



## 2014 Hurricane Season Outlook

### Another Quiet Season Possible for Atlantic

*By Jon Erdman, weather.com*

After one of the quietest hurricane seasons in decades, forecasters with The Weather Channel predict a below-average 2014 Atlantic hurricane season.

The early outlook released March 24, 2014 calls for 11 named storms, including five hurricanes, two of which are predicted to attain major hurricane status (Category 3 or stronger on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale).

This is slightly below the long-term average of 12 named storms, six hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

"The early dynamical model runs suggest another relatively slow season," said Dr. Todd Crawford, chief meteorologist for Weather Services International (WSI), a part of The Weather Company. "Three independent statistical techniques all suggest 11 named storms this year."

Here are four questions about this outlook and what it means for you.

**Q: Does this mean a less destructive hurricane season?**

There is no strong correlation between the number of storms or hurricanes and U.S. landfalls in any given season.

"It is important to note that our forecasts are for the total number of storms that may occur anywhere within the Atlantic Ocean, and do not attempt

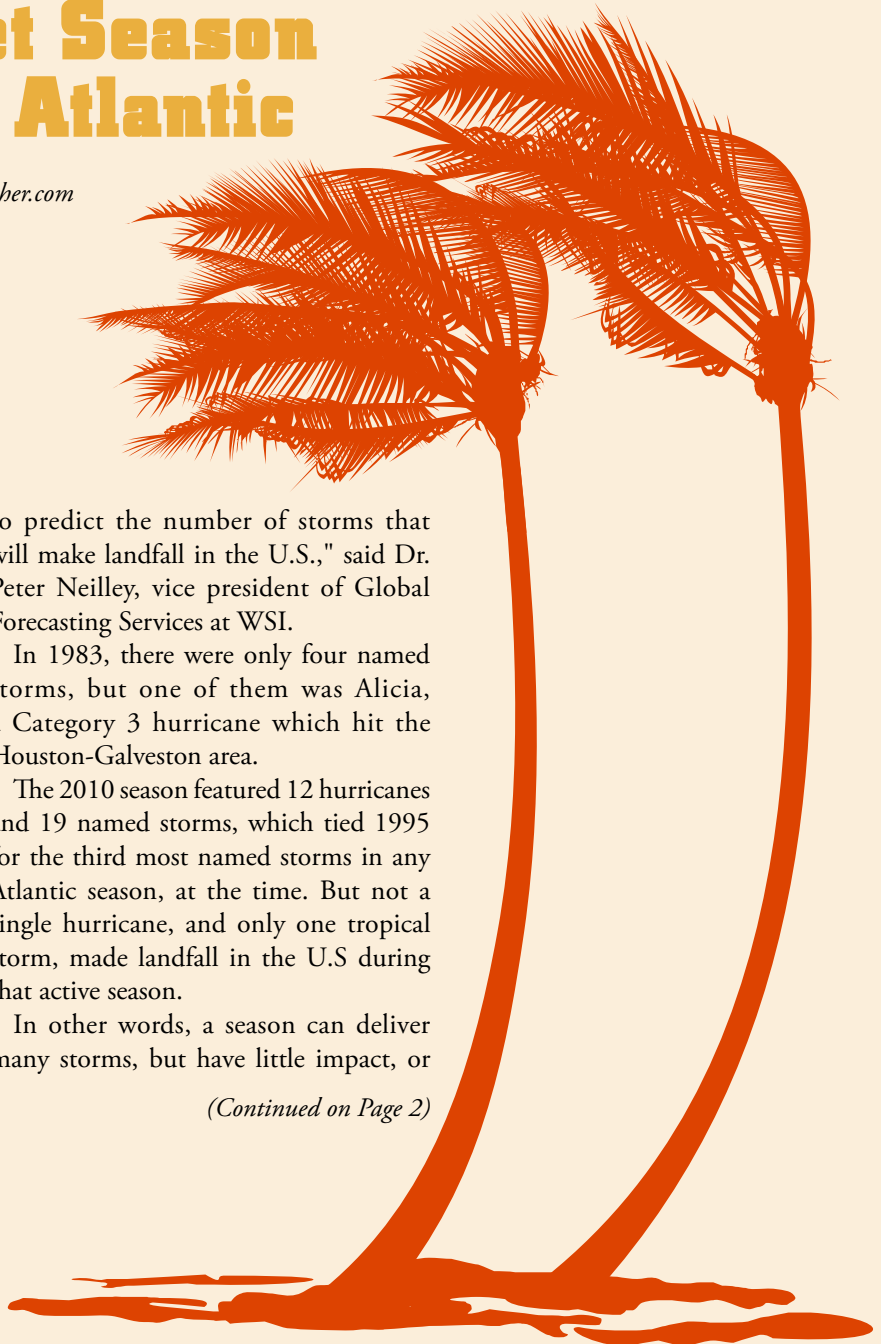
to predict the number of storms that will make landfall in the U.S.," said Dr. Peter Neilley, vice president of Global Forecasting Services at WSI.

