



# THE VILLAGES OF *Compass* NORTH POINTE

ISSUE 1, VOLUME 9

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VILLAGES OF NORTHPOINTE HOA

OCTOBER 2010

## From the Editor

In this issue please pay particular attention to the information about MUD 281 tax in Paul's Compass Corner article. This is great news about the reduction in our taxes! This is evidence of our neighborhood's growth and this newsletter's purpose is to get the word out about all the events taking place. The women in VNP sponsor many events for the neighborhood especially around the holiday season and there is always a need for more volunteers, planners, and participants. Details for these events are included in the Women's Club article.

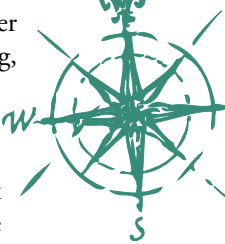
If you have anything you would like included in future newsletters, please email it to me at [pamelaferg@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaferg@comcast.net) by the 5th of the month preceding publication. All submissions must be compiled by the editor and forwarded to Peel Inc. for publication and printing.

If you have any advertising questions, please contact the publisher directly at [advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com) or by phone at 888-687-6444.

*Thanks,  
Pam Ferguson*

## Compass Corner

*By Paul Hicks*



Ladies and Gentlemen, Neighbors and Countrymen, your Compass Corner has some good news for you! During the most recent MUD 281 meeting, our accountant in conjunction with our investment advisor have notified MUD 281 that we are in fantastic financial shape and therefore we will be allowed to consider a property tax rate reduction. As such, after much discussion, the Directors are recommending a 5 cent reduction on the tax rate from \$1.10 per \$100 valuation to \$1.05. I know it doesn't sound like much, but when you consider that Villages of NorthPointe has now reached that critical mass where this is even possible, it's big news indeed. We fully expect to have another rate reduction next year upon review of the numbers at that time and we will continue to review in future years. This decision is based on the tax base of all homes in Villages of NorthPointe and the continuing sales of approximately 4-6 new homes per month. So even with a slight reduction in the appraised value of homes in VNP, the new home sales have more than offset the difference. As Section 15 begins home construction we will see an even greater contribution to the tax base as we go forward. Our only concern over the past two years has been the bond rating that we enjoy which allows MUD 281 to get the most favorable bond sales possible has been terrific. The higher the bond rating, the lower the costs to tax payers. We are now at the point where our bond rating will not be affected by a reduction in the tax rate and as long as that continues, we will do what we can to keep this ball rolling. Once again, if any of you are interested in joining us at the next MUD meeting or would like further details, please contact me at [paul@paulhicksrealtor.com](mailto:paul@paulhicksrealtor.com). The only other information for you this month is that the apartment complex (which we don't need) I mentioned last month that is possibly going in behind the old Wachovia location on NorthPointe at 249 looks to be going very slowly, if at all. There have been some additional inquiries on that same property from other developers, possibly for a shopping center (which we do need). I'll keep my ears open on this one and let you know what develops. I close with the following one-liner nonsense to test your funny bones:

- I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list.
- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

*See you next time, Paul Hicks*

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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Chaparral Management Company (*HOA Issues*)..... 281-537-0957  
Waste Management (*garbage – paid through MUD #281*).....  
..... 281-376-8802  
Centerpoint Energy (*street lights – get 6 digit # off lamp post*) .....  
..... 713-207-2222  
Tomball Post Office..... 281-516-0513  
Harris County MUD #281 (water and recycling)..... 281-376-8802  
Harris County Constable Precinct #4..... 281-376-3472  
Electric Company Choices ..... 866-797-4839  
..... www.powertochoose.org

### SCHOOLS

Tomball Independent School District..... [www.tomballisd.net](http://www.tomballisd.net)  
Canyon Pointe Elementary ..... 281-357-3122  
Willow Creek Elementary ..... 281-357-3080  
NorthPointe Intermediate..... 281-357-3020  
Willow Wood Junior High..... 281-357-3030  
Tomball High School..... 281-357-3220

