

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

IN CASE OF ANY EMERGENCY DIAL 911

SCHOOLS

Tomball ISD281-357-3100,	www.tomball isd.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 Companyspectrumam.com		
	832-500-2221	
Village Creek Website Unrelated to the Board		
VillageCreek(Community.com	
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191	
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

customerser vice @best trash.com, and www.best-trash.com

Trash and Bulk Waste on both Tuesdays and Fridays Recycle on Tuesdays only. Recycle only plastics (1-7), steel and aluminum cans, cardboard, paper, plastic or paper grocery bags, and glass (any color).

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
Advertisingadvertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444	
Editor	Gordon R. Watson
villagecreek@peelinc.com or Watson.g@sbcglobal.net	

Village Creek Happenings

Check Marque for Updates

Pool Grand Opening, Saturday, May 27, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Go to Spectrumam.com for complete information about how to obtain the required pool cards.

4th of July Parade with decorated children's conveyances at 9:30 a.m. Celebration with conveyances' judging from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.





The Village Creek Watch Dog



Are you Missing Useful Information?

You may think you have subscribed to VillageCreekCommunity.Com, but you may not have. There is a similarly-named private Facebook page also serving Village Creek.

We have actual Village Creek rainfall, event reminders, lake level information, beautiful photographs,

"The House Detective," gardening, and many other articles. We don't cover items for sale, crime, or lost and found dogs. Nextdoor.Com is always the best place for those.

We have started a column called, "Village Creek Watchdog." It provides details not commonly part of the Board's published information. We also occasionally make suggestions there to maintain Village Creek's beauty and value.

VillageCreekCommunity.com is not related to either the HOA

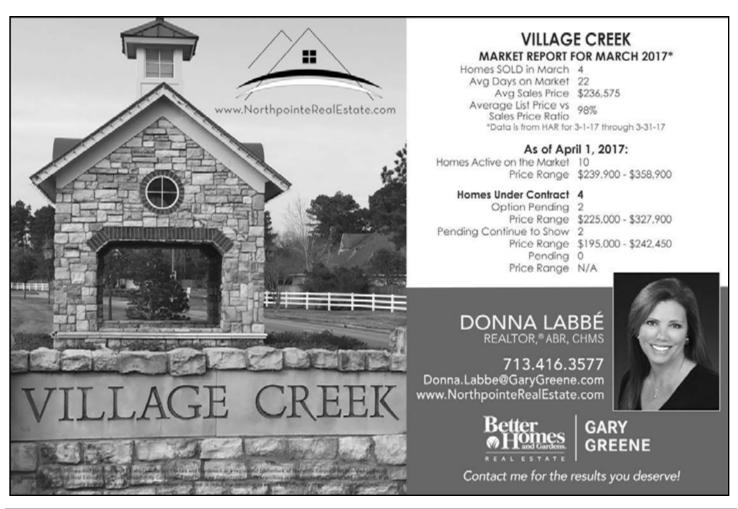
Board or Spectrum. It is related to Peel's "The Voice." Check us out!

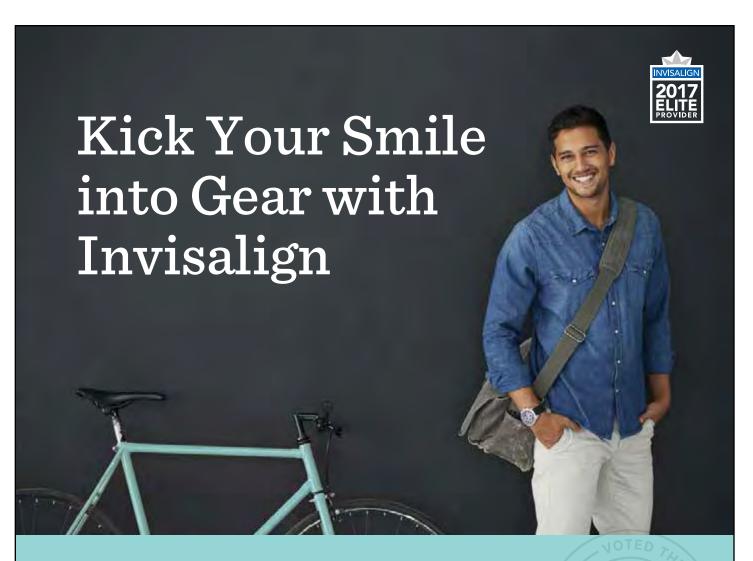
VillageCreekCommunity.Com

- 1. There will be two Board positions open in July. If you are a good listener (but willing to speak up when needed), able to prioritize, fiscally responsible, thoughtful, open, honest, an independent thinker, team player, and have a sincere interest in keeping existing Village Creek landscaping and infrastructure beautiful; please consider running.
 - 2. Land Crafters is our new landscape contractor.

