

### OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SUMMERWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION. INC.

### **YOUR FAVORITE** SUMMERWOOD PHOTO

SUMMERWO

Congratulations to this Month's Winner!



Summerwood's Beautiful Lake Meredith! Photographed by Barbara Probandt

Summerwood Photo Contest

Have you recently taken a great photo of your family enjoying the outdoors in Summerwood? Have you taken a photo of our amenities or perhaps landscaping that you enjoy? We'd love to see your favorite Summerwood photo!

Please email it to: summerwood.newsletter@gmail.com and include your name and address along with a short paragraph about why the photo is your favorite. The winner will have his/her photo in next month's newsletter!

# **Getting Our Children Ready** for Success in 2011 by Lisa Bender, Summerwood Elementary School Counselor

It can be quite challenging to get everyone (including you) out the door and off to a successful day of work and school. January is a great time to evaluate and develop routines for optimal results. More likely than not, there seem to be small hurdles the family faces as they start the day. For example: forgotten homework, misplaced backpacks, and running late contribute to morning chaos. With a little effort from all involved, small changes can set a positive tone for the rest of the day.

Establishing a morning routine helps decrease morning stress that can linger with the child throughout the school day. Start your daily routine the night before by doing the following:

- · Have your children bathe or shower the night before so they are not rushed in the morning.
- Make sandwiches and snacks the night before and lay out the rest of their lunch items.
- Encourage the children to choose an outfit for the next day.

In the mornings, have a plan and be consistent. Do things in order so the children learn what comes next in preparing for the day. A simple list such as "Eat breakfast, change clothes, brush teeth, make beds, and get ready to leave" can be posted in places to remind the children. Stay in that routine and eventually the children will know what they are supposed to do without you telling them.

Another great way to start off our children's day is to ensure they have a nutritious breakfast. Research has shown that eating breakfast helps children perform better. The Food Research & Action Center in Washington, D.C. lists the following facts regarding children eating breakfast:

- Children who eat a complete breakfast, versus a partial one, make fewer mistakes and work faster in math and number checking tests.
- · Children who eat breakfast show improved cognitive function, attention, and memory.

(Continued on Page 2)



# **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Emergency Situations	911
Harris County Sheriff's Dept. (Dispatch)	713-221-6000
Constable - Precinct 3	281-427-4791
Houston Fire Station #10514014 W. La	ke Houston Pkwy
Hous	ston, Texas 77044
South Lake Houston EMS (Dispatch)	281-459-1277
Dead Animal Pick-Up (Precinct 1)	281-820-5151
Animal Control	281-999-3191
After Hours	281-221-5000

### UTILITY SERVICE NUMBERS

Public Utility Commission Consumer Hotline	.888-782-8477
Entouch Systems	281-225-1000
(Telephone, Cable, Alarm Monitoring)	
AT&T	800-288-2020

CenterPoint	713-659-2111
Reliant Energy	713-207-7777
South West Water Company (MUD #342,	#344, and #361)
Customer Service	713-405-1750
Garbage Pick-Up (Republic Waste)	281-446-2030
(Pick up on Mon. & Thurs - Garbage mus	t be out by 7 a.m.)

### SUMMERWOOD MARKETING

### SCHOOLS

Summerwood Elementary	
POST OFFICE	
Post Office	
9604 Mesa Drive; Houston, TX 770	78

### COMCAST

# **NEWSLETTER INFO**

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**LESS THAN A PENNY:** You can run a business classified in the Summerwood Life and reach all of Summerwood for only a penny per home. Call 512-263-9181 for details.

**College** - (Continued from Cover Page)

- Children participating in school breakfast are associated with improved grades, attendance, and punctuality.
- Consuming breakfast improves children's performance on demanding mental tasks and reaction to frustration.

As parents, teachers, and members of our community, we want all children to have the best opportunities for success in the learning environment. Starting the morning out on a positive note and ensuring that children have a nutritional breakfast are valuable tools that can be easily incorporated into our children's lives.



By Cassie Pfeifer, Lakeshore Student Council Sponsor

Lakeshore Elementary students recently showcased their talents in the 2nd Annual Lakeshore Talent Show "Rockin' in a Winter Wonderland". The students' acts ranged from archery and karate to dancing and singing. The show was culminated with the long awaited dancing teacher act. This year's show was a huge success and a great time was had by all!



Pictured is the "Black-eyed P's" teacher act.



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D o you have colleagues or friends who need assistance with a real estate transaction? Please refer them to me, and I'll put my skills and experience to work on their behalf.

# *Raise your Happiness Quotient*

ould you like to increase your feeling of satisfaction and contentment? Try these tips to pump up your happiness:

Do something that is activity oriented to raise endorphins. Television is more likely to create unhappiness, so keep it off!



- Adopt an Attitude of Gratitude write down the things you are thankful for once a week.
- Get into a hobby that will use and build on skills. Losing yourself in a task, or being *in the flow*, typically brings a satisfying sense of fulfillment.
- Connect with old and new friends; be the first to mend old gripes and grudges. Let go of the negative people in your life.
- Take the focus off of yourself by doing something nice for someone else. Give freely of yourself and do not expect recognition for your kindness.
- Think about the kind of person you would like to be in five or ten years. Focus on your personality and value system, not a lifestyle. Write down your thoughts.
- Do what optimists do keep reaching to achieve these goals even when you get discouraged.

