

Volume 6, Issue 6 Village Creek Community Association

June 2009

Community Happenings

Things are heating up as residents enjoy the first days of summer in Village Creek and look forward cooling off at the pool and splash pad and the spectacular July 4th festivities among other things.

Due to school still being in session in June changes had to be made to the schedule. The pool will be open on May 23-25 and May 30-31. It will be closed May 26-29 and June 1-3 and then will open up for the regularly scheduled session June 4 through Labor Day.

The July 4th activities will take place on Saturday, July 4. The festivities will start off with a parade at 10 am. There will be a decorating contest during the parade so pull out the red, white, and blue streamers and balloons and adorn your bikes, wagons, and trikes. The neighborhood will provide hotdogs, chips, and drinks, but ask for residents to bring cookies, cupcakes, and brownies. Be sure to watch the sign and website for more information about the July 4th activities.

If your pet escapes have no fear Village Creek resident, Teresa Dutt, has come up with a plan. Go to the community website, www. myvillagecreek.net and click on the pet tab. You can fill out a form with information about any lost or found pet in the neighborhood, and it will be posted on the website for 30 days. Also, if you would like to have your pets added to a master list of pets in the neighborhood you can email vcpetline@yahoo.com and include the following details about your pets: pet name, color/ markings, breed, age, sex, disposition, owner, address, email, and phone. This list will make it easier to locate owners when a pet is found wandering the neighborhood, but it is strictly voluntary and the only people who have your information are the volunteers compiling the databases.

Upcoming events include National Night Out, the fall garage sale and the Fall Festival and Chili cook-off. Mark your calendar with these upcoming dates: National Night Out, a chance to meet your neighbors and discuss ways to keep safe, will take place on October 6, the fall garage sale will be on September 18 and 19, while the

(Continued on Page 3)

May Yard of the Month



Congratulations 17203 Leeside

Yard of the Month Contest Returns

Bright blooms and lush, green yards mean two things in Village Creek...spring has arrived and the yard of the month contest has returned. One home is selected each month, April-September, and the winners receive not only a sign recognizing their efforts, but also a gift certificate to a local nursery.

Homes can only be selected once a year and are judged on criteria that includes a well manicured yard and unique and creative landscaping. Also taken into consideration are the appearance of shrubbery and whether or not the yard has a pleasant and overall appearance which makes the home an asset to the community.

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Constables Office281-376-3472,	
Klein Fire Dept.	281-376-4449
Poison Control Center	
Willowbrook Methodist	281-477-1000
SCHOOLS	
Tomball ISD281-357-3100, w	ww.tomballisd.net
Willow Creek Elem (K-4)	
Northpointe Int (5-6)	
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)	
Tomball High (9-12)	
Transportation	
HOA MGMT	
Chaparral Management Company	281-537-0957
Ms. Tally Jenkinstallyj@chaparra	
Fax	
6630 Cypresswood Drive, Suite 100,	
Mailing: P.O. Box 681007: Houston, To	
SERVICES	.xas //200-100/
CPS	712 626 5701
CenterPoint-Gas	
Dead Animal Pick up	
Domestic Violence	
FBI	
Harris County Animal Control	
Houston Chronicle	
Greater Houston Pool	
Municipal District Services (24 hrs)	
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www.centerpointe	
Sex Offenderswww.i	
Time Warner Cable	
Waste Management	713-686-6666
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Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plast	
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NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Block Captain Update

The next scheduled meeting of block captains will be Sunday, May 31 at 5:00 p.m. Please meet at the new splash pad.

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 blockcapitans@myvillagecreek.net

Cloverview
Cobbleshores-South
Pedder Way
Scarlet Forest
Towne Bridge
Village Creek Trail Court
Willow Breeze
Wandering Streams-East
Wandering Streams-West

Peggy Lastrapespeggyjo108@yahoo.com

2009 Calendar of Events

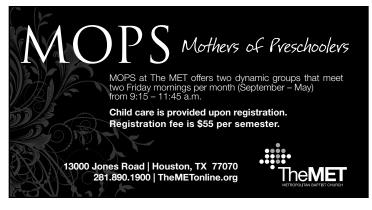
)	Plant Swap
)	4th of JulyJuly 4th
,	Fall Garage Sale
)	Neighborhood Night Out
)	Fall Festival
)	2nd Annual Chili Cook Off
)	Decorate Neighborhood
•	for Holidays
)	Santa's Visit
)	Christmas Decoration Contest-
,	Best Street and Best House



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.