Here are some questions about their contract with answers from Spectrum:

- 1. What is the cost of the new landscaping contract with Land Crafters? \$125,664 annually. The previous contractor cost was \$130,000.
- 2. Was the contract bid? Yes
- 3. If bid, how many bids? 3 Proposals
- 4. If bid, was Land Crafters the low bidder? No







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NORTHPOINTE (832) 777-7001

12231 Northpointe Blvd. Tomball, TX 77377

STRAIGHTTOOTH.COM

THE HOUSE DETECTIVE:

The Mystery of the Tulips

It was a productive day. I cleaned a client's pool filter (even taking the time to vacuum out the final debris) and fixed a broken PVC pipe at his pool fill. Then I fixed my pickup truck's problem (bad spark plug as determined by my \$39 OBD2 Engine Analyzer). I had a spare new spark plug and coil which meant I didn't have to buy anything. It was my secretary's birthday. It happened that I had bought a few small presents for her, but I wanted to give her some flowers as well.

After the repair, I took the truck out for a test run. The Toyota is nine years old and has been very reliable except that it has had more than its share of spark plug/coil problems. I think they fail because they get bored. The truck isn't used much. The failures always happen at 50 mph on the frontage road to the hardware store. After the repair, on this test run, it ran fine.

I parked at the entrance to the garden center because my clothing was so tattered and dirty from the day's work that I wanted to avoid the crowd. I don't think I had shaved or showered that day either. I doubt if I had combed my hair. While wanting to be anonymous, the first person I ran into was a lovely woman with a great smile whose name I should know, but can never remember. She always

knows mine. I apologized and asked it again

Then I looked around for flowers. I must digress here by reminding you that I am a frugal person, and, fortunately, my secretary is not a snob about anything. That put in perspective, I try to buy flowers which are inexpensive and have a chance of surviving longer than a week. I chose some tulips. Most buds had not opened, but one brilliantly red-gold flower stood above the rest. I paid and carried it out.

While women many not understand this, it is not easy for a man to walk out of a store carrying flowers. People, mainly women, look at you (or I at least feel that they do). I think they conjure up a background story about the flowers. As I left the garden center, two attractive women: a mom and daughter (45 and 25 I would say) smiled broadly (an honest smile) at me and my flowers. I smiled back. I am pretty sure I knew what they were thinking: This overworked, should-be-retired, poor, tattered, 73-year-old tradesman had finished a hard day's work and was taking the only flower he could afford to his wife. They knew they weren't hundred dollar flowers, but, to them, at the time, I am pretty sure they thought they were worth much more.



The Minimalist Gardener

May 2017



This month, remove the dead Crape myrtle flowers to force more flower growth.

Fruit trees need lots of water now.

Vegetables: Heat tolerant vegetables can be planted now. Among these are sweet potatoes, pumpkins, squashes, and southern peas. Plant sunflowers. They are so fast growing. Kids love the big ones. Plant them at least 12" apart.

Perennials & Annuals: Fertilize this month and keep 4" of mulch around the drip line (but keep mulch away from the trunk). Upper horizontal root-tops should almost show.

If you haven't applied your spring lawn fertilizer, apply one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet soon. What does Texas A&M say about buying fertilizers? Check out their web site on this subject. From: http://aggieturf.tamu.edu/answers4you/fertilization.html

We can expect the average temperature in May to be about 85, so we are definitely into the watering season. Got a continuously wet spot in your yard? It is likely an irrigation valve leaking internally...far away from the actual soggy area.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!

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- 2 5655 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. N. at Tanner Rd Houston, TX 77041 281,949,3800
- 3 7015 Barker Cypress at F.M. 529 Cypress, TX 77433 281,949.3600
- 4 8470 Hwy. 6 North at West Rd Houston, TX 77095 281,949,3799

URGENT CARE

Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., 7 days a week. Walk ins welcome, no appointments necessary

- 5 9110 Barker Cypress at West Rd Cypress, TX 77433 281.517.9900
- 14044 Spring Cypress at Grant Rd Cypress, TX 77429 281,949,3703
- 7 9138 West Rd at Beltway 8 Houston, TX 77064 281,949,3737

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DON'T STOP ME IF YOU HAVE HEARD THIS ONE

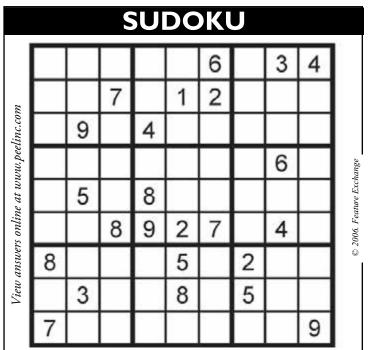
By Nodrog Nostaw

One of the problems with jokes today is that, to reduce costs, many are imported from Mexico, China, India, and Vietnam, and, often, the jokes are plays on words, so the English version occasionally doesn't make any centavos.

Tomball Art League - May 13

Join us for the last meeting of the league year before the summer break. TAL meets at 9:30 a.m. the second Saturday of most months for a short business meeting followed by a guest artist art demonstration. Meetings are held in the Amegy Bank Building, 2nd floor, at Hwy 249 and Medical Complex drive in Tomball. No meetings during June and July. If you can't join us in May, plan to get involved with the league and art community starting with the August meeting. For more info: www.thetomballartleague.com





The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.



