



The Village Gazette

Volume 10, Issue 7
Village Creek Community Association

July 2013

Village Creek Yard of the Month JUNE 2013 12634 Willow Breeze Drive

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The Village Gazette

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Tomball Memorial High School.....281-357-3230
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NEWSLETTER

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RESIDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Sharon Gabbert.....
Jeff Lev.....
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Richard Moore.....
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Neighbor Bio

My name is Josh Love and my family and I have lived in Village Creek for 7 years. My wife, Jennifer, and I have two children, Julie and Joshua. We love living here and love our neighbors. As a family we love serving in our community. This desire to serve is why I am running for a position on the Board of Directors.

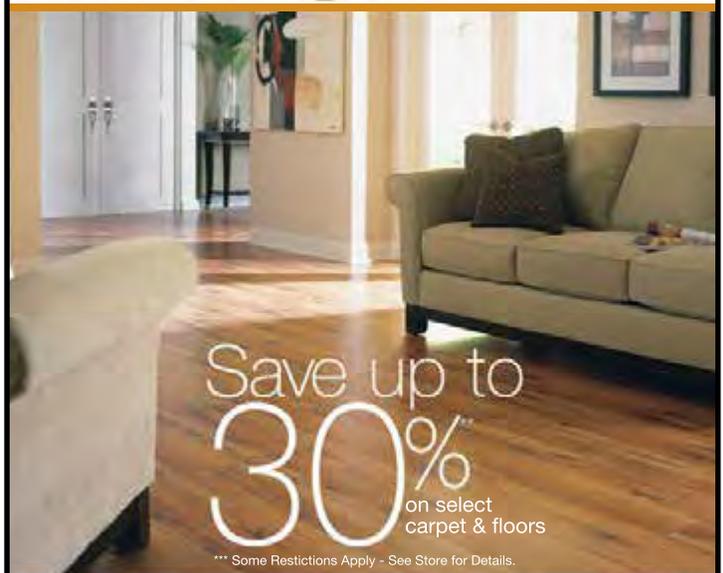
As the Owner of Elevation Design+Build, LLC, I have the much needed experience of developing and managing budgets and I have the ability to prioritize when deciding when and where to spend money wisely.

As a Landscape Architect, I have worked hand in hand with several local HOA boards and management companies in order to develop and maintain communities just like Village Creek.

For the past 2 years, I have been serving each of you as a member of the Village Creek Landscape Committee.

I appreciate your vote and I look forward to serving all of you in the future.

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BOARD CANDIDATE - JOSH LOVE

My name is Josh Love and we have lived in Village Creek for 7 years and really love our neighborhood. I'm running for the HOA board because I want to make our neighborhood a better place to live for all and to lend my expertise with my landscape architecture background to improve the quality and aesthetics of Village Creek.

I've been active on the Landscape Committee for several years and would like to expand my involvement in Village Creek as I am a small business owner and know how to budget, prioritize and spend money wisely. I have experience serving on boards in the past as I had worked for Friendswood Development and managed architectural requests with a commonsense approach.

I would appreciate your support.

Josh Love



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Village Creek

HOME HANDYMAN HINTS

AUGUST 2013

Gordon R. Watson

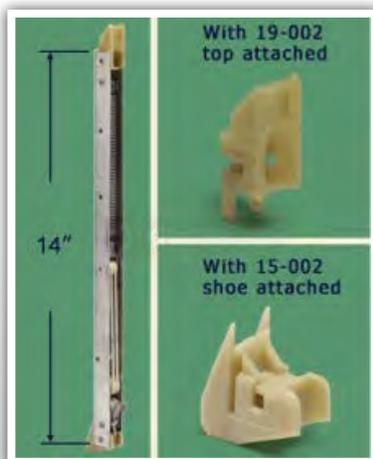
One of our double-pane sliding windows wouldn't stay up. I had no idea how to fix it, so it just sat there...out of sight (more or less) and out of mind. I figured that the first step to fixing something is to start fiddling with it. I had no idea how the window was supposed to work...just that it had some sort of sash arrangement, and there was a broken string hanging out of the side. Things are never easy. I couldn't remove the window because the shutter frames (which are all but impossible to remove) were in the way. Finally, I manhandled the window a bit, and was able to remove the two strange objects on either side. It turned out after a bit of internet research that they are called, "channel balances." These devices are more or less independent of both the window and the frame. They have a spring and block and tackle mechanism which is supposed to allow us to lift the window easily...yet stay in place at any point. In our case, one of the strings for the block and tackle mechanism was broken.

