Volume 5, Issue 10 Wortham Villages

October 2005

www.worthamweb.org



WORTHAM VILLAGES ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Come "Fall" into the Fun!!!!

Saturday October 22nd, 2005
4-6pm
(Come rain or shine!)
Wortham Clubhouse & Grounds
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Show your Halloween Spirit by coming dressed in your costume -You just might win a prize!

To volunteer or for additional info contact Rachel Gerhardt 832.912.1447 or rgerhardt@houston.rr.com



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7050 Brook Hollow West	713-937-9108	

FYI- HERE IS THE NEW WEBSITE FOR THE WORTHAM WHITESHARKS www.worthamwhitesharks.com **Splinters From the Board**

By Stan Schoen; E-mail: sschoen@worthamweb.org

The Rubik's cube, why is grass green, why is the sky blue, those are things I have no solution for if asked. People look to see when I put out my trash can to know when trash is picked up and I can't answer that one either. Who's to know they would pick up trash on Memorial Day and Labor Day? All I know is that is the fastest our trash trucks travel through our neighborhood because evidently I am not alone.

Communication is a wonderful thing and that is why I decided to pick up the pace to write an article because we all need to know what is going on around us. If anyone reading this knows something we should share please e-mail anyone on the list of e-mails and let us know what it is to pass on to our residents.

We are fortunate to have many people living in our community who have the skills to do many things. You have read many requests for a security chair so we can do the things we need to do to have some sense of security especially with all the things that have gone on all around us. There are at least four people who stepped up to express interest in a security position. When we appoint someone to this task we will need to secure our block captains, learn what a block captain should be doing and, perhaps most importantly, how

(Continued on page 3)



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Splinters - (Continued from page 2)

do we get information out to our residents when we need to and what defines what that information is. It is my hope to have appointed this person and introduce that person at the annual homeowners' meeting this month. We have had systems in the past but it is now more important than ever to have and maintain a data base of residents to include names, phone numbers, e-mail, etc. Of course we will never use this information for anything other than internally to benefit our community and you can understand the need for this information, some of which we already have.

Thank you to all who have expressed an interest to help our community and I am anxious to get this all in place and start the process of getting us up to speed in this area. Communication is key!

Katrina has devastated many lives in so many ways. On a personal note, I have spent a lot of time in New Orleans and have a great feel and love for that city with many friends and customers having been located there. I look forward to that city being rebuilt and people getting their lives back to however they wish it to be. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the people and their families affected by this tragic event to include the people in neighboring states also affected by this as well as the evacuees now calling Houston home.

The only new thing I am aware of at this time is a Carvel Ice Cream store which is also a Cinnabon store. I can't think of anything worse

that I need right near my house! Not that I have a weight problem or anything...but isn't it ironic that there is an obesity clinic almost across the street?

We continue to wish the men and women of our Armed Forces well and thank them for all they do to protect all of us.

Make it a great day! See you at my table.

View the Wortham Villages Newsletter each month online at www.PEELinc.com



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Adam Elementary Events - October

Oct. 3 - 3rd Grade Program / PTO Meeting

Oct. 4 - Texas Roadhouse Western Night

Oct. 7 - Parent Conference Day - Student Holiday

Oct. 10 - Student Holiday

Oct. 11 - Individual Picture Day

Oct. 13 - Exchange City - 5th Grade

Oct. 20 - Boy Scout Pack Meeting

Oct. 29 - District Heart Walk

Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 - Book Fair

WOW – A Spooktacular Spectacle By Reschele Lawrence

The September WOW Fall Gift Exchange, once again, lived up to its name. Everyone had a lot of fun (I think).

On Tuesday, October 25th, WOW will be at Margo Horton's house (12718 Azalea Creek) - minus the Belly Dancing. The fun starts at 7pm. Please bring a dish to share and a friend. Anyone care to come in costume?

The Belly Dancing didn't work out for October. If there are people still interested, we can try another month.

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND ELBOW GREASE!

Wortham Social Committee is searching for special people to assist with the special events for our neighborhood! Most of the events need a creative and motivated individual with a little extra "elbow grease." You have many opportunities to volunteer and join in the fun:

Fall Festival
Breakfast with Santa
Easter Egg Hunt
4th of July Parade and Picnic
Kindergarten Social
National Night Out
Adult Pool Party

Your community needs you! Without helping hands the idea of the event is not able to become a reality. No one will be turned away and a little help goes a long way!

