

# STONE FOREST

## Flyer

July 2015

Volume 5, Issue 7

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hey Neighbors,

This time the message starts on a somewhat negative, but important, matter--protection of your property. Recently we have had a residential burglary in which entry was made through the rear of the house; this occurred during the daytime. Also, some items were taken from the front porch another house and a car was broken into; these took place during the night. As

written before, make sure you keep valuable papers and items out of your car if parked outside.

Please watch for any suspicious activities and report such to the constables at 281-376-3472.

Further back in this newsletter is an article by the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) addressing some important matters. It is well written and my thanks to Joe True who was the lead writer. It should be mandatory reading. Hey, maybe we'll have a test on it at the annual Homeowners' Meeting.

Speaking of that meeting, you should have already received personal notice of the time and place of the meeting. It is on July 15th at Trinity Lutheran Church just across from the front entrance of Stone Forest. Again, there will be a drawing in which a lucky resident (owners only) will win free dues for next year. Also, there will two gift certificates given away (\$100 and \$50) but you must be present to win anything. Our meetings are short (one hour), informative and (sometimes) even enjoyable.

See you at the meeting.

Thanks,  
Dick Leonard



# COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**STONE FOREST HOA**  
*Spring, Texas 77379*  
**HOA BOARD**

**PRESIDENT**

**Richard Leonard** .....5423 Chelsea Fair Lane  
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 .....Term Ends 2015 (2-year term)

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 Strack Middle School .....832-249-5400  
 Klein Collins High School .....832-484-7811

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Physical address:

6630 Cypresswood Dr. Suite 100, Spring, TX 77379

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 .....**P.O. Box 90045, Houston, TX 77290**  
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 .....**[www.centerpointenergy.com/outage](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage)**  
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# CICADAS



Cicadas are fairly large insects but can vary in size with some growing over 1 ½ inches. Color may also vary depending upon species, but many are brown or green. All cicadas have bulging eyes and, on adults, wings that are held roof-like over the body. The wings are semi-transparent with thick wing veins. The majority of their life cycle is spent underground.

Cicadas have 2-5 year life cycles and appear in Texas in mid to late summer. Females insert egg clusters into branches of trees using their saw-like ovipositor (egg laying structure). Eggs hatch after about 6 weeks and small nymphs drop to the ground where they burrow into the soil. Nymphs feed on sap of tree roots with their piercing-sucking mouthparts. After becoming fully developed, nymphs emerge from the ground at night and climb onto nearby objects such as tree trunk, plants, fences, etc. Adult cicadas emerge from the last nymphal stage leaving behind the exuviae (cast skin). Adults can live 5-6 weeks.

Male cicadas are well known for their “song”. They rest on a tree and produce a whining sound to attract females. The sound is produced by two vibrating membranes on the side of the abdomen. Females do not “sing”. Adults feed on juices from tender twigs, but usually do not cause lasting harm to the plant from feeding.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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## Stone Forest Architectural Control Committee

Think about why you moved to Stone Forest. Like many of us, maybe you were attracted by the smartly designed homes from a few quality builders who took the time to make sure most house design elevations did not find themselves next door to each other. This gives Stone Forest its custom look. The carefully coordinated pastel colors with discriminating trims provide a look of comfortable architecture. The accents of brick, stone and other amenities catch the eye eliciting a pleasant calm feeling. Subtle winding streets, uncluttered cul-de-sacs, manicured lawns and shrubs, majestic pines and sturdy oaks lend to the mystique. This is the neighborhood many of us moved into. The streets had few cars, as most people preferred to house their vehicles in their ample two- and three-car garages. After moving in many neighbors got acquainted with other families, making friends they could visit and trust. They watched kids play safely in the attractive playground park and enjoyed the covered picnic area. Most residents looked out for each other.

We, members of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) are here to help maintain that original view when a resident's project is submitted for approval. Our decisions, based on the Stone Forest Guidelines and Deed Restrictions, will assist in selecting colors and designs for that project.

Some past projects went forward that in hindsight turned out to be less than satisfactory for the mission of protecting the sub's integrity and beauty. Other projects were done without approval. This can, if allowed to continue, lower the desirability and charm we are striving to preserve.

A few residents could possibly face legal action for improperly constructing prohibited items. We wish to help avoid this costly situation. One project that could become a real eyesore: painted and colored fences. Remember, a fence can only be preserved with transparent stain or preservatives; no colors are allowed. Some residents have not abided by this restriction and it will not be allowed in the future. This detracts from the rich continuity of our community.

