Volume 12, Issue 4 Wortham Villages

**April 2012** 

www.worthamweb.org

# Between the Lane Lines: All Are Welcome

by Jonathan Armstrong

Somebody asked me the other day if we capped the number of Whitesharks on the team. I emphatically said "No". I have resisted just such a cap for many years because I want every family who wants to be a part of the Whitesharks to have that opportunity. At the Whitesharks, all are welcome.

I have mentioned in the past my sincere desire is to have every single young person in our area swim on th Swim Team, but sometimes I hear, we are just not a "swim family". On the Whitesharks, we have "soccer families", "baseball families", "dance families", "taekwondo families", "whatever-float our-boat families", and yes, "swim familie (most of whom, by the way, were not swim

families before the Whitesharks!). We even have families that used to be swim families that stopped being swim families but still swim for the Whitesharks every summer. For a few weeks a year, all these families become not just "swim families", but "Whiteshark families".

Swimming is the very best cross training sport, so for whatever sport your family enjoys, the Whitesharks can help make it better. But the real equalizer with all these sport families is the social side of Swim Team. It is a whole family and a whole community activity. On the first day of practice, we ask our swimmers to talk to their friends and ask them to come out and join the Whitesharks for a fun summer. The old saying is definitely true for us, the more the merrier. The more friends that join the team, the more we can teach friendly competition, teamwork, and camaraderie, and the more fun we all have. The Whitesharks become THE activity that "everyone is doing".

When you are ready to join us, first timers or loyal returners, all are welcome. You don't want to miss out. But don't think about it for too long, practice starts April 23. For more information, including registration and schedules, visit www. worthamwhitesharks.com. See you soon.

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

### Preseason News Article 2012

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc. is pleased to be managing the Wortham Villages Community again for 2012. 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.

(Continued on Page 3)

### **NEED TO USE**

the baseball or soccer field in the detention pond?

Need the pavilion for a party? Make a reservation so you can be sure it's available! The calendar is online at:

http://my.calendars.net/worthamvillages

Once you check to see if the date is available, send me an email at park@mayne.us and I'll get you on the calendar too!

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

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Social - Rebecca Shane
Tennis Committee - Dorota Jankovsky281-955-9626
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Herman de Hoop, hdehoop@worthamweb.org, 281-546-1493
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### Greater Houston Pool Management- (Continued from Page 1)

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.

The GHPMI Programs Department is excited to offer your community activities that will help enhance your family's summer experience. GHPMI provides a variety of programs, such as: group, private, and semi-private learn to swim classes, Guard Start, pool parties, Babysitting classes, CPR/AED, First Aid and more. For a detailed list of what is available please visit us at www. takeaswimlesson.com for aquatic classes, www.haveapoolparty.com for pool parties, and www.greaterhoustonpool.com for community classes. 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 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 2012 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.
- If you should ever have a question about the pool rules, ask a lifeguard or Manager. It is better to be safe then 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.

### **Recreational Facilities Corner**

By Rick Anderson

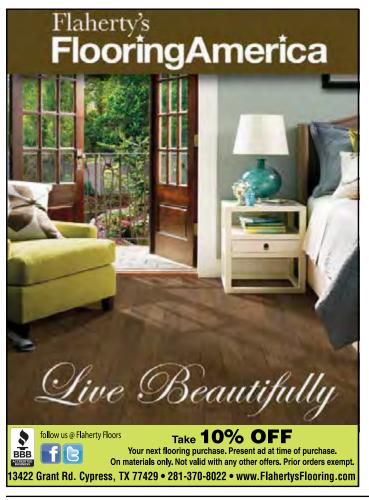
Well, believe it or not, we are approaching another summer swim season. I hope everyone enjoyed the mild fall and winter and welcomed the rain we have gotten to somewhat relieve our drought conditions. We have already begun planning our pool season and wanted to let you know of a couple of items coming up in late April and early May.

As a courtesy to our residents, pool tags will be handed out again this year with the help of our board members and Recreational Facilities Committee members. We have scheduled the pool tags to be issued at the Clubhouse on the following dates and times; Saturday April 28, from 1 to 3 pm; Sunday April 29, from 1 to 3 pm; and Tuesday May 1, from 6:30-8:30 pm. If you cannot pick up your tags during those times, you will need to contact Crest Management and a fee of \$20 per home for them to be mailed to you. Just a reminder that you must be a resident in good standing (Annual Fees paid and no outstanding deed restrictions) in order to receive your tags.

