

#### **Burglary Prevention Advice**

Your home is your castle...or is it? Is your home really safe once you leave for work or school? Your home is considered a sanctuary where you should feel safe. Your home is the only environment where you have control over who can get close to you or your family. Protecting your home and family from criminal intrusion should be high on your list of priorities.

#### Home Burglary

By far, the most common threat to our home is burglary. According to the FBI, a burglary occurs somewhere in the United States every 15.4 seconds. By definition, the crime of burglary is a non-confrontational property crime that occurs when we are not at home. However, becoming a burglary victim can leave a family feeling vulnerable and violated. To avoid becoming a burglary victim, it is important to first gain an understanding of who commits them and why.

The majority of home and apartment burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or school. The summer months of July and August have the most burglaries with February having the fewest crimes. Burglaries are committed most often by young males under 25 years of age looking for items that are small, expensive, and can easily be converted to cash. Favorite items are cash, jewelry, guns, watches, laptop computers, VCRs, video players, CDs and other small electronic devices are high on the list. Quick cash is needed for living expenses and drugs. Statistics tell us that 70% of the burglars use some amount of force to enter a dwelling, but their preference is to gain easy access through an open door or window. Ordinary household tools like screwdrivers, channel-lock pliers, small pry bars, and small hammers are most often used by burglars. Burglars continue to flourish because police can only clear about 13% of all reported burglaries and rarely catch the thief in the act.

HOME SECURITY

Although home burglaries may seem random in occurrence, they actually involve a selection process. The burglar's selection process is simple. Choose an unoccupied home with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and with the best escape routes. What follows is a list of suggestions to minimize your risk by making your home unattractive to potential burglars.

#### **Doors and Locks**

- Use a solid core or metal door for all entrance points
- Use a quality, heavy-duty, deadbolt lock with a one-inch throw bolt
- Use a quality, heavy-duty, knob-in-lock set with a dead-latch mechanism
- Use a heavy-duty, four-screw, strike plate with 3-inch screws to penetrate into a wooden door frame
- Use a wide-angle 160° peephole mounted no higher than 58 inches

#### **Sliding-Glass Patio Doors**

- Use a secondary blocking device on all sliding glass doors
- Keep the latch mechanism in good condition and properly adjusted
- Keep sliding door rollers in good condition and properly adjusted

- Use highly visible alarm decals, beware of dog decals or block watch decal
- Use anti-lift devices such as through-thedoor pins or upper track screws
- Use highly visible alarm decals, beware of dog decals or block watch decal

#### Windows

- Secure all accessible windows with secondary blocking devices
- Block accessible windows open no more than 6 inches for ventilation
- Make sure someone cannot reach through an open window and unlock the door
- Make sure someone cannot reach inside the window and remove the blocking device
- Use anti-lift devices to prevent window from being lifted out
- Use crime prevention or alarm decals on ground accessible windows

#### Be a Good Neighbor

- Get to know all your adjacent neighbors
- Invite them into your home and establish trust
- Agree to watch out for each other's home
- Do small tasks for each other to improve territoriality
- While on vacation pick up newspapers, and flyers
- Offer to occasionally park your car in their driveway
- Return the favor and communicate often

#### Lighting

• Use interior light timers to establish a pattern of occupancy

(Continued on Page 3)

# Willowbridge - Stonebridge

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

All Emergencies
Harris County Sheriff
Harris County Animal Control
Cy-Fair Hospital
CenterPoint - Street Lights & Outages
CenterPoint Energy
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Incwww.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Advertisingadvertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
PCMI/ Khara Mathews 281-870-0585x1350
Poison Control Center
Southwestern Bell - Repair 800-246-8464
- Billing 800-585-7928
Swimming Pool - Pay Phone
Swimming Pool - Lifeguard
Trash – Waste Management713-686-6666
Vacation Watch - Harris County District 5 281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11
Willow Place Post Office
Willowbridge Websitewww.willowbridgehoa.com

# ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Welcoming Committee
Gracie Galvan
Beautification Committee
Thomas Heitzman
Homeowners Association
PCMI - Khara Mathewskmathews@stes.com
Clubhouse/Reservations
Sherita Jeter 281-870-0585 ext 127
Pool Parties/Tags
PCMI
Marquee Coordinator
Barbara Lallinger
Newsletter Coordinator
Kyle Survancesurou812@yahoo.com
Security Coordinator
Julie Dubros
Website Coordinator
Angela Dorayachang314@hotmail.com
Yard of the Month Committee
Nominate your favorite at: willowbridgehoa.com or Contact
Chuck Roushroushteam@att.net
Tennis Court Reservations
Jessica LeFevrejrey664154@aol.com
Soccer Field Reservations
Tresse Joubronteresejoubran@yahoo.com
Lost Pet Coordinator
Sonia Moore msrco@aol.com, 281-955-8068

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Julie Dubros	President
Kyle Survance	
Thomas Heitzman	Secretary
Robert Logsdon	Treasurer
Karen Roush	Director

# HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc PCMI				
Khara Mathews				
E-Mail	kmathews@stes.com			
Fax				
If you have any questions of neighborhood please cont	6 6			

# HOA MEETINGS

HOA meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse, unless otherwise noted on the marquee. Meetings are open to members and your attendance and participation are encouraged!

## WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee meetings are the last Monday of each month.

# HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

To report street or curb damage, missing/damaged street signs and street flooding: (281) 353-8424 or www.hcp4.net. If a resident wants to request a new sign or replace a damaged one, they have to go online and fill out a request.



#### **Home Security** - (Continued from Cover Page)

- Exterior lighting should allow 100- feet of visibility
- Use good lighting along the pathway and at your door
- Use light timers or photo-cells to turn on/off lights automatically
- Use infra-red motion sensor lights on the rear of single family homes

#### **Alarm Systems**

- Alarm systems are effective deterrents with visible signage
- Alarm systems to be properly installed, programmed, and maintained
- Alarm systems need to have an audible horn or bell to be effective
- Make sure your alarm response call list is up to date
- Instruct your neighbor how to respond to an alarm bell

#### **Safes**

• Use the safe everyday so it becomes routine

- Protect the safe code and change it occasionally
- Install it away from the master bedroom or closet

#### **Operation Identification**

- Identify your valuables by engraving your drivers' license number
- Photograph and record the serial numbers of all valuables
- Photocopy the contents of your wallet and other documents
- Store the copies in a safe deposit box or with a relative

Remember to report all suspicious vehicles and suspicious people who are lurking about to the Harris County Sheriff's Dispatch at 713-221-6000. For all of your general neighborhood security questions and concerns, e-mail Julie at martin@ juliedubros.com

# **A Big Welcome** To Our New Owners

WillowTalk

Into Their New Home!

Stoney Lake Dr - April Tran Family

Parmer Court - April Freeman Family

Stoney Lake Dr - April Talley Family

Willacy Ct - May **Bergerons Family** 

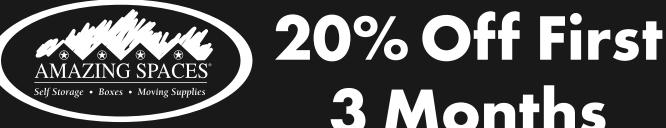
Willowbridge Park Blvd - May Blum Family

> Ballinger Dr - May Patterson Family

**Refugio Ct** - June Mcdonald Family

The Welcoming Committee!

# Discover the AMAZING STORAGE DIFFERENCE!



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**3** Months

# Willowbridge - Stonebridge THE SCHOOL ZONE

By: Barbara Lallinger

#### **GETTING INVOLVED!**

On May 24th Gleason Elementary was hopping with activity. The library was hosting "Book Fair Diner: All You Can Read", and was open until 8:00 pm to encourage working parents that could not make it during the day to come with their families and shop for summer reading materials.

Vice President of Secondary Fundraising, Katherine Villar, in conjunction with General Mills and their Box Tops for Education program was hosting the schools first Family Fun Fitness Night in the cafeteria from 5-8 pm. And...at 6:30 the PTO held its 2010-2011 Executive Board elections with the following results (\*denotes Willowbridge/Stonebridge resident):

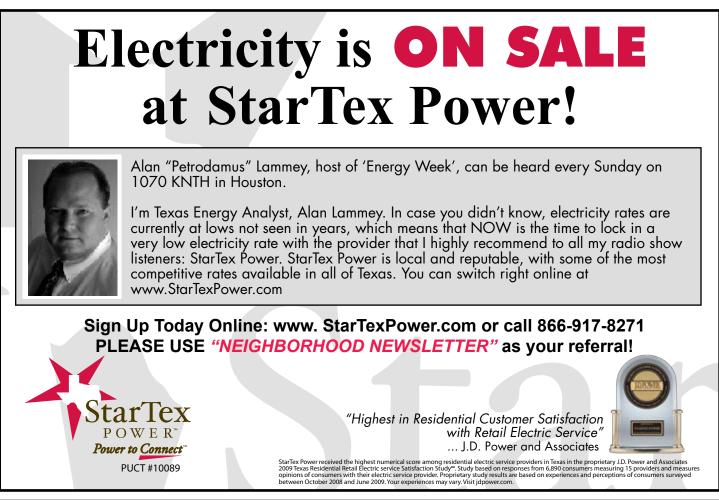
President

VP of Membership & Volunteers VP of Special Events VP of Major Fall Fundraising VP of Major Spring Fundraising VP of Secondary Fundraising Treasurer/Bookkeeper Secretary/Parliamentarian Historian/Photographer \*Laura Neidhardt \*Stephanie Schick \*Terese Joubran Ali DeLuca

