

Gran Forest News

Issue 0512

www.granforest.com

May 2012

Gran Forest

2012 Event Calendar

Saturday May 12th – Pool Opens! Remember, this year you have your own pool code to access the pool. You will be receiving a reminder letter with your code. Contact Lindsey Malone at Access Management if you do not receive a code. Phone: 770-777-6890, x 114; Fax: 770-777-6916; Email: lmalone@accessmgt.com

Friday May 25th – End of School Pizza Party, 5:30 p.m. at the pool.

Saturday June 23rd – Adult Summer Social, 7:00 p.m. at the pool.

Wednesday July 4th – July 4th Parade, 10:00 a.m. at the corner of Redbud and Longleaf.

Friday August 10th – Back to School Pizza Party, 5:30 p.m. at the pool.

Saturday August 18th – Adult Party, 7:00 p.m. at the pool. Rain date is Saturday August 25th.

Sept TBD – Pool Closes.

Saturday Nov 10th – Our Annual Canned Food Drive

Monday Nov 12th – Annual Homeowners meeting, 6:00 p.m. at Mashburn Elementary.

Neighborly Reminders

- **Please observe the 25 mph speed limit and stop signs.** We have children playing, people walking or running, and we want to ensure the safety of all. Help keep our neighborhood safe by slowing down and coming to a full stop at stop signs.
- Remember to keep the roadway clear from grass clippings and overhanging trees and shrubs. Homeowners with corner lots, please make sure shrubs do not obstruct the view from side streets.
- When walking your dogs, please have them on leash and remember to pick up after them.

Yard of the Month

Congratulations to Donna Hudson at 1465 Redbud Way who won April's yard of the month and received a \$50.00 home improvement card.

Calling All 2012 High School Graduates!

We will be placing graduation banners at both of the Gran Forest entrances. If you have a 2012 high school graduate, please contact Patti Columb at pacolumb@att.net by May 5th so we can be sure your graduate is included.

Neighborhood Spotlight on.....

A big thank you to Keenen Clark, age 9. Keenen helped Kim McKenzie plant all the flowers at the pool. Way to go, Keenen!

Recipe Corner

New Newsletter feature! Send your favorite recipes to Patti Columb at pacolumb@att.net.

Blueberry Crunch (from Patti Columb)

1 cup oatmeal; 1 cup unpacked brown sugar; ½ cup dry milk; ½ tsp salt; ½ tsp cinnamon; ½ cup butter; 2 cups (or more!) fresh blueberries; one fresh-squeezed lemon.

Combine dry ingredients. Cut in butter. Put about ½ into bottom of pan. Add blueberries, squeeze lemon juice over the berries, and top with the rest of the crunch. Bake in a preheated oven at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until fully bubbling through the oatmeal mixture.

Variations: You can add other fruit, such as raspberries, blackberries, or peaches. You can reduce the sugar to ½ to ¾ cup, depending on the fruit and your own personal sweet tooth. You can also add slivered almonds. Enjoy!

New Neighbors?

Do you have a new neighbor? Please contact April Yungel (770-888-0062) from our Welcoming Committee. We want to be sure that they receive a friendly southern welcome and a basket full of goodies!

Volunteers Needed

- Looking for help distributing the newsletters. The current volunteers have been doing this for years, so we are looking for some new folks. This is at most a once a month commitment. Contact Patti Columb 770/781-5737 if you are interested.
- Need help coordinating our summer activities (see calendar for activity dates). If you can help, please contact Nicola Schwab at 404/580-9755 or nicolaschwab25@gmail.com.

Neighborhood Garden Advice

New Newsletter feature! Send your gardening advice to Patti Columb at pacolumb@att.net for inclusion in the Gran Forest newsletter.

Excerpt from... You too can Grow an Italian Herb Garden (www.helpfulgardener.com)

How to Plant and Grow Fresh Basil

Basil may be the most well known Italian herb. Basil is an annual warm-season herb that is sensitive to cold weather. While you may be familiar with dried basil, enthusiasts will tell you that nothing compares to a few fresh basil leaves. Basil is relatively easy to grow and makes a great addition to your vegetable garden. Grow basil next to your peppers or tomatoes, basil is said to improve the flavour of its neighbouring plants. Basil is also said to repel flies and mosquitoes!