In 1983, there were only four named storms, but one of them was Alicia, a Category 3 hurricane which hit the Houston-Galveston area.

The 2010 season featured 12 hurricanes and 19 named storms, which tied 1995 for the third most named storms in any Atlantic season, at the time. But not a single hurricane, and only one tropical storm, made landfall in the U.S. during that active season.

In other words, a season can deliver many storms, but have little impact, or

*(Continued on Page 2)*



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Advertising..... [advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com), 888-687-6444

### 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.

### *Hurricane Season (Continued from Cover)*

deliver few storms and have one or more hitting the U.S. coast with major impact.

Therefore, it's important to be prepared for hurricanes and tropical storms every year, regardless of seasonal forecasts.

#### **Q: Will El Nino play a role?**

"We feel rather strongly that the first El Niño event since 2009 is on the way later this year," said Dr. Crawford of WSI.

However, where the warming of the equatorial Pacific waters takes place and the magnitude of that warming plays at least a partial role in the number of Atlantic named storms, as explained by storm analyst Carl Parker in the video at right.

There have been nine other years where sea-surface temperatures (SSTs) in the El Niño zone have matched what is currently forecast: 1951, 1957, 1963, 1965, 1968, 1976, 1982, 1997 and 2002. Those years averaged 11 named storms, 4-5 hurricanes, and 1-2 major hurricanes.

It should also be noted that eight of these nine years had a hurricane over the Gulf of Mexico, Crawford said, and four hurricanes achieved major hurricane intensity while in the Gulf.

Also, despite development of a weak El Niño, Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne raked parts of Florida during the 2004 Atlantic hurricane season.

In short, the exact role El Niño may play on the season remains uncertain.

#### **Q: Are there any other factors in play?**

"We've found that the best pre-season predictor is sea-surface temperature anomalies in the tropical North Atlantic region," Crawford said. "So far, SSTs in this area are rather cool relative to the recent very active seasons."

Looking at the Atlantic Basin as a whole, shown in the graphic at right, note the rather warm SSTs in the western Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea, but generally cooler-than-average temperatures in the strip of the central and eastern Atlantic Ocean east of the Windward Islands to the western African coast.

It is important to note, however, that a large majority of the destructive hurricanes during the record-setting 2005 hurricane season developed in the western Atlantic Basin.

"If the El Niño event progresses as we expect and if there is not a sudden warm-up (relative to average) in the Atlantic Ocean, we feel there is still more downside to these (forecast named storms, hurricanes, and major hurricane) numbers," Crawford said.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## *Hurricane Season (Continued from Page 2)*

**Q: There was no El Nino in 2013 season. Why was it so quiet?**

For the first time since 1994, no hurricanes stronger than Category 2 developed in the 2013 Atlantic hurricane season. Since the satellite era began in 1960, only four other seasons failed to produce a single Category 3 or stronger hurricane (1994, 1986, 1972, 1968).

"By most measures, last year was one of the strangest years in the tropical Atlantic in many decades," Crawford said. "The 'usual suspects' of pre-season indicators suggested a reasonably active season as relative warm Atlantic SSTs and an expected lack of El Nino resulted in fairly bullish seasonal forecasts."

While the number of storms predicted (14) in 2013 was above the long-term average, the dominance of dry air and wind shear limited the intensity of existing storms or squelched the development of others.

"While last year was strange, it is prudent to not over-react to the forecast bust last year at the expense of ignoring the other 60+ years of data we've accumulated," Crawford said.

## **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 a password. Just visit [www.silverlakehoa.com](http://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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When making decisions regarding our community, the Board is expected to consider all the facts and factors involved in the issue and make the best business decision possible. Sometimes those decisions may not appear to be in the best interests of all of the owners, however if each owner understood all of the underlying issues that go into making the decision, they would understand that the board's choice of action is usually the most practical and well thought out.

In addition to dealing with insurance, maintenance, financial and contractual decisions, the board must also balance their positions on the board with their role as a homeowner. If assessments are increased that means they are increased for them also. If rules are enacted, that means they have to obey them, too. Being a boardmember does not grant one immunity from the responsibilities of living in an association. In fact, serving on the board reflects just how seriously they take that responsibility. So, please keep in mind that our board members are actually doing "double-duty" for our community: they serve as boardmember and neighbor...and they deserve a heartfelt "thank you" for all of their contributions to our community!

## SILVERCREST ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

### School Supplies 2014-15

School supplies are for sale online for the 2014-15 school year. The deadline is June 16, 2014. Go to [www.epipacks.com](http://www.epipacks.com), enter the school ID: SIL033 and follow the steps to complete your order. Any parents of incoming Kindergartners, this is the easiest & most cost effective way to get your child's school supplies.

