

Ivy Point, Pinehurst, Club Point, Golf Villas, The Shores, The Pines and Estates of Pinehurst

October 2017

Official Newsletter of the Atascocita Community Improvement Association

Volume 7, Issue 10

# WHERE DO WE START... HARVEY

Hurricane Harvey left our community along Lake Houston in devastation. Was it the rain or the water let out upstream that caused the destruction? It is all the same to those who have their lives setting in their front yards in ruins for all to see. FEMA estimates 1048 homes in the Atascocita area were flooded. Talking with some community members, some had a boat in their swimming pool, some had an alligator in their home while trying to clean up the mess while others battled water moccasins in the walls while they were tearing the sheet rock off. Thanks to the first responders who helped rescuing the stranded. Boats for rescue were being launched on Atascocita Shores Drive and Sunny Shores, who would of thought? Donations from those we didn't know brought goods for distribution. We thank Operation BBQ Rescue for BBQ and veggies to feed 400 community members. The Cajun Navy for boat rescues and later bottle water and baby supplies from Louisiana. Atascocita Golf course's Ken Kirchhoffer for getting an 18-wheeler full of needed supplies from Colorado. Pitmaker of Houston and Aussie meats for their donation of brisket to allow volunteers to be able to hand out 200 lunches. The Kilgore's for opening the Overlook to allow the ACIA Board to feed 600 community members along with the main location for distribution on supplies to the community. And hats off to our own community members chipping in and helping those in need. It was fantastic to see we all dropped our differences to help fellow community members. Folks that don't happen just anywhere, it speaks volumes for our community. Thanks to Precinct 2 in getting here as soon as possible to pick up trash from the yards. I apologize if I have forgot to mention someone or entity that donated their time or money to community members.





(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued from Cover)

Now the down side and cleanup of you community property. Let's start with the Pinehurst Tennis court where the water either loosened or pulled up tiles. The Pinehurst Pool and buildings were under 6' of water. The water was so swift it pulled the electrical meter from the socket leaving the lock ring. All panels and breakers needed replacing along with any switches or receptacles. We lost all pool pumps from both pools. Both pools will be drained and mud will be cleaned. The Marina looked like an old sawmill, you could have walked across the Marina if you were a logger. The erosion and loss of land along the inner banks will cause us to need bulkhead before we lose more land. The main bulk head needs repair or replaced. The drive way and launch suffered damage. I mentioned the Shores pool and pump motor but not the fish from the inlet drying out that needed cleanup. The fishing dock had minor damaged but still needs repair.

Overall, we as a community set a precedence to the rest of the world on how a community can band together and help one another through the worst of circumstances and that's what is all about, period.





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# Lake Houston Ladies Club



Lake Houston Ladies Club is a social organization dedicated to connecting women through monthly luncheon meetings, social activities and interest groups.

Our next luncheon meeting is Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 10:00-12:00 at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden

Forest Drive, in Humble, TX. The cost is \$15/person for lunch and entertainment.

The club welcomes new members from all surrounding areas. Many interest groups are available for newcomers to join

including: Reader's Choice, Tea Time, Lunch 'N Look, Movie Group, Supper Club, Girl's Night Out, and many game groups (Bridge, Mah Jong, Pokeno, Canasta, and Bunco). There are also social events throughout the year that include spouses or significant others. The club is an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends.

The October LHLC meeting will be celebrating Oktoberfest. Das Ist Lustig (2 piece Polka band) will be transforming our lunch hour into a rambunctious Oktoberfest style party complete with strange and unusual folk instruments like the Alphorn, Singing Saw, Austrian Cowbells, Autoharp, boombas, and the accordion! And opportunities for a fun folk dance, chicken dance, the flying song, and several other biergarten style things they invite people to do with them. The band is celebrating 10 years of fun and performances.

To learn more about the club go to our website: www. lakehoustonladiesclub.com, or call Linda @ 713-417-0158 if you are interested in joining us for lunch!.

# Harvey Effects in Real Estate

Prepare for the shift into a seller's market! Inventory will be low and demand for homes that did not flood will be higher than ever.

Rentals, Rentals, Rentals, if you are considering putting your home on the market as a rental, NOW is the time to do it. People all over the city are looking for dry houses they can call home for the next few months and up to a year.

Price gouging in a time of catastrophe; just don't do it. While the supply and demand concept is a real thing, these homes still need to appraise once they are under contract. Don't jeopardize your risk of appraising by overpricing your home!

If your home is currently on the market consider becoming an investor. If your situation allows for it, consider renting out your current home after purchasing your new one.

When purchasing a home after a catastrophe don't be completely driven away by insurance claims, more and more houses will have that disclosed and it will be a commonly seen aspect of many homes to come.



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# HARVEY

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Just as Hurricane Harvey displaced thousands of people. Harvey also displaced thousands of wild animals. Compassionate residents have brought birds, snakes, squirrels and even an alligator to TWRC Wildlife Center for care.