## Clear the Clutter

B elow are some tips for getting a handle on clutter and getting rid of the excess "stuff" in your home. You'll find it takes significantly less time to organize your clutter than to repeatedly sift through it looking for lost items.

- Break down large tasks into smaller "chunks." For example, instead of attempting to clean out an entire closet, clean one shelf every Saturday morning. By the end of the month, you will have completed the entire job!
- Decide that everything that enters your home goes into one of the following three categories:
  - ✓ Your "To Do" basket
  - ✓ Another family member's "To Do" basket
  - ✓ The garbage
  - Apply this technique to mail to prevent pile-ups.
- Assign each family member a room or area in your home to clean and organize, and pick a specific date and time for "Home Cleaning Day." Together, you clear out the extra stuff throughout your home, transforming it in a single day!

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# Crime Watch Block Captains Look to 2011

Pictured are several actively involved Summerwood Crime Watch Committee members and block captains. They invite you to join them as they seek to improve communication throughout our neighborhood, plan for community events, and provide current information to their neighbors. Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Central Community building on Summerwood Lakes Drive. Come and volunteer to be a good neighbor!!







## Reporting Problems and Items of Concern to Maintenance

by Angela Douglas

Have you been to one of our wonderful Summerwood parks or facilities only to find something broken or even worse, vandalized? So what did you do? You called C.I.A. Services and reported it, right? Now there is an easier way of reporting these issues...no waiting till the office is open or even forgetting about the situation entirely.

Simply log onto www.SummerwoodLife.com and at the top of the homepage there are some new tabs. One tab allows you to make a report straight to the maintenance coordinator so that an assignment can be made quicker to get the issue corrected. No more making two or three phone calls or sending emails. Just one click, fill out the information, and send it in. It's that easy! There will also be tabs to make contacting the HOA Board of Directors and various committees easier as well. Log in and check it out!

Look What Santa Brought!!

Justin and Celine Wilson are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter, Rhys Monroe Wilson. She was an early Christmas present for her parents, born on December 24th! Congratulations to the Wilson family!





bashanspainting@earthlink.net





### 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								
					3	8		
			8	5				
1					8			4
4				2				6
	6					5	9	3
6		5					7	
				6		9		
		8			9	3		5
*Solution at www.PEELinc.com © 2007. Feature Exchange								



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# <u>SUMMERWOOD 🖄</u>

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# Yard of the Month Contest Update

The Summerwood Beautification Committee is suspending the Yard of the Month Contest until the spring when we will begin again with the April Yard of the Month. We have enjoyed publishing pictures of the beautiful yards in our neighborhoods and have also appreciated the really nice October, November, and December decorations. It is because of our residents that Summerwood is and continues to be a beautiful place to live.

Nominations for the April Yard of the Month should be emailed to summerwoodnewsletter@ gmail.com and received by March 8th. Please also submit a jpeg photo of the yard you are nominating if at all possible. This will give you a chance to portray the best possible view of the yard.

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Spring Garage Sale March 26th

> Spring Event April 16th SWE

Splash Day May 7th Club Central

Casino Night June 3rd

Independence Day Celebration July 4th V Club Central

Events

Back to School August 19th Club Summerwood

Fall Garage Sale September 17th

> National Night Out October 4th

Fall Festival October 15th Club Summerwood

> Winter Festival December 10th Club Summerwood



# Improve Running Workouts by Not Running

Whether you are training for a marathon or just getting into shape, keeping a regular running schedule is important. But doctors at Baylor College of Medicine (www.bcm. edu) say if you miss a workout, all is not lost. In fact, it can be beneficial.

"Rest days are important for runners to prevent injury as well as increase muscle strength," said Dr. Jane Corboy, associate professor of family and community medicine at BCM and certified sports medicine physician (http://www.baylorclinic.com/ find-a-doctor/details/index.cfm?id=231). "They allow the muscles to replenish glycogen (the energy source used during exercise) as well as allow the muscles to repair minor 'wear and tear' injuries."

Running every day, even while sore, does not weaken the muscles or joints, but it may not allow them to recover enough to adapt to training as well, said Corboy. Soreness is caused by microscopic tears to the muscle. It is part of adapting to a new activity and plays a role in eventually strengthening and conditioning the muscles, said Corboy.

She adds that doing another hard workout during the peak soreness, usually 24 to 48 hours after the workout that caused it, may result in increasing the inflammation and prolonging the pain. This could prevent gaining as much benefit out of the hard workout as you would if you did it when the muscles had recovered somewhat.

Doing a lighter workout or run may help with soreness but if the muscle is especially stiff, it may be better to do an alternative activity such as swimming or cycling, or take a day off from working out to allow recovery.

Corboy also suggests including strength training, particularly of core muscles, in order

to avoid injury and improve performance. Having weak core muscles makes the wear and tear of a long run become more and more magnified as the leg muscles fatigue. If the core is "wobbly" so are the hips, knees and ankles, she said.

