LONG WOOD June 2008

News For The Residents of Longwood

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Honors Volunteer Award Winners



Pictured from left: Reginald Lillie, Chairman of the Board of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Audrey Ayers and Mr. Ed Station of Station & Ayers Insurance Services; Leslie Martone from the Cy-Fair Credit Union; Pam Wells, CFISD Associate Superintendent for General Administration; Erin Al-Salman, President of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce; Barbara Johnson, Media Specialist at Emmott Elementary School; Lisa Underwood; and Pam Scott, CFISD Director of Partners in Education.

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District honored its district and state volunteer award winners during a Volunteer Appreciation Month ceremony on April 24. The award winners were nominated by various schools in the district at which the volunteers donate their time and were anonymously judged by a panel of school district employees and business partners. These extraordinary men and women were first selected as our district award winners and then competed against others in their categories from large districts at the state level, and each of them were honored with the state's highest awards as well. The state award winners were recognized by the Texas Association of Partners in Education (Continued on page 2)



WRAP is Cy Woods High School's chemical and drug free party to be held right after prom. This newly formed organization has started meeting to plan the event for the class of 2009. Please join us!! Start earning WRAP Bucks for your student! Website under construction at www.cywoodswrap. org

General Meetings:

May 13th – 6:00 pm June 10th - 7:00 pm July 8th - 7:00 pm

* The above listed meetings will be held at Cy Woods High School Commons.

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- Auto Theft	281-550-0458	
- Homicide/Assault	713-967-5810	
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Cypress-Fairbanks ISD- (Continued from Cover page)

during their annual conference held in Austin at the State Awards Dinner on January 29th.

The award winners were as follows:

Outstanding Senior Volunteer: Mr. Robert Zemcik – State Crystal Award Winner; Outstanding Adult Volunteer: Ms Lisa Underwood – State Crystal Award Winner; Community Partnership: Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce – State Crystal Award Winner; Local Business Partnership: Mr. Ed Station of Station & Ayers Insurance – State Crystal Award Winner; Medium Business Partnership: Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union – State Crystal Award Winner; Small Business Partnership: Credit Union Acceptance – State Gold Award Winner.

The district congratulates these distinguished individuals and businesses for their awards and accomplishments and thanks them for their devoted service to the students who attend our schools. And to every volunteer in our district, we celebrate each of you for the service you provide our students and staff all throughout the year.



17720 Huffmeister Road

Lone Star College-CyFair "Perspective"

Summer Fun in Gallery and on Stage - The Bosque Gallery presents "Someone Else - Portrait Exhibition" June 17 through July 3. Meet the artists at a 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. reception June 19. This exhibition is considered "opencall" so there were no restrictions on age, medium or experience level. For information, go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery. Don't miss this year's children's shows "Thaddeus and 'Tila" June 18 through July 25 and "Go, Dog. Go!" Aug. 4 through Aug. 15. Then bring the family for Elton John and Tim Rice's "Aida" July 17 through July 27. For tickets and information call 281-290-5201or go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/boxoffice.

Free New Student Orientation and Family Orientations! - Incoming new students and their family members will receive campus tours and learn about academic and student life. Choose among full-day and half day programs that also include My Records training, advising

presentation and class registration, or mini orientation programs that include student panel, student activities information and a question and answer session. Programs are available in June, July and August. Register at CyFair.LoneStar.edu/orientation.

Library Offers Something for Everyone this Summer - The Harris County Public Library Lone Star College-CyFair Branch offers Summer Reading Program for children and adults. The library also offers free computer workshops, including new Undercover Librarian workshop. Topics range from basic computer functions to introductions to the Internet and various software programs. A variety of monthly book clubs are available including mystery, women of the world and sports page. There are plenty of youth programs with activities and book clubs for teens and storytime for younger children. Go online to CyFair. LoneStar.edu/library for information.

Newsletter Article Submissions

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing <code>longwoodletter@</code> <code>peelinc.com</code> or by going to http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php. All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue. So if you are involved with a school group, scouts, sports etc – please submit your articles for Longwood Letter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations and military service are also welcome.