### End of Year Awards & Fourth Grade Recognition

**June 3** - Kinder awards at 8:15am

First grade awards at 9:15am

**June 4** - Third grade awards at 8:15am

Second grade awards at 9:15am

**June 5** - Fourth grade recognition celebration & awards at 9:00am- Class Parties

**June 6** - Last Day of School due to snow make up 10:45am release

### Website

Have a great, safe & fun Summer! As always, you can find the most updated information from Silvercrest Elementary PTA on our website at [www.silvercrestpta.org](http://www.silvercrestpta.org).

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## Bring the World to your Child By Hosting a Foreign Exchange Student

*By Vicki Odom*

If you've read the newspaper lately, you know that the world can be a scary place: wars, economic crisis, revolutions, climate change, border disputes, refugees, and protests. So, how do we teach our children about the world, and the variety of people in it, when most of the examples we read about in the press are so negative?

One life changing way to broaden your child's world view is to volunteer to host a high school foreign exchange student. Foreign exchange programs have been around for almost 100 years, and their mission has always been the same – to educate people about different cultures through person-to-person exchange. What better message to pass on to your children?

There are quite a few misconceptions about foreign exchange programs – especially around who can host. The biggest misconception is that you must have high school aged children when you host a high school exchange student. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"We welcome host families of all shapes and sizes – families with young children, families with no children, empty nesters whose children have left home, single parents and non-traditional families," says Heather Wells, Senior Regional Director for Ayusa, a non-profit promoting global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and study abroad opportunities for high school students. "The key requirements for a host family are to provide a safe and nurturing home environment, genuinely love children, and have a desire to learn more about a different culture."

Families with young children find that hosting an exchange student provides their children with an especially unique educational experience in the form of an international big brother or sister. Without even realizing it, children learn about different types of people and different cultural traditions.

"My daughter Kelsie feels as if Isabelle, our exchange student from Germany, is an older sister to her," said Melissa Hughes, an Ayusa host mom from Ashville, North Carolina. "They have confided in each other, have had movie nights together, and have gone to the mall together - much like natural sisters would do. Kelsie will never forget Isabelle and they have already planned future get-togethers when they are older."

Volunteer host families provide foreign exchange students a nurturing environment, three meals a day and a bedroom (either private or shared with a host sibling of the same gender). Each host family and student is supported by a professionally trained community representative who works with the family and student for the entire program. All interested host families must pass a criminal background check and a home visit by an exchange organization.

"In Tunisia, we always hear about Americans and American life style, in movies, media, songs, everything, and I know it is different, and I wanted to figure out this difference myself," said Asma, a bubbly high school student from Tunisia who spent a school year living with the O'Donnell family in Anchorage, Alaska.

Foreign exchange students come from all over the world. Ayusa matches host families with students from more than 60 different countries including Argentina, China, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, Lebanon, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey. All high school foreign exchange students are fully insured, bring their own spending money, and are proficient in English – and all high school exchange programs are regulated by the U.S. Department of State.

Interested host families are required to fill out an application, pass a background check and interview with a local exchange program representative in their homes. Once accepted to a program, host families can view profiles of students to find the right match for their family.

"Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience – for the student, the host family, and the host community," says Heather Wells. "There is no better way to teach your children about the world around them than through welcoming an international high school student into your home."

Ayusa is currently accepting applications for families to host an exchange student for the 2014-2015 school year. For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at [www.ayusa.org](http://www.ayusa.org).

## The “Take Care of Texas” Guide to Yard Care



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The many advantages of using native plants include using less water, reducing the need for soil modification, and using little or no fertilizer. They are less susceptible to pest problems, and are tolerant of stressful environments such as drought.

Incorporate a variety of plants to provide food and cover for a variety of living things. Diversity also minimizes damage from pests because many of them attack only one plant species. Dense plantings can provide shade that keeps out invading weeds.

Avoid frequent or deep cultivation, which can damage plant roots, dry out the soil, disturb healthy soil organisms, and bring weed seeds to the surface where they can germinate. Cover all bare soil between plants with a solid mulch layer.

Visit [www.KeepCyFairBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepCyFairBeautiful.org) to access free “Take Care of Texas” publications and a Guide to Native Plants

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## Our Newsletter Needs Community Specific Information!

Putting together a newsletter for our community is quite challenging considering there is so much more to include in it than we do. Many residents have interesting news to share about upcoming events, personal milestones, issues of community interest, etc., but we never hear from you!

Between our Management Company and the Board of Directors, we try to include items in our newsletter that not only inform owners of important business matters before the association, but we are also attempting to help educate our members on some of the ongoing challenges that associations must face on a monthly basis.

