

# NORTHLAKE FOREST Herald

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE NORTHLAKE  
FOREST HOA

May 2011

Volume 1, Issue 5

## Crime Stoppers of Houston Coming to Northlake Forest!

Northlake Forest has recently joined Crime Stoppers of Houston's Safe Neighborhood Program. To kickoff our new program, Katherine Cabaniss, the Executive Director of Crime Stoppers, will be visiting Northlake Forest residents to discuss the program and answer any questions we might have. Her presentation is expected to be insightful and valuable on all aspects of crime prevention. We look forward to all of you joining us for this event!

**Date: Wednesday, May 25th**

**Time: 6:30 – 7:00 pm**

**Where: Cypress Point Rec Center**

**\*Please RSVP to [kelful@gmail.com](mailto:kelful@gmail.com)**



## Pool Tags

Northlake Forest's community pool is open this year beginning 10 a.m. Saturday May 14th, **Pool Tag Pick-Up:** Saturday May 7th and Saturday May 14th. (Times to be determined... please check the website for updates)

Tags are renewed each year – 2010 tags are no longer valid. To use the pool each resident must be current on all fees (or on an agreed payment installment plan) and in compliance with the deed restrictions.

*If you do not pick up your tags at the pool, you will need to contact PCMI at 281-870-0585 to obtain your tags.*

## Summer 2011

### CAMP HOPE – 3 RING CIRCUS

You don't have to sit at home, bored this summer! Kids ages 5 years old - 6th grade can catch high-flying fun with crafts, games, activities, splash days and more at Messiah Lutheran Church's 3-Ring-Circus, Camp Hope! Worship, Bible Study and expressive arts are going to wow your mind and heart in this big-top summer day camp. Week 1 – July 11-15, Week 2 – July 18-22 and Week 3 – July 25-29, 9:30-3:30 each day, are going to be three action-packed rings of outrageous adventure. For more information, contact us at (281)890-3013 or register at [www.messiahlc.org](http://www.messiahlc.org).

### CRIMSON CADETTE DRILL TEAM DANCE CLINIC

**Cypress Woods High School**

**16925 Spring Cypress Rd.**

**8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

The Cy-woods Crimson Cadettes Drill Team will host their 6th annual dance clinic for K-12 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 10-12. This is a major fund-raiser for the team and enables them to participate in activities throughout the 2011-2012 school year. The fee is \$55 and includes dance technique, specially choreographed routines for each age group, a t-shirt, drinks and snacks each day and a picture for each participant. Showoffs will be held the last day at 11:30 a.m. For more information email [goodsonms@comcast.net](mailto:goodsonms@comcast.net) or check out our website at [www.crimsoncadettes.com](http://www.crimsoncadettes.com). On the website, you will find a sign-up form and a link to PayPal for easy payment.

# NORTHLAKE FOREST

## NORTHLAKE FOREST COMMITTEES

### LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Chair ..... Chuck Dale  
Team Lead ..... Paul Rath

### POOL & TENNIS COURTS- COMMITTEE

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Team Lead ..... Merritt Rundell

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Team Lead ..... Kelly Moore

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### EVENTS COMMITTEE

Chair ..... TBD  
Team Lead ..... TBD

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chair ..... Dan Daues  
Team Lead ..... Paul Rath

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please contact a board member with your interest.

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### EDITOR

Wendy McCurley..... wendymccurley@gmail.com

### PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181  
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com

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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance/Fire/Police..... 911  
Poison Control ..... 1-800-222-1222

### NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Constable, Precinct 4 ..... (281) 376-3472  
Harris County Sheriff ..... (713) 221-6000  
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department..... (281) 550-6663  
Cypress Substation ..... (281) 376-2997

### GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

Animal Control ..... (281) 999-3191  
Health Department ..... (281) 439-6290

### *Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4*

Jerry Eversole - Community Assistance Office .. (713) 755-6444  
Harris County Appraisal District ..... (713) 957-7800  
Social Security..... (800) 772-1213  
Department of Public Safety (*Grant Rd*) .... (281)-890-5440  
Department of Public Safety (*Hempstead*) .. (979)-826-4066

