

# THE TALON

February 2015

Official Publication of the Eagle Springs Community Association

Volume 7, Issue 2



## Meet your Board of Directors Vice President

Hi, my name is Nancy Boles and I am the Vice President of the Eagle Springs Board of Directors. There are three Resident Board Members on the Board and last month you were introduced to your President, Michelle Button.

I am a Stephen F. Austin graduate with a degree in Office Management. I have been a resident of Eagle Springs for 3 1/2 years. I fell in love with our community the moment I set eyes on it, and once we moved in, I got busy volunteering for different social events; became Treasurer of our Pool Committee; served as an Alternate, and then elected as the official Neighborhood Volunteer Rep (NVR) for my neighborhood. Last year I was elected to the Board of Directors by the other NVRs and I haven't looked back since. I take this position very seriously and am doing my best to represent the entire Eagle Springs community. The schedules for our Board of Directors meetings are always listed in the monthly Eagle Springs newsletter, with the Public Open Session at 5. If you have any questions or problems, please feel free to either attend these meetings or talk with your neighborhood volunteer rep and they will bring your concerns to us. We were elected to represent your interests, big or small, and I will do my best to keep your trust.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY 2015**

- 4 ..... **Twin Villas HOA Meeting**  
7-8:30 / Valley Springs Clubhouse
- 10 ..... **Book Club**  
8 pm / Athletic Clubhouse
- 12 ..... **NVR Meeting**  
7 pm / Valley Springs Clubhouse
- 13 ..... **Scrapbook Club**  
12 - 10 pm / Athletic Clubhouse
- 14 ..... **Happy Valentine's Day!**
- 16 ..... **Sports Field Committee Meeting**  
7 pm / Valley Springs Clubhouse
- 17 ..... **Pool Committee Meeting**  
7 pm / Valley Springs Clubhouse
- 19 ..... **Safety Advisory Committee Meeting**  
7 pm / Valley Springs Clubhouse

## WINTER HOURS ARE IN EFFECT!

Effective November 1, 2014 to February 28, 2015,  
Winter Hours will be in effect. Winter Hours are:

Wednesday 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

## COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

### EAGLE SPRINGS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**Board of Directors** .... AsktheBoard@InsideEagleSprings.com  
**Crest Management Co** ..... 281-579-0761  
 Community Manager..... Bill@Crest-Management.com  
 Clubhouse Rental..... Help@InsideEagleSprings.com  
 Activities .....Activities@InsideEagleSprings.com  
 Website Administrator..... Help@InsideEagleSprings.com  
 Newsletter ..... Help@InsideEagleSprings.com

### EMERGENCY INFORMATION

**Fire, Medical or Life Threatening Emergency** ..... 9-1-1  
 P-4 Constable Dispatch..... 281-376-3472  
 Humble ISD Police (Schools)..... 281-641-7900  
 Atascocita Volunteer Fire Dept (AVFD)  
     *Non-Emergency Number* ..... 281-852-2181  
 Harris County Animal Control ..... 281-999-3191  
 Texas Poison Control Center ..... 800-222-1222

### UTILITIES

Electric, (multiple providers) ..... www.powertochoose.org  
     *Power Outages* ..... 713-207-7777  
     *Street Light Outages* ..... 713-207-2222  
 Gas, Centerpoint Energy..... 713-659-2111  
     *Gas Leaks* ..... 713-659-2111  
 Water, Severn Trent ..... 281-579-4500  
     *24 Hour Emergency Number* ..... 281-209-2100  
 Humble Post Office..... 281-540-1775  
 Trash & Recycle, Best Trash..... 281-313-2378

### TELEPHONE/TV/INTERNET PROVIDERS:

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 Comcast..... 800-266-2278  
 DISHNetwork ..... 877-903-3813  
 DirecTV..... 888-777-2454

### SCHOOLS

Humble ISD ..... 281-641-1000  
     *Website* ..... www.humble.k12.tx.us  
 Eagle Springs Elementary ..... 281-641-3100  
 Atascocita Springs Elementary..... 281-641-3600  
 Timberwood Middle School..... 281-641-3803  
 Atascocita High School ..... 281-641-7500

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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## DID YOU KNOW?

