



Brook Meadows Messenger

The Official Publication of the Brook Meadows Homeowner's Association

Volume 8, Number 12

www.brookmeadows.org

December 2013

SOCIAL CALENDAR

DECEMBER 8

HOLIDAY MODEL TRAIN DISPLAY & CHAIRTY DONATION

Noon - 5:00 pm

Host Stan Pirzchaski

4832 Lakeside Dr.

*Please bring an un-wrapped toy for G.R.A.C.E.
& participate in this annual charitable event*

DECEMBER 8

HOLIDAY PARTY

6:00 pm

Hosted by Debbie & Jeff Siek

4604 Green Oaks Dr.

Bring a desert or appetizer to share B.Y.O.B

DECEMBER 10

LADIES ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Hostess Susan Wilson

4506 Shadywood Lane

Gift Value \$15.00

Bring appetizer or desert plus \$10 for drinks

DECEMBER 14

HOLIDAY YARD DISPLAY CONTEST

Judging will begin after sunset

DECEMBER 31

LAST TUESDAY

6:30pm

On vacation for the holidays

JANUARY 27

Last Tuesday - 6:30 pm

The Londoner

on Hwy 26 Colleyville Blvd

FEBRUARY 24

Last Tuesday - 6:30 PM

Pho Duy

on Glade Rd,

in the Albertson's shopping center

Not receiving the BMHA e-mail blasts?

Try these two steps.

1. In your email account set up, make both directors@brookmeadows.org
and social@brookmeadows.org as approved senders

2. go to www.brookmeadows.org home page and fill out the
"E-MAIL ADDRESS - CLICK HERE" link.

To volunteer - Contact directors@brookmeadows.org

Brook Meadows

ASSOCIATION INFO

Brook Meadows
Homeowners Association, Inc.
PO Box 492 • Colleyville, TX 76034

Brook Meadows Directors: directors@brookmeadows.org
Please visit our website often: www.BrookMeadows.org

2013-14 Board of Directors

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Personal Information Update for our Directory

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Homeowner #1 Name: _____

Cell #: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Homeowner #2 Name: _____

Cell #: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Child #1: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Child #2: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Child #3: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Child #4: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Child #5: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Would you like to serve on a neighborhood committee?

YES ____ NO ____ If Yes, any preferences? _____

Other Comments? _____

Mail to:

Brook Meadows Homeowner Association
PO Box 492, Colleyville, TX 76034
or email to: directors@BrookMeadows.org

Brook Meadows neighbor, Amy Anderson of Colleyville-based Design Perspectives LLC attends Baker Furniture's First Designer Signature Event in High Point, NC

Amy Anderson, President of the Colleyville-based interior design company, Design Perspectives LLC, was selected as one of ten designers nationwide to attend Baker Furniture's first ever Designer Signature Event.

On October 19th, Baker released the highly anticipated Jacques Garcia furniture line at High Point Market. Two weeks prior, the ten designers from around the country were flown to High Point to benefit from a "sneak peek" at the line and to provide the Baker Executive Management Team their feedback. The designers also toured Baker's case goods and upholstery factories. According to Amy, "Meeting the craftsmen and artists behind the Baker Furniture line was a trip highlight. I have a more full understanding of the quality and workmanship behind the beautiful Baker line. Another highlight, was meeting top designers from around the country and sharing ideas and experiences. I was truly honored to represent Dallas-Fort Worth."

Amy is the President of Design Perspectives LLC, a full service interior design, remodeling and staging company. Photos of the trip and the new line will be posted soon on Amy's blog: <http://designperspectivesinteriors.wordpress.com/>.

Pictured in the attached photo:

Back Row (L to R): Tanu Grewal, VP Marketing Baker; James Nauyok, VP Product Development Baker; Margaret Salamone, Designer NYC; Ray Golm, Training Manager Baker; Katie Corden, Event Hostess; Melanie Turner, Director Baker Showrooms & Stores; Christian Huebner, Designer, San Mateo, CA; Amy Anderson, Designer Dallas-Ft Worth; Austin Rothbard, President, Baker.

Front Row (L to R): Alexis Hiller, Sr Manager Baker; Allison Paladino, Designer Jupiter, FL; Jeanie Eastman, Designer Pinehurst, NC; Paul Feiten, Designer Bloomfield Hills, MI; Bev Viguerie, Designer, Los Gatos, CA; Liz McEnaney, Designer Northfield, IL



TOP FIVE MISTAKES TO AVOID IN DONATING TO TYPHOON HAIYAN RELIEF

BBB Wise Giving Alliance offers contribution cautions for donors

As the public's attention and hearts are focused on the devastation caused by Typhoon Haiyan, BBB Wise Giving Alliance advises donors to take steps to avoid being taken by questionable solicitors or wasting their money on poorly managed relief efforts. The typhoon that hit the Philippines over the weekend, described as the most powerful in the world this year, has destroyed an entire town. More than 10,000 are feared dead.