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Longwood residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail <u>longwoodletter@peelinc.com</u>.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-989-8905 or *advertising@PEELinc.com*.



No Payments until April 2009 May 5- June 15

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Bottled Water vs. Tap

By Louise Bell

A few facts about each, then you decide.

Water that comes from your faucet costs about \$0.002 per gallon. Bottled water is about \$9.00 per gallon.

Cost is only one factor. Many people choose bottled water over what comes from the faucet because they say they like the convenience, taste, and purity. Actually, one quarter to 40% of bottled water is municipal tap water re-packaged, possibly with additional treatment. The FDA regulates bottled water; however, standards are weaker than EPA standards for tap water. For instance, E. coli is allowed in bottled water, but not in tap water. The EPA requires water testing 100+ times per month, FDA requires testing once a month. In addition, the 60-70% of bottled water that does not cross state lines is exempt from any FDA standards!

The nonprofit National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) tested samples of 103 brands of bottled water and found that a fourth were just tap water---sometimes further treated, sometimes not. The group stated that there was no reason to assume that bottled water was superior to tap water or had fewer microbial or chemical contaminants. The plastic bottle itself may leach phthalate (regulated by EPA) into the water, for which there is no bottled water standard.

As Americans, we are entitled to drink safe, clean water. If you are concerned about drinking tap water, perhaps a purification system will

erase your fears. You can make sure that your water has additional treatment by reverse osmosis distillation, UV radiation or the use of absolute 1 micron filtration to eliminate smaller or resistant disease-causing organisms. Filter your own water and carry it in a stainless steel thermos.

Bottled water is sold in cheap, convenient PET (polyethylene terephthalate) containers, an easily recyclable form of plastic, but recycling rates for plastic bottles are less than 25%. Most head for a landfill! Plastic is light and floats and is blown about in the wind. All rivers lead to the sea; the Houston Ship Channel is a frightening repository of plastic of all types, probably washed down storm drains. Each year, more than 4 billion pounds of plastic bottles end up in landfills or as litter in the U.S. Think about this: THE TOTAL ENERGY NEEDED TO MAKE, TRANSPORT AND DISPOSE OF ONE BOTTLE OF WATER IS EQUIVALENT TO FILLING THE SAME BOTTLE ONE-QUARTER FULL OF OIL!

Plastic has been around for about 50 years. It is made from oil; it takes 1.5 million barrels to manufacture a year's worth of those handy bottles. It can photo-degrade, meaning sunlight will cause it to become brittle and crumble, but it does not decompose. No microbes have yet evolved to eat it—break it down into its building blocks. It

(Continued on page 5)



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Bottle Water vs. Tap - (Continued from page 4)

can break into smaller and smaller bits, but will remain a man-made polymer, and it can possibly hang around in the environment for 1000 years!

We have a steady, reliable, and cheap source of clean, freshwater for drinking, available at few other times in world history and few other places in the world. But many people are choosing to forsake ordinary tap water for the convenience and perceived benefits of bottled water, in favor of a product that is the same or lesser quality, higher price, uncertain safety, packaged to be discarded and not degrade for 1000 years. We are very wealthy, indeed, to be so heedless. The convenience and perceived benefits of bottled water seem dubious when we consider the added costs for transportation and packaging and, most important, the cost to the environment. What would a person who cares about the future of our environment drink? You decide.

Sources:

FDA Consumer Magazine, July-August, 2002 FDA, Federal Register, 21, Part 165, 2005 EPA, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, 2007 Think Outside the Bottle, Beverage Marketing Corp., Natural Resources Defense Council

Aloha from Outrigger Island!

Join the Jersey Village Baptist Church VBS fun as we grab our surfboards and learn to ride the waves of God's truth. All children ages 4 (as of September 1, 2007) - 5th Grade are invited to attend. VBS is June 16-20 from 9 am to 12 pm daily and is a **FREE** event. Register online at www.jvbc.org. Jersey Village Baptist Church; 16518 Jersey Drive; Houston, TX 77040; 713-466-6102. For more information, contact Elaine Pendergrass (ependergrass@jvbc.org).

