

# SUMMERWOOD LIFE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SUMMERWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.



## Independence Day Parade

**Monday, July 4th at 9:00 a.m.  
Lake Anne**

(meet at Residents Club Central)

Trophies and prizes for the Best Decorated in the following categories:

Bikes, Scooters, Strollers, Power Wheels and Pets!

Come out and enjoy the parade then cool off afterwards in the awesome water slide, foam pit and have fun in the bounce house too!

## Manager's Corner

### Take Action After a Natural Disaster

As we enter into hurricane season, and with the recent storms and flooding, many of us are thinking about our homes in a natural disaster. If your property is damaged in a natural disaster—hurricane, tornado, flood, earthquake, or fire—there are some important steps you can take in the immediate aftermath to ensure your safety and minimize financial loss. Consider the following actions:

**Enter with caution:** Damaged homes or buildings could be structurally unsafe; use extreme caution when navigating those areas, and don't enter unless absolutely necessary. Debris and other hazards are unsafe.

**Secure the property:** In cases of significant structural damage or security concerns, determine whether the damaged area needs to be secured with temporary fencing or another type of barrier to keep out unwanted guests.

**Notify your insurer:** Call your insurance company to inform them that there's been a disaster and to file an official claim. Take down the claim number and any relevant contact information for whomever will handle your claim. If your vehicle sustained damage, contact your automobile insurer.

**Notify utility companies:** If property damage includes disruption to water, gas, or electric utilities, contact the companies right away to shut off service. Failing to do so could pose a safety risk to you or emergency responders in and around the disaster area.

**Take photos of the damage:** Beginning with the property's exterior, take photographs of the damage. If it's safe to enter the structure, take photographs of interior damage as well. These will come in handy for insurance purposes.

**Take inventory of your damaged belongings:** Make a list of your damaged personal items and ensure you have photographs. Include the price of large appliances or valuable items with your list and, if possible, surviving receipts.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Emergency Situations.....911  
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 Houston Fire Station #105 .... 14014 W. Lake Houston Pkwy  
 ..... Houston, Texas 77044  
 South Lake Houston EMS (Dispatch)..... 281-459-1277  
 Dead Animal Pick-Up (Precinct 1)..... 281-820-5151  
 Animal Control..... 281-999-3191  
 After Hours..... 281-221-5000

### UTILITY SERVICE NUMBERS

Public Utility Commission Consumer Hotline.. 888-782-8477  
 Entouch Systems..... 281-225-1000  
 (Telephone, Cable, Alarm Monitoring)  
 AT&T..... 800-288-2020  
 CenterPoint..... 713-659-2111  
 Reliant Energy..... 713-207-7777  
 MMIA (Water District Operator)..... 281-651-1618  
 Garbage Pick-Up  
 MUD 342 & 344 (Republic Waste)..... 281-446-2030  
 MUD 361 (Wast Management)..... 1-800-800-5804

### SCHOOLS

Summerwood Elementary..... 281-641-3000  
 Lakeshore Elementary ..... 281-641-3500  
 Post Office..... 713-695-2690  
 4206 Little York, Houston, TX 77078

## NEWSLETTER INFO

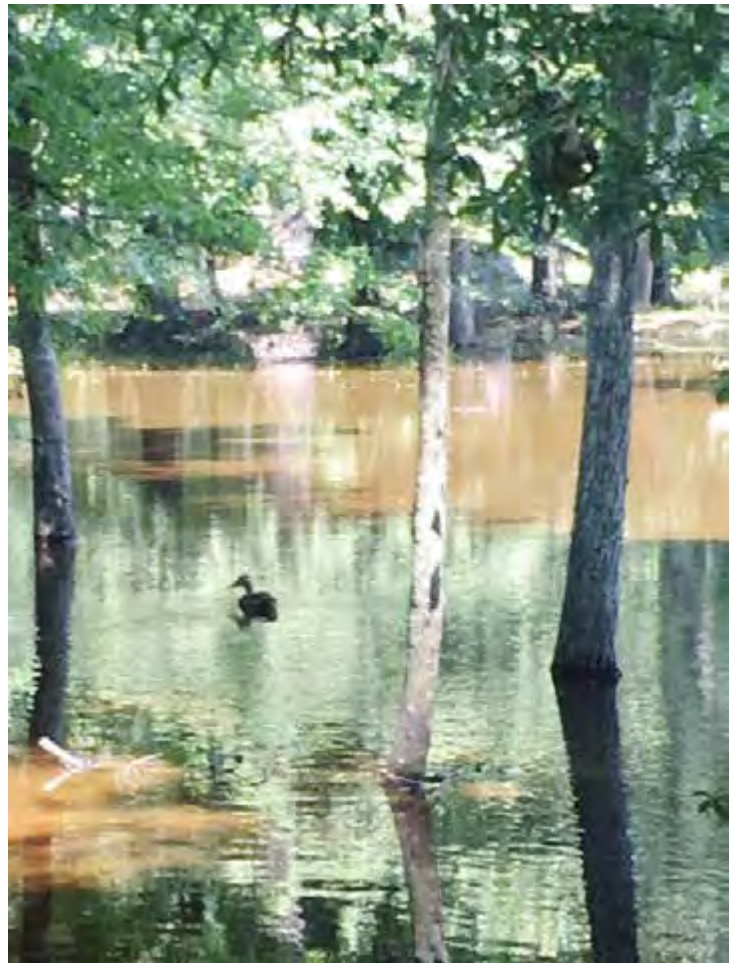
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Article Submissions....summerwoodnewsletter@gmail.com

### PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. ....www.PEELinc.com  
 Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

## Our Beautiful Community!



Rhonda Surovec of Eden Manor Lane snapped this picturesque scene as she enjoyed a beautiful day walking along the Summerwood trails. Great picture, Rhonda!