Please contact Rachel Gerhardt at 832-912-1447 or rgerhardt@houston.rr.com

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Y our heating system has been sleeping since last winter!

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WORTHAM VILLAGES INFORMATION SIGNS

Anyone interested in posting an announcement on the Wortham Information Signs, please contact Tom Stevens at stevens at stevenst@houston.rr.com. Include your announcement and please submit your request at least one week prior to the date you would like it posted. Also submit the number of days you would like it posted. Submitting a request is not a guarantee that your notice will be posted, requests are taken on a first come, first serve basis. The number of days the request will stay varies according to demand. You may also request that your posting be put on the Eldridge sign, the Wortham Blvd. sign or both. Thank you - Tom Stevens

Wortham Address/Telephone Number Directories

The Annual Homeowners Association Meeting will be held in October. New Wortham directories will be available at the annual homeowners meeting.

New E-mail Address for Newsletter Article Submissions

Please e-mail your newsletter submissions to worthamnews@houston.rr.com. The deadline is the 12th of each month









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Musings on Ice Cream By Terri Welch

Is it just me, or does any one else think someone did a demographic survey that concluded Wortham residents eat ice cream? LOTS and LOTS of ice cream. And we need it NOW.

When I moved into Wortham in May of 1997, if I had a craving for something sweet, cold, and full of fat, the closest place was the Dairy Queen almost to Jones. Which was so far. Very far. Far, far, far. Probably took all of six minutes to drive there, if I used the Fallbrook shortcut. I am so glad someone heard the clarion call of all of us ice cream addicts who didn't WANT to have waste six whole minutes before we got to order ice cream.

Now, when the craving comes upon me, I can go to TCBY right by Kroger, if I want to feel vaguely virtuous about eating frozen yogurt instead of ice cream. That way I can order a medium instead of a small.

Or Carvel, right by PeiWei, and get a Cinnabon on the side. And hips.

Or Piccomolo right at the entrance of Wortham, if I want to feel vaguely European and sit outside while I eat my gelato.

Or cross the street, and go to McNeil's Creamery, right by Skeeter's. In the interest of journalistic integrity, I must admit I haven't tried that one yet, because it is all the way ACROSS THE STREET, over a tenth of a mile from my house. And I would have to wait for a stop light, and traffic, and turning, and everything. Why bother going all the way across 1960 when I have three ice cream stores within walking distance? "Walking distance" of course being understood to be a metaphor for "driving distance that doesn't make my odometer change any numbers."

If I am all the way out by Jones, there's still DQ, but there is also Cold Stone Creamery, Baskin Robbins, and Connie's. I like Connie's because they have a cool sign and a drive through. Nothing like being able to satisfy a craving without having to get out of your car. Connie's sells "concrete", which is different than ice cream in that instead of being sweet, cold, and full of fat, it's sweet, cold, full of fat, and it has egg in it. So you can get your protein in for the day! They say that it also so thick that you can turn your container of concrete upside down and none of it will fall out. I must confess that I have never tested this theory, not being willing to risk it. No one wants to see me lapping up some spilled confection off the parking lot...



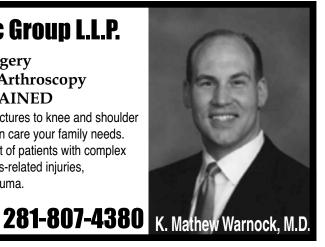
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Cypress Falls High School Project Prom Announces Dinner/Dance November 5 at Tin Hall

A dinner and dance with food by Carl's Bar-B-Que and entertainment by Crossroads Band will be

held Saturday, November 5, 2005, 7-11pm, at Tin Hall, 14800 Huffmeister Road, with proceeds benefiting Cypress Falls High School Project Prom.

The adults-only event will also feature live and silent auctions, with items donated by the area's leading merchants.

Tickets may be purchased now for \$25 each by calling Paula Frazier, 281-517-0435 or Amy Gilmore, 281-855-0105.

Cypress Falls High School Project Prom is a 501(c) 3

organization dedicated to providing area youth with a safe, alcoholfree, drug-free event following the Senior Prom. This year's Project Prom will be May 6, 2006, at The Main Event in The Woodlands.

Halloween Safety Tips

- Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.
- Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trickor-treat bags for greater visibility.
- Teach children their home phone number and to how call 9-1-1 (or their local emergency number) if they have an emergency or become lost. Remind them that 9-1-1 can be dialed free from any phone.
- Review with your children the principle of "Stop-Drop-Roll", should their clothes catch on fire.
- Openly discuss appropriate and inappropriate behavior at Halloween time.
- Take extra effort to eliminate tripping hazards on your porch and walkway.