Although there is no way of

knowing the actual number of animals affected, the numbers are, no doubt, very high. It is human nature to want to help these animals but in some cases, it is better to leave them alone.

- DEER Many deer were forced to move to higher ground. People are seeing deer in their yards, in the streets and other areas with dry land. It is for your own safety that you do not try to catch these animals. Make sure that gates are open so they have a way to exit your yard. Sadly, there's nothing else you can do.
- ALLIGATORS AND SNAKES It seems silly that we would have to warn people to stay away from them but sometimes curiosity gets the best of people. Keep your distance. If you need help identifying a snake to find out if it's venomous, call us and we can help. We can also refer you to a professional who can assist with the removal of snakes. For help with alligators, we recommend you call your Game Warden. To find the Game Warden for your area, go to the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

It is baby squirrel season right now and in the case of these animals, your intervention may be needed. If you find a baby, you will first need to try to reunite the baby with its mother. You can do this by placing the baby in a small container near the area where you found it. Make sure the container is safe from dogs and cats. Watch to see if mom comes to get her little one. If, after a couple of hours, the mom has not returned, you will need to intervene. The most important thing is to keep the baby warm. You can accomplish by placing the baby in a box along with a soft cloth and place the box on a heating pad set to low. Do NOT attempt to give the baby food or water. Bring the baby to TWRC Wildlife Center as soon as possible.

Chances are very low that you will encounter any other wildlife babies at this time of the year. You may encounter injured adult raccoons, opossums and birds, however. We advise that you do not try to rescue these animals. Their intention is not to hurt you but they may bite or scratch because they are afraid.

If you have questions about wildlife, we are available from 10am to 2pm to help you. Before attempting to rescue an animal and before bringing it in to us, we suggest you give us a call first. After hours, our website can provide you with many answers.

Thank you for your support during this difficult time.

# Floodwater Mosqui toes



If you've been outside lately, you have most likely noticed the giant mosquitoes that seem to want to pick people up and **EXTENSION** carry them off. With recent weather conditions, floodwater mosquitoes have

emerged in large numbers.

Floodwater mosquitoes lay their eggs above the water line in ponds, ditches, pastures, or other places where water collects. The eggs can remain in dry areas and when these areas are flooded the eggs hatch, leading to swarms of hungry mosquitoes. These mosquitoes are larger than mosquitoes we are used to and can swarm in high numbers.

While floodwater mosquitoes won't last forever, other mosquitoes called container breeding mosquitoes emerge when floodwaters begin to recede. Many of these species are ones that we are used to seeing around our homes.

Many things can help to reduce mosquito problems around the home. Eliminate all sources of standing water. Containers such as watering cans, buckets and bottles can turn into mosquito breeding grounds. Water should be drained from birdbaths, gutters, flowerpots and pet dishes at least once a week. Children's wading pools should be emptied of water at least once a week and stored so they cannot collect water when not in use. Tree holes should be filled in with sand or mortar, or drained after each rain. Leaky faucets and pipes located outside should be repaired.

Areas that cannot be drained, such as ponds or large rain collection systems, can be stocked with mosquito fish that eat mosquito larvae. Dunks can also be used in these areas. Dunks are a small, donutshaped product that contains Bacillus thuringiensis var. israeliensis. The donut disrupts the life cycle of the mosquito and is non-toxic to humans, amphibians and fish.

When outside, wear loose-fitting, light colored clothing with long sleeves & long pants. Repellants containing active ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus can be effective to keep mosquitoes from biting when activities cannot be rescheduled.

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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# Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is breast cancer awareness month, and physicians affiliated with Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital say it's a great reminder for women to schedule their annual mammography.

"I chose to go into medicine after a close family member passed away from breast cancer at a young age. That's why I encourage all my patients to have an annual mammography beginning at age 40," says Iyabode M. Ogunlade, M.D., an OB-GYN affiliated with Memorial Hermann Cypress.

Symptoms of breast cancer include any lump, thickening, or swelling in the breast or armpit, pain in the breast, or change in size or shape of the nipple. However, the American Cancer Society says many women don't experience any symptoms.

"The key to successfully treating breast cancer is detecting the cancer early. That's why having your annual mammography is so important," says Dr. Ogunlade. "There are also several types of mammograms, including 3-D mammograms, so make sure you speak with a physician about the different screening methods to determine which is right for you."

MD Anderson Breast Care with Memorial Hermann- Cypress combines the convenience and advanced technologies of Memorial

Hermann's breast care centers with interpretation and consultation provided by expert radiologists from MD Anderson. This innovative partnership ensures the high quality, safe imaging and expert reading that are critical for precise diagnosis, effective treatment and follow-up for breast cancer patients. MD Anderson Breast Care with Memorial Hermann- Cypress offers 3-D mammography (breast tomosynthesis), breast MRI, breast MRI biopsies, breast ultrasound, stereotactic breast biopsies, and ultrasound biopsies. All of these advanced technologies are conveniently offered close to home for Cypress area residents, and appointments can be scheduled by calling 346.231.6950.

