

Welcome Newcomers

Information for "First Time Residents"

updated Jan 11, 2013

Corrections or updates contact Linda at trailsendwebmaster@gmail.com

TRAILS END RV AND MOBILE HOME PARK(A "55 plus" Community)
2001 S Texas Boulevard
Weslaco, TX 78596

TRAILS END CLUB'S VERY OWN WEB SITE: trailsendclub.com

WEBMASTER: trailsendwebmaster@gmail.com

PARK/OFFICE INFO

Owned by: Weslaco MHC Limited Partnership

3000 Town Center - Suite #540

Southfield, MI 48075

Managers: Bonnie and Dan Sell

Phone: (956) 968-5051 **Fax:** (956)968-0440 **e-mail:** trailsend@nodelparks.com

..... *After Hours - telephone calls will be forwarded*

Park Staff: Angel Almanza, Juan Almanza, Martin Galvain

Office Hours: 8:00am - 3:00pm Monday - Friday (open through noon hour)

Fax messages: May be sent or received at the office for \$1.00 per page.

Photocopying: \$0.10 per copy (*For larger amounts of photocopying, please arrange through a commercial service.)

Free Phone (for 1-800- numbers, local calls and use of a phone card): One phone located just behind the office in the library.

Computer Outlets: Located in the library available most hours. Please limit your use on the one computer just behind the office if others are waiting. There is Free internet available in the library and one land line. Wi-Fi available throughout the library.

Front Security Gate: Open 7:00am. to 4:00pm. (closed weekends) *Please arrange with office for a gate "CARD".

SPEED LIMIT IN PARK: 15 mph. Please observe STOP SIGNS and white painted STOP LINES.

No trespassing: As a courtesy please do not "cut through" lots or otherwise trespass on private property.

Swimming Pool and Hot Tub: Open at all times except closed for maintenance 6:45 - 8:00am (most weekday mornings)

Name Tags: Available at from the "Jacket/Tee Shirt" persons: Newcomers Free (Others \$2.00 each).

Laundry Facilities: Located in building adjacent to swimming pool SPEED QUEEN laundry equipment Wash: \$1.50 Dry: \$1.50. Change machine available and rolls of quarters can be purchased in the office. No Canadian coins can be used

Pet Owners are reminded of the regulations regarding pets. Be a responsible pet owner and "pick up the poop".

US Postal Service: Home delivery is provided except for Durango Street and the "inner circle" of Leisure Lane. Those persons who do not receive home delivery use the mailboxes provided near the wood working shop. A mail drop box is also located at this site. (All residents should occasionally check the incoming mail box in the office for mail which may have been undeliverable to your street address or personal box.)

Property owners will receive a copy of "**Community Guidelines** for Trail's End Park" from the office. Note these guidelines are on this our web site [click here](#).

GARBAGE/TRASH/RECYCLING, etc.

*****Dumpsters** are located in the southeast corner of the park at the south end of Durango. Residents are responsible for taking bagged household garbage and small trash items to the dumpsters. The dumpsters are emptied three times weekly.

***Residents have to arrange to have **large items** (appliances, carpeting, lumber, etc.) taken to a proper disposal site. The park office can provide the name and location of a proper disposal site. If these items are not disposed of properly a \$25.00 charge will be assessed to the owner.

***There is a separate "**brush**" pile. Once a week (Thursday) park staff will pick up brush and branches left at the front of your property. Thorny branches need to be in bags or cans (preferred). The cans will be returned to your property.

*****Recycling:** In the park there are provisions for some recycling. Bins, etc. are provided by the dumpsters. At the present time you can recycle – newspapers (bagged or tied only – no loose paper), cardboard (collapse boxes), plastic, glass and tin cans as well as aluminum cans, and provisions for glass recycling has been added. Also the Club recycles aluminum pop cans, thanks to Forrest Zemlicka. Leave your pop cans in the container near the pop machine – located on the northwest side of the Rec. Hall. The recycling proceeds are turned over to the Trail's End Club.

*** Also – There are containers or **collection** boxes in the main hall for a variety of items. Please check these out and donate accordingly. (Two boxes are provided for

used eye glasses -- Lions Club International or Mabel's Eye Clinic in Progreso, Mexico.) The pull tabs from aluminum cans are collected and turned over to Ronald MacDonald House by Forrest Zemlicka.

Occasionally there are other collection boxes so you can do your part to recycle, reduce, re-use.

