

# Shady Hollow Highlights

The Official Publication of the Shady Hollow Homeowners Association

## **March Happy Hour**

It was a beautiful night last Thursday as over 80 people showed up to say Hello to their Nabrs. Everyone was treated to Free Chicken Wings and a Free Microbrew tasting from NXNW. An awesome Flamingo Guitarist played throughout the night as the Nabrs visited about what their spirit animal would be. (Maybe they did – that was just the icebreaker question) Shady Hollow resident and realtor Jennifer Odom gave away a \$50 Gift Card to Mi Con Bistro to the winner of the Trivia Question. Congrats to Bo Faulks who answered the question correct-What year was the Shady Hollow HOA formed; 1978.



Thanks again to our HOA, NXNW, Steve Hinojosa, Hayden Winkler and Jennifer Odom for their help and support of our 1st event of the year. We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the Easter Eggstravaganza on March 31st.

## **Next Board Meeting**

March 22, 2018 7 pm Community Center Annual Meeting

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## Welcome Spring! First day of Spring is March 20!



## Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions

by Russell Downey **Board Member** 

During the last two months, we have been looking at covenant violations. The first month we dealt with complaint violations only - vehicles, trailers, and buildings. During February we concentrated on general (minor) violations. Sample violations that are common to most of the sections of Shady Hollow include: Signs are prohibited except "Security", Realtor "For Sale", "Spirit", political, and Association Award (Yard of Month, Trail of Lights). Rubbish, trash, garbage, or other waste not kept in a standard sanitary container. Containers shall be maintained so as not to be visible from the street or neighboring property except to make them available for collection. No truck, bus, trailer, or recreational vehicle shall be parked on the driveway or any portion of the lot unless enclosed by a privacy fence. No non-operational vehicle or vehicle with expired registration shall be permitted to remain on any lot or in front of any lot.

In one section there were ninety (90) cases of trash cans visible from the street (placed on side of house, in front of garage door, etc), or miscellaneous trash along the side of the house. There were also five (5) vehicles (cars or trailers) not properly parked. Letters have been sent to the residents informing them of these infractions.

Although not a major violation, these violations are an indicator of slippage of the high standards normally associated with Shady Hollow. If we allow this slippage to continue, the standards will trend lower. We all need to pay attention to the general appearance of our neighborhood. The easiest way to keep ahead of this problem is to remind our neighbors to keep up the general appearance or their property. Some of these violations have simple fixes. Put the trash cans away properly. Others may take some time and effort. All the corrections can be started immediately. The affects of the the corrections should show up quickly.

If we all do our part to keep up the high standards of Shady Hollow, we will all benefit with a better neighborhood and higher property values.

Attention all mature and senior

citizens of Shady Hollow...

Would you be interested in a

semi-weekly afternoon function

of activities such as Bingo, Board

Games, Crafts, etc. at the Shady

Hollow Community Center?

### Seniors Social Club





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email at isabella5840@att.net to

If so, please contact Belle Hutton by phone at (512) 825-6661 or by let her know of your interest and with any thoughts or suggestions.

## **Current Board Members**

**PRESIDENT** Mike Cain VICE PRESIDENT Jim Bateman **TREASURER** Geoff Lawson **SECRETARY Gregg Sales** 

Russell Downey Laura Kennedy Mary Ellen Mathis

Susan Morey Jamie Rygg

Mike Wilson

Ann Weitzman

## Family-friendly Event and Summer Camp

The Franklin Music Academy is providing musical entertainment to the public from students of all ages. Music will display sounds ranging from classical guitar, pop, to classic rock. Food trucks and vendors will be participating.





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## **DIANA'S CLEANING SERVICE**

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Watch the newletter next month for updated photos of the Capistrano Park pool renovations. It looks great!



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## Shady Hollow Genealogy Club



The Shady Hollow Genealogy Club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of odd-numbered months (January, March, May, July, etc.). The January meeting was cancelled because of the icy weather. Spring has arrived, and the members expect beautiful weather for the next meeting, scheduled for March 20th at the Downing home, 11132 Shady Hollow. We will have a short presentation on tracing the women in your family tree.

Join us and compare notes, share research techniques, or brag about your famous ancestors.

For more info, contact Jim jim@ jadowning.com or

Cindy <u>dragonfire@austin.rr.com</u>. Hope to see you March 20th!

#### **Welcome New Residents**

James & Anastasia Irish 3111 Ammunition Drive

Shelia Norris 3233 Doe Run

Michael & Peggy Hamilton 11505 Sundown Trail



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## **Shady Hollow MUD**

February Meeting

The MUD Board held its regular monthly meeting on February 6, 2018 at the MUD Office Building, 3910 Capistrano Trail. All directors were present. In attendance was Laura Jones, with Maxwell Locke & Ritter, the District's auditor. Residents Dr. Roy Bosson and Mike Swoboda, along with their interpreters Sonja Smith and Matthew Simkovsky, were also at the meeting – Dr. Bosson and Mr. Swoboda had some questions about annexation.

