

RIVER PARK WEST

Keeping You Informed, Educated & Connected

VOL 01 • ISSUE 03

DECEMBER 2018

Save the Date

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Winter Holiday Party

Join us Saturday December 15th from 5-8pm at the clubhouse for our annual Holiday Party. We will have craft stations so you can create your very own ornament, decorate a delicious sugar cookie with all kinds of different toppings, get your picture taken with Santa and enjoy some tasty treats from a local vendor all under one roof! This year we are partnering with Fort Bend's Toys for Tots by accepting donations till December 20th at the clubhouse office on Tuesday to Thursday from 11am to 6pm.

Adults Night Out

Leave the kids at home and come enjoy a fun night out filled with food, beverages and casino games! Coming in March 2019.

Egg Hunt

Join the community for our annual egg hunt! Coming April 2019.

Family Feud

Do you have at least 5 family members to compete against another Riverpark West family? Let the battle begin and may the smartest family win. Coming May 2019.

Chess Game Night

Chess is a game played between two opponents on opposite sides of a board containing 64 squares of alternating colors. Each player has 16 pieces: 1 king, 1 queen, 2 rooks, 2 bishops, 2 knights, and 8 pawns. The goal of the game is to checkmate the other king. Coming June 2019.

Book Club

If you enjoy reading and bringing books to life, then join us with discussions, activities, arts and crafts. Coming July 2019.

Real-Estate Workshop

If you own a rental property, looking to sell your home, understanding mortgage loans or just need help on staging to sell your home. Licensed real-estate agents and brokers are here to help answer your questions. Coming August 2019.

Photography Classes

Selfie experts are welcome to explore the ins and outs of cameras, lighting, angles and much more. Coming September 2019.

Mix and Mingle

Want to get out of the house and meet and mingle with other residents in your community? Then this activity is for you. Coming October 2019.



RESIDENT CORNER

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Inframark281-870-0585
.....customer@inframark.com

ONSITE & EVENTS COORDINATOR

Tiffany Higgs
Tues – Thurs 11am to 6pm
After hours 281-870-0585

COMMUNITY WEBSITE

riverparkwest.nabrnetwork.com

NEWSLETTER

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Informed Delivery - This feature sends a daily picture of all the mail for the owner's address to a registered email address before the carrier touches it. Click Track and Manage, Informed Delivery, Check for Eligibility. Visit UPS.com.

BAC Photography and Design will come to you or they have a studio available in Richmond Texas. They have an entire studio that is mobile and can be set up on location. Residents can view photos of past events in the community directly from BAC Photography website. Select Galleries > Client Galleries > Riverpark West There are photo folders from different events from 2015 to 2018 to view or download by using login RPW (year of event). Visit bacphotographyanddesign.com

Yellowstone Tree Service will offer Riverpark West residents tree trimming service The price is \$140 + tax for trimming and debris removal of 2 live oaks in your front yard. Get on the wait list by emailing revans@yellowstonelandscape.com

Trash Collection & Heavy Pick-Up days are Tues & Fridays (Recycling on Fridays) - Residents can contact WCA directly for payment and trash container request by phone 281-368-8397 or by email contact@wcamerica.com

Street parking complaint's can be reported directly to Fort-bend County Sheriff Dept. 281-341-4665 press #4 for Dispatch or from the web site. Click on 'Report a Traffic Complaint' and fill in the blanks then submit at www.fortbendcountytx.gov

CenterPoint Energy maintains street lights throughout the community. Please use the form online to report a street light outage. If you need to report a power outage please call 713-207-2222

To report street repairs in the community, please submit a maintenance request form online or contact the Fort bend County Road & Bridge division at 281-342-4513

To report street & drainage concerns, questions about your water bill & usage, contact City of Richmond 281-342-5456

BOARD INFORMATION

Tiffany Chen - President
Larry Wilson - Vice President
Lola Wilkerson - Secretary/Treasurer

Board Meetings are held the 4th Monday of every other month with open to the public for all homeowners at 7pm. Confirmed meeting dates are notified 72 hours in advance on the official community website and sent via email to registered emails. Please be sure to register your email to stay informed.



