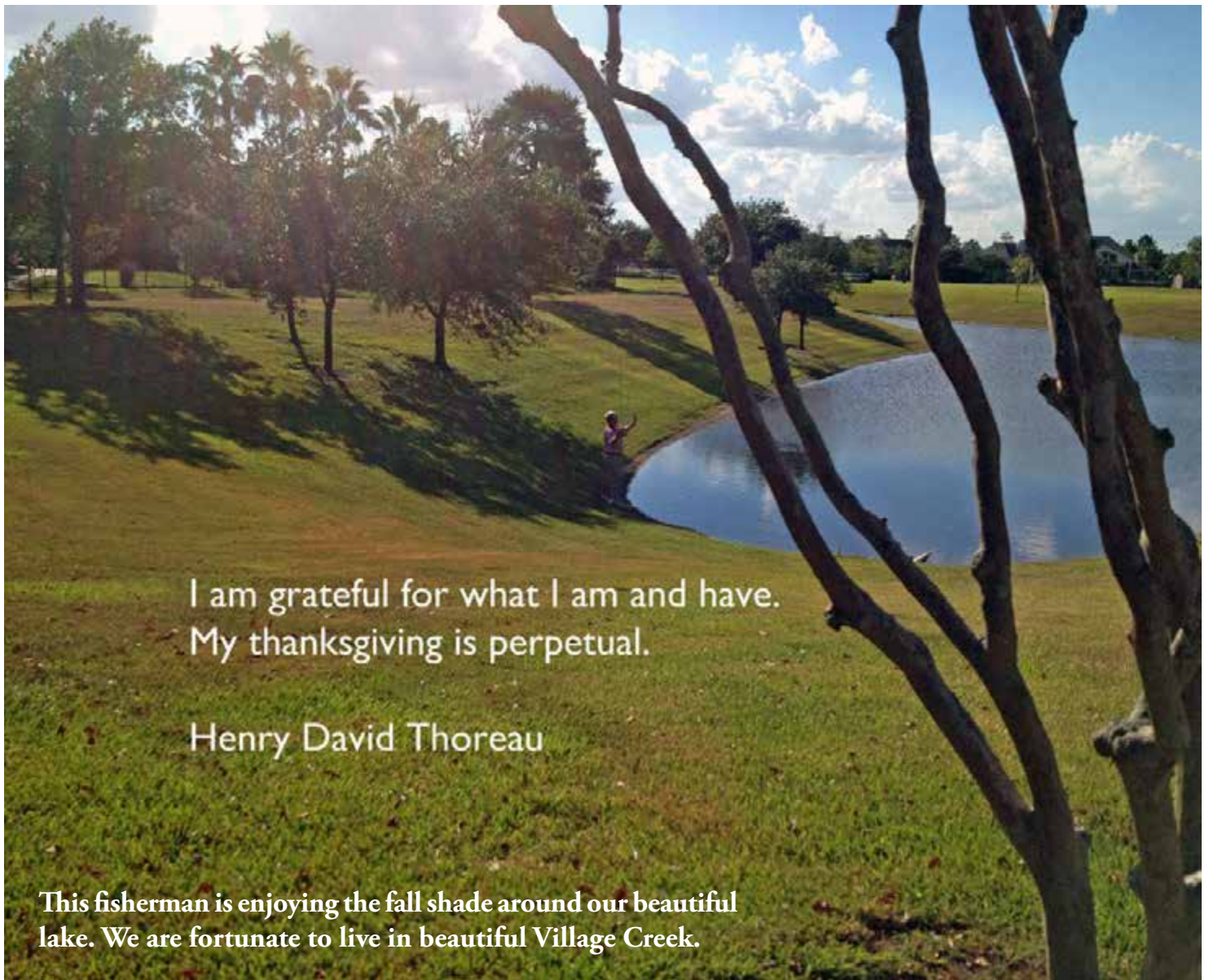




VOLUME 13 | ISSUE 11 | NOVEMBER 2016



I am grateful for what I am and have.
My thanksgiving is perpetual.

