



VOLUME 16 | ISSUE 9 | SEPTEMBER 2019



AUGUST'S YARD OF THE MONTH IS LOCATED AT 17422 SUNSET ARBOR DRIVE. IT HAS A HUGE FRONT YARD, BUT THE OWNERS KEEP IT LOOKING GREAT. DROP BY AND CHAT WITH BILL TO FIND OUT WHY HIS GRASS IS SO PERFECT.

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 ManagementPam Hummel
Email.....pam.hummel@crest-management.com
Phone.....281-945-4618, Site Mgr.
Website.....www.Crest-Management.com

Village Creek Board Website.....myvillagecreek.com
Village Creek WebsiteUnrelated to the Board
.....VillageCreekCommunity.com

Harris County Animal Control281-999-3191
Lost/Found PetsNextdoor.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

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Do you want to contact the Board?

The Board's new website at villagecreek.us is quite amazing. Did you know that you can go there, click on CONTACT, and send all of the Board members a message within a minute? Another option is to send both the Board members and the Management Company a message. Either way, it is fast and effective.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." -Aesop

Unsung Volunteers

By the Editor

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." – Author Unknown



The other day, I drove out to try to stake a fallen tree at the pool house. To my surprise, someone had already done that. Later, a volunteer advised me that the basketball nets were damaged. Again, an unknown person had purchased those and replaced them (no easy task). Wow! Thank you!

Much Village Creek work is hired, but volunteers fill in the blanks. While Board members are usually elected, Village Creek is blessed to have numerous people who pitch in without fanfare. Some pick up trash. Some work at events. Some find the Yard of the Month. Some toil for hours on landscaping issues. The list below includes most of those who make our community work. We do know that there are others who we have left off, and we apologize for that (let us know who they are).

Cheri Baddock

Stacy Cheeseman

Joseph & Melissa Cruz (Joseph AKA the Easter Bunny)

