

THE Current

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

March 2010

Official Publication of the Shadow Creek Ranch HOA

Volume 2, Issue 3

SPLISH-SPLASHING FUN

Submitted by Deborah Smith

Imagine a dog bounding off the dock with a look of pure joy and then splashing explosively into the water. Imagine the pure joy on the children's faces as the canine athlete's spray douses them as they stand at the end of pool. In fact, according to *USA Today*, dog sports are more fun to watch than even NFL Sunday. DockDogs®, the fastest growing canine sport in America, has arrived in Pearland with the opening of the first sanctioned training and competition facility in Texas. Throughout the year, the thrill of DockDogs will be happening right in our own backyard with competitions, seminars and open dock time.

The best part about DockDogs competitions is that it is an equal opportunity sport – anyone can participate. A dog and owner “team” can just show up, sign up and compete, and all breeds, including mixes, are welcome. Could the next champion be sleeping at your feet? Anything is possible!

Also called dock jumping or diving, a DockDogs competition requires a 40 foot regulation dock and a 40 foot pool or natural body of water. Dogs compete in three events: Big Air, Extreme Vertical and Speed Retrieve.

BIG AIR is simple and exciting. The longest jump off the end of the dock wins! The most popular of DockDogs events, competitors are split into divisions based on each dog's average diving distance. A wave is comprised of all contestants in a division.

EXTREME VERTICAL is an amazing sight. Dogs leap up to a bumper suspended 8 feet from the dock at heights moved up in increments. The bumper must be snatched cleanly or knocked into the water by the dog. The highest vertical jump wins!

SPEED RETRIEVE times a dog's swim to a bumper suspended at the far end of the pool. It's awe-inspiring to see the strongest swimmers “walk on water” to nab the target.

On March 27 and 28, Catch the Excitement at Pearland Paws in the Park. This National DockDogs event is sure to be action-packed fun for the entire family.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	281-331-9000

SCHOOLS

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Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
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Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

UTILITIES

Electricity - Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

OTHER NUMBERS

Pearland Post Office	281-485-2132
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265

CITY

Pearland City Hall.....	281-652-1600
Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept.	281-652-1603
Pearland Animal Control.....	281-652-1970
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

NEWSLETTER

Articles	shadowcreekranch@peelinc.com
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Peel, Inc.	1-888-687-6444
Advertising.....	1-888-687-6444

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Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in The Current. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 1-888-687-6444 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following issue.

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AROUND SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Shadow Creek Swim Team



Ages 6-12. Join the Swim Team's second season for high level coaching, many practice sessions, end of season prizes, and lots of fun. First practice: Saturday, June 19. Last day & swim competition: Saturday, July 24. Total of 15 practice sessions plus final competition. Make any or all practices. Each Swimmer will become an AAU member that includes AAU insurance. As the team grows, competitions will be planned with neighborhoods and swim clubs close to Shadow Creek.

To be eligible for the team, a swimmer must be able to swim one length of the pool with head in the water -- no exceptions. The team is to improve able swimmers.

Details and registration at www.shadowcreeksoccer.org/swim

TENNIS COURT

Reservations

*Submitted by Kim Cartwright
with AMI*

Effective March 1st, 2010

The Tennis Court Reservations will only be approved for the following:

Single Match: 1 hour

Double Match: 1-1/2 hours

**Court #1 and Court #2 are now
both reservations only.**

If you do not have internet access and would like to schedule an appointment, please contact the Shadow Creek Ranch HOA office Monday - Friday from 8am - 5pm at 713-436-4563.

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AROUND SHADOW CREEK RANCH

COMMUNITY SECTION NEWS

THE STRAND

The Strand got hit hard by the recent freeze. Lots of broken sprinklers and dead plants. We got together as a group and negotiated a good sprinkler repair deal, and we'll have to see what comes back and what will need replacing in the flower beds.

We've had some babysitting and pet sitting within the neighborhood as a result of last October's get together. Definitely more people are meeting each other, and not just the usual kids attending the same school connection.

I got to eat fresh baked bread with good dipping oil, and a fantastic sweet potato pie recently from neighbors. Who says being a neighborhood rep. is a thankless job?