If its your birthday - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MANY MORE TO COME!**

If you are celebrating an anniversary, engagement, graduation, promotion or a new major purchase - **CONGRATULATIONS!**

If you welcomed a new baby or pet to your home - **MANY BLESSINGS!**

Holiday Shop Safely

Prepare. Before you head out to shop, gear up for the trek. The stores can be warm and you may want to leave your coat in the car; that way, you are not trying to keep track of your coat, packages, your purse and/or your wallet.

Distractions. The most common distraction is to be on the phone or texting as you are walking to the next store, or to your car. You may be checking on information for your next purchase, but someone else might be checking for people they can catch off-guard. It's critical to be aware of your surroundings at these susceptible times.

Parking. Pay attention to detail when choosing a parking spot. It may be daylight when you park, but it may be dark when you return to your car. Try parking in a well-lit area. Make note of the location of your car, or tie a holiday bow to your car where you will be able to spot it easily. Prior to leaving the store or mall, gather all your packages and have your keys ready in your hand. Walk with purpose to your car and scan your surroundings for anyone (or anything) that seems suspicious.

Super-shopping. If you plan on a shopping marathon, following the first three tips will have you ready for the race. However, if you need to make multiple trips to your car to drop off purchases, you'll need to make sure they are secure until you return. Put packages in the trunk where they are out of sight. If packages need to be in the back or front seat, try to place them on the floor of the car and cover them with a blanket so they're not visible to anyone walking past the car.

By taking the extra time to ensure personal and financial safety and security during your holiday shopping excursions, you can enjoy finding the perfect gift for everyone on your list and see their faces light up when they unwrap their treasure that you picked just for them.

mark  your **Calendar**

SMART FINANCIAL CENTRE AT SUGARLAND

December & January EVENTS & CONCERTS

December 4 – An Evening with President Bill Clinton
and Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

December 6 – The Price is Right Live

December 7 – Peppa Pig Live!

December 8 – Martina McBride

December 14 – Jason Mraz & Toca Rivera

December 16 – The Roadshow Christmas Tour

December 20 – Il Divo

December 29 – Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker

December 30 – Mannheim Steamroller Christmas

January 25 – CNCO World Tour

January 27 – Toni Braxton

For additional info visit www.smartfinancialcentre.net

Randalls to Close Three Houston-Area Stores

The Randalls grocery chain is closing its store at 5800 New Territory Blvd in Sugar Land along with two others, a spokeswoman for the company stated. In addition to the New Territory location, the company said it will close one in The Woodlands at 9420 College Park Drive and the Montrose-area location at 2075 Westheimer.

"Randalls, like all retailers, continually evaluate the performance of our portfolio of stores," a statement from Boise, Idaho-based Albertsons LLC, Randalls' parent company, reads. "After a great deal of careful analysis, we have made the decision to close three of our Houston area stores."

"Closing an underperforming store is always a tough decision, but sometimes a necessary step to position the company for greater success and growth. We are working toward providing opportunities for the employees of these stores at other Randalls locations," spokeswoman Connie Yates said in an email. "Randalls has proudly served Houston since 1966, and we remain committed to all the markets we serve."

The stores will close around December 1, Yates said.



Annual Holiday Party

DECEMBER 15, 2018

JOIN US IN CREATING YOUR VERY OWN
ORNAMENT, DECORATE A DELICIOUS SUGAR
COOKIE WITH ALL KINDS OF TOPPINGS, GET
YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH SANTA AND
ENJOY SOME TASTY TREATS FROM A LOCAL
VENDOR ALL UNDER ONE ROOF!

