



SGS

Stone Gate Slate

THE OFFICIAL HOA NEWSLETTER
of Stone Gate, Canyon Lakes, Canyon Lake
Villages and Canyon Lakes West

December 2011

Volume 4, Issue 12

Saturday, December 17th
**Cookies with Santa &
Toys for Tots Toy Drive**

TWO SESSIONS

10:00am-12:00pm or 1:00pm-3:00pm
at **Houston National Golf Club**
OR
Canyon Lakes West Clubhouse
Saturday, December 17th
10:00am-12:00pm

You'll have three opportunities to take your photo with Jolly St. Nick! We'll be serving holiday treats & entertainment for children young & old! This year we're hosting a Toys for Tots Toy Drive! If you'd like to contribute, please bring a **new unwrapped** to the event. Don't forget your camera!



No Reservations Needed!

December 4th - 10th

Annual Holiday Yard Decorating Contest

Start planning your holiday decorations!

Stone Gate favorite Annual Holiday Decorating Contest returns. Each section in Stone Gate will have one winner, awarded a special prize. Most importantly, they'll get to display their winning yard sign during the holiday season! **Make sure your lights are on from Sunday, December 4th to Saturday, December 10th** as our volunteer judges will be driving the community to chose a winner! Contact Jennifer Henrie with questions - jenniferhenrie@canyongate.com

Top Gun Security & Investigations

You may have noticed your "marked car security patrol" that is new to Stone Gate and Canyon Lakes West at Stone Gate in 2011. Your community has two (2) guardhouses that are manned by gate attendants 24/7, one by Top Gun Non-Commissioned Officers. Also, there are currently three (3) separate patrol schedules operated in the community by Top Gun's Commissioned Officers. These are:

- Daytime patrol performed with a marked car and by a commissioned officer that is scheduled 5 days per week for 12 hours per day.
- Two (2) separate night-time patrols performed with marked cars and by commissioned officers that are scheduled 7 days per week for 8 hours per night. The schedules are not posted and will not be provided to residents in order to avoid publishing unmonitored times to the public.

Your patrol officers are in your community to monitor, report, deter, and assist as needed. If you suspect any criminal or unwanted activities in the community, you are encouraged to contact your area guardhouse and they will dispatch the patrol officer on-duty to address your concern. But please note, as always, if you have an EMERGENCY situation, please call 911 first and then your respective guardhouse

GUARDHOUSE PHONE NUMBERS ARE:

Stone Gate and Canyon Lakes at Stone Gate - 281.256.3620

Canyon Lakes West at Stone Gate - 281.858.6106

*If you have any questions regarding your community or security patrol,
please feel free to contact management at 281-870-9170.*

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ON-SITE OFFICES & GATE ATTENDANTS

S-G Clubhouse Office	281-304-7448
S-G Gatehouse	281-256-3620
Splashpad Texas Office	281-213-9777

PROPERTY TAXES

Harris County Appraisal District.....	713-224-1919
Water / Remington MUD #1.....	281-579-4500
Water / MUD #165	713-932-9011

POLICE & FIRE

Emergency	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Precinct #5 Constable	281-463-6666
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Station.....	713-466-4073
Texas DPS.....	281-232-4334
Cy-Fair Medical Center.....	281-890-4285
North Cypress Medical Center.....	832-912-3500
Poison Control.....	800-222-1222

UTILITIES

Electricity (call your provider)

Centerpoint Energy	713-207-2222
Power To Choose	866-797-4839
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Telephone & Cable

AT & T.....	800-464-7928
AT & T U-verse.....	866-299-6824
Comcast - Cable/High Speed Internet	713-341-1000
Trash Pickup (WCA Waste).....	281-368-8397
Water (Remington MUD #1) (S-G-STES.....	281-579-4500

PUBLIC SERVICE

Harris Co. Animal Control	281-999-3191
Harris County Toll Road Auth	281-875-3279
Voter Registration	713-224-1919
Auto Registration	713-368-2000
Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce	281-955-1100
Metro Park and Ride.....	713-635-4000
Lone Star College Library	281-290-3200
Gulf Coast Reg Blood Ctr.....	713-790-1200

U.S. POST OFFICES

Stone Gate & Canyon Lakes	281-859-9021
Canyon Lakes West.....	281-373-3372

SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD District Office	281-897-4000
.....	www.cfsd.net

