

The Village Gazette



Volume 4, Issue 7
Village Creek Community Association

July 2007

Yard of the Month



*Congratulations to the folks at 12722 Briar Harbor
– Yard of the Month for June!*

*It's not too late for your yard to be named Yard of the
Month! Yards are chosen through September.*

The Pet's Paws

It's summertime in Houston and it is hot! Don't forget to leave plenty of water for outdoor pets. We don't want anyone going thirsty!

Pet owners; please keep your pets on leashes when walking in the neighborhood, as a courtesy to others. Also, take care to pick up after your pooch if they leave a gift in someone else's yard or in any common area. No one likes to see, smell or step in those gifts!

For all lost and found pets, please contact the Harris County Animal Control office at 281-999-3191. These trained professionals are the best choice for taking care of these matters.



July 4th

Come and join your neighbors for a festive Fourth of July! Celebrations will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a parade around the neighborhood. All those interested in participating should report to Pedlars Court at 9:40 a.m. with decorated bikes, trikes, scooters and wagons. There's even a prize for the Most Patriotic entry!

Following the parade will be fun and games at the pool. Don't forget your swimsuit! This is sure to be fun for the whole family!



From last year's 4th of July Parade

Pool Hours

Memorial Day Weekend-
September 31, 2007

Hours: 6 am – 9 pm

Lifeguard hours: Noon-8 pm

Splash Park:

Open March-October

Hours: 8 am – 8 pm



The Village Gazette

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911

CenterPoint-Gas Leak 713-659-3552
 Constables Office 281-376-3472
 www.cd4.hctx.net
 Klein Fire Dept. 281-376-4449
 Poison Control Center..... 800-764-7661
 Willowbrook Methodist 281-477-1000

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
 Transportation 281-357-3193

HOA MGMT

Chaparral Management Company 281-537-0957
 Ms. Tally Jenkins tallyj@chaparralmanagement.com
 Fax 281-537-0312
 6630 Cypresswood Drive, Suite 100
 Spring, Texas
 Mailing: P.O. Box 681007: Houston, Texas 77268-1007

SERVICES

CPS 713-626-5701
 CenterPoint-Gas 713-659-2111

Dead Animal Pick up 713-699-1113
 Domestic Violence 281-401-6250
 FBI 713-693-5000
 Harris County Animal Control..... 281-999-3191
 Houston Chronicle 713-220-7211
 Greater Houston Pool..... 713-771-7665
 Aqua Services Billing 713-983-3602
 Aqua Service/Repair Calls..... 713-983-3604
 Reliant-Street lights..... 713-923-3213
 www.centerpointenergy.com/outage

Sex Offenders..... www.familywatchdog.us
 Time Warner Cable 281-774-7222
 Waste Management 713-686-6666

Trash pickup Tues/Fri
 Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/aluminum cans)
 Yard Stork kpuente@garygreene.com

NEWSLETTER

Editor..... skstengle@sbcglobal.net
 (Deadline is the 10th of each month)

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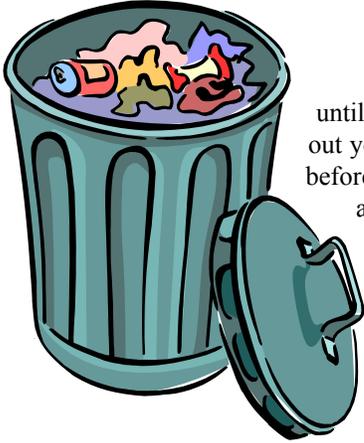
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Pool Access Cards

Please e-mail villagecreekpool@yahoo.com if:

1. You are a new home owner and never received a pool card.
2. Your pool card isn't working.
3. You've lost your previous pool card. Replacement cards are \$10.00. Old cards will be deactivated.
4. You would like additional pool cards for your family. Extra cards are \$25.00 each.

Be sure and include your name, address and telephone number in the e-mail. If your card isn't working, also include the number located on the back of the card.



Trash

If at all possible, please wait until the morning of trash day to put out your trash. Putting it out the night before attracts animals and pests who are not welcome guests! Also, take care to secure loose trash items, as they can easily blow away. Thanks for making every effort to ensure the cleanliness and beautiful appearance of Village Creek!