1. You must get approval to remove trees from your yard via an exterior modification request. Forms can be found on InsideEagleSprings.com.
2. All permanent basketball goals require the submittal of an EMR (Exterior Modification Request), however, although portable basketball goals do not require an EMR they do have to adhere to the basketball goal guidelines. Goal guidelines are provided under the Architectural Modification Guidelines on page 17.
3. Basketball goals are not permitted in the streets, even if children are playing on them. The streets belong to the county and therefore leave the goal at risk for being picked up and hauled away if necessary.

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*We realize you have a choice so we appreciate the opportunity to earn your business. Building clients for life while giving back to the community in order to make a difference!*



The 2015 real estate selling season is in full swing as we head into February. 2014 data reported Eagle Springs had 365 sold properties, with another 43 properties in pending status scheduled to close early 2015. 2014 data for Area 1, which includes Atascocita, reported 2,988 sold properties. There were 294 properties in pending status scheduled to close in early 2015. If you are considering selling, I welcome the opportunity to visit with you to discuss home values and develop a plan of action to sell your home.

It was an exciting time in January 2015 as we awarded the Rebekah Snipp Scholarships to Madison Terrier, Kiana Washington, and Mariam Wasi upon completion of their first college semester in December 2014. If you have or know a 2015 High School Senior, please have them visit my website, rebekahsnipp.com to apply for a scholarship. Three (3) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded this year. The deadline to apply is April 15, 2015.

On January 18, 2015, I ran in the Houston Aramco Half Marathon to raise funds for CanCare Inc.. CanCare provides one-on-one emotional support to cancer patients and their family members from trained volunteers who know first-hand the physical, emotional, and spiritual turmoil that someone newly diagnosed with cancer is experiencing. We lost several friends to cancer in 2014, I dedicated my run to them.

On April 18-19, 2015 I will be participating in the MS150, a bike ride from Houston to Austin, Texas. This will be the first time I will be a participant in a bike ride fundraiser. My goal is to raise \$5,000.00. I appreciate you considering making a donation to help me reach my goal. You may visit the website nationalmssociety.org to find my name and make a donation.

One of the best things you can do to ensure you get the home you want is to arrange for financing before you go shopping. This is often referred to as getting "pre-approved". Getting pre-approved simply means that your lender has calculated how much of a mortgage you qualify for, taking into account your down payment and current financial situation.

There are two advantages to having a pre-approved mortgage. First, you know exactly how much home you can afford when shopping for a new home. Second, it expedites the home buying process while helping to assure you get the home you want in a hot market.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to assist you with all your real estate needs. Without your business, I would not be able to help others with the events such as those listed above. Building Clients for Life, while giving back to the community, is something very important to me. Thank you Eagle Springs!

Respectfully,  
Rebekah Snipp

BETTER HOMES AND  
GARDENS REAL ESTATE  
GARY GREENE

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## From the Board of Directors

*Announcing the Newly Elected Neighborhood Voting Representatives for 2015*

Neighborhood Voting Representatives (NVR) play an important role in the governance of the Association. Their primary role is to cast all votes attributable to Units in the Neighborhood for election of directors, amending the Declaration or By Laws, and all other matters provided for in the Declaration and By-Laws that would require a vote of the membership. Additionally, NVR's liaise with residents in their respective Neighborhoods to bring issues to the attention of the Board. More information on the roles and responsibilities of NVR's can be found on our website: [InsideEagleSprings.com](http://InsideEagleSprings.com) under the Homeowners Association tab. Currently, Cedar Meadows does not have NVR representation and there are several neighborhoods that need an Alternate NVR. If you live in one of these neighborhoods, you are encouraged to consider one of these open positions. For questions or more information about this, please contact Bill Higgins at: [bill@crest-management.com](mailto:bill@crest-management.com) or 281-945-4625.

