

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

Deputy Corner

Most people would be surprised to realize the majority of burglaries are done during the day. Criminals have conformed to your work schedule to allow them the maximum amount of uninterrupted time in your home.

With burglaries on the rise, you can keep your family safe by following some easy and affordable tips to prevent your home from becoming a target.

- Start in the yard Keep your yard neat and tidy by putting away toys and yard tools. Do not invite the criminal to take your belongings.
- No place to hide The dark and concealed areas around your home allow for criminals to enter your home unseen. Keep shrubs trimmed low around windows and keep outdoor lights on during the night. If it's dark, light it up!
- Lock up I know this sounds silly but you would be shocked to know how many burglaries we work where the doors and windows were left unsecured. Also, place locks on the gates to your back yard.
- Close blinds or hang curtains Do not advertise what belongings are in your home. Remember criminals are opportunistic! If they see what you have and know when you're gone, they will know they have the opportunity to burglarize.

These are a just a few ways to help prevent home burglaries. Walk around your home, both inside and out, during the day and in the night. Think like a criminal and see what you can fix or what you can install to make your home an unattractive target.

Deputy Helstrom

SAFETY CORNER TIP OF THE MONTH: Don't Open Your Door To a Stranger

The best way to stay safe at home is to keep criminals out of it. Much of the advice about staying safe at home may sound obvious, but don't overlook it -a little bit of common sense can go a long way in preventing crime.

No one intentionally puts out a welcome mat to a criminal, yet unsuspecting victims open their doors to intruders all the time, often without even thinking to ask, "Who's there?" Or, children run to the door and open it before an adult can get to the door. For this reason, a second deadbolt located high on the door is an excellent addition – just remember to use it!

The simplest way to protect yourself at the front door is to observe the person on the other side before opening the door — preferably without being seen yourself. Ideally you would do this through a peephole. If you do not know the person, speak through the door, to find out who they are and what they want. This also lets them know, someone is home without visual of whom or what is on the other side of the door.

Trust your instincts. You do not have to be overly paranoid, but if you are at all suspicious, do not open the door. As long as your door is closed, you have a relative degree of safety. Once you open it, however, anything can happen. Do not rely on a door chain to protect you if you plan on partially opening the door. These chains are notoriously ineffective and easy to break if someone wants to enter your house.

Here's how to handle different types of people at your door.

Emergency calls: Suppose two people came to your door saying they just had a terrible accident and need to use your phone right away. What would you do? Stop first, and think. You are home alone and something does not feel right about the situation. Trust your instincts. Do not let them in. Instead, offer to call the emergency number so they can return to the scene and wait for help to arrive. Some con artists have been known to use the *(Continued on Page 3)*

IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers



Emergency	911
Sheriff's Dept	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Dept	
Cy-Fair Hospital	
Animal Control	
Center Point (Street lights)	713-207-2222
http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage	I
Neighborhood Crime Watch SteeplechaseSec	urity@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 #168hcmud168board@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)		
Pool Company Contact		
Texas Aquatic Enterprises, Inc		
www.texasaquaticenterprises.com		
Board Member Contact		
Chaparral Management Company 281-586-1700		
Schools		

Schools

Emmott Elementary	. 281-897-4500
Campbell Middle School	
Cy-Ridge High School	. 281-807-8000

Contact the Management Company

cmc@chaparralmanagement.com or by phone 281-586-1700



Safety Tip -(Continued from Cover Page)

emergency ruse to get into homes and commit robberies.

Fundraisers and solicitors: If a person comes to your door asking for money for a cause or wanting to sell you a product, and you're not interested in the cause or product, simply say so. If you are interested, either ask them to show identification first, before you open the door, or request that they leave literature for you to read. You could also ask the person to return later; specify a time when you know you will not be alone. Should the solicitor become rude, ask them to leave. If they don't leave, call the police.

Repairs, deliveries and collections: Unless you are expecting them, ask repair people and others who claim to have business with you to hold up their identification cards for you to see through a peephole or door window. If you have the slightest doubt of their authenticity, telephone their business to verify whether the house call is legitimate. Do the same with individuals making deliveries. If you are not expecting a floral arrangement, you can call the florist to clear up any doubts about the person making the delivery. If someone claims to be collecting for your newspaper subscription, and it is not the usual person, do not open your door. Instead, call the newspaper office and let them know you will be mailing in a check, or wait until your regular delivery person is back on the job. Do not leave repair people alone in your home unless you know them well. And if you have any suspicions about them, do not stay in the house alone with them.