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Stem Cell Therapies

Topic of Monthly Seminar Open to the Public

Baylor College of Medicine

Current prospects for stem cell therapies will be presented in a public forum on June 10 at the Health Museum of Houston.

The talk will feature genetic experts Dr. Jonathan Berg, assistant professor of molecular and human genetics, and Dr. Margaret Goodell, professor of pediatrics and molecular and human genetics, both of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Goodell also serves as director of the Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Center at BCM.

Sponsored by BCM and Texas Children's Hospital, the event is part of a monthly "Evening with Genetics" lecture series organized by BCM's Department of Molecular and Human Genetics. The series offers current information regarding care, education and research about genetic disorders.

Stem cells are widely considered to have great promise for the treatment of diseases. The seminar will discuss differences between adult and embryonic stem cells, the importance of stem cell research and future expectations for stem cell therapies.

The program is free and open to the public. It will be held at 7 p.m. at The Health Museum of Houston, 1515 Hermann Dr. For more information or to register, contact Susan Fernbach at 832-822-4182 or fernbach@bcm.edu.

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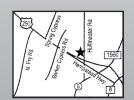
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Cypress Assistance Ministries School Supplies Needed

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Families of hundreds of school-aged children in the Cypress/ Northwest Houston area are depending on CAM to assist them with necessary school supplies for their children. These start-up supplies can be impossible to fit into an already strained budget. Your donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- · pocket folders with brads
- washable markers
- large & small packages manila paper
- large & small packages construction paper
- pencil boxes
- scissors and rulers
- new socks and underwear in all sizes

For the Food Pantry, donations of the following will help families with children home for the summer:

- peanut butter & jelly
- · Sweetened Drink Mixes
- Spaghetti Os
- Snack Foods
- · Canned Meats
- · Powdered milk
- Diapers all sizes

Donations can be made Monday through Wednesday from 10AM − 6PM and Thursday through Saturday from 10AM − 3PM.

For a description of the services and volunteer opportunities at Cypress Assistance Ministries please see our web site, www. cypressassistance.org

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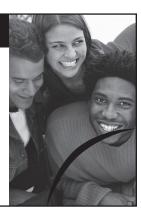
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Your Guide to Choosing Life Insurance Submitted by Rich Keith

Should You Get Coverage Through Your Employer?

Lots of companies offer their employees comprehensive benefits packages, and some include the option to purchase group life insurance. But if you quit, retire or otherwise leave your job, you may also have to leave your group life insurance behind. Among the many factors to consider when choosing life insurance, make sure that policy portability is near the top of your

Know the Difference:

INDIVIDUAL LIFE INSURANCE POLICY is purchased and controlled independently by a person.

GROUP LIFE INSURANCE POLICY is purchased through an employer or organization, often controlled by that employer or organization.

In 2002, group insurance represented 42% of all life insurance in force.(1) But is that type of coverage right for your family? Two million jobs were lost in the last two years.(2) In this uncertain economic climate marked by outsourcing and layoffs, many families could lose their group life insurance coverage.

Group Life Insurance	Planner-led Term Life Insurance
No access to a dedicated representative	A licensed agent works with you to choose the coverage that meets your needs.
No consideration of your financial needs	Financial planners can offer a comprehensive Financial Needs Analysis to help you get your financial house in order, from debt to retirement and more.
The policy may offer guaranteed coverage only as long as your employment continues.	Term life insurance is portable. You take it with you wherever you go, regardless of your employment status.
Annual Renewable Term, ART, is the most common form of group products, but it doesn't usually come with guaranteed premiums. This means the insurer has the right to increase your premiums at will.	Quality plans offers level premiums that are guaranteed for the term of the policy or to age 90. This helps you control your costs.
Group life insurance coverage is usually limited to 2x your annual salary, which is well below the recommended amount of coverage for the average family.	Quality plans do not limit the coverage you can apply for, making it possible for most families to secure coverage which is 5-10 times their annual income, as what most experts recommend.
If you decide to leave the workforce, you may not qualify for a new life insurance policy based on your health.	Quality plans offer guaranteed coverage regardless of your health once the policy is issued.

