

# THE Current

## SHADOW CREEK RANCH

JUNE 2012

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SHADOW CREEK RANCH

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 6

### Curbside “On Demand” Pickup Service For Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

To participate, Pearland residents (who pay their Water/Sewer/Garbage via City of Pearland Utility Billing) MUST contact the Waste Management Call Center or E-mail to schedule a date/time for pickup.

**1-800-449-7587**

**Call Center Hours are: Monday – Friday 6am to 6pm**

**Email: [atyourdoor@wm.com](mailto:atyourdoor@wm.com)**

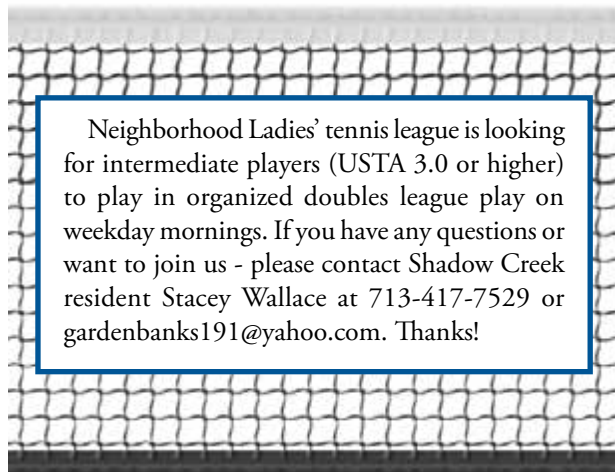
**For more info: [www.cityofpearland.com/solidwaste](http://www.cityofpearland.com/solidwaste)**



*“Striving For A Quality Community”*

### Tennis Anyone?

*Submitted by Stacey Wallace*



Neighborhood Ladies' tennis league is looking for intermediate players (USTA 3.0 or higher) to play in organized doubles league play on weekday mornings. If you have any questions or want to join us - please contact Shadow Creek resident Stacey Wallace at 713-417-7529 or [gardenbanks191@yahoo.com](mailto:gardenbanks191@yahoo.com). Thanks!

### Village Green's Neighborhood FaceBook Group

Do you live in Village Green? If so, please be sure to request to join the Village Green FaceBook group. This is a great way to get to know neighbors, communicate opportunities, and ask questions. It's also how we share important information like missing pets, upcoming meetings or events, and urgent alerts. This is a private group, meaning it is NOT open to the public. Only residents may be members. Please find us by going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/villagegreenscr> and ask to join.

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

## SCHOOLS

Mary Marek Elementary .....	281-245-3232
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

Electricity - Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
Gas - Center Point .....	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland .....	281-652-1600

## OTHER NUMBERS

Pearland Post Office .....	281-485-2132
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

## NEWSLETTER

Articles.....	shadowcreekranch@peelinc.com
Publisher	
Peel, Inc. ....	1-888-687-6444
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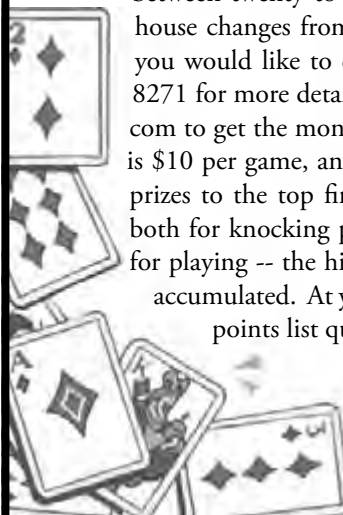
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Community Liason Manager	
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Mark Simien.....	msimien@amitx.com
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## *The Shadow Creek Ranch* **Texas Hold'em Poker Club**

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 Jeff M at 281-993-8271 for more details, or email Jeff at ironjeff@juno.com to get the monthly email invitation. 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.



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## Education Foundation Winners Wagon Surprises Staff with Grants

Some Alvin ISD teachers, counselors and staff got a surprise in the middle of their school day when the Alvin ISD Education Foundation Winners Wagon visited their campuses to hand out grants. District employees applied for funds through the Education Foundation and waited patiently to find out who would be a winner.