### **ARBOR HEIGHTS**

NVR - Bob Carlson  
Alt - Charles Blake

### **ARLINGTON PARK**

NVR - Debbie West  
Alt - Michael Hamlin

### **BARTON RIDGE**

NVR - Vince Feleccia  
Alt - Nay Chang

### **BERINGER PLACE**

NVR - Russell Boutot  
Alt - Brian Epperson

### **BISCAYNE BEND**

NVR - Phil Marlowe  
Alt - None

### **CADES CROSSING**

NVR - Matt Provenzano  
Alt - None

### **CEDAR MEADOWS**

NVR - None  
Alt - None

### **CHANDLER CROSSING**

NVR - Tim Beard  
Alt - Joe Faulk

### **COTTAGE GROVE**

NVR - Jonette Hayes  
Alt - None

### **CRESCENT RIDGE**

NVR - Christina Kimble  
Alt - Eric Styron

### **CROSS CREEK**

NVR - Sara Burkhalter  
Alt - David LaBrot

### **HAWTHORN RIDGE**

NVR - Karen Crosby  
Alt - None

### **KENDALL HOLLOW**

NVR - David Lurie  
Alt - Nisha Kikunga

### **LAUREL RIDGE**

NVR - Julie Sezonov  
Alt - Cindy Frost

### **LEGACY POINTE**

NVR - Otto Bielss  
Alt - None

### **MEADOW LODGE**

(INCLUDES MEADOW LAKE)

NVR - Linda Sullivan  
Alt - Tina Sevin

### **PRESTON VILLAGE**

NVR - Jill Parks  
Alt - None

### **PRINCETON PARK**

NVR - Richard Skinner  
Alt - Kimberly Berg

### **SIERRA BRIDGE**

NVR - Lonnie Kimball  
Alt - None

### **STERLING CREEK**

NVR - Tory Western  
Alt - Nellie Johnson

### **VALLEY CREEK**

NVR - Germaine Carter  
Alt - Ming Chiu



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### *Ladies' Fashion Show* and Wine and Cheese Tasting Event

Looking for a girls' night out without having to leave Eagle Springs? Once again, we welcome Dragonfly Boutique and In Color Salons, with the new addition of CAbi, to show off new springs styles with lots of fun and laughs. Want to see what the newest spring trends are for fashion and hair? Want to see what The Tasting Room has to offer? Come out with your girlfriends to the Valley Springs Clubhouse on February 28th. Doors open at 6:45. Raffles for prizes and swag bags are part of the fun!

This event requires pre-registration, and all attendees must be in good standing with the HOA and over 21 years of age. All IDs will be checked at the door to verify age, as wine will be served at this event. Registration for the event can be found on [InsideEagleSprings.com](http://InsideEagleSprings.com). The fee is \$15 (\$25 for non-resident guests) and an item to donate to Dress for Success. REGISTRATION IS LIMITED! If you have any questions, please email [Activities@InsideEagleSprings.com](mailto:Activities@InsideEagleSprings.com).



# got news?



Submit your news at:  
[www.peelinc.com](http://www.peelinc.com)



# 2015 HOUSING PREDICTIONS

If you've been watching the news, or work in the oil and gas industry, you may have some concerns over the price of oil and how this will impact jobs, the value of your home, and overall economy. Though I agree it's smart to pay close attention to the market and follow the news, it's also important to remember that not all stories are true. The media loves "bad news" as it attracts readers and listeners alike. Fortunately there are two sides to every story. Industry experts are predicting yet another fantastic year in Real Estate. Following are a few of the key drivers for a successful 2015.

**Employment:** The nation's employment rate continues to improve. Employment grew on an average of 2% the final quarter of 2014. This growth represents the strongest increase over a 3 month period since March of 2006.

**Millennials:** Young professionals are having great success entering the job market. While job growth increased by 2%, job growth amongst millennials grew by 3%. Experts predict these Millennials will drive two-thirds of household formations over the next several years.

**Houston:** Arguably we live in the strongest city and state in the country. As of October 2014, the Houston metro area had more residential construction than all but two states. Though lower oil prices will negatively impact our energy

sector, Houston continues to experience a demographic growth to sustain it.

Drop in oil prices could benefit housing: What? I know this goes against what you've likely heard in the news. According to industry giant CoreLogic, households in the U.S. spend more than \$1,800 annually on energy related costs. 22% of that energy is due to residential real estate. Lowered energy costs at the pump as well as in the home make housing more affordable than ever.