Henry David Thoreau

This fisherman is enjoying the fall shade around our beautiful lake. We are fortunate to live in beautiful Village Creek.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

IN CASE OF ANY EMERGENCY DIAL 911

SCHOOLS

Tomball ISD 281-357-3100, www.tomballisd.net
 Willow Creek Elem (K-4).....281-357-3080
 Northpointe Int (5-6).....281-357-3020
 Willow Wood Jr (7-8)281-357-3030
 Tomball High (9-12).....281-357-3220
 Tomball Memorial High School.....281-357-3230
 Transportation.....281-357-3193

SERVICES

Village Creek Management Company....spectrumam.com
832-500-2221
 Village Creek Website Unrelated to the Board.....
VillageCreekCommunity.com
 Harris County Animal Control281-999-3191
 Lost/Found Pets Nextdoor.com
 Harris County Veterinary Public Health.....281-999-3191
 Municipal District Services (24 hrs)281-290-6503
 ... For water leaks, water outages, water quality, or sewer
 leaks or stoppage.
 Street lights out & power outages.....
 www.centerpointenergy.com/outage
 Harris County traffic signal outages.....713-881-3210
 Republic Waste.....713-849-0400
 Trash on Tue and Fri. Heavy items on Fri only.
 Recycle Fri (#1 through #7 plastics; aluminum, steel & tin
 containers; glass bottles and containers; newspapers;
 cardboard; and mixed paper)
 Digging? Two days prior to ANY digging in your yard, call
 811 or use <http://www.lonestar811.com/>

NEWSLETTER

Publisher - Peel, Inc.....512-263-9181
 Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
 Editor.....Gordon R. Watson
 ... villagecreek@peelinc.com or Watson.g@sbcglobal.net



Check your Mailbox carefully

By The Editor

Most of us have had occasional problems with getting the wrong mail. In fact, it has become a good way for us to get to know our neighbors. Not all of the problems are caused by the U.S.P.S. Our grandson loves to open our box. Being seven, and curious, he commonly checks the open large package boxes as well. Being short, and persistent, he has found packages still in the compartment after the door had been opened. My guess is the resident opened the door which contained two packages but retrieved only one. Of course, he delights in taking the wayward package to the owner.

WIRED

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

SERVICING ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS

- Panel Upgrades
- Home Inspections
- TV Install/Mounting
- Troubleshooting
- Remodeling
- Landscaping Lighting
- Home Generators

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL 24-7 SERVICE
 LICENSED & INSURED

**Take \$25.00 Off Your
 Next Service Call**



FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
713.467.1125 or 281.897.0001
www.WiredES.com



TECL 22809 Master 100394



The Voice Cooks up some Vittles Sugar and Nut Glazed Brie

This is a Village Creek Community taste tested recipe from the Food Network. It was submitted to them by Paula Deen.

Ingredients

1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup chopped macadamia nuts or pecans
1 tablespoon brandy
1 (14-ounce) round brie
Apple wedges, for serving
Pear wedges, for serving
2 to 3 tablespoons lemon juice
Crackers, for serving

Directions

In a small bowl, stir together the sugar, nuts, and brandy. Cover and chill for at least 24 hours or up to 1 week.



Preheat oven to 500 degrees F.

Place the brie on an ovenproof platter or pie plate. Bake for 4 or 5 minutes or until the brie is slightly softened. Spread the sugar mixture in an even

layer on top of the warm brie and bake for 2 to 3 minutes longer, or until the sugar melts. Brush the fruit wedges with lemon juice and arrange them around 1 side of the brie. Place crackers around the other side.

Read more at: <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/paula-deen/sugar-and-nut-glazed-brie-recipe.html?oc=linkback>

***Did you know only about
5 - 10% of breast cancer cases
are thought to be hereditary?**

Don't take chances - get your annual
mammogram starting at age 40.

Now offering 3D mammography and genetic testing!



Evening and weekend appointments are available for your convenience. Please call 281-897-3121 for availability.

- 1 ****Women's Imaging Center at Cy-Fair Hospital (FM 1960 at Jones Road)** *Genetic testing available here
- 2 ****Cy-Fair Urgent Care & Imaging Center (at Spring Cypress & Grant)**
- 3 **Cy-Fair Emergency & Imaging Center (at Barker Cypress & FM 529)**
- 4 **Cy-Fair Emergency & Imaging Center (Beltway 8 & Tanner Rd.)**
Opening May 2016

* According to the American Cancer Society **Tomosynthesis, (3D mammography) an FDA approved imaging technology designed for early breast cancer detection, is available here.