"When we see the horrific results of a natural disaster, we want to help quickly," notes H. Art Taylor, president and CEO of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance. "But donors sometimes forget to follow common sense. As with all charitable giving, we are advising donors to do some research first. Find out what individual charities are doing and the time frame of their work. Donors who know what to expect from the charities they support are less likely to question the benefit of their gifts."

BBB Wise Giving Alliance cautions donors to avoid the following five giving mistakes when making disaster relief donations:

MISTAKE # 1: MAKING A DONATION DECISION BASED SOLELY ON CHARITY'S NAME.

Charities ranging from well-known emergency relief organizations to organizations experienced in reconstruction will likely be soliciting for various relief assistance efforts. Make sure the appeal specifies how the charity will help. If it does not, visit the charity's website. Also, watch out for charity names that include the name of the disaster – it could be a start-up group with little experience or a questionable effort seeking to gain confidence through its title.

MISTAKE # 2: COLLECT CLOTHING AND GOODS WITHOUT VERIFYING THAT ITEMS CAN BE USED.

Unless you have verified that a charity is in need of specific items and has a distribution plan in place, collecting clothing, food and other goods may end up being a wasted effort. Relief organizations often prefer to purchase goods near the location

(Continued on Page 7)

Glade Road Project Update

A public meeting regarding the potential expansion and improvement of Glade Road was held on Monday, November 18 at the Colleyville Community Center. The several hundred attendees were presented with the 3 options currently open for consideration, all centered on variations of one lane of traffic in each direction. The 2 options that entailed two lanes of traffic in each direction have been dismissed for safety reasons, as well as being more expansive than necessary. A very rough initial cost estimate for the project is \$12M, which can obviously change depending on the options chosen. One thing that was made very clear is that "while no decision has been made", doing nothing is not an option. At a minimum, the road needs improvement and repair, so the question is: What other traffic flow, safety and aesthetic improvements do we want to make at the same time?

The 3 options (with increasing order of land encroachment) under consideration include:

1. One lane in each direction, with left turn lanes only where most needed

2. One lane in each direction, with a continuous left turn lane
3. One lane in each direction, with left turn lanes where most needed, otherwise a solid median

All of these options have the additional potential for walking and/or biking trails on both the north and south sides. Lastly, traffic flow regulation options include stop lights, roundabouts and stop signs, with stop lights consider unnecessary, as well as cost-prohibitive.

The meeting was held in 4 parts:

1. A pre-presentation session displaying many informative posters with pictures and information about traffic loads, accident locations, aerial photographs of the impact of each option on Glade Road, artist drawings of each option, and other relevant information.

2. A verbal presentation by TranSystems of each of the options and the impact on traffic, land encroachment and visual impact

(Continued on Page 6)

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Ask the "Energy Analyst"
281.658.0395

GREAT BUSINESS RATES TOO!





COME SEE THE TRAINS



**The 16th annual
Pirzchalski Holiday Open House
Sunday, December 8th
Noon to 5:00 pm**

**4832 Lakeside Drive
Colleyville, Texas 76034 Brook Meadows**

See the MDAK HO Model Railroad in ACTION!

The MDAK RR is 67' x 27' & is designed for children of all ages! Walk the perimeter and find monkeys, cats, dogs and various animals & people. Listen to the sounds of cattle, pigs, sheep & chickens. Find the all new animated figures: painters, kids playing, cows & deer, man chopping wood, etc. See & hear big steam locomotives as they strain to climb mountain grades!

Cookies & Drinks provided

In the spirit of the Christmas season, this is our neighborhood charitable event for GRACE. Please bring a child's unwrapped toy if possible. There is no obligation! Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those less fortunate.

Suggested toy items:

Arts & Craft Sets, Board Games, Building Blocks, Card Games, Hand Held Video Games, Jewelry Making Sets, Lego's, Play Dough, Puzzles, Silly Putty, Slinky, Tinker Toys, Trucks or Cars, Yo-yo's.



We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



HolidayMDAK2013

Brook Meadows

Glade Road (*Continued from Page 4*)

(both traffic sight line and aesthetic).

3. Question and Answer

4. One-on-One sessions with City Council members and TranSystems, who have done the analysis, engineering, photographs, options and presentation material.

While a full range of opinions and desires was expressed, subjectively it seems as if most people lean towards doing what is necessary to aid in obvious traffic hot-spots and safety, but no more than what is necessary. That said, one improvement that was strongly recommended, and did seem to receive support, is the “flattening” of the hill at Glade and Bluebonnet and removal of the stop-sign on Glade. Flattening the hill will alleviate the safety issues that caused the placement of the stop sign to begin with, and removing the stop sign will improve traffic flow.

IMPORTANT: There will not be a vote, so it is critical to “vote” by voicing your opinion! You can voice your opinion, as well as keep track of the latest options, updates, drawings, presentation material, FAQ’s and various articles at www.gladeroadproject.com.