## Vacation Watch Brings Peace of Mind

Summer is here, and many residents will be vacationing. For a vacation watch while you are away, call the precinct 3 constable dispatch at 281-427-4791 and they will take your vacation watch information over the phone. Our contract deputies will check your residence daily while you are away and contact you if anything is amiss. This is a free service provided by the precinct 3 constable office. In addition, we suggest that you do not post on Facebook that you are going on vacation or otherwise advertise that you are not home.

HISD school deputies will join our contract deputies, stepping up patrol through the community during the summer months.

Please be safe, and have a wonderful summer.



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# *Really Big News!*

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*TEAM WORK...Whoever said "Many hands make light work" really understood a team work concept. Each member of my team (including you) will have specific duties towards our common goal to ensure the strength and endurance needed to get this transaction closed.*



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## Wood Fencing Standards Must be Harmonious Within the Neighborhood

All residents are encouraged to maintain, repair, and keep up the best appearance of their fences possible. No one wants to see fencing that is in disrepair and that distracts from the beauty of our neighborhood.

Of course, there comes a time when wood fences need to be and should be replaced:

- When replacing a fence, it must be of like material and the height must be as originally installed by the builder in order to maintain harmony with surrounding fences.
- Clear sealant is permitted.
- Paint, stain, or tinted sealant is prohibited. In order to prevent inconsistent color matches with the fences throughout the community, the application of any paints, stains, or tinted sealant is prohibited on any lot fencing. By prohibiting the application of these, the fences maintain a more harmonious and consistent appearance throughout the community.

Architectural guidelines can be found by signing in to [www.summerwoodlife.com](http://www.summerwoodlife.com), clicking the Document Library tab, and then selecting Architectural Review Committee.

## Summer Fun!

Are you looking for something really fun and entertaining for your kids this summer?

Northeast Houston Baptist Church in Atascocita (across from Iguana Joe's on West Lake Houston Parkway) is having a great camp for kids August 1 through 5. You can register at [www.campinthecity.com](http://www.campinthecity.com) and search locations to find Northeast Houston Baptist Church.



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Web Site: [JessicaEblen.com](http://JessicaEblen.com)

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**Office Address:**

5332 FM 1960 E, Suite C  
Humble, TX 77346

## Crime Watch Committee Update!



The Summerwood Crime Watch Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Central Clubhouse at 7:00 PM. CWC meetings provide up to date ideas and information to further enable residents to protect their personal selves, their personal safety, and protect their property. There is an agenda for each meeting along with occasional guest speakers. Summerwood contract deputies and HPD officers attend to give information, give their reports, meet residents, listen to their concerns, and answer questions.

Block Captains serve as contacts in the CWC information chain. If you would be interested in serving in this area, contact Barbara Gaston at [bagaston@aol.com](mailto:bagaston@aol.com) for further information. Block captains are needed throughout Summerwood. If you are not presently being contacted by a block captain there may be a need for you to step up

to fill the position.

For those on Facebook, please feel free to locate and ask to join the Summerwood Crime Watch Facebook group. It is open to all residents of Summerwood. Timely information, thoughts, and concerns are posted by residents regularly. The CWC committee is all about communication and getting information out to residents and this Facebook group has been very effective.

The CWC wants you to know that Vacation Watch is an important tool to use in giving you peace of mind while away from home. The number to call is 281-427-4791. Give the precinct 3 dispatcher the details of your trip and how to reach you if something were to happen. The contract deputies in Summerwood will be notified as to the days you will be away, the cars that should be in your driveway, comings and goings to be expected at your home, etc...and they will have your cell phone number(s) to call if something seems amiss. Use them! They will check your house daily and is a free service!

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## A Summer Day at the Park

Beth Fusco-Staggs of Birney Point Lane submitted this picture of her daughter having a great time at a pocket park off Deussen Parkway.

Have you recently taken a great photo of your family enjoying the outdoors in Summerwood? Maybe you have taken a photo of one of our amenities or perhaps a particular landscaped area that you enjoy? We'd love to publish a favorite Summerwood photo!

Please email it to [summerwoodlife@gmail.com](mailto:summerwoodlife@gmail.com) and include your name and address along with a short paragraph about why the photo is your favorite. You just may have your photo in next month's newsletter!



