

THE Current

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

JANUARY 2012

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SHADOW CREEK RANCH HOA

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

Stork Report Shadow Creek Ranch

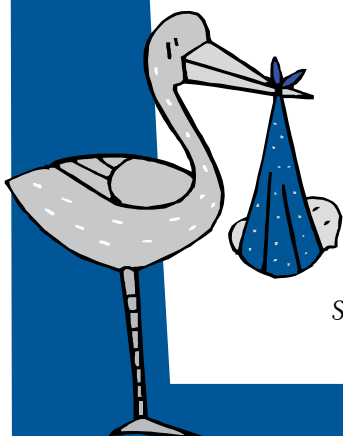
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ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION *and Tree Give-Away*

Keep Pearland Beautiful is planning an Arbor Day Celebration for Saturday, January 14, 2012 at the Pearland Community Center. The Center is located at 3523 Liberty Dr. Tree seedlings will be given away from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as long as quantities last.

The celebration will include a tree seedling give-away with 500 seedlings available. Varieties to be given away this year are Southern Catalpa, Persimmon, Spicebush, Southern Waxmyrtle and Eastern Red Cedar.

The City of Pearland's Urban Forrester, John Walters will be on hand to demonstrate proper planting and pruning techniques for trees on Jan. 14 at 10 a.m. at the Center. Other handouts at the event will include the Trees for Pearland Tree Guide.

Call the Keep Pearland Beautiful office at 281-652-1659 or email cowles@mykpb.org with any questions. For more information about environmental programs in Pearland, check our website at www.keeppearlandbeautiful.org.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	281-331-9000
Pearland Police Department	281-997-4100

SCHOOLS

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Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
Manvel Junior High	281-331-1416
Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

UTILITIES

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Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

OTHER NUMBERS

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Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

CITY

Pearland City Hall.....	281-652-1600
Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept.	281-652-1603
Pearland Animal Control.....	281-652-1970
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

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Articles.....	shadowcreek ranch@peelinc.com
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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

BRAZORIA-FORT BEND COUNTY

Municipal Utility District No. 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Boards of Directors of MUD 1 and Brazoria County MUD No. 26's joint website, www.shadowcreekcranchmuds.com, is live and includes posted agendas for Board meetings and approved minutes.

MUD 1 generally meets every first Friday at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. In addition to the new website, agendas for each meeting are posted at the entrance to the lift station located at 2753 Biscayne Bay Drive Pearland, Texas 77584, and at the Brazoria and Fort Bend County Courthouses at least 72 hours before every meeting, and the Board of Directors invites all members of the public to attend its meetings. Please contact the District through the "contact"

page on the new website if you need confirmation of a Board meeting.

As a reminder, the City of Pearland operates our water and sewer system and provides garbage collection services. If you have any questions about your service, please call the City of Pearland at (281) 652-1603.

Brazoria County Municipal Utility District No. 26

JANUARY MEETING

Due to the New Year holiday, the District's meeting will be held on January 10, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, in the Colorado Room, Houston, Texas 77027.

General Information

Please see the new website, www.shadowcreekcranchmuds.com, for dates,

times, and locations of upcoming meetings. In addition to the new website, agendas for each meeting are posted at the Emerald Village Recreation Center, 11814 N. Clear Lake Loop, Pearland, Texas 77584, and at the Brazoria County Courthouse at least 72 hours before every meeting, and the Board of Directors invites all members of the public to attend its meetings. Please contact the District through the "contact" page on the new website if you need confirmation of a Board meeting.

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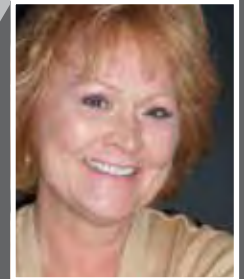
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2ND ANNUAL PINECREST POTLUCK BOO

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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Texas Hold'em POKER CLUB

The Shadow Creek Ranch Texas Hold'em Poker Club meets the second Saturday of each month at 7pm. We are a casual group, friendly, and beginners are always welcome. We usually have between twenty to thirty participants, and the host house changes from month to month.

If you think you would like to drop by, call Pete W. at 281-381-4110 for more details, or email Louise at Lwessner1@comcast.net to get the monthly email invitation. Because of size constraints, you must live in Shadow Creek Ranch to participate.

