



Steeplechase

NEWSLETTER



The Official Newsletter of The Steeplechase Community Improvement Association, Inc. and Steeplechase

Volume 4, Issue 4

April 2006



The Steeplechase Babysitting Co-op
and your Home Owners Association are
sponsoring this years'

Annual Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

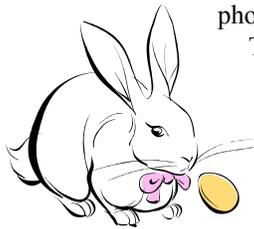
Come have fun with the kids (ages 0-10 years)

• **When:** SATURDAY, APRIL 15 from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

• **Where:** Steeplechase Clubhouse Fields

Please bring: a dozen filled egg
(chocolate is not recommended)

The Easter Bunny will be available for photos, so bring your camera. There will be special surprises, juice and cookies.



RAD Class

This year the Precinct 4 Constable Department will be offering the highly acclaimed "RAD" program at our community center on June 13, 14 and 15 from 6:00-10:00pm. Participants must attend all three evenings. This is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. The RAD system is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training.

Space is limited – so call today – Jinnie Kelley @ 832-922-8030.

View the
Steeplechase Community
Association Newsletter
each month on-line at
www.PEELinc.com

Stork Report

Please welcome a new little Steeplechase resident. Blaise Joseph Bauman was born on December 30, 2005. He was 6 ½ weeks early and weighed 4 lbs. 6.7 oz. Blaise was 18 inches long. After spending only one week in the hospital, he is home with his family, growing fast and doing well.

Pool News

There are lots of ongoing projects at the pool this spring – if you would like to volunteer for the pool committee please contact Jinnie Kelley at 832-922-8030. The next Pool Committee meeting is Thursday, April 27th at 7pm in the clubhouse. The pool will open for the season on Saturday, May 20th.

Watch in the May newsletter for Pool ID Registration information. New pool ID cards will be issued throughout the season – the first registration date is Wednesday, MAY 10th from 6-8pm in the pool office. Pool photo ID cards are required for admittance to the Steeplechase Pool.

This spring the Pool Committee will be deleting old non-activated pool ID cards from our system. Cards issued in 2002 and 2003 that have not been renewed since will be deleted unless we hear from you; for more information log on to Steeplechasetx.com or drop a note in the club mailbox in the pool parking lot.

Steepleway Boulevard Fence Update

As of the writing of this newsletter, documents have been sent to perimeter fence owners in Greentree, Saddlebrook, Churchill and Cobblestone seeking their agreement to have that fence replaced. The fence license and reimbursement agreements must be received from those homeowners before construction can begin.

The final fence specifications are as follows:

- 1 x 6 x 6 Pickets (Western Red Cedar), Full ¾" x 5-1/2 x 6 pickets
- 6 x 4 Exposed Posts, 7' on Center (Treated Pine), 10' posts
- 3 Rails 2 x 4 installed vertical for optimal structure (Treated Pine)
- 2 x 6 Cap (Western Red Cedar)
- 1 x 2 Trim (Western Red Cedar)
- 2 x 12 Rot Board (Treated Pine) beveled top (for water drainage)
- Continuous Cap
- Sealed on both sides with Cedar Color Sealant

While the fence company is in Steeplechase they will replace other interior fencing at a contractors rate.

STEEPLECHASE

IMPORTANT

Telephone Numbers



Emergency	911
Sheriff's Dept.	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Dept.....	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights).....	713-207-2222
Library.....	281-890-2665
Post Office.....	713-937-6827
Steeplechase Community Center	281-469-CLUB
Deed Restriction Issues (PCMI)	281-870-0585
Water/Sewer.....	281-240-1300
Architectural Control (PCMI).....	281-870-0585
Trash Pick-up (Waste Management).....	713-686-6666
	(Monday & Thursday)
Harris Co. Pct. 4 Road Maintenance.....	281-353-8424
Community Events.....	281-469-CLUB
Clubhouse Rentals:	
Private Events (Phyllis McFarland).....	832-922-8031
Community Group Events (Jinnie Kelley)	832-922-8030

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. Sales Office advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-989-8905
 Adver: Donna Sommer dSommer@PEELinc.com, 832-237-4684

COMMUNITY CENTER CONTACTS

Community Maintenance Concerns

PCMI..... 281-870-0585

Clubhouse Rentals

 Private Events (Phyllis McFarland) 832-922-8031
 Community Groups (Jinnie Kelley) 832-922-8030

Weekday Use of Club

Jinnie Kelley 832-922-8030

Private Pool Parties

Sweetwater Pools 281-988-8480

Board Member Contact

PCMI..... 281-870-0585

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting articles is the 10th of each month.