### TAX ENTITIES:

Tomball ISD Tax Office..... 281-357-3100  
*www.tomballisd.net and follow the link to the Tax Office*  
MUD #281 & NorthPointe WCID ..... 713-462-8906  
..... www.wheelerassoc.com  
Harris County Appraisal District ..... 713-957-7800  
..... www.hcad.org

### MANAGEMENT

Crest Management (*NorthPointe Boulevard Landscape Issues*)  
Please direct all questions, comments, and concerns about the  
landscape along NorthPointe Blvd. to:

CREST MANAGEMENT  
P.O. Box 219320  
17171 Park Row, Suite 310  
Houston, TX 77084  
P: 281. 579-0761 , F: 281.579.7062  
Email: [bettie@crest-management.com](mailto:bettie@crest-management.com)

### WEBSITE

[www.villagesofnorthpointecai.com](http://www.villagesofnorthpointecai.com)

Contact Brian at [bfornear@mail.com](mailto:bfornear@mail.com) to request information  
postings on the website.

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## NEWSLETTER INFO

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## WOMEN'S GROUP INFO

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- **WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING** – Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the clubhouse, with changes in this schedule for holiday or school events. Please watch the neighborhood sign for the current monthly schedule. To be included in the newsgroup emails, please contact Rhonda at [rhondakay2003@netzero.net](mailto:rhondakay2003@netzero.net).
- **Book Club** – Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month in rotating homes. Please contact Karen at 281-516-2395 or [karengo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karengo@sbcglobal.net) for more details. The October book selection is *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* by Rhoda Janzen. The meeting will be at Pam's house, 18726 Summercliff Lane, on Thursday, October 21st at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome!
- **BUNCO**  
Monday night – Meets each second Monday of the month. For info or to be placed on the sub list, please contact Pam at [pamelaferg@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaferg@comcast.net).  
Thursday night – Meets each fourth Thursday of the month. For info or to be placed on the sub list, please contact Robyn at 281-635-4926 or at [robyn6020@yahoo.com](mailto:robyn6020@yahoo.com).

If you would like to announce a new subgroup, please come to a Women's Club meeting or contact Pam at 713-724-6978 or [pamelaferg@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaferg@comcast.net).

## UPCOMING WOMEN'S CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS

- **OCTOBER GROUP MEETING SPEAKER** – For our October 18th meeting, we will welcome Tim Novak, Executive Director of the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts. He will share with us the many offerings of the Pearl. All VNP women are welcome to join us at 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse.
- **CHRISTMAS in NOVEMBER SALES EVENT & BAKE SALE** – This year's neighborhood Women in Business Sales Event promises to be bigger and better than ever! It will be held on Saturday, November 20th at the clubhouse. Please contact Angela at [angela0922@sbcglobal.net](mailto:angela0922@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to volunteer or participate. This will be a great place to buy your Christmas presents and possibly get something for yourself as well! There will be a Bake Sale to get your Thanksgiving goodies, such as sweet breads, cakes and pies. Contact Pam to help with this at [pamelaferg@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaferg@comcast.net). A variety of larger baked goods are requested for this sale.
- **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** – All VNP children are invited to come to the clubhouse on Saturday morning, December 4th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for Breakfast and a Picture with Santa! Details will be coming soon on the Neighborhood Yahoo Group and the next newsletter. This is another great reason to sign up for the neighborhood email group!

(Continued on Page 3)

## Women's Group Info - (Continued from Page 2)

- **CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE** – The VNP Women's Group is hosting a 'women only' Christmas Cookie Exchange. Each participant will bring homemade cookies of one kind on a tray, along with copies of the recipe and a large container to carry home your assortment! This is a fun way to start your holiday baking. More details will be provided on the Women's Club Yahoo Group, so please make sure you're signed up. Information will also be announced at the Women's Club meetings.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT** – The VNP Women's Group will be sponsoring another family (or families) in need for the holidays. Some of the proceeds from the Christmas in November Bake Sale will be used for this endeavor, as well as donations. Please watch the Women's Club Yahoo email for more information, or come to a meeting.
- **HOLIDAY PROGRESSIVE DINNER** – The Women's Group is planning a Holiday Progressive Dinner, but no date was set at presstime. Progressive dinners are for both couples and singles, and the dinner courses are divided among several host homes, with a different course served at each home. Food preparation is shared among participants as well. Watch the Yahoo Group email for details or come to a meeting!