Spring get-together is not yet scheduled, but will occur.

Chris Morehouse

VILLAGE GREEN

Dear Village Green Neighbors:

Thank you again for the great turnout at our January neighborhood meeting with AMI, the management company for our HOA. It was great to meet the AMI team, learn about the upcoming year, and participate in questions and answers. If you did not attend the meeting or receive the meeting recap via email, please contact me so that I can send it your way.

Also, if you are not receiving neighborhood updates from me via email, send me your name and email address so that you can be added to our distribution list. We currently have just over 30 households on the list. As everyone may have noticed there is a lot of new construction activity in our neighborhood and many for sale signs on lots - this is great news for us! If you have any questions or concerns about those activities, please contact the Meritage or Perry Homes sales offices. As the temperature warms up and the weather improves, we will have a Village Green Block Party this Spring.

In the mean time, be sure to meet your neighbors and stay connected to the neighborhood!

Katie Daggett, thedaggetts2008@gmail.com

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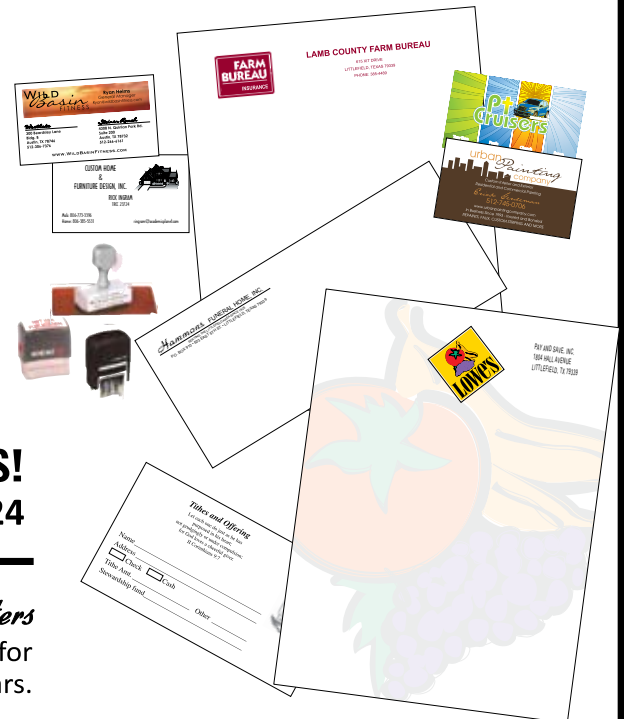
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AROUND SHADOW CREEK RANCH

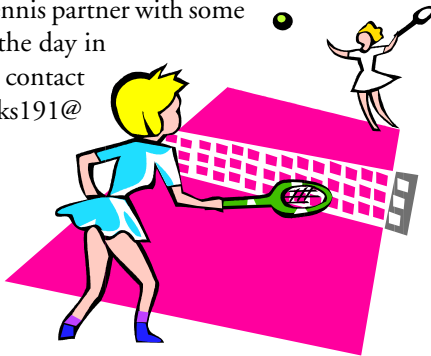
POKENO

Submitted by Angelicque Guzman

It's time to get the Pokeno group off the ground this year. I have several ladies interested in playing. If you are interested in playing please email angelicque92@att.net and let me know. We are planning on starting in February. We will be meeting to set up a day of the month to play. You don't need to know how to play it is easy and we will teach you. Just another way to come out and meet other SCR residents.

LADIES TENNIS???

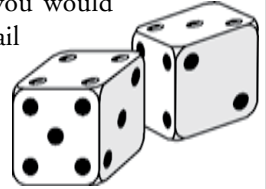
Seeking ladies doubles tennis partner with some experience to play during the day in SCR. If interested, please contact Stacey Wallace, gardenbanks191@yahoo.com



Bunco

Submitted by Angelicque Guzman

Are you interested in playing Bunco? We are in need of subs for each group. If you would like to be on the sub list please email angelicque92@att.net and we will get you on the list. You don't need to know how to play.