When planting basil, pick a site with full sun. Basil prefers warm to hot weather and a pH of 5.5-7.0. Basil can be planted in pots as well as directly in the ground; requires low watering and should be propagated by seed. Basil's most common enemies are the Japanese beetle, slugs and snails. Start seeds inside and transplant when a few inches tall.

To avoid an infestation of slugs and snails, line your garden with copper strips or wire mesh. The charge that builds up on the copper surface, repels both pests away from your garden as they are unable to move across it.

Basil must be pinched back as it begins to flower as once it flowers it loses flavour. Pruning back the flowers will also encourage it to grow bushier. Leaves should be cut in the morning after the dew has dried. Do not wash basil leaves, as they will lose their flavour.

Everyone's Favorite: Rosemary

Rosemary is a tough evergreen perennial, which can grow into a large shrub. Though it is sturdy and does well in many climates, rosemary is very sensitive to frost. Rosemary does well in the ground or in pots and grows pretty little blue flowers which, can be used in salads or as a garnish. Rosemary makes an excellent hedge and is great for attracting bees.

Italian herbs make excellent compliments to your existing vegetable or flower garden. The fragrance of these potent herbs will make you feel like you are taking a trip to the Mediterranean every time you stroll through your own garden. Growing these herbs locally and organically is one of the best decisions you have made all year.

Our Gran Forest Web Site

Please visit www.granforest.com. Sign up for the community email list to be notified via email of any important neighborhood announcements. There are links to join Facebook and Twitter Gran Forest pages for up-to-the-minute neighborhood information! Contact forsale@granforest.com or services@granforest.com to advertise items for sale or services offered. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email webmaster@granforest.com.

Our 2012 Board

Kim McKenzie – Phone: 770/653-4343

Email: kkenzie59@gmail.com

Nicola Schwab – Phone: 404/580-9755

Email: nicolaschwab25@gmail.com

Chris Clark – Phone: 770/887-8005

Email: voltrix2@yahoo.com

Jake Smith – 770/596-6264

Email: jacobsmith56@gmail.com

Leonard Signa – Phone: 678/294-9055

Email: signalf@yahoo.com

Property Manager

Our property manager is Lindsey Malone (Access Management). Phone: 770-777-6890, x 114;

Fax: 770-777-6916; Email: lmalone@accessmgt.com

2012 Committee Members

Architectural Control Committee

Lawton McKenzie – Phone: 770/560-1841

Email: lawton.mckenzie@gmail.com

Pablo Diaz – Email: pddiaz@me.com

Cathy Morse – Email: camorse1@comcast.net

Charles McGahey – Phone: 678/771-8185

Email: janchas2000@yahoo.com

Yard of the Month

John and Valerie Howard

Welcome/Friend Committee

April Yungel – Phone: 770/888-0062

Email: ayungel@bi-ww.com

Swim/Tennis Committee

Kim McKenzie – 770/888-4329

Email: kkenzie59@gmail.com

Don Haff – Email: dehaff@aol.com

Newsletter

Patti Columb – Phone: 770/781-5737

Email: pacolumb@att.net

Decorating/Garden Committee

Jane Harmon – Phone: 770/844-7966

Email: jojaharmon1@yahoo.com

Allie Roberts – Phone: 770/844-9577

Email: allison.roberts@standardregister.com

Nicola Schwab – Phone: 404/580-9755

Email: nicolaschwab25@gmail.com

Herb Jansa – Phone: 770/887-9300

Email: hjansa@comcast.net

Jan McGahey – Phone: 678/771-8185

Email: janchas2000@yahoo.com

Social Committee

Jane Harmon – Phone: 770/844-7966

Email: jojaharmon1@yahoo.com

Nicola Schwab – Phone: 404/580-9755

Email: nicolaschwab25@gmail.com

If you would like to join one of our committees, please contact Nicola Schwab at 404/580-9755 or email her at nicolaschwab25@gmail.com.

No one cares more about our neighborhood than you!