



YOU HAVE TO LOVE A NATION THAT CELEBRATES ITS INDEPENDENCE EVERY JULY 4, NOT WITH A PARADE OF GUNS, TANKS, AND SOLDIERS WHO FILE BY THE WHITE HOUSE IN A SHOW OF STRENGTH AND MUSCLE, BUT WITH FAMILY PICNICS WHERE KIDS THROW FRISBEES, THE POTATO SALAD GETS IFFY, AND THE FLIES DIE FROM HAPPINESS. YOU MAY THINK YOU HAVE OVEREATEN, BUT IT IS PATRIOTISM.

ERMA BOMBECK



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
 Best Trash.....281-313-2378
customerservice@besttrash.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
 Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
 Editor.....Gordon R. Watson
 ... villagecreek@peelinc.com or Watson.g@sbcglobal.net

THE HOUSE DETECTIVE:

The Wet Flagstone Caper

Gordon R. Watson



Tomball is hot in July. And humid. If I have some detective work to do outside, I like to do it before noon. The afternoons are best for doing desk work with the windows open, a ceiling fan whirling, and a desk fan oscillating. On this

particular day, Tomball's skies, at least downtown where our office is, were a bit gray, so the heat part of the equation was not too large. My feet rested on the roll-top oak desk. While flipping through my notebook, I noticed the slight fragrance of the Natchez Crape Myrtle outside. I love the South.

It was exactly 8:03 or so when a client called. When things happen, I always look at my Timex. Detectives are like that. My secretary took the call. I noticed she asked very few questions...mainly just,

(Continued on Page 3)

• WE HAVE A THING FOR THE •

DETAILS

EST 1996

REPAIR • IMPROVE • MAINTAIN • REMODEL

EVERYTHING WE DO, WE DO RIGHT.

Mr. Handyman
Home Improvement Professionals
a **neighborly** company

**Mr. Handyman
of Greater Cypress**

Licensed, Insured,
and Guaranteed.
Locally Owned & Operated

CALL MR. HANDYMAN 281.357.4263
WWW.MRHANDYMAN.COM

(Continued from Page 2)

“yes sir, yes, uh huh, and thank you.” I knew she had dealt with this client before even though she didn’t mention his name. After hanging up, she handed me the note. She went back to her Smith-Corona typewriter. Click, click, click. Click...ding. The fans hummed.

I drove the few miles to the client’s home. He has a rock-lined hot tub with his swimming pool. The tub rises above the deck, and water was leaking up through the flagstone. After a quick investigation, it was obvious that the rocks under water inside the hot tub were leaking through their cracks and missing grout. Sometimes detective work is easy. I asked the client to lower the water level, and I applied Quikrete’s Hydraulic Water-stop Cement (a great product) to the grout. I told him to wait a few hours and then refill the tub. I gathered my tools and smugly drove back to the office.

On the following morning, the client called. The hot tub was still leaking. I sheepishly returned, and I asked him to remove all of the water from the hot tub. Then I sealed every possible grout joint. Case closed! I confidently drove back to the office.

On the third day, the client called again. The leak was alive and well. Maybe it was even healthy. Flustered, rather than making random conclusions, I finally acted like a detective. I observed that the rocks under the water are just decorative. The real seal is gunite. No amount of grout and crack sealing would do anything.

The leak was surely in the piping under the flagstone outside the hot tub. I hate it when I make bad assumptions.

I went to YouTube. YouTube is equivalent to Dr. Oddbody’s Cure-All Elixir. YouTube is the new duct tape. You can fix anything with YouTube. Anyway, to make a short story long, I found a video where a hot tub owner had the same problem, exactly! He used a product called Fix-a-Leak (Amazon). I told the client about it, and he followed the instructions: remove filter cartridges, isolate hot tub, pour product in the drain (through the water), run for several hours, and let set.

Three days went by. No call. Another day. No call. I asked my secretary to call. No leak. Magic. And humbling.



DON'T STOP ME IF YOU HAVE HEARD THIS ONE

By Nodrog Nostaw

I see that Visa, the credit card company, has a new competitor: Versa.

www.NorthpointeRealEstate.com

VILLAGE CREEK

© 2017, 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. If your business is currently listed in a real estate book, please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.