### POST OFFICE

USPS (Cypress) ..... (281) 373-9013

### LIBRARY

NW Harris County Library (*Lonestar College*) .. (281) 618-5400  
Barbara Bush Library (*Cypress Creek*)..... (281) 376-4610

### SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices ..... (281) 897-4000  
Farney Elementary ..... (281) 373-2850  
Goodson Middle School ..... (281) 373-2350  
Cy-Woods High School ..... (281) 213-1800

### UTILITIES

#### *Northwest M.U.D. No. 10*

(Setup service/billing) ..... (281) 579-4500  
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#### *Best Trash*

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Centerpoint (*Gas*) ..... (713) 207-7777

## DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR THE MAIL?

View the current issue of the Northlake Forest Herald on the 1st day of each month at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)

## Architectural Request for Improvements

**JUST A REMINDER:** Any changes or improvements to the exterior of your home (new garage doors, installing a pool, new windows, covered patios/decks, walkways, painting etc) must have the approval of the Architectural Committee. The ARC has up to 45 days to approve plans so keep that in mind when hiring a contractor. Forms and instructions can be found on our website at [www.northlakeforesthoa.com](http://www.northlakeforesthoa.com) under NLF Forms.

## Northlake Forest Classifieds

**FOR SALE!** 2005 Kymco Moped 2ZX50 - \$699. 665 miles, showroom condition, street legal, and easy to ride. Contact: 281-627-3361

**FOR SALE!** 2003 Marin Muirwoods 13" Comfort/Commuter Bicycle - \$250. Mint condition. Very lightly ridden (+/- 3 times). Contact BJ for more information: [bjmccurley@gmail.com](mailto:bjmccurley@gmail.com)

## NORTHLAKE FOREST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President ..... Paul Rath  
Vice President ..... Dan Daues  
Treasurer ..... Russell McPherson  
Secretary ..... Kelly Moore  
Director ..... Wendy McCurley

If you notice a problem or have a concern about something within NLF, please complete the form on our website and bring it to the attention of the management company or Board member so that the issue can be addressed.

### MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Planned Community Management, Inc. (PCMI)  
Michael Quast  
(281) 870-0585  
[mquast@stes.com](mailto:mquast@stes.com)  
[www.pcmi-us.com](http://www.pcmi-us.com)

Northlake Forest HOA Website: [www.northlakeforesthoa.com](http://www.northlakeforesthoa.com)

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# NORTHLAKE FOREST

## Foundation for Foreign Study

Families from all over the Houston area are opening up their homes and lives to foreign exchange students through the EF Foundation for Foreign Study.

EF Foundation is a leader in high school foreign exchange, bringing more students to the United States than any other exchange program. A nonprofit committed to promoting global awareness for over 30 years; EF Foundation leverages a committed network of local coordinators to connect thousands of students with caring American families each year.

EF exchange students come from more than 30 countries around the world and are between the ages of 15 and 18. The majority of students stay for a full high school year. In the past, exchange students have come to live in Texas from as far away as Germany, Hong Kong, Australia and Norway, to name a few.

I am an International Exchange Coordinator for EF Foundation. I will be working with the community to secure host families for a number of students this year.

In order to raise awareness of this life-changing opportunity, we need the community to see local narratives of the wonderful families and students who have had unforgettable experiences through the program.

### CHECK OUT OUR INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS!

- <http://vimeo.com/1154826>
- <http://vimeo.com/10247951>
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLldRF-4x04&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLldRF-4x04&feature=player_embedded)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSFCbQFCT5k&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSFCbQFCT5k&feature=player_embedded)

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any inquiries, as we would be happy to work with you.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Tausworthe  
EF Foundation for Foreign Study  
713-203-6556  
[jenn423124@aol.com](mailto:jenn423124@aol.com)  
[www.effoundation.org](http://www.effoundation.org)



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INFANTS CHILDREN TEENS



## SCOOP THE POOP!

Please be considerate and pickup after your pet from your neighbor's yard and any neighborhood common areas when you take them for walks. It is a simple task...pet waste stations have been placed throughout the neighborhood as a courtesy to our residents to dispose of animal waste properly.