Interest rates remain low: Interest rates in January of this year hit a 1.5 year low. Rates have been dipping below 4 percent, lowering the borrowing costs of home buyers. Though these rates will likely see a steady increase over the next 12 months, they remain incredibly low, providing buyers greater incentive to buy your home.

While housing demand remains high and interest rates remain low, now is a great time to either refinance or sell your home. With years of experience in Real Estate, The Tracy Montgomery Team is perfectly positioned to continue to help you with all of your Real Estate needs. If you're in the market to buy or sell call the Tracy Montgomery Team. Our experienced, award winning team will ensure you have a wonderful experience.

## THE Tracy Montgomery TEAM



**Lisa Hughes**  
Cell: 281.323.5894

**Tracy Montgomery**  
Cell: 713.825.5905

**Sandy Brabham**  
Cell: 713.503.8110

If you know of someone who would appreciate the level of service my Team provides, please call me with their name and business number. I'll be happy to follow up and take great care of them.

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# NEWFIELD PARK TOWNHOME ASSOCIATION

The Eagle Springs Community Association has been notified that the Board of Directors for the Newfield Park Townhome Association will be increasing their monthly dues for 2015. If you are a member of that Association and have not received this assessment information or the 2015 budget, please contact the management company office at (713) 329-7100 or by email at [www.pmghouston.com](http://www.pmghouston.com). The Newfield Park Townhome Association is not managed by Crest Management so they will not be able to assist with questions.

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## Winter Wonderland!

With balmy weather – and only the slightest threat of rain – residents came out to enjoy carriage rides, camel rides, a petting zoo, inflatables, and so many arts and crafts! Tipico Café, Tacos Flores, and Space City Kettle Corn fed the masses, while Strolling Strings, Savana Hearren, and The Marionette Playhouse entertained everyone.

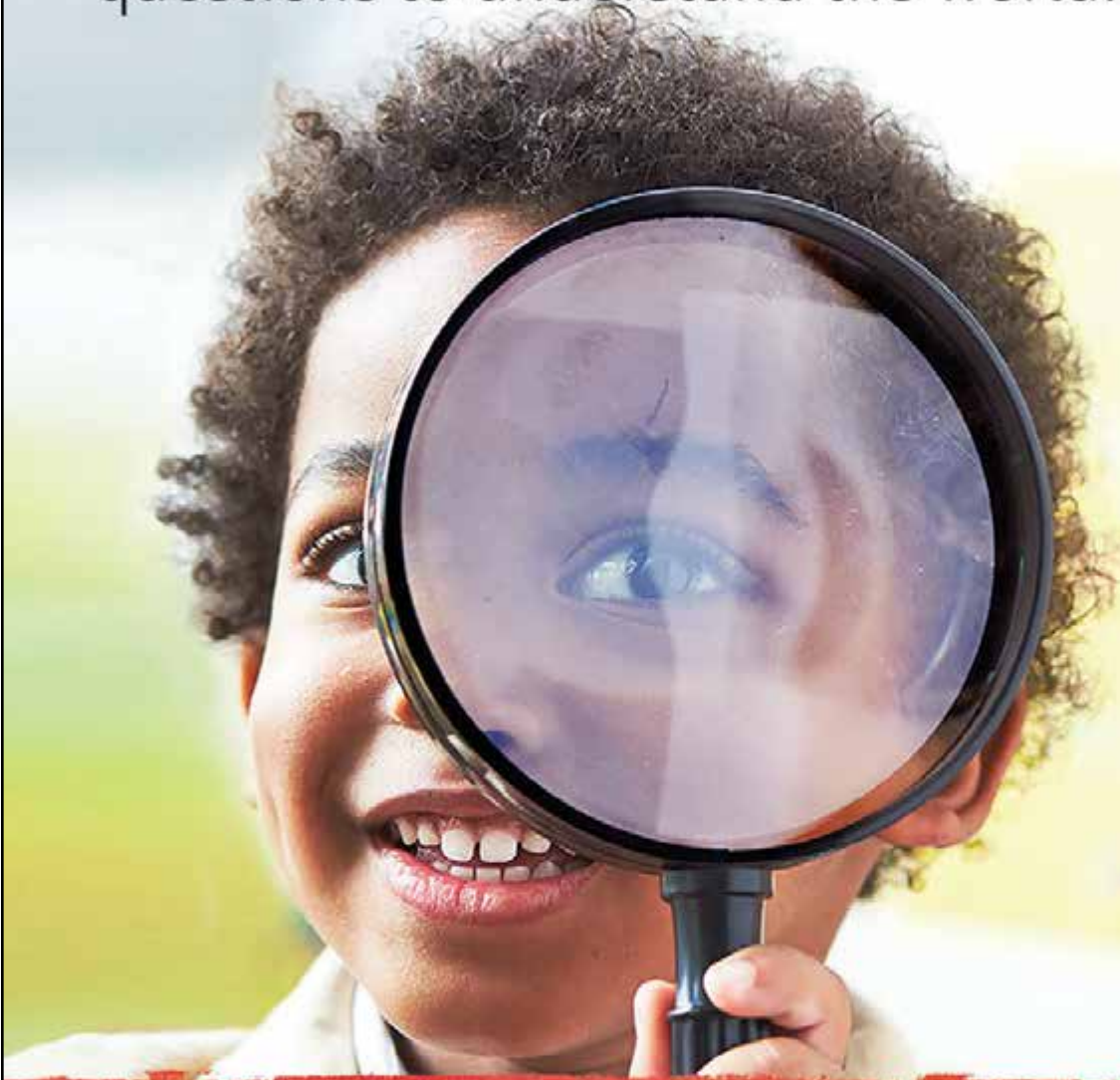
Thank you to our volunteers for coming out and making our events run smoothly! We cannot do our events without you!





