

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

## SAFETY CORNER

TIP OF THE MONTH: HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Halloween is a fun-filled time for children, but there are many dangers associated with the holiday unrelated to ghouls, goblins and witches. Parents need to take the necessary precautions to make sure their children remain safe while still having fun by selecting a safe costume and providing children with important instructions before trick-or-treating. Motorists also need to stay especially alert due to the high number of child pedestrians out in communities.

#### **GOING TRICK-OR-TREATING?**

Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.

Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.

Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. Always WALK and don't run from house to house.

Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.

Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

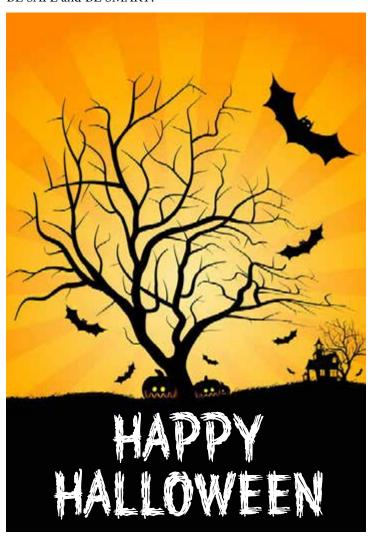
Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.

Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Don't stop at dark houses. Never accept rides from strangers.

ever walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flameresistant costumes. 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!



## **IMPORTANT**

## Telephone Numbers



u		~	
I	Emergency		911
١	Sheriff's Dept	713-221-	-6000
ı	Cy-Fair Fire Dept		
ì	Cy-Fair Hospital		
l	Animal Control		
ļ	Center Point (Street lights)	713-207-	-2222
I	http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage		
١	Neighborhood Crime Watch SteeplechaseSecuri	ty@gmai	l.com
١	Library		
i	Post Office		
i	Steeplechase Community Center	281-586-	1700
	Deed Restriction Issues (CMC)		
I	Water/Sewer		
I	Architectural Control (CMC)		
١	Trash Pick-up (Best Trash, LLC) (Wed. & Sat.) 2		
i	Harris Co. Pct. 4 Road Maintenance		
i	Harris Co. MUD #168hcmud168boar		
i	Community Events		
ļ	Clubhouse Rentals: Private Parties and Community Events		
I	(Jinnie Kelley)		-8030
١	Traffic Initiative		
ı	Private Pool Parties	281-446-	-5003
i	NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER		
I	Peel, Inc. (Advertising)kelly@PEELinc.com,	888-687-	6444
ı	Articlesnewsletter@steep	olechasets	c.com

## Community Center Contacts

#### Community Maintenance Concerns

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

#### Clubhouse Rentals

Private Parties and Community Events

#### **Pool Company Contact**

#### **Board Member Contact**

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

#### **Schools**

Emmott Elementary	
Campbell Middle School	
Cy-Ridge High School	

### Contact the Management Company

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

## DEPUTY CORNER WITH DEP. HOSCHAR

#### **EXTERIOR LIGHTING**

Drive through the neighborhood at night and you may be surprised how many residences don't have any exterior lighting on.

Opinions are mixed when it comes to leaving driveway and porch lights on at night to discourage car thieves and burglars. It has been said that lighting up valuables creates opportunity by attracting the wrong kind of attention. It is also said that leaving the lights off attracts criminals because they can hide in the darkness. While both points can be argued as valid, past statistics have shown a lower level of criminal activity when light was present.

In actuality light is a non-factor when dealing with professional criminals. Luckily for our community, professional criminals are rare. In general criminals don't like light, they prefer to hide among the shadows and remain unseen.

Lights also help your neighbors see anyone who may be near your home. This aids them in giving a detailed description of what they saw and what they were doing, that in turn would help law enforcement apprehend those criminals.

Lighting is only one element of effective crime prevention. Remember to always lock vehicles, never leave items in plain view, close garage doors, and be aware of the surroundings.



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

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

(Continued on Page 4)



## **STEEPLECHASE**

(Continued from Page 3)

- -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.



## 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 using Centerpoint's man system, visit:

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.



## **STEEPLECHASE**



### False Alarm Fees Are Changing In Harris Countys 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 burglary 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.

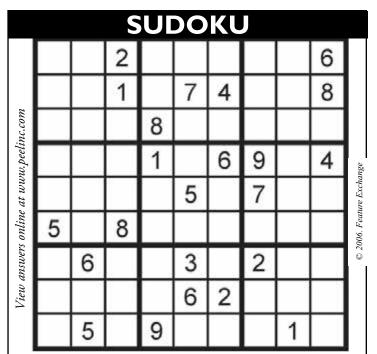
The initial fee for an alarm permit is \$35. Annual renewals are \$10 each. (In many cases, companies that provide alarm monitoring services obtain permits on behalf of their customers). There is no fee for permit holders 65 years of age or older. The fee for reinstatement of a suspended or expired permit 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 http://hcsowebtest01/hcsoexternalweb/documents/Alarm%20System%20Permit%20Application%20Jan2010.pdf

Article: http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/tomball/news/false-alarm-fees-changing-in-harris-county-s-unincorporated-areas/article\_40c20521-d96b-52f0-8d87-9b0a9c9e1e23.html



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.

# Score BIG with our low Auto Loan Rates



RATES AS LOW AS





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## **STEEPLECHASE**



### **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.



## **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.

## **Bashans Painting** & Home Repair

Commercial/Residential Free Estimates

281-347-6702 281-731-3383cell



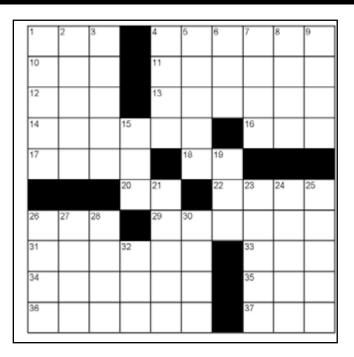
- · Interior & Exterior Painting · Garage Floor Epoxy
- · Hardi Plank Installation
- Wood Replacement
- · Sheetrock Repair
- Interior Carpentry
- · Cabinet Painting
- Wallpaper Removal and Texturizing
- · Pressure Washing
- · Fence Repair/Replacement

- · Custom Staining
- Roofing
- · Gutter Repair/Replacement
- Faux Painting
- · Door Refinishing
- · Window Installation
- · Trash Removal
- Ceiling Fan/Light Fixtures

#### References Available • Fully Insured NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION

bashanspainting@earthlink.net

## **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**



#### ACROSS

- 1. Owns
- 4. Short people
- 10. Grain
- 11. In the air
- 12. Single
- 13. Nun's headwear
- 14. Musician (3 wds.)
- 16. Homesick
- 17. Booty
- 18. Horsepower (abbr.)
- 20. Cincinnati locale
- 22. Hasten
- 26. Mountain Standard Time 23. Pimpled
- 29. Eras
- 31. Cover
- 33. Eccentric
- 34. Beaches
- 35. Vane direction
- 36. Hug upon greeting
- 37. Danish krone (abbr.)

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Coat hangers
- 2. Root beer brand (3 wds.)
- 3. Stone
- 4. Aurora
- 5. Ponder
- 6. Build up
- 7. Holes
- 8. Syllables used in songs (2 wds.)
- 9. Sledge
- 15. Gone by
- 19. Not against
- 21. Cycles per second
- 24. Glob
- 25. Organic compound
- 26. Soft mineral
- 27. Prig
- 28. Tyrant
- 30. Mexican money
- 32. North American country

View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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