## Newsletter Deadline

To submit newsletter articles, event information and for general information, please contact Pam Ferguson at 713-724-6978 or at [pamelaferg@comcast.net](mailto:pamelaferg@comcast.net). Ideas are welcome!

The next newsletter deadline for submission to the editor is October 5<sup>th</sup> for the November newsletter. Similarly, the deadline for the December newsletter will be November 5<sup>th</sup>.



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## EVENTS AND REMINDERS

- **VNP Annual Community-Wide Garage Sale!**

The Villages of NorthPointe will have its annual community-wide garage sale on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to Noon. It's not too late to get in on this fantastic event! If you are a participant, please contact Deana Clark at [deanaclark2009@yahoo.com](mailto:deanaclark2009@yahoo.com) or phone at 281.706.6894 to ensure your home is represented by signage. Volunteers are also needed to help put up signs. Advertising has been placed in the Tribune, Potpourri, Craigslist, and Facebook, so we should have plenty of shoppers!

- **Cypress Creek YMCA Gift Market and Craft Fair**

November 20th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

19915 State Highway 249 (NW corner of Cypresswood Drive)

Looking to deck the walls this season? Whether you are looking for home décor, yard art, jewelry, or just about anything you need this Christmas season, you are surely to find it here! Bring the whole family! We will have face painting and plenty of fun for the kids. Tours of the facility will also be offered. Proceeds will benefit the Cypress Creek Partners of Youth Foundation.

- **Attention NW Harris County Tri Delta Alumnae**



Mark your calendars to join your Tri Delta sisters for our social gathering "Spice it Up--Cooking with Spices" **Tuesday, October 12th at 7:00 pm.** Our group meets on the second Tuesday of every month September - April. We have a diverse group of women of all ages from a variety of colleges. For more information, please contact Christina at 281-855-6893 or Karen at [trideltanews@yahoo.com](mailto:trideltanews@yahoo.com)

- **Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts**

In partnership with the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Musique chez moi: Northwest Houston House Concerts (MCM) will open its third season with an operatic extravaganza in the Main Gallery of the Museum. On Thursday, October 28th at 7pm, a cast of nine accomplished opera singers, supported by a small contingency of instrumentalists, will present an evening of well-loved arias and ensembles.

With Roger Keele as Artistic Director, MCM has presented several concerts at the Pearl as well as in homes in Northgate Forest and Olde Oaks.

Tickets: Adults \$12, Seniors \$10, Students \$6. Advance Tickets are available for purchase through the Cypress Creek FACE box office, 281-440-4850. The box office, open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, is located in the lobby of the Centrum in the Cypress Creek Christian Church located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr. (across the street from the Pearl). Seating is general admission, so arrive early for the best seats.

- **Reminder - National Night Out 2010 is Oct. 5th!**

NNO – Texas will take place on Tuesday, October 5th. Hurry and contact your neighbors to get an event planned, even if it's only to set up a table and chairs on your driveway with ice cream, drinks, chips or cookies! It's a great time to get to know your neighbors. This event was established to promote crime prevention education and neighborhood spirit.

- **Mini Walk and Craft Fair**

benefitting the Alzheimer's Association will be held on Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Vintage Park at Louetta Road and SH 249. Mini Walk Registration: at 8:30 a.m. or register online at [www.alztex.org/walk](http://www.alztex.org/walk). Walk begins at 9:00 a.m. Craft Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- **HUGE GARAGE SALE!!!**

Klein Collins High School Orchestra will be "conducting" their Annual Garage Sale on Saturday, October 23rd from 8am – 1pm at Haude Elementary School Parking Lot at 3111 Louetta Rd. ALL proceeds benefit the Orchestra and donations gratefully accepted. Contact is Carlos Lara, Director at 832-484-5220.