We are also once again having our annual pool opening party on May 5, from 12 to 3 pm. We will be providing food and drinks, door prizes will be given out and Greater Houston Pool Management will be proving games for the kids. All of this is sponsored and paid for by the Wortham Villages Homeowner's Association as a benefit for our residents. You must have pool tags for entrance into this event and for those of you who did not pick up your tags at the times noted above, we will also have these available for pick up at this party as well.

For those of you who use the tennis courts, we request that you maintain/pick up the trash as needed to keep the are clean. If the trash cans inside are full, please help out by emptying them in the larger barrel trash cans outside the court fence or place any additional trash in these barrels. Also, please make sure that you turn off the lights when you leave if you are the last ones using the court, so we can save energy/costs.

We do not have any major renovations/repairs scheduled for this year, but are planning some upgrades/replacements in the future at the pool area and detention areas. We have a Recreational Facilities Committee that meets a few times during the year to plan the events noted above and to look at upcoming needed repairs, renovations or upgrades. We really could use some help and would encourage you to volunteer for this committee. Please contact Rick Anderson at rick\_anderson@efiglobal.com or call 281-890-4878.



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### **Neighborhood Watch Corner**

The past month has fortunately been quiet as far as criminal activity is concerned. A couple of neighbors reported someone entering their garages. This appears to be kids, but see this as a warning to keep your possessions under lock and key if possible.

We never have enough block captains, so if you enjoy talking to your neighbors, please volunteer. We encourage you to get to know your neighbors on your street, and attend 3-4 block captain meetings each year. Specifically Hilside Glenn needs at least one more block captain.

As a side note, I now receive the Wortham Newsletter electronically. It gets there right at the first of the month, often has photos and articles in color, and reads really well on iPad or PCs.

Again, Thanks for Caring! Herman and Shawn

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# **INCIDENT REPORT** *February 2012*

911 Hang Up 1
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Theft/Other
Traffic Initiative
Traffic Hazard2
Traffic Stop
Unk Medical Emerg1
Vehicle Suspicious
Vehicle Stolen1



# Neighborhood Watch Committee Block Captains

Apple Forest	Monica Schreiber	281-435-9409
Aspen Bough	Bruckner, Eric &Marie	281-890-8667
Azalea Creek	David White & Evelyn Molnar	713-253-9281
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.	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	281-894-0890
Dogwood Blossom	Johnson, Jean & Lonnie	281-300-8282
Dogwood Blossom	Lacagnina, Shawn & Kim	281-970-7604
Elm Bridge Court	Henkhaus, Kim	281-469-7105
Fern Vale	Lawrence, Jermy & Amy	713-859-2785
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 (North)	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	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 &	Dineen, Mike	281-894-6256
Town Elm	ŕ	201 071-0270
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.	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	281-517-0191
Wortham Blvd.	Culp, Susan	281-300-2411

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### **RECYCLING**

Every once in a while, we get an inquiry asking why we bother with recycling when all they do is throw the carefully separated items into a big garbage truck? We can assure you that our garbage/recycling company does indeed separate and recycle the items. Many years ago we used a different company in the neighborhood that had a special truck and the workers would separate the bin (plastic/paper/metal, etc) into different compartments in the truck. That was reassuring to see, but very time and labor consuming. The new company chooses to do the separations at their processing center.

The bigger issue is that very few of our neighbors actually take the time to recycle. A fee is paid for every house in the neighborhood whether you put out

### **MUD 222 Corner**

a bin or not. On a recent Monday it was observed on a street of 30 houses that only 5-6 houses put out a bin. This is not the time for a lecture on recycling and overflowing landfills and the environment, but we encourage all neighbors to take advantage of this service that you are already paying for.

And remember – GLASS can be recycled so please include it.

