

The Official Newsletter of The Steeplechase Community Improvement Association, Inc. and Steeplechase

# **SAFETY CORNER**

TIP OF THE MONTH

# CYBERBULLYING IS REAL – BE ALERT!

Today's teens use technology more than ever. Most have highspeed Internet access, which they use to send

instant messages to their friends, create blogs and online videos, keep personal profiles on social networking websites, share photos, and more. Many teens also have cell phones and spend hours text-messaging friends. Technology, especially the Internet, allows all of us immediate access to information, which can greatly benefit our lives. However, it has also provided some people with the means to exploit the innocent, commit crimes, and inflict injury on others. This technology has allowed some teens to take the bullying that thrives in school hallways into cyberspace.

Cyberbullying is using the Internet, cell phones, video game systems, or other technology to send or post text or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person.

Youth give many reasons for bullying; as adults, you can help stop cyberbullying by learning why youth cyberbully and by teaching youth how to interact positively in cyberspace. An overwhelming majority of teens believe that youth cyberbully because they think it's a joke, not realizing the negative impact it may have on the victim. Many teens cyberbully because they are encouraged by friends or because they believe that everyone else cyberbullies. Dealing with cyberbullying can be difficult, but there are steps parents, educators, and other caregivers can take to prevent it.

Parents and caregivers have a responsibility to help keep youth safe online. In order to do this, parents have to be aware of the types of activities youth are engaged in online and teach teens

(Continued on Page 4)

# Mark your calendar's for the following Steeplechase events SEPTEMBER 4 SCIA Board Meeting; Open to Resident's @ 7pm Steeplechase Clubhouse OCTOBER 2 SCIA Board Meeting; Open to Resident's @ 7pm Steeplechase Clubhouse OCTOBER 2 Texas Night Out November 6 Open Resident's Meeting @ 7pm Steeplechase Clubhouse DECEMBER 4 SCIA Board Meeting; Open to Resident's @ 7pm Steeplechase Clubhouse

# **IMPORTANT** Telephone Numbers



	<i>₩</i> ,	
Emergency	911	
Sheriff's Dept		
Cy-Fair Fire Dept	911	
Cy-Fair Hospital	281-890-4285	
Animal Control		
Center Point (Street lights)	713-207-2222	
http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage		
Neighborhood Crime Watch SteeplechaseSeco		
Library	281-890-2665	
Post Office	713-937-6827	
Steeplechase Community Center		
Deed Restriction Issues (CMC)		
Water/Sewer		
Architectural Control (CMC)		
Trash Pick-up (Best Trash, LLC) (Wed. & Sat.)		
Harris Co. Pct. 4 Road Maintenance		
Harris Co. MUD #168hcmud168bo		
Community Events		
Clubhouse Rentals: Private Parties and Communi	•	
(Phyllis McFarland)		
Traffic Initiative		
Private Pool Parties	713-416-5161	
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER		

#### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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# Community Center Contacts

#### **Community Maintenance Concerns**

Chaparral Management Company ...... 281-586-1700

#### Clubhouse Rentals

Private Parties and Community Events 

#### **Pool Company Contact**

.....www.texasaquaticenterprises.com

#### **Board Member Contact**

Chaparral Management Company ...... 281-586-1700

#### Schools

Emmott Elementary	281-897-4500
Campbell Middle School	
Cy-Ridge High School	

#### Want to Help Steeplechase Go Green?

Join our E-Mailing List at www.SteeplechaseTX.com. Please add webmaster@steeplechasetx.com to your address book to ensure you receive our emails. Your email address will not be shared, published, or used for soliciting.

## AREYOU RECEIVING **NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY ALERTS?**

Interested in receiving neighborhood security alerts? If so, please send an email request to steeplechasesecurity@gmail. Remember, for your safety, emails are sent using 'blind copy' (BCC) so you will need to add steeplechasesecurity@gmail to your safe senders list.



Already on the security alert distribution list? Please make sure if you have changed your

email address, to email steeplechasesecurity@gmail.com so you don't miss-out on important notifications.

Prefer access to more information and updates? LIKE us on Facebook: Steeplechase Safety & Security http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Steeplechase-Safety-Security/181933781906989



### STREETLIGHT OUT? **REPORT IT!**

CenterPoint Energy maintains streetlights throughout our electric service territory in and around Houston. In order to report an outage, you will be asked to provide:

- a pole number for the non-functioning light(s) you want to report
- contact information (in case more information is needed to locate a streetlight)
- an e-mail address (if you want feedback regarding your repair request)
- the number of streetlights you would like to report

To report if you know the streetlight number, visit: http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage

To report using Centerpoint's map system, visit: http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/sloreporting/

The process is easy, simple and will take no more than five minutes.

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**Safety Corner** - (Continued from Cover Page)

about cyber-ethics, responsibility, and Internet safety.

