

Volume 4, Issue 12 Village Creek Community Association

### December 2007

### **Cookies with Santa**

Santa is coming to Village Creek! Bring the whole family for a morning of fun with Mr. Claus himself. Come to the pool area Saturday, December 1 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. to enjoy the cookies, and even get your photo taken!



## **HOA Assessment Dues**

The Homeowners Association Assessment payment requests will soon be in the mail to all residents. The HOA unanimously voted to raise the dues to the maximum allowed increase of 15% as per the Deed Restrictions to take effect January 2008. Rising costs from vendors, unexpected expenditures, and upcoming improvements to our community required this increase.

Last year Chaparral Management was able to collect 99% of the dues from our community. Those residents who are currently delinquent are turned over to the association attorney. Village Creek still has one of the lowest maintenance dues in the area for the size of our community, which includes the total number of residents combined with the amount of common area within the subdivision. Please send your payment to Chaparral Management in a timely manner.

Assessment History						
2003	\$525					
2004	\$525					
2005	\$525					
2006	\$545					
2007	\$545					
2008	\$627					

# It's the 1st Annual Village Creek Street Decorating Contest

Don't scrimp on decorations this year, because they could win you a prize! Get together with your neighbors and plan the best way to show your holiday spirit.

Judging will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 16th. So get busy decorating! The best street will be awarded a prize.

# **TLC for your Yard**

Now that the weather is cooling off it's a great time to get outside and give your yard a little TLC. Trim up those hedges, pull those weeds, remove tired or dead plants and sprinkle some "winterizer" fertilizer on your lawn.

Trees: It is also a good time to check the bindings and tree stakes around your trees. Make sure that they have not started to grow into the trunk of the tree. If your tree is two years old or older, its time to remove the metal stakes. Your tree will also love the extra attention by raising the canopy and trimming any branch tips that are pointing downwards. By cutting the downward tips, the tree branches will begin to grow upwards towards the sun.

Do you have mulch volcano rings at the base of your trees? Mulch volcanoes are when the mulch is placed too high around the base of the tree, causing the tree to stress, and eventually suffocate to death over time. The mulch needs to be no higher than the level of your lawn or when planting a tree just cover the exposed roots. Mulch also does not necessarily need to be placed at the base of a tree; grass can be allowed to grow around the base of the tree and look just as pretty. Let's all keep our lawns looking great and be proud of living in Village Creek.

Tulip Bulbs: Now is the time to place your tulip bulbs in the refrigerator for that cold snap effect. Tulip bulbs should be planted in full sun on New Year's Day in the afternoon for spring blooms.

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911	
CenterPoint-Gas Leak	713-659-3552
Constables Office	281-376-3472
www.cd4.hctx.net	
Klein Fire Dept.	281-376-4449
Poison Control Center	
Willowbrook Methodist	281-477-1000
SCHOOLS	
Tomball ISD	281-357-3100
www.tomballisd.net	
Willow Creek Elem (K-4)	281-357-3080
Northpointe Int (5-6)	
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)	
Tomball High (9-12)	
Transportation	
HOA MGMT	201-557-5195
	201 527 0057
Chaparral Management Company	
Ms. Tally Jenkins tallyj@chaparralm	
Fax	281-537-0312
6630 Cypresswood Drive, Suite 100	
Spring, Texas	
Mailing: P.O. Box 681007: Houston, Texas 772	68-1007
SERVICES	
CPS	713-626-5701
CenterPoint-Gas	
Dead Animal Pick up	713-699-1113
Domestic Violence	281-401-6250
FBI	713-693-5000
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Houston Chronicle	713-220-7211
Greater Houston Pool	
Aqua Services Billing	713-983-3602
Aqua Service/Repair Calls	
Reliant–Street lights	
www.centerpointenergy.com/outage	
Sex Offenders	nilvwatchdog us
Time Warner Cable	
Waste Management	
Trash pickup Tues/Fri	
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/a	luminum cane)
Yard Stork	
NEWSLETTER	gai ygreene.com
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Editorskstengle	e@sbcglobal.net
(Deadline is the 10 <sup>th</sup> of each month)	512 000 0005
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# **Neighborhood Watch**