Ladies Lunch Club

Submitted by Angelicque Guzman

Happy New Year ladies! Just want to invite all the ladies in SCR to come out once a month to join us for ladies lunch. We meet each month at a different location and enjoy great food and conversation. If you would like to be added to the list please email angelicque92@att.net to be added to the list.

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DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS

Trash Off

Join Keep Pearland Beautiful, Scout Troops, school groups, church groups, civic, families, organizations, and businesses from all over Pearland for the annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off on Saturday, April 10.

We will meet at the Stella Roberts Recycling Center, 5800 Magnolia, at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast tacos and assignments. Keep Pearland Beautiful will supply bags and gloves for the cleanup and will send a crew out to pick up the bags of trash. There will be caps for all volunteers and three cash prizes will be awarded. There will be a random drawing from wrap-up reports submitted on time and a prize for the group submitting the most original clean-up photo of their group. The third cash prize will go to the group collecting the most cigarette butts that day.

The Trash-Off is a part of a state-wide cleanup sponsored by Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation. It is also the signature event in Pearland for Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup, which runs from March through May and is considered the largest grassroots cleanup and community improvement event in the world. If you want to make a difference in our community, join us for the trash-off. For more information or to sign your group up to participate call the KPB office, 281-652-1659 or visit us on the web at www.keeppearlandbeautiful.org.



SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Salsa Group

Come out and dance with us! Join our Salsa Group, make new friends and move to the sound of Afro-Cuban music. If you ever wanted to learn Salsa, Merengue, or Bachata; if you ever wanted to move to the music; if you ever wanted to impress your friends with a hot Latin dance routine, now it is the time. We organize weekly outings and monthly socials. For more information, contact Christian at 832-693-5842.

Hope to meet you soon, and keep on dancing!!! Christian Gutierrez, SCR Salsa Club

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

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A new Kelsey-Seybold Clinic is coming to your neighborhood in Pearland in March 2010, joining our Silverlake Clinic at 9430 Broadway Street. Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – Shadow Creek Ranch offers multiple medical specialties combined with laboratory, X-ray and ultrasound services.

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Learn more at:

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PEARLAND NEWS

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COLLECTION DAY

*Saturday March 13 From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
At the Stella Roberts Recycling Center, 5800 Magnolia*

KPB and the staff at the Stella Roberts Recycling Center have partnered to offer household hazard waste collection, for this Saturday only, for residents of Pearland, Brazoria County, Friendswood and those who have a prepaid voucher. Non-residents may obtain vouchers from the Pearland Parks & Recreation department located at 2947 E. Broadway. Contact PARD at 281-652-1673. Normal collection hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8:00am to 5:30pm and Thursday from 8:00am to noon.