- \*Talk with teens about some of the risks and benefits posed by the Internet
- \*Share examples of inappropriate incidents that can happen online, which teens may view as harmless or
- normal (e.g., a stranger initiating a conversation with a teen regarding pictures the teen has posted of him- or
- herself online)
- \*Learn what their teens are doing online and keep track of their online behavior
- \*Visit websites that teens frequent (such as social networking sites) to see what teens encounter online
- \*Tell teens never to give out personal information online (including their names, addresses, phone numbers,
- school names, or credit card numbers)
- \*Let teens know that they should never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they meet online
- \*Communicate online rules and responsibilities to teens and enforce rules with tangible consequences
- \*Keep computers in a highly trafficked room in the house where online activities are hard for teens to hide
- \*Teach youth about cyberbullying and let them know that engaging in cyberbullying is unacceptable
- \*Explain that youth who cyberbully sometimes bully because they have a feeling of anonymity and a lack of
- accountability; however, cyberbullying is harmful and can have negative consequences
- \*Explain that youth who cyberbully aren't always anonymous; they can be traced, located, and punished if the bullying becomes harassment
- \*Speak to teens about how to react if they are cyberbullied

#### What if Teens Are Bullied?

Despite our collective efforts to teach teens about cybersafety, they can still be victimized by youth who cyberbully. Moreover, cyberbullying can be an extension of bullying that teens are experiencing in school, and it may be more emotionally destructive. Threats and taunts posted on websites are visible throughout the world, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Youth who cyberbully often create websites that encourage friends and classmates to make disparaging comments about another youth. Thus, teens who are cyberbullied can face constant victimization and do not have a safe retreat. Because of this, cyberbullying can elicit a strong emotional response from teens. Some teens change their daily online and offline behaviors. Over 50% of teens felt angry after they were cyberbullied. Roughly one-third of teens felt hurt, and almost 15% of teens felt scared by cyberbullying experiences.

Teens currently use their own methods to counter cyberbullying, and many teens respond with a variety of reactions:

- \*Ask the bully to stop.
- \*Block communication.
- \*Talk to friends about the bullying.
- \*Do nothing about the bullying.
- \*Sign offline.

#### **GET EDUCATED**

National Crime Prevention Council website, www.ncpc.org: This site contains cyberbullying and Internet safety information for parents.

**www.wiredsafety.org:** Wired Safety provides Internet safety information for children, teens, and adults. The website also has an important resource for parents—a downloadable translator for cyber-lingo and acronyms used by teens.

*www.stopcyberbullying.org:* Provides relevant cyberbullying prevention and Internet safety information for parents, teachers, and police officers, as well as children and youth.

www.stopbullying.gov/: Includes information for adults regarding cyberbullying and face-to-face bullying. The site also offers information for children ages 10 to 12 regarding bullying.

Remember that the Internet is accessed by millions of people all over the world, not just your friends and family.

BE SAFE and BE SMART!





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# Neighbor to Neighbor

You can change the experience you have in your own neighborhood by getting more involved with those around you and taking pride in the area in which you live. The following is a new article that will appear monthly to publish friendly neighborhood notes and reminders submitted by readers. Your own Neighbor to Neighbor note can be emailed to Newsletter@SteeplechaseTX.com.

(Note: Editor reserves the right to edit notes for length and to maintain tone of friendliness. No names or addresses will be published.)

#### Dear Neighbor,

If you wish to have large parties at your home which require your guests to park several houses up and down the street from where you live, please ask them to be considerate of your neighbors and not litter our lawns with their empty beer cans, beer bottles, and large empty beer cartons. When I went out to retrieve my morning paper after one of your late night parties, I found broken beer bottles smashed in my driveway and saw numerous beer cans and cartons littering my neighbors' lawns. I had to sweep up all of the broken glass before I could drive my car out of my driveway. If your guests cannot be more considerate, you should be responsible and clean up after them once they leave. Thank you, Your Neighbor

#### Dear Neighbor,

For many of us who work, 12 hour days are not unusual from the time we leave for work until the time we return home each day. This amounts to a long work week. Saturdays are one day that we can take advantage of sleeping in a few hours later and it is very annoying to be awakened before 7:30 a.m. by the sound of your lawn mower. Please be considerate of those who are up by 5:00 a.m. during the work week and would like to sleep in a few extra hours on a Saturday. I polled different homeowners I know and the general consensus is people should not mow their lawns before 8:00 a.m. Thank you!

#### Dear Neighbor,

Please do not encourage Solicitors in the neighborhood by speaking with them about their product or buying from them. If we all interrupt their sales pitch with, "I am sorry, we have a No Solicitation policy in our community," they will move on to another area. If they don't have the respect for you to abide by your request to leave your property, you should not do business with them anyway. If you believe them to be suspicious, especially persistent, or even a scam, call the Harris County Sheriff's department. They can't arrest them for soliciting, but they can ID them and make sure they do not have a criminal history. Thank you!