(Continued on page 9)



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Make sense?

Please choose "Newsletter Ad" as your referral on the SparkPowerBank.com website.

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Life Insurance- (Continued from page 8)

Choose the Right Coverage for Your Family

With all the choices available, deciding how to protect your loved ones can be difficult. Whatever type of life insurance program you choose, make sure you get the right protection from a company you can count on.

Philosophy: Get Coverage for When You Need It Most

Protection is most important while your family is depending on you to provide for them. At this stage in life, you're likely to have the most financial obligations — mortgage, young children, car payments and so on. As you get older, your financial commitments usually are fewer. The kids grow up. The mortgage gets paid off. That means you need less protection. It's called the Theory of Decreasing Responsibility.

Look for Solid Financial Ratings

The financial strength of your life insurance provider is important because it indicates the insurance company's ability to pay out your death benefit. You're counting on that money to be available to your loved ones, should they need it. Look for high ratings from companies such as A.M. Best, S&P, and Moody's.

Sources:

Primerica Financial Services (1)ACLI 2003 Fact Book

(2)Parade Magazine, March 2, 2003

(3)www.quatloos.com

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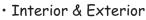
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Summer Pet Health

By Jim Amyx, DVM

In this "Summer Pet Health" article, I am going to address fleas, ticks, mosquitoes, bees, and wasps - dreaded insects that infest and cause great stress to our pets. Not only a nuisance, these insects can cause serious, even life-threatening pet diseases. Being proactive is the best way to protect your pet.

Fleas are a big nuisance to pets. They cause non-stop itching, burrow deep into your pet's skin, and leave nasty flea feces (a.k.a. "flea dirt") all over your pet. Fleas are everywhere and yes, "indoor only" pets can get fleas too! Fleas lay hundreds of eggs per day that live on your pet, fall into your carpet and furniture, and infest your environment. They are very efficient reproducers with a life cycle as short as 16 days from egg to mature adult. By the time you notice a flea problem on your indoor pet, your lawn, your house, and maybe even your car are all infested as well. Many dogs and cats are intensely allergic to fleas and, besides just an itch, can develop severe skin problems long after a flea is dead and gone.

Additionally, by ingesting fleas, tapeworms can be transmitted to your pet. Tapeworms compete with your pet's body for nourishment causing chronic malnourishment, weight loss, and other gastrointestinal symptoms. Very small pets, puppies, kittens, and cats can develop severe – even deadly anemia – due to fleas' blood meals on your pet when present in large quantities.

Ticks are another parasite that pesters and endangers your pet. Instead of jumping or flying, ticks crawl onto your pet. They are found primarily in wooded areas, wood piles, dense shrubs, and thick grass. Lyme Disease, Ehrlichia, Rocky Mounted Spotted Fever, and Tularemia are all diseases spread by ticks and, for this reason, can be extremely dangerous to pets and people. In large numbers, the saliva of ticks can cause neurological symptoms, even paralysis in pets.

Once found, ticks should be removed as soon as possible. If you cannot take your pet to the veterinarian to have ticks removed, then remove them yourself very carefully. Always wear gloves when removing ticks. Never try to rupture (or crush) a tick with a distended abdomen to prevent spread of disease to yourself and your pet. To remove a tick, put a small amount of alcohol on the pet, use a pair of tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the pet's skin as possible and pull out the tick in a single steady motion. The tick should come out intact. Kill the tick by drowning it in alcohol before disposing of it.

Do not burn the tick with a match, pour oil, nail polish remover, or

any other chemicals on your pet to kill the tick. If you do, chances are you'll hurt your pet in the process.

Fleas and ticks are by far the most common external parasites that plague dogs and cats. They can rapidly infest your pet - once your pet has been infested, so has your house, lawn and car. Prevention is the key.

Many flea and tick prevention products are available. Generally, flea shampoos and flea/tick collars are NOT effective in controlling and preventing infestation. Topical and oral flea and tick preventives are very effective and reliable. I highly recommend seeing your veterinarian to determine which product is best for your pet. There is significant difference in the efficacy of products available. So, before you spend money buying products off the shelf at a retail store, check with your veterinarian. It is far more difficult and expensive to eliminate fleas and ticks than to prevent them. So invest your money wisely.

