

Worham Villages

Volume 11, Issue 4
Worham Villages

April 2011

www.worhamweb.org

Between the Lane Lines: *All in the Family, by: Jonathan Armstrong*

I'm not just the Whiteshark Coach, I'm also a Whiteshark Dad. Usually when I write a newsletter article I'm talking to you as Coach Jon, diehard coach of the Whitesharks. This time I thought I would write to you as Jon, Swim Dad. Sure, I have mentioned my kids in previous articles, but always as Coach Jon (which, by the way, my kids start calling me by the end of the season, even at home!). Now I can tell my story from the perspective of a Whiteshark parent.

You could say we are a "swim family." Mindy and I swam competitively growing up, then on our varsity teams in college, and we still swim and even compete today. Naturally I want my kids to swim, but like any good parent, I don't push it. My kids swim because they love it, and they swim because of the Whitesharks. Even when we swim in the winter and spring, it's all about getting ready for the Whitesharks. As they have grown up, each of my kids have looked forward to the day when they would be old enough to join the Whitesharks. We don't take our vacation until swim season is over (there's plenty of time in July and August!). I was proud when my first born started swimming with the Whitesharks. I am going to be a very proud Dad when all my kids are on the team (not to mention the fact that it makes it much easier when we are all going to the same place!).

David first started swimming at 3, almost 4. That first summer he was slow, almost the slowest of all the boys actually, but we didn't care, he was having fun. And I will admit that I cheered a little bit louder when he was in the water (still do). David has been on the team now for 4 years, and each year is new and special. He went from being the 'A' relay at 6, to on the bubble at 7. As a Dad, I really wanted David on the 'A' relay, but when he got bumped, I understood. David was

not phased in the least, which frustrates me just a little bit because I am such a competitive person, but that's OK, he's only 7. David has improved through the summers and has had a great time, which are the two most important goals of the Whitesharks. As a parent, I love that about the Whitesharks.

Caroline started swimming last summer. My little social child was more interested in talking than swimming most of the time, but many of the Whitesharks are there for the social side of the sport, and that's great too. Caroline improved tremendously, and strangely enough for two breaststroke parents, she has turned into quite a little backstroker. I can't help but burst with pride as she swims, "That's my girl!". This summer I know I will burst with pride again as little Leah also climbs up on those blocks and launches herself into the pool for a race.

True to Whiteshark spirit, other parents cheer for my kids as well. We all cheer for each other's kids, it's one of those things that makes the Whitesharks special. It's social time for us as well. We get to hang out as we watch our kids swim (OK, so I don't get to hang out as much as some of the other parents, but I get to be social sometimes too). I know parents who are sad when their kids decide that they don't want to do swim team again. Actually, we all are. The Whitesharks is its own little family, and we don't like to see anyone leave. The Whitesharks have great retention, about the best in the league, but we still lose some of our swimmers to other activities, or frustratingly, to their cozy bed on Saturday mornings (I still don't understand this. Really?). Hopefully, I will have the opportunity to graduate off my kids from the Whitesharks at 18, a very special occasion and honor.

(Continued on Page 3)

Wortham Villages

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

MANAGEMENT

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Clubhouse - Linda Carter.....281-894-5821
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Park Committee - Martin Maynemartin@mayne.us, 281-955-2240
Recreational Facilities Committee - Rick Anderson, 281-890-4878
Sports Fields Reservations - Myra Edwards.....
Social - Rebecca Shane..... 281-890-730
Tennis Committee - Dorota Jankovsky.....281-955-9626
Neighborhood Watch Committee Co Chairs
Shawn Lacagnina, shawnlacagnina@gmail.com, 281-235-5830
Herman de Hoop, hdehoop@worthamweb.org, 281-546-1493

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Life Threatening Emergency 911
Fire 911
Sheriff's Department..... 911
Poison Control.....281-654-1701

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance713-466-4073
Cy-Fair Med. Clinic (24 hr).....281-890-5285
Sheriff's Department.....713-221-6000
Harris County Health Dept.....713-440-4800 or 3036
Animal Control281-999-3191
FBI713-693-5000
UTILITIES: Electricity - HL&P713-207-7777
Gas - Entex.....713-659-2111
WATER & SEWER - MUD 222 (Municipal Operations)
Service & Billing.....281-367-5511
Telephone - Southwestern Bell713-237-6202
Cable TV - Comcast.....713-341-1000
Street Lights713-207-2222
Garbage & Recycling (Republic Waste)281-446-2030

NOTE: If you have complaints about garbage service, after you call Republic Waste please notify Municipal Operations of your complaint.

