

# Willow Pointe Newsletter

June 2006 Volume 2, Number 6

www.willowpointe.org

**Deed Restrictions Enforced** 

Official Publication of the Willow Pointe Homeowners Association, Inc.

### May Yard of the Month

Submitted by Paul Morgan

David and Misty Pless are the proud owners of the Yard of the Month for May. Their address is 10807 Elm Bayou Court.

Misty and David and daughter, Faith, have lived in Willow Pointe for 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years. David does the yard work himself under the supervision of his wife, Misty. He mows his yard twice a week; Monday and Thursday. Bird of Paradise is David's favorite flower. His secret to a nice yard is consistency, fertilizing three times a year and taking care of problems promptly.

David is employed by Holliday Door and Gate Systems, Inc and is active in the International Door Association. After mowing the grass, David enjoys deer hunting.

This month honorable mention goes to Timothy and Shelly McKee at 10827 Oak Bayou Lane and Thanh Van & Kim Loan Thi Phan at10207 Bayou Trail Lane.

Congratulations to all of the homeowners. Your yards look great!

### **Community Calendar**

	June, 2006
June 5	Landscape Meeting 7 pm
	(a) the Pool Meeting Room
June 7	Board Meeting 6:30 pm
	(a) the Pool Meeting Room
June 14	Safety & Security Meeting 7 pm TBD
June 18	Father's Day

#### July, 2006

July 3	Landscape Meeting 7 pm
	@ Pool Meeting Room
July 4	4th of July
July 5	Board Meeting 6:30 pm
	(a) the Pool Meeting Room
July 12	Safety & Security Meeting 7 pm TBD

### Welcome New Members to the Board of Directors

At the Annual Meeting held May 11, 2006 three new members were elected as Directors to the Willow Pointe Homeowner Association Board.

Greg Decker Steven R. Lewis Steve Mueller

We extend our congratulations to each of these individuals! Following the Annual Meeting, the "new" Board voted on officers for the year. They are as follows:

> Willow Pointe Homeowners Association, Inc Board of Directors

<b>Board of Directors</b>	Term
President, Judith Schwartz	2005 - 2008
Vice President, Steven R. Lewis	2006 - 2009
Secretary- Greg Decker	2006 - 2009
Treasurer- William Brune	2004 - 2007
Director- Steve Mueller	2006 - 2008

Please contact us via our community website at www.willowpointe. org if you have questions, comments or concerns. Our e-mail box can be found by clicking on the HOA Board Box.

> Board Committees Newsletter Safety and Security Landscape/Pool Modification (ARC) Nominating

New membership is always welcome. Please call or e-mail Judith Schwartz @ 832-237-4992 or judithschwartz@sbcglobal.net if you have questions or interest in participating.

### View the Willow Pointe Newsletter each month on-line at www.PEELinc.com

#### **Important Numbers**

All Emergencies	
Harris County Sheriff	713-221-6000
Sheriff's Department Storefront (Clay Rd.)	281-463-2648
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Animal Control	281-999-3191
Commissioner, Precinct 4	281-353-8424
Willow Place Post Office	281-890-2392
Centerpoint Energy (gas)	713-659-2111
Centerpoint Energy (electric)	713-207-2222
BFI (garbage)	713-937-9955
BFI (recycle)	713-653-6666
West Harris County MUD	281-873-0163
SCS Management Services	281-463-1777
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Incadvertising@PEELinc.co	om, 512-989-8905
Adver. Donna Sommer . dsommer@PEELinc.c	com, 832-237-4684
Adver. Kim Moorekim@PEELinc.c	om, 281-373-3807

#### Willow Pointe Homeowners Association, Inc.

President	Judith Schwartz	2005-2008
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#### **Board Committees:**

Newsletter Modification (ARC) Safety and Security Landscape/Pool Nominating

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#### www. delivered by mid-June.

• To report a street light outage: http://www.centerpointenergy. com-outage or call 713-207-2222.