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Riverpark West Clubhouse

RSVP AT RIVERPARKWEST.NABRNETWORK.COM

THIS YEAR WE ARE WORKING WITH FORT BEND'S TOYS FOR TOTS, THIS PROGRAM
CONSISTS OF A GROUP OF FORT BEND RESIDENTS WHOSE GOAL IS TO COLLECT AND
DISTRIBUTE AS MANY TOYS TO OUR LOCAL CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE. TOYS FOR TOTS WILL
HAVE A DONATION BOX INSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE OFFICE AND WILL BE ACCEPTING
DONATIONS ON NOVEMBER 27TH TILL DECEMBER 20TH FROM 11AM - 6PM TUESDAY -
THURSDAY

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4 Ways to Help Prepare Your Home for Winter



Winter is on its way and for much of the country that means freezing temperatures, wind, snow, ice and heavy jackets.

Preparing your home now for the colder months ahead is vital. The following tips are designed to help get you and your home ready for what winter has in store.

Invest in Weather Stripping

If you can run your hand around the edges of an outside-facing door on a cold day and feel the flow of cool air, you have an airflow problem, one that could cost you a lot of money over the course of the winter.

Weather stripping is a good way to help seal warm air in and cold air out of your home. Available in almost any hardware store, weather stripping installs quickly around windows and doors and can help prevent air leaks.

Before winter arrives, check your windows, doors, vents and fans, plumbing areas, air conditioners and any electrical/gas lines for leaks or drafts to save yourself energy and heating costs.

Evaluate Your Roof to Prevent Ice Dams

Your roof is one of the most vital protections standing between you and the harsh outside elements. Excess snow, ice and other environmental hazards can cause significant damage,\" said Chala Sampers, Top Dog Roofing. \"The objective is to get as much of the water away from your house as possible.”

In cold weather, heat escaping your home can melt and refreeze ice and snow on your roof, leading to ice dams. Evaluate your roof in advance of harsh winter weather to prevent ice damming. An ice dam in your gutter can cause water to seep into and saturate an interior wall. These block off drains, and let water and ice continually build up on your roof – and possibly under it – weakening your roof and putting your home at risk. If you're unsure of what to look for, see if a roofing professional can evaluate your roof for ice dams while cleaning your gutters.

To help prevent ice dams make sure your attic is well insulated and ventilated. Insulate the attic floor well to minimize the amount of heat rising through the attic from within the house. If your attic wasn't

built with a ventilation system, contact a trusted local professional or contractor about ventilating your attic before winter.

Buy a Roof Rake to Keep Snow from Building up

If you expect a lot of snow this winter, invest in a roof rake. As snow packs down from multiple storms it could cause a roof collapse – a roof rake can help you easily clear snow off your roof and protect your home during those blizzard months.

“Understanding the importance of checking your roof and knowing the basics of winter roof maintenance and damage can help homeowners avoid unnecessary stress and surprise costs,” added Chala Sampers, Top Dog Roofing (<https://www.topdogroof.com/>).

What's even more surprising is that a new, national survey by Owens Corning Roofing found that although 70% of Austin homeowners said that damage to their roof would be stressful or very stressful, only 3% say they always check or have their roofs checked before the start of a season that typically brings bad weather. So be prepared this season and make sure to conduct a thorough roof check before, during and after harsh winter months.

Protect Pipes from Freezing

A frozen water pipe can burst and flood your house or basement.

Help protect your pipes from freezing in bitter cold weather by making sure you don't turn the heat down too much when you're out of the house. You may not be there to enjoy it, but your pipes need the heat to prevent freezing.

Give your home a once over for any exposed or vulnerable piping and wrap them with insulation. Hardware stores usually carry foam rubber or fiberglass sleeves for pipes, which are easy to install.

If your pipes do freeze, and water stops flowing from faucets, call a plumber immediately.

Please keep personal safety in mind when checking items off this list and connect with a trusted professional or contractor for help with anything you are unable to do yourself. For more info visit <https://www.owenscorning.com/roofing>.



