

Volume 7, Issue 5 Village Creek Community Association

May 2010

Residents Celebrate Easter

The annual Village Creek Easter Party was a big hit with kids of all ages! The Easter Bunny led the parade to the clubhouse where an egg hunt and pictures with the bunny followed. Games, activities, cupcakes and a show by the Mad Scientist were also included.

Thank you to the social committee for putting everything together including stuffing the eggs, arranging the entertainment and setting up for the event. A special "Thank You" to the following companies for their contributions....

* Chick-Fil-A (249/Jones) for supplying the free meal vouchers.

* Diana Christopher with Keller Williams Realty for supplying the cupcakes and drinks.

* Hope Meyers with MPrints photography for taking pictures at the event.

The social committee meets the 1st Wed of the month at 6:30 pm. If you'd like to volunteer or learn more contact Caren Seal at social@ myvillagecreek.net









IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911

CenterPoint-Gas Leak	
Constables Office	281-376-3472, www.cd4.hctx.net
Klein Fire Dept	
Poison Control Center	
Willowbrook Methodist	

SCHOOLS

Tomball ISD	281-357-3100, www.tomballisd.net
Willow Creek Elem (K-4).	
Northpointe Int (5-6)	
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)	
Tomball High (9-12)	
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HOA MGMT

SERVICES

CPS	
CenterPoint-Gas	
Dead Animal Pick up	
Domestic Violence	
FBI	
Harris County Animal Control	
Houston Chronicle	
Greater Houston Pool	
Municipal District Services (24 hrs)	
Reliant-Street lights	
www.ce	nterpointenergy.com/outage
Sex Offenders	www.familywatchdog.us
Time Warner Cable	
Waste Management	
Trash pickup Tues/Fri	
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1	& 2 plastics/aluminum cans)
Yard Stork	kpuente@garygreene.com

NEWSLETTER

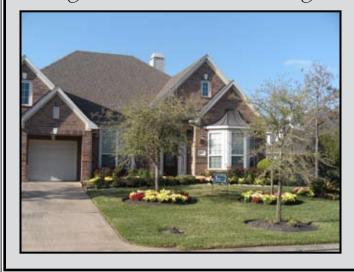
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RESIDENT BOARD MEMBERS

illagecreek.net
illagecreek.net

APRIL YARD OF THE MONTH







GET THE SCOOP

Clean Up The Poop! By Harris County Watershed Protection Group, Clean Water, Clear Choice

It stinks and it's easy to step on. But you just can't make yourself pick it up. It also pollutes your environment.

Here's how it works. Your dog poops on the grass. That pool contains bacteria that pose a health risk to people. When it rains or storms, the poop gets washed in to the streets and flows down the storm drain into area bayous and waterways where people may come into contact with it.

DO YOUR PART. Pick up your pet waste and dispose of it properly.

*Clean up after your dog daily.

*Pick up pet waste if rain is in the forecast, even if you don't do it on a regular basis.

*Consider buying a handy pooper scooper to make the task easier.

*Pick up waste when WALKING your dog.

*Throw pet waste in the trash, using a grocery or newspaper bag and tying it off to seal it.

*Hire a poop collection service to do the dirty work for you.

*Flush dog poop down the toilet. Unlike runoff after a rain, sewage from your toilet is treated to destroy dangerous bacteria.

*Bury pet waste in your yard at least five inches deep and away from vegetable gardens, streams, ditches or wells.

*Consider installing an underground pet waste disposal system, also known as a "doggy dooley".

*DON'T leave pet waste on your lawn. Pathogens are dangerous to kids playing in the yard, and they can contaminate anything edible growing in your garden.

*DON'T add pet waste to compost. The compost won't generate enough heat to kill the pathogens.

*DON'T leave pet waste near a curb. Its bad manners and it can get washed into local waterways through the storm drains.

Find a system that works for you and start scooping your dog's poop!