U.S. POST OFFICE - FAIRBANKS STATION

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Wortham Villages

Neighborhood Watch

Between the Lane Lines - (Continued from Cover Page)

In the meantime, I am enjoying my kids doing something they love to do. Every year is a new adventure. It's a family affair, and we all love it. We are busy like all other families, with three young children and multiple activities, work, and hopefully a small amount of time for ourselves. In the summer we are of course extra busy with coaching on top of it all, but it's all worth it for the experiences, for our kids and for us. I hope that everyone can join us for the same experiences, summer after summer after summer.

Whiteshark practices start April 25. My family will be there, I hope yours will be too.

The Cookie Monster says that the Whitesharks are,
THE GREAT BIG COOKIE AT THE TOP OF THE JAR!



VACATION: If you go on vacation and would like to have the sheriff check on your house, call 281 290 2100. Be prepared to give the sheriff your name and address, contact phone numbers and dates when you are gone.

ALARM SYSTEMS: The Sheriff's Dept. has asked that we send out something in our newsletter to remind everyone that alarm system permits are required for any residence or business in all of Harris County, not just the city. Fee is \$35 to be issued and \$10 annual renewal. Permit fees waived for 65 and older.

Under current guidelines, a permitted locations is allowed five (5) free false alarms annually. Any subsequent false alarms during your permitted year are subject to a \$75 fine that is billed to the permit holder's address. If a house has an active alarm system, yet does not have a permit to operate such alarm, a false alarm may result in a Class C citation which could range up to a \$500 fine. You can review the regulation and print a copy of the application form by visiting the Harris County Sheriff's Office website at www.hcso.hctx.net and search for alarm permit or call the Sheriff's Alarm Detail at 713-755-4600.

Herman and Shawn

FERTILIZE: Trees. Preferable method is done by making series of holes 3' apart with crowbar or similar tool to depth of 18" — 2" in diameter, just inside drip-line of branches. Fill half full with fertilizer, balance with soil, then water thoroughly. All **roses, shrubs and plants. Azaleas AFTER** blooming. **Camellias** lightly.

PEST CONTROL: Spray **roses and shrubs** if infested with scale. Watch closely for aphids, red spiders, and cut worms on new growth. Treat immediately with formula recommended by your favorite nurseryman. Spray **azaleas** 2 or 3 times a week during blooming season to avoid petal blight. Spray **camellias** for tea scale.

PRUNE: Finish pruning **roses and dormant shrubs and trees. Azaleas AFTER** blooming.

BULBS: Beginning in February, plant **gladioli** every two weeks through May for succession of summer blooms. Planting may be resumed in July, continuing through September for fall blooms. Bed should be of rich, sandy garden soil in a location that is well drained and has at least 6 hours of sun. Work lots of organic matter and bonemeal into soil. **Avoid fresh manure with all bulbs.** Select bulbs that are an inch thick and about 1½" in diameter. Dust bulbs with insecticide before planting. Water freely and feed with a liquid fertilizer once a week from the time the stalks begin to lengthen until they show color. Bulbs should be lifted **after foliage has dried.** Remove old foliage before storing and treat with insecticide.

As the spring flowering bulbs fade, remove flower heads to prevent going to seed. **Cut foliage after it has turned brown and dried.** The leaves on bulbs produce the food for next year's flowers. Feed each bulb as soon as blooms fade with about three heaping tablespoons of bonemeal.

Buying or selling, please remember me!



Gardening Hints & Tips

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Wortham Villages

Recreational Facilities Corner

by Rick Anderson

Well, believe it or not a new pool season is almost upon us. Hard to believe we are planning on getting ready for the opening of the pool for 2011. Great Houston Pool Management will once again be managing and operating our pool for us this year and we look forward to another great year with their help and the help of all our homeowners.

