

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Designed to heighten crime and drug awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and to send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and will not tolerate crime, National Night Out (NNO) activities were held at the clubhouse on Tuesday, October 4th.

Attendees were treated to hot dogs, drinks and snacks. DJ Steven McGinn provided the latest tunes in the pavilion during the festivities.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office was represented by Deputies Leverette, Walker and Welsh with Sargent Nagel (their boss) also stopping by. The Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department was scheduled for the event, but was unable to attend at the last minute.

Inside the clubhouse, Mr. Dino from Tops Water Management was available to answer questions about our water supply from drinking to flushing. Children were able to select a toy car, emergency vehicle, helicopter or dump truck provided by the HOA and coloring books provided by the Sheriff's Department while their parents had many brochures to peruse and take with them related to various safety issues. One of these brochures was "Dealing With Bullying" with excerpts used for The School Zone article included in this issue.

Special thanks go out to Amy Sonnier and Rossy El-Kareh – the Hot Dog Ladies; Gen Pike – the Car Lady; Sonia Moore – the Socializer and Jennifer Y'Barbo – Secretary to the Board for volunteering to help with this event. Also, thank you to Tara Sal for bringing members of the JV Robotics Club who were instrumental in keeping the trash corralled and to the JV Key Club for their volunteers.

HOW I BECAME A CATERPILLAR KILLER

Maybe. However it's just as likely that Mother Nature is playing a nasty trick on us. It's Fall and yes it's time for the grass to start turning brown, however, Mother decided to hasten the process in Houston by sending an influx of a nasty worm to us compliments of the heat and more than normal rain we received.

If your lawn seems to be prematurely turning brown, it could be related to several things such as not watering enough once it quit raining, chinch bugs or Tropical Sod Webworm, a non-beneficial caterpillar, green in color from eating your grass. According to RCW Nursery, it has been approximately 30 years since this worm visited us.

Here are the things you need to know:

1. You had a problem long before you saw the damage (larvae).

2. Do not blame your lawn company, they have no control over insects that

fly (moths lay eggs). Walk across your yard and if small moths rise up and

fly in a zigzag pattern, you've got 'em.

3. You can treat them organically with Bt, Thuricide, Caterpillar Killer or

Spinosad. The organic method takes longer to rid your yard of the pests since you have to treat more often than with granular chemicals that are very effective and cost less.

Small, brown adult moths lay eggs that turn into worms (nonbeneficial caterpillars). These caterpillars do damage to your grass and yards around you. Ask your neighbors to join in the treatment process to hopefully assure that they won't attack your yard again. Also, consider a second treatment again in the Spring.

Mary at RCW Nursery offers this advice during the extermination process: Shake your bushes and treat them too as the moths like to stay there during the day. AND some advice that's not being talked about – turn off all of your lights such as porch lights, security lights, tree lights, garden lights and solar pathway lights. Like moths to a flame.....

Willowbridge - Stonebridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies
Harris County Sheriff
Harris County Animal Control
Cy-Fair Hospital
Street Lights & Outages - CenterPoint Energy713-207-2222
CenterPoint Energy713-659-2111
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Incwww.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Advertisingadvertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Poison Control Center
AT&T - Repair
Billing
Best Trash
Vacation Watch - Harris County District 5 281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11
Willow Place Post Office
Willowbridge Websitewww.willowbridgehoa.com

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HOA INFORMATION

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Tracy Graham	
E-Mailgrahammanagement@sbcglobal.net	
Fax	
2825 Wilcrest Dr., #600 Houston, Tx. 77042	
If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood	
please contact the numbers above.	

HOA MEETINGS

Willowbridge/Stonebridge Homeowner's Association Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each quarter (Jan, Apr, Jul, & Oct) at the community clubhouse at 7:00 pm.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee meetings are the last Monday of each month.

HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

To report street or curb damage, missing/damaged street signs and street flooding: (281) 353-8424 or www.hcp4.net.

If a resident wants to request a new sign or replace a damaged one, they have to go online and fill out a request.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint Energy. We pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision... every month...regardless if they are illuminated or not!! This is also a serious safety issue. To report an outage, follow these steps:

- By Phone: During normal business hours (7 am 7 pm)
- Call (713) 207-2222
- Give the Customer Service Representative the 6 digit pole number (located approximately 6 feet up the pole), the street name and closest address.
- Online (anytime): centerpointenergy.com

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Newsletter Article submission Deadline is 3rd of each month. Please give a 2 month advance notice.

WillowTalk

The School Zone: Dealing With Bullying

USAA Education Foundation LOOK, LEARN and LISTEN

While the majority of students who are bullied are in middle school grades, bullying is a widespread and ongoing problem among all age groups (including adults) and committed by a variety of different personalities. From children with large circles of friends to youngsters who seem more isolated, bullying is not limited by profile or characteristics. But knowing the facts, recognizing the signs and being prepared to help your child deal with bullying are the first steps to keeping them safe and confident in situations that may compromise their well-being.

TYPES of BULLYING

Generally, bullying falls into three major categories – verbal, social and physical. Cyberbullying includes both the verbal and social types and, with the ease of access to online media by children of all ages, constitutes a growing concern that can be more difficult to detect. Remember that all of these acts should be repetitive or frequent in nature in order to be considered real bullying.

AGE MATTERS

Different age groups bully in different ways - older children are also at risk of engaging in bullying that may involve more serious

legal consequences such as hazing, harassment and acts of physical violence. Dealing with bullying requires understanding what it takes to keep your child safe and encourage responsible behavior at every age.

THE MANY FACES of BULLYING

Bullying comes in many forms and involves children as well as parents and other adults acting in a variety of roles. Bullying styles even vary by gender, with boys and girls sharing different characteristics. Learning how each role contributes to the cycle of bullying may help resolve a problem before it gets too far along.

