

2013 Hurricane Season

As of this writing, we've already gone through Andrea, Barry and Chantel; can Dorian, Erin, Fernand and Gabrielle be far behind? Those are just some of the names of this year's tropical cyclone names for the Atlantic region.

Each year NOAA, FEMA and the American Red Cross publishes a preparedness guide of tropical cyclones to help us prepare for such an emergency. You can download a copy of that guide at

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf>

This guide gives great information on the metrological terms associated with tropical storms and what to expect from those storms. Most importantly, it lists critical information on how to prepare for an incoming storm.

EVERY YEAR BEFORE HURRICANE SEASON YOU SHOULD DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Determine safe evacuation routes inland.
- Learn locations of official shelters.
- Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery-powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.
- Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.
- Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't already have it.
- Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.
- Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Decide where to move your boat.
- Review your insurance policy.
- Find pet-friendly hotels on your evacuation route.

DURING THE STORM AND WHEN PEARLAND IS IN THE WARNING AREA:

- Closely monitor radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio for official bulletins.
- Close storm shutters.
- Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered!

- Stay with friends or relatives at a low-rise inland hotel or at a designated public shelter outside the flood zone.
- DO NOT stay in a mobile or manufactured home.
- Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans.
- Take pets with you if possible, but remember most public shelters do not allow pets other than those used by people with disabilities.
- Identify pet-friendly hotels along your evacuation route.

(Continued on Page 2)

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION

It's that time of the year again! The sidewalks and streets are full of the kiddos that are walking, bike riding or being transported to school in the family car. Please remember, it is important that we all maintain the designated speed limits throughout the neighborhoods – you never know when a child rushing off to school will step off of the curb. The school zones call for a 20 mph speed during the designated times, the rest of the neighborhood has a maximum speed limit of 30 mph.

In addition to the school zone speed, please be aware that it is illegal to be on a cellphone in the school zone areas. The fine for cellphone usage is \$50 a pop, so please be aware of when you can make that call.

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office has promised that there will be more patrolling throughout our neighborhoods during peak times, so please take care when driving; it may save the life of a child.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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SILVERLAKE HOA INFO

C/O KHARA MATHEWS
Planned Community Management, Inc.
15995 North Barker's Landing, Suite 162
Houston, Texas 77079
KMathews@stes.com
281-870-0585

HOA website: www.silverlakehoa.com/

Clubhouse Rentals contact Leslie Coffey lcoffey@stes.com

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ARTICLE INFO

The Silverlake News is mailed monthly to all Silverlake HOA residents. Residents, community groups, schools, etc., are welcome to submit information. Personal news is also welcome. All submissions will be reviewed for content and approved by the Board of Directors and Newsletter Committee Chair. The deadline for submission is the 8th of the month before publication.

2013 Hurricane Season (Continued from Cover Page)

- If you are staying home to "hunker" out the storm:
 - Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and keep it closed.
 - Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
 - Turn off propane tanks.
 - Unplug small appliances.
 - Fill bathtub and large containers with water in case clean tap water is not available. Use water in the bathtubs for cleaning and flushing only, DO NOT drink it.

IF WINDS BECOME STRONG...

- Stay away from windows and doors, even if they are covered. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway.
- Close all interior doors; secure and brace external doors.
- If you are in a two-story house, go to an interior first floor room.
- Lie on the floor under a table or other sturdy object.

NOAA has predicted that there is a 70% chance that this year's hurricane season will produce 7 – 11 hurricanes, of which 3 to 6 hurricanes will be classified as a major hurricane. Its best that we are all prepared for this season, make sure you have your food storage in place and your evacuation route planned.

We Want a "WASTE-FREE" Community!

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you're liable to step in one such reminder! Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.

When walking your dog in our community, remember that it should be leashed. Also, it is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. The HOA will soon be installing pet waste stations in the various parks in the neighborhood to help you take care of this unsightly problem. If you don't plan to walk your dog in our parks, then take along a baggie with you to pick up waste with and then dispose of it properly. By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

The Alpha Course: Come, Taste and See

Questions about God have fascinated human beings since the beginning of time. Today many people experience a very real sense of spiritual hunger without having any contact with a church. This is one of the reasons why the Alpha course has proven to be popular in a wide variety of countries and cultures. During the course, the issues we struggle with are clearly presented in talks, and the various claims people make about Jesus Christ are examined -- all in the company of other searchers. It may be you or people just like you who have questions. Alpha is meant to be a safe place to grapple with questions and look at the bare essentials of faith.