Constable's Deputy Ken Rush was unable to attend the meeting, but Pres. Stried delivered his report.

Ms. Jones presented the draft of the District's audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, which she described as an unmodified opinion, the highest opinion the District can receive. The Board approved the audit as presented and authorized its filing with the TCEQ and other governmental agencies as required.

The Board discussed the May 5, 2018 Director's Election. Ms. McCalla provided an explanation of the legal requirements for the election, and the Board voted to (1) approve the election agreement between the District and Travis County; (2) approve the Joint Election Agreement; and (3) appoint McGinnis Lochridge as the District's agent for the election. Ms. McCalla explained that two positions were up for reelection and the deadline for submission of an application for a position on the ballot was 5 pm on Feb 16. She continued that if no more than two applications were received, the Board could cancel the election at its March meeting. The Board then adopted the Order Calling Directors Election.

MUD - Continued on Page 7



## **Shady Hollow Board Meeting**

January Meeting - Draft Minutes

#### **Board Members Present**

Jim Bateman, Mike Cain, Russell Downey, James Elizondo, Geoff Lawson, Laura Kennedy, Mary Ellen Mathis, Susan Morey, Gregg Sales, Ann Weitzman & Mike Wilson

#### Staff in Attendance

None

#### **Board Members Absent**

None

#### Others in Attendance

Kirk Overby, Ron Stried, Michael Searle and about 80 residents

#### Legend

CC - Community Center, ACC - Architectural Control

Committee, GM - General Manager **Meeting start** 

7:08 pm

#### Introductions

- Outgoing board members: Jim Bateman, Russell Downey, James Elizondo, Laura Kennedy and Mary Ellen Mathis
- Ongoing board members: Mike Cain, Geoff Lawson, Susan Morey, Gregg Sales, Ann Weitzman and Mike Wilson
- MOTION to continue the annual meeting on March 21st, 2018 by Doug Allan, seconded Mr. Dotezrod. There was discussion. The motion failed 59 to 32.

#### **Election Process**

Nomination of candidates for Board of Directors from the floor

- Jamie Rygg
- Bill Aleshire
- Clay Zelisko

Candidate speeches in Ballot order

- Jim Bateman
- Russell Downey
- Laura Kennedy
- Mary Ellen Mathis
- Jamie Rygg
- Bill Aleshire
- Clay Zelisko

Voting will continue for ten minute order 8:12 pm

#### **Guest Speaker**

• MUD President Dr. Ron Stried, Michael Searle spoke during this break

- "Has everyone voted" question was asked
- President announced that voting is closed
- Election Committee will process the vote

#### **Committee Report**

- 1. Executive, Mike Cain Meet five times over the course of the past year. Several meetings were to evaluate our General Manager. The other meetings were centered around the irregularities found in the way the HOA was being managed.
- 2. Recreation, Laura Kennedy Generally met every month. Tried to meet in different locations like the pool and several parks. Discussed the need for new signage and supplies to help clean up after our dogs. They are working to repair or replace the basketball goals.
- 3. Community Center, Gregg Sales Meet several times during the remodeling of the CC. Also discussed the a revision of the fees and deposits associated with the use the of the CC.
- 4. Welcome, Mary Ellen Mathis The committee met twice this year and works regularly to introduces themselves and the neighborhood to all new residents.
- 5. Annexation, Jim Bateman Was involved in being a voice at and supporting the Special Session on annexation (Senate Bill 6) during the past year.
- 6. Finance, Geoff Lawson Meet last

October to discuss and review the budget.

#### Treasurers Report - Geoff Lawson

- The finance committee met in October 2017 to discuss the draft budget.
- The HOA is solvent.
- The auditors gave us a clean audit for 2016.
- As of 12/31/2017 we show \$44,138 in our operating account and \$142,400 in our reserve accounts.
- A preliminary audit show \$1,123,020 in assets and \$289,285 in liabilities. This leaves us with an equity of \$833,735.
- We have no long term debt or liberties.
- The board relies on a Reserve Study to decide when and where to spend money.
- In 2017 we spent \$81,956 on capitol improvements. The primary expense was the remodel of our community center.
- The Reserve Study calls for spending in the amount of \$78,273 for capitol improvement with the primary expense

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## **Landscape News**

Brought to you by Greater Texas Landscape Services



#### I heard that it's ok to top my Asian Jasmine. Is that true?

You bet it is. After Jasmine has gotten over 9-10" in height, it is very beneficial to top it off with a string trimmer, hedge trimmers or even a small 21" inch mower. If you do use a mower, make sure your mower deck will raise high enough to do so and make sure it clears sprinkler heads. Don't worry after you cut it if the plants looks like twigs. They will quickly flush back with the spring flush in late March or early April. This "haircut" will cause the plants to thicken up and produce more leaves.