## SUMMERTIME IS COMING...

Make sure your little ones are prepared for the pool by signing up for swim lessons! Below are a couple places in our area that provide swim lessons.

**FLEET (CY-FAIR SWIM CLUB)**  
14654 Spring Cypress Rd., Cypress  
281-376-2372

**THE MET FAMILY LIFE CENTER**  
11403 Regency Green Drive, Houston  
281-890-778

**YMCA - CYPRESS CREEK**  
19915 S. Hwy. 249, Houston  
281-469-148

## BLOCK CAPTAINS

Please visit the Neighborhood Watch page on our website at [www.northlakeforesthoa.com](http://www.northlakeforesthoa.com). Click the link to view the Block Captains by Zone and verify that the information is correct. If you are listed as a block captain but are no longer able to perform the duties of a block captain, or if you are interested in becoming a block captain and would like information email Kelly at [kelful@gmail.com](mailto:kelful@gmail.com).

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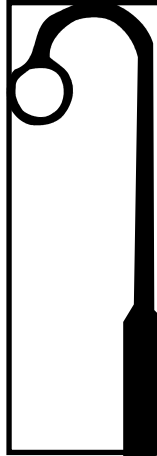
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## Recipe of the Month

### CROCKPOT TACO CHICKEN

- 1 pound boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 can cream of mushroom or cream of chicken soup
- 1 cup salsa
- 1/2-3/4 package taco seasoning
- 1 cup sour cream

Put chicken, soup, and salsa in slow cooker. Sprinkle taco seasoning over everything. Cook on low for 6 hours. Shred the chicken. Stir in sour cream and heat just until everything is combined.

*Do You Have Reason  
to Celebrate?*

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Email [wendymccurley@gmail.com](mailto:wendymccurley@gmail.com) to let  
the community know!



**Family Fun Center**  
13529 Skinner Road  
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281-304-6565

## Cypress Birthday Party Headquarters

### Hours

Monday	Closed
Tues & Weds	Private Parties
Thursday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Friday	6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Saturday	11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sunday	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

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## **RANGO** - *Starring: Johnny Depp, Isla Fisher, Abigail Breslin*

*Johnny Depp voices the scaly, heroic title character in "Rango."*

*Director: Gore Verbinski ("Pirates of the Caribbean") Written by: John Logan ("Gladiator")*

Industrial Light and Magic sure knows how to make a great first impression. "Rango," the first-ever animated feature created by the George Lucas company, is an impressive adventure film set in the Old West featuring a scrawny pet chameleon as it's courageous hero.

When Rango (Johnny Depp), an aspiring thespian, strolls into the small town of Dirt after landing in the desert, he is given the chance to start on a clean slate and become whoever he wants in his new surroundings. No one in Dirt knows who he is, so he conjures up a few lies and jumps into character as a mysterious gunslinger who isn't afraid of anything the big, bad desert has to offer, including the villainous Rattlesnake Jake (Bill Nighy).

Reminiscent of the storyline in the 1986 comedy "The Three Amigos," the towns people, made up of some bizarre looking creatures, accept Rango into their dried-up community and make



him sheriff when he accidentally kills a terrorizing hawk. As sheriff, it's now up to Rango to somehow bring water to the thirsty people of Dirt before more of them pack up and take off in search of the one thing they need to survive the desert heat.

As an animated spaghetti Western, "Rango" takes its original narrative and sets it on a dark and dangerous path most cartoons would never tread. Leave it to director Gore Verbinski, who teamed up with Depp in the first two "Pirates" movies, to find inspiration from Western classics like those from director Sergio Leone. Along with exquisite imagery and witty dialogue from the title character, "Rango" is an imaginative and sort of hallucinatory tribute (see if you can spot the "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" reference) to a genre most kids aren't exposed to nearly enough. With a lizard as the lead, this is as kid-friendly as it's going to get.