Please send all articles and photos to:

newsletter@steeplechasetx.com

(high quality digital photos up to 2 MBs accepted)
 or mail your submissions to the Steeplechase clubhouse at
 11250 Steepleway Blvd., Houston, TX 77065
 if you do not have a computer

TACL 1357



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CHARLES CLAUDER

WORTHAM RESIDENT

START SOMETHING

Online, on site and phone registration is under way for
 May mini-mester courses and summer sessions.

High school students can also register for dual credit courses
 with their high school counselors.

Go to www.cy-faircollege.com for information.



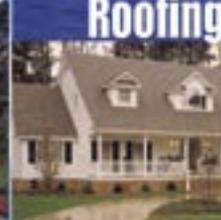
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Steeplechase Information Line: 281-469-CLUB - Option #3

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Personal Classifieds

For Sale: Ethan Allen couch, light chocolate. \$650.00. 282-469-9587.

For Sale: 1999 SC1 Saturn with Sony Hi-Tec stereo with flip screen. Good condition! Good for teenager or extra car. \$3200 or best offer. Willing to negotiate. Contract Kendra R. at 713-299-8488.

AKC Registered Boxer Puppies: Born 1/12/06. 5 female, 4 male. Fawn, black mask/white markings. : \$500. Please call 281-894-4679.

Steeplechase Board of Directors

Cobblestone Betty Hattman Sandra Jordan Virginia Kelley Dan Carr	Churchill Jon Lavallee Philip Ramirez Nace Peard Regina Abruzzese Mabel Butler	Green-Brook-Bridge Jim Andrews Clark Fredenburg David Gerow Gayle Owens
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If you need to contact a director within your subdivision, please contact PCMI at 281-870-0585 and they will forward your request.

Steeplechase Sanctioned Committees

Security	Welcome
Communications	Landscape
Pool	Clubhouse
Playground	Tennis



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Plantation Lake - Hempstead
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\$87,000 MLS# 54488

Stone Gate - Cypress
16423 Bluff Springs, 2450 sq. ft.
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths,
study or 5th bedroom
\$189,900 MLS# 1798674

Stone Gate - Cypress
11242 Stonegate, 3500 sq. ft.,
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths,
study & gameroom
\$215,000 MLS# 3051486

Jersey Village
15713 Honolulu, 4734 sq. ft.,
5 bedrooms, 5 baths, gameroom,
pool & huge yard
\$399,900 MLS# 9666967

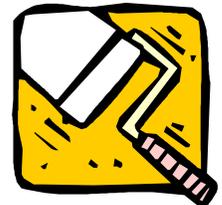
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Boy Scout BBQ

Venturing Crew 288 of the Boy Scouts of America will be holding a BBQ fundraiser from **Friday April 28 5:00 p.m. to Saturday April 29 5:00 p.m.** in the parking lot of the Gander Mountain Store at 290 and Hwy. 6. Pre-orders are now being taken until April 25th at www.geocities.com/crew288/fundraisers.

WANTED

Energetic Salesperson to sell ads in the newsletters that we publish for the following subdivisions: Strathmore, Berkshire, Villages of Langham Creek, and Sommerall. Earnings based on commissions. Visit www.peelinc.com/jobs.php for more information.

Great additional income for stay-at-home moms!

Matthew Jamison to Appear in Les Miserables

Steeplechase resident Matthew Jamison will be appearing in Main Street Theater's production of **Les Miserables® School Edition**. Matthew is a thirteen year-old eighth-grader at Campbell Middle School. He is a member of the Elite Company of Actors at Applause Theatre Co., where he has been seen in such productions as **Fiddler on the Roof, Little Shop of Horrors, While Childhood Slept, Seussical, Wizard of Oz, Oliver, and A Christmas Carol**. He has also performed and trained with Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS), Playhouse 1960, A.D. Players, and the Actor Factory, as well as Long Lake Camp for the Arts in New York. Other favorite credits include **Snoopy!, Kiss Me, Kate, Honk!, and Annie**.

Les Miserables® School Edition will play at Main Street Theater May 5, 6, and 7, at the Chelsea Market Theater at Montrose and Highway 59. For more information, visit www.mainstreettheater.com. (Performances subject to be added.)