VILLAGE CREEK

MARKET REPORT FOR MAY 2017*

Homes SOLD in May	7
Avg Days on Market	43
Avg Sales Price	\$284,402
Average List Price vs Sales Price Ratio	97%

*Data is from HAR for 5-1-17 through 5-31-17

As of June 1, 2017:

Homes Active on the Market	8
Price Range	\$224,900 - \$320,000

Homes Under Contract 2

Option Pending	1
Price Range	\$275,000 - \$275,000
Pending Continue to Show	1
Price Range	\$353,900 - \$353,900
Pending	0
Price Range	N/A

DONNA LABBÉ

REALTOR®, ABR, CHMS
Texas Monthly Five Star Realtor®

713.416.3577

Donna.Labbe@GaryGreene.com
www.NorthpointeRealEstate.com

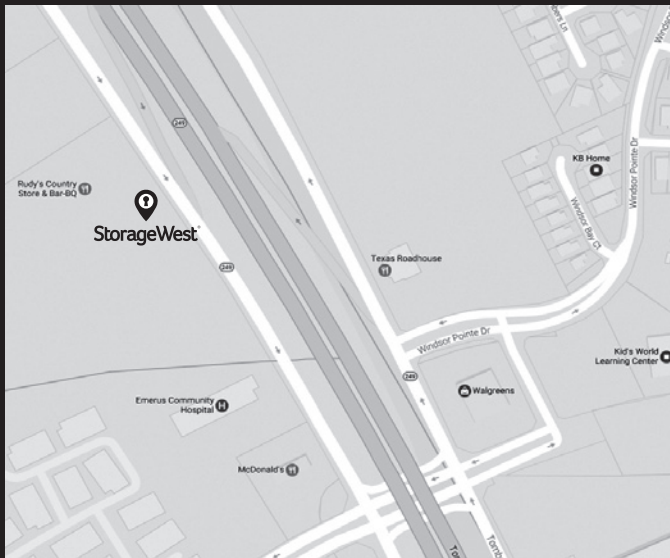


Better Homes and Gardens
REAL ESTATE

GARY GREENE

View my client reviews on www.har.com/DonnaLabbe

Ready to Serve your Storage Needs



Storage West

24455 Highway 249

Tomball, TX 77375

346-808-1030

- We Sell Boxes & Moving Supplies
- Free Move-In-Truck
- Air Conditioned Units
- Individually Alarmed Units
- Fire Sprinklers
- Over 50 Security Cameras On-Site

Call Us Toll Free

877-917-7990

www.StorageWest.com

2nd Month Free

with this coupon

Must present coupon to receive discount
Valid on Select Units Only

Not valid with any other offer. Expires July 31st, 2017



The Minimalist Gardener

By Flint Sage



Vegetables: This is a great month to plant eggplant, cantaloupe, okra, southern peas, sweet potato, pumpkin, and watermelon.

Trees and Bushes: Trees and bushes, particularly young ones, will need some

water. Don't over-water, but allow the roots to be moist (neither wet nor dry). If it doesn't rain during the week, give them a deep watering. Dig down a few inches in the root area to check the moisture. For trees, it is desirable to have the soil damp (not wet) 12" below the surface. Fertilize new plants with a lawn fertilizer (about 1 to 2 cups per inch of trunk diameter)." Water it in well! A berm around young trees will help you provide sufficient water to their young roots.

Lawns: We get a lot of rain in Tomball, but often not regularly.

You will need to make up the deficiency using your irrigation system. Strive to irrigate weekly with deep watering. Deep watering encourages deep roots. Most people water too little too often. Note that irrigation timers can be set to water several times during one day to allow time for the water to absorb into the soil. For those areas which have sparse grass, it is possible they are not getting enough water. Add or adjust sprinkler heads accordingly.

Reminder: Most experts advise keeping lawn clippings on the lawn. They are the same as adding fertilizer plus they enhance the soil, over time.

Personal Health: Garden in early morning if possible. Drink lots of water. Wear hats and sunscreen. Use repellent. Consider kneeling on foam pads or knee pads. Wear gloves.