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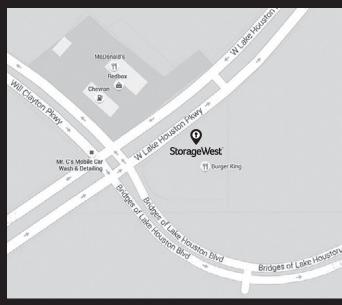
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# Make Sure Your Halloween Has More Treats Than Tricks

Halloween is supposed to be a night filled with fun and candy, but sadly the American Automobile Association (AAA) says October 31st is the second deadliest day of the year for pedestrians. Toni Odumosu, M.D., who practices at the Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center, says parents and kids should follow these safety tips to make their Halloween a safe and enjoyable night.

- 1. Walk safely. Make sure children travel in groups, utilize sidewalks when available, and look both ways when crossing the street. Parents should accompany trick-or-treaters under the age of 12. Those children allowed to walk without an adult should stick to areas where they are familiar with their surroundings.
- 2. Keep costumes creative and safe. Ill-fitting costumes or masks that make it difficult to see can be a recipe for an injury. Make sure costumes aren't too long and opt for face paint rather than masks, if possible. If the mask is a must, make sure your child can see in all directions when it is worn.
- Consider your accessories. Children should not carry sharp objects or anything that could be mistaken for a weapon.
- 4. Stay well lit. Whether you trick-or-treat before the sun goes down, or carry flashlights, it is important that cars and other groups can see you. Consider putting reflective tape on dark-colored costumes.
- 5. Check the candy. Children are eager to tear into their loot, but parents should sort through the candy at the end of the night. Throw away anything that is not in its original wrapper. Children under the age of four should not consume hard or sticky candy, so that should be taken out as well.

"I also caution parents against allowing sugar overload. Kids want to eat their entire collection of candy in one day, but they will regret it later. Ration the candy to avoid stomach aches. Some dentists also offer "trade-in" programs where kids can swap the sugary treats for toys. I know it may be a hard sell for parents, but remind kids who make the swap that they can celebrate Halloween year-round with their new toy" encourages Dr. Odumosu.





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#### **INGREDIENTS:**

3 3/4 cups flour 11/2 teaspoons baking powder 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg 2 sticks unsalted butter, room temperature 1 cup sugar

1/2 cup dark brown sugar 1 cup pumpkin puree 1 large egg

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

#### FOR THE COATING:

1/2 cup sugar 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger Dash of allspice

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, • and nutmeg. Whisk together to blend. In a large bowl, beat together butter and sugars on medium speed until well combined. Next, still on medium speed, beat in pumpkin.

Then, add the egg and vanilla extract. Lastly, add in the dry ingredients. Beat until combined, but do not over mix. Cover the dough, and refrigerate for one hour, until firm.

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
  - Line baking sheets with parchment paper. In a small bowl, mix together the sugar and spices for the sugar coating. Scoop dough (approximately 2 1/2 tablespoons) and roll into a ball. Roll the dough ball in the sugar mixture, and place on the lined baking sheet, leaving about 2 inches between each cookie. Take a drinking glass with a flat bottom and moisten with water. Dip the glass in the sugar mixture, and use it to flatten the dough balls. Re-sugar the glass as needed.
- Bake the cookies for 10-12 minutes. Remove when the centers of the cookies have set. Let cool on the baking pan for approximately 5 minutes, and then transfer to wire to cool completely.



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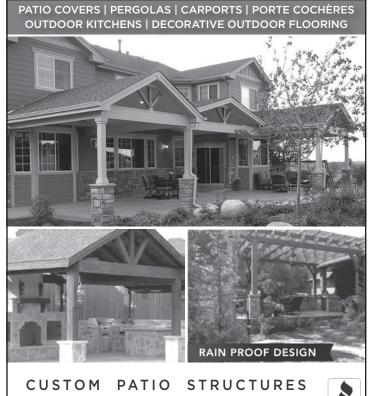
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# FREE ADVERTIZING

All residents are allowed to run free ads if they are selling personal items. To get your ad in the newsletter it must be received no later than the 8th of the month for the following month. The ads are limited so if you have questions contact the office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com





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

Name:	
	(first name, last initial)

Age:\_\_\_\_\_



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**ACIA** 



#### **BILLIE JEAN HARRIS**

# Billie Jean's Team

713-825-2647 Cell 713-451-4320 Direct Office







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TEAM WORK...Whoever said "Many hands make light work" really understood a team work concept. Each member of my team (including you) will have specific duties towards our common goal to ensure the strength and endurance needed to get this transaction closed.



#### BILLIE JEAN HARRIS

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#2 Team 2015 BILLIE JEAN HARRIS in the UNITED STATES #6 Team 2015 BILLIE JEAN HARRIS **INTERNATIONALLY** 

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