- Babysitter list we are looking for a volunteer to manage our babysitter list. It usually involves as few as four phone calls a month. It is helpful if you have access to a pc. Please call 832-237-4992 if you are interested.
- It's TIME again to trim the oak trees which line Trail Ridge, Pony Express and Willow Crossing!! Also, if you have not already removed the supporting stakes you should do so at this time to assure good trunk growth.



- Future Board meetings will be held in the pool meeting room the first Wednesday of very month starting at 6:30 pm. If you wish to address the board please contact Terrie Brown at SCS Management Services at 281-463-1777. You are also welcome to attend the meeting.
- Jones Road Light BE EXTRA CAUTIOUS when turning into the subdivision from Jones Rd. When the light is GREEN you MUST yield to on-coming traffic.
- If you are planning any home improvements, additions or exterior changes, please call SCS Management services to obtain an Architectural Review Application. The form can also be found on the Willow Pointe website (www.willowpointe.org). The approval process usually takes about 30 days.
- Late Pool Registration complete the form included in this newsletter and send to Judith Schwartz.
- For those of you who walk in the evenings, please be aware that spraying for mosquitos will occur every Monday between dusk and daylight. While the spray is said not to be harmful, this is just a "heads up" for those who want to be cautious.
- Warning: To avoid theft, lock your car if you park on the street or in your driveway.
- The Board has agreed to switch to First Choice Power provider for our electrical needs.

A new "tube" has been ordered for the playground structure. Two volunteers, Greg Decker and Steve Mueller, have come forward and agreed to install the part. This will save the HOA approximately \$1,500. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please call 832-237-4992. We expect the part to be

#### Willow Pointe

2006 Pool Hours Open Memorial Day Week-end through Labor Day Week-end (Week-ends only after school starts)

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	12-7 pm
Wednesday	12-7 pm
Thursday	12-7 pm
Friday	12-8 pm
Saturday	12-8 pm
Sunday	1-7 pm

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	Balan	nte HOA, INC <b>ce Sheet</b> 30,2006	
	AS	SETS	
Cash			
Checking	Sterling Bank	\$130.014.80	
Savings	Sterling Bank	\$173,768.31	
Petty Cash	Sterling Bank	<u>\$648.99</u>	
Total Cash			\$304,432.10
Accounts Receivab	le	<u>\$54,235.28</u>	
Total Accounts Rec	eivable		\$54,234.28
Other Assets			
Total Other Assets			<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets			<u>\$358,667.38</u>
		AND CAPITAL	
Current Liabilities		AND CAPITAL	
	Assessments	\$54,235.28	
Total Curren		<u>\$34,233.20</u>	\$54,235.28
Total Liabilit			. ,
Total Liabilit	lles		<u>\$54,235.28</u>
Capital			
Fund Balanc	e	\$69,593.50	
Increase/(De	crease) Summary	\$234,838.60	
Total Capital	, ,		<u>\$304,432.10</u>
1	ties & Capital		\$358,667.38
	1		

## What's Cookin' at The Pampered Chef? It could be your kids!

I will teach Kids Cooking Classes in my home (in Willow Pointe) during summer vacation.

#### Class dates: June 7, 9, 19 and 21 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Children can come to one or multiple classes. They will make a snack to enjoy during class as well as Come home with dinner for your family! All for \$60 per class! The really cool part—you're buying Pampered Chef tools for YOUR kitchen with your tuition dollars!

> Contact me for details: Martha Sappington Ind. Pampered Chef Consultant 281-955-6820 email: chefmartha@sbcglobal.net www.pamperedchef.biz/marthasappington

#### Finding a Lost Pet- Where to Start

Hi there. I am Jacquie Sprunger a new homeowner (02/17/06) here in the Willow Pointe Subdivision. If your family is like ours, the pets are "kids" in our house. We would like to share with you what to do in case one of those "kids" become missing.

1: Check Everywhere... Inside and Out. They are great hiders and hide and seek with you is great fun!

2: Knock on doors and talk to people in the neighborhood. You can also call us @ 832 912 7084 or email me at winsumlssm@aol.com. We have volunteered to be Willow Pointe's lost pet people.