Classified Ads

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

CANYON LAKES WEST & PINE CREEK CONTACTS

Rec Center Office	281-855-0984
CLW Gatehouse.....	281-858-6106
Smith Middle School	281-213-1010
Postma Elementary School	281-345-3660
Hopper Middle School	281-463-5353
Cypress Springs High School	281-345-3000
SW Water/Harris County MUD #165	713-405-1750
Spring Cypress Post Office	281-373-3372
Property Tax: MUD #165	713-932-9011
Gatehouse	281-858-6100

ASSOCIATION'S MANAGEMENT COMPANY CONTACT INFORMATION

Planned Community Management (PCMI) has been contracted by the Board of Directors to manage the day-to-day activities of the community. In order to contact the community's Board of Directions or if residents have concerns, questions about their account, or deed restriction violations to report, please put the information in writing and send via e-mail to Heather Barbiche at hbarbiche@stes.com or call PCMI at 281-870-0585.

TO CONTACT THE BOARD:

Please address the Board of Directors via

Heather Barbiche, PCMI, hbarbiche@stes.com

P.O. Box 219223, Houston, TX 77218, 281-870-0585

HAVE YOU LOGGED IN YET?

WWW.CANYONGATE.COM/RESIDENTS/SG

Features of the Stone Gate & Canyon Lakes West intranet include:

- Email Blasts On Community News & Events
- Resident Directory
- Current Events & Activities
- News
- Official Documents & Forms
- Event Photos and MORE!



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Article Submission.....jenniferhenrie@canyongate.com

Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Stone Gate Slate. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Stone Gate residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter 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.

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THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT IS ALIVE IN STONE GATE

During this Holiday Season when we are bombarded by the bad news in the world, it's hard to feel joyful. I'd like to share an up-lifting pre-holiday story that just might brighten your day. I was opening up the recreation center office, expecting just another normal work day when one of your neighbors came in to make a report. He wanted to let me know that while his wife was preparing their son for the school bus, someone stole their child's walker from their driveway. It was a very expensive walker for a physically challenged child.

This so touched my heart that I began to tear up and I started to think about what I could do to get this child a replacement. I asked the father how much it would cost to replace it. He said they were very costly and

the family is praying that someone would realize the need and it would be returned.

When he left my office I called Amanda Ruvalcaba, your SplashPad On-Site Manager - She started the ball rolling. She called the child's mother for all the information on the make and model of the walker. Amanda then called two of her friends, Laura King and Krystal Rhodd. Between Laura, Krystal, Amanda and a lot of networking within 48 hours enough funds were raised to purchase a new walker and provide Equestrian Therapy for this little boy. Talk about the power of prayer.

When things go wrong, sometimes we forget there are many people who want to help. There is goodness in the world. You just have to believe. A huge thanks to all of

those good people out there that contributed their time and/or money to fixing a wrong and making it right!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
SGOA On-Site Manager
Sherrell Shafer



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17255 Spring Cypress Road, Suite A
Spring Cypress at Skinner Road
281-304-9113

ATASCOCITA
19143 W. Lake Houston Parkway
W. Lake Houston Pkwy at FM 1960
281-540-9113

WINTER OFFICE HOURS

STONE GATE REC CENTER OFFICE

Monday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm
281-304-7448 | stonegaterec@att.net
11655 Canyon Green Dr. Houston, TX 77095

STONE GATE SPLASHPAD ONSITE OFFICE

Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm
9901 Red Rugosa | 281-213-9777

CANYON LAKESWEST REC CENTER OFFICE

Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm
281-855-0984 | canyonlakeswest@att.net
19722 Stanton Lake Dr. Cypress, TX 77433

ONSITE OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Closed - Dec. 23, 24, & 25 - Christmas Holiday
9am-3pm - Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve
Closed - Jan. 1, 2012 - New

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Breakfast with Santa
 Sat. November 26th &
 Saturday December 10th.

New! Cookies with Santa!



**STONE GATE 2011
 Community Event Calendar**

Holiday Yard Decoration Contest..... December 4-10
 Cookies with Santa..... Saturday, December 17

Please contact Jennifer Henrie, Director of Community Events at jenniferhenrie@canyongate.com if you would like to help with any of our events!

