



Steeplechase

NEWSLETTER



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

Note From The President

The SCIA Board and I wish all Steeplechase residents a safe and exciting start to a prosperous New Year 2013! Here are some items the Board has been working on for the betterment of the community:

- The SCIA Board recently approved a balanced budget for 2013 while building our reserves for the future. If you haven't already paid your Annual Assessment (or maintenance dues) it is now past due. Please remit it immediately as it is necessary for the Association to operate and maintain the community and services.
- 2013 should be a great year with a walking/running trail being constructed along the bayou between Steeplechase Blvd. and Eldridge - paid for by the Harris Count MUD District #168 Parks and Recreation Bond. Construction should start early summer. The trail will be followed closely by Park improvements at all three parks within the neighborhood under the same Parks and Recreation Bond.
- The SCIA has completed its first year with Chaparral Management Company. The Board strongly supports Chaparral's continued enforcement of our Deed Restrictions to improve the quality of the neighborhood. THANK YOU to all the residents who have sent in their ACC Requests and made improvements to their homes and yards – the neighborhood is already looking better and shows your hard work. There is more that needs to be done to maintain property values in the neighborhood, so please continue your efforts.

PLEASE take a moment to vote in the Annual Meeting election for the SCIA Board, which will be held in the month of June. In January you should have received a post card in the mail soliciting candidate nominations. Please remember if we are unsuccessful obtaining at least a 10% quorum we will have to have another meeting/election, which will cost the SCIA (and

(Continued on Page 4)

SAFETY CORNER

TIP OF THE MONTH:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Each year millions of people fall victim to domestic violence. Everyone in the household is affected. Once you're in the cycle of abuse, it's often difficult to get out. How does it affect you and your family? What can you do to protect yourself? Here are some answers.

What Is Domestic Violence? Domestic violence occurs when one family member or intimate partner willfully intimidates, physically and/or sexually assaults, or verbally abuses another family member, spouse, or partner. It usually continues over a long period of time and gets more frequent and severe over time.

Types of Abuse The abuse is not limited to physical harm or "battering." A victim can be sexually or psychologically abused as well. Often a victim is hurt in more than one of these ways

Here are the main types of abuse:

- Physical abuse includes hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing, punching, choking, being hit with an object or a weapon, being held down or left in a dangerous place, etc.
- Sexual abuse is when a person is forced to participate in sexual activity or situation against his or her will.
- Psychological or emotional abuse is when a person is threatened, intimidated, humiliated, yelled at, blamed, made to feel inferior or stupid, or otherwise emotionally hurt.

Who Are the Victims? Anyone regardless of age, gender, race, socio-economic status, education, or religion can be a victim

(Continued on Page 3)

STEEPLECHASE

IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers



Emergency.....	911
Sheriff's Dept.....	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Dept	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights)	713-207-2222
http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage	
Neighborhood Crime Watch	SteeplechaseSecurity@gmail.com
Library.....	281-890-2665
Post Office.....	713-937-6827
Steeplechase Community Center.....	281-586-1700
Deed Restriction Issues (CMC)	281-586-1700
Water/Sewer	713-405-1750
Architectural Control (CMC).....	281-586-1700
Trash Pick-up (Best Trash, LLC) (Wed. & Sat.)	281-313-BEST
Harris Co. Pct. 4 Road Maintenance	281-353-8424
Harris Co. MUD #168.....	hcmud168board@gmail.com
Community Events.....	281-586-1700
Clubhouse Rentals: Private Parties and Community Events (Jinnie Kelley).....	832-922-8030
Traffic Initiative	281-290-2100
Private Pool Parties	713-416-5161

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. (Advertising).....kelly@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Articles..... newsletter@steeplechasetx.com

Community Center Contacts

Community Maintenance Concerns

Chaparral Management Company 281-586-1700

Clubhouse Rentals

Private Parties and Community Events

(Jinnie Kelley)..... 832-922-8030

Pool Company Contact

Texas Aquatic Enterprises, Inc. 713-416-5161

.....www.texasaquaticenterprises.com

Board Member Contact

Chaparral Management Company 281-586-1700

Schools

Emmott Elementary..... 281-897-4500

Campbell Middle School..... 281-897-4300

Cy-Ridge High School..... 281-807-8000

Want to Help Steeplechase Go Green?

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cmc@chaparralmanagement.com
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Safety Tip -(Continued from Cover Page)

of domestic violence.

The Cycle of Abuse Like their victims, abusers can come from any background. Many were victims of or exposed to domestic violence as children. For them, abuse is a “normal” part of life. About one-third of women who are physically abused grew up in a household where it happened to their mother. Adults who were abused as children are more likely to abuse their own children. It's an ongoing cycle of abuse that's very hard to break.

The Effects of Domestic Violence The damage caused by domestic violence is immediate (physical injuries) and long-term. It can lead to severe psychological and emotional problems, including self-neglect or self-injury; depression, anxiety, and panic attacks; alcohol and/or drug abuse; chronic pain; eating and sleeping disorders; sexual dysfunction; and attempted suicide.