44 Alvin ISD teachers, two counselors and a speech pathologist were pleasantly surprised on May 4 when the Foundation's Winners Wagon showed up at their campuses. Students joined in on the celebration as staff members at each campus received their grant checks. A total of \$30,501.65 was awarded in grants to the faculty and staff at Alvin High School, Alvin Junior High, Alvin Elementary, Alvin Primary, ASSETS Academy, Jeter Elementary, E.C. Mason Elementary, Longfellow Elementary, Stevenson Primary, Passmore Elementary, Harby Junior High, Fairview Junior High, Manvel High School, Manvel Junior High, Nolan Ryan Junior High, Walt Disney Elementary, Glenn York Elementary, and the Speech Pathology Department.

"It thrills us to be able to provide our teachers and staff with money to implement innovative teaching ideas. It is because of the community's support of the Alvin ISD Education Foundation that we are able to continue to support our teachers in the form of grants, and our students in the form of scholarships," said Sheila Olson, Education Foundation executive director. The money received for the grants will be used to implement various initiatives in support of student achievement and success at each campus. For information on how you can support Alvin ISD students and staff through the Education Foundation, contact either Sheila Olson or Melinda Purcell at 281-331-2586.



**PETE VINCENT, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER,  
PRESENTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANT TO RECIPIENT**

## SHADOW CREEK SOCCER CLUB

### FALL REGISTRATION



#### AGES 4-13

*Register now for Fall season at*

**[WWW.SHADOWCREEKSOCER.ORG](http://WWW.SHADOWCREEKSOCER.ORG)**

#### AGES 4-9

Games at Nolan Ryan Junior High  
Saturdays 8-12 noon

#### AGES 10-11

Games at Nolan Ryan Junior High  
Sundays 4-6 pm

#### AGES 12-13

Games at York Elementary  
Sundays 4-6 pm

#### **SELECT TEAM U11 (AGE 10) & U13 (AGES 11 & 12) TRYOUTS JUNE 2.**

First Game - September 15.  
Neighborhood teams. Registration includes a full uniform, KidSafe protection, practice equipment, and a trophy. Practice times decided by team parents. Teams coached by team parents. Register at [www.ShadowCreekSoccer.org](http://www.ShadowCreekSoccer.org).



# SHADOW CREEK RANCH



*Cooper Eugene McNicholas*

*Arrived*  
April, 26, 2012  
6 lbs, 10oz  
19.5 inches

*Cooper was welcomed  
by his parents Michael  
& Iliana and proud  
Big Brother Max.*



*William "Liam" Kelly Hartmann*

*Arrived*  
February 25, 2012  
8 lbs, 13 oz  
19 inches long

*Proud parents Kelly &  
Cynthia Hartmann and  
his big furry "brother &  
sister" Duke & Duchess.  
Welcome to our family.  
We love you!*



## MHS MAVPLAYERS Perform Macbeth



Manvel High School's Mavplayers completed their 2012 season with a One Act UIL performance of Macbeth. The cast and crew delivered a Powerful Performance!

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### *All-Star Cast Award winners*

Jeffrey Fato, Megan Walker, Parth Patel, Marisa Lawrence, Emily Curl, Ruthie Gieseke and Megan Ferrari.

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## Manvel High School Student, Pan Selected As National Merit \$2500 Scholarship Winner

On May 2, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced that Manvel High School student Heather Pan was selected as a National Merit \$2500 Scholarship winner. Pan was chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 finalists.

"This is an outstanding accomplishment for Heather. She has worked extremely hard throughout her high school career, and has proven that hard work pays off," said Darrell Alexander, Manvel High School principal. Pan was selected for her strong combination of accomplishments, skills, and her potential for success throughout college.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. In order for a student to participate in the program they must have taken the PSAT/NMSQT, be enrolled as a high school student progressing normally towards graduation, and have plans to enroll full-time in college. The student must also be a citizen of the United States or be a U.S. lawful permanent resident.