I eventually even found a video by Swisco explaining how to take them out. They sell hardware for windows, showers, closets, doors, cabinets, etc. What I like about them is that they were able to correctly identify my parts, custom manufacture new

ones, and advise (by video) how to reinstall them. Their prices were reasonable, and the window works perfectly. It is so nice to regain control of that pesky window again. I did replace both the left and right channel braces as recommended.

Many batteries leak and damage the product they are powering. For this reason, I try to remove batteries from any equipment that is going into storage for any length of time. There is an outside chance that some battery manufacturers will repair equipment damaged by leaks, but that is a hassle. There is a glimmer of hope in repairing such damage yourself, though. I have come upon a product called Corrosion Gone!

The liquid product removes corrosion caused by batteries and will often restore the equipment to working condition. Basically, it dissolves the corrosion without damaging the metal. You can search on line for this product. It is pricey...normally about \$5.00 for 0.3 ounces excluding shipping. I ordered mine from www.sciplus.com and order other science/hobby stuff to make the order worthwhile. While the bottle is tiny for the cost, it takes just a drop or two on a QTip to fix most problems, so the bottle should last quite a while.



Typical Channel Balance



Corrosion Gone!

Kindergarten Meet and Greet

The Social Committee needs volunteers to work the Kindergarten Meet and Greet party that will be held in August. If you can volunteer, please send an e-mail to info@preferredmgt.com and let them know you can help!



Vacation Bible School for Children of Village Creek

A group of Village Creek moms are starting a Vacation Bible School in the neighborhood and would love to invite elementary school aged children to attend. Food and drink will be provided along with fun games and bible lessons. Those interested in the classes are encouraged to contact Village Creek resident Susanne Foley for more details about the program, start dates and times.

Please contact Susanne at suehaydon@gmail.com.



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LANDSCAPE CORNER

VEGETABLES: July is the time to plant slips of peppers, and eggplant. Water as needed to keep the roots moist (not wet and not dry). We understand from "Texas Gardener" that you can plant tomato plant slips for fall tomatoes in July as well.

This month is also a good time to put out okra and southern peas. Keep the seeds and seedlings moist. Work some lawn-type (not weed and feed, of course) fertilizer into the soil for the okra.

TREES AND BUSHES: Trees and bushes, particularly young ones, will need some water if it doesn't rain. Don't over-water, but allow the roots to be moist (neither wet nor dry). If it doesn't rain during the week, give them a deep watering.

Dig down a few inches in the root area to check the moisture. It is desirable to have the soil damp 12" below the surface.

Fertilize new plants with a lawn fertilizer with about 1 to 2 cups per inch of trunk diameter...according to the "Texas Gardener Magazine." Water it in well! A berm around young trees will help you get sufficient water to their young roots.

Remove old blooms from crape myrtles to minimize seeds and maximize blooms. Mature trees and bushes which have reached their ideal size need not be fertilized, but they should be watered during any week or two when there is no rain.

LAWNS: Historically, Tomball gets about $\frac{3}{4}$ " of rain weekly in

July. This should be sufficient for our lawns, trees, and gardens. If the drought continues, you will need to make up the deficiency using your irrigation system. Strive to one weekly...deep watering. Deep watering encourages deep roots. "Texas Gardener Magazine" says that most people water too little...too often.

Note irrigation timers can generally be set to water several times during one day...to allow time for the water to be absorbed in the soil. Almost every resource suggests cutting no more than 1/3 of your grass off when you mow. If the grass is 6" long, don't cut more than 2" off. In general, Saint Augustine should be mowed to a height of 4-1/2" or so.

Reminder: Consider keeping lawn clippings on the lawn.

PERSONAL HEALTH: Garden in early morning if possible. Drink lots of water. Wear hats and sun screen.

VACATIONING? Make sure that your watering system is working. Leave a contact number for your home-sitter. Tell them what to do if there is an emergency.

