

The Village Gazette



Volume 6, Issue 11
Village Creek Community Association

November 2009

AWESOME ATTENDANCE



Village Creek Resident, Jamison LaRue gets an award for attendance.

Wal-Mart Store Manager Ronnie Warner from store number 5045, located at Spring Cypress and Tomball Parkway, presented Willow Creek Elementary School kindergarten student Jamison LaRue with a medal in honor of good attendance. One classroom in grades kindergarten through four were recognized for maintaining good attendance for the first six weeks of school.

A different class for each grade level will be selected for good attendance every six weeks through the end of the school year. As a reward, a trophy was presented to the winning classrooms.

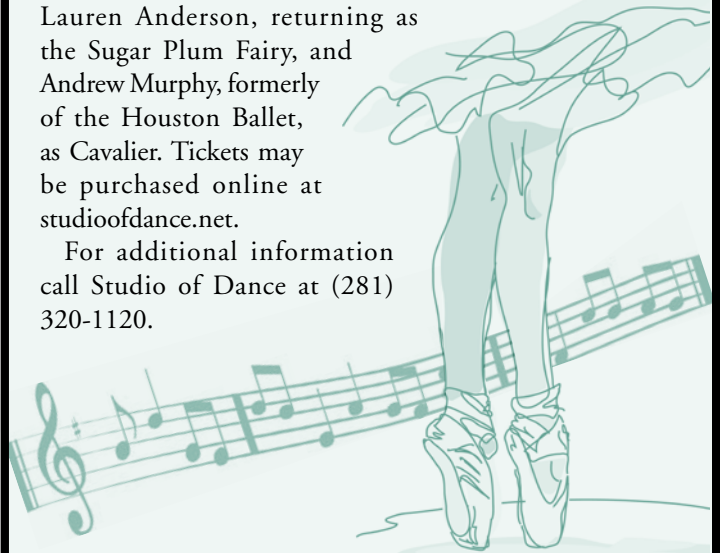
LAUREN ANDERSON TO DANCE

In Ballet Theatre Houston's Production Of The Nutcracker

Ballet Theater Houston ("BTH"), a local dance company associated with Studio of Dance, is presenting its third annual production of *The Nutcracker* on Friday, November 20th and Saturday, November 21st, 2009 at the Berry Center located at 8877 Barker Cypress Road, Houston, Texas 77433.

Performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, and 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. BTH is excited to have as our featured guest artists, world-renowned Lauren Anderson, returning as the Sugar Plum Fairy, and Andrew Murphy, formerly of the Houston Ballet, as Cavalier. Tickets may be purchased online at studioofdance.net.

For additional information call Studio of Dance at (281) 320-1120.



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Klein Fire Dept.281-376-4449
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Willowbrook Methodist281-477-1000

SCHOOLS

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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

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NEWSLETTER

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Pool Card Info poolcards@myvillagecreek.net
Social Committee..... social@myvillagecreek.net

Open HOA Board Position

The HOA Board has an "Open" position for "Director at Large". The position entails working as a team member with the remainder of the board and making business decisions on behalf of the community. Those interested should email the property manager Kay Serventi at kserventi@chaparralmanagement.com to be added to the next HOA meeting agenda. The next two meetings will be on Monday, October 19th and November 16th at 6 p.m. Applicants must be present at one of those two meetings, so that the Board can interview all interested parties. The Board hopes to have this position filled by the January 18, 2010 meeting.

School News

Students in Tomball ISD will be out of school for Thanksgiving on November 25-27 and for Christmas on December 21- January 1.

Happy Holidays

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LIFE-SAVING DONATIONS *by Cypress Christian School Students*



This fall, CCS students participated in an on-campus blood drive through the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. The Student Council sponsored a blood drive to offer students, family members, and the Cy-Fair community an opportunity to give the "gift of life" close to home. According to the GCRBC website, blood is always needed for individuals being treated for cancer, for babies that are born prematurely, for individuals with anemia, and for many others in need. Every donation can help save up to three lives.

As the holidays approach and the roadways become increasingly crowded with shoppers and travelers, there is an added need for blood. CCS students encourage you to give a "life-saving" donation to your local blood bank. For more information on how to

give and the locations of donation centers, please see www.giveblood.org.