With all equipment that you use on your Jasmine, make sure it's been serviced and is ready to be used. For hedge trimmers and mowers, make sure blades are sharpened and ready to go. Be ready for some cleanup as this will create quite a bit of a mess.



#### German Iris

It won't be long before our beloved Iris will start blooming. With the crazy back and forth cold/warm weather, our pretty Iris friends aren't quite sure when to appear, however, they will be here! These tough plants stay green through the cold winters as well as hot summers, then they pop out those colorful blooms in the spring. Although the bloom cycle is short lived, (several weeks rather than months) the Iris is a welcome addition to any land-scape, especially those looking to conserve water. Iris come in many colors and combinations. There are also tall varieties as well as short and these plants will last for years. They are a bulb and will get thick. Know that you can divide them as they spread and can be replanted elsewhere....or shared with a friend. Enjoy!



#### **Landscaping Tips for March**

There are some great things to do in our landscapes in the month of March. Here's just a few of those tips:

- Complete all winter cutbacks and your rejuvenation pruning.
- Add mulch to all beds as needed to bring to 2"
- Begin turf renovations by aerating and composting all lawn areas. Don't forget to apply pre-emergent after you complete this step to keep summer weeds
- Mid month, add seed (Bermuda) to any bare areas in a common Bermuda lawn.
- Complete irrigation repairs now and be ready for the spring.
- Watch drought status in your area. If high, add some water to your landscapes. If not, consider keeping water off.
- After last chance of frost, lay solid sod (Zoysia, St. Augustine and Bermuda).
- Time to feed and wake up that dormant turf and start feeding it to get healthy. Good time for a higher nitrogen (first number) and avoid fertilizer with high phosphorus (middle number). There is a lot of phosphorus in most soils so avoid it when possible.



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Ms. Wheeler reported that the city wanted to inspect all of the District's water meters prior to taking over operation & maintenance of the facilities on April 2. The city planned to take pictures of all water meters and perform a field investigation; the process will take up to 2 weeks to complete. After the Board discussed its desire to ensure a smooth transition of services for its customers, they voted to grant the city's request to inspect the water meters.

Mr. Haag noted that the city had responded to the District's letter regarding provisions in the SPA related to the out-of-district areas in the community; the city's response was that amending the SPA was not required and the city felt it would be able to provide quality services to all District customers beginning in April. Mr. Haag will continue to research SB6.

Pres. Stried brought up a recent Statesman article that reported the significantly higher amounts the residents of Lost Creek were paying for trash collection sine the neighborhood was annexed by the city. He reviewed a comparison of water and wastewater rates between the city and the district. Pres. Stried said he would provide a report to the HOA at the upcoming annual membership meeting.

The Constable's report for February included the following:

- Once again, the worst of the speeders was recorded on Green Emerald (47/30);
- Regular patrols of common areas, streets, school zones; spoke with residents jogging, walking ogs, using the parks; checked for stop sign & red light violations; checked for suspicious activity; addressed noise complaint (Shady Valley-band playing loud-10:30 pm); removed traffic hazard (trash in roadway Brodie);
- Assist TCSO: disturbance (Apache Forest); report of shots fired (city property west of Shady Hollow West).

## Coyotes 101

Keep Austin Wild - Peaceful Coexisting with Coyotes



#### How to respond to coyotes in your neighborhood

As Austin grows, our interactions with wildlife increase. To keep cnoyotes and other wildlife wild, we can follow a few, simple preventative measures:

- Always keep trash and compost in a secure bin
- Keep your barbecue grill clean
- Keep the area under your fruit and nut trees free of droppings (a coyote's diet can be up to 40% fruit in Texas)
- Avoid feeding pets outdoors (if you must feed pets outside, feed during the daytime and remove the uneaten food as soon as the animal has finished).
- Feeding wildlife and feral cats can attract coyotes. In addition to coyotes eating the food,

mice and other animals will be drawn to leftovers, which can subsequently attract predators such as foxes and coyotes.

#### Hazing

To discourage coyotes from associating people with safety and food, eliminate the food sources around your yard and engage in hazing if you see a coyote on your property. Hazing is a process used to reinforce a coyote's natural wariness without harming them. To haze, be big and loud: Wave your arms, shout, use noisemakers, throw non-edible objects in its direction (but not at it), or spray the animal with a hose. It shouldn't take much for the coyote to get the memo -- just be persistent and maintain eye contact. Do not haze if a coyote is sick, injured, with pups, or is in its territory or out at night.