281.897.3121

CyFairWomensImaging.com

The Minimalist Texas Harris Country Gardener

By Flint Sage



Freezing is possible anytime for the next four months. Make sure you drain and cover your backflow preventer (and any exposed water pipe) when a hard freeze is expected. If you don't do this, it will probably freeze with a cost of \$40 for parts alone (if you can get parts). Insulate any exterior pipes which contain water. Drain pipes and hoses. Cover sensitive plants. Water the soil beneath plants the day before a freeze. Moist soil is excellent to help keep warmth in. Add mulch under the perennials to protect them from freezing.

For the survival of the fittest gardener: Read the plant label and avoid growing plants that are susceptible to freezing here.

Note that there is apparently no official definition of a hard freeze except that a predicted temperature below 32 degrees for several hours or consecutive days should be a red flag.

We are blessed that vegetables grow year 'round in Harris County. If you are a vegetable gardener, you can plant these vegetables in November: carrots, lettuce, onion multipliers, parsley, radishes, and spinach.

Pull out those annuals that die and cut back the perennials to desired height.

Watering: Watering can be greatly reduced during the winter. If there is no rain during the month, water everything at least one time. For those who use an irrigation timer, it is a good time to make the "seasonal change" as explained in your instruction manual. Remember that all plants need an occasional drink, even in the winter.

November is a great time to plant trees and bushes.

According to Texas Gardener, don't fertilize in November. Wait for spring.

Avoid pruning woody ornamentals this late in the season.

The House Detective:

The Strangled Tree Mystery


Gordon R. Watson

You won't find many (if any) articles extolling the virtues of piling mulch high on a tree trunk. To the contrary, most, if not all, tree experts recommend keeping mulch away from the trunks. The experts disparagingly call this such mulching "tree volcanoes." While walking around our lake, I noticed one of the public trees had exposed roots. It was the first time I had seen what tree volcanoes can do to a tree. Generally, the damage is hidden. Notice the roots encircling the trunk. If these roots get much bigger, they have the potential of strangling the tree. This is not to say that trees shouldn't have mulch. Simply keep mulch 6" away from the trunk. The reasons for placing mulch near the tree are the following:

- The mulch keeps the soil cooler in summer and warmer in winter.
- It reduces evaporative water loss.
- Keeps string trimmers away from the tree trunk.

This tree is also badly in need of additional soil to cover the roots as well as some mulch (but not against the trunk).





CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CypressChristian.org
K-12 • Established 1978
Serving Northwest Houston
281.469.8829

Got a Picture, Article, or Recipe?

By the Editor

The Voice provides an opportunity for you to be creative. If you have something to say to the world, consider writing a short article for us. The article should be of general nature to appeal to a very diverse Village Creek audience. We also like to get thoughtful and constructive letters to the editor.

Do you have a good recipe? Of special interest are those with a story behind them, but those without stories are fine too. Don't forget that we also offer a place for teenagers to get jobs (Teenage Job Seekers).

Before you get out that old typewriter, go <http://www.peelinc.com/> and click on "Submit an Article" for do's and don'ts. We won't promise that everything will be published, but we will always give your submissions polite consideration.

Send submissions to Watson.g@sbcglobal.net



DON'T STOP ME IF YOU HAVE HEARD THIS ONE

A neighbor was walking down the street, and I noticed that he was wearing pants and shirt that had been ironed into small 1" vertical pleats. Thinking that was strange, I said, "Hey, neighbor, why did you iron pleats into your shirt and pants?"

"Well," he said, "I am going to a polka-fest tonight, and I thought I should dress accordianly."

**THAT FACE
YOU MAKE
WHEN THERE'S NO
MORE STUFFING**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



TEXASDIRECTAUTO.COM

The House Detective:

The Strange Case of the Dead Bolt

Gordon R. Watson

While we were in California, recently, a relative asked me if I would replace the deadbolt on her door. I drove down to one of my favorite hardware stores and found a deadbolt: even the right color. Thinking I was quite clever, I bought one from the same manufacturer: it would surely fit perfectly. Upon removing it from the package, it became apparent that it wouldn't fit at all. The old deadbolt was slightly smaller. Nothing is ever as easy as it seems. Now I had a dilemma, I either needed a smaller dead bolt or a larger hole. Furthermore, drilling a 2" hole where a 1.75" hole exists is more complicated than one might think.