BOYS TEND TO:

Be physically and verbally aggressive. Include sexually explicit comments. Use more noticeable tactics which adults may inadvertantly dismiss as acceptable male behavior. Participate in social and emotional taunting along with physical acts.

GIRLS TEND TO:

Bully other girls. Use more verbal and social bullying tactics, especially when cyberhullying occurs, meant to inflict emotional and psychological damage. Be less obvious in bullying methods, making it harder to detect. Behave well around adults while being cruel to

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DETECTING BULLYING - THE WARNING SIGNS

Regardless of their age and even the quality of your relationship, your child may not always tell you if they are being bullied either at school, in the neighborhood or even at home. And

conversely, you may not immediately recognize the signs that your child is bullying someone else, as unthinkable as that may be. Bullying is a community issue and one that requires responsible action but without overreacting to every situation - you can help your child

overcome the damaging effects of being involved in any kind of bullying (assisters, reinforcers, outsiders), by first knowing some of the warning signs.

CHILDREN WHO ARE BULLIED:

May experience sleep, eating and anxiety issues or suddenly begin to refuse to attend school or social events,

Can exhibit marked changes in appearance or personality, seem depressed, teary or angry and experience physical changes such as marked weight loss or gain, headaches or other ailments. Have unexplained bruises, cuts or other visible injuries.

CHILDREN WHO ARE BULLYING OTHERS:

May be overly confident, arrogant or boastful.

Develop increased aggressive behavior, be disrespectful of you or other adults and have discipline issues at school.

May suddenly have money or belongings that can't be explained. **CYBERBULLYING**

The advent of expanded technology and access to the Internet has made it possible for children who bully others to take their activities beyond the confines of the classroom or playground and into our home. Even grade school-aged children with the ability to use a computer or cell phone can become children who are bullied or who bully others. Cyberbullying can be very hard to detect or trace to a specific source even if it takes place in combination with in-person bullying, which is often the case. Your child may be subjected to threats, harassment and humiliation on a much broader scale, have far less recourse in removing themselves from the situation or deleting the damaging information once it has been posted or distributed.

Whether it occurs at school or online, bullying can adversely affect children who are bullied and those who bully, long after the event has taken place. The cycle of negative behavior can lead to kids who among other issues:

1. Are more likely to engage in alcohol and drug abuse.

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Advertising Sales Representative **Description:** The position includes marketing our community

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WillowTalk

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- 2. Have more physical and emotional health problems.
- 3. Receive poor grades and suffer low self-esteem.
- 4. Skip classes or even drop out of school.

There are national as well as local instructional programs available to help parents, schools and students deal with the problems associated with bullying. Two sites are: Stopbullying.gov and the National Education Association at nea.org.



The Pet Place

A phobia is defined as an extreme or irrational fear of, or an aversion to something. Cynaphobia is the fear of dogs. According to Andrea Arden of Andrea Arden Dog Training many of us consider dogs to be one of the best of friends we could hope for, bringing endless joy into our lives in so many ways. There are approximately 77.8 million canine companions in the U. S., equating to 54.4 million households sharing their lives with at least one dog, according to the 2015-2016 American Pet Products Association National Pet Owner Survey.

Yet as greatful as so many of us are for the mutually rewarding relationship we have with our dogs, there are many who suffer from an extreme fear of dogs, called cynophobia, often caused by a traumatic experience with a dog or because of a lack of early, positive exposure to them. For those suffering from cynophobia, the mere sight of a dog from a distance or even the prospect of it, can cause serious distress. This kind of fear can be powerful and have an intensely negative effect on a person's overall quality of life for the simple fact that there are so many dogs out there and therefore so many opportunities for encounters with them.

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PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE of your neighbors when walking your dog(s). They don't know your "fur baby" like you do. And in this case "size doesn't matter". A cynophobic is just as scared of your little Yorkie as they are of your Bull Mastiff.

Willowbridge/Stonebridge passed a Pet Policy Resolution July 22, 1992. It may be found at willowbridgehoa.com under Forms and Documents. The pet policy addresses issues such as: Loose Dogs, Pet Maintenance, and Type and Number of Pets Allowed per Household.

While researching this article, a list of phobias was discovered with at least one phobia listed for each letter of the alphabet except, Q, W and Y. Other phobias include:

Ailurophobia - fear of cats Ochidiophobia - fear of snakes

Arachnophobia - fear of spiders Ornithophobia - fear of birds Alektorophobia - fear of chickens Agrizoophobia - fear of wild animals

Prominent in today's news headlines is Coulrophobia, the fear of Clowns. An attention getter was Arachibutyrophobia (starts out like a spider), but is actually the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth!

WillowTalk **Talking Trash**

Get Your Mind In the Gutter!!

We're used to hearing just the opposite. But in this case the "gutter" refers to the storm drains that are in the street. At times, many items of trash litters our streets and gutters in the form of fast food containers, napkins, bags, etc., aluminum and plastic drink/ juice containers (including very small liquor and wine bottles), newspapers, cigar/cigarette butts, etc. We would like to think that this is done by visitors and not residents of our nice neighborhood. Please remember that it is your responsibility to keep the curbs and storm drains by your property clean and clear of obstructions (we all have at least one curb)! We do not have street sweepers in our neighborhood. If you live near a storm drain, please keep the grates/openings clear of any debris such as trash in general, limbs, leaves/pine needles, children's toys/balls, etc. Free flowing drains help avoid flooding during heavy rains, such as those experienced in May. What a difference with all of the retention ponds we now have and what we experienced with Tropical Storm Allison! Please Remember That Under the Clean Water Clear Choice Act, It Is ILLEGAL To Purposely Discard Anything Other Than Clean Water Down These Drains.



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