Cypress Christian School is located at the corner of Cypress N. Houston Rd. and Jones Rd. For future blood drive information and other community events, please check the CCS calendar via www.CypressChristian.org.

Celebration Women's Ministry at Cypress UMC

Cypress Women's Ministry invites Village Creek residents to join them on Saturday, November 7th in our Fellowship Hall at 13403 Cypress N. Houston at 9am to 12 Noon. They are serving a light breakfast, having praise and worship, fellowship and prayer time. They gathering will feature guest speaker, Rev. Kelly McIntosh of Waller UMC. Her topic will be, "The Forgiven Daughter". There is no cost to this event but a love offering will be taken. The nursery is available upon request. Please contact Karen at celebration@cypress-umc.org or RSVP by phone, 281-304-8888.



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Village Creek Market Report

ACTIVITY	Number	Median Price	Price/SF	Days on Mkt
Active Listings	24	\$257,425	\$80.90	74
Pending Listings	2	\$261,250	\$76.93	148
Sold since 6/01/09	18	\$230,000	\$73.79	24

**Source: Houston Association of Realtors Multiple List Service Oct. 10, 2009*

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The Village Gazette

Holiday Decorating Contest

It's time to get in the holiday spirit, because it's sooner than you think. String up the lights, dust off the decorations and show us what you've got. The judges will be out in full force on Sunday evening, December 13, 2009 looking for the "Best Block" and "Best House" in Village Creek. Please turn your Holiday lights on from 7 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Winners will be announced on the website. The Best Block will win a pizza party and Best House will receive a gift card. Winners will be announced on marquee and website.

Santa is on His Way

Santa is coming to Village Creek! He will be here on Saturday, Dec 5. Due to his busy schedule this time of year he hasn't given us a time yet but check entrance sign and website as details will follow. This will be a fun time for the whole family and don't forget to bring your camera!



Spark Power Bank

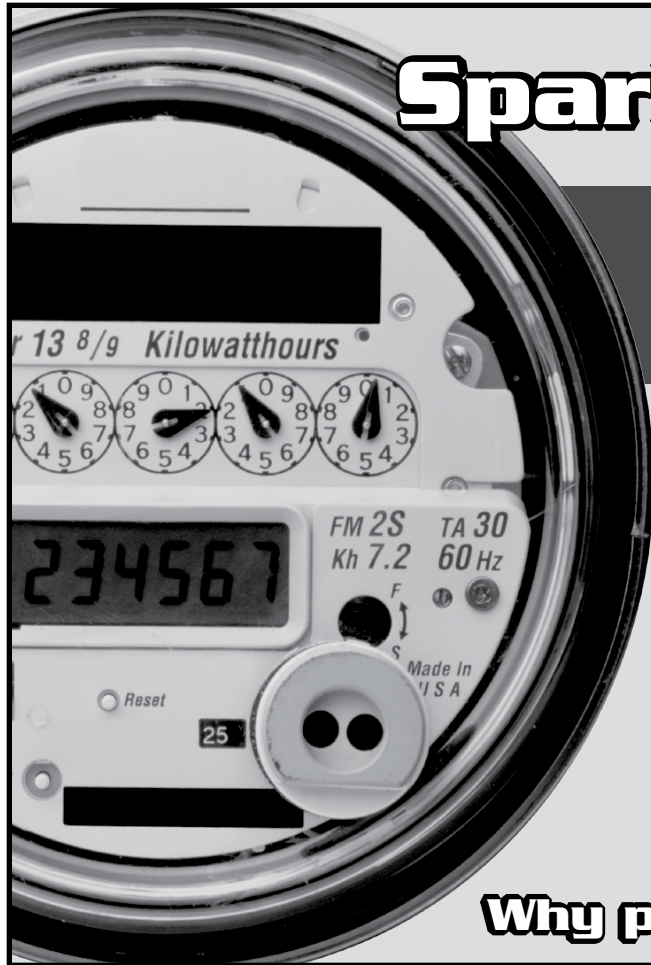
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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Residents enjoy the Neighborhood Night Out, October 6th, at a Flower Mist Block Party.