I drove back to the store and asked the clerk if they made smaller deadbolts. He reported that someone might, but they didn't have one. I asked his advice about drilling a larger hole. He took me to the tool department and showed me the Door Lock Installation kit.

He recommended the \$14 one. I picked it up and headed to the checkout counter.

What a great tool the jig is. I had never used one before, but the way it works is that you screw it onto the door. It properly aligns the two holes and makes drilling larger holes quite simple. I put it all together and, olla! The new dead bolt worked perfectly.



The Area Critters



By the Editor

We recently saw a different bird at the Village Creek Lake. It is apparently an Egyptian Goose (actually, a shelduck, which is a cross between a duck and a goose). This particular one was quite friendly and wanted a handout (which we would not provide). They are common in Africa where the ancient Egyptians considered them sacred. They were brought to the United States by way of England in the 1700's. They eat grass, berries, insects, grain, and other small critters. I am not an ornithologist, so let me know if you have corrections or any additional information. Much of the above was learned from this web site: <http://www.birdinginformaton.com/birds/geese/egyptian-goose/>

Photo by Gordon Watson



GET COOL. GET COMFORTABLE.

Free COMFORT CONSULTATION!

For a limited time, get a complete Home Comfort System Evaluation for FREE! We will review your current system for functionality and efficiency and discuss any additional options you need for your family's ultimate comfort.

281-500-7874

Residential • Commercial • New System Installation
Maintenance • Repair • All Major Brands

NEW SYSTEM FINANCING AVAILABLE

goldenrulecomfort.com

Bonded and Licensed #TACLA27294C

Golden Rule
Air Conditioning & Heating

Call Us Today



SAVE WITH REBATES UP TO \$1,200 ON QUALIFIED AC SYSTEMS!

Carrier
turn to the experts

* Rebates paid on qualifying high-efficiency heating and cooling systems and products. Ask your Golden Rule Comfort Specialist for complete details.



The Voice is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use The Voice contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

**NOT
AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

BASHANS PAINTING & HOME REPAIR

- Interior & Exterior Painting
- HardiPlank Replacement
- Sheetrock Repair
- Cabinet Painting
- Pressure Washing
- Fence Repair/Replacement
- Custom Staining
- Gutter Repair & Replacement
- Crown Molding
- Wallpaper Removal
- Wood Replacement
- Interior Carpentry
- Wallpaper Removal & Texture
- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Roofing
- Faux Painting

NO MONEY UP FRONT

20 Years Experience • References Available

Commercial/Residential

~ FREE ESTIMATES ~

BashansPainting@earthlink.net

♦ FULLY INSURED

281-347-6702

281-731-3383 cell



HARDIPLANK®



Brilliant Energy Texas OUC #10140

BRILLIANT ENERGY

Easy Online Sign-Up at

BrilliantElectricity.com

USE "NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER" AS REFERRAL

BRILLIANT ENERGY = SERIOUSLY LOW RATES

**BRILLIANT ENERGY'S ELECTRICITY RATES CHALLENGE
THE RATES OF EVERY OTHER PROVIDER IN TEXAS!**

**LOCK-IN A LOW ELECTRICITY RATE FOR
UP TO 3 YEARS**

**BRILLIANT ENERGY IS RECOMMENDED BY TEXAS ENERGY
ANALYST, ALAN LAMMEY THE HOST OF THE "ENERGY
WEEK" RADIO SHOW ON NEWSTALK 1070 KNTH!**

**Ask the "Energy Analyst"
281.658.0395**

GREAT BUSINESS RATES TOO!





PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEEL, INC.

VC

Happy Thanksgiving...
from my home to yours!

Giving thanks comes easily
when working with people like you!
Thank you for your business,
your friendship,
and your warm hospitality.



Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving!



Kara Puente

*Village Creek Sales Specialist
#1 Village Creek Realtor*

281-610-5402

Office: 281-444-5140

kpuente@garygreene.com

**Better
Homes
and Gardens.**
REAL ESTATE

**GARY
GREENE**

Taking the time to do it better!

©2016 Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC. Better Homes and Gardens® is a registered trademark of Meredith Corporation licensed to Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC. Equal Opportunity Company Equal Housing Opportunity Each Franchise is Independently Owned and Operated.