The Homeowner's Association Board members will once again be handing out pool tags as a courtesy to our residents. The designated pool tag hand out dates and times are as follows; Saturday (4/30) and Sunday (5/1) from 1-3 pm and Tuesday (5/3) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Please try

to make one of these times. Pool tags must be picked up by an adult in the household and will only be given to homeowner's who are in good standing with the Association (annual fees paid in full and no outstanding deed restriction violations). So please address these issues before picking up the pool tags.

We will once again have our Annual Pool opening Party on Saturday (May 7) from 12 to 3 pm. The Homeowner's Associations sponsors this event and food, door prizes and games for the kids will be provided. Greater Houston pool Management party directors will be organizing the games for the kids. We have a great turnout

each year and look forward to seeing all of you there again this year. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event please contact me at the contact information noted below.

One of the projects we completed over the winter months and does not show any visible improvements, but helps a great deal related to our use of the pool/clubhouse facilities, is that we significantly modified and increased our electrical power capacity at the pool/clubhouse. So, we should not have any more problems with any power outages to breakers tripping, as well as additional capacity for future uses was added to the system.

On a side note, we would ask again for those of you who use the tennis courts to please turn off the lights when you leave and no one else is playing on the courts. Lights left on and no one playing at night costs us money, needlessly, for electricity. So please help us out and watch for this the next time you use them. Also, be courteous and pick up your trash from the tennis courts and place it in the trash cans outside of the fenced area.

The Recreational Facilities Committee will be meeting, beginning in early April and May to plan this year's efforts, which include the pool tag hand out process and Pool Opening

(Continued on Page 5)



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REALTY

Recreational Facilities - (Continued from Page 4)

Party as well as to look at our next projects for continuing to update and improve the facilities we have. So we really could use more help in this process and would welcome more volunteers. So if you are interested, please contact Rick Anderson at rick_anderson@efiglobal.com or call me at 281-890-4878. Thanks to you all for making this a great place to live and let's have a great pool season.

Stork Report

We want to share with you the birth of our new son, Raphael Diaz was born on March 1st, 2011 at 17:33. His weight was 6.11 lbs and height 20.5". He is a healthy boy and our family is so happy with the new addition.

*The Diaz Family
Apple Forest Trl.*

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Wortham Villages

Neighborhood Watch Committee Block Captains

Apple Forest	Ghormley, Jay & Angela	281-955-7072
Aspen Bough	Bruckner, Eric & Marie	281-890-8667
Azalea Creek	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	
Birch Falls	Carter, Linda	281-894-5821
Brook Mill	Young, Deanna	281-890-0598
Carriage Lake	Boushley, Connie	281-890-3499
Carriage Lake	Meinecke, Betty-J. Hargrove	281-890-4329
Chestnut Woods	Hutchinson, Mark & Jan	281-894-8410
Chestnut Woods	Claiborne, Ed & Pam	281-469-7646
Dawn Point & Elm Bough	Ramos, Angelina	281-970-8545
Dogwood Blossom	Sanchez, Brice	
Dogwood Blossom	De Hoop, Herman	281-894-0212
Elm Bridge Court	Henkhaus, Kim	281-469-7105
Fern Vale	Lawrence, Reschele & Philip	281-469-6321
Harvest Dale	Welch, Terri	281-890-4061
Harvest Dale	Franklin, Vernetta	281-807-3834
Hickory Tree	Pickens, Cindy	281-894-0444
Hillside Glen	Smet, Guido & Shelia	281-970-4766
Hillside Glen (N)	Bell, Tom & Sharon	281-890-7606
Lark Brook	Thomas, Barbara	281-897-1191
Lark Brook	Lara, Peggy	281-970-4052
Magnolia Leaf	MacDonald, Lori	281-469-0874
Magnolia Leaf	Canterbury, Eloise	281-894-8424
Orchard Hollow & Town Elm	Dineen, Mike	281-894-6256
Orchard Hollow	Tolbert, Toney & Shirley	281-894-0085
Plum Vale	Kelley, Dale	281-469-1371
Reedwood Ridge	Crawford, Tracy	281-650-3266
Reedwood Ridge	McGlamory, Kay	281-955-2107
Shady Fern	Thornton, Carolyn	281-807-1816
Spruce Knoll	Meyer, Bob	281-469-3740
Sycamore Heights	Sommer, Donna	832-237-4684
Timberland Trace	Peterson, Sandra	281-897-9875
Tulip Garden	Lawler, Tammie	281-807-1323
Tulip Garden	Jones, David & Jill	281-955-8972
Tulip Garden	Chisari, Paul	281-894-7053
Walnut Lake	Heafner, Cissy	281-477-9553
Wortham Blvd.	Culp, Susan	713-599-1000
Wortham Blvd.	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	