Mosquitoes pose perhaps the greatest life threatening risk to pets heartworms. Yes, heartworms do infect cats as well as dogs - indoors and out. Regardless of how much time your pet spends indoors, it can (and here, will almost certainly)

be infected with heartworms at some point in time.

Heartworms cause severe heart and lung disease in both dogs and cats and can be life-threatening without treatment. Currently there is no treatment available for heartworms in cats, so prevention is absolutely essential for all cats. There are many preventive options available, so again, check with your veterinarian for the best prevention for your pet.

In addition to heartworms, mosquitoes cause allergic skin disease

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Summer Pet - (Continued from page 10)

in both dogs and cats and can transmit severe diseases such as West Nile Virus to your family members. Remove all sources of standing water in your yard to help control mosquitoes - this includes tires, flower pots, some bird baths, and poor drainage areas.

Mosquitoes bite - bees and wasps sting. They hurt pets just as they do people. Pets, like people, can be allergic to bee and wasp stings. Intrigued by these insects, pets try to catch them. Allergic reactions typically occur within 15-30 minutes after the sting. Pets usually develop severe swelling at the site, swelling of the lips and skin around the eyes, and may develop hives or bumps all over their body. In most cases this is a mild reaction, but some cases can be severe enough to cause difficulty in breathing. If your pet develops these symptoms, take your pet to your veterinarian for an exam. Until then, you can safely give your pet 1 mg of Benadryl (generic formula is diphenhydramine) per pound of body weight by mouth. Diphenhydramine typically comes in capsules or tablets (25 or 50 mg) and a children's liquid (12.5mg per teaspoon - 5ml). Call your veterinarian for assistance if you have any questions regarding how much Benadryl to give to your pet.

It is impossible to eliminate these insects, so we must control their population. Protect your pet from fleas, ticks, mosquitoes, bees, and wasps. Don't let them infect or infest your pet, your yard, and your home!

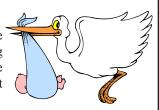
NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Attention Teenagers

The **Teenage Job Seekers** listing service is offered free of charge to all Longwood teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to *longwoodletter@peelinc.com* by the 9th of the month!

Stork Report

If you have a new addition to the family please let us know by emailing *longwoodletter@peelinc.com* and we will include an announcement to let everyone know!



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Messina Hof Winery Announces the 31st Anniversary Annual Harvest Celebration

Messina Hof, the fastest growing award-winning winery and resort in Texas, is celebrating their Harvest from July 18 to August 17, 2008, announced Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo, co-founders of Messina Hof Winery & Resort in Bryan, Texas.

Harvest is a time when guests can experience the century-old tradition of making wine by picking and stomping of the grapes. Wine lovers, including special guests and local celebrities, will roll up their sleeves and pants and partake in the first phase of wine making with the Messina Hof Family. After guests hand-pick the grapes straight from the vine, the fun of squashing begins. Not only will they get their feet wet, they will be rewarded for their hard work with a Harvest Cuisine prepared by Award winning culinary team of The Vintage House restaurant.

"Harvest is our favorite time of year here at Messina Hof Winery," said Paul Bonarrigo. "It gives us a chance to share our love of making award-wining wine with people who not only love wine, but love having a good time!"

The second annual Moonlit Harvest will be an enchanted evening not to be forgotten. The romantic evening

will kick off the first harvesting of the grapes as guests pick grapes from the vineyards, then stomp them under a beautiful sunset on Friday, July 18, 2008. Guests also receive a Messina Hof Harvest

souvenir t-shirt to imprint with their purple feet after stomping. After the grapes have been crushed, they will enjoy a multiple-course special dinner at The Vintage House Restaurant.

