

Volume 11, Issue 3 Village Creek Community Association

March 2014

Social Committee Chair Still Needed



As we approach the first social committee event of 2014 with Easter quickly approaching, our neighborhood of 750 homes is still without a person to lead this area. Members of the HOA board take turns organizing these events for the enjoyment of our residents and they would really like for a person to take over this important position or we may have to dissolve the events entirely.

There are only four events each year:

- Easter
- 4th of July
- Back to School Luau
- Cookies with Santa.

We can tell that people like attending these events because

the audience keeps growing each year but they are getting large enough that it needs a leader to run and organize the events with vendors and volunteers. There's no shortage of volunteers, we just need someone to step up and "take the bull by the horns" and make it happen.

There are generous budgets for each event to insure a variety of functions and the leader will have full reign over the proceedings. This is a committee chair position and the leader would need to report events to the board prior to and after an event at the monthly board meetings.

If this position would be of interest to you, please send an e-mail to Patti Tine (patti@preferredmgt.com).

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911
CenterPoint-Gas Leak
Constables Office
Klein Fire Dept281-376-4449
Poison Control Center
Willowbrook Methodist
EMERGENCY 24 HOUR LINE281-537-0957
(select 'emergency' option)
SCHOOLS
Tomball ISD281-357-3100, www.tomballisd.net
Willow Creek Elem (K-4)
Northpointe Int (5-6)
Willow Wood Jr (7-8)
Tomball High (9-12)
Tomball Memorial High School
Transportation
•
HOA MGMT
Preferred Management
Patti Tine
Fax
Mailing: P.O. Box 690269 Houston, TX 77269
Village Creek Community Association Website:
www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek/home.asp
SERVICES TO (0) (570)
CPS
CenterPoint-Gas
Dead Animal Pick up
Domestic Violence
FBI
Harris County Animal Control
Houston Chronicle
Sweetwater Pools
Lost Petshttp://www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek/home.asp
Municipal District Services (24 hrs)
Reliant–Street lights713-923-3213
www.centerpointenergy.com/outage Sex Offenders www.familywatchdog.us
Comcast - Cable/High Speed Internet713-341-1000 Republic Waste
Trash pickup Tues/Fri
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/aluminum cans)
Yard Storkkpuente@garygreene.com
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Reminders from Village Creek Homeowners Association Board of Directors

Thoughts of Spring

As we are looking forward to spring, we would like to remind all property owners that lawn maintenance must be kept up at all times. This includes clover patches that creep up on us during the early parts of spring, edging and trimming back or replacement of plants that may have died during the winter months and trimming of trees. Please keep an eye open for those items needing attention. We appreciate your efforts in keeping Village Creek a beautiful community.

Pet Reminder

Please remember to keep your pets on leashes and to check your fence gates to assure that your pets cannot get out. Also, pet stations are located around the lake and parks to clean up after your pet as you use common areas. Your neighbors appreciate your cooperation.

2014 Annual Assessment Statements

The 2014 annual assessment was due January 1, 2014. If you still have not paid your assessment for property you own in the community, then it is now considered late and interest will apply. If you would like to confirm that your payment has been received or verify your current balance, you may view your account online at www.preferredmgt.com/villagecreek. Please contact Preferred Management Services at 281-897-8808 with any questions.

Preferred Management Services, AAMC New Office

Preferred Management Services, AAMC has moved its offices to 8300 FM 1960 West, Suite 210, Houston, TX 77070. While the physical address of our office has changed, our telephone and email addresses remain the same. Please do not send your payment or correspondence to our new office address. You should mail your payment to the address on the payment coupon. Any other correspondence should be sent to our post office box of P.O. Box 690269, Houston, TX 77269. If you have any questions please contact us at 281-897-8808.

Village Creek ACC and Website

Owners of Village Creek should submit for ACC approval prior to making any exterior modifications. This includes all paint (even if previously submitted for approval), storage

(Continued on bottom of Page 3)

Home Handyman

By Gordon R. Watson

We recently bought two 17 Watt LED (light-emitting-diodes) flood (recessed, ceiling) light bulbs for our kitchen. Each produces light output equal to a 100 Watt incandescent bulb. LED's are quite pricey right now: \$33 for LED vs. \$15 for compact fluorescent, though there are lots of LED advantages, including:

- longer life than most other bulbs,
- less heat generation (less air conditioning and danger of fire), and
- faster start than fluorescent (plus not affected much by cold temperatures), and, above all,
- they use far less energy than any other bulb.

My plan is to replace ceiling lights as they fail, and all will eventually be on a dimmer. The LED light color is rated like fluorescents: "warm white, cool white," etc. Manufacturers also use other terms for these. In general, the "warm white" color is similar to candle-light and incandescent lighting. "Cool white or daylight" are more like daylight. Most people prefer "warm white" for most home applications. You may want to avoid mixing colors in the same room. The difference will be obvious. I suggest you read up on light "temperature (colors)" on the internet or store to make sure you get the color you want...then stick with it.

