

The Village Gazette

Volume 9, Issue 8
Village Creek Community Association

August 2012

★ 4TH OF JULY PARADE & PARTY! ★



The Village Creek 4th of July parade and party was a real "BLAST"! From the parade led by our local fire trucks, the kids games, adult games, festive food and DJ that kept the party hoppin. Thank you to the social committee members, Sharon Gabbert, Amy Hyden, Lani McMurtrey, Susan Giddens, Tracy McCoy, Alison Peters, Natalie Stepanski, and Caren Seal. Thank you also to Sharon Dillard for taking pictures, Jerry Gabbert for grilling the hot dogs and Russell McMurtrey, Allyssa McMurtrey, Chase Poynor and Mike Seal for your help in making the event so successful.

MINUTE TO WIN IT WINNERS

- 1st place - John Wheat - \$25 gift cert.
- 2nd place - Chase Poynor - \$15 gift cert.
- 3rd place - Jenna Steed - \$10 gift cert.

BIKE, TRIKE, WAGON DECORATING CONTEST:

- 1st place - Sydney Stepanski
- 2nd place - Brenna Laderer
- 3rd place - was a wagon that was pulling a mini wagon with a bear... very cute.

The date for the Back to School Luau Party and Kindergarten Meet and Greet has been changed. It will be on August 18, 10:00-1:00.

The Kindergarten party will take place on the splash pad from 10:00-11:00. This will be a time for the "soon to be" kindergartners to get to know each other and hopefully meet the principle of Willow Creek. Snacks and drinks will be provided and a group picture of the Class of 2026 will be taken.



The Village Gazette

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911

CenterPoint-Gas Leak713-659-3552
Constables Office 281-376-3472, www.cd4.hctx.net
Klein Fire Dept.281-376-4449
Poison Control Center800-764-7661
Willowbrook Methodist281-477-1000
EMERGENCY 24 HOUR LINE281-537-0957
(select 'emergency' option)

SCHOOLS

Tomball ISD281-357-3100, www.tomballisd.net
Willow Creek Elem (K-4).....281-357-3080
Northpointe Int (5-6).....281-357-3020
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)281-357-3030
Tomball High (9-12).....281-357-3220
Tomball Memorial High School.....281-357-3230
Transportation.....281-357-3193

HOA MGMT

Preferred Management281-897-8808
Patti Tine..... patti@preferredmgt.com
Fax281-897-8838
Mailing: P.O. Box 690269 Houston, TX 77269
Village Creek Community Association Website:
www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek/home.asp

SERVICES

CPS.....713-626-5701
CenterPoint-Gas.....713-659-2111
Dead Animal Pick up713-699-1113
Domestic Violence281-401-6250
FBI.....713-693-5000
Harris County Animal Control281-999-3191
Houston Chronicle713-220-7211
Greater Houston Pool713-771-7665
Lost Pets... <http://www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek/home.asp>
Municipal District Services (24 hrs)281-290-6500
Reliant-Street lights713-923-3213
..... www.centerpointenergy.com/outage
Sex Offenders www.familywatchdog.us
Comcast - Cable/High Speed Internet.....713-341-1000
Republic Waste.....713-849-0400
Trash pickup Tues/Fri
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/aluminum cans)
Yard Stork kpuente@garygreene.com

NEWSLETTER

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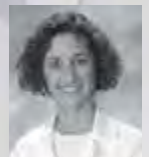
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VILLAGE CREEK MARKET REPORT

CATEGORY	NO.	PRICE	PRICE/SQ FT	DAYS ON MKT
Active Listings	20	\$243,335	\$81.88	81
Pending Listings	10	\$242,659	\$78.55	42
Sold Since 4/1/12	13	\$244,639	\$78.64	91

Statistics are averages compiled from Houston Association of Realtors M.L.S. 7/6/12

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The Village Gazette

Landscape Corner

August is one of Tomball's hottest and driest months, but gardening goes on. Here are some August tasks:

- Keep the weeds and those dang invasive grasses down by getting them early. Also, use a trick from an old friend of ours. He lived near Morgan, Texas on a farm. As a youth, when it rained, he thought that he would have a day off from farming, but his dad would have him go out when the rain let up to remove small weeds. His dad said, "It is easiest to remove weeds when they are small and the ground is a bit wet." So much for a farm boy's day off.
- Prune roses 25%. "A four foot bush becomes a three foot bush." (from Doug Welsh's Texas Gardner).
- Fertilize roses with straight nitrogen (ammonium sulfate or similar). After fertilizing, water to the drip line. (from Texas Gardner).
- Add mulch to reduce loss of moisture. Make sure you keep the mulch and dirt away from the trunk of trees and shrubs. You should be able to just barely see the tops of the first horizontal roots at the base.
- If it doesn't rain, don't forget that your trees do need water: even if they are established. Remember that tree rings show that wet seasons always increase growth. Turn your hose onto a drip to encourage deep watering. If all of our trees survive, Village Creek will be even more beautiful.

