

*The Villages of Northpointe*

# c mpass

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 01

A NEWSLETTER FOR VILLAGES OF NORTHPOINTE

JANUARY 2021

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2021

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Villages of Northpointe Security Director

**Andy Elmore** ..... hit02@scbglobal.net

Waste Management..... 281-376-8802

Centerpoint Energy ..... 713-207-2222

Tomball Post Office..... 281-516-0513

Harris County MUD #281 (water and recycling)..... 281-376-8802

Harris County Constable Precinct #4

**24-hour Dispatch** ..... 281-376-3472

Villages of Northpointe Patrol Officer

**Deputy Kelly** ..... 281-376-3472

## SCHOOLS

Tomball Independent School District..... [www.tomballisd.net](http://www.tomballisd.net)

Canyon Pointe Elementary ..... 281-357-3122

NorthPointe Intermediate..... 281-357-3020

Willow Wood Junior High..... 281-357-3030

Tomball High School..... 281-357-3220

Tomball Memorial High School ..... 281-357-3230

## TAX ENTITIES:

Tomball ISD Tax Office..... 281-357-3100

*[www.tomballisd.net](http://www.tomballisd.net) and follow the link to the Tax Office*

MUD #281 & NorthPointe WCID ..... 713-462-8906

..... [www.wheelerassoc.com](http://www.wheelerassoc.com)

Harris County Appraisal District ..... 713-957-7800

..... [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org)

Electric Company Choices..... 866-7974839

..... [www.powertochoose.org](http://www.powertochoose.org)

## NEWSLETTER INFO

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## THE GREAT FISHERMAN

*By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*



When one mentions raptors, there are a few species that people are very familiar with like owls, eagles and hawks. The osprey, however, isn't a familiar species to most people even though it is one of the most widespread raptors in the world. They are found on every continent except Antarctica.

Like all raptors, the osprey is a large bird with a hooked beak and sharp talons, both

of which are used to catch their prey and tear it apart to eat.

About 99% of the osprey's diet is made up of fish so it only makes sense that they nest near water along the coasts and large lakes. Occasionally they can be seen along rivers. They build their nests at the tops of dead trees, buoys, chimneys, and even atop power poles. Like the bald eagle, they use the same nest year after year but can be seen making minor repairs each spring.

They are amazing to watch as they glide over water looking for a fish. Sometimes they plunge so forcefully into the water that they are totally submerged. After catching a fish, they arrange the fish so it faces upright with the head forward.

The osprey is a great fisherman, successfully catching a fish one out of 4 tries. They have a much higher success rate than it's relatives like the eagle. Sometimes eagles watch and when an osprey catches a fish, the eagle will attack the osprey causing it to drop the fish. Easy meal for the eagle! Benjamin Franklin said in 1784 that "bald eagles are too lazy to fish for himself.....and does not get his living honestly." True then, true today.

Ospreys generally mate for life but they will find a new partner should their partner die or disappear during spring migration.

If you'd like to watch an osprey nest, there are many online. The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey has an osprey cam that you can watch here: <http://www.conservewildlifenj.org/education/ospreycam/>. In the New Jersey area, nest building begins in early April and eggs are laid from mid-April to early May. You can watch the eggs hatch and observe Mom and Dad caring for the babies. It's interesting and educational.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 501(c)(3) organization located in the Spring Branch area of Houston. Since 1979, we have been committed to providing quality emergency care and rehabilitation for injured, ill, orphaned and displaced wildlife. We are proud to be making a difference for the wildlife in our area.

[www.twrcwildlifecenter.org](http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org)

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Draw a picture and write about it.

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## FRUIT FLIES

Fruit flies can become a nuisance problem at any time of year. They can enter homes from ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or purchased at the grocery store. Fruit fly adults may also fly into homes from outdoors.

Adult fruit flies are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and often have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan while the back portion is dark brown to black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae are surface feeders on fermenting foods or other organic matter, which means that you can cut off the overripe parts of the fruit or vegetable and eat the rest.

To prevent bringing fruit flies into your home, do not purchase over ripened fruit and vegetables. Eat fresh produce in a timely manner and store items in the refrigerator or a paper bag that is clipped closed. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. Recycling and garbage bins should be cleaned on a regular basis with soapy water to eliminate any spilled material.

If your home already has fruit flies, locate all sources of infestation (where the larvae are living) and eliminate them. Insecticides only target adults and will not control the problem. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling paper and taping it closed. Place the funnel into a jar that has a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

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](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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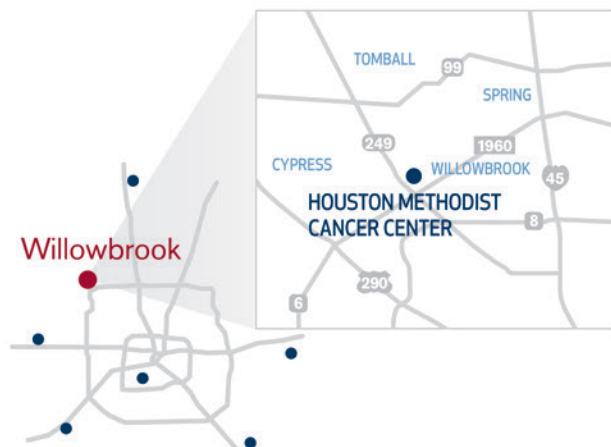
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"Kara was fantastic and really understood the area and what was important to us. I can't imagine going through this process with anyone else." Leslie, Tomball ★★★★★

"If I was remotely considering any property in the Cypress - Tomball - Champions areas, I could do no better than Kara Puente. I am often perceived as difficult and over assertive in my transactions, large and small. Kara stayed on top of each of my questions and concerns and more often than not had the answer at her fingertips before I could ask the question. Buyers and/or Sellers could do no better than Kara Puente, and that comes from a consumer who is very seldom satisfied with the performance of any sales person. We bought and sold our Cypress area home, after eight years of residency, through Kara Puente. We dealt with other Realtors and agencies through the years but found none as professional and genuinely interested in our success as Kara Puente." Ed and Connie, Cypress ★★★★★

"I purchased my home with Kara. There was a fair bit of negotiation involved and she handled it with professionalism and fairness. The sale of my home was complicated. She communicated and reassured me appropriately throughout. I will use her if I ever need to purchase or sell my home." Donna, Tomball ★★★★★

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**KARA PUENTE**

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