\*Katherine Villar Carrie Wiseley \*Barbara Lallinger Rene DeShazer (staff) You may have noticed that the VP of Fundraising position does not have a name by it. Maybe your name should be there?? This position is very important and as noted is the major fundraiser for the spring. In the past, this committee has organized a carnival and auction usually held in April. This year the board has determined that a carnival and/or auction will not necessarily be required and is very open to entertaining other ideas for spring fundraising. The board already has a few suggestions that will still bring in the needed funds, but will not require as much time and effort from volunteers as the carnival/auction does. If YOU or someone you know is interested in filling this position, please contact Laura Neidhardt at LBNeidhardt@comcast.net.

And for anyone else that would like to contribute the "gift of time", the school is always looking for good volunteers. There are many opportunities to help out and the new board is looking forward to expanding the 2010-2011 volunteer roster to a higher level than we have ever seen. To volunteer or for questions regarding volunteering, contact Stephanie Schick at slschick@comcast.net.

(Continued on Page 5)



#### The School Zone - (Continued from Page 4)

#### **PUMP IT UP!**

Mark your calendars...the PTO still has some FUNdraising Fun planned for this summer. They will host a Fun Night at Pump It Up Cy-Fair, located at 10910 W. Sam Houston Parkway North (off Fallbrook) August 17th from 6 – 9 pm. A \$10 per student participant fee is required (PTO gets \$5) and adults are free. For an additional fee, snacks will be provided either by the PTO or vending machines located on premise at the facility. Parents may drop students there, but are reminded that younger children will require adult supervision More details will be emailed as each event's date approaches. For additional information, please contact Katherine Villar at play4profit@yahoo.com or (281) 477-6622.

#### 2010-2011 SCHOOLYEAR NEAR

#### Mark your calendars for:

- Friday August 21 Monday August 23 September 6 • Monday
- Monday
- Meet the Teacher October 11
  - First Day of School Holiday (Labor Day) Professional Day/ Student Holiday

### **RAD GRAD CLASS FOR** WOMEN:

#### AUGUST 12, 2010 6-9:00 PM. WILLOWBRIDGE CLUBHOUSE 9330 WILLOWBRIDGE PARK BLVD HOUSTON, TX 77064

This is a review class is for all women who have completed the 15 hour RAD course. Please bring your workbook with you to class. Please RSVP to Shweta Patel at: shamu7@comcast.net

The RAD class is a free class taught by the Harris County Sheriff's Office. RAD stands for Rape Aggression Defense. It is a program that teaches realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. The R.A.D. System is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. R.A.D. is not a Martial Arts program. Our courses are taught by nationally certified R.A.D. instructors and provide each student with a workbook/reference manual. This manual outlines the entire Physical Defense Program for reference and continuous personal growth, and is the key to our free lifetime return and practice policy for R.A.D. graduates. This class is offered for ages 12 and up. There is very sensitive material covered in this class; mothers of "teens" please attend this course with you daughters. For a list of classes, please visit the Harris County Sheriff's website at: http://www.hcso.hctx.net/

#### All of Your Dental Needs Under One Roof



# Willowbridge - Stonebridge

Talking Trash By: Barbara Lallinger



Were you one of the residents that missed the Monday July 5th trash pick up?

Some only heard the trucks drive by. Or, did you forget that Waste Management (WM) does not pick up on days after holidays and put it out for Tuesday? Sunday, July 4th was the official holiday. WM will observe the holiday only if it is a normally scheduled day (Monday or Thursday). And again, they do not pick up on Tuesday or Friday if Monday or Thursday is an observed holiday.

#### FOLLOWING ISTHE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FORTHE **REST OF THE YEAR:**

HOLIDAY	DAY	DATE	PICK UP (Y	OR N) WHEN?	
Labor Day	Monday	9-06	Ν	Thursday 9-09	
Thanksgiving	Thursday	11-25	Ν	Monday 11-29	
Christmas	Is Saturday – trash will be picked up on Monday 12-27				

If you have schedule questions, please feel free to contact WM at the number listed on page 2 of the newsletter under Important Numbers.

# Doggie Doo is a Don't.

Curb the urge to put your pet's droppings down the drain. Instead, wrap them properly and toss them in the trash.