Recommended website: <https://www.wildflower.org/> This is the University of Texas at Austin Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Go there for information about almost any plant in Texas.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!

AMERICAN LAWN & GARDEN

281.351.2227

20015 FM 2920 #1 TOMBALL, TX 77377

**NEW STIHL, ECHO, TORO FULL LINE
SALES & SERVICE DEALERSHIP**
MOST SMALL ENGINE REPAIRS







PEEL, INC.
community newsletters

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

support your community newsletter

Nichole Taylor
ntaylor@peelinc.com • 512-263-9181
Sales Representative

The Voice

STRONG HURRICANE SEASON EXPECTED

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has predicted an above-normal hurricane season. In 2008, Much of Village Creek was without power for two weeks as a result of Category 4 Hurricane Ike (the third costliest Atlantic Hurricane on record). Basic Emergency Kit (go to <https://www.ready.gov/kit> for many more suggestions).

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench to turn off water and natural gas
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Look, Read, Think, and Vote in the Board Election

You will receive (or may already have received) a ballot to vote in the Village Creek Board Election. We should all vote if we know who to support. As I write this, we don't know who is running for the Board positions. To the degree possible, villagecreekcommunity.com will provide additional information about the candidates. It is possible that only the two incumbents will run. If there are other candidates, please read about their qualifications to give them an honest chance. Write-ins are always acceptable as well.

TREE OF THE MONTH

Basham Party Pink Crape Myrtle



The Basham Party Pink is a fast-growing Texas Super Star which is well suited to the Houston area. It grows to 30 feet tall and 30 feet wide, so it needs space. As its name suggests, it provides beautiful pink blossoms during the summer. When you select Crape Myrtles, be sure to read the label and check their size to assure they will fit your space. There are many different varieties of all sizes from a few feet to 30 feet tall. The photo shows a tree located in Village Creek taken in June before blossoming.



A Village Creek Tasted Recipe The Voice Cooks up some Vittles

Caramelized Butternut Squash (Food Network.com)

FROM: 1999, THE BAREFOOT CONTESSA COOKBOOK.
TASTE TESTED AND DECLARED DELICIOUS.

Ingredients (6 to 8 servings) Directions

2 medium butternut squash
(4 to 5 pounds total, available pre-cut)

6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

¼ cup light brown sugar, packed
(or Splenda brown sugar)

1-1/2 teaspoons kosher salt

½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

Cut off and discard the ends of each butternut squash. Peel the squash. Cut them in half lengthwise and remove the seeds. Cut the squash into 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 inch cubes and place them on a baking sheet. Add the melted butter, brown sugar, salt, and pepper. With clean hands, toss all ingredients together and spread in a single layer on the baking sheet. Roast for 45 to 55 minutes until the squash is tender and the glaze begins to caramelize. While roasting, turn the squash a few times with a spatula, to be sure it browns evenly. Taste for seasonings and serve hot.

Find out:

**What Your Home is Worth...
What Has Sold Near You...**

**What is on the Market...
Custom Reports & More...**

www.TheNorthpointeLife.com



**Trust the People
doing Business in YOUR
Neighborhood.**



Matt Powell

Top Producer

Hall of Fame

832-283-1800

Matt@TheMattPowellTeam.com

Melissa Desuk

Team Member

832-422-5911

Melissa@TheMattPowellTeam.com



TheMattPowellTeam



KICK YOUR SMILE INTO GEAR



- Invisalign Elite Providers for Teens and Adults
- Tomball's Board Certified Orthodontists
- 3 Convenient Locations with a New Office Location in Northpointe
- Complimentary Exams
- Open 5 Days a Week



TOMBALL

(281) 351-5482
29220 Quinn Road
Tomball, TX 77375



MAGNOLIA

(281) 356-2929
827 S. Magnolia Blvd.
Bldg. 2 Ste. C
Magnolia, TX 77355



NORTHPOINTE

(832) 777-7001
12231 Northpointe Blvd.
Tomball, TX 77377

STRAIGHTTOOTH.COM

ESTD  2000
HANIGAN + JOHNSON
ORTHODONTICS

Air Conditioning Hints

Gordon Watson

Our A/C units are earning their keep right now. For those new to the South, there are a few things you must do at least yearly. These are general procedures. If in doubt, you should consult a professional for your specific needs.