You're Invited

11038 Lark Brook at Sunday, April 17 12n-5 pm

Margaret & Herb Loper will be a stop along the way of the city-wide Houston Rose Society annual garden tour. The tour is open to the public at no charge. The Lopers were on the tour in 2009 and more than 50 visitors stopped in. Since that time, several new roses have been added to the garden. Two of the new additions are climbers and are in the back yard. They should be putting on a spectacular display. So.....take time to stop in to meet your neighbors, smell the roses, and have a cookie. Hope to see you next month.

What's Happening in Wortham?

If you have some news or fun activities happening in your life, please let us hear from you! We'd like to share the news in our future newsletters. Are you or someone in your family running a marathon? Do you have a new member of your family? Any children accomplishments to brag about? Please share with your neighbors! Send your info and pictures to hdehoop@worthamweb.org. *All news must be received by the 12th of the month prior to the issue*

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Wortham Villages

Pool Schedule, Hours of Operation, and Staffing

May 7th through June 1st

Mondays through Fridays	Closed
Saturdays	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sundays	12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Exceptions:

Saturday, May 7th (Opening Day)	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Saturday, May 14th (Swim Meet)*	2:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Saturday, May 28th (Swim Meet)*	2:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Monday, May 30th (Memorial Day)	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

June 2nd through August 21st

Mondays	4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Tuesdays	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Wednesdays	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Thursdays	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Fridays	10:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Saturdays	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Exceptions:

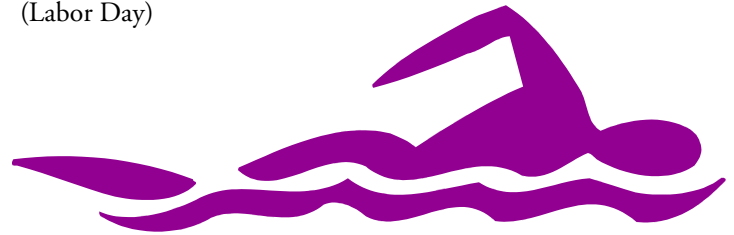
Saturday, June 11th (Swim Meet)*	2:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday, June 18th (Swim Meet)*	2:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Monday, July 4th	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Tuesday, July 5th	4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

August 22nd through September 5th

Mondays through Fridays	Closed
Saturdays	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sundays	12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Exceptions:

Monday, September 5th (Labor Day)	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
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FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

Wortham Villages

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc. *PRESEASON NEWS ARTICLE 2011*

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc. is pleased to be managing the Wortham Villages Community again for 2011. Beginning in 1999, GHPMI was founded on three guiding principles: safety, customer service, and cleanliness. With safety as our # 1 priority, we spend a great deal of time, energy, and money making sure that every GHPMI team member has the appropriate tools to be successful. We also feel it's important that when you visit the swimming pool, you are greeted by a smiling, friendly, and professional lifeguard team. Equally as important to us is the overall cleanliness of your facility. Clear and properly maintained pool water, clean and pleasant smelling restrooms, and a debris free pool deck are qualities that top our expectation list.