Heather plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and mentioned that she is honored to have been selected for the National Merit \$2500 Scholarship. Pan is the first Manvel High School student to receive this academic honor.

**For additional details on the Nation Merit Program  
visit - [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).**





# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## Marek Elementary EARLY Banner Presentaion

Recently Marek Elementary became the first Alvin ISD campus to be certified as an Engineering and Robotics Learned Young (EARLY) school by NASA, the University of Houston and the EARLY organization. Each year there are two separate challenges created by the EARLY organization that must be completed by participating campuses in order to earn certification. The challenges vary in theme and strategy and consist of teams building robots from LEGO Simple & Motorized Mechanisms Kits.

The robots designed and built by the teams must perform certain tasks or "missions," on a four by four feet course with obstacles, in a two minute time period.

Marek first piloted its Future Engineers robotics program four years ago, and it has grown from 14 students to more than 200. Coordinators Michelle Pedalino, Joanna Wang and Nancy Goodnight along with multiple parent and staff volunteers lead students in problem solving and teamwork with an engineering emphasis. Awards accumulated over the past four years have included Best Design, Top Rookie Seed, Robot finalist, and first place.

In January, the school hosted its first official EARLY tournament, the Shadow Creek Neighborhood EARLY Tournament, which consisted of more than 100 participants from elementary and middle school campuses around the Houston area.



"We are extremely proud to have earned this honor, and look forward to the continued growth of our program. We are also excited to partner with Glenn York Elementary to implement a similar program at their campus," said Jessica McMullen, principal of Mary Marek Elementary.



## SHADOW CREEK RANCH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER



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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## Shattered Dreams Exposes Students to the Reality of Drinking & Driving

On May 2, Manvel High School juniors and seniors attended the Shattered Dreams program that was coordinated by Dr. LaKisha Holloway, Manvel High School Health Science Technology teacher. Shattered Dreams is an education experience that reminds students of the dangers associated with drinking and driving.

"There are too many young lives that have already been lost, and countless others severely impaired because of the tragic consequences of underage drinking, combined with driving. It is our responsibility as educators to partner with the community and educate our children on making the right decisions," said Darrell Alexander, Manvel High School principal.



Traffic crashes are a leading cause of death and serious injury for youth 15 to 19 years of age, and many often involve alcohol and drugs. Communities around the state are often faced with these tragedies, and many Texas high schools have turned to the Shattered Dreams program. "One of the great things about the program is that it is a youth-led community collaborative program, that allows our students and community to really gain a clear understanding of the potential risks of drinking and driving," said Charlotte Liptak, associate principal of Manvel High School. "I am confident that the program has had a huge impact on our students, and is making a difference in the lives of many," added Liptak.

The Shattered Dreams program involves the dramatization of an alcohol-related crash on or near a high school campus, complete with police and EMS response, emergency room treatment, family notifications, and the arrest and booking of the driver. The crash scene drama is played out before the student body during a school day. Throughout the day the other elements of the "docu-drama" unfold. To give students a better understanding of the number of DWI-related deaths, an individual dressed as the "Grim Reaper" appears periodically throughout the school day to select a new victim. As a part of the program, the victims are taken out of class, made-up in white faces and dressed in black t-shirts to symbolize death, and then returned to their classrooms to continue their day. By the end of the day, every student has one or more "dead" classmates present in the classroom with them. "We learn about texting and driving, or drinking in driving in school on a regular basis. However, this program has given me the opportunity to actually live it and see how

this would affect me, my family, and my classmates. I was selected to be the victim that dies at the hospital. My parents were brought into the room where I was lying in the hospital bed with blood running down my face, tubes coming out of my body and bandages everywhere. I experienced in that room the hurt that my parents would feel, and the pain and grief that my family would go through if this was actually reality. I don't ever want my parents to have to experience an accident like this where I can't sit up when my mom gets overwhelmed and say Mama it will be okay, this is makeup and it will wipe off. I am actually alive. It was very emotional for my family and me, but we have all taken away a great deal from this. I hope that other kids like me will learn that this is real problem and it can happen to anyone," said Jasmine Mayon, Manvel High School senior.