What to Do If you're a victim of domestic violence, the obvious thing to do is leave the abuser. But it's not always that simple. After years of being psychologically abused, you may believe that you deserve to be treated this way. You may feel defeated and see no way out. You may keep hoping that things will get better. Or you may be fearful of what will happen to you (or your children) if you try to leave.

Get Help If you are in an abusive relationship, call the police, the

toll-free National Domestic Violence Hot-line at 1-800-799-SAFE, or a local domestic violence crisis center. Always remember, you are not alone and you can get help.

There's lots of tips on our Steeplechase Safety & Security Facebook page – don't be shy, go ahead and start following-us and be a part of our Steeplechase Safe Community!

BE SAFE and BE SMART!

Lynn Cirillo
Steeplechase Security Coordinator

For more safety tips, LIKE us on Facebook: Steeplechase Safety & Security

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Steeplechase-Safety-Security/181933781906989>

Come one, Come All Teens!

We are updating our Teen Employment List in the newsletter... are you interested in being listed? Send us your name and contact phone number, with those items you would like to be hired to do. The new list will premier in March newsletter, get your information in today. Send your info to newsletter@steeplechasex.com!

SECURITY FOR OUR STEEPLECHASE COMMUNITY!

According to the Harris County Sherriff's Office Crime Reports in the past 6 months, Breaking and Entering crimes total around 35 % of the total number of crimes in our area. **That works out to be around 178 cases in only 6 months in the 77065 zip code!** It's time to lower that number and percent **NOW!** (Percentages vary in exact zip code areas but this is a good close estimate to what the criminals are doing around us)

The most affordable way to try and protect your family, animals and everything you have, including some of the things in life that are irreplaceable, is to use your security system properly. Many people have an alarm system that is no longer being monitored due to the high cost of services or just can't afford one. **Reuse use your existing current alarm system, if it's operable, or we can provide you one at an affordable price.**

FITT Security has several unique packages that are tailored for your needs, whether a simple basic plan for arming and disarming your house with a keychain device, Smart phone, or even installing security cameras that can be viewed from anywhere in the world! We also can accommodate houses that do not have a phone line or want added safety in their house.

This month's special for Steeplechase Residents

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Call today and be FITT secured!! 281-501-6900

Rick Westfall—Steeplechase Resident



STEEPLECHASE

Note From the President -(Continued from Cover Page)

you) unnecessary expense. If you do not know any of the candidates and do not wish to cast a vote, you have the option to chose to use your vote for quorum purposes only to allow us to reach our 10%.

Let us continue being good neighbors, looking out for each other and reporting ANY suspicious activity or individuals to the Harris County Sheriff's Office. Our Contract Deputies need our eyes and ears to help them do their job protecting us and our property. Please drive safely and carefully, keeping an eye out for our children playing or individuals running or biking.

Nace Peard

Board of Directors Meetings

are the first Tuesday of each month unless a holiday falls on that day. Watch the website at steeplechasetxt.com for the schedule and the latest agenda and meeting minutes.

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/>

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FALSE ALARM FEES ARE CHANGING IN HARRIS COUNTY'S UNINCORPORATED AREAS



The Harris County Sheriff's Office dispatches deputies to investigate residential and commercial alarms about 100,000 times a year. About 99 percent are found to be "false alarms," squandering crime-fighting resources in the unincorporated areas where 1.5 million people live. Until now, a false alarm fee was assessed every time a property generated more than five false alarms per calendar year. But now the fee, \$75, will be assessed every time a property generates more than three false alarms in a calendar year.

Harris County Commissioners Court approved the change today along with other updates to regulations enforced by the Sheriff's Office on burglar alarms, panic alarms, and other types of alarms. Permit requirements will now apply to fire alarms as well.

"The changes are designed to reduce the number of false alarms and to encourage property owners to obtain permits for their

alarm systems," Sheriff Adrian Garcia said. The initial fee for an alarm permit is \$35. Annual renewals are \$10 each. (In many cases, companies that provide alarm monitoring services obtain permits on behalf of their customers). There is no fee for permit holders 65 years of age or older. The fee for reinstatement of a suspended or expired permit is \$50.

All fee payments go into the county government's general operating fund. Owners of alarm systems that have no permit may be issued a misdemeanor citation that could result in fines up to \$500 in justice of the peace court. In 2011, the most recent year for which statistics are available, the Sheriff's Office issued about 1,300 citations for unregistered alarms. The permit form can be found at the Harris County Website at: www.hcso.hctx.net and click on the Alarm Permit Tab.

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STEEPLECHASE

If You...SEE Something SAY Something: iWatch Harris County

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.



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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.

Youth Track Club Registration during February

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club is registering athletes for the 2013 summer track season. Elementary students up to 6th grade should register during February and the first week of March. Middle and high school athletes can also register, but should compete after their school season is over.

The non-profit, 501(c)(3) club is affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), and provides a full program of sanctioned events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin. The Northwest Flyers has approximately 285 members, and was founded 26 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.

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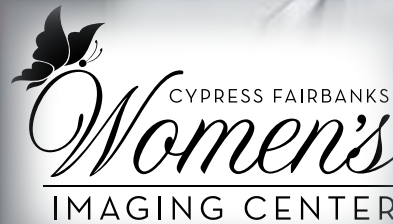
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