The Voice



MOSQUITO REPELLENTS

As mosquito season is ramping up, everyone is (hopefully) aware of possible disease transmission by mosquitoes. It is important that you protect yourself when spending time outside.

Activity times for mosquitoes can vary. Most people are familiar with the four D's- DRAIN (standing water), DEET (wear some repellent), DUSK & DAWN (stay indoors during dusk and dawn to avoid peak populations) and DRESS (wear long sleeves and long pants). While this is still good advice, it may be a good idea to spread the dress and repellent advice for anytime you spend time outdoors.

When outside, wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt in light colors to reduce the number of mosquitoes that can reach your skin. Repellent should only be applied to clothing and exposed skin. Do not apply repellent underneath clothing! If you want to apply repellent to your face, spray your hands with repellent and rub it onto your face. Do not spray repellent directly into your face or near eyes or mouth. Make sure to apply repellent outdoors. Do not allow children to handle repellents. Wash hands before eating, smoking or using the restroom.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using a product registered with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535 and some of the products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus.

DEET, also known N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,N-diemethylbenzamide, was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 to protect soldiers in insect-infested areas. Pesticides containing DEET have been used by the general public since 1957. Products containing DEET should not be used on children younger than 2 months of age (read the label and check with your pediatrician if you have questions). DEET has a slight odor and may have a greasy feel to some people. It may damage plastic, rubber, vinyl or synthetic fabrics. DEET may be irritating to the eyes and skin for some people. DEET comes in a wide variety of concentrations, so choose the one that will work best for your situation.

Picaridin was first made in the 1980's and resembles a natural compound called piperine (which is found in plants used to produce black pepper). Picardin has been used in Europe and Australia for many years, but has only been in the U.S. since 2005. Picaridin is non-greasy and is odorless.

IR-3535, or 3-[N-Butyl-N- acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester, was developed in the mid- 1970's and became registered for use in the U.S. in 1999. It is registered as a biopesticide by the EPA because it is functionally identical to a naturally occurring substance (an amino-acid). It may dissolve or damage plastics and may be irritating to the eyes.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (para-menthane-3,8-diol)

are essentially the same thing; PMD is the synthesized (lab created) version of oil of lemon eucalyptus. "Pure" or "essential" oil of lemon eucalyptus is not labeled as a repellent and has not undergone testing and should not be used as a repellent product. OLE/PMD has been on the market in the U.S. since 2002. OLE/PMD should not be used on children younger than 3 years of age. The natural product (OLE) has known allergens within it while the synthetic version (PMD) has less of a risk to allergens. This product is classified as a biopesticide. OLE/PMD has a varying range of residual, some offering about 20 minutes of protection while other products may last up to two hours.

Many factors play into how long a repellent will last for a person.

Some of these are:

- The concentration (or percent of active ingredient) of the product. You can find the percentage on the product label.
- Person's attractiveness. Some people are more attractive to mosquitoes than others (and no scientific research has proven that it is because of eating garlic, taking vitamin B, using tobacco products, etc.). A person's genetic code plays a large part on what makes a person so attractive to mosquitoes.
- Frequency and uniformity of application. In other words, how often is the repellent applied and how good of coverage did you get?
- Activity level of the person. The more active the person is, the more sweat they produce which can cause the repellent to wash off the surface of the skin.

As a word of caution, there are products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent. The CDC recommends that if you need sunscreen and repellent, that you choose two separate products. Sunscreen should be applied more often than repellents.

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

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The Voice Cooks up some Vittles CARROT BUNDT CAKE

FROM: SHUGARYSWEETS.COM Submitted by: April Watson and Taste Tested by the Editor.

Photograph: A portion of the frosting was left without nuts as a courtesy to one of the guests.

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 12 cup bundt pan generously with baking spray. Set aside.
- 2. In a large bowl, combined all the ingredients for the cake, mixing until well combined. The batter will be very thick! Set aside.
- 3. For the filling, beat cream cheese with sugar, vanilla, and egg until smooth and creamy. Set aside.
- 4. To assemble, fill the bottom of sprayed bundt pan with about 3/4 of the batter. Spoon the cream cheese into the pan, being careful not to let it touch the sides of the pan. Spoon the remaining batter over the cream cheese layer. It's okay if it doesn't cover completely.
- 5. Bake cake in a preheated oven for 60-65 minutes. The cake will be browned and will pull away from the pan when done. Remove from oven and cool for 5-10 minutes before inverting onto a wire rack. Cool completely before frosting.
- 6. For the frosting, beat cream cheese, milk, and powdered sugar together until smooth and creamy. Pour frosting into a large Ziploc bag and snip off the corner. Pipe onto the cake, generously. Sprinkle immediately with chopped pecans. ENJOY!

CAKE:

- 2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup canola oil
- · 4 large eggs
- 2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 2 cup shredded carrots
- 1 cup Fisher Chopped Pecans

FILLING:

- 1 package (8oz) cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 large egg

FROSTING:

- · 4oz cream softened cheese
- 3 Tbsp milk
- 2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup Fisher Chopped Pecans



The Voice

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Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club 308 Meadowlark St

Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

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