Classifieds

For Sale: Small wood entertainment center. Holds up to 32" TV, with space for additional electronics behind glass door. \$65. Contact Shawna at 281-251-2381.

Deed Restriction Reminder

No structures of a temporary character, not any recreational vehicle, mobile home, trailer, basement, tent, shack, garage, barn, playhouse or other outbuilding shall be constructed, erected, altered, placed or permitted to remain on any lot at any time as a residence. Outbuildings or structures, whether temporary or permanent, used for accessory, playhouse, storage or other purposes shall be limited to eight feet in height and 100 square feet in area and must be approved in accordance with Article VI, Section 1 of the Declaration. The standard, type, quality and color of materials used in the construction of gazebos, play structures, storage structures, shade and other structures shall be harmonious with those of the main residence. Outbuildings or structures may not be placed within 10 feet (10') of the rear property line or five feet (5') of the side property lines.



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Building and Preserving Wealth Through Home Ownership.

The Village Gazette

Vacation Watch Program

Take advantage of the Constable's vacation watch when you are out of town. Before leaving call the Constable's office and let them know when you will be leaving and when you will be returning. Your home will be checked during the Constable's regular neighborhood drive-through. To contact the Constable's Office, call 281-376-3472

Camp Hope Comes to Cypress

Messiah Lutheran Church is hosting three weeks of a Christian day camp called Camp Hope. The camp runs July 16-August 3; participants may sign up for one, two, or three weeks. Children in kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to attend. The campers have full days of crafts, stories, games, and songs. This is Messiah's eighth year to host Camp Hope; the counselors and small group leaders have received extensive training. The camp offers extended hours for working parents. The community is invited to share in this exciting program.

Cypress Assistance Ministries

11202 Huffmeister
281-955-7684

www.cypressassistanceministries.com

Have your kids grown tired of their toys this summer? Angels' Attic's newly remodeled toy department is fully stocked with toys, puzzles, games, and books sure to please children of all ages. All proceeds from Angels' Attic Resale Shop support the ministry work and food pantry at CAM.

With kids home from school for the summer, donations of canned meats and snack foods of all types would be greatly appreciated.

Cypress Assistance Ministries (CAM), located at 11202 Huffmeister, exists to provide a safe place for individuals

or families to tell their story and be offered some measure of hope during difficult times. For a description of all our services and volunteer opportunities, please see our Web site, www.cypressassistanceministries.com

Donations to Cypress Assistance Ministries can be made Monday through Wednesday from 10AM – 6PM and Thursday through Saturday from 10AM – 3 PM.

If you need further information, please give us a call at 281-955-7684 and ask for Kelly or Lisa.



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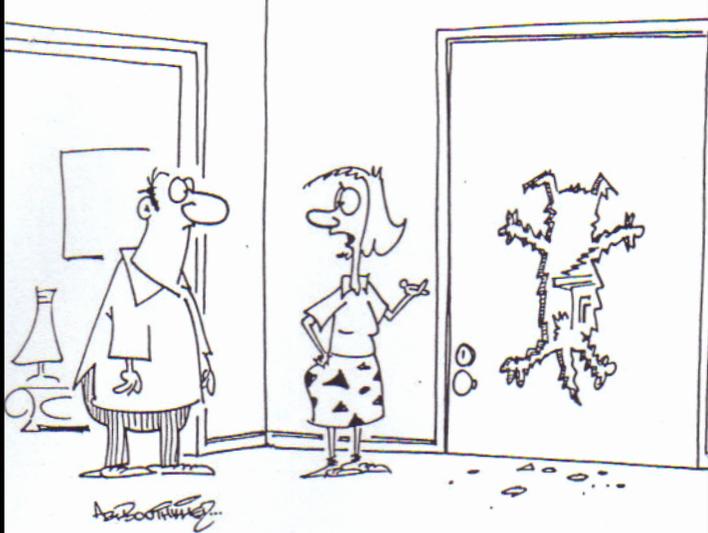
Tomball

281-351-5599

13414 Medical Complex Dr., Ste. 9

The Village Gazette

Cartoon Corner



"You told him he was getting a bath, right?"

Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the Village Creek Community Newsletter on the 1st day of each month online at www.PEELinc.com

Wake up to MOPS @ The MET!