"Accidents can happen to anyone at any time, but most drinking and driving accidents involving high school students occur during spring break and prom. We have positioned our program near our prom date so that this is fresh on the minds of our students in hopes to prevent having to memorialize any of our kids in real life. This program takes a great deal of time and effort to plan, but if we can reach that one kid that does not get behind the wheel after drinking and save a life... then it was all worth it," stated Holloway.





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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

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## **Savannah Lakes Elementary School Second Grade Dual Language & Cluster Class Students Recently Presented their Living Wax Museum for Parents & Visitors**

The project entailed the students researching a famous person using the Independent Investigation Method (IIM). Through this method, the students were guided by their teachers through the research process, while combining required curriculum standards with vital research skills.

“The Wax Museum allowed our students to have fun learning about famous people in our history, while also incorporating important skills that will help them throughout middle school, high school and even college,” said Elizabeth Sassin, Savannah Lakes principal. The students learned skills such as source citing, note taking, computer typing, and tips to avoid plagiarism.

To culminate their research, the students dressed up as their selected famous person, and became living statues that were waiting in the library for someone to “press their button” so they could come alive. Once alive, the students shared information learned about the famous person through their research studies with the individuals in attendance.

“Our students worked very hard on their projects and we are proud of the outcome. They did an outstanding job sharing what they learned with their families and friends. We look forward to our next wax museum,” said Ana Pasarella, Savannah Lakes Dual Language teacher.





## Alvin ISD Launches Performance Goal Data Dashboard

In an effort to be transparent with district data, the Alvin Independent School District launched the electronic Performance Data Dashboard. The dashboard, which was first introduced at the May 8 board meeting, visually demonstrates the district's progress in each of the six performance goals. The dashboard can be located by visiting [www.alvinisd.net/dashboard](http://www.alvinisd.net/dashboard).

"One of the district's six goals is to ensure that our communities and families are involved in the decision making process, and the new dashboard not only provides comprehensive and comparable data, but it pulls it all together in one place," said Dr. Fred Brent, superintendent of schools.

Information will be updated as it changes and will showcase performance as it relates to the district performance in the areas of student success, staff, technology, facilities, parental and community involvement and fiscal responsibility.

"As a district we strive to be open and transparent. The new data dashboard will provide families and community members the opportunity to have a closer look into the operations of the Alvin Independent School District," said Daniel Combs, Alvin ISD director of communications.

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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## TEXAS EVENTS June 2012

**1-17—BEAUMONT:** Annual Exhibition of the American Society of Marine Artists Art Museum of Southeast Texas, 500 Main St. [www.amset.org](http://www.amset.org) 409/832-3432

**1-July 1—VICTORIA:** Prayer Wheels Sculptor and art-car artist David Best unveils new works that feature automobile and racing themes. The Nave Museum, 306 W. Commercial. [www.victoriaregionalmuseum.com](http://www.victoriaregionalmuseum.com) 361/575-8227

**1-July 1—VICTORIA:** Art Car Central Features award-winning art cars and an exhibition of art-car photography. Museum of the Coastal Bend. [www.museumofthecoastalbend.org](http://www.museumofthecoastalbend.org) 361/582-2511

**1-July 22—HOUSTON:** The Impact of Racist Ideologies: Jim Crow and the Nuremberg Laws Exhibit examines the remarkable similarities between America's own Jim Crow laws and those in Nazi Germany that ultimately contributed to the Holocaust, using examples from Houston's own segregationist past. Holocaust Museum Houston, 5401 Caroline St. [www.hmh.org](http://www.hmh.org) 713/942-8000