**CYPRESS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL
 ORCHESTRAS PRESENT A
 Winter Concert & Silent Auction**

The Cypress Ranch High School Orchestras present a Winter Concert and Silent Auction Thursday, December 8. Silent Auction will begin at 5:30 PM in the CRHS Commons. A concert of holiday favorites and winter-inspired selections will follow at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium. Come with your family and friends and get into the spirit of the season! 10700 Fry Rd, Cypress 77433

**COMMUNITY INVITED TO
 "NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM"**

Messiah Lutheran Church is hosting "A Night in Bethlehem" on Saturday and Sunday evenings, December 3 and 4, 5-8 pm. The event is free, Messiah's gift to the community. All are invited to kickoff the Christmas season by experiencing Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born, including livestock, wisemen, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. Free activities for the children.

Messiah Lutheran Church is a grace place, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, 1/2 mile north of Highway 290. Regular worship times are at 8 and 10:30 AM on Sundays. The Education Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or www.messiahlc.org. All people are welcome at Messiah.

**ATTENTION
 HOUSTON NORTHWEST AREA
 DELTA GAMMA ALUMNAE**

Our annual Holiday Open House is set for December 17, 11:00 - 1:00 at the home of Janet Sanov - 7111 Mohave Hills, Houston, TX 77069, Champion Park North.

This is a beautiful Holiday gathering for members and their legacies. Please contact Cindy Formas at ckformas@sbcglobal.net for more information on the Open House and the chapter's future events.

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WASH YOUR HANDS

REDUCING SPREAD OF DISEASE WHILE AT HOME & WORK

By: Concentra Urgent Care

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say that nearly 90,000 patients die in U.S. hospitals each year due to a preventable disease—many could be avoided if everyone properly washed their hands. From germs on office equipment to sick colleagues who decided to come into work anyway, people face the same dangers in the workplace. The same simple fact holds true: Washing your hands regularly is an effective way to prevent yourself from catching or spreading a preventable disease or illness.

WHEN TO WASH YOUR HANDS

The CDC recommends washing your hands every time you:

- Prepare or eat food
- Use the restroom

- Tend to someone who is sick; both before and after
- Blow your nose, cough, or sneeze
- Handle garbage
- Treat a cut or wound
- Change diaper or clean up after children
- Handle an animal or animal waste

HANDWASHING BASICS

The CDC has issued specific guidelines about effective hand washing:

- Wet hands with water
- Use plain bar or liquid soap
- Create a lather by vigorously rubbing hands together for 15-20 seconds—about the amount of time it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” twice
- Be sure to wash palms, back of hands,

fingers, and nails (clean nails by gently scratching nails down your opposing soapy palm)

- Rinse off soap under a stream of water

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Focus on hand washing in the lunch and/or break room
- Be careful when using sponges and dish towels. These are ideal sites for bacterial growth. Always wash your hands after using these items.
- Maintain a clean work area; regularly clean any office equipment, especially shared items such as phones and keyboards.
- Remind your colleagues of the importance of hand washing, particularly when you witness someone neglecting to wash his or her hands. *



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HEALTH BRIEFS - DECEMBER 2011

ALLERGIES:

KNOW YOUR TREATMENT OPTIONS

Allergies got you down? Dr. Madhu Narra, assistant professor of medicine in the section of allergy, immunology and rheumatology at Baylor College of Medicine offers some tips to help manage.

Fall is the blooming season for weeds such as ragweed while spring allergies are from blooming trees and grasses. Indoor allergens such as dust mites can cause symptoms all year round. It is important to be aware of what you are allergic to so that you know when to look out for these allergens, said Narra.

Symptoms include runny and itchy eyes and nose, sneezing, congestion, drainage and cough. Some people may experience wheezing and trouble breathing.

- For mild allergies, consider over-the-counter medications like loratadine or cetirizine that usually do not cause drowsiness
- Keep your windows closed during peak pollen season. You can track pollen counts online.
- Clean pets before they enter the house so that they don't carry pollen into the home
- Do not dry clothes outside where they can pick up pollen
- Wear a mask or nasal filters when mowing the lawn to prevent allergens from getting into the nose
- If prescription medications and nasal sprays do not help much or if long-term relief from severe allergies is desired, consider getting allergy shots, which can provide long lasting relief with four to five years of treatment