Advertise Your Business Here



Community Happenings - (Continued from Cover Page)

Fall Festival and Chili cook-off will be held on October 17. Start getting your chili recipes ready. Registration will be available soon, and we are looking for new ideas to make the Fall Festival a success for all residents.

The social committee is always looking for new ideas for community events, volunteers or social committee members. If anyone has an idea for an event or an activity, for a scheduled event, or would like to volunteer, please email Peggy Lastropes at peggyjo108@yahoo. com.

Slow Down:

Please remember to drive slowly throughout the neighborhood school will soon be out and more children will be playing in their yards and walking and



riding bikes along the roads. It only takes a second to shatter life, so please drive slowly and pay attention.

www.louettafootandankle.com

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CORNS AND HAMMERTOES

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Tomball HOSA Students Fight for the Autistic Cause

Did you know that 1 out of every 150 children is diagnosed with autism? More people are treated for autism than diabetes, pediatric cancer, and AIDS combined. Autism is a sophisticated neurobiological disorder that is typically found in children within the first two and a half years of their life. Autism is in a group of disorders known as Autism Spectrum Disorders or ASD for short.

Symptoms of autistic children usually do not develop proper communication skills. They have trouble interacting with children their age. Patients diagnosed with autism often show a lack of interest in sharing enjoyment, interests, or achievements with other people. Autistic kids do not display emotions and feeling for others who are experiencing pain. As many as 40% of autistic people are mute, meaning they choose not to speak, even though they have the ability. Some characteristics that occur in autistic patients include a need for routine and balance. For example, in one case, a nine year old boy had to rearrange his toys in descending order of size every night before going to sleep. Stereotyped autistic behaviors might include, body rocking and involuntary hand fidgeting, but this is false accusation.

There are a few different ways to treat autism although there is no definite way to cure autism. Autism usually requires lifelong treatment. Early recognition of symptoms leads to the ability for full potential of a normal life. Individual symptoms and behaviors often change over time. For these reasons, treatment strategies are tailored to individual needs and available family resources. Many treatments are subdivided into four generic parts including, behavior modification, communication therapy, dietary modifications, and medication. Most behavior modifications are modeled on the theory of applied behavior analysis, which means that through vigorous testing and analyzing, the patient is treated specifically for their condition. In most cases, communication therapy is used to rejuvenate the patient's social skills. Dietary modifications are optional, but recommended, depending on how severe the autism is. Vitamins A, B, C, and D help stabilize the patient's behavioral problems. Medication is not directly used to cure autism, but used to lessen the severity of side effects.

Tomball HOSA prays that donations will be made in order to help autistic children around the globe. Tomball HOSA is attempting to achieve \$800 that will be put forth to Autism Speaks, the leading organization for autism research.

Article was written by Avjot Sidhu and Drew Nowicki.



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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.

	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09
\$350,000 +	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$300,000 - 349,999	0	2	0	0	0	1
\$250,000 - 299,999	0	0	0	0	0	1
\$200,000 - 249,999	0	1	0	1	3	1
\$160,000 - 199,999	2	0	0	3	0	0
\$160,000 -	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	3	0	4	3	3
Highest \$/Sq Ft	76.42	95.41		90.53	71.19	91.59

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

#2 Realtor In Texas

Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008

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- Selling Over 500 Homes A Year
- #16 Americas Top 200 Real Estate Professionals

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

HIGHEST PRICE PER SQ.FT. resale homes sold in Village Creek: \$101.72



Direct line: 281-477-0345

WWW.SUPERDAVE.COM

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Village Creek would like to welcome new residents to our community.



Ronald and Susan Headley 17115 Flower Mist Ct Tomball, TX 77375

Christopher and Suzanne Haydon 17602 Empress Cove Lane Tomball, TX 77377

Clarence Deckard and Kylee Lehnerz 12710 Songhollow Drive Tomball, TX 77377

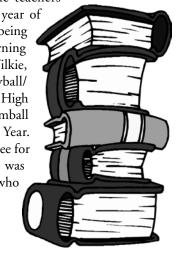
Andre and Mara Bosch 17214 Leeside Drive Tomball, TX 77377

School News

The last day of school for Tomball students will be on June 3 and school will resume again on August 24. The Graduation Ceremony for Tomball High School will be held on June 6.