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

Flammables: oil based paint & refinishers

Oxidizers: pool chemicals

Poisons: Herbicides & pesticides

Corrosives: Acids and certain cleansers

Electronics: computers, hard drives, monitors and keyboards

Oil: Motor oil, filters & cooking oil

Paint: Latex and Oil based

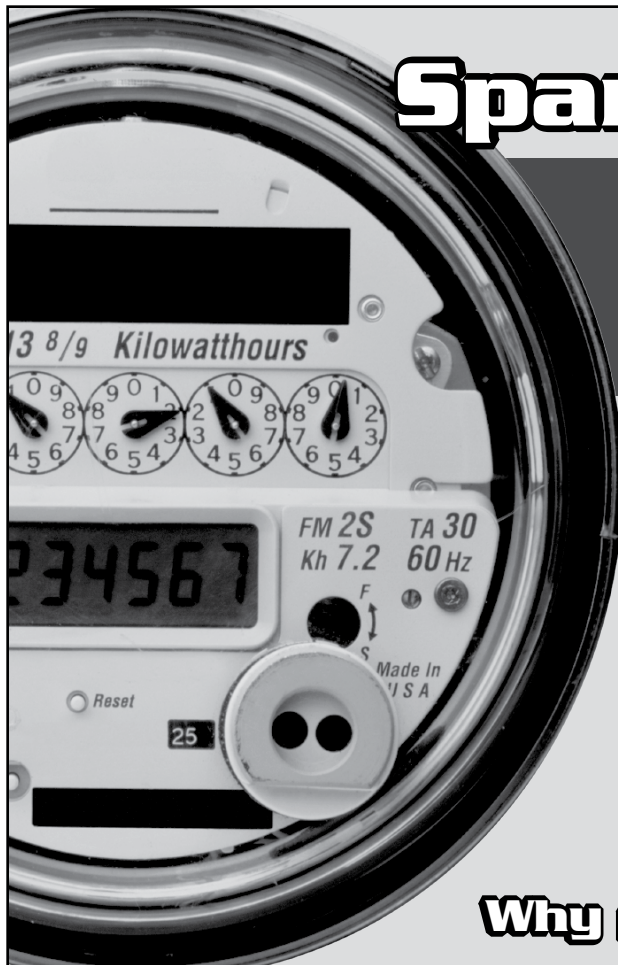
Antifreeze and gas

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ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED: tires, lumber/plywood, furniture, fire alarms or other radioactive materials, tree trimmings and yard clippings, medical waste, ammunition, explosives, plastic grocery bags.

KPB has made an arrangement with Waste Management to have curbside recycling bins available at the center for that day only for new residents who are unable to pick one up at City Hall during regular business hours. Residents will be required to show a city of Pearland water bill and are limited to one bin per family. The bins are intended for citizens that have never received a bin and not as a second or "overflow" bin for those citizens currently recycling curbside. For more information call KPB at 281-652-1659 or email cowles@keeppearlandbeautiful.org.



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MUD TAXES – THE REASON FOR PAYMENT!

MUD taxes come around once a year and are part of the property taxes that are paid by property owners. Here are a few compelling reasons to pay on time or as soon as possible to avoid costly penalty and interest charges. As with all other property taxes levied by governments in Texas, penalty and interest charges are as follows:

<u>IF PAID IN:</u>	February	7%
	March	9%
	April	11%
	May	13%
	June	15%
	July	18%

Penalty and interest continues to build until your taxes are paid in full. For all accounts, after a period of time delinquent attorneys take over the collection process. Here are the times for the delinquent attorneys to start collections:

April 1 – for personal property accounts

July 1 – for real property accounts.

Once this occurs, and additional 20% is added to the base and penalty/interest amounts. Needless to say, continuing to delay will only compound your financial and legal problems.

You can pay online at our website at www.aswtax.com with a credit card or you can pay by phone by calling 1-800-272-9829. If you call you will need to have the jurisdiction code (#6173 for MUD 26), your account number, and a credit card available. The credit card convenience fee is 2.5% for all charges, which is an additional cost. If you have any questions regarding your account or require assistance, please contact the MUD tax office at (281) 482-0216.

MUD ELECTIONS – INTERESTED IN SERVING AS AN ELECTION OFFICIAL?

Please contact the MUD if you are interested in serving as an election official for the May 8, 2010 elections, or future elections. You must be registered to vote in the MUD to qualify. Election officials must keep the voting place open for 8 hours a day during early voting (April 26, 2010, through May 4, 2010, inclusive, but not on Saturday, Sunday, or legal state holidays) and from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on election day (May 8, 2010). If selected, MUD election officials receive \$15.00 per hour for this service. If you are interested in serving and are qualified to serve, please contact the MUD's legal assistant at (713) 860-6436.

GENERAL MUD INFORMATION

As a reminder, the City of Pearland operates our water and sewer system and provides garbage collection services. If you have any questions about your service, please call the City of Pearland at (281) 652-1603.

The MUD generally meets monthly every first Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. Agendas for each meeting are posted at the Emerald Village Recreation Center, 11814 N. Clear Lake Loop, Pearland, Texas 77584, and at the Brazoria County Courthouse at least 72 hours before every meeting, and the Board of Directors invites all members of the public to attend its meetings. Please contact (713) 860-6439 if you need confirmation of a Board meeting or arrangements for auxiliary aids or services for a Board meeting.