Social Media News

Brook Meadows is now on Facebook! You should have received an email inviting you to join our neighborhood Facebook page. This is a “by invitation only” site to ensure that only our neighborhood members can make postings. The page has been created to let members of our community make special announcements, ideas, thoughts, something to sell, something to buy, charitable events, and so forth. If you would like an invite and have not yet received one, or if you have questions about it, please send an email to Facebook@brookmeadows.org.

Follow the Path to Healthy Living

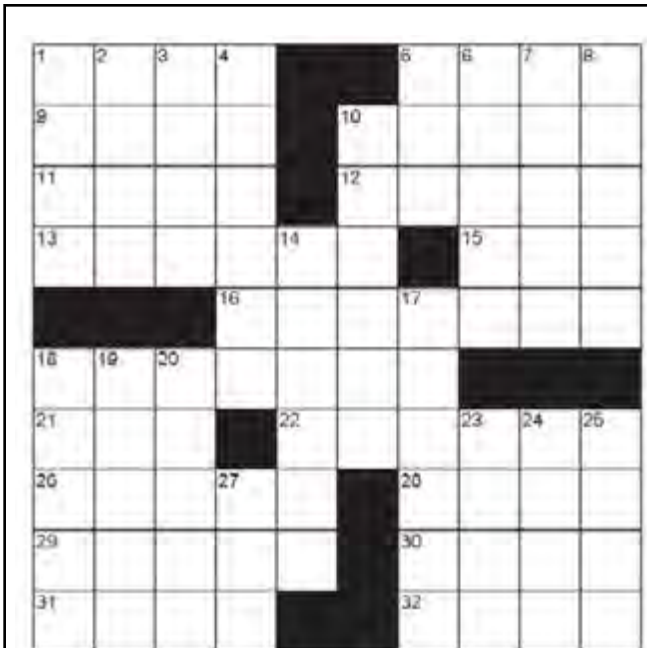
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everything from immune support to
cancer delivered in a compassionate
family-centered environment**



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ACROSS

1. Charge
5. Syrian bishop
9. Against
10. Landing
11. Leaves
12. Boom box
13. Allure
15. African antelope
16. Polite
18. Leafy green
21. Marry
22. Esophagus
26. Woken
28. Goad
29. Type of tooth
30. Refer
31. Posttraumatic stress disorder
32. Sieve

DOWN

1. Nativity scene piece
2. Competition at the Greek games
3. Capital of the Ukraine
4. Symbol
5. Expression of surprise
6. Emblem
7. Pickle juice
8. A ball out of bounds (2 wds.)
10. Twist violently
14. Ripper
17. Strums
18. Slough
19. Ross ____, philanthropist
20. Gods
23. Brand of sandwich cookie
24. Seaweed substance
25. Cabana
27. Blue

View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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Typhoon Relief (Continued from Page 3)

of the disaster to help speed delivery and avoid expensive long distance freight costs. Also, sending non-essential items may actually slow down the charity's ability to address urgent needs.

MISTAKE # 3: SENDING DONATIONS TO INEXPERIENCED RELIEF EFFORTS

Good intentions alone are not enough to carry out relief activities effectively. If the charity has not previously been involved in disaster relief, or does not have experience in assisting the overseas nation(s) that have been impacted, this likely will hamper their ability to work well in the affected areas.

MISTAKE # 4: RESPONDING TO ONLINE & SOCIAL MEDIA APPEALS WITHOUT CHECKING

Don't let your guard down just because the appeal is online. Don't assume that since a third-party blog, website or friend recommended a relief charity that it has been thoroughly vetted. Check out the charity's website on your own.

MISTAKE #5: DONATING WITHOUT DOING YOUR HOMEWORK

Find out if a charity meets recognized accountability standards. If you want assurance that the charity is transparent, accountable, and well managed, see if it meets the BBB Wise Giving Alliance's 20 "Standards for Charity Accountability" by visiting give.org.

The following 25 organizations are BBB Accredited Charities (i.e., meet all 20 BBB Standards for Charity Accountability) that have

announced on their website that they are accepting donations for typhoon relief activities. Donors are encouraged to visit the charities' websites to find out more about the nature of the assistance they are providing. Some are engaged in immediate relief while others are focused on longer term recovery efforts. This list does not include all of the charities involved in typhoon relief. Visit give.org if the organization you are considering is not on this list.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency International
AmeriCares Foundation
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
American Red Cross
Catholic Relief Services
ChildFund International
Children International
Direct Relief International
Episcopal Relief and Development
Feed The Children
GlobalGiving Foundation
Habitat for Humanity International

Heifer International
International Medical Corps
Lutheran World Relief
MAP International
Mercy Corps
Operation USA
Oxfam America
Plan International USA
Save the Children Federation
The Salvation Army
United States Fund for UNICEF
World Food Program USA
World Vision



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