- Cut off old blooms on Crape Myrtles to encourage new blossoms.
- Consider planting pumpkins this month. Continue harvesting your summer garden of things that like our interesting summer climate: okra, cantaloupe, peppers, purple hull peas, and eggplant.

We have wondered why there are quite a few brown spots in our lawn. It turns out, upon inspection, that our lawn sprinklers are actually shooting water "over" some of the grass areas near the sprinklers. We are going to try replacing some of these heads with new ones and carefully read the instructions for adjustment. In addition, it wouldn't hurt to hope and pray for rain. Nothing keeps Village Creek greener than our wonderful rains. Wow! We certainly have some thunderously loud thunder here!

Village Creek Landscape Committee Update: We have completed a study of all public areas in Village Creek. While VC is in pretty good shape, the drought was hard on landscaping, and there are lots of areas of concern. Because of the high total cost, VC has been broken down into several different projects for the VC Board's review. Those that are most commonly seen by residents and visitors will be worked on first. For example, you have probably noticed that the entry off of Spring Cypress has been spruced (no pun intended) up. The old trees in the median strip were moved because the ground there was too low...

(Continued on Page 5)

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(Landscape Corner - Continued from Page 4)

creating a "marsh" which made healthy tree growth almost impossible. The ground was then graded high in the middle and sodded. Then new oaks were planted in a stately row. While you won't see much activity this summer because summer planting can be challenging, we expect to make more improvements during the fall and winter.

Page 35 of the July/August issue of Texas Gardener (a magazine that is FULL of gardening ideas) has this very interesting point: "The clippings you return to the lawn are decomposing rapidly during the warmer months of the year and are generally adequate for feeding the lawn. If you were to gather and weigh the clippings from your mower and then analyze their nutrient content, you would find that your lawnmower applies more fertilizer each year than your fertilizer spreader does." We know that it is traditional to consider lawn clippings as trash, but leaving them on the lawn reduces landfill and delivery costs, improves the soil, and provides free fertilize. Consider keeping those lawn clippings on the lawn where they won't hurt, and certainly might help!

Web Site of the Month: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/> if you have a question about anything that grows in Texas, you will probably find it here.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!

The Village Creek Landscape Committee.

VILLAGE CREEK LUAU

*Celebrating the End of Summer
and Back to School*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

10:00-1:00

***Pizza, Drinks, Dessert**

***Pool Games**

***DJ**

Kindergarten Meet & Greet 10:00-11:00 at the Splash-pad.

This will be a great opportunity for the soon to be Kindergartners to meet their classmates.

****Grab your swim suit, grass skirt and tropical shirt.**

This will be Village Creek's 3rd Luau and there will be plenty of Festive Fun for Everyone!**

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SPRING CYPRESS CONSTRUCTION

FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT VILLAGE CREEK PLEASE CHECK WEB SITE FOR UPDATES!

From the office of the Harris County Precinct 4 regarding Spring cypress construction:

Please know, the Spring Cypress Road corridor, within the limits described, was designed and will be constructed in two segments [Segment A between Telge Road and Faulkey Gully and Segment B between Faulkey Gully and SH 249]. Proposed improvements include widening the existing 2-lane asphalt roadway to a 4-lane concrete boulevard section with storm sewer system, twin bridge over Faulkey Gully, traffic signal modifications, drainage mitigation and all appurtenances necessary for realizing a complete project within a 100-foot wide right of way (two lanes in each direction; the curbed medians are 32-feet wide and will incorporate median openings and left turn lanes at the intersecting public streets).

Menade, Inc. (Contractor) was the successful low bidder for both Segments A and B. Harris County awarded Segment A to the Contractor on June 26, 2012. The final award process takes approximately 30-45 days to accomplish; therefore, Segment A roadway construction should commence in July/August 2012 [barring any unforeseen circumstances beyond our control] and

the Contractor will have 480 calendar days to complete the roadway construction once notice to proceed is issued. Segment B was awarded and notice to proceed with the construction activity was issued to the Contractor on April 16, 2012. Segment B is scheduled for completion by November 6, 2013, barring any unforeseen circumstances beyond the Contractor's control (i.e., excessive inclement weather days).

We hope you will take a few minutes to visit Precinct 4's website, at <http://www.hcp4.net/>, to discover the positive efforts being pursued by Commissioner Cagle for enhancing the quality of life within Harris County and to follow the progress of the Spring Cypress Road capital improvement project found on the Road and Bridge webpage. Please contact Precinct 4's Community Assistance Department, at (281) 353-8424 or via our website, should you have any questions regarding other Precinct 4 Road and Bridge matters.

