

The Village Gazette



Volume 6, Issue 3
Village Creek Community Association

March 2009

The Easter Bunny is Coming...

Spring Events Scheduled

Spring is around the corner and in the Village Creek community change is in the air. The warmer weather has ushered in everything from the anticipation for the annual Easter egg hunt to new positions within the community being filled.

The Easter Parade and egg hunt are just around the corner! Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 4 and meet for the parade in the Sunset Arbor Cul-de-sac at 1:50 pm. The parade will feature a contest for the best decorated tricycles, bikes, and wagons, so pull out the crepe paper and balloons and see just how creative you can be! The annual Easter egg hunt will follow the parade starting at 3:00pm. There will be two hunts, one for 0-4 year olds and the other for 5-12 year olds located in the area around the pool. Carnival style games are also being planned, as well as, a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Donations of plastic eggs filled with candy, stickers, and other goodies are needed and would be greatly appreciated. There will be a basket placed by the front door at 12431 Lake Vista Dr. for donations. Volunteers are also needed to help with the festivities. If you are interested in volunteering to help please email Peggy Lastrapes at peggyjo108@yahoo.com.

Village Creek also has some new faces this spring. Peggy Lastrapes is the new social chair for the neighborhood. She along with her family of husband, Chris, and kids, Emily, Shawn, and Jonah made the community their home in July 2008.

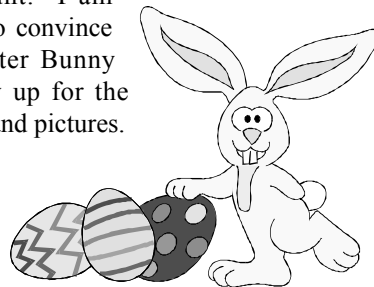
When asked about her new role Lastrapes said, "We are looking forward to meeting our neighbors and becoming more involved in the community. I would like to form a social committee to help plan social events in the community. We would meet once a month to plan events. If you are interested, please email me."

Tisha Butler is another new addition. Butler is the new editor for the Village Gazette. She has lived in the Village Creek neighborhood since May 2006 with her husband, James, and four children, Ginny, Becka, Keely, and Gavin.

"I would love for residents to email me at tisha@myvillagecreek.net and let me know what is going on, what they are concerned about, or what they would like to see covered in the newsletter," Butler said. "This is a great community and we have loved living here."

With the warm sun shining down most days, residents make ready for the spring and all the wonderful events planned in the community that come with the gorgeous spring days.

We are trying to plan an afternoon of family activities in addition to the Easter Egg Hunt. I am trying to convince the Easter Bunny to show up for the parade and pictures.



At Least One Coyote Spotted in Wooded Area of Village Creek

Neighborhood residents need to be aware that there is at least one coyote in the wooded common area. There have been many reports that they were coming from



Treeline. Over the weekend, Ann Fuller spotted one sitting in the grassy area in the cul-de-sac on Berry Shoals at 7 am. Later she came face to face with one at the woods on the cul-de-sac of Ginger Ridge.

Fuller explained, "On my walk I overheard little girls yelling in the area that there was a lost dog hiding in the woods. I knew what they must be talking about, but since I was with my grandbaby in a stroller and my small dog, I headed straight home. I yelled and warned another family with 4 small children and a dog about the close by coyote. They are hungry and looking for food and partially nocturnal, I think."

Please be on alert when walking in the wooded area and do not leave trash or pet food out as they will continue to hang around as long as there is food for them.