- Cabinet Painting
- Wallpaper Removal and Texturizing
- Pressure Washing
- Fence Repair/Replacement
- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Custom Staining
- Roofing
- Gutter Repair/Replacement
- Faux Painting

**References Available** • Fully Insured **NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION** bashanspainting@earthlink.net

# Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Willow Talk. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Willowbridge residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the WillowTalk by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.



Free entry to win one of five navigation systems with any RV, Boat or Motorcycle loan.\*

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# WillowTalk

### **THE RECIPE BOX** *FIRECRACKER PASTA SALAD*

From: BUITONI Cheese & Pastas

This one missed the July issue but will be just as good served on Labor Day! Ready in 15 minutes (Prep Time: 10 mins. Cook Time: 1 min.)

- 2 pkg. (9 oz. each) BUITONI Refrigerated Three Cheese Tortellini, prepared according to package directions, chilled ½ c. (2 oz.) BUITONI Refrigerated
- 2 c. broccoli florets
- 1 large green bell pepper, chopped
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> c. pitted & halved ripe olives
- Freshly Shredded Parmesan Cheese <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> c. olive oil
- 4 large cloves garlic, finely chopped <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> c. (1 oz.) BUITONI Refrigerated Freshly Shredded Romano Cheese
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> c. red wine vinegar 1 medium, chopped

Heat oil in small saucepan over medium-high heat. Add garlic, cook for 1 minute. Pour into large bowl, cool. Whisk in vinegar. Add remaining ingredients, toss well to coat. Refrigerate or serve immediately. Have a recipe you would like to share? Send to: leroylallinger@live.com

### NOT AVAILABLE ON-LINE

# Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the WillowTalk Newsletter on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com





STOPPERS FOR THE IDENTITY 713-222 TIPS 713-222-TIPS OF THE INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VANDALISM AT WILLOWBRIDGE POOL FACILITIES 9330 WILLOWBRIDGE PARK BLVD. ON JUNE 24, 2010 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 PM-6 AM.



CASE #HC10-87356

**HCSO Deputy Broussard** 

On June 24, 2010 the Willowbridge pool area was vandalized. Many pieces of pool furniture were broken, pool pump house door was smashed-in, broke push -pull assemblies, dumped out all of the pool chemicals into and around the pool, poured acid on the life guard seats, shards of broken plexi glass were found shattered in and around the pool area and pulled down flood lights around the clubhouse. This act of criminal mischief has cost the Willowbridge HOA several thousand dollars. If you have any information regarding the identity of the Individuals who committed this crime, call:

## Crime Stoppers - 713-222-TIPS (8477)

SUBMIT ONLINE

**SEND US A TEXT MESSAGE** Text TIP610 plus your tip to CRIMES (274637) http://www.crime-stoppers.org/tips.htm



We do not ask for your name Callers are given a code number Information is forwarded to law enforcement after arrest and conviction, cash rewards are paid



# WillowTalk

# STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint Energy. Please be aware that we pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision, every month, regardless if they are illuminated or not!

#### FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 1. Dial (713) 207-2222.
- 2. Choose a language preference.
- 3. Select option "4" (for street light outages).
- 4. Provide the 6 digit number (located approximately 5 feet up the pole ), street name and closest address.

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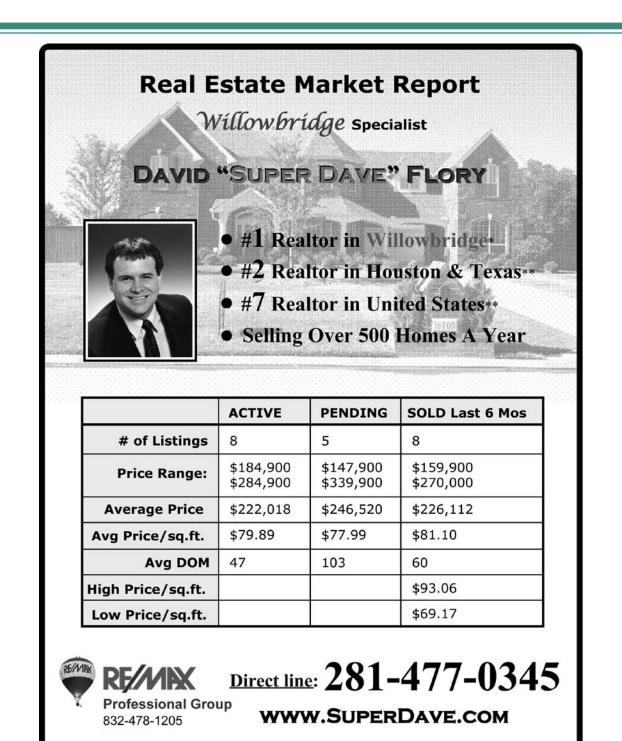
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