Hint of the month: There are many ways to wrap and store an extension cord. Check out YouTube to see how contractors and others do it. If you just want to keep it simple, and wrap the cord around your left or right arm, as most people do, you may find that the cord will eventually become hopelessly twisted. Why it twists is a mystery to me, but it does. How zippers work is also a mystery to me, but I digress. If you want to avoid the twisting, or even fix existing twisted cords (to a certain extent), try wrapping the cord around your other arm a similar number of times.

With a new cord, try to alternate arms each time you put the cord away. It would be ideal to remember which arm you did last, but I don't have a system for that. When the cord seems to want to twist, I just switch arms. Another hint: When you use the extension cord, if you pull the end in the center of the wrapped wire first, it generally won't tangle. See the diagram.



Reminders (Continued from Page 2)

buildings, any changes to the home or fences, etc. The necessary form is available on the Village Creek website at www. preferredmgt.com/villagecreek. You will need to log in to your account or request a log in and then go to the documents section of the website and click on home improvement form. If you are unsure about whether or not you should submit for approval please contact Preferred Management Services at 281.897.8808 and we will be happy to assist you.

2014 Pool Opening

Many homeowners are already wondering when the pool and splash pad will open for the season. The first weekend the pool will be open is Memorial Day weekend. Please continue to watch for email and website announcements with additional pool information.

Lost and Found Items and Pets

Did you know that the Village Creek website provided by Preferred Management Services allows homeowners to post lost and found items and pets? Preferred Management Services is available to assist and email homeowners with these items during the week; however, if you have a lost pet during the week you can post that information yourself. It's a spot where neighbors can go automatically to look for lost items or pets or to post something that they found. We hope that you will find this section of the website very helpful.

Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum Hosts Luncheon for Area Seniors

Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum will host a Free Seniors Luncheon on March 18, 2014. For more information on attending a Forum Friends luncheon in your area, please call the CWJF office at 281-379-1391.

Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum recently hosted a Forum Friends luncheon at Lakewood United Methodist Church in northwest Harris County. This signature program meets in local churches or other locations with CWJF members providing area seniors free entertainment and lunch. Our goal is to offer an environment where seniors have an opportunity to interact, play games, enjoy entertainment and have lunch in a friendly setting.

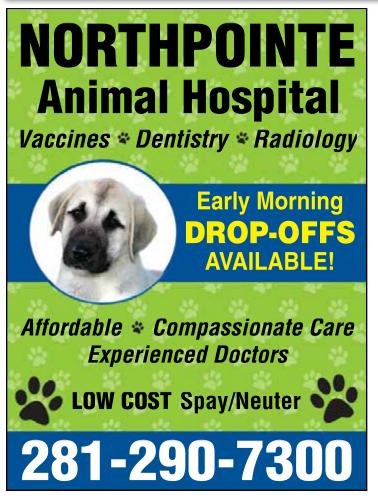
Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum is a growing organization of women dedicated to providing volunteer services, leadership and philanthropy to enrich the communities in north Harris and south Montgomery counties. CWJF partners with agencies, schools and corporations to fulfill identified needs in education,



crisis intervention, interaction with an aging population and support for people with disabilities. For information on joining CWJF, contact Elizabeth at admissionscwif@

sbcglobal.net. Informational coffees will be held in February and March for interested women who want to make a positive impact in our community.

Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum is a 501(c) (3) non-profit assistance organization and a recognized chapter of Junior Forum, Inc. For more information on joining or donating to CWJF, call 281-379-1391 or visit www.cwjuniorforum.org.





The David Flory Team Presents 4 TIPS TO LASSO BUYERS



Spruce Up

First impressions set the tone. Freshen up curb appeal by landscaping, adding flowers, mulching, cleaning gutters, and power washing.



Organize

Less is more. Clear out winter clothing from closets and go through kitchen cabinets removing expired foods. Buyers love storage!



Do Maintenance

A maintained home is more valuable. Service HVAC, water heaters, pools and non functional appliances.



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LANDSCAPE CORNER

By Gordon R. Watson

Hopefully, freezing weather is behind us (though always possible in March). I dislike having to cover plants, and would love putting those blankets and tarps away.

Bare root planting season is over, so any planting of woody plants should be from containerized plants. Among ornamental, woody plants that do really well in our area are Ligustrum, Crape Myrtles, Wax Myrtles, Pineapple Guava, and Bottle Brush.

