

# The Mentonian



Fall 2014

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**The Homeowners  
Association (HOA)  
Board is made up of  
community members  
who volunteer their  
time to make Mentone  
a great place to live**

Irv Lampert,  
President

Kim Stricklan,  
Vice President

Paul Chandler,  
Secretary

Michael Johnston,  
Treasurer

Mary Opel,  
Director

## Homeowners Dues and Autopay

Maintaining our community pool and pavilion, tennis court, basketball court, jogging trail, entrance structures, and landscaping in our common areas are just some of the items paid for with quarterly homeowner's dues. When most homeowners get their quarterly invoice, they write a check, stuff it in an envelope, and mail it to our property management company. Did you know there's an easier way to pay dues that will save time, money, and help the environment?

Dues can be paid by automatic bank withdrawal. Just go to the Mentone community website (<http://www.mentonecommunity.net/docs.htm>), download the Direct Payment Authorization form, fill it out and follow the directions to submit it to the property management company and you're good to go. You'll save time by not having to write a check and mail it every quarter. You'll save money by eliminating stamps and envelopes, and you'll help the environment by saving paper. Also, once you're enrolled, dues are automatically taken out of your designated account each quarter. So you can focus on more important things – like how the Gators are doing!



## Maintenance Matters



Fall means back to school, Gator football, and cooler temperatures. With the summer heat waning, it's time to start thinking about fall projects.

**Lawn Care:** As temperatures begin to cool, apply one last round of fertilizer to the lawn. But timing is important. The last recommended time to fertilize in Central Florida is October. A high-potassium fertilizer is best for this time of year. Fertilizing too late could cause the grass to grow when cold weather comes, making it more cold-sensitive. Also, watering can be done less frequently because the grass is growing slowly and doesn't need excess water.

**Exterior House Care:** Fall house care projects include caulking windows and doors, cleaning gutters and roofs after the leaves fall, and pressure washing the house and driveway. Here's a few pressure washing tips. Use the lowest setting that will remove dirt, grime, and mildew. Use a cleaner only if water alone won't get the area clean. Keep the spray away from gaps, such as those around door and window trim. Finally, if the siding panels overlap (like Hardie board siding), work from the top down. Avoid spraying under the bottom edges of the panels to keep moisture from getting behind the siding.

## Stay in the Loop via Email and Facebook!

Mentone bylaws state that formal notice must be provided for certain Homeowners Association Meetings. By completing the Electronic Notice Waiver, located on the Mentone website, notice will be provided to you via email rather than hard copy mailings. It's an easy way to get information more quickly and save some paper.

Another way to stay informed about community happenings is through our email list serve. To be added to the list, just email Kelly Burch at kburch@gainesvilleGAM.com. Also join the Mentone Facebook page to keep abreast of neighborhood happenings.

## Fall Fun Facts



**Gator Football (Starts Aug 30):** The Gators got their mascot when a local store owner in 1908 wanted to sell pennants and asked his son what he should put on them. The son immediately associated Florida with the alligator and the rest is history!

**Columbus Day (Oct 12):** Although he sailed from Spain, Christopher Columbus was actually from Genoa, Italy.



**Halloween (Oct 31):** The first Jack O'Lanterns were made of turnips, not pumpkins. Trick-or-treating evolved from the ancient Celtic tradition of putting out treats and food to placate spirits who roamed the streets at Samhain, a sacred Celtic festival.

**Veteran's Day (Nov 11):** Veterans Day is sometimes confused with Memorial Day, however Memorial Day honors those who died while serving in the military and Veterans Day honors all those who have served in the U.S. military, alive and deceased.



**Thanksgiving (Nov 27):** President Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November as a national day of thanksgiving. The Pilgrim's thanksgiving feast was in 1621. It lasted 3 days, included 50 surviving pilgrims, and about 90 Wampanoag Indians. Their menu included berries, shellfish, boiled pumpkin, and deer.



**Christmas (Dec 25):** Most of Santa's reindeer have male-sounding names, such as Blitzen, Comet, and Cupid. However, male reindeers shed their antlers around Christmas, so the reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh are likely female. Christmas trees usually grow for about 15 years before they are cut down and sold.



## What's Cooking?

### Coconut Roasted Yams

- Yams, peeled/sliced ¼ inch thick
- Caribbean Seasoning:
  - 1 TB sugar
  - 1 TB cinnamon
  - 1 tsp allspice
  - ½ tsp each cumin, thyme, ground oregano, and ground ginger
  - ¼ tsp nutmeg
  - Dash of cayenne pepper
- Juice from ½ lime
- Sweetened shredded coconut

Preheat oven to 400°F. Place yams in a single layer on a baking sheet.

Brush yams LIGHTLY with olive oil and sprinkle with Caribbean seasoning.

Drizzle lime juice over yams, then garnish with sweetened coconut.

Bake for 30-40 minutes, depending on how crispy you want them.

Caribbean seasoning can also be used on chicken, fish, grilled pineapple, etc.

## Upcoming Events

Aug 30

Gator Football Starts!

Sep 18, Oct 26, & Dec 20

ARC/HOA Board Meeting (pool pavilion)

Oct 25

Halloween Field Day (tentative)

Week of Oct 20

Halloween House Decorating Contest

Week of Dec 22

Holiday House Decorating Contest