The buy-in is \$10 per game, and all monies are paid out as cash prizes to the top finishers. Points are also awarded both for knocking people from the tournament and for playing -- the higher your finish the more points accumulated. At year-end the top ten people on the points list qualify for the Top 10 Final Table.

The host house provides snacks. You are welcome to bring your own beverage of choice.

Hope to see ya there!



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

TOP TEN TIPS *for Protecting Your Enamel from Erosion*

The outer coating of enamel on your teeth may be the hardest substance in your body, but if it erodes, there's no way to get it back. Follow these top ten tips for keeping your enamel — which will help you keep your teeth! Enamel, the outer coating on your teeth, is the hardest substance in your body. But while it's tougher than bones, enamel has a key weakness: it lacks the ability to regenerate itself as bones do. If you break a bone, it can grow back together. If your enamel wears away, it's gone and you can't get it back. Since enamel defends your teeth against cavities, it's extremely important to take care of this protective layer.

Enamel erosion can occur for a variety of reasons, and the three major categories are diet, health issues and physical wear and tear. Many people are unaware of the effect diet has on enamel. Acid sources like carbonated drinks and citrus drinks, when consumed with regularity, can have a serious effect on your enamel. Health issues including dry mouth, acid reflux disease, gastrointestinal problems and bulimia can also lead to enamel erosion. Wear and tear includes friction from your teeth rubbing against each other, fractures due to stress on the teeth, and damage from outside sources, such as brushing your teeth too vigorously or chewing on hard objects. Watch your diet



FOLLOWING ARE OUR TOP TEN TIPS FOR HOLDING ON TO YOUR ENAMEL.

- **1** - Drink fewer carbonated drinks like soda pop and citrus drinks like grapefruit juice, or eliminate them altogether.
- **2** - If you do occasionally indulge in these types of beverages, drink them through a straw, so the liquid goes straight to the back of your mouth instead of surrounding your teeth.
- **3** - Rinse your mouth with water after eating or drinking.

- **4** - Chew sugar-free gum to increase saliva, which helps clean your teeth.

ADDRESS HEALTH ISSUES

- **5** - If you experience dry mouth, let us know; your dentist can help you with this condition.
- **6** - If you suffer from acid reflux, gastrointestinal problems, or bulimia, talk to your family doctor to address the issue; each of these conditions affects more than just your teeth.

BE GENTLE WITH YOUR TEETH

- **7** - Always avoid biting pens and other hard objects, and use your teeth for chewing food only — not as tools to open containers.
- **8** - If you are a habitual tooth-grinder, your dentist can help you address the habit.

STAY ON TOP OF ORAL HYGIENE

- **9** - Brush with fluoride toothpaste to strengthen your teeth.
- **10** - Keep up with your regular oral care, including brushing and flossing daily and getting professional cleanings every six months.

- Submitted by Dr. Flury



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Setting S.M.A.R.T Fitness Resolutions

By Hjalmar Perez, BS, CPT, LMT
and Humberto Estrada, CI-PT, MTI

Oh YES! Another New Year. Time to turn over a new leaf, to start fresh, to renew, to revive! We've heard it all, year after year. How could this year be any different than the others? A study conducted by Franklin Covey concluded about one in three people fail at maintaining their resolutions by the end of January and about four out of five individuals ultimately end up giving up by the end of the year. The top reasons: taking on too much and lack of commitment. So, what can you do to increase your chances of completing your goals for 2012?

The answer, get back to basics and being S.M.A.R.T. Studies have shown goals should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound. Let's revisit each, so grab a pen and paper and let's prepare you with your own S.M.A.R.T resolutions.

1. SPECIFIC

First, make goals are clear and unambiguous. Make them specific by clearly stating what you expect to achieve. Think about why your goal is important. How do you plan to accomplish it? For example, setting a goal to get stronger or have more energy is too vague. Instead, come up with a statement that leaves no doubt about what you are trying to accomplish. For example, to get stronger so I can take my family on a hiking trip to Colorado or to start exercising so I can run my first 5k. Now that has purpose and clarity!

2. MEASURABLE

Second, set criteria for measuring progress along the way. This one is all about answering "how much or how many" in order to quantify your results. For example, stating you are going to lift weights and do cardio is not as effective as deciding you are going to lift weights for 40 minutes 3 times a week. The latter one leaves little room for misinterpretation. Therefore, by the end of each week you should be able to easily determine if you are moving towards your goal.