**1-Aug. 12—HOUSTON:** Returning: The Art of Samuel Bak This exhibit features more than 50 paintings, studies and sketches by Samuel Bak, who survived the Holocaust in his native Lithuania

by escaping the Jewish ghetto with his mother and hiding in the attic of a Benedictine convent. Holocaust Museum Houston, 5401 Caroline St. [www.hmh.org](http://www.hmh.org)

**1-Nov. 4—LA PORTE:** Making a Mark, Leaving a Legacy With more than 300 artifacts—ranging from exotic formulations used by 19th century Texas pharmacists to Masonic aprons that tell entire stories in pictures—this exhibit illustrates how cultures over centuries crafted a wide array of artifacts to communicate traditions and ideas. San Jacinto Museum of History. [www.sanjacinto-museum.org](http://www.sanjacinto-museum.org)

**1-Dec. 15—VICTORIA:** Cattle Boom! This exhibit tells the story of ranching families, cattle drives and ranching culture through artifacts, historical photographs, documents and maps from regional collections. Museum of the Coastal Bend [www.museumofthecoastalbend.org](http://www.museumofthecoastalbend.org) 361/582-2511

**7, 14, 21, 28—BAYTOWN:** Summer Concert Series Bring lawn chairs and picnic baskets to enjoy live music. Hours are 6–9 p.m. Yezpe Vineyard. 281/804-3410

*(Continued on Page 13)*

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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## Texas Events - (Continued from Page 12)

**7, 14, 21, 28—KEMAH:** Rock the Dock Concert Series Enjoy live music on the plaza. Kemah Boardwalk. [www.kemahboardwalk.com](http://www.kemahboardwalk.com) 281/334-9880

**7-Aug. 19—BEAUMONT:** Works by Annie Orchard In Cafe Arts at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, 500 Main St. [www.amset.org](http://www.amset.org) 409/832-3432

**15—BAY CITY:** Bandstand Art Festival Liberty Park. [www.visitmatagordacounty.com](http://www.visitmatagordacounty.com) 877/878-5386

**15-16—PORT ARANSAS:** Powderpuff Tournament Open to women only. Fishing day is Saturday. Woody's Sport Center. [www.gulfcoastfishing.com](http://www.gulfcoastfishing.com) 361/749-5252

**15-16—PORT ARANSAS:** Texas Game Warden Association Fishing Tournament Robert's Point Park. <http://tgwa.justgofishin.com> 361/815-5752

**16—GALVESTON:** Camping with Gasoline Actor and playwright Jaston Williams—of

Tuna, Texas fame—premieres his one-person show at the Grand Opera House. [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com) 800/821-1894

**16—HARLINGEN:** Blues on the Hill Series features national and international blues headliners. McKelvey Park. [www.visitharlingentexas.com](http://www.visitharlingentexas.com) 956/428-5020 or 800/531-7346

**16—LAKE JACKSON:** Bird Banding The public is invited to join workers collecting data on bird populations at the Bird Observatory. Hours are 8 a.m.–noon. [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org) 979/480-0999

**16—MATAGORDA:** Friends, Furs and Feathers Meet amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals in this live animal presentation. Begins at 1 p.m. Matagorda Bay Nature Park. [www.lcra.org/matagorda](http://www.lcra.org/matagorda) 800/776-5272


**16—MATAGORDA:** Guided Wetland Kayak Trip Enjoy the tranquility and beauty

of Matagorda while kayaking this 2.5-mile course. Includes boat, equipment and paddling instructions for beginners. Begins at 9 a.m. Matagorda Bay Nature Park. [www.lcra.org/matagorda](http://www.lcra.org/matagorda) 800/776-5272

**16—RICHMOND:** Fathers' Day Frontier Survival Get dad back in touch with his pioneer spirit in this special frontier survival class, which covers skills such as fire building, hide tanning and more. Reservations required. The George Ranch Historical Park. [www.geogeranch.org](http://www.geogeranch.org) 281/343-0218

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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## TENNIS TIPS

**Q: I have taken some beginner lessons and I am ready to start practicing. What is the best way?**

A: Starting to play tennis, is like learning to swim or riding a bike. You need to start slowly and gain confidence over time. I suggest acquiring some used tennis balls from a club (we have plenty at our club), and start hitting them back and forth from the service line to service line. New balls are much too lively and if you only use three balls, you will end up spending more time chasing them than hitting them.