Laura Domangue

Kristin Jonec

John Mudd

Lisa and Jimmy Rawles

Jerry Rademacher

Sherry Watson

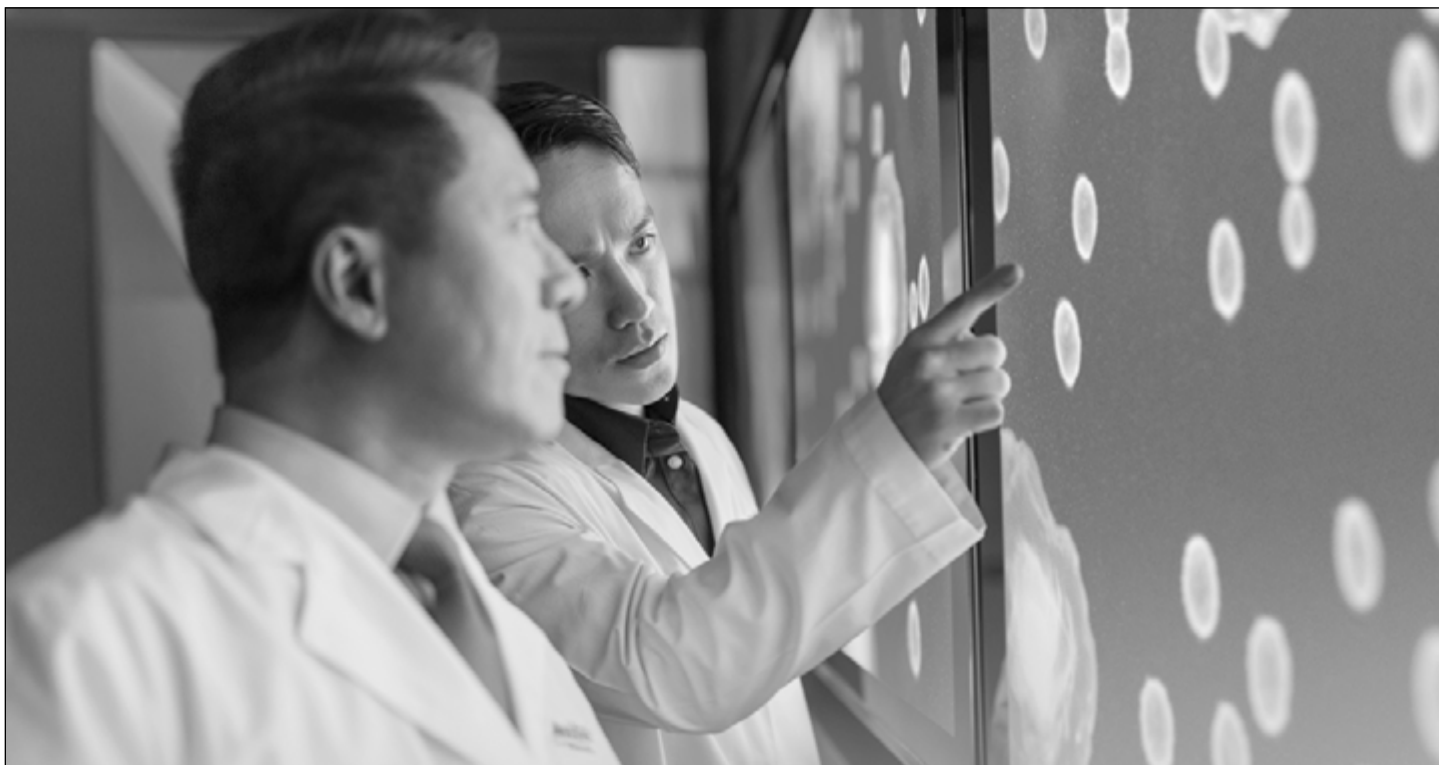
Steven Winter

Joe Wright

Ben Yerby

The Brian Martin Family

Thank you!



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The Voice

The Minimalist Gardener

By Flint Sage



Plant trees and bushes. September is a great time to plant containerized trees and shrubs that are not cold sensitive. Typically, the days are not as hot as summer, and rains are often more widespread. These conditions are excellent for new plants.

Dead-head (remove old blooms) perennials to encourage the plant to add more flowers.

Mulch Anytime. Most weeds hate shade, and mulch provides shade which reduces weeds and reduces the need for water. Mulch also creates a beautiful fresh look for the yard. We are placing layers (about four or so) of newspaper down before we add mulch (at least in some areas. Keep mulch away from tree bark. Putting a pile of mulch against the tree will result in tree disease and roots growing around the tree. Join the campaign against "tree volcanoes."

Reduce watering. As the temperature drops, use the "seasonal adjustment" to lower your watering time to much less than in the heat of summer. Water your plants less, but if it doesn't rain, do water trees and shrubs to assure they have sufficient water. We know a retired person who turns his system on only when the lawn shows distress. He says that makes the roots go down. He waters no more than 15 minutes (to avoid run off).

Fertilize lawns. Fall is the most important season to fertilize a lawn. Wait until the growth slows, but has not stopped. For our area, November is a good time to fertilize. For an excellent review of fertilizing in Tomball, go to <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/ornamentals/lawnfert/lawnfert.html>

Until next time, Happy Gardening!

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

By Steven Winter, Chair Members: Joe Wright,

John Mudd, and Anonymous

So, you want to repaint your house, the trim, garage, garage door, the second floor, pick one? Well, its indeed lovely weather for it.

I hadn't really given exterior painting much thought 'till a resident asked me, what does **"The existing exterior color of the main body or trim of a home, garage, or other improvement on a lot shall not be changed without prior written approval of the ARC. No attempt will be made to control painting activities in cases where the Owner is repainting with the same color as originally used"** mean anyway?

I had to think about it a little. Then I remembered that this was one of the sections in the Guidelines that we are proposing to change. The ARC decided that you are allowed to repaint any portion of your residence **WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL** so long as you are using the same color and shade as the original color. Well, that sounds simple. Then we started talking about it. Is that the original color, like when the house was built or the current faded color? We went back to that very clumsy worded rule and decided it was the original color as in when the house was new, or the color approved in an ARC-approved change.

We also decided that if you wanted to change the color, providing a paint sample or paint chips was going to be difficult in this digital age. So, we changed it to give the manufacturer's name, color name, and color chart number along with a picture of the house brick. We can look the color up on the web.

OK, there you have it. If you really want to go out and paint in the hot Texas sun, have at it. Remember: Same color, no problem, different color, go to Crest-Management.com and click on Exterior Modification Request. We'll turn it around as quickly as possible.

By the way, this does not apply to fences, they are covered under a different guideline and require approval before staining, sorry.

Recognizing a Village Creek Volunteer

Joe W Wright III, Architectural Review Committee Member

Joe is one of the four Architectural Review Committee members who try to make sure that Village Creek maintains its property value. Joe has been a member for four years. He is one of those rare people born in Houston (1961). He grew up in Sharpstown and graduated from Sharpstown High School in 1980 with studies in Vocational Drafting. Joe worked for four years with several oil-related companies in the early '80s as a Designer Draftsman. He attended night school at Houston Community College and decided to quit working and go to school full time at Texas A&M. He graduated in 1985 with an Architecture Degree. Joe has been a homebuilder and a Construction Manager. Currently he is a Senior Commercial Estimator. He has been married twenty-two years to his lovely wife, Sharon. He has two daughters and six grandchildren. Joe's hobbies are classic car restoration, photography, competition barbeque, and steak cook-off judging.