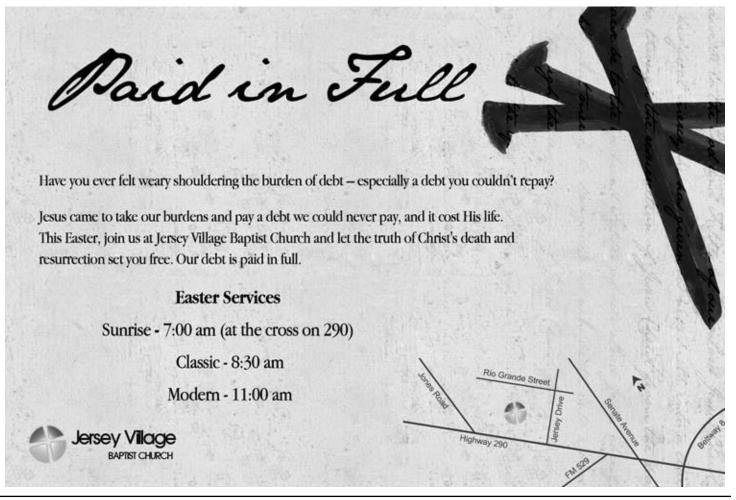
### **BOTTLED WATER**

We have observed many neighbors receiving deliveries from the large bottled water trucks. It is curious why people would choose to pay a steep premium for processed water to be shipped in from other parts of the country when we offer fresh spring water straight out of the tap for pennies. Maybe some of our neighbors are not aware that our

water comes straight out of sand filtered aquifers below our neighborhood and is regularly tested to meet or exceed industry standards. You may have seen some "Eyewitness" investigative report about bad water and gross things in the pipes, but those things do not apply to MUD 222. Recently observed on a bottle of water from Kroger: "Water Source: Fort Worth municipal water supply" Really? Enjoy the mineral-rich, pure water out of your tap and save your money for other frivolous purchases.

### **STORM SEWERS**

Remember, please don't wash your leaves or grass clippings down the storm sewers. We want them clear of debris when the next Houston rain threatens to flood your street.



### 2012 POOL SCHEDULE

### MAY 5TH - MAY 30TH

Mondays -Fridays Closed 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturdays 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Sundays

### Exceptions:

Saturday, May 12 & 19 (Swim Meet)

2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Monday, May 28 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### **MAY 31ST - AUGUST 26TH**

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mondays Tuesdays-Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Saturdays 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sundays

### Exceptions:

Saturday, June 2 & 16 (Swim Meet) 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### **AUGUST 27TH - SEPTEMBER 3RD**

Mondays - Fridays Closed 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturdays Sundays 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Exceptions:

Monday, September 3rd (Labor Day) 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

You will be required to wear your pool tags in the pool area. Guests will be allowed only as described in the Wortham Villages

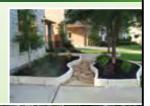
Children 12 and under are not permitted in the pool area without an adult.



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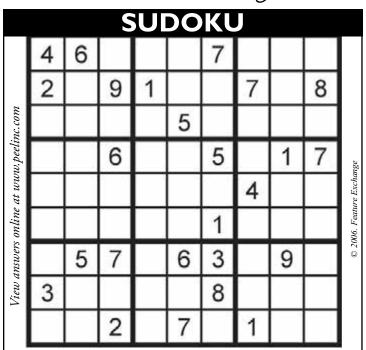
mhorton@garygreene.com http://MargoHorton.garygreene.com



# 2012 Spring Festivals & Events

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March 10   40th Annual Buffalo Bayou Regatta	BuffaloBayou.org
March 13 - 18   Nederland Heritage Festival	Nederlandhf.org
March 23-25   Bayou City Art Festival	BayouCityArtFestival.com
March 31 - April 1   Houston Children's Festival, Downtown	HoustonChildrensFestival.com
March 31 / April 1   19th Annual Japan-Fest, Hermann Park	Japan-Fest.com
March 31 - April 2   NCAA Men's Final Four at Reliant Stadium	NCAA.com
March 30, 31 & April 1   12th German Heritage Festival, Tomball	TomballSisterCity.org
April 13 - 22   45th World Fest Int'l Film Festival	WorldFest.org
April 14   6th 'Art in the Park' at Elizabeth Baldwin Park	MidtownArtInThePark.com
April 14 - 15   17th Bayou City Cajun Festival	TradersVillage.com
April 14 - 15   48th Annual Bluebonnet Festival, Chappel Hill	ChappellHillMuseum.org
April 20-22 & April 27-29   26th Annual Texas Crawfish & Music Festiva	TexasCrawfishFestival.com
April 21   San Jacinto Day Festival & Battle Reenactment	SanJacinto-Museum.org
April 21-22 & April 28-29 Houston International Festival.	iFest.org
April 21 & 22   Katy's 'Home for the Holidays Spring Gift MarketHomeFo	orTheHolidaysGiftMarket.com
April 27-28   Freeport Riverfest 2012	FreeportRiverFest.com
May 5   12th Houston Dragon Boat Festival	TexasDragonBoat.com
May 5 - 6   Keels-Wheels at Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook	Keels-Wheels.com
May 12   Art Car Parade	OrangeShow.org
May 18 - 20   39th Pasadena Strawberry Festival	StrawberryFest.org

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

### **Wortham Articles**

Please submit your articles, neighborhood news items, birthday announcements by the 10th of the month to get in the next month's newsletter. Email to Hdehoop@worthamweb.org

### **SEND US YOUR**

Event Pictures!!