*(Grade: B+ by Cinesnob.net)*

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## FINANCIAL FOCUS

### *"Munis" Can Still Work for You — Even in Tough Times*

No matter where you live, the chances are good that a state or local government near you may be having some difficulty in balancing its budget. As a citizen, you're probably concerned about how this situation will affect your life and your community. But as an investor, you may also wonder how this might affect any municipal bonds you own. Fortunately, the outlook might be brighter than you think.



Of course, taken to the extreme, the financial challenges of some state and local governments could conceivably affect their ability to fulfill the payment obligations on their municipal bonds. But investment-grade quality municipal bond default rates historically have been very low, especially when compared to those of corporate bonds. And municipalities are cutting spending, eliminating nonessential programs and, in some cases, raising taxes or fees. In short, they are taking steps that, while potentially painful to residents, are likely to help them continue making timely payments of interest and principal on their municipal bond obligations. Furthermore,

municipalities must still fund various projects, and even one bond payment default could impact their future ability to borrow money in the form of new municipal bonds.

So are munis right for you? The answer depends on your situation — your goals, need for investment income, current investment mix, risk tolerance and so on. But if you want to receive interest payments that are exempt from federal taxes, you may well be interested

in exploring municipal bonds. Keep in mind, though, that municipal bonds may be subject to state and local taxes and the alternative minimum tax (AMT).

In addition, you'll want to be familiar with "taxable-equivalent yield." Typically, municipal bonds pay an interest rate that's lower than those paid by taxable bonds. Since this interest is free from federal taxes, however, the rate may not be as low as it appears. The taxable-equivalent yield measures the rate you'd have to earn on a taxable bond to match the income from a tax-exempt municipal

*(Continued on Page 9)*

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## Financial Focus - (Continued from Page 8)

bond. And the higher your tax bracket, the higher your taxable-equivalent yield.

Suppose that you're in the 35% marginal tax bracket, and you are considering a tax-exempt municipal bond with a 3.33% yield. You simply divide 3.33% (0.0333 in decimal form) by 1 minus 0.35 (your tax bracket), which would give you 0.0512, or 5.12%. In this tax bracket, a muni with a 3.33% yield is equivalent to a taxable bond with a 5.12% yield. (This example is for illustration purposes only.)

Keep in mind that, before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and you can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity. So it's best to discuss municipal bonds with your financial and tax advisors.

By adding quality municipal bonds to your portfolio, you can show faith in your municipality, your investment dollars can help support worthwhile projects in your area, and you receive a steady source of tax-exempt income.

## LOCAL HOSPITALS

### Texas Children's Health Center (Cy-Fair)

11777 FM 1960 West, Houston, TX 77065  
281-469-4688

### North Cypress Medical Center

21214 Northwest Freeway, Cypress, TX 77429  
832-912-3773

### Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center

10655 Steepletop Drive, Houston, TX 77065  
281-890-4285

### Methodist Willowbrook Hospital

18220 Tomball Parkway, Houston, TX 77070  
281-477-1000

### Tomball Regional Hospital

605 Holderieth Boulevard  
Tomball, TX 77375

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May 4, 6:00 p.m. <b>Cypress Showroom</b> 13422 Grant Rd. Cypress, TX 77429	May 11, 6:00 p.m. <b>Woodlands Showroom</b> 10700 Kuykendahl Rd. The Woodlands, TX 77381
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# NORTHLAKE FOREST

## MEET THE WILLIAMS SIBLINGS

What if your world was torn apart when abuse or neglect in your home resulted in you and your siblings being permanently removed from your parents, your neighborhood and your school! What would you have to hold on to? Well, for many children who are subject this kind of life wrenching event, they only have their siblings for stability.



If they end up being available for adoption from the foster care system, the last thing they would want is to be separated from their siblings.

Such is the case for the Williams children. This group of four brothers and sisters is full of love and energy, and they want a family that is committed to loving them and giving them a safe home. They have close relationships to one another and they enjoy being together. These children are very protective of their siblings, and they want a family that will keep all of them together. They hope for a family that will love them and make them their "forever children".

**Cleo, age 14**, is a very quiet youth that likes to play both with his siblings and by himself. Cleo is in 9th grade, and receives special education services through his school. He likes to play sports and play outside with other kids. He is involved in the athletics program through his school.