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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

## Gingerbread House Contest Winners!

1st Place: Jamie, Joe and Ben Lovuda

2nd Place: Gabrielle Lopez

3rd Place: Jennifer and Lydia Lee

*Thank you to all of our participants!*



## 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.

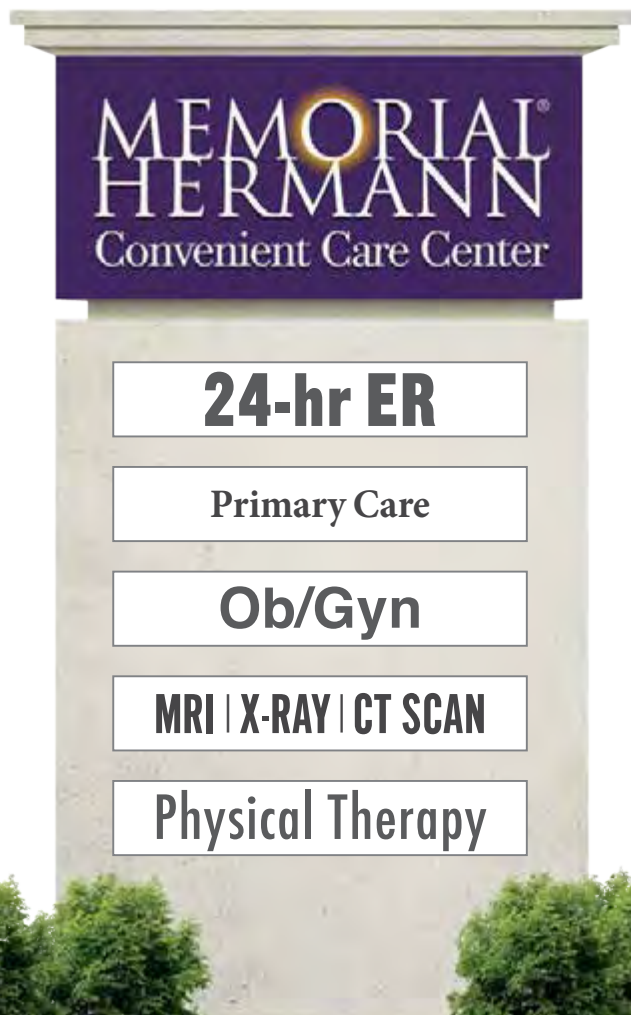
Email the picture to **Help@InsideEagleSprings.com** Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

