HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST

Start getting your creative juices flowing and participate in the Silverlake Annual Halloween Decorating Contest. Ghosts & goblins, pumpkins and witches will be seen in great numbers. If you would like to have your home judged, please send your name, address and phone number to Silverlakehoa@gmail.com by October 22, 2016. Judging will begin on Friday, October 28, 2016 and continue until all entries have been judged. The lucky winner will receive \$100 cash and a picture in the November newsletter, along with bragging rights for the year. Good Luck!



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

BRAZORIA COUNTY SHERIFF	281-331-9000
POISON CONTROL	
CENTERPOINT ENERGY (GAS)	
Report streetlights out	
(street lights need 6 digit pole #) www.centerpointene	
MUD #2 SEVERN TRENT	
MUD #3 & 6	201- 37 3- 1300
SiEnvironmental, LLC.	832-490-1600
BRAZORIA COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES	332-470-1000
(street and curb repairs)) 21 221 2197
For street sign concerns	
WASTE MANAGEMENT	281-487-5000
MOSQUITO CONTROL281-331-610	06 EXT. 1532
EMERGENCY	911
(always use if life or property are at risk)	
NON-EMERGENCY	281-331-9000
ANIMAL CONTROL	
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG	
CABLE/INTERNET/PHONECOMCAST7	
AT&T	300-288-2020

SILVERLAKE HOA INFO

C/O KHARA MATHEWS

Planned Community Management, Inc. 15995 North Barker's Landing, Suite 162 Houston, Texas 77079 Khara.Mathews@STServices.com 281-870-0585

HOA website: www.silverlakehoa.com/ Clubhouse Rentals contact Amanda Rose at Amanda.rose@STServices.com

NEWSLETTER INFO

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PUBLISHER

Peel,Incwww.peelinc.com, 888-687-6444 Advertisingadvertising@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.



The Silverlake website has been renovated to include e-mail blasts, park reservations, and detailed information regarding your community. This site is for owners only:

PLEASE VISIT WWW.SILVERLAKEHOA.COM

To obtain your personal log in and password. In the near future the website will allow owner account access, on-line payments, deed restriction activity and more.

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Silvercrest PTA

We're looking forward to a spookily great October at Silvercrest, there's lots going on so please get involved whenever you can! Go Stallions!

PTA General Meeting

Please take note that our next general meeting will take place on Thursday, November 17th 2016, at 6.30pm in the school cafeteria. Our PTA does great work and we look forward to seeing old friends and new, so come along and find out how the PTA works on behalf of our school.

PTA Membership

Please remember to join our PTA! We are so proud of the number of parents who get involved, but there's always room for more! If you would like more information, please contact Lindsay Rodriguez at lindsayhope00@hotmail.com. At Silvercrest we enjoy being part of the local community and we also welcome any community members who would like to participate in our PTA. Please visit the PTA website silvercrestpta.org for more information. To join, simply stop by the front office at Silvercrest or contact Allison for details on joining by mail.

Fall Spirit Nights

Silvercrest families, save these dates for Fall fun! Spirit nights are so important in raising funds and a really easy way for you to contribute. Eat at the restaurants below on the date listed, and the restaurants will kindly donate funds back to our school. We will remind you of these Spirit Nights by sending home flyers in your students' folders, listing them on the marquee, and through our school website. Please note that there are a couple of date changes and be sure to visit the locations between the times listed so Silvercrest benefits! Come and join in, it's terrific seeing Silvercrest friends and enjoying great food!

Wednesday, October 5th - Smashburger (4-8pm) Thursday, October 13th - BJs (4-9pm) - please remember to take your printed flyer Tuesday, October 25th - Jet's Pizza (3-10pm)

Fundraising

Thank you to all the Silvercrest families who supported the PTA's fall fundraiser, the Gallop and Glow Fun Run! The Fun Run experts at Boosterthon powered this 9-day program that kicked off with a pep rally and ended with an in-school fun run. Families had time in between to get pledges for every lap their student ran. Our goal was to raise funds for teacher support, field day, Santa Night, Main Street Theater performances, and all the many other ways that the PTA supports Silvercrest all year long for the benefit of the students. Thanks to the network of family, friends and caring individuals who support our students, we EXCEEDED our monetary goal! Beyond the fundraising, students also experienced 9 days of fun and made memories with their fellow students and teachers as they met team goals. They learned about a character theme, BACKYARD BOX

OFFICE, which was a movie theme all about making a difference by getting into character. In daily videos, five REAL kid difference-makers inspired our students to practice the five "Character Acts" and make a difference in our community. Through Boosterthon's giveback program, our students also gave meals to local families in need here in Houston as they raised funds - over 150 meals! Silvercrest Stallions are AMAZING, and we thank each one of you for a successful fundraising program!

