

HILL TALK

THE LAKELAND HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



2018 Annual Christmas Lighting Contest

A special thank you to everyone who decorated their homes and helped make our neighborhood a little more festive for this holiday season. It was a challenge to choose the winners, the talent, creativity, and lighting skill was evident in so many homes. Hopefully everyone was able to take a tour of the neighborhood to enjoy the lights and decorations.

So here is to the all the "Clark Griswolds" of Lakeland Hills and especially our 3 winners - great job!



1st Place Winner

Demetrio Farias
4810 Mill Pond Loop SE



2nd Place Winner

David Larsen
906 51st Street SE



3rd Place Winner

Brian and Melissa Holt
729 50th Street SE

As 2019 approaches with new hopes, challenges, and dreams, the Lakeland Hills HOA Board and officers, would like to wish you and your family a Happy New Year.



Vehicle Vandalism

It's getting darker earlier so it's more important to keep your porch lights on to illuminate your parking spaces and lock your vehicles. Most homeowners who reported break-ins indicate their vehicles were unlocked. Locked or not, report any incidents to the police non-emergency number (253-288-2121). Auburn Police department assigns patrolling priority and location based on reported activity. So remember see something, say something.



Important Dates

January 8 - National Bubble Bath Day - On a cold winters night, relaxing in a nice toasty bubble bath sounds like the perfect way to commemorate National Bubble Bath Day. The bubbles on top of the water insulate the bathwater, keeping it warmer for a longer period of time. Don't forget the wine, chocolate and candles!

January 19 - National Popcorn Day. This popular snack can be eaten plain, buttery, salty, cheesy or drizzled with caramel. It can be enjoyed while watching your favorite movie or sports event, or even used as garland or inexpensive packing material.

January 23 - National Pie Day. Choose your favorite pie and enjoy.

February 11 - National Make a Friend Day. This a fantastic opportunity to meet someone new (perhaps a neighbor) and make a new friendship. Friends serve a vital role in everyone's lives. They are one of life's most valuable blessings.

February 25 -National Chili Day. Great for after coming in from the rain (or snow-maybe)!! The recipes are as varied as the number of beans in the pot - from spicy to vegetarian to con carne.

February 27 -National Pancake Day. An everyday, any meal favorite!

Effective January 27, 2019

Forever stamps will rise to \$.55.

Each additional ounce for a First Class Mail letter will cost an extra .15 (a decrease from \$0.21 in 2018).



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

MARCH 10 @ 2 AM



Do you have a New Year's Resolution? Remember:

"THE SECRET OF CHANGE IS TO FOCUS ALL OF YOUR ENERGY, NOT ON FIGHTING THE OLD, BUT ON BUILDING THE NEW."

—SOCRATES

Garbage Day!

Please ensure that you don't place your garbage can out before 6pm the day before collection is scheduled. Also, cans need to be removed from the curb by 6pm after pickup. Thank you for your cooperation.



The HOA Board and officers want to give a big "Thank You to our wonderful judges who took the time to critically evaluate the lighting contest this year.

A shout out to these ladies and their eye for talent!

Pictured on the right are the trio of: Jordyn, Alicia Olivia Martin (also pictured with each winner)



What to do with your old Christmas Tree

1. **Recycle it.**

Collection will be the week of Jan 8-12.

Place your tree and wreath by your garbage collection area by 6 am.

Guidelines

- Tree must be cut into 4 foot lengths or smaller
- Tree trunks should be no wider than 4 inches in diameter and each piece should weigh no more than 65 pounds.
- Remove all garland, tinsel and ornaments.
- No flocked trees, artificial trees or other debris will be accepted.
- Limit one tree and one wreath per household.

2. **Use it for firewood**

Converting a Christmas tree to firewood means the tree can continue making spirits bright long after the holiday is over. Experts warn, however, not to simply toss your old tree into an indoor fireplace or wood stove. A hazardous chemical called creosote in the trees can build up and cause fires to burn extremely hot, sending off sparks that can be fire hazards.