For more information contact:

Harris County Watershed Protection Group 713-290-3000, www.CleanWaterways.org

Visit www.DeePardue.com for a FREE Market Analysis or to Begin Your Home Search





The Dee Pardue Team & Connie: Your Community Connection

VILLAGE CREEK MARKET REPORT				
	#	Price	Price/SF	Days on Market
Active Listings:	17	\$262,562	\$83.08	124
Pending Listings:	10	\$212,070	\$78.09	65
Sold Since 1/1/10:	11	\$238,354	\$76.17	189
*Average Data Used S	ource	. Houston Assoc		April 5, 2010)



400 Ext. 110



WALTER AND SHERRY SIMMONS 17422 SWEET SONG DRIVE TOMBALL TX 77377 ABHISHEK GANGWAL 17414 SUNSET ARBOR DRIVE TOMABLL TX 77377

JOHN AND TRACI WILLIS 12711 BRIAR HARBOR DRIVE TOMABLL TX 77377 PATRICK AND YVONNE HANKS 12611 MIDLAND CREEK DR TOMBALL TX 77377

RYAN AND WMILY ZIMMERMAN 17523 WARM WINDS DRIVE TOMBALL TX 77377



Two HOA Board Positions Open

With much regret two of our HOA Board members; Treasurer, Allison Pettiet and Secretary, Jayland Kenney, will not be seeking re-election when their current term expires July 2010. If you are interested in volunteering for our community, please go to the website www.myvillagecreek.net and download the form under the tab: Board Members & Mtgs and submit to Chaparral Mgmt, Attn: Kay Serventi. Deadline to apply is June 11th. Annual meeting will be Monday, July 19th at 7 p.m.

20'You Have Reason to Celebrate?

We want to hear from you! Email <u>tisha@myvillagecreek.net</u> to let the community know!

ARE YOU READY TO SELL?

In a competitive market you need an agent who knows how to make your home stand out! Compare my marketing plan to the competition. Call today to set up a no obligation appointment.

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Village Creek Resident with a Vested Interest in Village Creek Home Values



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Do you know a future Village Creek resident? Call for information on new listings.

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& College Seniors

If you are a graduating senior living in Village Creek, we'd love to showcase you in the Village Gazette!

Where are you graduating from? What are your plans for college?

The future? Have you or will you receive any honors or scholarships?

What were some of the highlights of your high school & college career?

Please send this information and a picture to tishanakoe@yahoo. com by May 8th to be included in the June newsletter. We're looking forward to seeing what great things are in store for our very own residents!

The Village Gazette

Pool & Splash Pad Cards

To obtain a new (prior to 2009) pool card one (1) adult from each household must show up with the old pool card and they will be issued one new card per household. If you do not have the older card a \$30 CASH fee will be charged. Residents must be in "good" standing to have new pool cards activated. That is, they must not have an outstanding balance with the Community Association. If you are on a payment plan you are considered in good standing. To inquire about your standing you may contact Chaparral Mgmt at 281-537-0957.

Pool cards will be available at each HOA Board meeting held on the 3rd Monday of each month from 6-7 p.m. We now meet at Lakes at Northpointe Clubhouse located at 13502 Northpointe Ridge Lane. Visit www.myvillagecreek.net and click on Board Members & Meetings for directions. If you have any questions regarding pool cards you may email poolcards@myvillagecreek.net.



'im's Paint We're Your New Neighbor Making Homes Beautiful Since 1972 in the Neighborhood! For Free Estimate Call: 281-620-9077 Tim Thackeray Interior Painting Wood Fences Crown Molding Exterior Painting Drywall Repair EBROOK Pressure Washing Door Refinishing Texture Matching Siding Replacement Carpentry Repairs CHURCH COMMUNITY real people, finding real hope, in the real world www.thebrook.net Spring Cypress at Hwy. 249 (just west of Walmart) inspiring worship • children's church • small groups m's Painting 10% OFF relevant teaching • come as you are OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE Any Job Over \$600.00 281-620-9077 Sunday Worship & Children's Church at 9:30 a.m.

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A BIG THANK YOU

To the Dutt Family for monitoring the marquee and keeping us all informed of neighborhood happenings!