The Village Gazette

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.....	800-764-7661
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)	281-357-3020
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)	281-357-3030
Tomball High (9-12)	281-357-3220
Transportation	281-357-3193

HOA MGMT

Chaparral Management Company	281-537-0957
Ms. Tally Jenkins	tallyj@chaparralmanagement.com
Fax	281-537-0312

6630 Cypresswood Drive, Suite 100

Spring, Texas

Mailing: P.O. Box 681007: Houston, Texas 77268-1007

SERVICES

CPS	713-626-5701
CenterPoint-Gas	713-659-2111
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.....	713-771-7665
Municipal District Services (24 hrs).....	281-290-6500
Reliant-Street lights.....	713-923-3213
www.centerpointenergy.com/outage	
Sex Offenders.....	www.familywatchdog.us
Time Warner Cable	281-774-7222
Waste Management	713-686-6666
Trash pickup Tues/Fri	
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/aluminum cans)	
Yard Stork	kpunte@garygreene.com

NEWSLETTER

Editor.....	Trisha Butler
trisha@myvillagecreek.net	
(Deadline is the 10 th of each month)	
Publisher - Peel, Inc.	512-263-9181
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com , 888-687-6444

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Porto.....	scott@myvillagecreek.net
Don Rumsey.....	don@myvillagecreek.net
Jason Giddens	jason@myvillagecreek.net
Peggy Lastrapes	peggyjo108@yahoo.com
poolcards@myvillagecreek.net	

Constables Corner

The Constable reported six incidents in Village Creek during the past month. Among the complaints was an unknown suspect making several out of state unauthorized charges with the complainant's charge card. Deputies also responded to a report of loose horses running through the neighborhood. They corralled the animals and transported them from the area. There was also an incident of an unknown suspect damaging the rear window of the complainant's residence.

Attention:

There is a new stop sign at Lake Vista and Cobble Shores.



Check Out Our Website: www.Myvillagecreek.net

HOA Meetings

The Home Owners Association (HOA) meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. to discuss general business and special concerns. The meetings are held at the Fairwood club house, located at 14701 Spring Cypress. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Block Captains Still Needed!!!

The streets below still are in need volunteer block captains. If you'd like to volunteer or would like to receive more information, please visit www.myvillagecreek.net or email mike@myvillagecreek.net.

Brair Harbor
Cloverview
Cobbleshores-South
Days Dawn
Flower Mist
Gables Bend
Imperial Crossing
Leeside Drive
Ligustrum Trail
Midland Creek
Morning Rain

Pedder Way
Scarlet Forest
Sherlock Acres
Sky Haven
Towne Bridge
Village Breeze
Village Commons
Village Creek Trail Court
Willow Breeze
Wandering Streams-East
Wandering Streams-West

The Village Gazette

Featured Deed Restriction

Deed Restriction, Section F, Architectural Guidelines, #14

Play Structures

Use Restriction relative to Play Structures are covered in Article IX, Section 11 of the Declaration. The following Guidelines supplement the Use Restrictions.

- a. For the purpose of these guidelines, a children's play structure shall mean any type of play set, climbing structure, play fort, slide, or swing set and shall be restricted to the fenced area of the lot.
- b. The play structure shall not exceed eight feet (8') in height and shall not be located closer than five feet (5') to any property line. No play structure shall be located on a utility easement, impede the drainage on a lot, or cause water to flow to an adjacent lot.
- c. Multi-colored tarps, wind socks, or streamers attached to the play structure are not allowed.

Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Information Session

Friday Evening, April 3rd, 2009

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host a free open house / registration session for all middle and high school athletes and their parents interested in joining for the 2009 season. The event will be held on Friday, April 3, 2009, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at the Champions Park subdivision clubhouse, 13635 Champions Park Drive**, Houston, TX 77069. The session will begin with a very important program overview / orientation at 7:00 PM. All interested athletes and parents should report on time.

The Northwest Flyers is a youth (ages 6 -18) track organization, affiliated with USA Track & Field. The club provides a full program of "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "field" events such as long

jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. It is an excellent "off-season" program for young athletes who currently compete on their middle school or high school varsity track teams.

The club was founded 22 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area. Last year, the Northwest Flyers qualified 26 young athletes to compete at the U.S. Junior Olympics National Championships in Omaha, Nebraska.

Visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> for registration forms and information prior to the session, or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.

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Ever Imagined a Shopping Spree Where the Clothes are Free?

Submitted by: Jane Seaman

At present we are all looking for ways to cut back on expenses, so what if I told you there's a place where you can shop with no need for a credit card, a check book, or cash and that this wonderful place is right on your doorstep, literally.

As an Image Consultant when a client says they "have nothing to wear" the first thing I do is take them shopping in their closet, because within lies a multitude of opportunities. Consider what is actually in your closet; clothes that you liked when you purchased them, clothes from the past that remind you of a particular time or event and possibly some clothes that were gifted. But so many items are never worn. Why? When my clients have an opportunity to consider this, their response is often the same; the closet is so full they forget what they have, they are bored with their clothes, some items no longer fit, some items are out of style, or they have nothing to match it with. Does this sound familiar?

Think again! Your closet can become your personal boutique, all you have to do to shop there is allocate some time. If possible include a family member or friend to help and encourage you. Then open up your closet and go shopping. Take out each clothing item and really, really look at it. If it doesn't fit, could it be made to fit? There are an abundance of excellent tailors in Houston. Look at the item differently, let's say it was a long paisley dress, could it now be shortened and worn over leggings for a more modern look? Could you remove the sleeves, add a belt? Often styles have changed with Jackets and the ones in your closet may now be too long, or have those wonderful 'Dallas' shoulder pads. Yes, they are still lurking in

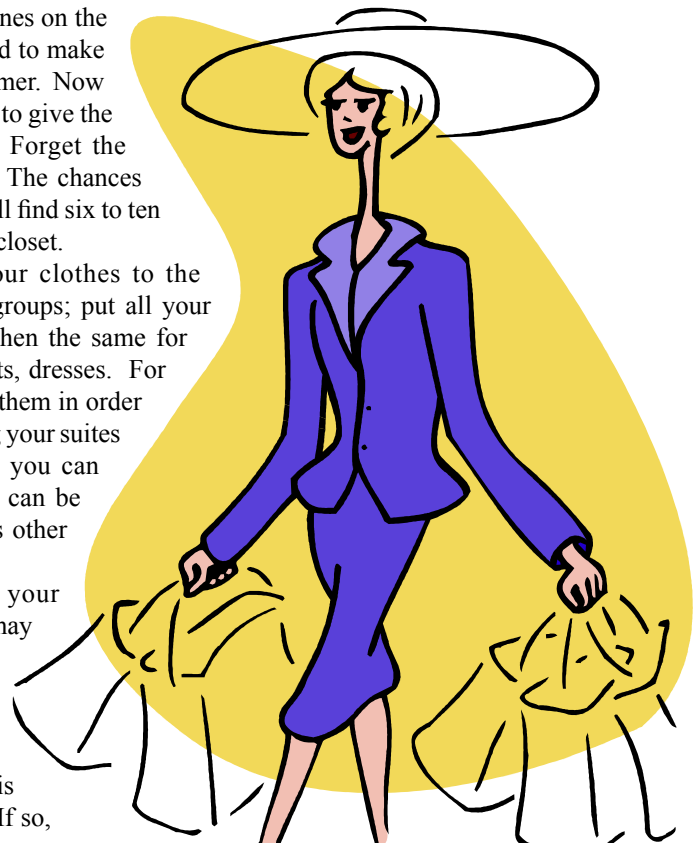
closets everywhere! Could the shoulder pads be removed and the jacket shortened? Sometimes it's simply a case of changing the buttons. Imagine that navy jacket with new bright red buttons, a red tee and denim jeans, it might just work.