If you have containers, group moveable ones together, and ask a friend to water them as you currently do.

To really make things simple, add an extra irrigation head on one appropriate zone to do this automatically. Even if your irrigation

(Continued on Page 10)



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PROTECT EYES THIS SUMMER

Take precautionary measures to protect your eyes during the summer to prevent long-term damage to eyesight, said a Baylor College of Medicine ophthalmologist.

"Ultraviolet light, or UV exposure, has been linked to the development of macular degeneration, cataracts and other vision-loss problems," said Dr. Elizabeth Baze, assistant professor of ophthalmology at BCM.

Baze offered tips you can practice to help protect your eyes from sun damage this summer.

- The more the sunglasses wrap around and shield your eyes and the skin around the eyes, the more protection you have.
- Sunglasses need to provide 99 to 100 percent UV protection.
- Sunblock is a must, including the skin around the eyes.
- A broad-brimmed hat can add extra protection.

If you have an existing eye condition like macular degeneration or cataracts, protecting your eyes from the sun should be a top priority during the summer, she said.



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(Continued on Page 10)

system is fully automated, it is a good idea to have a friend walk through your yard ever few days to make sure that there are no leaks, and the yard appears to be getting water. Have someone mow weekly to make sure your home has an "I'm home" look.

Remove all weeds. You will be amazed at how big your plants have become while you are gone, and even those little weeds will also become big during your absence.

Add mulch to reduce water usage and assist in keeping weeds in check. Make sure the mulch doesn't interfere with the watering system.

Remove all ripe vegetables, and ask a neighbor or friend to harvest and enjoy them while you are gone. Vegetables, such as tomatoes and okra will not wait for your return. Make sure not to allow okra to get longer than about 3 inches.

If it hasn't rained for a week or two before you leave, deep water your trees by dripping water at the base and under the canopy.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!



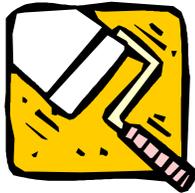
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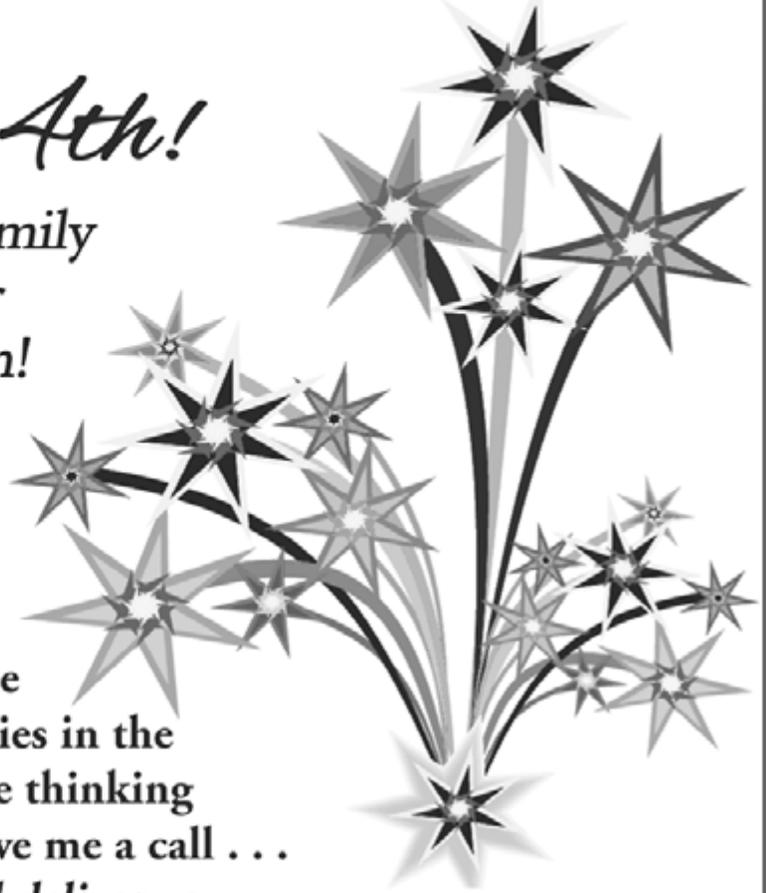
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