The holidays are upon us and school will soon be out for the Christmas break. Each year Village Creek receives several visits from vandals being destructive to residents and the community holiday decorations. Please be on the look-out for any suspicious activity within our community. Remember to always report any and all concerns to the CONSTABLES office at 281-376-3472, and to our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Mike Preiser at mike@ myvillagecreek.net. Reporting any type of crime activity to Mike does not replace calling the Constables office.

New Board Member, Mike Preiser is heading up our new neighborhood watch program and is looking for volunteers to help with this committee. If you are interested please email Mike.

Residents, if you have been a target of any type of vandalism, please contact Mike and he will forward your information to be placed on Village Creek's new website www.myvillagecreek.net "Neighborhood Watch" page.

Area Crime

If has been reported by reliable sources that the area in which we live has been the target of crime recently and it seems to be on the rise. Here is a list of a few incidents that have happened around the area. Be sure to remain aware of your surroundings when at these and other area locations.

Wal-Mart	249/Spring Cypress	Purse stolen from cart while
		shopping
Wal-Mart	249/Spring Cypress	Purse and car stolen from parking
		lot
Ross	249/Spring Cypress	Masked men robbed shoppers of
		their personal belongings.
Target	249/Jones	Vehicles broken into

At Home: Check that all your doors and windows are locked. Leave your front and back porch lights on, but please make sure that they are not pointing towards your neighbor's windows at night. Park your vehicles inside your garage, and if you must leave your vehicle parked in the driveway, make sure that all the doors are locked and valuables are not visible.

Away from Home: Be aware of your surroundings when exiting or entering your vehicle in a parking lot. Stay off your cell phone while walking to and from your car. Cell phones pose as a distraction and you may not be alert and notice someone stalking you, your belongings or car. And don't always assume that the robbers are men; women are also committing the crimes. Place the Constables phone number, 281-376-3472, in your cell phone . It only takes a few minutes to be a victim of crime, don't let this happen to you.



# New Website

Village Creek has recently changed our website address. Please visit our new website: www.myvillagecreek.net.

It is loaded with information, so check it out and watch as it continues to grow!



# **Advertising Information**

Please support the business that advertise in the Village Creek newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter each month at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales office at 888-687-6444 or <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u> for ad information and pricing The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

# Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

Г						2			
			3						
			8	3	4	1			
3	3		4		5				8
ç	9							3	1
		8	6				5		7
Γ		6		4					2
			2			5	7	8	
					8			6	3
Solution at www.PEELinc.com © 2006. Feature Exchange									



# Cypress Christian School invites you to... Winter and Spring Community Events

You are invited to some very fun community events sponsored by Cypress Christian School. We hope you will join us as we continue to celebrate our 30th Anniversary of "fusing faith and learning!"

### December

- Wed., December 6 from 6-9 p.m. Shop at Barnes & Noble-Copperfield-portion of purchase benefits library
- Tues., December 11 at 7:00 p.m.: Elementary K-3 Christmas Concert on CCS Campus
- Thurs., December 13 at 7:00 p.m.: Elementary 4th-5th Christmas Concert on CCS Campus
- Friday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.: Chamber Choir Christmas Concert-location to be announced

### January

• Sat., January 26 at 5:30 p.m.: Laughs galore at the Winter Banquet featuring local radio personality, Susan O'Donnell of KSBJ radio station and Christian Comedian, David Ferrell to be held at the Downtown Aquarium. The event is free to guests. Limited seating – call for reservations.