Corboy suggests talking to your doctor to find out what workouts would be best to add to y o u r running schedule and when rest times are needed.





## The Hunger Games Trilogy By: Suzanne Collins

Remember the compelling and cult-following TV show, Lost? To me, The Hunger Games is the literary equivalent in that the writers creatively demonstrated survival and unity when faced with extremely harsh circumstances. The difference is that while Lost was the result of a plane crash on a strange island where anything could happen, The Hunger Games is ruled by the Capitol where young adults fight to the death as a form of entertainment for the government.

Set in the not so distant future, North America as we know it has been completely reorganized into separate districts (12 of them) all closely controlled by the militant, big brother, harsh "Capitol." These districts were formed when the Earth had become so violated environmentally and morally that war broke out. As a reminder to all of the segregated districts that rebellion is not tolerated, there is a yearly "Hunger Game" where a male and female from each district aged 12-18 is chosen at random to fight each other to the death. There can only be one victor and everything is televised, complete with sponsors.

It is in district 12 that the heroine, Katniss Everdeen lives with her mother (a healer) and her younger sister. Her father was killed in a mining accident but left his oldest daughter with the gifts and talents of hunting, which is her family's key to survival.

When Katniss' sister is chosen as one of the "tributes" to fight in the hunger games, Katniss volunteers in her place. Her male counterpart, Peeta, is also chosen.

Their experience at the Capitol and the whole tradition around the hunger games is so intriguing and fascinating as are the people they encounter. However, it is the way the hunger games are so carefully and technologically orchestrated and Katniss' amazing ingenuity and will to live and survive that kept me reading and enjoying the brutal, yet thoroughly entertaining book. At the time I am writing this review, I am already on the final book of the trilogy!

This book has it all -- a love triangle, a heroine, an underdog, fighting, mystery, science fiction--it is a reader's big Kit Kat bar!

Feel free to comment on this review, your thoughts on the book or suggest a book for me to review on my blog: http://brittsbuzz. blogspot.com.



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# - Kids Stuff-

Section for Kids with news, puzzles, games and more!

# When It's Just You in an Emergency

"Mom!" you yell down the stairs. "Where's my math book? I can't find it and the bus is coming! Please help me ... it's an emergency!"

It is kind of an emergency with the bus coming and all, but what about a medical emergency? That kind of emergency is usually more serious. If you don't have your math book or miss the bus, that would be bad. But a medical emergency means someone needs care from a doctor right away. Let's find out the right thing to do.

#### QUICK THINKING: WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Liz and her little brother Jamie are out for a walk. Jamie decides to race ahead down a very steep hill. He's running pretty fast when he suddenly trips. Over and over he falls, rolling down the hill at high speed until he's sprawled out on the sidewalk at the bottom.

Liz rushes to her brother's side, hoping that he's OK.Then she sees some blood on the pavement. And Jamie isn't moving at all.What should she do? First things first: Liz should call for help right away.

Calling for help is the most important thing a kid can do in an emergency.

thing a kid can do in an emergency. If you are going to be the one making the emergency phone call, here's what to do:

- Take a deep breath to calm down a little.
- Tell the operator there's an emergency.

- Say your name and where you are (the exact address if you know it).
- Explain what happened and how many people are hurt. (The operator will need all the information you can provide, so give as many details as you can.)
- Stay on the line until the operator says it's OK to hang up.

After calling for help, your first thought might be to rush over to the person who's injured. But stop and look before you do. Make sure the scene is safe. If it's not, wait in a safe spot until a grown-up or an emergency team arrives.

If the scene is safe, and as soon as Liz is sure someone is calling 911 - or she has called it herself – she could return to her brother and wait until help arrives. (She shouldn't move her brother at all because he could have a neck or other bone injury. Moving someone who has that sort of injury can make it much worse.) She can help him feel calm by being calm herself.

#### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

The best way to handle an emergency is to be prepared for one. Knowing what to do ahead of time can help you stay in control so that you can help. Here are some suggestions on how to be ready to help in an emergency:

When you are outdoors, make sure you are in an area where you can call out for help even if you don't have a phone with you.

- Know how to dial 911 or your local emergency number. In most areas in the United States, it's 911.
- If you have one, carry a cell phone or know how to use your parent's cell phone.
- Learn first aid. Look for basic first-aid classes with your local Red Cross, the YMCA or YWCA, the Boy or Girl Scouts, 4-H clubs, your local hospital, and other organizations. Or ask your school nurse to have a first-aid class just for students in your school.

It's scary to think about someone getting hurt. But the truth is that accidents can and do happen. They happen when people are being careless and careful. Sometimes, kids are the ones who get hurt. Sometimes, grown-ups get hurt. Either way, it's good to know what to do if someone needs emergency medical help. Even though you're a kid, you can make a big difference by doing the right thing.

Reviewed by: Kate Cronan, MD • Date reviewed: August 2007

### Be a Hero the Smart Way

In an emergency, a kid might think about playing the superhero by driving a car or racing into a burning building. Do do it! you could cause another accident or make the situation worse. If you get hurt, too, who will call 911?

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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