*****Food Bank:** A large wooden box has been provided in the main hall for donations to food banks in our area. A list of suggested items you might like to provide is posted. Further details from Dan Merryfield or Richard Boss.

*****Mabel's Clinic** (Progreso, Mexico) accepts food items, clothing and other goods. Check with Verna Boss.

*****Sheets, blankets, bedspreads, filler materials, remnants, heavier type crochet cotton and other materials** will be used by the ladies of the **quilt-tying group**. They welcome thread and other recyclable goods, too. Contact Betty Cusitar (472-8879).

*****Monique and Roland Bourque** who headup the "helping hand" group accept furniture, clothes, etc. for distribution on both sides of the border. (956 969 9756).

*****Remember these groups and charities** when you leave in the spring. Part boxes of cereal, canned goods, etc. are welcome.

MORE HANDY PARK INFORMATION

*****Health Committee:** Contact Kay De Jong 148 South Bermuda 969-2564 (before 5:00pm). Persons with a chronic or recently diagnosed condition should bring medical records or at least a phone number for contact with your doctor back home.

*****A Blood Pressure Clinic** is held in the lounge behind the kitchen in the main hall once monthly. This takes place on the 2nd Monday of the month (8:00 to 8:30am) prior to the general meeting. If you need more frequent checks on your blood pressure contact Kay De Jong to make arrangements. A blood pressure cuff is also available at the office.

*****all Park staff are educated in CPR & the AED. We are also one of the very few Parks where there is a Health committee that has RNs (RET) that provide services.**eg BPs, "shots",etc....**Contact Kay De Jong**

Copies of the current KNAPP MEDICAL CENTER ACTIVE MEDICAL LIST are available in the office or the C o fC

A new service in 2009 similar to a walkin clinic is proved at the KNAPP MEDICAL CENTER. It is KNAPP MEDICAL CENTER MINOR CARE and is intended for non emeregency health measures such as sore throat, running nose, sprained ankle, etc. (www.knappmed.org) or 973 5694

*****First Aid Equipment:** First aid kits are located in the kitchen,office, woodworking shop, and shuffle shack. "Breathing bags" are located in the main hall

and the woodworking shop. Familiarize yourself with what is available and where and also take note of the location of **Fire Extinguishers**.

*** **NEW - An Automatic External Cardiac Defibrillator** (AED) is mounted on the south wall of the main hall (near the stage steps). Several club members have been taught how to use the defibrillator along with the required CPR course. Courses will be conducted periodically by members of Weslaco Fire Department. All persons who use the defibrillator/CPR are protected under the *Texas Good Samaritan Act*. Details are posted on the wall under the defibrillator box .

*****Home Health Care Aids** There are a number of home health care aids which the club can lend to you should the need arise. Some of these are: crutches, canes, walkers, wheel chair, etc. Contact Kay De Jong or the office.

*****Babies and Little Kids:** Grandkids or great grandkids coming to visit? Check with Cathy Whitney. Sometimes cribs, strollers, booster seats, etc. can be located and loaned out.

***Non-denominational **church service** is held at 8:30am each Sunday during the winter season.

*****Jackets, tee-shirts, golf shirts**, etc. With the park logo on them may be ordered from Betty Gross or Judy Dosch. Order early in the season. Name tags: Newcomers Free (Others \$2.00 each).

*****Visitors** are welcome to use the Club facilities. Children under the age of 18 are to be accompanied by an adult when using the club facilities.

*****Bulletin boards** are located in all halls and everywhere throughout the park. Please take time to read them. Not only will you find information about :

- entertainment
- special Medical Screenings or Presentations
- coming events
- tours, and travel
- Red Trailettes activities (Red Hat Ladies)

but **you can sign up as a volunteer** for lots of interesting activities or projects and **sign up for suppers**, too. Further information from the person named on the bulletin board notice.

*****Trails End Way:** This is a monthly club newsletter which is delivered to your home. It is a handy reference of the ongoing club activities.