Register now and wake up to MOPS @ The MET on Friday mornings. MOPS @ The MET, Mother's of Preschoolers, offers 2 dynamic groups that meet either the 1st and 3rd Friday mornings or the 2nd and 4th Friday mornings from 9:15am – 11:45am. Childcare is provided with registration. MOPS is a program specifically designed to meet the need of mother's of preschoolers, newborn through kindergarten. You won't want to miss a Friday morning filled with scrumptious food, great door prizes, new friendships, encouragement, awesome speakers and a creative activity that even the most craft challenged gal can do! To find out more about MOPS go to www.metmops.org

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HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

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Homeowner's Guide to Dealing with Service Companies

Oftentimes homeowners are forced to request service for problems which they have little understanding, i.e. Air Conditioning, Plumbing, Electricity or Appliances. Due to this lack of understanding, the homeowner attempts to obtain assurance by establishing a maximum price for service over the telephone. This approach could actually lead to more expense for the homeowner over the long run. Here are some points to consider.

1. If you don't understand how something should work it is highly unlikely that you will adequately describe the scope of the problem to the service company to cover all possible issues.
2. Most reputable service companies have the homeowner's best interest at heart and would not risk their business' reputation to secure a repair job.
3. Not all repair components are of the same quality. Seeking definitive pricing prior to a qualified assessment may lead to a "patch job" instead of a repair to satisfy price quotes.
4. Generally, the individual overseeing the phone is not a qualified repair technician. Attempting to confirm definitive pricing from the scheduling employees may be no more productive then asking your neighbor.
5. Be involved with your service technician. Reputable technicians want you to understand and appreciate their expertise. Ask questions, explore options and make an informed decision.
6. Make sure there is an employment contract between the technician and the company. Many companies use sub-contractors, which potentially compromise your rights and their obligations for liability.
7. Remember, it is not the technician's fault that you have to repair or replace a product. Don't shoot the messenger!
8. Make sure you understand warranties and representation. Reputable companies are upfront, thorough, and willing to provide written support of warranties. Ask about "hidden" preventative maintenance required to preserve warranties
9. Remember, most reputable companies will work to satisfy customers. Stuff happens! Work with companies to resolve issues.
10. It is generally a safe bet that you get what you pay for. There is a reason for discounted services as all companies intend to make a profit for their services.

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Cypress Christian School Seniors Receive Special Honors/Help Needy

Special Honors- Sunday, May 27, 2007 was a day to remember when Cypress Christian School celebrated the graduation of its tenth senior class. As all 47 students entered the auditorium, the audience stood and the cameras started flashing. Proud parents, family members and friends filled the pews prepared to experience that all important moment when their loved one crossed the stage to receive his/her diploma! From the beginning to the end, the ceremony was filled with special awards.

Congratulations to Kristan Hinn, Valedictorian, for achieving this special honor as well as the Faculty Scholarship for Academic Excellence and a Fine Arts Scholarship. Kristan plans to attend Baylor University to study medicine and business. In addition, congratulations go to Salutatorian, Evan Weppler, for receiving three different scholarships, the Christian Character Scholarship, a Fine Arts Scholarship, and the Spirit of Paul Scholarship. Evan also plans to attend Baylor University.

CCS seniors (all 47 students) will be attending over 32 different colleges in the United States with many of them using scholarship funds from various colleges, universities and institutions. All together, the Class of '07 was offered over \$1 Million in scholarship funds.

Missions- Before graduation, members of the senior class traveled to Costa Rica for their annual senior trip which includes an opportunity to perform missions work among the needy in that country. Classmates worked alongside each other and their chaperones to help with a special project at a local church and also presented a very special and fun program to children in the area. CCS seniors recommend that everyone set aside time to help the needy either in the local community, in another state or abroad. It brings a special appreciation to your life and a desire to continue serving those in need.



Website for Street Light Outages

When there is a street light that is out near your home, please report these to the website www.centerpointenergy.com/outage or 713-923-3213. You will need the home address near the street light that is in question and the number located on the pole. Help keep our neighborhood safe!

