike Trail and Wildlife Restoration Begins

The McAllen–VWL Committee appointed by McAllen City Manager **Roy Rodriguez** and VWL Board President **Diego Torres** has begun work to restore the “wildscape” area west of our community along the expanded Bentsen Road. The committee met the last Monday of September to survey the area and determine what is needed to recreate an area attractive to birds and butterflies. Representing the VWL are **Dennis Mansager, Wilma Longhamer, and Gregg Groepper** (all of whom hold certification of Backyard Habitat and/or Master Naturalist). Our VWL people will work with Horticulture Manager **Brad Bentsen** of the McAllen Parks and Recreation Department and **Joe Vera**, Assistant City Manager. District Commissioner #3 **Hilda Salinas** is also monitoring the progress



The initial meeting also had the assistance of **John Thaxter** an expert on native plants from the Texas Master Naturalist organization. After walking the area, the committee agreed to develop an action plan that will address saving native plants, trimming weeds and grasses, and eventually replanting areas with native plants and trees to reestablish the green space. A first draft of that action plan for committee review is expected Friday, October 10.

The McAllen City Manager recommended funding for the project in the 2014-15 City Budget which was passed by the City Commission in September. **The charge for the committee is to develop a plan for the wildscape restoration and make recommendations for the landscaping of the Bentsen Road hike and bike trail.**

All of the properties of the Village of Westlakes are affected by salvaging this wildscape green area as an economic factor in the value of each of our VWL properties. The Village of Westlakes was awarded **Texas Wildscape Community** designation May 9, 2005 and presented with a **Backyard Steward Habitat Certification** by Quinta Mazatlan December 14, 2011. The ambiance of our birding, butterflies, and green areas has been recognized by major planning and development consultants in 1999 and 2007. (See the back page of the *2012 VWL DIRECTORY* for details.)

Maintain your property — It is important to keep your individual property and our common areas in good repair so all our neighborhood homes retain their value. **Do your part by weeding and maintaining attractive landscaping around your own home. Report to the Board areas or properties in need of weeding and repairs.**

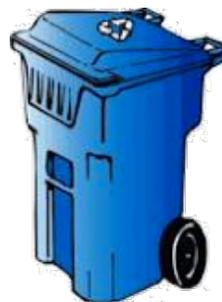
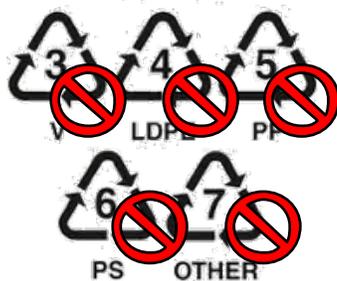


Acceptable Items in your BLUE bin:

- **Paper** – All paper is accepted except for paper that has been contaminated with food. No paper from your bathroom trash please.
- **Plastic #1 & #2** – Check underneath your plastic container for chasing arrows. There is a number inside the chasing arrows. If it is a **#1 or #2**, it CAN be placed in your **BLUE** bin, **NO OTHER #.**
- **Cardboard** – Except used pizza boxes. Pizza boxes are contaminated with food.
- **Aluminum**
- **Tin**
- **Glass**



OK for BLUE can



Unacceptable items:

- **NO Electronics**
- **NO oil**
- **NO light bulbs**
- **NO batteries**
- **NO food**
- **NO dirt**
- **NO phones**
- **NO dead animals**
- **NO fast food wrappers**
- **NO Styrofoam**
- **NO diapers or bathroom trash**
- **NO used pizza boxes**
- **NO Plastic #3, #4, #5, #6, #7**

DO NOT PUT TRASH IN THE BLUE RECYCLE CONTAINER

A fluorescent light tube, trash sacks, with garbage have been found in a VWL BLUE recycle container.

This misuse of recycling cans contaminates the entire recycle load and the truck may require cleaning before being used again. This costs our tax dollars.

BLACK = trash.
BLUE = recyclables

If you are not sure, put it in the **BLACK TRASH** can.



October 4 & 5 12:00 NOON to 6:00 P.M.

McAllen Convention Center

**\$5.00 gate fee – adults, FREE – children
FREE – parking**

Major attractions, historical displays, art, family games, rides and activities, cooking competitions, live entertainment, food and beverage. The *McAllen Heritage Center* – museum of history and culture will feature the rich and colorful history of Deep South Texas. Look for your VWL neighbor **Nedra Kinerk** at Heritage Village exhibits inside.

Register to Vote

Register to vote 30 days before the election.

Voter registration applications available:

- Hidalgo Co. Elections Department
101 S. 10th Ave, Edinburg, TX
- TX Dept. of Public Safety Offices (DPS)
- Public Libraries
- Call Voter Registration Office 956 318-2570

Early voting: Oct. 20 to 31



**Election
Nov. 4**

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 nombrados 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

(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