Planting now will give the plants a good start before the heat settles in. Keep the soil around the roots moist, but not wet. Backfill with native soil, and most sources recommend no additional fertilizer on the roots (because it may burn them). Provide a tree stake for the first year if the tree is top heavy. Skip the tree stake if the plant seems solidly planted. Sometimes, because of the smallness of plants in containers, there is a tendency to plant too close to other plants and structures. Be aware of these dimensions and buy accordingly. Also, make sure that the sunlight available matches the plant's needs. Keep in mind that buying a plant that cannot tolerate freezing will require that you be a life-long caregiver during those few days when Village Creek is exposed to harsh winter freezing. A few minutes of research before buying can save frustration later. An excellent source of information for planting almost anything is Texas A&M's site. Their tree selector site is amazing. You will find it here: http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/

Our lawns are beginning to come alive again. Along with the grass will come some weeds. It is best to just pull these as needed. Certainly mow them if they are shading the lawn. In general, according to "Texas Gardner," don't fertilize until the grass starts growing and needs mowing. Fertilizing dormant grass will just encourage weed growth. The rule of thumb from them is, "fertilize when you have mowed the grass twice." They

also say to use "1/2 to 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet," and "choose a product with a high first number, a low second number, and a moderate third number." Finally, "To know how much to apply, per 1,000 square feet of lawn, take the first number and divide it into 100. The answer will be the pound(s) of fertilizer needed to apply one pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn."

According to Ed Dolphin, of Grandiflora, an ISA Certified Aborist (http://www.grandifloraservices.com): Remove your tree volcanos. In many cases, these will be filled with fire ants, so you may want to apply some appropriate killer to the volcano a few days before you start. He says it is not necessary to remove the roots which may have grown in this area, but start getting the mulch away from the trunk. These volcanoes, though traditional, are not good for the trees. Try to plant and maintain trees such that you can see the "flare" at the bottom. In other words, you should see where the trunk starts to "flare" (widen) out to become roots. Ideally, you may actually see the tops of a few roots. Finally, also according to Ed, while mulch is probably not needed on mature trees, it does help keep gardeners' string trimmers away from the trunks.

Ed also recommends we avoid using any sort of combination weed and feed because of its deleterious effect on the surrounding trees and bushes.

MARCH'S'S WEATHER FROM INTELLICAST.COM

AVERAGE	AVERAGE	RECORD	RECORD	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	PREC.	SNOW
DEG. F	DEG. F	DEG. F	DEG. F	INCHES	INCHES
51	72	18 (2002)	90 (1974)	2.94	0



FUN, FAIR, POSITIVE SOCCER

Registration Now Open! **Tomball League**

For boys & girls, age 4-18. Spring season is April 12 to May 31, 2014. FFPS provides positive youth sports experience. FFPS offers fun fair experience, weekly practices, equal play time & play every position, balanced teams, positive coaches & more.

Go to www.FFPS.org to sign up. Registration fee includes full uniform (shirt, shorts & socks), trophy, trained positive coaches, nice fields & background checks on all volunteers. Coaches call players to schedule practice by April 9th. Practice times & location determined by coach & team. Schedule includes eight games all played locally on Saturdays from April 12th – May 31st. The Tomball League plays at Willow Creek Elementary (N Eldridge, just west of Hwy 249).

Sign up early and Save! For more information, maps of locations or to sign up, visit www.ffps.org or 1-800-828-PLAY (7529).

Prevent Colon Cancer In Less Than An Hour

Regular screenings for colon cancer can catch the deadly disease before it even begins, according to doctors at Baylor College of Medicine.

"Colon cancer is known as the silent killer because symptoms are not present until it's too late," said Dr. Waqar Qureshi, professor of medicine and chief of endoscopy at Baylor.

Symptoms include rectal bleeding, abdominal pain, weight loss or anemia. But if symptoms are apparent, then it s more than likely the cancer has already spread. Screening can catch precancerous growths at a time when life-saving treatments are still effective.

A colonoscopy is the most accurate way to find precancerous growths. A colonoscopy takes up to 20 minutes, and patients are sedated so most don't even remember the procedure.

"Usually screenings start at age 50 and continue every 10 years after that," said Qureshi. "However, if colon cancer runs in your family, screenings should be more frequent and begin sooner."

Village Creek Resident

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

References Available • Fully Insured NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION

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CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

Kiwanis wants YOU! The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club is actively seeking new members who are interested in giving service to improve our community and our world. Visit the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club and learn more about community needs. In March, we have the following programs scheduled:

more about community needs. In March, we have the following programs scheduled:

March 4—Mary Jane Williams from the Families to Families Network will discuss that organization's work for Children with disabilities.

March 11—Dr. Ronald B. Rea of the Chriss Cole Children's Fund will talk about the operation of the children's rehabilitation center. Their mission is to help children and families with resources not available from other community agencies.