## Plant of the Month: Sunflower

*Info from Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, University of Texas at Austin*

The Sunflower is one of the most common flowers in Texas. Varieties grow wild throughout the States. Some varieties grow up to 8'. They grow quickly, so are a good plant for children to try as one of their first gardening adventures. Point out to them that the flower heads follow the sun in a remarkable way, facing East in the morning and West at sunset. In fact the Spanish name for the Sunflower is Gyrosol, which means "follow the sun." The English scientific word for such turning is heliotropism. Remind them that the Sunflower is the State Flower of Kansas. The flower was used to obtain yellow, black, and blue dyes which were used by the American Indians for basket-making.

The Sunflower is drought-tolerant (once established), and the seeds may be planted as deep as 3 inches, though generally about an inch. Do plant them in the sun. Water sparingly, but water. In our soil, it is likely that they will become top heavy, so you may need to stake them. Birds and bees love them, and there is a certain strange spindly species of insect that you will probably find on the plants when they are mature.

Late April is the best time to plant, but July is not too late as long as you can keep the soil moist during the first few weeks of early life. Expect them to mature in about 90 days. It takes a very cold frost to kill them.



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# Texting and Cell Phone Use during Driving

*By the National Highway Safety Administration (edited for space)*

In 2014, 3,179 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver. One of the most alarming and widespread forms of distracted driving is cell phone usage. According to a study by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI), sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes off the road for an average of 5 seconds, the equivalent of driving blind at 55-mph for the length of an entire football field. And a 2014 special article in the New England Journal of Medicine found that the risk of a crash or near-crash among novice drivers increased with the performance of many secondary tasks, including texting and dialing cell phones.

Text messaging is of heightened concern because it combines three types of distraction – visual, manual and cognitive. In other words, texting involves taking your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your mind off the task of driving.

NHTSA's message is simple – "One Text or Call Could Wreck it All." Legislation is being passed across the nation to

discourage distracted driving. We hope drivers get the message loud and clear.

So the next time you are pressed for time, and it seems like multitasking in the car is the best decision, remember those 3,179 lives that were taken because someone decided they could do two things at once. A text or call is not worth your life, or anyone else's.



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## TEXAS FRITO BRITTLE

Modified and submitted by Donna Lowe and from <http://www.bunsinmyoven.com/2010/07/30/texas-brittle/>

- Cover a 9 x 13 cookie sheet w/ a lip w/ foil
- Layer a single layer of pretzel sticks on the foil (a few handfuls)
- Put a few handfuls of Fritos (not the big scoops) on the pretzels
- Melt (microwave or double-boiler) about 4 oz. milk chocolate (I used chips) and drizzle over the pretzels/Fritos
- Top w/ chopped pecan pieces (I toasted mine first)
- Put in freezer about an hour til it sets
- Break apart - keep in sealed container in cool spot



### **FACT:**

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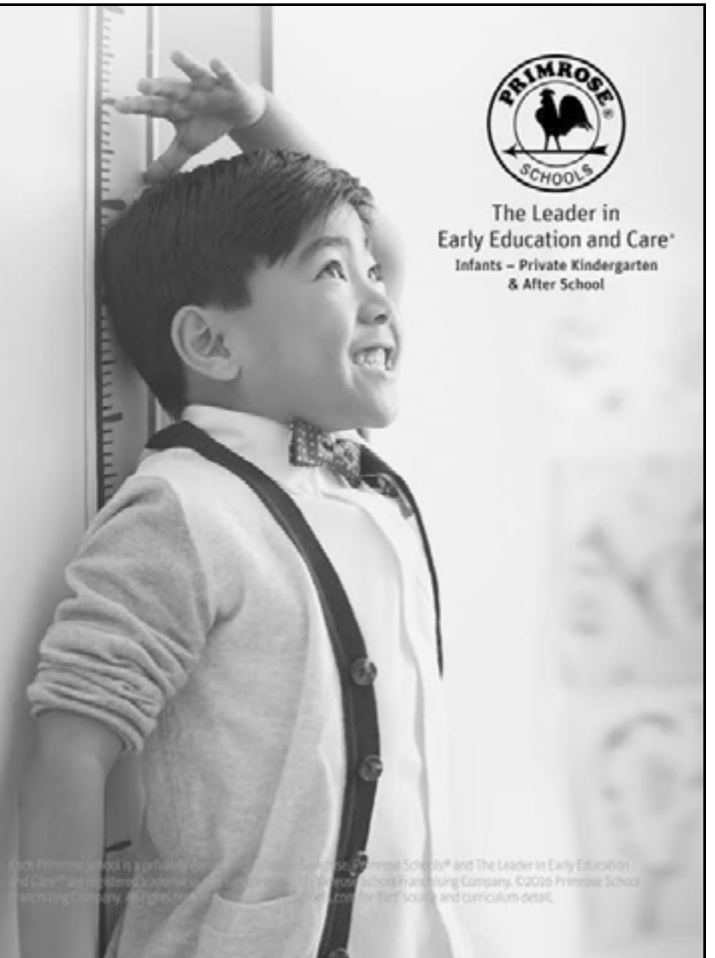
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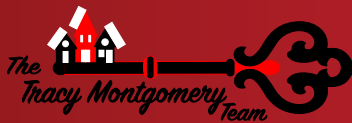
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