3. ATTAINABLE

Third, goals should be realistic and attainable! Come up with goal that is challenging. However, be realistic about factors such as your skills level, your current knowledge and how much time you can reasonably devote. You're looking to be committed to your goal by making it attainable. Allow it to take you slightly pass your comfort zone and have a support system to assist you if you happen to side step it!

4. RELEVANT

Next, the goal must be important to you. Furthermore, you must believe you can accomplish it and you must take ownership for completing it. Asking family members or friends for their input is perfectly fine. However, we often put the responsibility of our goals on others. Using phrases as "my wife says I need to exercise"

or "my doctor wants me to lose weight" shifts the ownership of the goal away from you. There is good news; studies show those who take an active role in defining and owning their goals are likely to have a higher level of commitment and success!

5. TIME-BOUND

Last, set deadlines, keep it moving! Focus in setting daily, weekly and monthly mini-milestones to serve as guideposts for your journey. This strategy provides you with a chance to regularly assess how you are progressing and to adjust if necessary. Here's a quick example: you've decided to lose 10 pounds. So establish a daily goal to decrease your caloric intake by 200-300 calories, a weekly goal to lose one half to one pound & a monthly goal to complete 10 miles of walking. Mini-milestones provide you with guidance on specific actions you can take to move closer to your future goal while decreasing the failure rate!

By applying the principles of S.M.A.R.T you prepare yourself to achieve your New Year resolutions. Also, it is highly recommended to consult with your physician before beginning any exercise program.

Cheers to a New You and a New Year!



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A Focus on Resolutions

RESOLVE TO BE A BETTER YOU

Submitted by Concentra Urgent Care

The New Year is a great time to make healthy lifestyle changes. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the most common resolutions focus on losing weight, getting fit, quitting smoking, and reducing stress. These are important themes that can reduce your risk of disease. Here are ways you can achieve your goals this year.

LOSING WEIGHT

A weight loss of five to seven percent of your body weight can improve your health and quality of life. It can also help prevent weight-related health problems, like diabetes. Changing your eating habits and increasing your physical activity are keys to successful weight loss and help to maintain optimal weight for the rest of your life. Create a plan for healthy eating and increased physical activity, while taking in fewer calories than you use. Your healthy eating plan should include:

- Taking into account foods you like and dislike
- A focus on fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains
- Consuming fat-free or low-fat dairy products such as yogurt, cheese, and milk
- Protein sources such as lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs, and nuts
- Avoiding saturated and trans fats such as animal fat, butter, and hydrogenated oils
- Staying away from foods high in sodium and added sugars

For more information on weight management and improving nutritional practices, visit the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at www.win.niddk.nih.gov/publications/for_life.htm.

GETTING FIT

Regular physical activity for at least 30 minutes each day, or broken up into several shorter periods of 20, 15, or 10 minutes, can help you lose weight, keep it off, and stay fit. It can also improve your energy and mood and lower your risk for heart disease, diabetes, and some cancers. Try some of these physical activities:

- Walking (15-minute miles or 4 miles per hour)
- Biking
- Tennis
- Aerobic exercise classes (step aerobics, kickboxing, dancing)
- Yard work or house cleaning (gardening, raking, mopping, vacuuming)

Taking the first step can be the hardest part. Start slowly, at a level that is comfortable for you and add activity as you go along. Sometimes, it helps to have a friend or activity buddy when you start out. It is recommended that adults get at least two and a half hours of moderate physical activity each week. Strengthening activities, such as pushups, sit-ups, or lifting weights, at least two days per week are also encouraged. For more information on getting fit, visit the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports at <http://fitness.gov/>.