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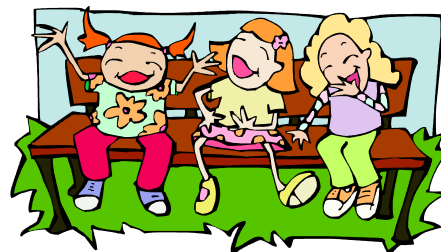
Environmental Fair

Keep Pearland Beautiful in cooperation with four middle school environmental clubs, the Pearland Independent School District and the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is planning the fifteenth Annual School Environmental Fair for Tuesday, March 30, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Jamison Middle School, 2506 Woody Rd. in Pearland. There is no admission charge and all of the activities at this event are free to the attendees.

More than 120 students will be involved in putting on this Fair and over 400 people, including a number of local dignitaries, have attended each of the last fourteen fairs. The events will include environmental exhibits, games, contests, clowns, petting zoo and refreshments.

Local businesses, agencies and organizations that have an environmental message are invited to have a booth at the Fair, which targets elementary-age children and their families.

For more details call the offices of KPB at 281-652-1659.



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Have You Been Phished?

Submitted by Laurie Scott

Phishing (sounds just like fishing) is what thieves on the internet do to get your personal information. In fact, it is just like fishing – they use bait (and you are the fish.)

What does phishing look like? It can look like an email from your bank. They tell you that there has been suspicious activity with your bank account, and in order to avoid having the account frozen you need to click a link and verify your information on their web site. If you click the link, it will take you to a web page that looks just like your bank's login page. You enter your username and password, you may then see a page saying thank you for validating your information, or you may see an error page that says please try again later. The problem is you didn't actually go to your bank's web site; instead you just gave your login information to the bad guys.

Another scheme frequently seen at this time of year is an email from the IRS and SURPRISE, it's good news! You are eligible for a tax refund, and all you have to do is click on the link and submit your tax refund request. And oh, if you don't respond within 48 hours they will assume the refund is invalid and it will be suspended. You'll be in for another surprise when you later find out that it wasn't really the IRS, and you gave your personal information, including your social security number to the bad guys.

Who are these bad guys? How come they don't get caught? Well, you'll find them in China, eastern European countries and Russia. That's why you'll often find these emails filled with poor or awkward grammar. They buy lists of email addresses and send them out by the millions. There are lots of "phish" in the ocean, but you only have to catch a few to make a lot of money.

How do you protect yourself from phishing attacks? First and most important, NEVER click on links in email. Even if you get an email from a friend, are you sure they intentionally sent it? Many viruses will scan through an address book and then send an email to everyone with a generic message like "this is so funny, check it out" or "did you see this video of you online?" If you're not expecting the email, DON'T CLICK. The same goes for attachments. Don't fall for fake messages from UPS, FedEx, etc. Ask yourself "did I give them my email address?" You probably didn't, so you can be sure they didn't send it.

The Internet is a big world filled with gleaming cities and dark alleys. As long as you're aware that there are bad guys who are trying to steal from you, simple precautions and common sense will keep you safe.

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NEWS YOU CAN USE

Meet Devion (7/02)

Devion is only little in physical size. He is convinced he is the biggest kid around and that he can do anything anyone else can do. This little man lights up any room he enters with his smile and personality. Devion loves attending church and enjoys singing in the children's choir. Devion loves playing with other people of any age but he plays in the manner of a child age 4 to 6. He is showing progress in being able to play independently. Devion loves to do almost anything outside. He loves to swim, ride bikes & scooters, play baseball, basketball & football and has even recently tried to water ski! Devion has played 4 seasons of t-ball and one season of basketball since living in our home and loves telling everyone about it. While Devion has wonderful gross motor skills he struggles with his fine motor skills. While Devion has made much progress emotionally he continues to receive weekly therapy to work on social skills and impulsivity.

Devion is very loving and affectionate. He enjoys being with others and would do well in a loving, structured, active home of any ethnic make-up as an only or youngest child.

For more information on Devion or on adoption contact Grace Lindgren at the Adoption Coalition of Texas 512-810-0813 or gracelindgren@adopttexas.org



Peel, Inc. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS

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Name: _____ Email Address: _____ Age: _____
(first name, last initial) [This information will only be used to notify you or your parents if your artwork was selected.]



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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.

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

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