Willow Creek Elementary School fourth grade language arts and social studies teacher Rebekah Collins was named Tomball ISD's Elementary Rookie Teacher of the Year. A district wide committee reviewed nominations of rookie teachers

who have completed their first year of teaching. Collins was selected for being a natural teacher who makes learning fun for her students. Mandie Wilkie, Texas history teacher and volleyball/basketball coach at Tomball Junior High School was announced as the Tomball ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year. Wilkie was selected by a committee for her dedication to teaching. She was described as a passionate teacher who puts kids first.







WEBSITE: www.lonestarsaddlebredsllc.com

Cypress Christian School Host Fundraiser

Students and parents at CCS teamed up with Cypress Bible Church on May 2 to host a fundraiser for Kristin Francis to help with medical costs. Kristin is a 2008 graduate of CCS, a member of Cypress Bible Church, and a freshman at Texas A&M. She was diagnosed in January with AVM-Arteriovenous Malformation, a congenital defect. Kristen has had numerous surgeries with months of rehabilitation still ahead.

The event, which included a garage sale, car wash, bake sale, face painting, silent auction, and barbeque, raised more than \$33,000. A fund has been established to assist Kristen's family with medical costs not covered by insurance. For information on making a donation to this fund, please e-mail francisfund@hotmail.com.

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

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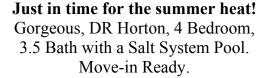
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How To Start Playing Tennis

Fernando M. Velasco

In the last issue, I gave you some tips on how to select the proper racket, strings and shoes. In this issue, I will give you some tips on how to practice with another player.

One does not need a full tennis court to practice the fundamental strokes of the game. I suggest contacting some of the tennis centers in your area and ask them to give you some of their "old teaching balls." Most of the clubs replace them every so often and they may have some that are still good for practicing.

I recommend placing the balls in a ball hopper (available in sport stores), or even a simple laundry basket (like we used to before the sophisticated ball retrievers became available). Start practicing by simply dropping the ball and hitting it over the net. Remember to take your racket back early, have a good point of contact and follow through without snapping your wrist. Start first with your forehand and then practice your backhand.

After hitting all balls over the net, then each player should be on opposite sides of the court. One will feed the ball; the other will try to retrieve it back. Try to hit as many consecutive balls as possible. Once, all balls have been used up, then let the other player do the same.

If you are playing with your spouse or spouse-to-be, I suggest not making too many suggestions. No one wants to make mistakes and hit balls long, into the net, nor to the parking lot. Your local tennis professional will come in handy to give you advice on how to become a "consistent" player.

Your local club offers many lessons for beginners, advanced beginners and players who are returning to the game. These group lessons are inexpensive and allow players of equal ability to meet and later practice with each other.

In the next issue, I will give tips on how to become better players by following the "CCDP" principles.

More Tips to Come!



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Recipe of the Month:



Blueberry Muffins

Blend:

1 stick oleo 1/2 cup wesson oil

1 3/4 cup sugar 2 eggs

1 1/2 T. Butavan

Combine:

3 cups flour 1 T. baking powder

1 tsp. soda

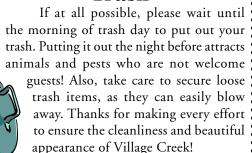
Add alternately to the first mixture with 1 cup buttermilk. Stir in 1/2 can canned blueberries (drained) plus 6 T. juice. Bake in muffin tins at 350° for 20 minutes.

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



Village Creek logged a total of 33 calls to the constable's office this month ranging from suspicious persons noticed to vehicular theft. The most notable of these calls was an unknown suspect forced entry into a resident's home and stole property. Always lock your vehicles and homes and report any suspicious activity to the constable's office, 281-376-3472.

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Healthier Homes

By: Michelle and Charlie Bubnis

Non-toxic Relief from Mosquitoes

That high pitch hum in your ear...summer is here and the mosquitoes have arrived. It's time to take action but let's keep the family protected and safe.

Don't use any mosquito spray that contains DEET (diethyl toluamide). DEET is a very effective insect repellant but not the best choice for the families' health.