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

MANY WOMEN RISK RETIREMENT To Fund College Submitted by Rich Keith

A recent survey by Oppenheimer Funds reveals that women are highly committed to getting their kids to college and drive most households' college planning – but many take a back seat when it comes to college savings. Nearly three quarters – 74% -- of 1,099 women polled said it's very important for their children to obtain a college degree, compared with 66% of 559 men polled. However, in households that have begun planning financially for college, primary responsibility for this critical exercise most often belongs to men.

It's often true that women are keenly involved in making sure the kids are ready for higher education. But academic preparation is not enough – the financial side often is addressed too late in the game. The poll indicates about eight of 10 women agree that it's important to plan financially for retirement and college costs at the same time. But only 10% of women strongly agree that they have such plans in place.

It's important to not rob one's retirement savings to pay for college. And figures quickly show that borrowing for college costs a lot more than many people realize. The cost of borrowing really impacts the ability to save for retirement. And since women on average live longer than men, this reduced savings affects women more than men. Time is a powerful key to achieving financial security. *Source: Oppenheimer Funds 2010.*

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	ACTIVE	PENDING	SOLD Last 6 Mos
# of Listings	15	8	21
Price Range:	\$180,000 \$359,000	\$173,000 \$285,000	\$155,000 \$352,000
Average Price	\$260,904	\$227,737	\$238,914
Avg Price/sq.ft.	\$83.62	\$77.70	\$75.70
Avg DOM	73	46	90
High Price/sq.ft.			\$94.21
Low Price/sq.ft.			\$50.48





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Professional Group



www.SuperDave.com

*Realtor Teams per RE/MAX 12/2009

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Nag Nag! used to hearing it, "backup backup

OK, my clients are used to hearing it, "backup backup backup." I can say if often but it's never too often. Let me put it another way, how much pain are you willing to endure? The hard drive in your computer WILL fail someday. So WHEN it does, how are you going to feel? School's almost out for the summer. How will you feel when that final paper or report disappears right before you're ready to submit it to the teacher or professor?

Maybe you're a young family, and you have thousands of digital photos and videos recording everything your babies have done their first few years. Their first haircut, first birthday, first Christmas, the first time they walk, their FIRST WORDS! All in a pristine, digital format that is very easy to duplicate, yet all GONE, possibly never to be seen by anyone again.

You use something like Quicken or Microsoft Money and keep you banking records on your computer, or you own your own business and ALL your financial records are stored on your hard drive. It's almost tax time and the information can't be retrieved. You now have to spend days or weeks recreating your records as best you can (this happened to a client of mine.) The "computer ate my homework" won't fly with the IRS.

(Continued on Page 9)

Electricity is **ON SALE** at StarTex Power!



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Alan "Petrodamus" Lammey, host of 'Energy Week', can be heard every Sunday on 1070 KNTH in Houston.

I'm Texas Energy Analyst, Alan Lammey. In case you didn't know, electricity rates are currently at lows not seen in years, which means that NOW is the time to lock in a very low electricity rate with the provider that I highly recommend to all my radio show listeners: StarTex Power. StarTex Power is local and reputable, with some of the most competitive rates available in all of Texas. You can switch right online at www.StarTexPower.com

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StarTex Power received the highest numerical score among residential electric service providers in Texas in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 Texas Residential Retail Electric service Satisfaction Study¹⁶. Study based on responses from 6,890 consumers measuring 15 providers and measures opinions of consumers with their electric service provider. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed between October 2008 and June 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

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POWER

Power to Connect"

PUCT #10089

Yeah Yeah, Backup Backup - (Continued from Page 8)

So I'll ask you again, how much pain are you willing to endure? You do have a few options to backing up your valuable data. One way is to do it yourself (I'll go into more detail later.) Another way to preserve your memories is to pay someone else to do it. Yet a third way is probably the most common way, intentional or not – prayer. No plan, no system, just the hope that nothing goes wrong with their computer. Since I'm not aware of a Patron Saint of the PC, I'll concentrate on the first two methods – you're on your own for the third option.

Want to do it yourself? Purchase an inexpensive external hard drive and plug it into your computer's USB port. You can pick up a 500GB (that's gigabyte) external hard drive at Best Buy for around \$80, and maybe a terabyte drive (that's 1,000 gigabytes) for \$100. If you like to shop around online you can probably find something even cheaper. Just about anything you buy will include backup software. If you don't like it, you can try downloading my favorite, SyncBack. Go to 2BrightSparks.com, click on "Downloads" and choose their freeware. Download SyncBack in whatever language you like and go at it.