Featured Deed Restriction *Section 15, Visual Screening*

All clothesline, equipment, garbage cans, service yards, woodpiles, refuse containers, or storage piles and household projects such as equipment repair and construction projects shall be screened by adequate planting or fencing so as to conceal them from view of neighboring lots, streets, parks and public areas. All rubbish, trash, and garbage shall be kept in sanitary refuse containers with tightly fitting lids and shall be regularly removed from the lots and not allowed to accumulate thereon.

All stack vents and attic ventilators shall be located on the rear roof slopes perpendicular to the ground plane. They shall be placed in a location least visible from public areas and adjoining property.

Constables Corner

Last month, four Village Creek residents made complaints to the Constable's office of their credit cards being stolen and used by unknown suspects. There were also a couple of break-ins reported in the neighborhood.

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Free Stuff for Your Computer (And Cell Phone)

Submitted by Laurie Scott

As holiday spending approaches, here are some free programs to make your computing easier and more fun with zero impact on your budget.

Everybody hates dealing with usernames and passwords at login screens, and as a result I see a LOT of people who have very easy passwords (like the name of their dog) not only for their computer but even for their online banking! Well, here's LastPass to the rescue (download from <https://lastpass.com>) with a password manager that works with Windows, Mac OSX and even Linux. With LastPass you can have strong passwords that are hard to impossible to remember, but don't have to remember because LastPass will remember for you. Your passwords are encrypted using a master password that only you will know, so your private information is always safe. LastPass will work across all your browsers and computers. You can even retrieve your passwords online from another computer on their web site (where no one but you can access them.)

How about free music, legally! Amazon has over 1,000 songs in all styles from Blues to Folk to Rock to Opera. Many of these are new groups getting their music out, but I've seen everything from Alice Cooper to Andres Segovia to Jeff Beck to the Boston Pops. If you use iTunes, Amazon's download manager will seamlessly add your songs to iTunes for you. So load up your iPod and Zune with all this free music. This abbreviated link will take you to Amazon's free music page: <http://tinyurl.com/TekChicFreeMusic>

How does a free secretary sound? TimeCave.com will any message you create back to you or anyone you want at ANYTIME you want within 3 years. Do you keep a perfect calendar but your best friend is, shall we say "challenged" when keeping her calendar organized? Have a lunch date next week? Go to Time Cave and enter your message "don't forget about our lunch tomorrow", enter her email address and the day and time you would like it delivered. Now, even if YOU forget to remind her, Time Cave will.

Cell phone users, you're not left out. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to call 411 from your cell phone without having to pay a dollar or more for each call? Thanks to Google you can now get information for any city in the country by simply dialing 800-466-4411 (that's 800-GOOG-411).

They have a voice recognition system that lets you tell it what you're looking for and it's amazingly accurate. So program that number into your phone and say goodbye to excessive 411 charges from your carrier.

Next month look for my annual "Geeky Gifts for the Techie in Your Life" Christmas article.



Doggy Doo Don't

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Price Range:	149,000 359,999	242,500 280,000	160,000 345,000
Average Price	\$257,907	\$253,833	\$239,583
Avg Price/sq.ft.	\$81.08	\$76.93	\$77.86
Avg DOM	88	61	59
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*Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009

Healthy Tailgating This Football Season

By Tarie Beldin



Now you finally know its fall, not because the temperatures are cooler, but because it is FOOTBALL season! With high school games on Friday nights, college games on Saturdays and professional games on Sundays, our weekends can be full of concession-stand food, barbecue, six-foot sandwiches and chips.

All of these game-day feasts can lead to extra calories, which can mean extra pounds, even before the holiday season arrives! The good news is that with a few changes, such as these tailgate make-over tips, you can decrease the fat and calories and increase the nutrition of your tailgating menu, without sacrificing taste:

Typical Tailgating Food

- Regular chips
- Queso or guacamole
- Fried or buffalo wings with ranch or blue cheese dressings

- Traditional burgers or chili
- Sandwiches or hoagies made with salami, high-fat cheese and mayo
- New England clam chowder
- Pork brats
- Potato salad
- Cookies and cakes
- Regular beer and wine
- Soda or juice

Healthy Tailgating Alternatives

- Baked tortilla chips
- Salsa
- Boneless/skinless chicken breast tenders with wing or teriyaki sauces
- Burgers or chili made with lean ground beef or ground turkey breast
- Sandwiches or hoagies made with lean meats, low-fat cheeses and mustard on whole wheat bread
- Low fat gumbo