*Emerald Chance
Harris County Precinct 4
Capital Improvement Projects Division
(281) 893-3726*

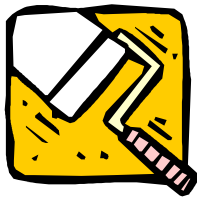
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Village Creek – Reminders to Owners

Preferred Management Services would like to remind owners of some of the exterior property items needing attention on a regular basis:

- Lawns mowed (including edging and expansion joints)
- Remove unused tree stakes
- Tree street side trees to a 7 ft. umbrella
- Be sure all street side trees are not growing and blocking street and/or traffic signs
- Keep trash cans in the garage or behind the fence
- No boat, trailers or motor homes are allowed in the community
- Replace missing or damaged fence pickets or around the gate area

Keeping up with these items will not only make your property look better but will also keep property values high for the entire community. If you do receive a deed restriction letter, please do not ignore it. You should promptly comply with the request to avoid any further compliance efforts or fees. If you have any questions about a letter that you have received, you may contact Preferred Management Services at 281.897.8808.

VILLAGE CREEK ACC

Owners of Village Creek should submit for ACC approval prior to making any exterior modifications. The necessary form is available on the Village Creek website at www.preferredmgt.com/Villagecreek. You will need to log in to your account or request a log in and then go to the documents section website and click on home improvement form. Should you have any questions you may contact Preferred Management Services at 281.897.8808.

VILLAGE CREEK WEBSITE

The Board of Directors and Preferred Management Services wants to remind everyone that the Association has a website

exclusively for the owners of Village Creek. If you haven't already registered please do so can you be informed of all activities, events, meetings, social events and other important information or documents available to all owners. If you haven't registered, please go to www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek and click on request log in. Fill out a few questions and you will receive your log in and password via email during normal business hours.

VILLAGE CREEK DELINQUENT ACCOUNT INFORMATION

The Board of Directors for Village Creek has authorized Preferred Management Services to work in accordance with its collection policy to pursue all delinquent accounts. All homeowners are encouraged to log on to the website and review their account balance. Anyone who has not paid their assessments will be escalated and will incur additional collection cost and possibly attorney fees. This also applies to anyone who has defaulted on a previously approved payment plan. Please contact Preferred Management Services at 281.897.8808 if you have questions about an account balance. Payments may be made online or by calling 866.289.5977.

REPORTING A STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

You may not know it but the Association pays for all street lights in the community, even if they are not working. Reporting a problem with a light pole is easy and Centerpoint will even email you with an anticipated date of repair and let you know if it will be an extended repair. All they need is the pole number and the address closest to the pole. Once you submit the information they usually have the work completed within 2-3 days. You may also call Preferred Management Services at 281.897.8808 with the pole and address information and we will be happy to report it for you.



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SERVICES AT 9 AND 11 AM, BIBLE STUDY AT 10:10.

X-PLODE STUDENT MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADES)
MEETS WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM!

The Village Gazette

Immunizations: Not Just for Kids

By: Concentra Urgent Care

Although most toddlers in the United States have received all recommended vaccines, many adults and adolescents have not. These missed vaccinations increase their risk for infection, hospitalization, death, and disease spread, and they contribute to the estimated \$10 billion that is spent annually on vaccine preventable diseases in the United States.

Evidence shows that currently approved vaccines are safe and effective. However, coverage rates for persons of all ages vary nationwide. Reasons cited include lack of health insurance, unfamiliarity with vaccine recommendations, limited access at physicians' offices, or the perceived cost of vaccines.

What you need to know is that obtaining recommended vaccines in a timely manner can prevent disease. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends the immunization schedule to the right for generally healthy adults and adolescents.

For more information about immunizations and where to get them, contact your health care provider, your Concentra health specialist, or visit the CDC's Web Site at: www.cdc.gov/vaccines.

**Specific recommendations for individuals may vary depending on age, prior immunization history and the presence of other existing conditions; please see the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>*

IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE RECOMMENDATIONS

INFLUENZA:

Yearly, especially if at risk

MENINGOCOCCAL:

One dose, age 11-12 or 13-18 if not previously immunized

TETANUS-DIPHTHERIA/TETANUS

One dose, age 11-12, then booster

DIPHTHERIA-PERTUSSIS:

every 10 years

HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS

Three doses, age 11-26 (females only):

MEASLES - MUMPS - RUBELLA:

If born after 1956, one or two doses if never immunized up to age 65

PNEUMOCOCCAL:

One dose, at or after age 65

VARICELLA (CHICKEN POX):

Two doses if no prior infection or immunization received

ZOSTER (SHINGLES):

One dose, at or after age 60



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Village Creek

T H A N K Y O U

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- Helen Nicholson -

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The Village Gazette

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 villagecreek@peelinc.com. 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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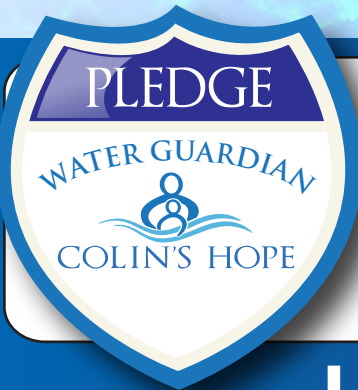
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