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



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## Lake Houston Ladies Club

### February Meeting and Luncheon Information

Lake Houston Ladies Club will have their meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden Forest, Humble TX 77346. A Mardi Gras Cabaret is planned, featuring music from The Great American Songbook, Creole, Zydeco and New Orleans. Lake Houston Ladies Club is a social organization that welcomes new members from all surrounding areas. Several Interest groups are available which include: Readers Choice, Bridge, Bunco, Tea Time, Lunch and Look, Movie Group, Supper Club, Mah Jongg, and Girl's Night Out. Please join us. New members are always welcome. Call Carol at 832-671-4475 for more information about the club and for luncheon reservations call by Friday, February 13th before 5:00 p.m.





## A Focus on Influenza: What You Should Know About the Flu

By Concentra Urgent Care

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year. Every year in the United States, on average:

- 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu
- More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications
- About 36,000 people die from flu

Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications.

### Complications of flu

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

### How flu spreads

Flu viruses spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose. Apparently healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five days after becoming sick. That means that you may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick.

### Key facts about seasonal flu vaccine

The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year. There are two types of vaccines:

The “flu shot”: an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle, usually in the arm. The flu shot is approved for use in people older than 6 months, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions.

The nasal-spray flu vaccine: a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for “Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine”). LAIV is approved for use in healthy people two to 49 years of age who are not pregnant. The viruses in the vaccine change each year based on international surveillance and scientists’ estimations about which types and strains of viruses will circulate in a given year. About two weeks after vaccination, enough antibodies

build up to provide protection against the influenza virus.

### Symptoms of the flu

- Fever (usually high)
- Headache
- Fatigue (can be extreme)
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Body aches
- Diarrhea and vomiting (more common among children than adults)

Having these symptoms does not always mean that you have the flu. Many different illnesses, including the common cold, can have similar symptoms.

### Diagnosing the flu

It is very difficult to distinguish the flu from other infections on the basis of symptoms alone. A doctor’s exam may be needed to tell whether you have developed the flu or a complication of the flu. There are tests that can determine if you have the flu as long as you are tested within the first two or three days of illness.

If you develop flu-like symptoms and are concerned about your illness, especially if you are at high risk for complications of the flu, you should consult your health care provider. Those at high risk for complications include people 65 years or older, people with chronic medical conditions, pregnant women, and young children.

### Good health habits for flu prevention

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year, but good health habits like covering your mouth when you cough and washing your hands often can help prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There also are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat and prevent the flu.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Clean your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth due to the spread of germs.
- Practice other good health habits:
  - Get plenty of sleep
  - Be physically active
  - Manage your stress
  - Drink plenty of fluids
  - Eat nutritious food

# TENNIS TIPS



By USPTA/PTR Master Professional  
**Fernando Velasco**



## The Modern Game: “The Backhand Return Serve Drop Shot”

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to execute the basic strokes for players who are just beginning to play tennis or who want to resume playing.

I am now offering suggestions on how to play the “modern” game mostly geared towards players who are happy with hitting the ball over the net and controlling the point with consistency. These players may already be playing for leagues or in tournaments and are looking for more “weapons” on the court.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute “The Backhand Return Serve Drop Shot.” This shot is used when an opponent is expecting a deep service return and the player “surprises” the opponent with a short angle drop shot. It can be used in both singles and doubles play.

In the illustrations, Fernando Velasco, Director of Tennis and teacher at of the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke. Velasco is presently ranked #1 in Singles and Doubles in the USTA Men’s 70 Division in Texas,

and #13 in Singles and #8 and #10 in Doubles in the US.

**Step 1: The Back Swing:** When Fernando sees the opportunity, he makes a quick turn of his upper body and takes the racket high and back. The head of the racket is now at shoulder height, his shoulders are turned, and his eyes are focused on the incoming ball.

**Step 2: The Point of Contact:** The success of the drop shot is to “cup” under the ball with the strings. The grip is relaxed and ready to push the ball forward and under the ball as he makes contact with it. His left shoulder is almost opening and his weight is moving through the shot.