The key to successful closet shopping is to have fun and think outside of the box; try that cocktail dress on then add a denim jacket and a simple pair of sandals for a more dressed-down look. Add bright accessories to a tee and a pair of slacks for a more dressed-up look. Try colors together you would never have dreamed of matching, you'll be wonderfully surprised. Forget those old rules of Black and Brown should not be worn together, yes, they can. Consider 'color blocking'; put together an outfit entirely in one color, right down to the shoes, this will minimize horizontal lines on the body and is guaranteed to make us look taller and slimmer. Now add bright accessories to give the outfit a wow factor. Forget the rules and be creative. The chances are, at minimum, you'll find six to ten new outfits in YOUR closet.

When returning your clothes to the closet hang them in groups; put all your jackets together and then the same for trousers, blouses, skirts, dresses. For your tops try hanging them in order of sleeve length. Hang your suites as separate pieces so you can visually see that they can be worn with other items other than just as a suit.

And at the end of your closet shopping you may have found some items that have to go. Take a look at these items closely and ask has the item been worn much, is it somewhat in style? If so,

then make sure they are cleaned and pressed and take them along to one of the many consignment stores. You might just earn some extra cash. If you feel the item is not up to being sold then a charity will make good use of it? And finally, in six months time go through the whole process again and reinvent some new outfits from your personal boutique....what fun!



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Puppy Poo

Please remember to always clean up after your pet when walking them in the neighborhood. Nobody likes stumbling upon pet messes while enjoying the outdoors.

School Notes

Spring Break for Tomball ISD will be March 16-20, and students will have early dismissal on Friday, March 13.

Ronald McDonald Drops By Willow Creek Elementary School

Willow Creek Elementary students were recently treated to a visit from childhood hero Ronald McDonald. The smiling, fast-food icon sang songs and told stories to the spell-bound children. His message stressed the importance of avoiding bullies and making friends. He taught students a few tips about being a good friend to others, cooperating, and steering clear of and reporting bullies. His visit will be fondly remembered by his enthralled audience for years to come.

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 advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing. The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

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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.

	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09
\$350,000 +	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$300,000 - 349,999	0	1	0	0	2	0
\$250,000 - 299,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$200,000 - 249,999	2	0	1	0	1	0
\$160,000 - 199,999	0	2	0	2	0	0
\$160,000 -	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	3	1	2	3	0
Highest \$/Sq Ft	70.50	83.25	66.30	76.42	95.41	

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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(Teams by Sides, Wall Street Journal- November 8, 2008)

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Stray and Feral Cats Draw Attention of Coyote

There aren't many things in life as cute as watching cats play. They jump, tumble, and pounce. You can't help, but smile. However, stray and feral cats can pose serious risks to residents and pets. Small animals such as these attract larger predators. It has been reported that a family of feral cats is living in the wooded area behind section 13 of Village Creek and has drawn the attention of a coyote. This alone is enough to peak residents concern, but strays also bring a myriad of other sources of distress. That is why it is important that home owners do not feed the stray animals that try to make the neighborhood their home.

Stray cats are defined as cats that are lost or have become separated from a home or owner. However, when people refer to stray cats, they usually mean feral cats. Feral cats are simply non-domesticated cats living in the wild. They were born in the wild and have never had a home. They will never behave as domesticated cats do. They are truly wild animals and can be quite ferocious.

At the top of the list of problems these animals cause is the many health issues they bring. Stray cats are a source of fatal and non-fatal diseases transmittable to humans and domestic cats. These include rabies, plague, ringworm, toxoplasmosis, cat scratch fever, allergies, feline leukemia, feline distemper and secondary bacterial infections.

Another concern these animals present is the effect they have on the natural food chain in the area. The stray and feral cats can reduce the number of native predators in the area by exhausting the food supply. Feral cats are extremely effective hunters and have been known to seriously deplete natural wildlife population, especially birds. They feed on song birds, game birds, mice, rodents, rabbits and other small animals. They are also known to kill poultry and harm domestic pets.

While several cute kittens and their mother are tempting to feed, the reality is it is not worth the risk, and you may soon find you are swarmed by hungry felines looking for a free handout!



WRAP Party

Held at CFISD Berry Center on May 22, from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.