- **CyFair Storm 2002**

is looking for dedicated players and parents for the 2010-2011 season. Players must be 2002 birthdates or later. Please contact Dan LeDoux for registration information [cfstorm2002@yahoo.com](mailto:cfstorm2002@yahoo.com).

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## Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts *"Where Art is Just the Start!"*

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is located at 6815 Cypresswood Drive near the intersection of Stuebner Airline and Cypresswood Drive next to the Barbara Bush Branch Library. It opened in March 2008, in partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and other private and public lenders to bring world-class art exhibitions to Northwest Houston. Admission is free of charge, but a \$3.00 donation is suggested.



French, American and German portraits of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries traces the history of portraiture in France and Great Britain over three centuries, from the Grand Manner style of the court of Charles I in England and the French courts, to the smaller, more intimate portraits and figure studies of the mid to late 19th century. A View of the World: British Watercolor Artists at Home and Abroad is a wonderful private

The Pearl complements its exhibitions with an active schedule of programs and services. Founded on the community center concept, the Pearl reaches beyond traditional museums to enlighten, educate and entertain. Hours of operation and more information is on their website at [www.pearlma.org](http://www.pearlma.org) or you may call the museum staff at 281-376-6322.

Their unique Fall 2010 Exhibitions are open until December 19th. The Grand Tour: British and French Portraits from a Texas Collection. This private Texas collection of twenty-two English,

Texas collection of 19th and 20th century watercolors by British artists. The artists in this exhibition painted both 'at home' with views of scenic English countryside, thatched cottages, rural villages and architectural landmarks such as cathedrals. However, British watercolor artists also embraced painting 'abroad' using the portable medium of watercolor for studies of the brilliant light of the Middle East, the architecture of the European Continent, and other sights around the world.

*(Continued on Page 7)*



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## Neighborhood E-Mail Group & Facebook

As a reminder, we'd like to get everyone in the neighborhood on the Villages of NorthPointe Yahoo Group so we can quickly communicate to you when necessary. We are using the Yahoo Group to communicate information as needed concerning issues, problems, requests and events that affect our neighborhood.

- Your email preferences can be set up to receive individual e-mails, Daily Digests, or no e-mail with access only to view when you choose. For those of you that don't want to get multiple emails per day, the Daily Digest works wonders. All emails that are posted to the group for the previous day will be compiled into one email sent between 7 and 8 a.m.
- Facebook account – Villages of NorthPointe HOA. The Facebook account is set up for casual chit-chat or discussions.

You must be a Villages of NorthPointe resident to be in the Yahoo group. Please contact Debbie Parker at [dparker39@att.net](mailto:dparker39@att.net) or make a request through the Yahoo Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthpointeNeighborhood>.

## Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts - (Continued from Page 5)

The Pearl is well known for their Family Day Events. They are always free and always fun! Their next Family Day events are on Saturday, October 9th from 10am – 5pm, Saturday, November 13th from 10am – 5pm, and Saturday, December 11th from 10am – 5pm.

Another offering of The Pearl is its Teen Art Workshops. These have a materials fee of \$20.00 and are a great way to experience a new style of artistic expression. Registration is required by calling the museum number at 281-376-6322.

**Saturday, October 16th**  
**Collage Your Portrait**  
**9am-12pm OR 1pm-4pm**

**Saturday, November 6th**  
**Andy Warhol Printmaking Portrait**  
**9am-12pm OR 1pm-4pm**

The Pearl is a completely 'Not for Profit' organization that is solely supported through Grants and private donations from community residents, businesses and friends of the museum. Be sure to stop in and see this gem in our area!

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



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](http://www.StarTexPower.com)

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## Christmas in November Sales Event!



Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm  
at the Villages of NorthPointe Clubhouse

Women from VNP and surrounding areas  
will have tables set up with products  
from their home businesses such as:

Usborne Children's Books & More,  
Personalized Gift items, Willowhouse Home  
accessories, Silpada jewelry, Cross Stitchery  
items, Baby Blankets, Christmas Crafts &  
Discovery Toys to mention a few!

Come support your local  
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know your neighbors!

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