We wish you a safe and happy Halloween!





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Precinct 4 Official Presents Overview of Capital Improvement Projects

HOUSTON (Sept. 5, 2005) – Harris County Precinct 4 can see having a zero balance in its capital improvement project fund as a good thing, because it would mean more road and bridge projects are under construction and the need for more funding would be more evident.

Pamela Rocchi, the precinct's capital improvement project coordinator, said that following the \$535 million bond referendum in 2001, Precinct 4 identified 43 capital improvement projects that will cost an estimated \$223 million to design and build. Since then 25 of those projects have been initiated at a cost of \$132 million.

Rocchi, who was the guest speaker at the September meeting of the **Cy-Fair Houston** Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee, said a healthy account balance due to road and bridge projects that are in design but have not started construction may be one reason why commissioners earlier this summer declined to vote in favor of a new bond referendum.

"We need to construct these projects so that we show a zero balance," she said, adding that Precinct 4 engineers have identified more than \$700 million in new projects that are needed.

Rocchi presented an overview of projects that are in design or in progress. She noted that 45 to 48 percent of road miles in Harris County are located within Precinct 4, which stretches east to Huffman, west to Tomball, north to the Montgomery County line and south to Interstate 10.

There are currently 47 projects in design at a total cost of \$191 million. Many of those projects involve widening of roads from two lanes to four lanes with a boulevard, and replacement of asphalt with concrete. Kuykendahl, Ella, Gosling, Fallbrook, Hollister, T.C. Jester, Jones and Will Clayton Parkway are among the roads being improved.

Some projects could be delayed because utility companies, which often have to relocate transmission lines, may be needed to help restore services to New Orleans and other areas that were devastated by hurricane Katrina.

"We don't know the impact Katrina will have on the utility companies in Harris County," Rocchi said. "We don't know how that will affect our construction schedule. Even utility companies don't understand the impact at this time."

Committee Chair Bill Rowden announced the schedule of programs for the remainder of 2005. They include:

- -A presentation by Pate Engineers on improvements to Jones Road (Thursday, Oct. 6).
- An update on widening plans for U.S. 290, presented by Roger Gonzalez of the Texas Department of Transportation (Thursday, Nov. 3).

(continued on following page)



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Spruce Knoll

Precint 4 - (Continued from page8)

- A joint meeting with the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee that will include a presentation on Bush Intercontinental Airport improvements, including the opening of two new eastwest runways (Thursday, Dec. 1).

The Cy-Fair Chamber's Transportation Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at 8 a.m. at the Chamber office, 11050 FM 1960 West, Suite 100. All interested members of the public are invited. Call 281-955-1100 or visit cyfairchamber.com for more information about the Chamber.

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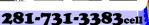
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	Sonny & Nicole Livesay	281-807-7021
Lark Brook	Peggy Lara	281-970-4052
Magnolia Leaf	Becky Hubbard	281-890-7426
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Plum Vale	Eric Bassett	281-890-2312
Orchard Hollow	Mike Dineen	281-894-6256

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WVCA Newsletter Policies

Call Vicky@281-955-7312 or Email to Worthamnews@houston. rr.com any articles or information you would like to put in the newsletter. NOTE: Articles must be submitted as Word documents and photos and graphics as separate files. Photos imported into a Word document or PDF files are not acceptable. Please include your name and phone number, also. The deadline for submitting news is the 12th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Please support the businesses that advertise in your newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible to provide your newsletter to all the residents in your subdivision at no charge. No homeowners association dollars were used to produce this newsletter.

CY-FAIR COLLEGE A NORTH HARRIS MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Cy-Fair College Joins Katrina Relief Effort

Both Cy-Fair College's Barker Cypress campus at 9191 Barker Cypress at West and the Fairbanks Center at 14955 Northwest Freeway at Beltway 8 are serving as donation sites with collection boxes located near building entrances. The following items will be accepted to help Katrina hurricane evacuees: Towels, Blankets, Pillows and Sheets, Toiletry Items, Toilet Paper, Infant Formula, Diapers and Wipes, Nonperishable Food Items, Bottled Water, Reading Material and Children's Toys. For information on other Cy-Fair College relief efforts contact Heather.e.baker@nhmccd.edu.