If you are wondering whether to attend the Alpha course, I encourage you in every way I can to give it a try. Come to the first one on Thursday, August 22. Taste and see if this seems interesting to you. (If not, at least you were treated to a delicious, home-cooked meal. What have you got to lose?) I will tell you that most people who start the course, do so with a lot of questions and even some hesitancy. However, I am confident that if you do try the Alpha course, you will find over a period of time that some of your questions are answered, meals are enjoyed together, and friends are made.

The 10-week course syllabus includes "Who is Jesus?", "Why and How do I Pray?", "How Can I Resist Evil?", and "Does God Heal Today?". Alpha is held at First Presbyterian Church of Pearland located at 2930 E Broadway, Pearland TX, 77581 on Thursday evenings from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. beginning on August 22 through October 31. We begin with a meal followed by a video on a subject central to the Christian faith. Then, we break into small groups. Here is the meat of the course. We discuss the video and grapple with our questions. In this environment, everyone should feel free to ask or express whatever they wish – without judgment or criticism. No question is too trivial, threatening or illogical. Every question will be addressed courteously and thoughtfully.

Alpha is not an evangelistic tool. You will not be pressured to join First Presbyterian Church of Pearland or any other church. Alpha is a discussion tool. Expect some excellent fellowship and some good discussion about religion and faith. Alpha is a help for people to actually think about and explore what they believe. And that is always a useful thing.

Register for the course via AlphaPearland@gmail.com.

Contact me with any questions or visit AlphaUSA.org.

Sabrina Hergert, Seminary Intern



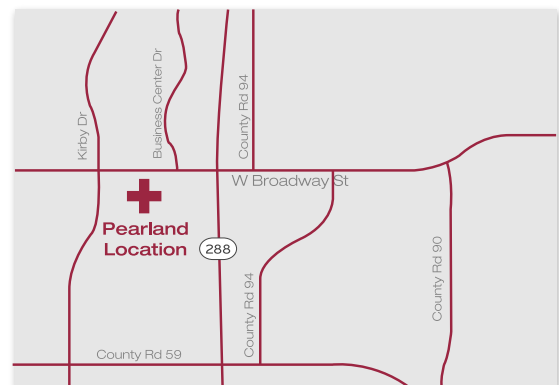
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Heartworm Disease

Howdy!

Thought that I would send everyone a friendly reminder about heartworm prevention for their furry pet. Summer has been in full swing and the mosquitoes are out in full force. If you've lived in Houston any length of time, you know that we never get rid of the buzzing little buggars. Why are they important? Their bite is what transmits heartworms to dogs, cats and ferrets. Cats!? Ferrets?!

Yes! Obviously outdoor cats (hopefully your ferret isn't outdoors) would need to be on prevention. Did you know that your indoor cats are susceptible to heartworm disease just like dogs are? I can never manage to keep mosquitoes from slipping into the house like long-legged, straw-mouthed ninjas. Since one of the markers that mosquitoes sense is heat, if they slip into your house, your pet with an average body temperature of about 101 degrees stands out like a shining beacon. It only takes one bite! In cats, the disease is a little different than in dogs. Testing isn't terribly accurate and there is no treatment. They try to fight the infection off, which can cause various health problems.

There are many different products out there. If you have trouble

remembering to give the prevention, there is even a 6 month injectable heartworm preventative for dogs. For cats, there are a few options, both oral and topical. Some of the preventatives have flea and intestinal parasite prevention as an added bonus. Bottom-line, cats, dogs and ferrets should be on heartworm preventative every month for their entire lives! Sound intimidating? It shouldn't be. In cats and ferrets, there is no treatment, with the worst-case scenario being death. In dogs, the treatment is very expensive and is hard on them.