(Continued on Page 9)

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Healthy Tailgating (Continued from Page 8)

- Turkey brats
- Grilled corn on the cob
- Caramel or candied apples and low-fat brownies and desserts
- Light beer and wine spritzers
- Iced tea or diet lemonade

It is also never a bad idea to have a fruit and/or vegetable tray available for those who are vegetarian or for low-calorie snacking. If you have a favorite tailgating food or snack, allow yourself to indulge in it, but try to replace other tailgating options with healthier alternatives and be mindful of portion sizes.

Whether you are tailgating at the stadium or "tablegating" in your living room, it's easy to keep game day food fun, tasty and healthy. Most importantly though, remember, it is about the camaraderie and the love of the game, not the food. Consider having your own game of touch football during half time to burn off those extra calories!

With the last football games in both pro and college football set for the beginning of next year, we still have many opportunities to load up on calorie-laden and high-fat tailgating food. Practice these easy and tasty substitutions to help you stay healthy this football season.

Tarie Beldin is a registered and licensed dietitian at St. David's Round Rock Medical Center.

Recipe of the Month String Bean Casserole

- 4 cans French style green beans, drained
- 1 lb. Velveeta cheese
- 1 medium jar pimentos
- 1 large can mushrooms
- ¼ lb. butter or margarine
- 1 large green pepper, chopped
- Ritz crackers or sliced almonds



Melt butter. Saute green peppers. Add cheese to melt. Add beans, mushrooms, and pimentos. Put into baking dish and sprinkle with Ritz cracker crumbs or sliced almonds. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes.

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

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The Village Gazette

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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.

					6		3	4
		7		1	2			
	9		4					
							6	
	5		8					
		8	9	2	7		4	
8				5		2		
	3			8		5		
7								9

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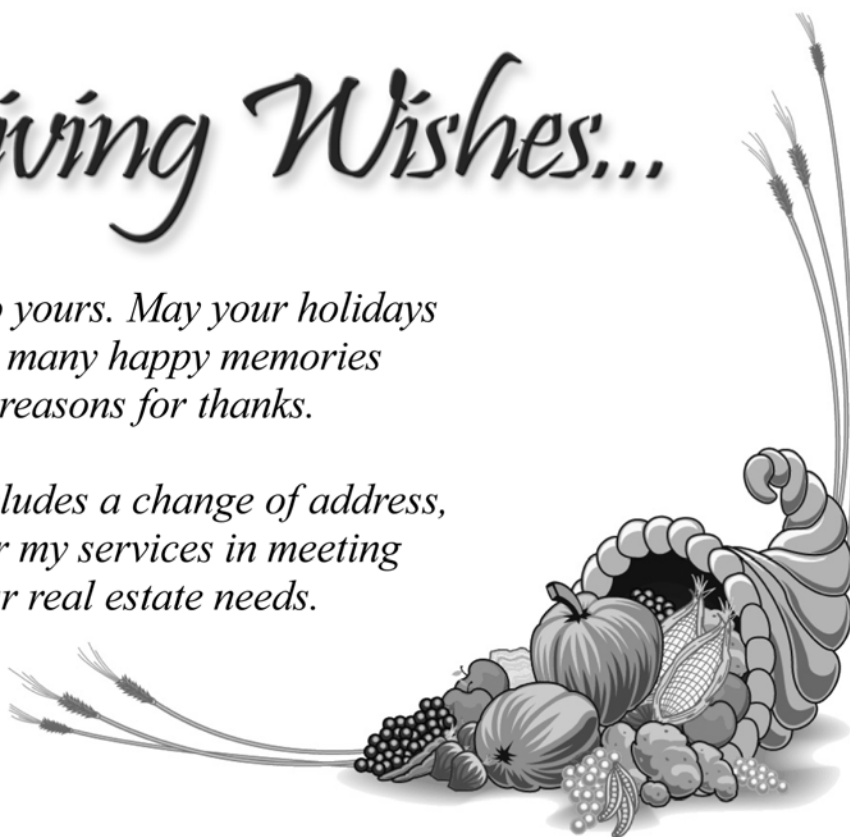
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