**Step 3: The Follow Through:** In order to get maximum underspin, Fernando is keeping the right hand extended as long as possible. His weight is going forward. The left hand is left leaning forward for better balance.

As the shot goes over the net, and it was successful, Fernando will run towards the net, expecting his opponent to either lift the ball short, or try to drop shot his drop shot.

*Look in the next Newsletter for: “The Overhead from the Baseline”*

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Humble, TX 77338

To schedule, call 281.319.8530 or use ScheduleNow  
at [neuro.memorialhermann.org](http://neuro.memorialhermann.org)



## EARTHQUAKE CAKE

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 - 2 layer pkg. German chocolate cake mix
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup melted oleo
- 1 - 1lb. pkg. confectioners sugar

Sprinkle coconut and pecans in greased and floured 8 x 14" cake pan. Prepare cake mix using package directions. Pour into pan. Beat cream cheese and oleo in mixing bowl. Add confectioners sugar; mix well. Pour over batter. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until cake tests done. Yield 15 servings.



## Ways to Prevent Identity Theft

Don't carry social security cards, Pin #, blank checks, Medicare card or keys in your wallet. Make photocopies of EVERY card in your wallet (both front & back)

### **IF YOUR WALLET IS MISSING FOLLOW THESE STEPS:**

Call credit card companies and request an account number change. Do not cancel your card. If your account is closed it will inconvenience you and hurt your credit score.

#### **File a Report with the Police.**

Get a copy of the report and send copies to your bank and credit card companies.

#### **Alert Your Bank**

Change Pin #'s, cancel ATM cards and get a new checking account number if your checkbook is missing.

#### **Contact Your DMV**

Replace your driver's license and ask that a stolen/lost warning be placed in your file.

#### **Put a Fraud Alert or Security Freeze**

On your file at the three major credit bureaus. experian.com; equifax.com; and transunion.com. Alerts are free, but freezes are more secure and free to people over 65.

#### **Private Medical Insurers**

Should be asked for new cards with new account numbers to prevent fraud. Call Medicare and your auto insurer in case someone tries to make an accident claim from your policy.

#### **Check Credit Reports**

After your wallet is lost 2 weeks, go to creditreport.com to get a free report. That is usually time enough for thieves to open credit in your name. Recheck credit report in 2-3 months.



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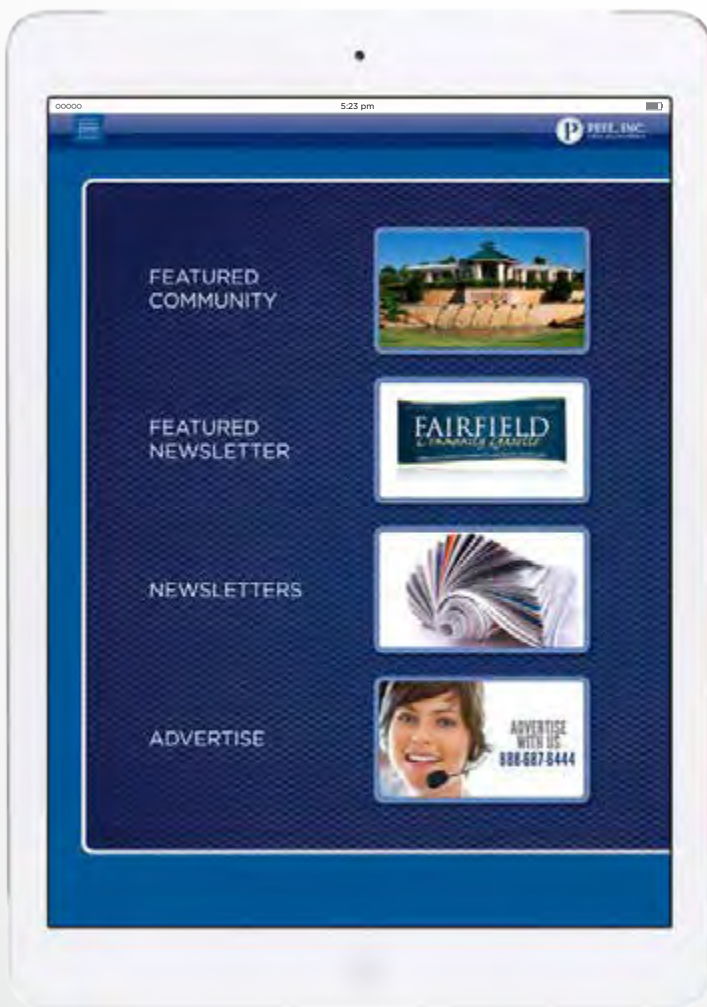