DEET is a known neurotoxin, causes kidney and liver damage and has been implicated in birth and developmental defects. "Children in particular are at risk for subtle brain changes caused by chemicals in the environment, because their skin more readily absorbs them, and the chemicals more potently affect their developing nervous systems." The World Health Organization (WHO) states that over 30% of the global burden of disease in children can be attributed to environmental factors, including pesticides.²

If the bottle of repellant you are planning to purchase contains DEET the label will say: may damage furniture finishes, watch crystals, leather, painted or varnished surfaces. This is a very harsh chemical that shouldn't be sprayed on the skin.

So what are some other options? Vinegar, either white or apple cider will work. Put it in a salad dressing bottle and sprinkle it on exposed skin. There are also herbal oils the are recommended such as tea tree, cedar, peppermint, citronella, eucalyptus and lemongrass. Mix these oils with cooking oil to dilute prior to putting on the skin.

If you wish to purchase insect repellant BUG OFF ³ from Dr. Mercola is a healthier option. It contains several of the essential oils listed above.

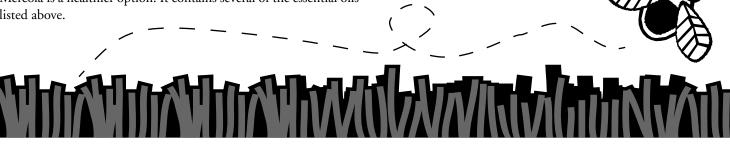
Mosquitoes are attracted to light colored clothing especially yellow. They zero in on fragrances from scented body care products, laundry detergents and scented fabric softeners. The use of unscented fragrance free products decreases the families' neurotoxic exposure but also keeps mosquitoes searching for another meal. Mosquitoes do not like the smell of garlic so by using a product called Mosquito Barrier(a very potent garlic solution) on the lawn, this will repel mosquitoes from the yard.

Check the external home environment. Be sure to empty any standing water around the home because this will provide the mosquitoes with a breeding ground. Consider putting up a bat house. A bat can eat approximately 600 mosquito sized insects an hour.

With these measures in place your family will probably not hear a high pitch hum in the ear this summer. The mosquitoes will find a better location than your home for their next meal.

For more learning and resources:

- 1 Duke University Medical Center (2002, May 2) DEET Brain Effects in Animals , Warrant Caution
- 2 Beyond Pesticides Fact Sheet: Children and Pesticides Don't Mix, Debra Lyn Dadd: About Natural Mosquito Relief, www.1001nets. net, cotton mosquito nets form Australia
- 3 Bug Off Toll free number to order: 877-985-2695





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Regular Checkups Big Part of Staying Healthy

Regular screenings are an important part of staying healthy, but it's hard to remember what tests are needed at what age. Baylor College of Medicine doctors offer guidelines to help maintain good health through the ages.

"It is very important at any age to have regular health screenings," said Dr. Steve Rosenbaum, assistant professor of medicine at BCM and section chief of general internal medicine at Baylor Clinic. "It allows us to appreciate our good fortune for good health, and regular exams can detect problems early, so they can be treated and dealt with more expeditiously."

As we age, it is even more important to have regular screenings, kind of like having a favorite old car that we have to "baby" along, Rosenbaum said. He recommends people come in during their birth month. That way it's very easy to remember.

Just how often people should visit their doctor for regular checkups and screenings is a common question. For people with no chronic health issues, Rosenbaum suggests:

- -People in their 30s should have checkups every two to three years
- -By 40, checkups are recommended every 12 to 18 months
- -Annual checkups starting by 50

RECOMMENDED SCREENINGS INCLUDE: CHILDREN

-Hearing, Vision, Height/weight/Body mass index, Blood pressure,

Speech and motor skills development, and Social/behavioral skills

TEENS

-Pap smear, Sexually transmitted infection screening if sexually active, and Vision

208

-Vision, Pap smear, and Lipid test

309

-Baseline mammogram at 35, Vision, and Pap smear

40

-Mammogram, Pap smear, Vision, Prostate, and Heart stress test

50-PLUS

-Colonoscopy, Glaucoma/vision, Prostate screening, Skin cancer, Stress test, and Hearing

There are many factors that could influence the frequency of screenings.

Family history of certain illness and risk factors should be discussed with your doctor. For some illnesses, like skin or colorectal cancer, if a first degree relative has been diagnosed, screening could be recommended to begin in the early 20s.

Remember, talking about family medical history with your doctor is just as important as staying up to date on your checkups.



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