Admissions and Financial Aid Sessions Set

Cy-Fair College will hold two high school student and parent information sessions in the College Center Conference Center rooms 152 and 153. A general admissions information session set at 7 p.m. and a general financial aid information session set at 8 p.m. will be presented in English Oct. 12 and again in Spanish Oct. 13. Sessions will be repeated Nov. 9 and Nov. 10. Call 281-290-3200 for details.

Mark Your Calendars for Cy-Fest

Cy-Fair College will host a free community day for all ages in the Cy-Fair Community from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15. Cy-

Fest, the college's gift to the community, will feature food vendors, a variety of performances, the Houston Zoomobile, children's games, crafts and storytime, a video gaming contest, a model boat parade, moonwalks, a fire truck and more. For information go online to www. cy-faircollege.com/goto/cyfest.

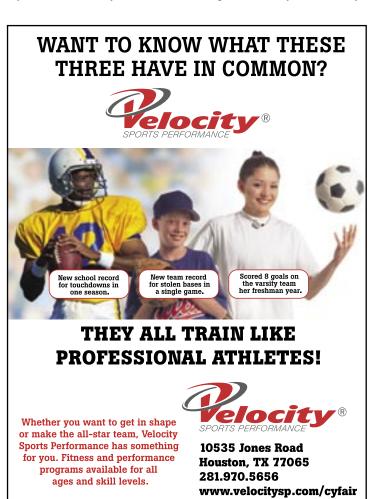
Check Out the Musical Talent and More

Cy-Fair College's Music Department will host an International Music Festival at 3 p.m. Oct. 15 followed with a 5 p.m. reception. The festival draws solo artists from around the world and features professional musicians or graduates of college as well as high school students. The Cy-Fair College String Orchestra will perform an historical music journey titled "To the Present and Back" at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 17 with a 9 p.m. reception set afterward. In the gallery, the Encaustic Exhibit continues through Oct. 25. The comedy "What I Did Last Summer" continues through Oct. 16 in the Black Box Theatre. For information, call 281-290-5273.

Fall C.A.L.L. Courses for Senior Adults

The Cy-Fair College Academy for Lifelong Learning provides opportunities for adults 50 and better to enjoy intellectual and social enrichment. Annual membership is \$10. Among the upcoming C.A.L.L. courses are basic drawing, a Forbidden Gardens tour,

(Continued on Page 11)





Cy-Fair College - (Continued from Page 10)

a long-term care session, a government close up talk with Corbin Van Arsdale, fitness for seniors and a Chinese history discussion. A book club and a walking club are also available. Call 281-290-5273 for course information or to sign up now.

Escape to the Movies for Free

Cy-College's Fall Film Series continues in October with "Lonely are the Brave" Oct. 4, "Monsoon Wedding" Oct. 8, "Truly, Madly, Deeply" Oct. 10, "The Adventures of Baron Munchausen" Oct. 12, "Hands on a Hard Body" Oct. 18, "Brazil" Oct. 20, "Brown Sugar" Oct. 25 and "SlamNation" Oct. 27 and "The Shining" Oct. 31. A professor or student organization at the college hosts each film and a discussion afterward. The film series, presented at no charge to students and the community, is offered as a free Continuing Education class called Film Appreciation. Registration is available at all the film events. The Cy-Fair College Fall Film Series is part of Windows On the World, an effort to promote cultural activities on campus. For information, call 281-290-3257, e-mail robert.obrien@nhmccd.edu or visit <a href="mailto:http://faculty.nhmccd.edu/robobrien/Film Series.html.

Library Offers Something for All Ages

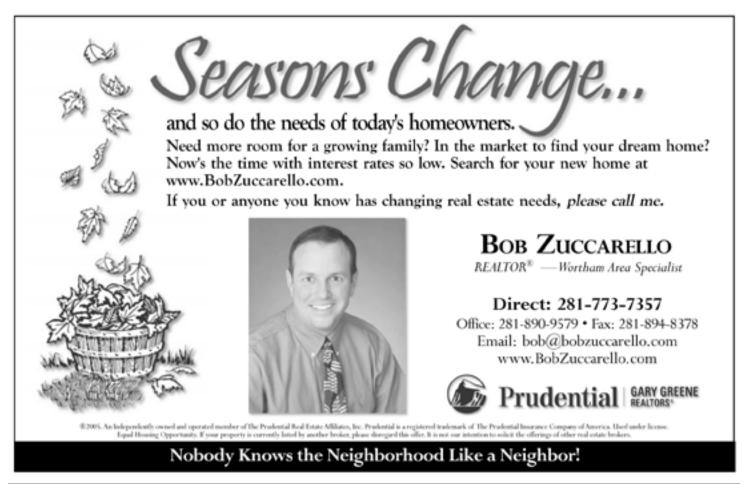
The Harris County Public Library Cy-Fair College Branch offers free computer workshops, including a family-friendly class. Topics range from basic computer functions to introductions to the Internet and various software programs. A variety of monthly book clubs, such as women of the world, history and mystery, are available,

including a new Democracy Book Club and The Sports Page Book Club. There are plenty of youth programs with activities and book clubs for teens and storytime for younger children. Go online to http://www.cy-faircollege.com/Library/index.cfm for information.