WINTER WEATHER AND SKIN CARE

Summer may be over, but protecting your skin should remain a priority. "Colder temperatures, wind and sunlight work together to cause irritation to your skin," said Dr. John Wolf, professor and chair of dermatology at BCM. "It is difficult to distinguish between windburn and sunburn, so it is a good idea to focus on overall skin care." Wolf suggests using extra moisturizer as well as moisturizing sun block with an SPF of 30 or higher, especially if planning a winter trip to a higher altitude where ultraviolet rays from the sun are more intense. Chapped lips and fever blisters also can be provoked by the cold, wind and sun. People who suffer from severe outbreaks of fever blisters may want to talk to their doctor to see if there are prescriptions to prevent such outbreaks Wolf says. Chapped lips are more prevalent during colder months as well, but using a lip balm

with an SPF factor of 30 or even a thick coat of zinc oxide may help keep them at bay. During colder weather many people will take hot showers, sit in a sauna or even enjoy a hot tub. Wolf said this can actually increase dry and itchy skin. He suggests using moisturizer while still damp, before completely drying off.

TEACH KIDS TO ENJOY TREATS IN MODERATION

From Halloween to the new year, kids are tempted by pies, cakes and other treats. However, according to experts at Baylor College of Medicine, the holidays are no excuse for parents to let kids overeat and divert from their normal eating routine.

"You have to keep meals and snacks under some control no matter what day of the year it is," said Dr. Karen Cullen, associate professor of pediatrics at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at BCM. Cullen says a good plan is to save holiday treats for snacks, and be sure that they are an appropriate portion size for that snack. Consider freezing treats to save for later use. Parents should be serve as positive role models by continuing to serve and eat regular balanced meals. In addition, they should encourage children to try fruits and veggies that are offered at holiday parties.

OLDER ADULTS CAN FIGHT FRAILTY THROUGH RESISTANCE WEIGHT TRAINING

Imagine not being able to stand up because you can't carry your own body weight. To prevent this, incorporate resistance weight training into your routine, said an expert at Baylor College of Medicine. "As we age, we slowly start to lose lean muscle mass, and resistance weight training is the only way to slow this down," said Dr. Robert Roush, associate professor of medicine - geriatrics at BCM. "It's never too late to start." Resistance weight training can consist of weight lifting, using weight machines or any other exercise activity that creates some sort of resistance. This should go along with a regular cardiovascular exercise plan, said Roush, who is also with the Huffington Center on Aging at BCM.

Always check with a qualified health care provider before starting any exercise routine. Try to find a gym with senior benefits or share a personal trainer with friends to learn proper technique. If a gym is not an option, try using stretch bands and dumbbells at home. Activities such as swimming, climbing stairs and walking at an incline can also provide resistance. Regardless of whether one goes to a health club or exercises at home, the key is to follow recommended regimens and proper technique.




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Conner is a 10 year old energetic child who enjoys skateboarding, karate and playing basketball. He also likes to play with puzzles, action figures and lego's. Conner is very creative and loves to draw and paint. Conner needs a patient, committed adoptive family that will provide him with unconditional love and support. He will benefit most by being the youngest child in the home or the only child.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Berka, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter at Adoption Coalition of Texas 512-450-8750 or stephanieberka@adopttexas.org



adoptioncoalitiontx.org

Christmas

Outdoor Service at Fry Road

Sunday, December 18, 10:30 a.m.

Bridgeland's Festival Park (16902 Bridgeland Landing)

Christmas Eve at Jones Road

Family Services

1:00 & 2:30 p.m.

Candlelighting & Communion Services

4:00, 5:30, 7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Sanctuary (8350 Jones Rd.)

Christmas Family Service at Jones Road

10:30 a.m.

Sanctuary (8350 Jones Rd.)



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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Sour Cream Apple Bars

- 2 C flour
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 C brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 C sour cream
- ½ C oleo, softened
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 C chopped pecans
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 C peeled, finely
- 1 tsp. soda
- chopped apples

Preheat oven to 350°. In large bowl, blend flour, brown sugar, and oleo until crumbly. Stir in pecans. Press 2-3/4 C of the crumbs into an ungreased 9x13 pan. To the remaining mixture, add cinnamon, soda, salt, sour cream, vanilla, and egg, blending well. Stir in apples. Spoon evenly over first layer. Bake 25 - 35 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Cut into squares and serve with whipped cream if desired.

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Pending Sale!

 9311 Morley Lake
 Stone Gate

SOLD!

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