February

- Thurs., February 7 at 6:00 p.m.: Kindergarten Round-Up for parents of future kindergartners
- Thurs., February 7 at 7:00 p.m.: Family Night for K-12 parents and students considering Christian education

### March

- Thurs., March 6 from 9-11 a.m.: Open House
- Thurs., March 27 from 9-2 p.m.: Student Visitor Day

April

 Saturday, April 19 from10-4 p.m. Community Carnival on CCS Campus







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2. BELLAIRE 5301 Bissonnet Bellaire, TX 77401 / 713-661-1703

3. CLEAR LAKE 17600 Kobyashi Dr. Webster, TX 77598 / 281-338-1433

4. COLLGE STATION 3800 SR-6 South College Station, TX 77845 979-693-7097

**5. CONROE** 910 West Da**ll**as Conroe, TX 77301 / 936-441-1533

6. DOWNTOWN HOUSTON 2220 W. Alabama Houston, TX 77098 / 713-526-3337

**7. EPSOM** 10125 Epsom Houston, TX 77093 / 713-695-6624

8. HUMBLE 1420 FM 1960 E. Bypass, Ste. 118 Humble, TX 77338 / 281-540-1920

9. HWY 6 WEST 1950 Highway 6 South Houston, TX 77077 / 281-497-0800

**10. KATY** 22151 Katy Freeway Katy, TX 77450 / 281-395-3600

**11. LANG RD. FACTORY** 3526 Lang Rd. Houston, TX 77092 / 713-683-8025

**12. PASADENA** 5334 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena, TX 77505 / 281-487-6416



**13. PEARLAND** 2837 Miller Ranch Rd. #101 Pearland, TX 77584 / 713-436-0026

**14. RICHMOND** 51 Highway 90 A East Richmond, TX 77469 / 281-342-1597

15. SPRING 1619 Spring Cypress Rd. Spring, TX 77388 / 281-353-3020

1**6. SUGARLAND** 2601 Cordes Dr. Sugarland, TX 77479 / 281-265-5333 17. TOMBALL 24914 Tomball Parkway #160 Tomball, TX 77375 / 281-357-0455

**18. TWO NINETY WEST** 13306 FM 1960 West Houston, TX 77065 / 281-890-4481

**19. WOODLANDS** 24730 Kuykendahl Rd. Tomball, TX 77375 / 281-255-3711



# <u>Teenage Job Seekers</u>

# **Attention Teenagers**

The **Teenage Job Seekers** listing service is offered free of charge to all Village Creek teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to skstengle@sbcglobal.net by the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month!

# Not Available On-Line



# Notice:

There is a new stop sign at Imperial Crossing and Lake Vista making the intersection a four-way stop. Please take care to notice and follow all traffic signs.

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Village Creek Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from the Village Creek HOA and Peel, Inc. The information in the Village Creek Newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Village Creek Neighborhood residents only.

WISHING ALL MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL THOSE WHO CHOSE VILLAGE CREEK AS THEIR COMMUNITY IN 2007.



Suzanne Ellison, ABR RE/MAX Suburban Northwest 11550 Louetta Rd, Suite 1200 Houston, TX 77070 (832) 212-1032 Direct sellison@remax.net www.SuzanneEllison.net

# **CAT Owners - Food for Thought**

Would you think it is alright if a dog in your neighborhood killed 1 or 2 cats every week? If you are like most of us, the answer is absolutely not! In the same regard, it is also not acceptable for well fed-cats to go out every week and kill birds and other wildlife. Please keep you cat indoors. Not only will your cat be safer, but they cannot kill and injure birds and other living things.



# Vacation Watch Program

Take advantage of the Constable's vacation watch when you are out of town. Before leaving call the Constable's office and let them know when you will be leaving and when you will be returning. Your home will be checked during the Constable's regular neighborhood drive-through. To contact the Constable's Office, call 281-376-3472



# Trash

If at all possible, please wait until the morning of trash day to put out your trash. Putting it out the night before attracts animals and pests who are not welcome guests! Also, take care to secure loose trash items, as they can easily blow away. Thanks for making every effort to ensure the cleanliness and beautiful appearance of Village Creek!