In any of the above situations, if you ask a person to leave your home and they refuse, or if something about the person arouses your suspicions, call the police. And if the person appears to be going door-to-door on your block, you will want to alert your neighbors.

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

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Ram Rally

April 6th — Cy Ridge FFA to have Ram Rally at On The Rox (corner of Jones/West Rd). Ram Rally to start at 8:00, also includes car wash, dart and washer tournament. All proceeds go to scholarships.



April 20th Track Club Registration for Middle and High School Athletes

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host an orientation/registration session for all middle and high school athletes and their parents interested in joining for the 2013 season. The event will be held on Friday, April 12, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Cypress Creek High School, 9815 Grant Rd., Houston.

The Northwest Flyers is a youth (ages 6-18) track organization, affiliated with USA Track & Field. The club provides a full program of track events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and field events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. It is an excellent off-season program for young athletes who currently compete on their middle school or high school track teams.

The club was founded 26 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the northwest Houston area. Last year, the Northwest Flyers sent 106 young athletes to compete at U.S. Junior Olympics National Championships in Baltimore, Maryland and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Visit the team website at http://www.northwestflyers.org for registration forms and information prior to the session, or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442, or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.



Neighborhood Happenings

Neighbors -

I've received several emails this week from Steeplechase residents wondering about the goings-on in our neighborhood as well as reporting incidents they've heard about. Any information I pass on to you, is first verified with HCSO for authenticity. If an incident is not called in and reported to HCSO, there will be NO record of it and I will not send alerts based on hearsay or unconfirmed incidents. Also, if an incident is not called in, it is very difficult to determine when a trend or rash is an issue. PLEASE always call 713-221-6000 and report!!

I had a lengthy conversation with one of our night deputies last night. It was great to hear how quiet a neighborhood we have. That deputy spends a solid amount of time in our neighborhood and reaffirmed that the majority of issues we have in our area are connected to the apartments. I hear from and talk to our deputies regularly, and you can get some face time with them as well at our monthly meetings. As a resident of Steeplechase, what I find concerning is when folks tell me about incidents and then also tell me they didn't bother to call it in. Apparently, there have been 'break-ins' and attempted 'break-ins' that weren't called in to HCSO. What would make anyone think that is OK? My guess would be someone that is hiding something and has created a situation for themselves that leaves them as a target for a break-in. Since I have no information, beyond hearsay, that is what I am left to think. I can't imagine for a moment, that an upstanding citizen that has suffered a vehicle or home break-in wouldn't call HCSO to report it.

HCSO does a solid job of maintaining a solid presence and network in our area. While we have four deputies dedicated to Steeplechase/MUD 168, those deputies work in concert with the deputies that patrol our surrounding areas. They do a phenomenal job of backing each other up and working together. For this *(Continued on Page 6)*



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Neighborhood Happenings -(Continued from Page 5)

reason, often there is a stronger presence in a response to a call. This does not always mean that the situation is dire. Respect their uniforms and the knowledge they share. Know that every day they walk out their door and put their lives on the line for us. Having back-up and a network to work in is important to their lives. We as the general public are not always in a position to know or understand the who, what and why of a situation or response. And yes, it can seem scary when there is a sudden burst of police activity - but, remember they are here to keep US safe and the criminal element unhinged.

I've received many thank-yous this week from alert recipients and several complaints. To those that appreciate the volunteer work I do for the neighborhood, thank you for reading and being a healthy participant in caring about Steeplechase and making a difference. To the complainers -step-out from behind critical glasses and volunteer some of your time to Steeplechase and become part of the solution. I'm one person who has been volunteering as Security Coordinator and writing monthly newsletter articles for nearly 6 years, I have a demanding fulltime job and family. I take pride in living in Steeplechase and give part of my precious free time to this community because I am invested in it. I chose not to be a complainer, but a doer; a person who recognizes the importance of neighborly responsibility. This is a neighborhood of 1644 homes - there should be far more participation in neighborhood events, monthly meetings, registered alert receivers and Facebook followers.

Please know I do appreciate the responses and information you all send me! I do verify with HCSO and also alert HCSO so they can keep an eye on things when you give me the heads-up - this is so helpful and aids in the two-way street information exchange so vital to our neighborhood safety!

Thanks for reading! --Lynn Cirillo Steeplechase Security Coordinator



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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.

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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"

Cabinet Painting

Pressure Washing

Texturizing

• Wallpaper Removal and

Fence Repair/Replacement

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.



- Faux Painting
- Door Refinishing
- Window Installation
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- Ceiling Fan/Light Fixtures

References Available • Fully Insured **NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION** bashanspainting@earthlink.net

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REGISTER TO JOIN OUR STEEPLECHASE ST'ALLIONS SWIM T'EAM!