3: Post flyers with your pet's picture on them and your phone number.

Fliers need only have a clear photo of the animal and a telephone number that someone will answer or that is hooked to an answering machine. Please take your signs down (including the sticky tape on the light poles) as soon as your beloved pet is found or after one week...

4 Go to all the local shelters and the government agencies charged with picking up stray and lost animals and look for yourself, at least every other day.

5 Place an ad in the paper.

As a side note please have all of your pets properly tagged, licensed & up to date on all vaccinations.

Hoping that you never have to use these guidelines,

Jacquie Sprunger



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#### Summer Health and Safety Advice

Submitted by Ericka Williams

Summer is just around the corner and Houston is about to heat up. Let's stay safe as we enjoy the fun and activities of summer. There are several things that you can do to avoid the dangers of heat and heat stress.

- Wear cotton clothing that is lightweight, loose-fitting and light colored.
- On hot, humid days, avoid prolonged, strenuous outdoor activities.
- Eat a well balanced meal avoiding hot and heavy meals.
- Drink lots of fluids. Don't wait until you are thirsty. Avoid alcohol and drinks that contain caffeine and salt.
- Take cool showers
- Wear sun protection lotion

It is also very important that you know the signs of heat stress. If you or someone you know are experiencing any of these symptoms seek immediate medical help:

- Dizziness
- Diarrhea
- Rapid heartbeat Nausea

Throbbing headache

- Chest pain
- Overwhelming weakness
- Problems with breathing

• Dry skin (no sweating) • Cramps Finally, the most important thing to do in the summer is..... HAVE FUN!!!



## Hurricane Season Preparedness -Part I

Submitted by Regina Wall

The following information was gathered from the National Hurricane Center website. Please take heed and use it's suggestions wisely so that all of our precious family, friends, pets and property will remain safe throughout this and other hurricane seasons to come.

One of the most important decisions you will have to make is "Should I Evacuate?"

If you are asked to evacuate, you should do so without delay. But unless you live in a coastal or low-lying area, an area that floods frequently, or in manufactured housing, it is unlikely that emergency managers will ask you to evacuate. That means that it is important for you and your family to HAVE A PLAN that makes you as safe as possible in your home.

Disaster prevention includes modifying your home to strengthen it against storms so that you can be as safe as possible. It also includes having the supplies on hand to weather the storm. The suggestions provided here are only guides. You should use common sense in your disaster prevention.

• DEVELOPA FAMILY PLAN - Your family's plan should be based on your vulnerability to the Hurricane Hazards. You should keep a written plan and share your plan with other friends or family.

• CREATE A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT - There are certain items you need to have regardless of where you ride out a hurricane. The disaster supply kit is a useful tool when you evacuate as well as making you

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as safe as possible in your home.

• SECURE YOUR HOME - There are things that you can do to make your home more secure and able to withstand stronger storms.

• ONLINE VULNERABILITY INFO - There are web sites that can give you information about your communities vulnerability to specific hazards. These include hurricanes as well as other weather related hazards.

You should be able to answer the following questions before a hurricane threatens: (1)What are the Hurricane Hazards? (2)What does it mean to you? (3) What actions should you take to be prepared?



bashanspainting@earthlink.net

#### The Thrill of the Grill

Submitted by Martha Sappington

It's time to turn up the heat on spring fun! Grilling provides a fantastic way for friends and family to gather around the picnic table and enjoy the tastes of spring/summer. It's also a delicious way to prepare light, healthy meals.

Grilling Vegetables:

Asparagus - Cut off woody ends - Grill 6-8 minutes, turning frequently.

Bell Peppers - Cut into quarters - Grill 6-8 minutes, turning occasionally.

Corn on the Cob - Pull back husks, remove silk and rinse with water. Pull husks back

up to cover corn - Grill 20-22 minutes, turning occasionally.

Eggplant, Yellow Squash or Zucchini -Cut into 1/2 inch slices - Grill 6-8 minutes, turning occasionally.