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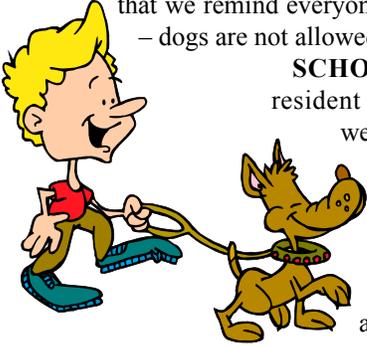
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(Expires 4/30/06)

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Other News From The Neighborhood

LEASH LAW: A resident wrote to the newsletter editor requesting that we remind everyone of the Harris County leash law – dogs are not allowed to run loose.



SCHOOL TRAFFIC: A Gold Cup resident complained about speeding as well as cars parking illegally when dropping off/picking up children at Emmott. The Sheriffs department has been focused on this street as well as Yorkshire Oaks during the morning drop-off at Emmott.

STEEPLECHASE WEBSITE:

We have received questions about the community website @ steeplechasetx.com. Go to resident login: enter the first four letters of your last name plus your street address-this is your login and password. The last name must be the same as that on the deed to your home. Volunteers are needed to update the website—if you can help please respond to newsletter@steeplechasetx.com

Lost And Found Pets

If you have a lost or found pet, you can post the information on the message board of Steeplechase website: steeplechasetx.com. Also check website of Harris County Animal Control at www.countypets.com. For stray animal pick-up please call 281-999-3191.

For lost pet searches, pet redemption, new pet adoption you can visit County Animal Control at 612 Canino Road Monday through Friday from 1:00pm-5:50pm and on Saturdays from 11:00am – 4:00pm.

Keep Our Street Lights Working And Bright

Just a reminder it is very easy for homeowners to report problems with street lights in our subdivision. All you need to do is go to <http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage/> and you can submit an online request for Center Point Energy to repair the street light. This is a very easy process all they need is the approximate address of the street light and the six digit number located on the light post. After the request is made, Center Point will replace the bulb in several days. Also some of the street lights in are subdivision are working but are very dim due to the age of the bulbs. To report that type of problem, check “Dim Light” in the category asking for a description of the problem.

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Advertising Information

- Please support the businesses that advertise in the Steeplechase Community Association Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter each month at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales representative, Donna Sommer @ 832-237-4684 or dsommer@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing. The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

Join the Fight Against Cancer April 7 and April 8

Join the fight against cancer and participate in the 2006 American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Cy-Fair this April.

This unique overnight fund-raising effort, set for 6 p.m. April 7 to 6 a.m. April 8 at Cy-Fair College, 9191 Barker Cypress Road, includes a survivor/caregiver recognition walk, a luminaria lighting ceremony and a variety of entertainment for all ages.

For participation, donation or event information go to www.acsevents.org/tx/relay/cyfair or contact Catherine Unger at 713-706-5646 or via e-mail at Catherine.unger@cancer.org.

CFMC Volunteer Program

Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center has an ongoing need for Volunteers who can make a long-term commitment.

Duties of the Volunteer vary from assignment to assignment but the over all need is to assist the staff, the patients and their families in whatever way they can to make their time at CFMC a pleasant experience. Sometimes it is just a smile and a friendly hello that reassures them we truly care about them. The Volunteer Program requires an orientation lasting from 8am to about 3:30pm. During this time you will learn about the hospital and your responsibilities.

The Volunteers at CFMC are first dedicated to assisting the patients and staff but it goes further. The Gift Shop is operated and maintained entirely by the Volunteers. The majority of the proceeds go our scholarship fund. Each year scholarships are awarded to students in the Cy-Fair area who plan to enter the medical field. We awarded five scholarships last year and hope to award more this year. We also provide assistance to other charitable funds in our community during the year such as the Toys for Tots program and the Disaster Relief Fund.

If you have 4 hours or more a week to volunteer and enjoy working with others – please consider joining us. Applications are available in our Gift Shop in the main lobby of the Hospital. If you would like to speak directly with someone, please call 281-897-3186.



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STEEPLECHASE

Seeking Additional Members For . . .

The Steeplechase Neighborhood Babysitting Co-op!

What is this? The Co-op involves an exchange of babysitting services between families.

How does it work? When you baby-sit, you earn points. Then you can use the points to have another family co-op member watch your children. The co-op is limited to 20 families so that everyone can get to know each other well.

Benefits:

- Safe childcare option: appointments, errands, attending other child's performance or school activity, or a day/night out
- Low cost alternative for a babysitter
- Meet other families with children in the neighborhood
- New playmates for your children

Who can use the co-op? Anyone that is an approved member of the co-op may use the co-op.