#### Pet safety

Keep small pets inside when possible and monitor them while outside. While walking dogs, use a secure, 4-6 foot leash and do not let dogs explore vegetation that you can't see through. It is advised that pets be fed indoors. If pets must be fed outdoors, feed during the daytime and remove food as soon as your pet is finished.

For more information on hazing and pet safety, visit: http://www.austintexas.gov/department/coyotes-central-texas. For immediate assistance, or to report a coyote that is sick or injured, call 311.



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- ★ Guards Against Unexpected Failures
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Minutes - Continued from Page 5

being the renovations of our pool.

- We expect to add \$94,000 to our Reserve account in 2018.
- Reviewed and recounted the steps being taken concerning the current civil action against our past GM and bookkeeper

**Election Results Announced** 

- Jim Bateman 154 New board member
- Russell Downey 154 New board member
- Laura Kennedy 156 New board member
- Mary Ellen Mathis 159 New board member
- Jamie Rygg 69 New board member
- Bill Aleshire 41
- Clay Zelisko 26

#### **General Discussion**

The following items were discussed

- Q: Where there limits set on the association credit card and how were checks cashed. A: The limits on the credit card were unknown and the monthly payments were paid automatically from the HOA checking account. Statements were taken offsite prior to a board members review. We have not found an issue to date of misuse of checks.
- Q: Were the employees bonded. A: Not to our knowledge
- Comment: reading the civil suit answers a lot of questions.
- Q: Do the ACC's go away when we are

## Highlights

www.shadyhollow.org

EDITOR Mike Cain

PRODUCTION
Gregg Sales

ARTICLE & AD DEADLINE Last working day of the month

annexed? A: No

- Q: Would like to know the polices and procedures to manage the finances of the HOA. A: There will be a committee formed to review existing and create additional policies and procedures.
- Comment: We should avoid letting the current negative information about a General Manger push us in the direction of a managing company. Trust but verify.
- Comment: A previous board member noted that shortly after the last General Manager was hired we stopped getting three bids on some items/work and instead let the GM handle. We should go back to always getting three bids.
- Q: Will there be criminal charges pursued against the GM and bookkeeper?A: The HOA is pursuing all options.
- Q: Is there a way to keep the Constable in the neighborhood? A: We would

have to have a special assessment.

• Q: What is the timeline for replacing the GM? We hope to begin preparations for this process in March.

The following people were nominated for the following positions.

Mike Cain - President by Geoff Lawson, seconded by Gregg Sales Jim Bateman - Vice President by Laura Kennedy, seconded by Geoff Lawson Geoff Lawson - Treasurer by Laura Kennedy, seconded by Mike Wilson Gregg Sales - Secretary by Russell Downey, seconded by Laura Kennedy

Discussed memorial for Lielle Kaplan
- MOTION that the board approve a
matching amount up to 500 by Laura
Kennedy, seconded by Geoff Lawson

Meeting ended 9:31 p.m.



## **Bailey Middle School Library**

Clothing Backpacks Hats
Shoes Purses Mittens
Bedding Wallets Scarves
Towels Bags Ties Belts

Drop off donations at Bailey Middle School 4020 Lost Oasis Hollow

Contact Jennifer Ripstra - Librarian With Questions jennifer.ripstra@austinisd.org

Our Goal is 1000 - 33 Gallon Size Bags

## **Looking for Host Familes**

We are looking for host families for 2018-2019 school year! Opening your heart and home to an exchange student is an incredible cultural experience you will never forget! Please contact Candice Rudolph at 512-743-0224 for more information!



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	MARCH							APRIL					
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1 tai chi 10:30 a	2	3	1	2 tai chi 9:30 a	3 yoga 7:00 p	4	5 tai chi 10:30 a	6	7
4	5 tai chi 9:30 a	6 yoga 7:00 P	7	8 tai chi 10:30 a	9	10	8	9 tai chi 9:30 a	10 yoga 7:00 p	11	12 tai chi 10:30 a	13	14
11	12 tai chi 9:30 a	13 yoga 7:00 P		15 tai chi 10:30 a SH Board mtg 7 p	16 garden club 10:00 a	17	15	16 tai chi 9:30 a	17 yoga 7:00 p	18	19 tai chi 10:30 a SH Board mtg 7 p	20	21
18	19 tai chi 9:30 a	20 yoga 7:00 P	21	22 tai chi 10:30 a	23	24	22	23 tai chi 9:30 a	24 yoga 7:00 p	25	26 tai chi 10:30 a	27	28
25	26 tai chi 9:30 a	27 yoga 7:00 P	28	29 tai chi 10:30 a	30	31 Easter Celebrat'n 4-6 p	29	30 tai chi 9:30 a	31 yoga 7:00 p				
				ć	all events are he	eld at the commur	nity center unless	otherwise notea	1				