For more Neighbor to Neighbor notes, LIKE us on Facebook: Steeplechase Community.

## **Support During Tough Times**

#### **DEPRESSION and BIPOLAR SUPPORT ALLIANCE**

**DBSA GREATER HOUSTON** 

713-600-1131 www.dbsahouston.org

DBSA Greater Houston is a non-profit organization that sponsors both free and confidential support groups for those who have been diagnosed or have symptoms of a mood disorder. Families and friends of those with mood disorders are also invited to attend any one of our over 50 support groups across the Houston metropolitan area. Moreover, DBSA Greater Houston provides personal support and direct services to its members, educates the public about the nature and management of these treatable disorders and promotes related research.

#### CRISIS INTERVENTION OF HOUSTON

713-HOTLINE 713-529-TEEN http://crisishotline.org/

Crisis Intervention of Houston's goal is to serve persons in crisis and overcome the barriers to help due to fear, isolation, abuse, physical disability, health, language, age, income, location, problem type or timing of the crisis. Crisis Intervention of Houston meets our mission to serve people in crisis by providing 24-hour telephone and web-based counseling, suicide prevention and intervention education, links to community resources, and community education.



# **Online Service Option** For Citizens Reporting Crimes

The Sheriff's Office has implemented an on-line service called "CopLogic" for Harris County citizens to report crimes. THIS IS FOR REPORTING LOST PROPERTY, THEFT OR VANDALISM ONLY AND WHEN THE COMPLAINT NO SUSPECT INFORMATION. This service is provided as an option to the citizen in lieu of waiting for a unit to respond to their location and response can sometimes take several weeks.

Examples of incidents that can be reported via CopLogic:

- 1. LOST PROPERTY: When property is missing or lost, i.e. leaving items in a restaurant or missing from home.
  - 2. THEFT: Property is taken without the owner's permission.
- 3. VANDALISM: The act of changing, modifying or defacing public or private property, i.e. graffiti, knocking over a mailbox, throwing a rock through a window, etc.

To access this service, please visit the Sheriff's Office web site: www.hcso. hctx.net. Click on "Report Crime" link at top of screen. Click on "Report an Incident." Follow instructions on the screen for filing an offense report.

CopLogic is an alternative method for the citizen to report the crime quickly, get a case number and print a copy of the report. It does not replace entering a call for service for a unit to respond if the citizen prefers to see a unit or does not have access to the Internet.





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## If You...SEE Something **SAY Something!**

A simple observation, a single report can help solve or prevent a crime.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office is committed to serving the citizens of Harris County through a cooperative working relationship between the police and the people we serve. The success of solving crime lies in the actions of the citizens who have knowledge of, or view these criminal acts.

With your help, we can all strive to make Harris County, Texas a safer place to live and play. iWatchHarrisCounty.com is a community awareness program that educates the community about suspicious activities & criminal behaviors. iWatchHarrisCounty focuses on criminal behavior and criminal enterprises that could also indicate a nexus to terrorist activities. Citizens are provided a convenient reporting method to provide tips and leads to police concerning crime that is affecting their community.

iWatchHarrisCounty allows our citizens to harness the communication capabilities of the internet/social networking sites to report crime tips and leads. This site is a new and innovative tool to increase our community wide effort to reduce crime.

This app is available for iPhone, Blackberry and Android mobile phones. Visit http://iwatchharriscounty.com/ for more information and to download the app.

#### What is iWatchHarrisCounty?

iWatchHarrisCounty is a mobile crime watch tool that you and your neighbors can use to report suspicious or criminal activity. It's a proactive, hands-on, partnership between you, the citizens of Harris County, and the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO).

#### Why should I report these behaviors and activities?

You are the eyes and ears of your community. Your awareness of suspicious behaviors and activities and reporting it to the police can help solve crimes or prevent crimes.

#### What should I report?

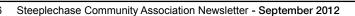
Give as many details as possible, for example:

- -Time of day
- -Where it happened
- -What you witnessed
- -A description of individual(s) involved
- -Was there a vehicle?
- -Color and license plate number?
- -Have you seen this activity before?

#### There are four ways to report:

- -Report online at iWatchHarrisCounty.com
- -Text a tip to 1-855-HCSO-iWatch (1-855-427-6492)
- -Use the downloadable app found on iWatchHarrisCounty.com
- -Call 1-855-HCSO-iWatch (1-855-427-6492)

If you have an emergency and need the police immediately do not use iWatchHarrisCounty, call 911.



# Alex Dye takes Gold!



Congratulations to Alex Dye who has been a Steeplechase resident since birth. Alex's bowling team, Xtreme Team, recently won the gold medal at the Junior Olympics held July 30th at Palace Bowling Lanes. Alex is an avid bowler who made all district at Cy-Ridge as a freshman in 2012 and also went to the High School State Finals in Arlington. Way to go, Alex!