Village Creek Vote Results

The Annual meeting in July had 24 attendees. The incumbents, Cynthia Moody and Brian Martin had the most votes at 103 and 102 respectively. The Board thanked Lynn Lehmann for running. Thanks to the efforts of volunteers, 82 proxies were received at the meeting. The Board needed 75 proxies and/or attendees for the vote to proceed. You are encouraged to attend Board meetings which are held on the third Monday of the Month at The Venue at 11729 Spring Cypress Road, Tomball, TX 77377 (about five minutes away toward 249).



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Pool Committee

By Gordon Watson, Chair Stacy Cheeseman Member



The Committee is pleased with our new management company, Aquatic Management, and what it has done this year. The pool has been crystal clear. The decks and restrooms are clean. Garbage

cans get emptied. While I may be in the dark, I have not had a single complaint this year about the pool. Even access seems to have gone reasonably smoothly. The splash pad has been working very well on one pump (saving \$500/year to operate as well as wear and tear). We were able to fix one of the umbrellas damaged in the wind. This is not to say we have no issues, but, so far, none have closed either the splash pad or pool for long. Above all, we have not had any major injuries (so far) this year. We hope that we can continue that record. We do value your suggestions. If you have any ideas for improvements, we would like to hear them. Contact the Board at VillageCreek.us. We don't mind compliments for the staff either.

Social Committee

By Lisa Rawles, Chair



**Upcoming
Social
Committee
Events for 2019**
Fall Garage Sale
**Friday &
Saturday, October
11 & 12**
**Cookies with
Santa**
**Sunday,
December 8,
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

Your Dues at Work: Spring Cypress Gate House

By the Editor



The Gate House at our Spring Cypress entry is one of those out of sight, out of mind areas which can easily be neglected. During a recent inspection, we found several deficiencies including a badly rusted electrical breaker panel, badly degraded meter support, missing ground wire, and some burned out light bulbs. While Harris County does not require an inspection, Tim and Josh of Brothers Lighting, the electricians, do all of their work in compliance with the National Electric Code.

If you happened to know of any infrastructure issues, please send the Board a note at villagecreek.us. Sending a note from there is a great way for any issues to get to all five Board members.

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2019 Fall Festivals

Oct 3 - 6 ♦ Original Greek Festival	10Times.com/greek-festival
Oct 5 - 6 ♦ Korean Festival Houston	DiscoveryGreen.com
Oct 5 - Dec 1 ♦ 45 th Annual Texas Renaissance Festival	TexRenFest.com
Oct 10 - 13 ♦ 41 st Annual Houston Italian Festival.....	HoustonItalianFestival.com
Oct 12 - 13 ♦ Bayou City Art Festival Downtown Aquarium	ArtColonyAssociation.org/
Oct 18 - 20 ♦ International Gem & Jewelry Show	10times.com/gem-jewelry-houston
Oct 19 ♦ Water Lantern Festival Houston	WaterLanternFestival.com
Oct 19 ♦ Energy Day Houston	EnergyDayFestival.org/Houston
Oct 19 ♦ Freight Train Food Truck Festival	TomballTX.gov
Oct 19 - 20 ♦ Wings Over Houston Airshow	WingsOverHouston.com
Oct 19 - 20 ♦ 22 nd Galveston ARToberFEST	ARToberFest.com
Oct 19 & 26 ♦ Kemah Boardwalk Halloween Costume Contest.....	KemahBoardwalk.com
Oct 26 ♦ Tomball Bluegrass Festival.....	TomballTX.gov
Oct 26 ♦ 36 th Annual Texian Market Days	GeorgeRanch.org
Oct 31 - Nov 3 ♦ International Quilt Festival	Quilts.com
Nov 7 & 9 ♦ Sugar Plum Market, Stafford Center, Stafford TX	SugarPlumMarket.com
Nov 2 ♦ The 46 th Annual British Festival, Sugar Land	dbetexas.org
Nov 14 - 17 ♦ Annual Houston Ballet Nutcracker Market	HoustonBallet.org
Nov 14 -18 ♦ Annual Houston Cinema Arts Festival	cinemahtx.org
Nov 22 - 24 ♦ Holiday Christmas Gift Market, Katy TX	HomeForTheHolidaysGiftMarket.com
Nov 28 ♦ 70 th Annual HEB Thanksgiving Day Parade.....	HoustonTX.gov/ThanksgivingParade
Nov 28 ♦ 32 nd Annual Uptown Holiday Lighting.....	Uptown-Houston.com
Nov 30 ♦ 100 th Annual Mayor's Holiday Celebration & Tree Lighting	HoustonTX.gov/MayorsHoliday/
Dec 5 ♦ Holly Jolly Jingle, The Cynthia Wood Mitchell Pavillion.....	WoodlandsCenter.org
Dec 6 - 8 ♦ 46 th Dickens on the Strand	GalvestonHistory.org/Events
Dec 14 ♦ Lights in the Heights	Woodland-Heights.org/LITH/



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