WRAP's **Busy Parent Fundraiser** is the easiest fundraiser of the year!

Remember, WRAP has 501c(3) non-profit status, so your contributions are tax deductible. Print form from website www.cywoodswrap.org and mail to:

WRAP
P O Box 800
Cypress TX 77410-0800

\$100 WRAP bucks are given for every \$1 donated and bonus bucks are awarded as shown on the donation form.

Corporate donations are welcome and desired!! Please help contact local businesses and corporations to support our event which provides a drug and alcohol free party for our graduating seniors and their guests after the Prom. ("Prospective Donor" letter is on the forms page of the website.)

Drink Donations - We are asking for donations of 12-pack cases of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Dr Pepper and cases of water for Night of WRAP. Please contact Demitria Wilson or bring your donations to the WRAP meetings.

Senior Gift Bags - We are in need of donations for senior gift bags (given to each Cy Woods senior attending WRAP). Please contact Claudia Carson at ccars4@sbcglobal.net

Prizes for Drawings - We are planning on having lots of prizes for the drawings throughout the night and we need your help. Please contact Gina Baker at gina@ginabaker.com to contribute.

WRAP bucks are given for every \$1 donated. You choose the senior you would like the WRAP bucks awarded to.

Thanks so much for your support!!

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Lone Star College - CyFair "Perspective"

Teen Driver's Education Available March and April

Spring driver's education courses for teens ages 15 to 17 are available starting March 23 and again April 13. The in-classroom driver's education course covers road rules, road signs, and laws to prepare the teens for the Department of Public Safety's written exam. Other topics are car maintenance, effects of drugs and alcohol, laws and penalties for drinking and driving, emergency situations, basic driving procedures, road rage, and insurance. Parents are responsible for the in-car instruction. Students are required to purchase the Texas Traffic Safety Education Student Manual, which is available at the campus bookstore. Call 832-482-1043 for information.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available

Free tax assistance is available at the Lone Star College-CyFair Library, located at 9191 Barker Cypress Road, with AARP Tax-Aide volunteers from noon to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Thursday through April 15 in the library, room 131. Taxes may be filed electronically. For information on what documentation to bring, go to cyfair.lonestar.edu/library and click on free tax assistance under the news section.

Check out Women's Month Activities

Come to Lone Star College-CyFair throughout March for activities that celebrate, teach and empower women. The theme is "Breaking Boundaries: Contributions of Women - Past, Present and Future." Among the activities are a women's health fair, international women's discussions, vocal performances, films, library displays and more. For information, go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/womensmonth.

What's in the Gallery and on Stage?

Check out an ancient method of painting through March 27 at the Bosque Gallery Encaustic Exhibition showcasing the work of a continuing education class. Go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery for gallery hours and information. Enjoy Oscar Wilde's popular comedy "The Importance of Being Earnest" on stage through March 8 and a Symphonic Band performance March 27. For information, call 281-290-5201 or go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/boxoffice.

L.I.F.E. Lessons in March

The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.)

(Continued on Page 9)

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Lone Star College - (Continued from Page 8)

programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library (Room 131.) Programs in March include: learning techniques for a good night's rest March 4, creating a produce garden March 11, knitting from stress relief to a business March 18 and talking with Commissioner Steve Radack March 25. Call the library at 281-290-3213 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/library.

Prom Dress Give-Away for Teens in Need

The Fifth Annual Prom Dress Give-Away benefiting teens without the financial means to purchase a dress for prom is set at Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library, 9191 Barker Cypress from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays March 21, March 28 (room change to Kids Korner), April 4, April 11, April 18 and April 25 in the library, room 131 as well as by appointment. Teens in need of a dress should contact the Youth Service Specialist at their high school or Prom Closet organizers Nancy Flanakin at meaford8510@yahoo.com or LSC-CyFair Teen Librarian Elise Sheppard at elise.j.sheppard@lonestar.edu or 281-290-5248.