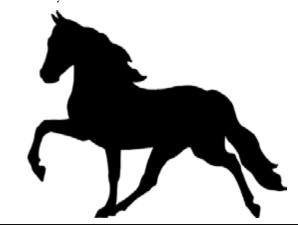
Book Fair

ARRRR YOU READY FOR THE FALL BOOKFAIR? The Scholastic "Bookaneer" Fair will be held October 24th – 27th from 7:30am – 2:30pm, in the Silvercrest Library. The Book Fair will be open until 6:00pm on Wed., October 26th to coincide with the Fall PTA in the Park. We love to encourage reading, and this is a great opportunity to buy some fantastic new books. During the weeks leading up to the Book Fair, the children will be watching a video during their class library time of the fair's highlighted books. They will also be bringing home a Book Fair flyer, so look for it in your child's folder.

Please note, parents cannot pull their child out of class to shop, but they are welcome to shop with their child during their class's time at Book Fair. Your child's teacher will let you know when their class will be visiting the Book Fair. Alternatively, parents have the option to come in before school and shop with their child, or come after school until 6:00pm on Wednesday, October 26th for the late night. This is a great way for parents to share in the experience and help your child select from the huge selection of titles and other items available at the Book Fair. Many volunteers are needed to help with Book Fair set-up and during the week of the event. Please contact myratijerina@yahoo.com for more information, or if you would like to volunteer. See you there mateys!

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week coming up October 24th-28th 2016. A flier will come home with theme days around the second week of October. This is always a fun event so look out for details of what your child can do each day!



Inspecting For Bed Bugs

Before the holiday travel season begins, it is wise to know what to look for when traveling so you do not bring home unwanted guests. Bed bugs are small, dark brown to reddish colored insects with no wings. Their bodies are oval and the color and size often depends on if the insect is engorged with blood. Immatures, or nymphs, resemble the adults but are smaller and lighter in color. Usually adults are about the size of a watermelon seed.

Most feeding occurs at night when bed bugs pierce skin while people sleep. The bugs inject a fluid while feeding that can cause some people (about 50%) to have an allergic response. The allergic response causes the skin to become irritated and itchy at the bite location.

After feeding (it takes about 12-15 minutes for a bed bug to become fully engorged), bed bugs crawl away into hidden areasmattress seams, headboards, nightstands, behind baseboards as well as other locations. They prefer to hide in locations that are close to where they feed, but they will crawl several feet to get to a meal. Bed bugs hide in their chosen location for about 3 days while they digest the blood meal. Over time, congregation areas become marked with blood, fecal material, hatched eggs and cast skins of molted bugs.

When travelling, always inspect rooms thoroughly for bed bugs before moving luggage into the room. Luggage should be placed until the bathtub until the room has been inspected. Make sure to carry a small flashlight with for to help with inspection. When you return home, place clothing in the dryer (before washing) on high heat for about an hour.

Tips on inspection:

- Look in sleeping areas (bed, pull-out couches)
- Inspect linens as they are removed from the bed
- Check mattress and box spring seams, bottom of the box spring and near the mattress tag
- Inspect the dust ruffle
- If possible, lift the boxspring and inspect the bed frame
- If possible, pull out or remove the headboard to inspect behind it
- Check bedside tables and everything on them, including opening all drawers

If you find bed bugs, go to the front desk to inform them of what you found and request a different room. Do not get a room that is adjacent, above, below or across from the infested room (bed bugs can travel through wall voids to adjacent areas).

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.



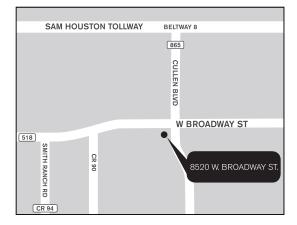
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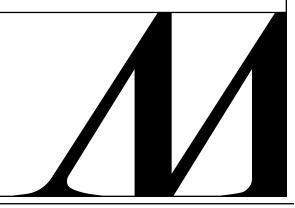
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Hurricane Preparedness for Your Pets

Don't forget to include your pets in your hurricane preparedness and evacuation plan. Storms can be scary for your animals, especially if they are moved out of their usual familiar environment.