Onions - Cut into 1/2 in slices - Grill 6-8 minutes, turning once.

Portobello Mushrooms - Trim stem ends - Grill 6-8 minutes, turning occasionally.

Russet Potatoes - Do not peel; cut into 1/2 inch slices - Grill 10-12 minutes, turning occasionally.

Successful Grilling

• Wait for flames to die down before starting to cook. Gas barbecues take 10 minutes to heat up; charcoal takes at least 25-30 minutes. Coals should be ash gray when ready.

Foods will cook more evenly if there's a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch space between pieces.
Use the cooler, outer edges of the grilling surface to avoid overcooking foods that need gentle heat, such as vegetables or fruits.

• When using a barbecue fork, only pierce the fatty portion of meats. Piercing meat with a fork allows delicious juices to be released and makes the meat less moist.

• Short on time? Give meats and dense vegetables, such as potatoes, a jump-start by cooking them first in the microwave (about halfway done); then, finish cooking them on the grill.

Grilling Lite

Watching your weight or cholesterol? Remove the skin from chicken after it's grilled because the skin holds in the meat's natural moisture.
Salsa makes a perfect fat-free topping for grilled fish, chicken and burgers. Use as an alternative to barbecue sauce or ketchup.

Marinades and Rubs

• Use a marinade to impart flavor and tenderize meat.

• Freshen-up marinades for fish by adding lemon or lime zest. However, only marinate 30 minutes before grilling to retain the texture and delicate flavor.

• Practice food safety by marinating foods in the refrigerator, not on the kitchen counter. Never re-use the marinade.

Be Safe

• Plan ahead: defrost meats, poultry and seafood safely. It is safest to thaw in the refrigerator; however, you can "force thaw" under cold running water or in the microwave, if necessary.

Use one cutting board for meats and another for fruits and vegetables.
Remember to clean hands, cutting boards and kitchen tools in hot, soapy water after touching raw meats or other raw foods.

• Never serve food from a plate that has previously held raw food.

• Check the doneness of food with a thermometer.

#### **Bicycle Safety**

Submitted by Paul Morgan

I witnessed a near accident between a bicycle and a car recently. If you or your children ride a bicycle, now is the time to review bicycle safety. First, you should inspect the bicycle to make sure it is operating properly. Check the tires for wear and proper inflation. The chain and gears need to be lubricated and inspected. Make sure all nuts and bolts are tight. Next, make sure you have AND use one of those funky bicycle helmets; think safety first NOT looking cool! Parents, make sure your children wear their helmets when riding a bike. Parents must wear helmets if they want their children to wear theirs. This is not one of those "do as I say - not as I do" situations. When riding a bike on the street, stay to the RIGHT - ride with the traffic, not against it. Parents need to impress this on their children. All bike riders must obey traffic laws. Bikers must stop at stop signs and red lights and use signals for turns. It is important for bike riders to be vigilant and observant. In an accident with a car, the bike rider always loses. When I was in the third grade, I learned that lesson the hard way. I made a u-turn in the middle of the block without looking. That accident cost me 6 months in recovery time. Automobile drivers need to be extra diligent when close to children who are riding bikes. Children, because of their lack of experience, often taken unnecessary risk and do not demonstrate the best judgment. PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY THROUGH THE NEIGHBORHOOD especially when you see adults or children on bicycles.

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#### **Green Thumb Corner**

Borrowed from Phil Richards, Winchester Trails

Spring is here again and we've already had a few warm spells to promote vigorous growth, so it's time to get busy in the yard and garden to keep pace with nature. There are lots of colorful bedding plants in the nurseries and now is a good time for planting if you didn't take care of it last month. For best results, make sure the beds are raised and take the time to cultivate the soil and add lots or organic material. Keep the transplants well watered and give them a boost with a weak "starter solution" make by mixing a tablespoon of 12-24-12 in a gallon of water. Avoid heavy feeding until plants are well established.