Harvest is an exciting five-week event featuring a wide variety of food and wine events including

the Moonlit Harvest, Harvest, Harvest Murder Mystery Dinners, and the Harvest Vintner's Dinner each weekend. Harvest events in chronological order:

Moonlit Harvest

Friday, July 18, 2008

The second annual "Moonlit Harvest" includes picking and stomping the grapes, a souvenir t-shirt, and a Vineyard Cuisine dinner at The Vintage House.

Harvest

Saturday, July 19, 2008 – Sunday, August 17, 2008 (Saturday and Sunday only)

Murder Mystery Dinners

Saturday, July 21, 2008 – Saturday, August 18, 2008 (All Murder Mystery Dinners begin at 6:30 PM)

Mystery Dinner theme's are as follows:

July 19 - "Pirate Murder Mystery"

July 26 – "Celebrity Celebrations"

August 2 – "Storm Survivors"

August 9 – "Case of the Missing Matchmaker"

August 15 - "Murder on the Mound"

Harvest Vintner's Dinners

Friday, July 25, 2008 – Saturday, August 16, 2008 (All Vintner's Dinners begin at 6:30 PM)

Harvest Vintner's Dinner's are as follows:

July 25

August 1

August 8

August 16 – Grand Finale

Messina Hof Winery is located at 4545 Old Reliance Rd. in Bryan, TX.



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June Landscaping

Submitted by Ron Kerwin

Make Father HAPPY; give him a lawn service covering the HOT summer months as a gift he will REALLY appreciate!! We'd be glad to help.

It is getting hotter out; plan your lawn/garden work for early morning or evening to avoid the heat of the day. Make sure you drink plenty of nonalcoholic fluids, preferably water, to keep from becoming dehydrated.

Plan your mowing schedule around the growth of your lawn. You should not mow more than 1/3 of the blade length off at a time. IF you water or fertilize too much, you will generate excessive growth. This will require more frequent mowing to avoid cutting off more than 1/3. If you postpone mowing, you will be damaging your lawn, generating excess clippings which will require more of your time to mow over them multiple times, and you will do your small mower engine harm by trying to mow too much grass with its smaller horsepower. With proper fertilization and watering, weekly mowing should be adequate; there will be exceptions however.

You can fertilize again this month with a 3-1-2-ratio fertilizer or 4-1-2; try to get it with a minimum of 50 % slow release nitrogen to stretch out its benefits. Water the granular fertilizer in soon after application. You can water your patio plants and hanging baskets with a diluted 20-20-20 watersoluble fertilizer. Try to use filtered or distilled water for these plants and baskets to reduce the chlorine getting to the plants.

Canopy your trees to allow more sunlight to get to the lawn grasses underneath. Low tree canopies will not allow grass to survive. You want the lower branches removed anyway for safety reasons while mowing. You don't want to get poked in the eye.

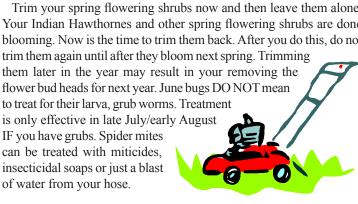
On Red-tip Photinia and Indian Hawthorne's watch for maroon colored spots on the leaves. This indicates a fungal leaf spot and could be fatal to the shrubs if left unattended.

Apply a fungicide, Banner or Daconil as soon as you can. Powdery mildew on roses, crape myrtles, eunonymus and zinnias in late spring can be treated with a funginex spray weekly.

Trim your spring flowering shrubs now and then leave them alone. Your Indian Hawthornes and other spring flowering shrubs are done blooming. Now is the time to trim them back. After you do this, do not

to treat for their larva, grub worms. Treatment

IF you have grubs. Spider mites can be treated with miticides, insecticidal soaps or just a blast





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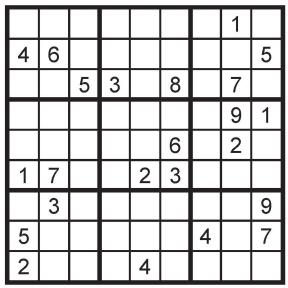
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Sudoku

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.



*See solution at PEELinc.com

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Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in the Longwood Letter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to longwoodletter@peelinc.com. Be sure

to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www. PEELinc.com.



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