What if I miss a few months? Contact your veterinarian for the best course of action. For dogs, it is common for them to reschedule your heartworm test so they can see if the missed months resulted in infection. Some veterinarians can set reminder calls in their system to call and let you know the prevention is due. I like pairing it with something that I do every month any way - like bill pay (yuck!).

I hope these tips serve to give you some friendly reminders of how important that heartworm prevention is.

Happy Heat-Wave! Carol, RVT www.wisepaws.com



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Silvercrest Elementary PTA NEWS

PTA GENERAL MEETING

Please plan to attend our first PTA general meeting on Thursday, September 19th, at 6:30pm in the Silvercrest cafeteria. Find out how the PTA works on behalf of our school & how you can get involved.

PTA MEMBERSHIP

Be sure to look for information coming home in your child's folder regarding how to join our PTA. If you have any questions, please contact Allison Byman at adbyman@yahoo.com.

SPIRIT WEAR

The Silvercrest PTA will be selling spirit wear until Friday, September 13th. Students will have forms sent home in their Thursday folders with all the information. We will be selling polo shirts in 12 different colors for \$16, zip front hooded jackets in 6 colors for \$22, and Silvercrest spirit t-shirts in 2 colors for \$10. For more information, please contact Sarah Symecko at ssymecko@aol.com.

BECOME A STEP READING TUTOR

STEP is a program that pairs up adult volunteers with first graders who need extra support learning to read. This is a wonderful way to become involved at Silvercrest and the time commitment is just 30 minutes each week. If you are interested please contact Pam Silberfein at epsilberfein@yahoo.com.

FUNDRAISING

Please continue to collect your Box Tops for Education. We will have another collection and contest in the Fall.

WEBSITE

For more information about Silvercrest Elementary PTA and upcoming events, please visit our website at www.silvercrestpta.org.

Girl Scout Membership Rallies Coming Soon!

Do you have a daughter entering grades K-12? Do you want your daughter to have fun, build friendships, and learn skills that will help her make better choices and be a leader of tomorrow? Then considering joining Girl Scouts! Girl Scouts is a safe place for your daughter to learn and grow with girls her own age.

The rally for our area will take place on Saturday, September 7th, at Silverlake Elementary, 2550 County Road 90 in Silverlake.

4th-12th Grade: 9:00 am

2nd-3rd Grade: 10:30 am

Kinder-1st Grade: 1:00 pm

Private and home school students in this area are welcome, too. New troops will be forming, and parent volunteers will be needed for each troop. Bring your daughter to meet her new troop! Please come during your allotted time if possible.

Registration is \$15 per member, and financial assistance is available. If you have questions, you can contact Silverlake resident Danna Kutach at 832-372-0255 or email recruitment@sunshinestars.org.

For more information, please see our website, www.sunshinestars.org.

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The Silverlake website has been renovated to include e-mail blasts, park reservations, and detailed information regarding your community. This site is for owners only:

**PLEASE VISIT
WWW.SILVERLAKEHOA.COM
TO OBTAIN YOUR PERSONAL LOG IN
AND PASSWORD**

In the near future the website will allow owner account access, on-line payments, deed restriction activity and more.

Silverlake News is Looking for Articles.

Do you know of a fundraiser that is going on at your children's school? How about promoting a local club in our neighborhood? If you have news you'd like to share with your neighbors, please send us an article to silverlakeupdates@yahoo.com.

Silverlake Hoa has a New Website

The HOA has updated the Silverlake website. The website is available to all residents of Silverlake HOA. In order to see all of the great things the website has to offer, you will need to request a login and password. Just visit www.silverlakehoa.com and click on the Request Login button. Once your request is processed, you can start using the website. There are many great things available to all of our residents, so check it out!



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September 8: 5th annual Colin's Hope Kids Tri, and All Star Burger Fundraiser (10% of sales donated).

October 19: Sharkfest Austin Swim benefiting Colin's Hope. Volunteers needed.

November: Underwater Holiday Photos (multiple days and locations).

February 16: Austin Marathon. Runners, walkers, and water stop volunteers needed.

Be a Water Guardian and Watch Kids around Water. Drowning is preventable!

Thank you to all who supported our efforts this year to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning!

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