Be sure to have their crate or carrying case ready along with extra bedding and toys. Bring along at least four days worth of food with dishes and one week of medications. Investigate pet friendly hotels or motels ahead of time to be sure they allow pets and do not have a number limit.

In addition, if you are not planning to leave your home and have the space, you might consider fostering one or two animals that may have nowhere to go during the storm period. After all, they ARE a part of the family.







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6 Steps to Resell Your Designer Items, DIY

Have you wondered what it takes to resell your upscale, designer goods online? It's an interesting question to ask ourselves at minimum once a year. Either way, you know its time, when you start to feel the itch to visit the fabulous Container Store in search for new space-saving hangers, a handbag organizer, or even a new shoe stand.

Worse yet, your husband asks you to give him back his hangers. You know...the ones you have been slowly sneaking out of his microscopic section of the closet. Or he desperately begins to search all over the house, again, for his favorite Chucks. You just don't have the heart to tell him you threw them out three years ago. You want to make it up to him with a designer brand, but you don't have the space or discretionary funds. It's time to make some extra money from cleaning out your closet.

Ok, so you've decided to give this project a try. How will you actually make it happen, DIY-style? Here are 6 easy steps to get motivated and more importantly: Execute!

Step 1: Scope Your Closet for "Resting" Designer Items

You and I know how much those cute Prada pumps cost you and how much you loved them the two or three times you had an occasion to wear them. They're so gently used, they look new. It's breaking your heart to consider it (I know), but it's been 5 years and they're "resting" quietly in their posh shoebox, in that remote corner of your shoe stand, desperate for fresh air. Give them a lifeline; a new home.

And that's not your only item. You know where they are... those designer handbags, shoes, sunglasses, scarves; items that sell amazingly well on eBay or other online resellers. Millions of buyers search eBay for items like yours, looking for designer bargains, every hour, on the hour. And when I say "bargain," I don't mean cheap, I mean a fairly reasonable resale value. Some nice change for those organizers, your husband's new shoes, or to donate to charity (maybe all three).

Ok, so you have selected the items you want to sell, now what? Step 2: Create a Personal eBay Seller Account

This step is fairly intuitive. eBay has a friendly user-interface and tons of educational content, but I'll provide you a brief overview to clarify some frequently asked questions (Ones that I also had). Whatever you do, don't fumble around with the numerous links on eBay. Go straight to work:

Select the "Register" tab on eBay's Home Page

Start with a personal account. Once you gain experience you may consider opening a business account.

Think of a catchy nickname. This is especially important if you might sell with certain frequency; I chose, Fashion Reloved, a suitable name for the types of items I sell online. It's worked out wonders for me. Begin by listing a few fast-selling items maybe on the lower priced end and just try to sell them. You'll go through the experience, develop your proof of concept, and also secure customers, gain positive feedback and attain ratings to show you are a responsible seller.

Make sure you highlight your product's best features with familiar search terms in order to draw the most traffic: "NWT - New with tags", Prada, Worn once / 2 times, mention retail price. Sometimes including the shipping in the price as in listing the item with free shipping will attract more traffic to the item.

Now you are ready to post images and descriptions. You may be asking yourself, "Ok, but from where, how, what do I say? Don't worry. Read on, I've got it covered!

Step 3: Channel Your Inner Photographer

In the Resale World, Photography is King! Great images will sell your product quickly, for top-dollar. Take very detailed photographs of your item. Depending on your commitment to reselling, I recommend either investing in small photography studio items for your home or renting space at a local photography studio (it can be quite inexpensive). This will ensure controlled lighting, closeup details, and overall quality. You'll also need a professional camera. If you're going to sell only intermittently, an iPhone camera, may do. Make sure you take images from different angles and be transparent in showing any nicks or imperfections; honesty is always the best sellers policy.

For example: if you are selling a handbag, you will need to take a picture from each angle including its corners, the inside, the handles, the closure, pockets and don't forget the bottom (it usually shows the most wear). For clothing, it helps to have a mannequin or a friend, willing to model the clothes. For a fun, outdoor photoshoot, the best lighting is either after sunrise and right before sunset. Be creative and resourceful. Look at your favorite Instagram images or Pintrest pins as a way to spark ideas.

You don't have to be professional photographer, but the key is in the details. That is why the next step is very important.