To help ensure that your visit to the pool is a safe one, we are thrilled to continue the lifejacket loaner program which began in 2010. Because GHPMI feels so strongly about this program, we offer it to your community at no expense. We will provide your swimming pool a station where lifejackets will be kept. These lifejackets will be available for you and your community members to use during your visit to the pool. The station will be equipped with a range of lifejacket sizes, which should accommodate the needs of most

children. While the availability of a lifejacket should not replace learning to swim, this program will aid you and your child as they transition into a higher comfort level in the water. We understand that this transition happens for children at different ages; therefore, we feel it is necessary to provide a program that reaches out to several age groups. Please join us this summer as we look forward to providing your community a safer and more educated swimming environment.

If something is not offered at your facility, please let us know. We make every effort to accommodate all requests. We want your visit to the pool to be a safe and positive experience.

Communication plays a very important role to the overall success of the summer swim season. Every year we receive compliments on our proactive and preventative approach. By taking preventative measures, we feel that you and your guests will have a sense of real comfort while visiting your swimming facility. GHPMI understands that communication is a two way street and appreciate any and all questions, comments, and/or concerns you may have throughout the summer. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact our office

(Continued on Page 10)

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INFANTS CHILDREN TEENS

Wortham Villages

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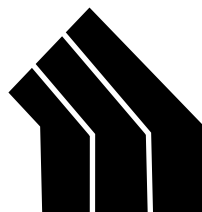


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Wortham Villages

Greater Houston Pool - (Continued from Page 8)

at anytime: 713.771.7665. You may also visit us online at www.greaterhoustonpool.com. Further, please take the time to introduce yourself to your lifeguard team. We truly enjoy getting to know the members we so proudly serve.

Allow us to start the swim season off on a positive note by providing some valuable safety reminders. It is very important to remember that ultimately you, as the parent/guardian, are the first line of defense for a safe trip to the swimming pool. It is imperative that your non-swimming or novice swimmers are always within an arms length of a parent/guardian. With your support, we are confident that the 2011 swim season will be a safe and positive experience for all.

- Parents must closely supervise their children at all times. Remember, it only takes seconds for a child to drown.
- Define a safe zone for your children where they can always touch the bottom. One of the most common saves a lifeguard must make is when a swimmer strays to an area that is too deep for them to stand.
- Access rules to the facility will be strongly enforced and are the responsibility of each member to understand and follow. It is a very awkward and uncomfortable situation for everyone when

a lifeguard must ask a member to go back home to get the appropriate access tag.

- The safety of a child in the baby pool is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. The lifeguards will always enforce the pool rules throughout the facility, but children who cannot swim must have an adult within arms reach at all times. The same rule applies even if the child is wearing a floatation device.
- Remember that there are several different types of people who like to use the pool throughout the summer. Both young and old, everyone wants to have a good time.
- Do not dive in areas marked "NO DIVING". Nearly 90 percent of all spinal injuries occur in the shallow end of the pool.
- Breath holding games can be very dangerous and may cause cardiac arrhythmia or seizures. Games like who can hold their breath the longest and swimming the longest distance underwater should be avoided at all times.
- Don't allow children to play with or around the main drain. The main drain suction can be very powerful and has been known to cause severe injuries and in some cases death.

(Continued on Page 11)

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Greater Houston Pool - (Continued from Page 10)

- If you should ever have a question about the pool rules, ask a lifeguard or Manager. It is better to be safe than sorry!
- Help us educate your community members and their guests on water safety. A team approach towards safety will offer a safer swimming environment.

We look forward to successfully operating your swimming facility, while offering a safe, clean and relaxing environment.

Incident Report February 2011

Incident	Offense Total	Incident	Offense Total
911 Hang Up	1	Information Call	1
Accident Major	1	Meet the Citizen	7
Accident Minor	1	Meet the Officer	3
Alarm Local	15	MUD Building Check	28
Alarm/Aud/Silent	1	Neighborhood Check	2
Alarm/Rep.Site	1	Parking Lot Check	2
Arson/Fire	1	Suspicious Person	16
Burglary/Habitat	1	Traffic Stop	19
Check Business	24	Vacation Watch	24
Check Park	125	Vehicle Stickered	4
Contract Check	22	Vehicle Suspicious	6
DWI	1	Vehicle Stolen	1

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*According to information taken from the HAR MLS Computer
**Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009