MOMS Club of Far Northwest Houston

Submitted by Heather Martin



Ever feel like you are the only one staying at home? Would you like to meet more moms who have made the choice to stay home with their children? MOMS Club of Far Northwest Houston is a support network for stay at home moms who are ready to get out of the house and play! We offer park days, field trips, mom's night out, playgroups and more! Newborns through preschoolers...there is fun for everyone! We would like to invite

you to join us and find out more at our next monthly meeting! For more information, please email us at momclubfnw@gmail.com or log on to www.momsclub.org.

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VC

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Sustainable Living Houston Kicks off National Bike Month!

On Friday, May 1, 2009, residents of Cypress, Texas, will bicycle from the Coles Crossing subdivision to the nearby METRO Park & Ride and transit oriented development. By riding bikes to the Park & Ride, and then taking the #217 METRO bus to their work locations, the residents will complete a long-haul, suburb-to-city multi-modal commute without the use of private automobiles.

METRO has recently installed bike racks at the Cypress Park & Ride, and these will be used to secure the bicycles. There is also limited space for taking a few bikes in the sub-floor storage compartments of the # 217 buses.

Residents will assemble at 6:50 am on Friday, May 1, 2009 at the Coles Crossing Community Center parking lot and depart at 7:00 am sharp. Use of helmets, front & rear lights, red rear reflectors and articles of reflective clothing will be mandatory. Residents will ride on the sidewalk south on Barker-Cypress Rd. to Jarvis Rd., whereupon the group will transition to riding on Jarvis Rd. in a vehicular cycling mode. The total ride distance will be about a mile each way, and the time to the Park & Ride from the neighborhood will be about 6 minutes.

The rain date for this ride is May 15, 2009.

There will be a highly recommended pre-ride safety briefing at the Coles Crossing Community Center parking lot on April 25th

at 8:00 a.m. where helmets, lighting, bike commuter clothing, and vehicular cycling will be discussed, as well as a test ride of the route. This briefing will be led by a League of American Bicyclist certified cycling instructor.

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.

Go Green

Want to do more for the environment than just recycle? Below are two websites that help reduce the amount of paper being thrown away each day!

- www.catalogchoice.org allows you to decline any unwanted catalogs you are currently receiving for free.
- www.greendimes.com allows you to stop junk mail, for a fee.



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We Challenge What You Pay For Electricity!

If SparkPowerBank isn't your current electricity provider...chances are you're paying too much!



I'm Texas Energy Analyst Alan Lammey. Maybe you've heard me on the radio talking about the market forces that drive energy prices. I'm here to tell you that you're not stuck paying those high prices to big electric companies anymore! **Stop it.**

Why pay more than you have to? Those days are over!

Why would you want to go with an electric provider that charges you more, when you can go to www.sparkpowerbank.com and pay far less for the same electricity?

Make sense?

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

NOT AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Attention Teenagers

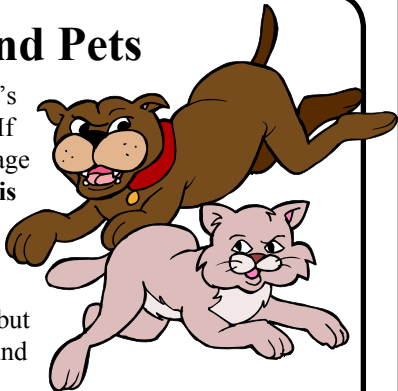
The **Teenage Job Seekers** listing service is offered free of charge to all Village Creek teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to diana.christopher@sbcglobal.net by the 8th of the month!

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.

Lost and Found Pets

Have you found someone's pet? Have you lost your pet? If your answer is yes, we encourage all residents to please call **Harris County Animal Control** at **281-999-3191**. The HOA offers their sympathy when one has misplaced a cat or dog, but please do not report lost or found pets to HOA Board Members.



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