Our swim team is growing in numbers and skills! Every season, our swimmers flourish and thrive with the support of their peers, families, and our community.



Annual Stallion Car Wash Saturday 4/6/13 Sears Hardware (on Jones Rd.) 10:00 - 1:00 If you're under 18, ⁻not afraid of water, Want to be part of our team, or just a little curious, <u>come see what</u> it's all about!

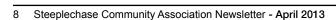




Registration Dates:

Saturday, 3/30/13 10 am -12 pm (At the Steeplechase Clubhouse) Saturday, 4/6/13 10 am-1 pm (Sears Hardware on Jones AT THE CARWASH!) Monday, 4/22/13 5:15-6:15 pm (At the Steeplechase Pool)

visit our website <u>www.steeplechasestallionsswimteam.com</u>/ to learn more.



2013 Relay for Life Cy-Fair

Friday, April 26, 2013 | 7 p.m. Cy Falls High School | 9811 Huffmeister Road, Houston

All funds raised benefit the American Cancer Society Sign up to donate or participate or start a team today!



For more information, contact erin.kasperek@cancer.org or go to www.relayforlife.org/cyfairtx

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.

CONVENIENT Mammograms Right in Your Neighborhood!

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- 11307 FM 1960 West at Steepletop, Suite 340 Houston, Texas 77065
- 14044 Spring Cypress at Grant Cypress, Texas 77429
- 27126 Highway 290 at Mueschke Cypress, Texas 77433
- 7015 Barker Cypress Rd at 529 Cypress, Texas 77433



*According to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Affordable Care Act, routine screening mammography is a preventive service now covered 100% by health insurance plans for women aged 40 and older every 1 to 2 years.

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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 <u>http://iwatchharriscounty.com/</u> 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.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ACROSS DOWN 1. Can 1. College field of study 4. At sea 2. Open mouthed 11 0 10. Maturity 3. Rumormonger 11. Apt 4. Dog food brand 13 2 12. Winter mo. 5. Zealous 6. Repose 13. Cactus drug Δ 15 16 7. Double-reed instrument 14. Choose (2 wds.) 8. Singing voice 16. Long time 18 19 17. Tush 9. Adolescent 18. You 15. Saute 20 22 24 20. Hey! 19. Move away 21 23 25 22. Baby's "ball" 21. Toothbrush brand 26. Fortify 23. Taken (shocked) 28 29 30 6 29. Groove 24. Negate 31. Relating to the laity 25. Treed (2 wds.) 32 33. Loose gown worn at mass 26. Alack's partner 34. Accounts 27. Standing 35 35. Central Intelligence Agency 28. Short 36. Stacking card game 30. Too 37 37. Critical 32. Hat View answers online at www.peelinc.com © 2006. Feature Exchange

PLAYER4 LIFE

BASKETBALL CAMP

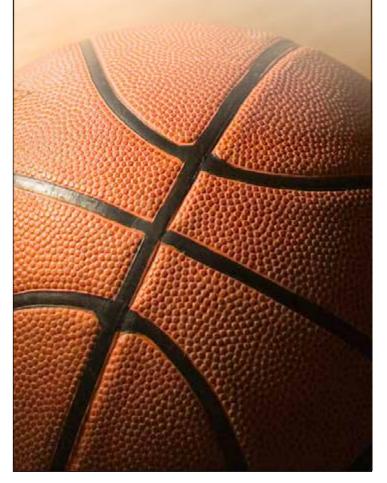
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UNDER THE BIG TOP



2013 Kirk Spring Festival Location: 12421 Tanner Road FRIDAY, May 3, 2013 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Come one, come all! Join us Under the Big Top for a fun filled event! We will have lots to do and tons to eat.

Wondering what to do - join us on one of our carnival rides either the chair swing or tubs of fun. Prefer to stay on the ground? Check out the trackless train ride. Looking to challenge your skills, try a round or two of Laser Tag and see if you can be the champ.

Not everyone is in for the rides, try one of our ten games and see what you can win! Depending on how many tickets you collect will determine how many prizes you can earn.

Still looking for more to do? Join us in the gym and see if you can win a basket or bid on one of the silent auction items.

Now it is time to re-fuel, join us in the cafeteria for pizza, nachos and other great treats! Or take your chances at the cake walk and win a sweet treat.

All tickets on sale day of the event* Want more information, want to get involved? Contact Stephanie 713.858.6265 or slpreto@yahoo.com





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