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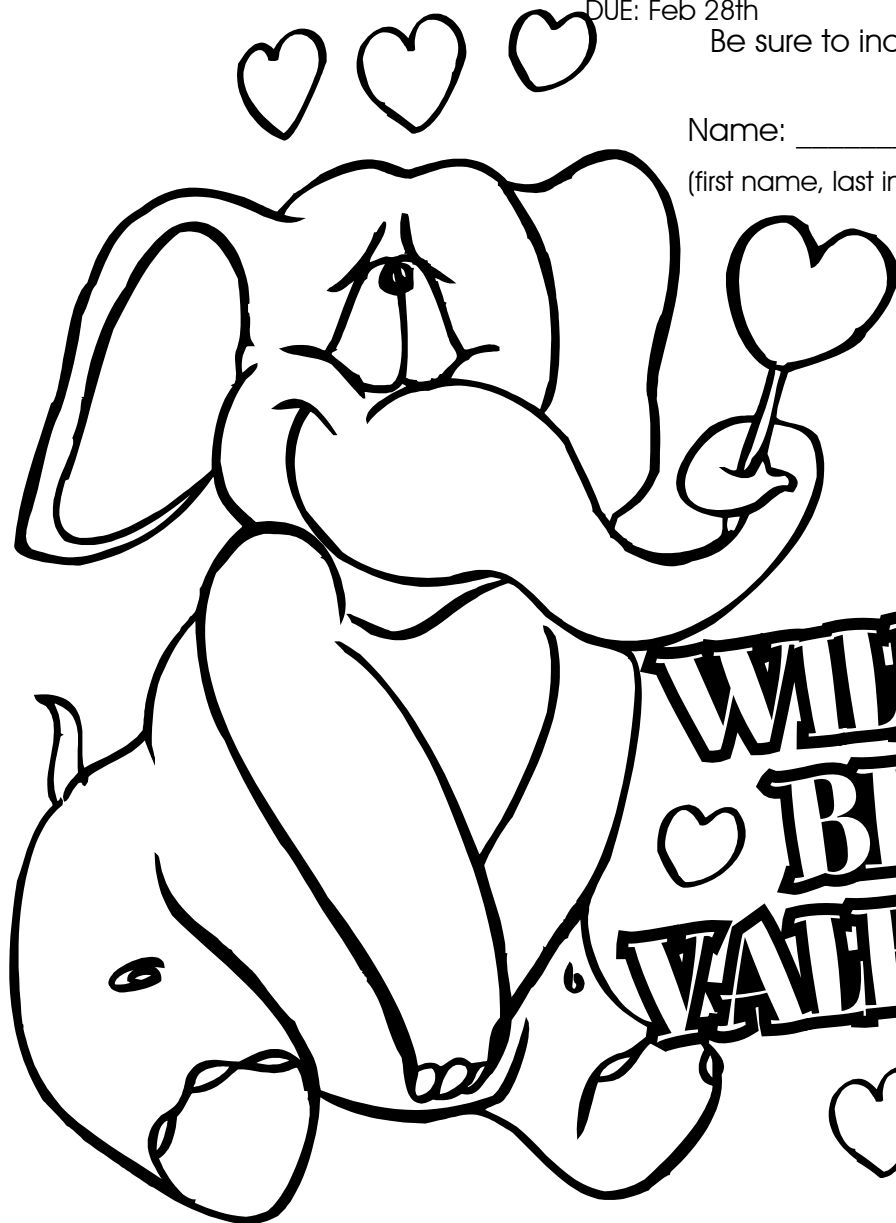
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