Advertising Information

Please support the business that advertise in the Village Creek 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 Peel, Inc. Sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing. The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

Cy-Fair College, "Perspective"

New Student Orientation Sessions Set- Student orientations will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (a boxed lunch is included) July 11, July 24 and Aug. 1 with a family orientation set 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. the same dates. An orientation for non-traditional adults returning to school will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 8. All the orientation sessions will be held at the Barker Cypress campus at 9191 Barker Cypress Road at West Road. All sessions are free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Check out the New Summer Reading Program for Adults- The Harris County Public Library has teamed up with Barnes and Nobles to host a summer reading program for adults ages 18 and older titled Reading – The Ultimate Vacation. Program participants will be eligible to win Barnes and Noble gift cards just by reading or listening to three books this summer. In August, each branch, including the Cy-Fair College Branch Library, will draw a winner for a \$20 gift card and HCPL will draw a winner from all participants for a \$150 gift card.

Ever Thought About a New Career in Teaching?- Cy-Fair College will host an information session on two teaching programs Tuesday, July 10 on the Barker Cypress campus in the Conference Center. The session will start at 5 p.m. and will cover information on the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree program, in which participants can earn a University of Houston bachelor's degree while taking classes on the Cy-Fair College campus. Then at 6 p.m., learn how to enter the teaching profession through the Alternative Certification Program.

Save the Date for Children's Summer Show- Mark your calendars for the children's summer production of 'Tite Rouge, a charming and rollicking retelling of Little Red Riding Hood set at 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays and noon Saturdays Aug. 6 – Aug. 18.

L.I.F.E. in July is Interactive- The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.) programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Cy-Fair College Branch Library (Room 131.) July programs include "Ask Precinct 3 County Commissioner Steve Radack Anything" July 11, "Show and Tell" about your hobby, pastime or book July 18 and "There's a Doctor in the House" July 25. (There is no program July 4.)

START SOMETHING

Register NOW for summer and fall classes

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students who register for fall college credit courses by Aug. 2 will be entered in a drawing to win a free semester of tuition.

Check out the schedule online at www.cy-faircollege.com

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affirmative action/eoo college

Fit Facts™ FROM THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EXERCISE®

Summer Skin

Once again, winter has faded into spring and spring has burst into summer. Along comes the invincible summer sun, your skin's arch-enemy, particularly if you exercise outdoors. Most people know that using a sunscreen is essential protection, but knowing and doing are often two different things. There are a number of ways to promote a healthy glow without exposing your skin to harmful rays.

Sunscreen

Every sunscreen has a sun protection factor, or SPF, which is a measure of its strength or effectiveness. Each of us needs a different SPF, depending on whether, and to what degree, our skin burns or tans. A tan is the direct result of melanin, a brown pigment found in the epidermis that is produced when skin is exposed to sunlight. Melanin protects the skin by absorbing, reflecting and scattering ultraviolet radiation before it penetrates the dermis, or underlying skin. However, armor that it is, melanin can't prevent all the negative effects of the sun, and is often representative of damage. That's why we need to use sunscreens. To determine what SPF your skin requires, you must know how long it takes your skin to burn when unprotected and exposed to sunlight. As a rule of thumb, anyone whose skin burns, whether or not it turns into a tan, should use an SPF of 15. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking antibiotics, antidepressives or antidiuretics. Some of these medications increase your skin's sensitivity to sunlight and may decrease the time it takes your skin to burn.

Creating a Barrier

When exercising outdoors on a hot, sunny day, light-weight, light-colored clothing combined with plenty of sunscreen on both exposed and unexposed skin is the way to go. However, if overheating isn't a concern, dark-colored, tightly woven clothing is more

effective at blocking UV rays than say, a white T-shirt, which allows UV rays to reach the skin. Another barrier against sun damage comes in the form of eyewear. Protect not only your eyes, but the skin around them by wearing sunglasses that block 90 percent to 100 percent of the sun's UV rays.

And, last but not least, wear a hat. Though a cap may be more comfortable for jogging, try a wide-brimmed hat that will shade your neck and face while gardening or walking outside.

Sunscreen Facts

- Wear sunscreen every day if you will be outside for more than 20 minutes, even when it's cloudy.
- Sunscreen should be applied 15 to 30 minutes before going outdoors, and reapplied every two hours or after swimming or sweating.
- Don't skimp: One ounce—enough to fill a shot glass—is considered the amount needed to properly cover exposed skin.
- Limit your exposure to sunlight from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time (9 a.m.–3 p.m. during Standard Time) when the sun's rays are the strongest and most harmful.
- When choosing a sunscreen, look for one with an SPF of 15 or higher that provides broad-spectrum coverage against all ultraviolet light wavelengths.
- Throw out old bottles of sunscreen, which can lose strength after three years.