Don't want to wait for the mail? View the current issue of the Village Creek Community Newsletter on the 1st day of each month online at www.PEELinc.com

# <complex-block>

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# **Strawberries Boost Heart Health**



then "bad" cholesterol (LDL) and "good" cholesterol (HDL). Now there's a new factor that may be important in predicting the risk of heart disease: it's called C-reactive protein, or CRP. A new Harvard study suggests that eating strawberries at least two

times a week may be associated with reducing elevated CRP and LDL levels.

CRP is a protein in the blood that is elevated in response to injury, such as the chronic injury to blood vessels that comes from having damaged arteries. Previous studies have shown that elevated CRP may explain heart disease in people who otherwise appear to have very low risk, even among those with normal cholesterol levels.

Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables can lower CRP, an effect attributed to the high amounts of antioxidants found in these foods. Because strawberries are an antioxidant powerhouse, they were singled out for a closer look by nutrition scientists.

In the new study, diet records and blood samples from 27,000 women enrolled in the Women's Health Study were analyzed and compared with their risk of developing heart disease over a 10-



bashanspainting@earthlink.net

year period. When the women were separated into high- and lowstrawberry intake groups, those with the highest intakes-two or more servings of strawberries a week-were found to be less likely to have elevated CRP in their blood. They also had slightly lower cholesterol levels.

Although the study was not designed to show cause and effect, the findings add to a growing body of research showing how eating strawberries may support a healthy heart.

The researchers also noted that the women who ate the most strawberries were the same ones most likely to engage in a hearthealthy lifestyle. They ate more fruits and vegetables daily, exercised more and smoked less.

For more information about California strawberries and heart health, visit www.calstrawberry.com.

A healthy indulgence: Strawberries may reduce the risk of heart disease.

### **Deed Restriction Reminder:**

Village Creek deed restrictions prohibit residents from operating a business from their residential home. Selling items from your personal business, such as overstock and clearance items, are in violation of the deed restrictions.



# **Neighborhood Watch**

It has been reported that vandals are taking advantage of some of our residents. Cars are being driven through yards, eggs are being thrown at cars and property and thrash is being dispersed throughout the neighborhood.

Please be aware of these actions and report any suspicious or reckless behavior to the constable's office. If at all possible, be prepared with descriptions or license plate numbers, as any information will be helpful in stopping the vandalism.

The constable's office can be reached 24 hours a day at 281-376-3472.

# **Identity Theft Warning**

Remember to shred all personal information including credit card applications and old checks before putting them in the garbage. Incidents of people going through trash have been reported in other neighborhoods and serve as a reminder that no one is above this terrible crime. For more information on how you can protect yourself from Identity Theft visit the Constable's website at www.cd4.hctx.net.



Dissolve sugar in water and pour in percolator. Add juices. Place cinnamon sticks, cloves, and salt in basket. Percolate.

# *If you would like to submit YOUR recipe please email it to articles@peelinc.com.*

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# Village Creek Market Report

Courtesy of "DAVID FLORY"

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

	May 07	Jun 07	Jul 07	Aug 07	Sep 07	Oct 07
\$350,000 +	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$300,000 - 349,999	0	0	1	0	0	0
\$250,000 - 299,999	2	4	2	4	0	0
\$200,000 - 249,999	2	5	2	2	0	3
\$160,000 - 199,999	1	2	1	1	1	0
\$160,000 -	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	5	11	6	7	1	3
Highest \$/Sq Ft	77.49	91.14	89.71	99.29	79.19	101.72

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



## The Pet's Paws

It's summertime in Houston and it is hot! Don't forget to leave plenty of water for outdoor pets. We don't want anyone going thirsty!

Pet owners; please keep your pets on leashes when walking in the neighborhood, as a courtesy to others. Also, take care to pick up

after your pooch if they leave a gift in someone else's yard or in any common area. No one likes to see, smell or step in those gifts!

For all lost and found pets, please contact the Harris County Animal Control office at 281-999-3191. These trained professionals are the best choice for taking care of these matters.





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