Step 4: Paint a "Literal" Picture

Photography is must, but don't skimp on the product description. It's very important to be as thorough as possible. You may want to include information such as, when the item was purchased and where; what comes with the item, such as an authenticity card, dust bag, original packaging, accessories; and don't forget the measurements. Take a little time to research websites that sell a similar designer item, it will help you tremendously to write your descriptions. Generate trust by being transparent; point out the good, the bad, and the ugly. Buyers prefer brutal honesty.

Step 5: Ship with Love

Once the item sells and the payment is made, find a nice quality box and package the item carefully, with appropriate cushioning or bubble wrap to avoid damage during shipping. For items weighing less than 16 ounces, the post office is the most efficient option to ship and they have nice boxes, insurance, and tracking. On more valuable items, Fedex or UPS will be the way to go. Make sure you pay for adequate insurance. Depending on the item's price tag, you may offer

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from Page 8)

free or discounted standard shipping for multiple items purchased. Step 6: Skip Steps 2 - 5 and Go Directly to Boardwalk

You may be too busy to try reselling DYI-style, but there is a shortcut that would save time, significantly: Contact a reseller. They are professionally set up to take care of steps 2-5 for you. The strongest pro is the time savings; the strongest con (maybe) is that you'll share the proceeds with your reseller.

For this step, you'll want to do some research on online resellers: check their reviews, credentials, and ask for references. Ask if they have an independent website (it shows the sellers commitment and inspires trust). Review their terms and conditions as well as their contracts and how much they will pay you. Compare your top candidates and make a selection.

Best Advise for Step 6: I recommend finding someone local to personally meet and interview, especially for very high-end, high price-tag products (LV, Hermes, Prada). If you are still doubtful or undecided, try each reseller out with one of your lower-scale designer items. There are trustworthy online resellers, especially ones with some longevity, testimonials, and serious traction on eBay, so don't be scared to try.

There are other options, like big-box online resellers, but they

standardize their terms and may try to undercut your gains significantly. And of course, brick-and-mortar secondhand or consignment stores are great, but with their overhead costs, they're likely be bound to offering you a lower cash payout and may not even be willing to take your item. This most often occurs with very high-ticket items that may not sell fast enough, attract theft risks, or constrain their cash flow.

Independent eBay resellers have more flexibility, lower theft risk, and typically only work on consignment. They can sometimes offer as high as 70% of the consignment selling price; granted, they may take a bit longer to sell your item, but they will personally work to sell it for top dollar. You'll additionally benefit from having face-to-face contact, have someone reliable to confidently refer to your friends and someone to count on in the future...For the next time you clean out your closet (or your husband's ;-)!

Magdalena Silva, Author.



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Common Household Product is Magic

Most of us already know that a teaspoon of baking soda in the batter will make the muffins rise, but who knew that a pinch of it mixed with scrambled eggs will make them fluffier or added to water will make steamed vegetables stay green?

Aside from cooking, however, everyone knows that an open box of baking soda in the fridge will absorb strong odors. But did you also know that baking soda in the bath water can relieve itchy skin caused by bug bites or poison ivy? And that pouring a cup of baking soda followed by a cup of hot vinegar down a stopped up drain will unclog it? Baking soda also can be used to polish tarnished silver, remove rust stains, extinguish a grease fire, freshen toothbrushes and clean dishwashers and coffee makers. Add it to kitty litter and the laundry to help freshen and deodorize. Sprinkle baking soda on a wet sponge to scrub residue off a cast-iron skillet. Or use it on sidewalk and driveway cracks as a non-toxic weed killer. A dusting of it around pet food bowls will keep ants away too.

A couple of cautions about baking soda, though: Its magic powers fade with time, so check the expiration date on the box. Most important, don't mix it with other cleaning products. The chemical reaction could be toxic.



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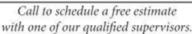


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1 box yellow Cake mix 1 (3 oz.) box instant vanilla pudding 1 (12 oz.) pkg. butterscotch chips 1 c. nuts (pecans or walnuts) coarsely chopped 1 c. flaked coconut 4 eggs 1 c. sour cream 2/3 c. oil

Directions

Preheat oven to 325 F. Combine cake mix, pudding mix, chips, nuts, and coconut. Stir in eggs, sour cream and oil. Mix well by hand. Bake in a Bundt pan, greased well and floured, for 1 hour or until done. Cool 5 minutes before turning out of pan.



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