Issues such as the Annual Audit, Reserve Study, Budgeting Process and Rules Enforcement are included throughout the year in order to help owners understand some of the complexities of running our association. Both the Board of

Directors and the Management Company hope that if more members understand why the Board must make the decisions that it does, then this knowledge will help make living in a common interest development more comfortable.

Another benefit of increasing the members' awareness of association issues is to help motivate others to take an active role in our community. The more we understand about how our Association functions, the more likely we are to get involved.

These generic, educational articles are important, but don't forget that our newsletter is one of the best communication tools available in our community and in order to help our newsletter become more community-specific we need to hear from YOU. If you would like to contribute, please do not hesitate to contact our Management Company or send your story to [silverlakeupdates@yahoo.com](mailto:silverlakeupdates@yahoo.com).

## Your Neighborhood at Your Fingertips

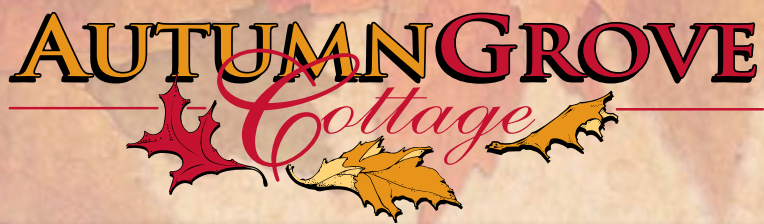


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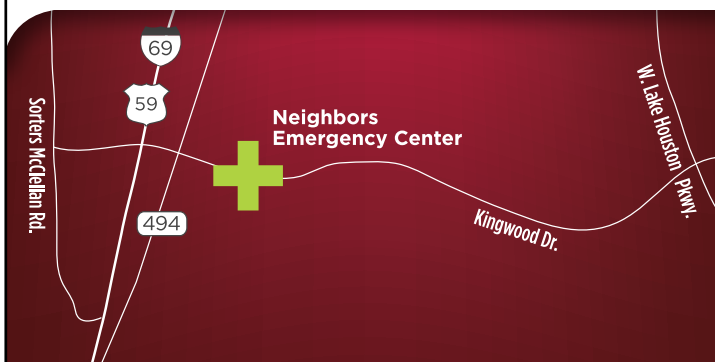
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## SEND US YOUR

### *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email the picture to **silverlakeupdates@yahoo.com** Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

Pictures will appear in color online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com).



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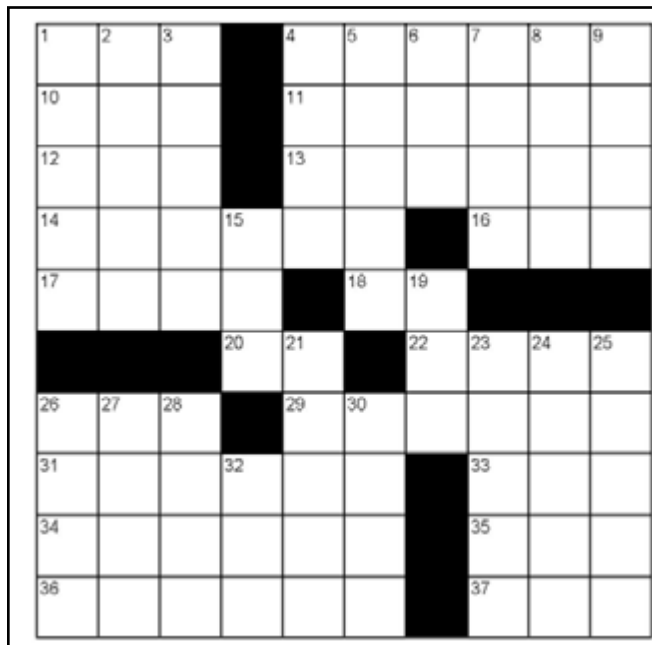
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1. Dawdle
4. Permanent
10. Brew
11. Brand of adhesive strip
12. Charged particle
13. A Nissan car
14. Parallelograms
16. Male cat
17. France & Germany river
18. Father
20. Strontium (abbr.)
22. Animal oil
26. Part of a min.
29. Saudi
31. Singer Bing
33. No. eggs in a package
34. One-celled water animal
35. Southwestern Indian
36. Raving
37. Hallucinogen

### DOWN

1. Dens
2. Hawaiian 'hello'
3. City
4. Replace a striker
5. Spring flower
6. Music
7. Lure
8. Type of car
9. Cheese
15. Married woman
19. Wing
21. Jewish religious leader
23. BB player Kareem \_\_ Jabar
24. Public disorder
25. Groggy
26. Blemish
27. Writer Bombeck
28. Racoon's nickname
30. Baseball's Nolan
32. Scene

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