***A well equipped **woodworking** shop is located adjacent to the main hall.

***Check Out the recently opened **Excercise Room** and equipment (behind the Kitchen)

***A **Residents' Club** (everyone!!!) led by a nine-member board of directors oversees activities and special events. Click on "**Board**" link on the Trails End Club Web home page for the current Board of Directors

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Some of the special events held in the park are:

- Thanksgiving Day Dinner
 - Christmas Program
- All-Valley Shuffle Tournament
- New Year's Eve Party and/or Dance
 - Blood Drive (2) per season
- Blood Pressure Clinic - once a month
 - Pizza Parties - twice monthly
- Entertainment (occasionally Saturday or Sunday) check posters, outdoor signs and other advertising
 - Anniversary/Birthday Party (three per winter season)
 - Park-wide Patio Sale (Once a year)
- Craft Sale and Flea Market (held in the hall once a year)
 - In-park Arts and Crafts Show
 - Weekly Country Music Jam Session
 - Ice-Cream Social (three per winter season)

OTHER USEFUL NEWCOMER INFORMATION (Weslaco Area)

Chamber of Commerce: The Weslaco Chamber of Commerce is located at 301 W Railroad (north of Business 83 and the railroad tracks) Phone: 968-2102 A visit to this facility is highly recommended for newcomers, short term visitors, and old timers wanting to update their information, too. There is a great deal of information on local, valley and Texas tourist attractions, coming events, etc. In addition to maps, brochures and pamphlets, you can enjoy a short video on the sugar cane industry. Make sure you acquire a copy of **The Guide Book** and **The Park Book**. You will find the Chamber of Commerce staff and volunteers helpful and you can take time for a free cup of coffee and a doughnut. (

Rio Grande Valley Partnership (Valley-wide Chamber of Commerce) is located at 322 South Missouri, Weslaco
Phone: 968-3141

Important Valley Area Phone Numbers: (The Office supplies newcomers with a more complete listing of numbers to call for services, location of important businesses and other pertinent information.)

Electrical Service: Contact the provider of your choice. Some numbers:

CPL Retail Energy: 1-866-483-4000

Reliant Energy Retail Services: 1-866-735-4268

Texas Utilities Energy Services: 1-877-460-7066

Telephone Service: Contact the provider of your choice. Some numbers:

Verizon (Residential) 1-800-483-4000

Time Warner 1-800-222-5355

To verify your long distance carrier dial: 1 -700-555-4141

Electricians/Plumbers/ Heating and Cooling Service Repairs, etc. – contact the office for a list of local service companies.

Cable Service: Time Warner 1-800-630-5200

Water: Arrange with park office.

Natural Gas: Arrange with park office.

Propane: Several local companies are available. Andy's Propane: 968-4286 , Bett's Propane: 565-3130 Andy's Propane makes deliveries to the park on Mondays and Thursdays Call number above to arrange. The park office will supply you with a *PROPANE TODAY* card.

Newspapers: McAllen Monitor: 1-956-968-9587 Valley Morning Star: 1-866-578-7827 Town Crier: 1-956-969-2543

Post Office: Weslaco Post Office is located on N. Border – north of Business 83 and the railroad tracks, to the west. Phone number: 968-7412 **Postage** - first class letter to USA destination - \$0.45. First class to Canada is \$0.85

Local Zip Code – 78596

Airports and Airlines:

Valley International Airport (Harlingen) (956) 430-8600

Continental Express 1-800-523-3273

Southwest 1-800-435-9792

Sun Country 1-800-359-6786 Miller International Airport (McAllen)

American Airlines 1-800-433-7300

United Airlines 1-800-525-0280

Allegiant Airlines 1-702-505--8888

Weslaco - Mid-Valley Airport (small private planes) Phone number 969-0291

Police - non-emergency : 968-8591

911 Emergency Cell Phones

Five Locations

Main Hall (South Wall by Stage)

Exercise Room (West Wall)

Card Hall (South Wall by Tour Information)

Wood Working Shop West Wall by First Aid Kit.)

RV Restrooms on Durango (pending)

CHECK THIS OUT, EH? (Information of interest to Canadians
American Holidays (not observed in Canada):

October 12 - Columbus Day (This date is also Canadian Thanksgiving.)

November 11 - Veterans' Day (Called Remembrance Day in Canada)

November 22 Thanksgiving

January 17 - Martin Luther King Day

February 21 - Presidents' Day

***Boxing Day (December 26) is not observed in the USA

***If you're from Saskatchewan, take note that : DST ends on Nov 4 2012 and
Daylight Saving Time begins March 10 2013

U.S. Postage First class letter within USA 45 cents

Post Card 32 cents

First class letter to Canada 85 cents

*****Mail delivery is 6 days per week!!!**

REMEMBER TOwear your name tag..... and to

- **attend** Monday morning meetings at 8:30 A.M. if possible
- frequently **check** all bulletin boards for changes, special events, etc.
- bring **your own table service** to lunches, suppers, breakfasts, brunches. (Disposable table service is also available at the hall.)
- recycle, reduce, re-use. Pop can container is on the north side of the main hall.
- attach a note holder near your front door – a clothes pin will do – for Club newsletters, notes, etc.
- **check out bulletin boards** for new stuff
- sign up ahead for suppers
- volunteer – help is usually needed and always welcome
- smile. We have a reputation as one of the friendliest parks in the valley to uphold

Remember that probably your best source of information as you begin to find your way around the park and the larger community, is that friendly neighbor who welcomed you the first day you arrived.. If you're not a newcomer, you can be that friendly neighbor.