# **Recycling Event**

Chaparral Management and V.F. Waste Services to sponsor free Electronic Recycling Event on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

As recycling comes into the mainstream, it is important we realize all the old electronics we have stored in various spaces have important parts which can be reused, thus lowering our impact on the environment. The following items can be recycled: Computers/Laptop, Printers, Computer Accessories, Cell Phones, LCD and CRT Monitors, Telephones , Fax Machines, Scanners, Gaming Systems, Servers, Projectors, Copiers, Switchers, DVD/VCRs, UPS Batteries

This event will be held in the parking lot of Chaparral Management, 6630 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379, between the hours of 8am and noon. If your community is interested in participating, please sign up at the following link: **EWasteEvent** 

http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e643q7cz8e4a9910&llr=jekx5dkab

# Looking to host a foreign exchange student?

We are a nonprofit educational organization reaching out to the community looking for volunteers to host a foreign exchange student for this fall school year. The students are 15-18 from over 60 countries and arrive in late August 2012 til June 2013. The students come medically insured and bring their own spending money. Have you ever thought about traveling to another country but don't have the funds... volunteer to have a student from another country come and stay with you!

Please contact Jennifer Tausworthe, Area Coordinater of South Texas and Louisiana. You can reach me at 713-203-6556 or email me at jennifer2cci@aol.com

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#### KAPPA ALPHA THETA

Come join the Houston Northwest Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta.

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For information about meetings or events please contact:

Email: thetadonna@yahoo.com Phone: Kim 281-370-2224





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## **Perspective**

In an effort to provide you with important information about Lone Star College-CyFair "Perspective" was developed. This column provides the latest information about news and events. Here is a sampling of what's going on:

Mark your calendar for Saturday October 6th, 2012 for the annual *Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community Fall Festival.* 

Saturday, October 6, 2012, 10 AM - 8 PM.

The church located at 10135 West Road, Houston, Texas 77064

Activities include:

Petting zoo, camel rides, games, mechanical bull, moonwalk, maze, giant slide, obstacle course, Kiddy train, silent auction, white elephant, crafters, vendors with great food, fun, music and fellowship. For information, Call Joy Onorato at 713-856-9609, or email at jonorato @att.net

Visit church web site at www.stmaximilian.org

#### Kids' Bike Ride for Leukemia

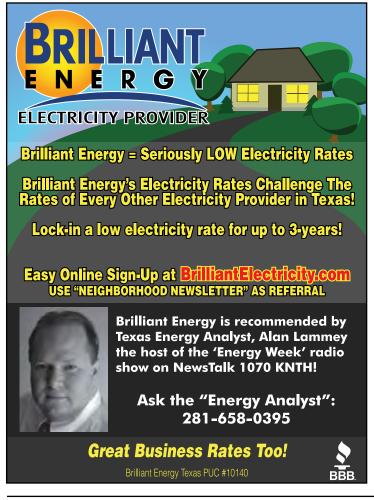
Please join Team in Training for a ride in the fight against blood cancers on Sunday, September 16, 2012 at 10 a.m. in Mandolin Gardens Park (Mandolin Village Subdivision – 10000 block Summit Bridge Ln. near Cypresswood and Highway 249). An estimated 245,225 people in the U.S. are living with, or are in remission from, leukemia. Kids ages 2-13 will ride their bikes at Mandolin Gardens Park to join the fight for a cure. Other activities include a moonwalk, face painting, balloon animals, snow cones, popcorn, and more! There will also be a Silent Auction for parents to browse & bid on items such as sports memorabilia, art, gift certificates to movies, restaurants, etc. All proceeds from the event & silent auction benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

So, bring your bikes & helmets & come ride with us! (Must have a helmet to ride. Parents are welcome to walk/ride along.) For more information, visit www.kidsbikeride.net or call 281-704-2143. Pre-registration is \$12 per child & ends 9/2/12. After 9/2/12, price increases & t-shirts/goody bags are not guaranteed.











# Watermelon Lime Cocktail

Summertime in the evenings ... watching the sunset, feeling the breeze, enjoying the end of the day. Put this in your hand and your enjoyment level will increase! It's light, refreshing and really flavorful!

# Ingredients:

- 1 C seedless watermelon, cubed
- 1 t sugar
- 2 oz Vodka {I love Tito's}
- juice of 1 lime
- splash of beer
- lime and watermelon wedge as garnish



# Directions:

In a tall shaker muddle the watermelon and sugar together until well mixed and very juicy. Fill a glass with crushed ice then drain the watermelon liquid into the glass {it should fill it 2/3 full}. Add 2 oz vodka, lime juice and splash of beer. Mix and sip... delicious!



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