Source: *American Academy of Dermatology*

Start with the Inside

Now that you know how to protect the skin's surface, it's time to start thinking about what you can do to make it glow from the inside out. You're already off to a good start with exercise, which gets the blood circulating and delivers fresh oxygen to the skin all over your body. The next step is

to drink plenty of water. Outdoor exercise, especially in the summer, increases your risk of dehydration. This is one risk you don't want to take since it not only affects your performance and robs your skin of its vitality, but may be potentially hazardous to your health. Be sure to drink fluids before, during and after activity. To replenish your fluids after any outdoor activity, weigh yourself before you participate and then again after. Any weight you lost is water and should be replaced by drinking two glasses (16 ounces) of water for every pound you have lost.

Everyone Needs a Little Sunlight

It's been shown that a lack of sunlight can cause depression. After all, most plants won't even grow without sunshine. And when the sun comes around and makes the days longer, our first instinct is to peel off our sweaters and bask in it. Go ahead. Just take precautions so you won't have to deal with the unpleasant (and unnecessary) consequences.

What SPF Do You Need?

Follow these steps to calculate what SPF you should look for in a sunscreen:

1. Determine how many minutes your bare skin can be exposed to the sun before it burns.
2. Divide that number of minutes into the total number of minutes you want to remain in the sun.
3. The result is the SPF you should look for in a sunscreen. For example, if your unprotected skin burns in 10 minutes, and you plan on being in the sun for three hours, you would need a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 18 (180 minutes divided by 10 minutes).



Village Creek Market Report

Courtesy of "DAVID FLORY"

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

| | Dec 06 | Jan 07 | Feb 07 | Mar 07 | Apr 07 | May 07 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| \$350,000 + | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| \$300,000 - 349,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| \$250,000 - 299,999 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| \$200,000 - 249,999 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| \$160,000 - 199,999 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| \$160,000 - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 5 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 1 | 5 |
| Highest \$/Sq Ft | 80.34 | 67.92 | 78.61 | 91.09 | 68.82 | 77.49 |

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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The Village Gazette

Teenage Job Seekers

| | Baby Sitting | House Sitting | Pet Sitting | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Bates, Ian* | 13 | • | • | 281-374-6324 |
| Bates, Jennifer | 17 | • | • | 281-374-6324 |
| Bauman, Madisen ^R | 11 | MH | • | 281-370-1255 |
| Bauman, Matthew ^R | 15 | • | • | 281-370-1255 |
| Bauman, Morgan ^R | 13 | • | • | 281-370-1255 |
| Colvin, Kathryn | 15 | MH | • | 281-370-8062 |
| Colvin, Thomas | 13 | • | • | 281-370-8062 |
| Cugini, Katie | 16 | • | • | 281-257-5899 |
| Cugini, Kelly | 15 | • | • | 281-257-5899 |
| Hicks, Lauren*+~ ^R | 18 | • | • | 281-257-8837 |
| Hicks, Shelby*+~ ^R | 13 | • | • | 281-257-8837 |
| Hollywood, Caitlyn | | MH | • | 281-370-2395 |
| Longtin, Carlye*~+ ^R | 13 | • | • | 281-516-9449 |
| Longtin, Jana ^R | 11 | MH | • | 281-516-9449 |
| Voss, Kim*+~ | 16 | • | • | 281-357-5098 |
| White, Catherine*+ | | • | • | 832-489-0055 |
| * CPR Training + First Aid Training ~ Baby-sitting Course | | | | |
| ^R Has References MH Mother's Helper | | | | |

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Attention Teenagers

The **Teenage Job Seekers** listing service is offered free of charge to all Village Creek teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to skstengle@sbcglobal.net by the 8th of the month!

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-- Houston --

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Coles Crossing
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Enchanted Valley
Fairfield
Hambeldon-Briarchase
Harvest Bend, The Village
Hastings Green
Kings Manor
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Lakes on Eldridge North
Lakewood Grove
Legends Ranch
Longwood
Oakwood Glen
Park Lakes
Riata Ranch
Ridge Lake Shores
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