Riverpark West

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Grandmother's Sandwich Cookies



Ingredients:

- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 slightly beaten egg whites
- 1/2 cup finely chopped blanched almonds (optional)
- 1/4 cup pearl sugar (or substitute regular sugar)
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup raspberry jam

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 375°. Cream together butter and 3/4 cup sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg. Sift flour and salt together; add to creamed butter mixture. Mix thoroughly.

Divide dough in half. Roll first half into 1/8" thickness on a lightly floured surface. Use a 2 1/2" round cookie cutter (or the top of a round glass) to cut out circles.

Roll second portion out into 1/8" thickness. Cut out 2 1/2" circles and then use a thimble to cut out smaller circles inside these rounds (Note: You can also use a linzer cookie cutter or a small 1/2" cutter for this).

Brush these "wheels" with egg white and sprinkle with pearl sugar and chopped almonds (optional).

Place cookies on ungreased baking sheet and bake on center rack of oven for 8-10 minutes. Remove and cool on counter.

Place a scant 1/2 tsp. of jelly in the middle of the round cookies and cover with the "wheels" to create sandwich cookies.

Yield: 3 1/2 dozen jelly cookies.

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December Family Tips

By Nourish Interactive



1. Decorate the table with the colors from veggies and fruits.
2. Use snack time to add another half serving of fruit or vegetables.
3. Be patient and positive when encouraging children to eat their fruits and veggies.
4. Teach your children about healthy foods from all the different food groups.
5. At a party or holiday event, indulge in your one favorite food. Take small portions of everything else.
6. Try eating meatless meals on Mondays this December.
7. This busy holiday season, try to get kids to bed for a full night sleep.
8. Keep your teeth extra happy this holiday and remember to brush them after meals.
9. Play a word game and keep your family's mind sharp! Try and have kids name a fruit or vegetable that begins with each letter of the word Christmas?
10. Kids can take up to 12 times of exposure to a certain food before they will try it.
11. Help your kids write a letter to Santa and mail it to the North Pole. Use fun holiday fruits and vegetables stationary!
12. Mrs Claus always makes a healthy breakfast for Santa. Start your child's day with a healthy breakfast with foods from at least 4 of the food groups.
13. Plan for Christmas TV specials! Set a goal to watch TV no more than 2 hours a day
14. Taking the kids shopping, increase activity by taking stairs instead of the escalator or elevators
15. Shoot hoops with the kids for some fun activity- instead of using the word horse use the word Santa.
16. The elves keep warm at the North Pole by exercising for 60 minutes every day. Teach kids to be like an elf and get moving!
17. Go to the grocery store or farmers market and pick out a new red or green fruit and vegetable to try for this year's holiday meal.
18. Reindeers love to eat lots of orange vegetables like carrots. It helps them see at night. Add an orange vegetable to your child's lunch or dinner!
19. Some of the best gifts are free. Make a special gift of your time for a loved one. Just print the Gift of Time coupons and fill in a special activity!
20. Are you baking some special holiday sweets? Try adding some raisins, nuts or bran for a healthier treat.
21. Turn off the TV and enjoy your meals as a family this holiday season.
22. Bundle up, grab a flashlight and take a family walk to look at holiday lights together.
23. Decorate your plate with the color of Christmas, add lots of green and red vegetables.
24. Teach kids to enjoy their Christmas cookies with a glass of low-fat or nonfat milk.
25. Remind kids that a healthy holiday meal includes food from all the food groups! Merry Christmas!
26. Find a family activity and have fun!
27. Children are more accepting of a new food if they've learned about it first.
28. Use small amounts of high salt ingredients such as soy sauce or chicken broth. Add water to dilute the amount.
29. Kids learn from their parents' habits. Be a great role model for healthy eating.
30. Snacking is the opportunity to add more servings of healthy foods from the food groups.
31. Take stock of last year and resolve to do better, love more and live healthier.



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