**Q: What about playing with my children?**

A: If your child is between ages 4-11 and has taken some tennis lessons in an organized program, more than likely they were

accustomed to playing with softer "QuickStart" balls and transitional rackets. Children need to learn to execute the stroke properly without thinking about the court and the net. I usually begin with of children of these ages, stroking a ball against a fence or windscreen. Later on once they learn to make contact with the ball, I bring them close to the net onto the actual tennis court, and I have them hit the balls being fed.

**Q: If I am the feeder of the balls, where should I stand?**

A: Most tennis coaches now, spend a great deal of teaching standing next to the players feeding them balls from both behind and from the side, next to the player. This way, the player hitting the ball, learns to adjust to the ball without having to do a great deal of running. When I see a player becoming more

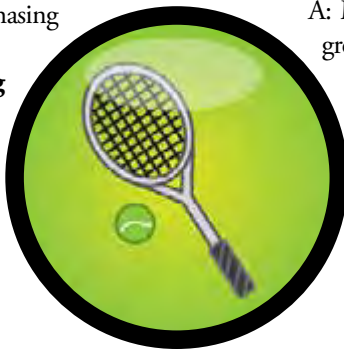
confident with making contact with the ball and clearing the net, I will begin feeding the balls to them from the other side of the net. The player should start hitting the balls from the service line, and move further towards the baseline as he succeeds hitting the balls with more control.

**Q: When is time to rally back and forth?**

A: Once the player is adept to hit both forehands and backhands with consistency, when the ball is being fed from the opposite side near the service line, I then will move back to the baseline and start to rally back and forth. I normally let the student start the rally, making sure that he is executing the stroke properly. Also, safety calls for the basket or extra balls to be clear his path on his side of the court.

**Q: How should I practice the serve?**

A: One of the most difficult shots of tennis to master is the serve. Also, it is the easiest one to practice, because a player can practice it alone. I



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# SHADOW CREEK RANCH

## Tennis Tips - (Continued from Page 14)

suggest using many tennis balls and begin by first serving from the service line and proceed to move back toward the base line until success is achieved with getting the ball in the proper service box. If practicing with a partner, one can be serving, while the other practices returning serve.

### **Q: How about playing points?**

A: If players are familiar with the traditional scoring system, I suggest playing regular games. For practice purpose, I encourage my students to play using the table tennis scoring system. Serve five balls, and then allow the opponent to serve five. Change sides every 10 points. This way, a player learns to play the point, rather than the game. First to achieve 21 points wins.

Make sure you wear light clothes, drink lots of fluid and have a great time learning and practicing the "game of a lifetime!"

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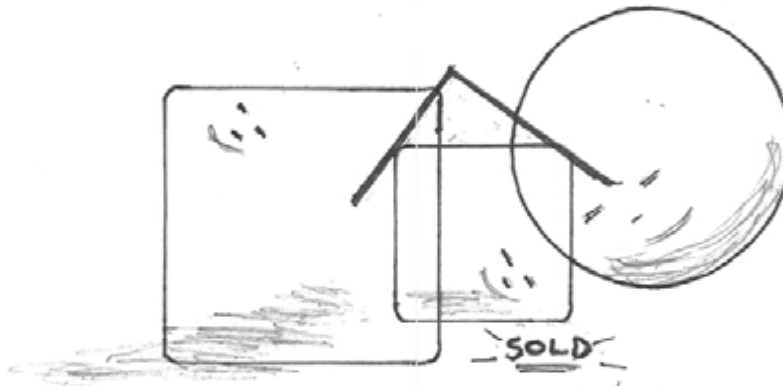
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