How can you get involved? Come to a meeting at the **Steeplechase Clubhouse** to ask questions and meet members. Meetings are scheduled for the **1st Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.** Call Candice Santillo (832) 237-2773 for more info.

Here are just a few of the families and events scheduled through our Co-op

- Annual Summer BBQ/Pool Party
- Annual Halloween Party
- Annual Christmas Party
- **Ladies Night Out** (We could add a Men's night out too)
- Scrapbooking Events



Did You Know?

About 56,000 Americans are over 100 years old.

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Houston Area

- | | | |
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| Cypress Mill | Ridge Lake Shores | Willowbridge |
| Fairfield | Sommerall | Willowlake |
| Harvest Bend, The Village | Steeplechase | Willow Pointe |
| Hastings Green | Strathmore | Winchester Country |
| High Meadow Ranch | Summerwood | Winchester Trails |
| Lakes on Eldridge | Village Creek | Wortham Village |
| Lakes on Eldridge North | Villages of Langham Creek | |

Austin Area

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Barker Ranch | Highland Park West Balcones Area |
| Cherry Creek on Brodie Ln. | Hutto Parke |
| Circle C Ranch | Lakeside Estates |
| Courtyard | Ridgewood |
| Coventry | Scenic Brook |
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TEEN JOB SEEKERS LIST

If you are a teen and wish to have your name published, please email your name, address, date of birth, and phone number to newsletter@steeplechasetx.com by the editor's deadline. If you are currently listed, please notify the editor if changes are needed to your age or phone number.

Not Available On-Line

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* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints in this publication, 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.

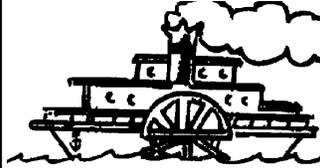
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Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Steeplechase residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail to newsletter@steeplechasetx.com.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$45, limit 40 words, please contact Donna Sommer @ 832-237-4684 or dsommer@PEELinc.com.

Did You Know?



The first commercially successful steamboat was Robert Fulton's Clermont, built in 1807.

Until the 1700s, ballerinas wore long, heavy skirts, tight corsets and heeled slippers—all of which limited their ability to jump and perform other energetic movements.



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CY-FAIR COLLEGE NEWS

Chili Cook-Off Teams and Judges Sought to Raise Scholarship Funds- Who has the secret chili recipe to earn the title of “Grand Champion Chili” in Cy-Fair? Find out at the annual Cy-Fair College Emergency Services Chili Cook Off set 9 a.m. 5 p.m. April 22 at the Emergency Services Education Center at the Barker Cypress campus. Sign up a cook-off team for \$35 and compete to win in one or multiple categories such as the “Best”, “Best Firehouse”, “Best College”, “Best Wurst”, “Best Probie(Beginner)”, “Best Community” and “Grand Champion Chili.” For \$3 a cup, community members can choose to be one of the judges, tasting all the entries and voting on the winners. To sign up a cook-off team, call Phyllis Hahn at 281-290-5900. For information on Cy-Fair College’s Fire Academy, go to www.cy-faircollege.com.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available- Free tax assistance is available at the Cy-Fair College Branch Library, located at 9191 Barker Cypress Road, with AARP volunteers from noon to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Thursday through April 13 in the library, room 131. Taxes will be filed electronically. For information on what documentation to bring, go to <http://cflibrary.nhmccd.edu> and click on free tax assistance under news and activities.

Free Spring Film Series Open to Community- The Cy-Fair College Spring Film Series is part of Windows on the World. Each film is hosted by a professor or student organization at the college and followed by a discussion after the movie. The series continues with

April films such as “The Apostle”, “End of Suburbia”, “Barbarosa”, “Giant” and “Chicago.” The Spring Film Series is presented at no charge to students or the community and is offered as a Continuing Education class called Film Appreciation. Registration is available at all the film events. For a complete list of films or information, phone 281-290-3257, e-mail robert.obrien@nhmccd.edu or visit http://faculty.nhmccd.edu/roboobrien/Film_Series.html.

C.A.L.L. Courses for Senior Adults Available - The Cy-Fair College Academy for Lifelong Learning provides opportunities for adults 50 and better to enjoy intellectual and social enrichment. In the April programs, learn about computer blogging, buying and selling on eBay or “Music of the Romantic Era.” A San Jacinto Reenactment day trip is also on the schedule. Call 281-290-5273 or e-mail Andriav@nhmccd.edu for course information or to sign up now.

