

# President's Message

Hey Neighbors,

I know, I know---For those of you who have good memories, (and better than mine) I stated in the last newsletter that the November newsletter message would be done by one of our new board members so that they could introduce themselves. Well, due to a semi-functioning memory and a gift for procrastinating, I dropped the ball until it was too late to drop it on them. So, next month, the message will be done by either Cathy Schmidt or Chris Jackson. I promise. Believe me, I don't do this message with the hope that someone from the New York Times will see it and offer me a job at their place or that Hollywood will want me as a new screenwriter.

As to the news, all of the projects for this year are done. The last, which is the long sidewalk, has a few cracks that appeared during the curing process and they are to be repaired by the contractor. I've received a few comments that the slant of the walk is excessive. I realized that the slant would follow the lay of the land as that side of Edgewood Place does have some slant. I would point out that on several of our streets (such as Chelsea Fair) the slant of the sidewalks follows the slant of the driveways and have the same slant as our new sidewalk—and I've never heard complaints in that regard. So, I believe we've got a good addition to our neighborhood. Some have wondered if we are going to do the other side of the street. If I remember correctly, that would be over \$40,000 additional and that, I believe, would be too big a cost to make it worthwhile.

While we are mentioning costs, I will add that financially things are still going well but we have to be wise in how we spend. Our operating expenses for the first seven months were roughly \$11,000 under budget. In other words, we are operating well under our

income and that means we can look at other projects in the future but must remember to do those that give us the best return on our money. Some residents have suggested adding surveillance cameras at the various entries to Stone Forest (there are four) so that license plates could be recorded for later use if a crime occurs. Others have suggested paving the area around the big retention pond—that is over 1200 yards in length, or about 10 times the length of the recent sidewalk addition. In other words—very expensive. If there are any other suggestions, contact us by e-mail or however. At the beginning of 2015, the board will be assessing our operating budget and balancing that with our wants and/or needs. And like I said, we are healthy but we need to stay careful about how we spend.

Other news---At this point, we are short one member for our ACC, the group that makes sure that the additions or upgrades we make to our homes meet the guidelines of the deed restrictions. If you are a realtor, I would believe you would be an excellent candidate since realtors have good experience in knowing what helps (and what hurts) property values. If anyone is interested, please contact me by e-mail or by my cell---both of which are listed on our web page. The salary is great-----it is ten times more than HOA board members get. Let's see---10 times \$0 is \$0. Heck, we could say the salary is 100 times that. So, it is not for the money. It is for just helping keep our neighborhood looking good. I'm diligently sitting by the phone and the computer awaiting your call to volunteer!

That's all for this month. Stay tuned,

Dick Leonard. HOA Pres

### **COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

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## NORTHWEST HARRIS COUNTY AGGIE MOM'S CLUB

Please join us on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 7 pm. at the Houston Distributing Center, 7100 High Life Drive, Houston, Texas 77066. Our featured speaker will be Mr. Skip Wagner, President of the 12th Man Foundation. This a great way to meet other Aggie Moms, find out about upcoming events, and buy care packages. Enjoy light refreshments while you shop our Boutique for handcrafted one-of-a-kind Aggie treasures. For more information visit our website at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org. We are looking forward to meeting all Moms of Aggies.

Skip Wagner is the President and CEO of the 12th Man Foundation, whose main purpose is raising funds for scholarships, programs and facilities for Texas A&M Athletics. The Foundation supports the Athletic Department's efforts of winning championships on the field while developing student athletes who will be successful in the classroom and be great representatives of Texas A&M long after their playing days are over. Having joined the organization on April 15, 2013, he and his team are helping the Foundation reach unprecedented heights as it embarks on the path of financing and rebuilding Kyle Field, the home of the Texas A&M fighting Aggies football team. Over \$250 million has been raised from generous Aggies who have also embarked on supporting major new facilities for softball, outdoor track and football operations and player areas. The Foundation has created a new Premium Services group and is initiating new programs to better engage and service its thousands of donors. From 2005-2013, Skip served as President and CEO of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. In his final year, the Rodeo, with over 28,000 volunteers, had record attendance of over 2.5 million people, record revenue in excess of \$110 million and record donations to Texas youth, education and other charitable causes in excess of \$25 million. From 2000 to 2004, Skip was president and general manager of the Oklahoma State Fair. Skip graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1982 with a degree in chemical engineering and from Harvard Business School in 1986 with a master's degree in business administration. Skip and his wife Cindy have four children, including Allie who graduated from Texas A&M in 2008 and Jack, class of 2017, who is at Texas A&M in Mays Business School.

#### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club raises money throughout the year to fund scholarships to the students form our area. Last year, we awarded 15 scholarships to Aggie students from our local community and donated over \$34,000 to a variety of Texas A&M student organizations. Eligible students should download the scholarship application form for 2014-2015 on November 1st at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org.



### STONE FOREST FLYER

AYUSA IS LOOKING FOR **HOST FAMILIES!** 

Hosting an exchange students if a wonderful way for your family to give back together, all while experiencing a new culture.

Ayusa exchange students are between the ages of 15 and 18 and come from over 60 countries from around the world. They come with their own spending money and health insurance, and have studied English for at least three years. Most of all, they are eager to learn about your American family!

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To learn more about hosting and how you can make a difference, please visit www. ayusa.org or contact Vicki Odom at vodom@ayusa.org or (832) 455-7881.





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A NIGHT IN

# Bethlehem

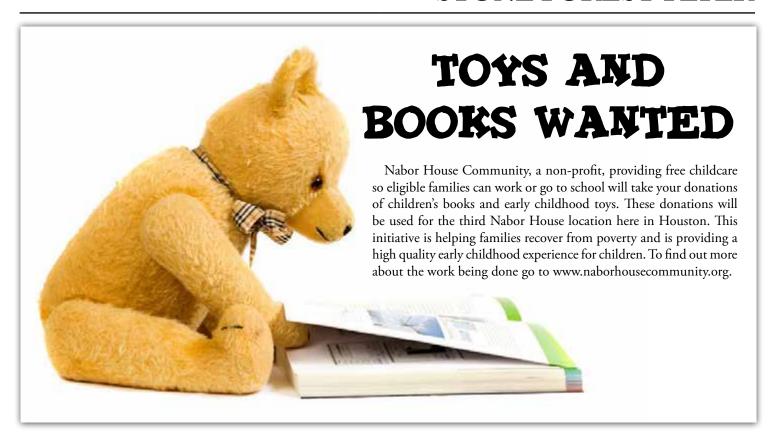
Visit Bethlehem this season on Saturday, December 6th and Sunday December 7th from 5:00-8:00 pm. at Messiah Lutheran Church at 11522 Telge Road, Cypress, TX 77429. The event is free!

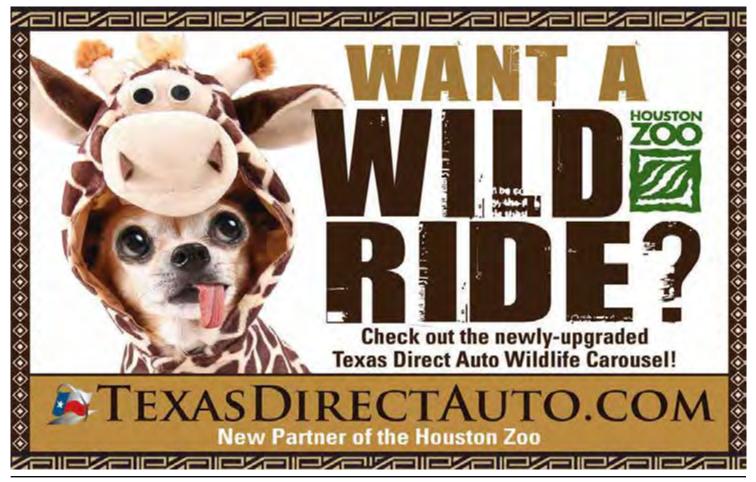
Imagine what life was like during this miraculous time in history as you visit the Spice Merchant, the Produce Market, sample the wonderful treats at the Bakery and taste the savory soup at the Soldier's Tavern. Listen to the storyteller, and visit the shepherds, & the Inn. Watch for the Roman soldiers. Don't miss this living, interactive recreation of the original Christmas story. Join us for free activities for the family including candle making, create a clay pinch pot, sew a coin bag or play Bethlehem dressup. Pet the live animals and enjoy cookies, hot cider and coffee.

Messiah Lutheran Church is a grace place, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, ½ mile north of Highway 290. Regular Sunday worship times are: 8 am—Traditions; 9:30 am—The Gathering; and 10:45 am—The Crossing. The Discovery (education) Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or www.messiahlc.org. All people are welcome at Messiah.









### STONE FOREST FLYER



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 kserventi@ chapparalmanagement.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.





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Please remember to pick up after your pets and "scoop the poop"

## Your Community at Your Fingertips



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