A welcome committee made up of Red Hat members distribute this information in a written newsletter format monthly

Check out your web site..... it changes daily www.trailsendclub.com

Remember: If any of your park information changes..... please let us at the website and then everyone in the park will know about your newest information

AND MORE

As this information package is a work in progress your suggestions and comments would be welcome. In recent years there did not appear to be a need for a detailed activities package as this information has been widely covered by the monthly newsletter, bulletin boards, posters and the Trails End Web Site(trailsendclub.com). However a list of chair and/or contact persons and board liaisons is available and is posted on the Board's Board in the Main Hall.

A Welcome Committee was organized in November 2009. This season the Welcome Committee will be headed up by Linda Wuethrich and Jacqueline Lenz. Committee members will distribute this package and other information to first time residents of Trails End. Returning residents who wish to update their information may request the printed information also. Additional copies are available from welcome committee members and through the park office as well as being available on the club web site www.trailsendclub.com.

Two exciting new projects undertaken by the Trails End Club are:

(1) a Memorial Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary/Park being developed just outside the front gate of the Park. Winter maintenance will be carried out by resident volunteers and summer maintenance will be looked after by park staff.

(2) a Veterans' Wall of Honor (photo display and written information) featuring present residents who are Veterans.

You will hear more about these projects this coming season.

There is a residence list for our park at trailsendclub.com website "Home Page". You are invited to be listed by contacting Elmer Mateychuk (lot 907) or by email: elmerm@mac.com. Each December a park directory is compiled and will be available in late January. Attend the Monday (8:30) meetings for information updates.

Some activities require money to participate, this information is listed below. Name tags are also required.

Bingo: \$.50 per card: ce cream \$.50; 50/50 tickets \$1.00; special games \$.50.
Bridge: \$.25
Cribbage: 1 dime; 1 nickel; 1 penny
Euchre: 1 quarter; 10 nickels; 1 penny
Hoss Collar: \$1.00
Poker: \$10.00 in change
Pool: \$1.00

A list of the persons in charge of each activity is on the Board's Board located on the North wall in the main hall.

This information was prepared in Dec 2010 and periodically updated by Linda Stainer with assistance from the managers, club president and others. For comments, corrections or updates contact Linda at trailsendwebmaster@gmail.com

If **you** wish to **help** or have **ideas** to share, please **contact** the webmaster

You can also email the webmaster in one of two ways

1. [by clicking here](#) (use this only if you use standard mail such as Outlook Express or Mac Mail)
2. If you are using non-standard mail such as Yahoo or MSN or gmail : just copy and paste the following address into your own mail carrier elmer@trailsendclub.com
([back to top](#))

3. BRIEF PARK HISTORY

4.

Until the early '60's the present site of Trails End Park was farm land producing cabbages, tomatoes and other vegetables. Entrepreneur William (Bill) Ligon and his wife Dora Faye Ligon were very forward thinking in planning the RV and Mobile Home park that has evolved into the thriving community as we know it today. The Lignons worked hard to make the park an inviting place for people to spend the winter and installed many amenities not available in other parks in the valley at that time. Paved streets, a fruit-bearing tree on every lot, a swimming pool, laundry with outside clotheslines if you preferred, and a "hair dryer" room adjacent to the laundry, along with shuffle courts and even we've been told, a convenience store, were features that gave Trails End the edge. Bill and Dora Faye hired a Recreational Team of Directors (Roger Berlin and his wife, Joy) to plan activities, which included shuffleboard morning, noon and night, twice weekly dances featuring the park's own dance

band (they were good!), weekly pancake suppers, card games of all kinds plus more and more. The Residents' Club which now largely oversees the activities was organized in 1980 with Lawrence Watson as the first president. The present day clubs - one for the winter season and one for the growing number of permanent residents in the summertime have evolved from these early beginnings. We are proud of our Park and our Club.