March 18—Ray Wooten, executive director of Shield Bearer will address how this organization helps heal the hearts of children who fall between the cracks of most recognized community agencies. These children are victims of abuse, neglect and child trafficking.

Kiwanis will provide donations and service whenever possible . Children: Priority One is the motto of Kiwanis worldwide. Join us in these endeavors and reap the rewards of satisfaction in the results achieved.

Additionally, we sponsor Key Clubs and Builder's Clubs in the high schools and middle schools in the Ct-Fair District.

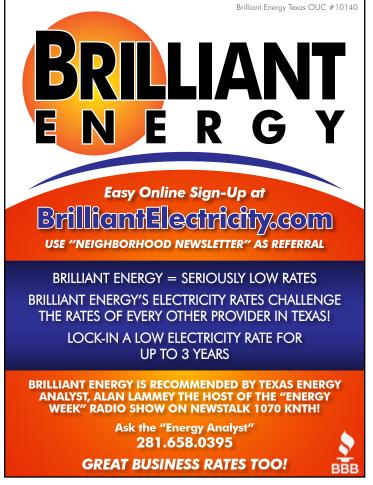
Businesses of the community are encouraged to support a representative for membership in Kiwanis. If you work for a business that is oriented toward involvement in community improvement and leadership, suggest to them that you

would like to represent that business through membership and involvement in work with Kiwanis. We welcome business and organization representatives as well as individual memberships.

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets at Hearthstone Country Club on the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 12:15 for lunch and informative programs. For more information, call John Carroll at 281-463-0373, George Crowl at 832-467-1998 or Peggy Presnell at 281-304-7127. We invite you to be our guest at one of the meetings and enjoy the fellowship of Kiwanians from your community as you learn about our organization.

We welcome your visit at our Club meeting and your consideration of membership in our service organization.







ANNUAL

Tomball Memorial High School **Golf**

Gaming TOURNAMENT

Gleannloch Pines

19393 Champion Forest Drive, Spring

Sunday 23

12:30

Tomball Memorial Athletic Booster Club will host its second annual Golf & Gaming Tournament at Gleanloch Pines on Sunday, March 23, 2014. Early check-in will begin at 11:00am with a 12:30pm shotgun start. Don'tplay golf but still want to support our athletes and have a little fun at the same time? No problem. We have plenty of opportunities for you to participate.

Information & detials: www.tomballmemorialabc.com or tmabcinfo@gmail.com

Events

Beat the Pro

Best Ball Golf Tournament Madden NFL 25 Tournament Closest to the Pin Hole-in-One **Longest Drive**

Sponsorships

Wildcat - \$1,000 GameCat - \$700 Catering - \$800 19th Hole - \$500 **Beverage Sponsors - \$200**

Hole Sponsor - \$100

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

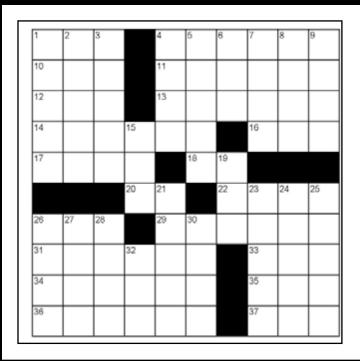
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1. Pen brand
- 4. Oriental tower
- 10. Self-esteem
- 11. Excuses
- 12. Shade tree
- 13. Napkins
- 14. Filament
- 16. Shekel
- 17. Hula
- 18. Iowa (abbr.)
- 20. Man's title
- 22. Type of dressing
- 26. Short-term memory
- 29. Exodus
- 31. Hype
- 33. Airport abbr.
- 34. Glistening
- 35. Cask
- 36. Star system
- 37. South southeast

DOWN

- 1. Wood
- 2. Ice house
- 3. Fast food meal
- 4. Ashen
- 5. Excuse
- 6. Cocktail drink
- 7. Follow
- 8. Eaten
- 9. Association (abbr.)
- 15. Words per minute
- 19. Abridged (abbr.)
- 21. Become less tight
- 23. Onion like vegetables
- 24. Painter Richard
- 25. Utilization
- 26. Thick carpet
- 27. Roman cloaks
- 28. Gangster's girlfriend

GARY GREENE

- 30. Musky
- 32. Pod vegetable

View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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Welcome to a Seller's Market!

2013 was the best year for real estate since 2007. Rising employment caused buyer demand to soar. Excess inventory was absorbed in the market and we experienced double-digit declines in inventory. Most areas in Houston are now considered to be a Sellers' Market

If you have considered moving, please contact me for an update on current market values. 2014 may be your year to make a move.



Kara Puente

Village Creek Sales Specialist #1 Village Creek Realtor

281-610-5402 Office: 281-444-5140 kpuente@garygreene.com Buying, selling or relocating, please remember me for all your real estate needs.



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