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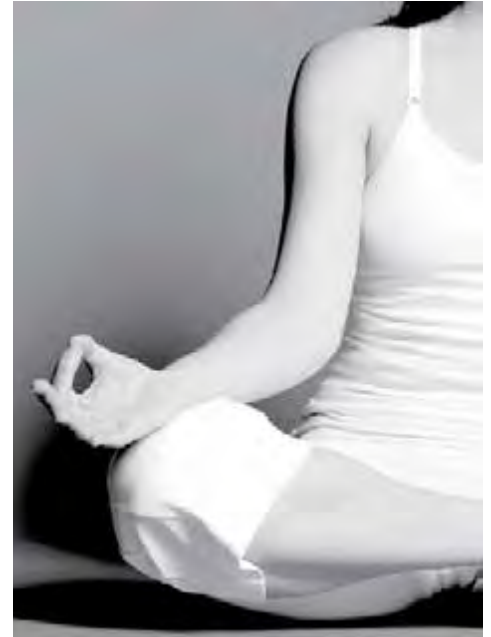
Yoga for Weight Loss?

We've all heard the formula for weight loss. Just "burn more calories than you take in." But if weight loss is so simple, how come so many of us have a hard time with it? If we all know what to do, how come we're not doing it? There are many factors to weight loss, and there's a big gap between knowledge and action. It's a lot more than calories in, calories out. In between the "I know what I should be doing," and "how come I'm not doing that?" is a pause (and sometimes frustration). This 'pause' is where yoga can help.

Being aware of your actions - what you're eating, when you're eating it and why, are keys to weight loss success. Tuning in to your inner voice and actually hearing your body's signals is difficult. Diets fail a great deal of the time. What if you were able to smooth out your brain waves, so that you could notice the moment of choice? Yoga for weight loss? Maybe you've thought in the

past that only heavy-duty cardio would do the trick, and the pounds would magically melt away. But if you are successful at this heavy-duty huffing and puffing, how come the pounds come back, and the change isn't permanent? It may surprise you to know that a recent study at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle found that an ongoing yoga practice correlates nicely with a healthy weight - and not only because of the calorie burn. (Excerpts from Natural Health, "The New Weight-Loss Math," by Hillari Dowdle). Yoga practitioners were found to be "more aware of what they were eating and better able to stop when they were full," characteristics that the study attributes to mindfulness.

In yoga, postures are practiced slowly, which is counter-intuitive to what the mind wants. We want to burn calories, and lose weight this instant, so we think we have to move fast. But, by practicing the postures



(Continued on Page 11)

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Yoga for Weight Loss? - (Continued from Page 10)

slowly, we allow our minds to catch up with our bodies. We use the breath to actually feel what our muscles are doing. And this introspection, this reflection, will bring about an awareness. An awareness of choice. "Smoothing out the brain waves and calming down the nervous system give you an opportunity to notice the moment of choice," explains Ashley Turner, M.A. "You get to ask yourself, 'Do I really want to eat more?' Most of us never even encounter that moment," she adds.

Yoga can help you develop that awareness. And, it can also help you remove toxins from your body. New studies indicate that toxins in the body suppress thyroid function, slowing metabolism. "Scientists now believe that the obesity epidemic is going hand in hand with an increase in environmental toxins," says Gaetano Morello, N.D. from British Columbia. And fasting only slows your metabolism and causes more toxins to be released from your fat stores. Yoga can help remove these toxins.

You will get more benefits from yoga than you could ever imagine. And over time, it gets easier and more fun. No, it will not be a quick "fix" overnight. But what if you could develop the awareness to be more mindful of what you were eating, and better able to stop when you were full? These are all characteristics of mindfulness, which is practiced in every yoga class.

Hope to see you in class soon! - Submitted by Melinda Jennings

Pick up the Pile

Happy New Year to all! As we embark on 2012's journey, some will think of ways to improve upon themselves. I'd like to offer an idea to those that still think dog poop is fertilizer, let's try picking up after our dogs. In case you were not aware, scientists have established the fact that the dog's gut harbors a particular type of bacteria known as the coli form bacteria. This bacterium includes the dreaded E. coli bacteria and also contains strains of salmonella and giardia. Now, since the rains have finally come, all the piles that have been left behind will be washed into our storm drains and contaminate our water supply. Not only is our water supply affected but perhaps even the air we breathe...I came across this article:

SCIENCEDAILY (AUG. 18, 2011)

"Bacteria from fecal material -- in particular, dog fecal material -- may constitute the dominant source of airborne bacteria in Cleveland's and Detroit's wintertime air, says a new University of Colorado Boulder study."

This was the first test conducted, for air borne disease so far, however, scientist presume other cities, with an abundance of the canine kind, will show similar results. Please be kind, don't leave it behind. To those that pick up....THANK YOU

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