Library Offers Free Computer Classes and Book Clubs- The Harris County Public Library Cy-Fair College Branch offers free computer workshops, including a family-friendly class. Topics range from basic computer functions to introductions to the Internet and various software programs. A variety of monthly book clubs are available including women of the world, mystery (discussing “She Walks These Hills” – April 26), democracy and sports page(discussing “A Good Walk Spoiled: Days and Nights on the PGA Tour” – April 13.). There are plenty of youth programs with activities and book clubs for teens and storytime for younger children.

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STEEPLECHASE

No Silver Bullet To Solve Traffic Congestion

If you had 3.7 billion hours to spend, how would you spend it? If you're like most Americans, one way you help spend the time is by sitting in freeway traffic jams. According to Dr. David Schrank of the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), traffic delays totaled 3.7 billion hours in 2003.

Schrank was in Houston on March 2 to present an overview of TTI's 2005 Annual Urban Mobility Report to members of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee. The report is a nationally known study of mobility and traffic congestion on freeways in 85 U.S. cities. The study measured trends from 1982 through 2003, the most recent year for which data is available.

Congestion on freeways is getting worse and is costing Americans \$63 billion a year, he said. Among the problems are traffic jams, unreliable travel times, long waits at traffic signals, navigating through construction zones, accidents and relatively few viable travel options other than driving on the freeway.



"The problem is getting worse," Schrank said. "The number of urban areas with more than 20 hours of delay per peak traveler has grown from five in 1982 to 51 in 2003."

In Houston, major freeway construction in the 1980s and 1990s has resulted in a slower growth of congestion than that of several other major metropolitan areas in Texas, he said.

Traffic congestion is a fact of life that won't go away as long as Americans commute to and from work between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Schrank said. But he added that reducing congestion to a manageable level is possible.

"If we can have our system be reliable, we would be happy with that,"

he said. "Reliability is the buzzword. We are not necessarily willing to live with the congestion that is out there now."

But there's no silver bullet for solving the problem.

"We can't build our way out of it," Schrank said. "We have only been able to build 40 to 42 percent of the road capacity we need to solve the problem. Carpooling and public transportation are also not the entire solution, but they are part of the solution."

HOV lanes have been an effective method of helping to ease the traffic burden, he said.

"HOV lanes carry a lot of people and do what they need to do," Schrank said. "Houston is a prime example of how they can work."

The Chamber has long been an advocate for a variety of mobility solutions and has been instrumental in such projects as the underpass on FM 1960 at Texas 249. Currently, the Chamber, through its 290 Passenger Rail Coalition, is leading an effort to bring commuter rail to the 290 corridor – a project that Schrank praised as being a proactive effort that could become part of the overall solution to reduce congestion on U.S. 290.

One traffic management tool that has been proven effective in studies but is only lightly used in Houston is metered freeway entrance, he noted.

The solution is everything – multi-modal and managing everything very aggressively," Schrank said. "We can't stop the growth of congestion, but we can improve reliability and provide more options."

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Free Diabetes Support Group meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm in the hospital cafeteria led by Sylvia Kircher, RN, CDE, CPT.

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10:30 am – 12:30 pm Basics of Carb Counting

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Getting the most out of your insulin pump

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STEEPLECHASE MARKET REPORT

Courtesy of "SUPER DAVE"

This market information report is provided to keep you informed of resale market activity in your subdivision.

	Sept 05	Oct 05	Nov 05	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 06
\$160,000 & Above	0	0	0	2	0	0
\$140,000-159,999	1	2	1	2	3	0
\$120,000-139,999	2	2	4	2	2	1
\$110,000-119,999	2	0	2	1	2	0
\$100,000-109,999	0	1	0	0	1	0
\$100,000 Below	1	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	6	7	7	7	8	1
Highest \$/Sq Ft	75.76	75.55	74.87	68.26	71.81	69.39

This chart represents the homes that have sold and closed in the past 6 months according to the Houston Multiple Listing Service.

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- 10102 Hedgeway
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- 11323 Creighton Ct
- 11615 Autumn Chase
- 9623 Cannock Chase
- 11426 Crayford
- 9827 Chiselhurst
- 11723 Yearling
- 12015 Hedgedown
- 9911 Jockey Club
- 11302 Meadow Chase
- 9614 Oldenburg
- 10118 Jockey Club
- 9615 Cannock Chase
- 9830 Meadow Bend
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