However, it's perfectly fine to use your tree as kindling for an outdoor fire pit.

3. **Mulch it**

Save yourself a trip to the store, not to mention all that cash you'd have spent buying bags of mulch.

4. **Compost it**

Use your old Christmas tree to supplement your garden soil. A layer of thin branches — such as evergreens — is the best base for a new compost pile.

5. **Use it to protect your perennials**

Your old Christmas tree can help save the lives of the other plants in your garden. Simply lay the branches on the ground beneath perennial plants to help protect them from any upcoming frost.

6. **Toss it into your fish tank**

Want to create a peaceful habitat for your fish? Place branches from your old Christmas tree inside their tank. According to Lifehack: "In the wild, many branches fall into ponds and lakes, offering protection to the fish in the water. You can put the smaller branches into the tank to give your fish a place to hide and relax. Make sure the branches are fully clean before you put them in the tank." (www.lifehack.org)



Board of Directors

Andrew Rawls, President/Board Member
Ron Surber, Vice President/ACC Committee
Andreas Ellis, Secretary/Treasurer
Nathan Martin—Board Member
Daniel Snyder, Board Member

Important Phone Numbers

City of Auburn

253-931-3000 (Main Line)

Website: www.auburnwa.gov/contact.htm

Auburn Police Department

253-288-2121

Auburn Valley Regional Fire Authority

253-288-5800

Ilalko Elementary

253-931-4748

Animal Control

253-931-3062

Puget Sound Energy

1-888-255-5773

Waste Management (missed collection)

1-800-592-9995

If you are
experiencing an
emergency please dial
911



Do you have any news to share?

Send an email to:
info@auburnlakelandhills.org and let us know. We'll publish it in the next newsletter. This is reserved for Lakeland Hills Homeowners only (no ads please). Include your name, address, and phone number and how you would like your news presented. We reserve the right to edit your submission.

Summary of Board Meeting— December 4, 2018

Financial: Mr. Ellis reviewed the October and November Financial statements for the Association. The directors reviewed and discussed several of the expenses, including those related to the new neighbor welcome packages.

Mr. Ellis then reviewed the upcoming Christmas Lighting contest. He affirmed that the judging and prizes will be made on December 21. Cash is to be awarded to the first second and third place winners; in the respective amounts of \$300.00, \$200.00, and \$100.00. Lastly, Mr. Ellis reported that the long standing vacant home located on 809 52nd street recently sold and closed.

Architectural Control: Mr. Surber reported most of the deficiencies noted by the ACC were being taken care of by the homeowners that have received second notices.

Welcoming Committee: Mr. Ellis reviewed the actions and activities of the Welcome Committee. New homeowners were provided with a package including City of Auburn key contact, points of interest, and resources, ACC Guidelines, as well as gift certificates to local Lake Hills Town Center business'. These gift packages were paid for with funds received from the Title Transfer fee charged to the purchasers of new homes in the association, and hand delivered by two of the HOA members.

Newsletter: It is scheduled to go out in early January 2019. Topics to include a reminder of 2019 HOA Dues, timing of when garbage, yard waste, and recycle bins could be placed curbside, and a request for ACC volunteers.

Adjournment: Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



As a member of our community, you have a big stake in the safety and cleanliness of our neighborhood. How can you ensure that where we live is properly maintained and cared for? The best way is to volunteer on the Architectural Control Committee. It is a small time commitment and a big help. (about 1 hour twice a year).

Contact **Ron Surber** for more information on how your can help.
Email Ron at: acc@auburnlakelandhills.org

If you wish to contact the board the following emails are monitored:

info@auburnlakelandhills.org
acc@auburnlakelandhills.org

Website: <http://auburnlakelandhills.org/id5.html>

**Remember
HOA Dues for
2019
are due.**

**The next Board Meeting
is scheduled for:
7:00 p.m.
January 23, 2019,
at Haggen Northwest Fresh
(Haggen's).**