Do You Have a Green Thumb?

Volunteer to help the Diane K. Troyer Garden at Cy-Fair College grow. Produce is donated to area food pantries. Join this group Saturdays at 9 a.m. or help out Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in the garden (west of the library) or in the Cy-ber Café when raining. Contact Charles Beresford at charles.e.beresford@nhmccd.edu or 281-550-7338 or Rob Coyle at robert.a.coyle@nhmccd.edu or visit http://faculty.nhmccd.edu/rocoyle/Garden.htm for information.









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Musings on Having a School-Aged Child

By Terri Welch

Some of my well-meaning friends have asked me if YT misses OT now that she is in kindergarten. And the answer is a categoric no. As far as YT is concerned, every day is a party now that she gets the undivided attention of Mommy five days a week. We're going to the zoo, we're playing the games she likes to play, we're eating the foods she likes to eat, she couldn't be happier.

OT, of course, is insanely jealous. She likes kindergarten, she like riding the bus, she likes buying her lunch, all of it. But she is convinced that once she leaves, YT and I are having a non-stop party, eating candy, watching TV, and just generally having fun. And that is not appropriate, in her opinion. She would be much happier if YT and I just sat quietly on the couch after she left and waited there all day for her to get home. NO FUN. We are not supposed to have ANY FUN without her. Because that's not FAIR.

From my perspective, one of the biggest adjustments to having a school-aged child has been that the house is so quiet. No more arguments, or little girl screeches as they chase each other around the house. Or sequential whining for this or that. Or complaining. Makes me want to get a dog.

The other big adjustment is I have to get up every morning now. Can you believe that? After five years of being able to sleep until whenever I woke up, without having to rely on an alarm clock, now (Continued on Page 13)

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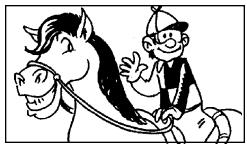
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School -Aged Child - (Continued from Page 12)

I have get OT up and ready for the bus by 8:15. Which, trust me, doesn't always happen, depending on a) her level of crabbiness on any given morning, b) her level of screams when I comb her hair, and c) how long it takes me to find a pair of matching socks that meet her approval. Because she wants to be in fashion now. I asked her the other morning what she wanted to wear, and she said, "Something that makes me look like a movie star."

So we are familiar with the process of what to do if you miss the bus, and the process of filling out a late slip at the school. It's a bad sign when there are hundreds of kids at school, and your child has only been attending three weeks, and the secretary already knows you by name.

So, we're all adjusting. OT asked me the other day if I could come pick her up early from school so she could help me put up the 4th of July decorations and set out the fall decorations. I had to tell her I didn't think the principal would consider that a viable excuse for leaving school: "have to help procrastinating mother with decorating house." She walked off with a furrowed brow, trying to come up with a better one.....



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Festival of Children

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- · Never trick or treat alone. Have at least 2 buddies go with you.
- · Young children should always go with an adult.
- · Plan your entire route and make sure your family knows what it is.
- · Carry a flashlight and wear a watch.
- · Be very cautious of strangers.
- Visit houses with lights on, especially with Halloween decorations.
- · Accept treats only in the doorway. Never go inside a house.
- Never pick up treats from the street. They may be poisoned or belong to another kid.
- If you wear a mask, be sure it has large eyeholes...better yet, wear face paint.
- Wear a flame retardant costume with reflector strips on the front and back.
- · Walk, Do Not run.
- Walk on sidewalks and driveways. Look both ways when crossing a street.

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Courtesy of Super Dave

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	Mar 05	Apr 05	May 05	Jun 05	Jul 05	Aug 05
\$210,000 +	0	1	0	1	1	0
190,000-209,999	2	1	0	1	1	0
170,000-189,999	3	2	1	2	0	0
150,000-169,999	4	3	0	1	2	1
130,000-149,999	0	1	0	2	0	0
130,000 -	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	9	8	1	7	4	1
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