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture

to *Hdehoop@worthamweb.org*. Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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### **WHO**

Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB), featuring guest artist David Armendariz as the prince, while Claire White and Amaris Sharratt will alternate the role of Cinderella.

### **WHAT**

The pre-professional ballet company in Northwest Houston proudly presents the Tomball premiere of its full-length production of Cinderella in three acts. Award-winning choreographer Victoria Vittum brings the classic fairy tale to life with her interpretation of this "happily ever after" ballet set to the timeless score of Sergei Prokofiev.

### WHEN & WHERE

Saturday, April 28 at 4pm & Sunday, April 29 at 2pm Tomball High School Auditorium 30330 Quinn Road Tomball, Texas 77375

### **TICKETS**

Reserved Seating: \$15/\$18. For ticket information, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721) or visit www.hrbdance.org.

### **OUTREACH**

The dancers of HRB perform excerpts from each production and make costumed appearances at various nursing homes, group events and at Arts & Education performances. Also, HRB will perform for the Tomball ISD fourth grade students, fulfilling the arts component of their curriculum. To schedule an outreach event for your organization, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721).

### WHAT ELSE

Cinderella's original choreography is the creation of Victoria Vittum, with Barbara Le Gault doing much of the coaching and rehearsing. HRB's beautiful sets transform the stage back into a time where dreams really did come true. The exquisite costumes, designed by an amazing group of volunteers and partnered with Twin Cities Ballet in Monroe, LA, bring the dancers into Cinderella's world of magic and fantasy in this professionally staged production.

### **SYNOPSIS**

The magical tale of a beautiful, kind young woman who rises from scrubbing floors to marrying a prince comes to life in Cinderella, a full-length ballet presented by HRB. From the wicked stepsisters' hilarious antics to the lovely pas de deux performed by Cinderella and the Prince, the performance is sure to capture the hearts of all. The ballet opens with the sisters fighting over fabric with Cinderella left to pick up the mess. The wicked stepmother orders Cinderella's father to purchase gowns for the sisters (Skinny and Dumpy) leaving Cinderella home alone. The fairy godmother conjures up fairies representing the four seasons to help Cinderella get dressed for the ball where she and the Prince fall in love. After elves stop time and Cinderella loses one of the glass slippers, the Prince travels the world to find her. Once they are reunited, they marry in an enchanted forest amid waltzing dancers.

### **ABOUT HRB**

The Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) is a non-profit 501(c)(3), founded by Victoria Vittum and Gilbert Rome, both nationally acclaimed teachers and choreographers who served as its co-artistic directors. Today, Ms. Vittum oversees training and programming with an equal eye to serving the needs of the community. Although Mr. Rome is now retired, he maintains his interest and affiliation with HRB, performing as Drosselmeyer in The Nutcracker and as a guest teacher.

Since 1994, HRB has contributed to the cultural fabric of Harris and Montgomery Counties by providing excellent dance training to the area's young ballet stars and dance educators of tomorrow, while also presenting two high-quality productions annually at affordable prices. The Nutcracker and its Spring Program, this year Cinderella, introduce area children and their families to the world of classical and contemporary ballet. Today, HRB is considered to be the premiere pre-professional ballet company in the Houston region, and is recognized for sharing its gifts with the community and beyond.

The program attracts and develops some of the finest young dancers in the greater Houston area, with many of the dancers advancing to professional ballet companies throughout the country. HRB graduates can be seen with New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and other prestigious companies. HRB has three graduating seniors this year and each will continue with dance at the university level. For more information, please visit: www. hrbdance.org.

### **MISSION**

HRB's mission is dedicated to providing the finest classical ballet instruction, education and performance experience to local gifted students, and to preparing them for a professional career in the world of dance. HRB also is committed to serving the suburban Houston region with high-quality theatre productions that educate, engage and entertain residents of all ages and perpetuate their appreciation of dance as an art form.

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'According to information taken from the HAR MLS Co "Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2006, 3/2009