**Cleopatra, age 13**, is a reserved child that takes time to warm up to others. She loves all of her siblings very much, but she also likes to argue with them. She prefers to be called "Patra", and she has a fun sense of style. She is very into fashion and being different from everyone else. Patra does pretty well in school with her grades, but she does have some struggles with accepting criticism. She attends regular classes and doesn't require special education services.

**Natasha, age 12**, is also a quiet child, but she loves to talk once

*(Continued on Page 11)*



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## Meet the Williams Siblings - (Continued from Page 10)

she feels comfortable with you. She has a beautiful smile, and she loves her siblings very much. She is the most expressive among the siblings with how much she loves them. She is very artsy, and she likes to draw different things. She is hopeful for a forever family, and she just wants to be loved. She is in regular classes at school and doesn't require special education services.

**Isaiah, age 6,** is in Kindergarten and doesn't require special education services. He is a very outgoing child that loves to go full force at all times. Being outside and playing with everyone is what he loves to do. He is full of energy and is constantly on the go. He likes to play with his siblings, but he is also happy playing by himself.

These children need a family that can care for and support them and allow them to continue visits with their two younger siblings who have been adopted by relatives. Perhaps your family could be their "Forever Family". Adopting a child from the foster care system requires little or no cost to the adoptive family and funding may be available to help the adoptive family support the child or sibling group.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Berka, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, Adoption Coalition of Texas at 512-450-8750 or email at [stephanieberka@adopttexas.org](mailto:stephanieberka@adopttexas.org) To learn more about the adoption process and the Adoption Coalition of Texas, please call Bruce Thompson at 512-301-2825 or visit our website at <http://www.adoptioncoalitiontx.org>

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## COLIN'S HOPE

*Increasing water safety awareness and standards*

*Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1-14.*

**May is National Water Safety Month.**

*NO ONE is "drownproof", but drowning is PREVENTABLE.*



## BE SAFE IN THE WATER & HAVE THE BEST SUMMER EVER!

**Join us in getting ready for a safe summer in the water!**

**Colin's Hope Night at Eastside Movies in the Park**  
**Tuesday, May 3rd, Doors open at 6PM, Movie at sundown**  
 Join us at The Expedition School Lagoon (On Lady Bird Lake in East Austin next to Fiesta Gardens) for a screening of Whale Rider. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the movie under the stars.

**Colin's Hope Day at Schlitterbahn-New Braunfels**  
**Saturday, May 21st**  
 Join us for a day to promote Water Safety and Drowning Prevention at Schlitterbahn-New Braunfels! Special tickets are available from Colin's Hope. Email [alissa.magrum@colinshope.org](mailto:alissa.magrum@colinshope.org) for more information.

**For more info visit our website at [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)**



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### Northlake Forest Year-to-Date Sales Report

	APR '10	MAY '10	JUNE '10	JULY '10	AUG '10	SEPT '10	OCT '10	NOV '10	DEC '10	JAN '11	FEB '11	MAR '11
\$130,000- \$159,999					1							1
\$160,000- \$189,999		1						1				
\$190,000- \$219,999	1	1	2	2					1		1	
\$220,000- \$249,999							1	1	1	1		
\$250,000- \$279,999	1			1								1
\$280,000- \$300,000			1							1		
\$300,000- \$350,000												1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Highest \$/sq ft</b>	<b>\$87.32</b>	<b>\$85.05</b>	<b>\$87.95</b>	<b>\$80.55</b>	<b>\$53.42</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$71.42</b>	<b>\$88.87</b>	<b>\$92.87</b>	<b>\$82.27</b>	<b>\$78.58</b>	<b>\$69.90</b>

*This information is taken from the Houston Multiple Listing Service*



**Jackie Spiro-RE/MAX Lakeland**

**832.443.1162 – 832.220.1240**

**Realtor Associate/Hablo Español**

**Northlake Forest Resident**

**FREE Market Analysis**  
**Realistic Marketing Strategy**  
**Multiple Website Exposure**  
**Networking with Buyers**  
**& Realtors Worldwide**

*This is not a solicitation of currently listed properties.*