Regarding roof replacement since our hail storm: You do not need approval to replace your roof as long as it matches the neighborhood standard of HD shingles in the color Weathered Wood (gray). You can protect yourself by using a licensed and insured contractor.

Since we have switched to uniform receptacles for trash and recyclables, some residents have had problems stowing their containers out of sight of the street. Those individuals may want to check with a neighbor who has solved the problem. Many have come up with very creative hiding places.

When you are ready to replace your fence, paint your house or construct an addition, etc., it is your responsibility to submit a Home Improvement Request Form (found at <[www.chaparralmanagement.com/page/28168-483261/Forms](http://www.chaparralmanagement.com/page/28168-483261/Forms)>) to Nicole Wilson, ACC coordinator, at Chaparral Management, <[service@chaparralmanagement.com](mailto:service@chaparralmanagement.com)>. The ACC will decide within 30 days of your request. We may get in touch with you or your contractor to discuss a question or concern; and then, it will be our pleasure to help approve your special project.

*Find useful information at Stone Forest's web site:  
[www.stoneforestha.org](http://www.stoneforestha.org)*

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## Hosting An Exchange Student

Did you ever wonder what hosting a foreign exchange student is about? Well here it is in a nutshell....

Hosting an exchange student is a great way to learn about another country and culture without leaving your home town. It provides a cultural exchange experience for the entire family while providing a student from another country with a slice of American life.

Hosting an exchange student is like adding an international branch to your family tree. Many host families develop lifelong friendships with their exchange students and keep in regular touch with them. Some even visit them in their home countries, or invite them back for weddings and graduations

Hosting an exchange student provides your family, your high school and your community with a direct window into another country and culture, providing an opportunity for life-long learning.

Families of all shapes and sizes can host an international exchange student. We've had host families with young children, no children, high school aged children – as well as empty nesters and single parent households.

Ayusa is a non-profit based in San Francisco that promotes global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and study abroad programs for high school students from around the world.

For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact your local representative Vicki Odom at 832.455.7881 or [vodom@ayusa.org](mailto:vodom@ayusa.org) at 832.455.7881 or [vodom@ayusa.org](mailto:vodom@ayusa.org) or Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at [www.ayusa.org](http://www.ayusa.org).



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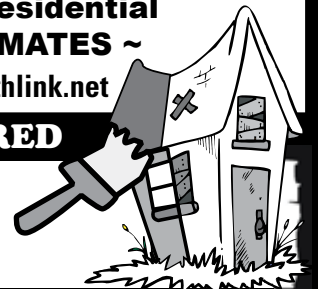
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## Fit and Fun: Health Tips for You and Your Children

By: *Concentra Urgent Care*

Getting fit and staying fit can be a fun process. That's true for individuals, and it's especially true for families.

Fitness is an important topic, especially when your daily routine involves a lot of sitting, whether at work, at school, or at home in front of a computer or TV screen.

The habits that we learn as children are often the habits we carry into adulthood. As parents, we can help our children build healthy habits and find new, fun ways to motivate ourselves and our children to get active.

Below are some ideas for getting off the couch and having some fun while getting fit:

- Take an active vacation: It's tempting every day to think of your vacation as a time to sit and relax. But isn't that what your body does everyday? Instead, you can plan a trip that includes hiking, biking, skiing, and other activities that the whole family can do together.

- Visit a local park: It doesn't have to take a whole day, but you could spend a few hours playing at a park. Take a ball (football or soccer), a Frisbee, or a hacky sack, and play. You can invite some friends to join you, too. And remember: It's not just about the kids moving around – it's your time, too!

- Hold a block party: Call your neighbors, and block off the closest cul-de-sac for a get together that includes fun and active games. From freeze tag and relay races to hide-and-seek and kickball, there are hundreds of activities to choose from that are fun for everyone.

- Go for a hike: Find a local area where you and your family can go and hike for a few miles. Spend time outdoors, and enjoy what nature has to offer while you all get fit!

For more ideas about fun activities, visit the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance's Web site at: [www.aahperd.com](http://www.aahperd.com).

**The Goal:** Be instrumental in encouraging children to develop the good habit of moving through space, nurturing their physical power, and getting fit.

For more information about healthy activities, contact your health care provider or your Concentra health specialist. For more information on the importance of fitness for children, visit the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at:

[www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/physicalactivity/](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/physicalactivity/)

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