Summer bulbs can be planned now – cannas, gladiolus, dahlia and caladium provide choices of color and height. Caladiums do well in shady areas, although the red varieties like some sunshine; for best results, wait until the soil temperature gets to 70 degrees. If you want instant color you can buy caladium plants rather than waiting a few weeks for the bulbs to produce results.

Regular readers probably get tired of the continual references to mulching, but it is important for all flowers, shrubs and trees. It helps retain moisture, stabilizes soil temperature, prevents caking or erosion of the soils, deters weeds and makes it easier to pull out those that do poke through, as well as enhancing the appearance. Smells good too! A 2" to 4" inch layer of coarse shredded pine bark mulch is ideal.

Azaleas may be pruned and the feeding period begins now that blooming is over. The recommended regimen is two or three light feedings every four to six weeks between now and the end of June using one of the special high acid formulas. Or you can use general purpose 12-24-12 and supplement with a soil acidifier such as copperas. The high-phosphorous 12-24-12 is also good for roses and hibiscus, both of which like a monthly feeding schedule. Other spring-flowering shrubs such as spirea (bridal wreath) may be pruned after blooming, and you can prune and repot the poinsettias.

Chrysanthemums tend to spread like crazy, and it's a good idea to divide and transplant in early May. The new shoots will produce more vigorous growth than the old central roots. Chrysanthemums are biologically programmed to bloom in October when we have equal hours of daylight and darkness, but in our southern climate we may also get a bonus flowering session in spring after a mild winter. Through out the summer, keep pinching back the tips for bushier growth and more blooms.

As the temperature starts climbing back into the 80's the chinch bugs are likely to be feeding on our carefully-tended grass again, and there isn't really any alternative to chemical treatment. Apply Diazinon granules to the lawn and beds every six to eight weeks. This also controls fire ants and takes care of fleas and ticks, and a good application around the foundation helps keep cockroaches out.

An herb patch is an attractive and aromatic feature in the garden, as well as being very useful – it's great to be able to cook or garnish with freshly picked parsley, basil or cilantro. Plants are available at the nurseries and basil and cilantro both grow very quickly from seed. Rosemary and oregano plants will survive for years in our climate, and mint is also a perennial.

A big Thank You to Richard for allowing us to use his article in the Willow Pointe Newsletter.

#### Willow Pointe Newsletter Committee Wants To Hear From You!

Please clip out this Evaluation and return it to the address below

The goal of the Newsletter committee is to provide the community with timely and pertinent information on a monthly basis. Please help us continue to improve upon the Newsletter by providing us with your feed-back.

1. I find the content of the newsletter timely, informative and useful information.

b. No

a. Yes

c. I do not read the newsletter.

2. What would you like to see added to the Newsletter on a regular basis?

3. What would you like to see eliminated from the Newsletter? (Elimination of the advertisements is not an option – that's what pays for the publication. Willow Pointe residents pay nothing as a result)

4. Any other comments?

The Newsletter Committee meets for about one hour the last Monday of each month. If you are interested in serving on this committee please let us know via the address listed below or email judithschwartz@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you in advance for your input.

Please return to: Judith Schwartz, Newsletter Editor 10506 Elm Knoll Court Houston, Texas 77064

#### **Advertising Information**

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Willow Pointe Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Willow Pointe residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the community newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office @ 512-989-8905 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

## WILLOW POINTE MARKET REPORT

Courtesy of "DAVID FLORY"

This market information report is provided to keep you informed of resale market activity in your subdivision.

	Nov 05	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 06	Mar 06	Apr 06
\$180,000 Above	1	1	0	1	1	1
\$160,000-179,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$150,000-159,999	2	1	1	1	1	0
\$140,000-149,999	1	2	0	0	0	0
\$120,000-139,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$120,000 Below	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	4	1	2	2	1
Highest \$/Sq Ft	65.30	74.06	70.76	68.75	72.48	63.20

This chart represents the homes that have sold and closed in the past 6 months according the Houston Multiple Listing Service.

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## David "Super Dave" Flory

\* According to information taken from the HAR MLS Compute



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