1. Pour $\frac{1}{4}$ cup (or so) of bleach into the a/c condensate drain in the attic. This condensate line commonly runs to a sanitary sewer pipe in a bathroom. If you don't do this, it is nearly certain that the drain will eventually clog with biological growth and either cause the a/c unit to overflow to the attic or (hopefully) to the drain pan below the unit. I have also seen a clog cause water to end up on the bathroom floor when water pressure forced a pipe fitting apart. Any leak could be a disaster if you are away. If you ever see water dripping from an outside pipe at your roof eaves, that is usually not normal and needs immediate attention. Make sure you don't accidentally pour bleach onto the a/c cabinet. Use a funnel.

2. Check or replace the a/c filters. If the filters are expensive, pleated type, look at them through a bright light. If you can easily see the light, the filter may last a bit longer. If in doubt, replace it.



A Road Sign in Antigua

I thought this road sign in Antigua was a good reminder for all of us.



Things are happening in Beautiful Village Creek

BOARD MEETINGS: Begin at 6:30 p.m. at Fairwood Recreation Center, 14701 Spring Cypress Road, Cypress, TX 77429. Watch the marquee.

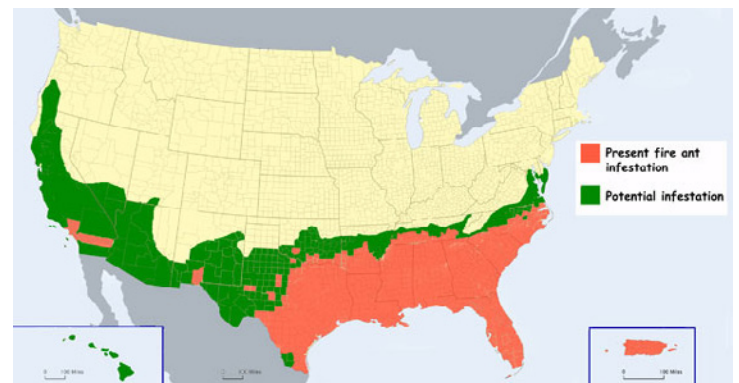
Upcoming Events

- Back to School Luau/Kinder Meet & Greet, Saturday, August 19, Meet & Greet @ 10:00 a.m., Luau, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Fall Garage Sale, Friday & Saturday, October 13 & 14.
- Cookies with Santa, Sunday, December 3, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pool Cards?

For all information relating to pool cards, go online to Spectrumam.com and click the box showing "Pool Cards." By phone, call 281-343-9178

Red Imported Fire Ants



Red Imported Fire ants came to Mobile, Alabama in the 1930's and spread throughout the South. They have been found in California and will likely spread along that coast as well. Their only real enemy is cold weather.

First aid for bites varies from family to family. Keep a supply of topical creams as recommended by your pharmacist. Avoid puncturing the pustules as they can become infected.

Treating your yard is an endless process because queen ants fly nearly everywhere to create new nests. Go to <http://fireant.tamu.edu/manage/> for excellent Red Fire Ant information.



The Voice

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®



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





Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

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

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club

308 Meadowlark St

Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.

DUE: July 30th

Be sure to include the following so we can
let you know!

Name: _____
(first name, last initial)

Age: _____



**Happy 4th
of July!**

VC



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

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

VC



WHO YOU WORK WITH MATTERS!

As a professional Realtor® in **Village Creek**, **Kara Puente** offers you the know-how to get the most benefit from any real estate transaction. With her award-winning service and reliable resources, she remains one of the most productive and respected names in the real estate scene.

Call Kara Puente today for a private real estate consultation . . . because who you work with really does matter!

Expect Better.SM



Kara Puente

*Village Creek Sales Specialist
#1 Village Creek Realtor*

281-610-5402

Office: 281-444-5140

kpuente@garygreene.com

Taking the time to do it better!

**Better
Homes
and Gardens.**
REAL ESTATE

**GARY
GREENE**

©2017 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.