Of course, if you're not inclined for any reason to do it yourself,

you can always pay someone to do the above for you. Also, you can keep the "upfront" cost to a minimum by going with an online solution. Two advantages are you don't have to spend very much up front, and the other is that even in the event of burglary, fire, etc. you can buy a new computer and download all your backed up files. The two most well known services are Mozy and Carbonite, they cost about the same (\$55 a year.) Mac users also have me.com as an option (though it is a little more expensive.)

Now, not all hope is lost if your hard drive should fail. There are services available that will take your hard drive, have employees in "bunny suits" take it into a "clean room" (much cleaner than an operating room), disassemble it, remove the platters (the parts with the information) and rebuild it with matching parts in an attempt to extract the data. IF they are successful, plan on spending approximately \$2,000 to get the data back. It that's a lot of money to you, then look at doing it yourself or hire an expert to do it for you. It's not hard at all to do – but you need to do it. If you don't, you're going to remember how you were "nagged" and didn't do anything when you could have, and there will be a geek waiting for your phone call.



Can the Weather Affect My Child's Asthma?

Weather and Asthma

The effect of weather on asthma symptoms isn't fully understood, but clearly there is a link. Numerous studies have shown a variety of connections, such as increases in asthma-related emergency department visits when certain weather conditions are present. Some people find that their asthma symptoms get worse at specific times of year. For others, a severe storm or sudden weather change may trigger an attack.

Exposure to cold, dry air is a common asthma trigger and can quickly cause severe symptoms. People with exercise-induced asthma who participate in winter sports are especially susceptible. Dry, windy weather can stir up pollen and mold in the air, leading to problems for some people.

Hot, humid air also can trigger asthma symptoms, and wet weather encourages the growth of mold spores, another asthma trigger. In certain areas, heat and sunlight combine with pollutants to create ground-level ozone, which is also an asthma trigger.

Studies have shown that thunderstorms can trigger asthma attacks. One study showed that during thunderstorms, the daily number of emergency department visits for asthma increased by 15%. The study concluded that the problem was caused by the number of fungal spores in the air, which almost doubled. It wasn't rain, but the wind, that caused this increase. Changes in barometric pressure may also be an asthma trigger.

Avoiding Allergy Triggers

If you suspect weather is playing a role in your child's asthma, keep a diary of asthma symptoms and possible triggers and talk to your child's doctor. Once you know what kind of weather triggers asthma symptoms, you can take steps to protect your child:

• Watch the forecast for pollen and mold counts as well as other conditions (extreme cold or heat) that might affect your child's asthma.

(Continued on Page 11)



Can the Weather Affect... - (Continued from Page 10)

- Limit your child's outdoor activities on peak trigger days.
- Make sure your child wears a scarf over his or her mouth and nose outside during very cold weather.
- Keep windows closed at night to keep pollens and molds out. If it's hot, use air conditioning, which cleans, cools, and dries the air.
- Keep your child indoors early in the morning (before 10 AM) when pollen is at its highest levels.
- Your child shouldn't mow the lawn or rake leaves, and should be kept away from freshly cut grass and leaf piles.
- Dry clothes in the dryer (hanging clothes or sheets to dry can allow mold or pollen to collect on them).
- Make sure your child always has rescue medication on hand.

Your child's written asthma action plan should list weather triggers and ways to manage them, including any seasonal increases in medication. A child whose asthma seems to be allergy-related may also need to see an allergist for medication or allergy shots.

Reviewed by: Elana Pearl Ben-Joseph, MD, Date reviewed: June 2007

This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www.TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006.The Nemours Foundation

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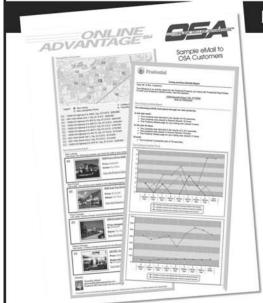
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