



# WillowTalk

Willowbridge - Stonebridge Homeowners Association Newsletter  
www.willowbridgehoa.com



Volume 15

February 2010

No. 2

## The School Zone

By Barbara Lallinger

Are you a de vrijwilliger or frivillig? I am. These are a volunteer in other languages. It has been proven that volunteering makes you feel good about yourself and life in general. Research now suggests that older people who give back of themselves have better physical and mental health and a lower mortality rate. But, you certainly do not have to be old to volunteer. The Cy-Fair school district is always looking for volunteers of all ages.

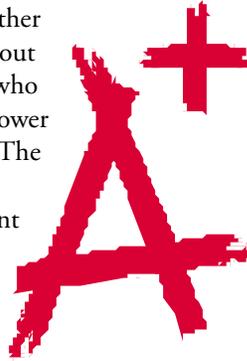
In 2007, a new state law applicable to the Texas State Education Code went into effect. The law defines a volunteer as a person rendering services for or on behalf of a public school who does not receive compensation from the district in excess of reimbursement for expenses. It applies to school districts, open enrollment charter schools and shared services arrangements. This law requires certain volunteers to undergo a Criminal History Records review before they can be a volunteer. Cy-Fair ISD has developed a policy that encompasses this review to anyone that does not have a student enrolled in the school they wish to volunteer at. After a volunteer completes (and passes) this review they are issued a Global Volunteer ID, allowing them to volunteer at any school in the district.

Ask any school administrator what their most valuable asset is (other than the children) and they will tell you it is their volunteers. At last year's Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon (held in May), the monetary value of a volunteer was disclosed. For the 2008-2009 school year it was disclosed that volunteers had saved CFISD \$8,186,776.05!! This figure was based on 453,561 volunteer hours calculated at the national rate of \$18.40 per hour. I know for a fact that this was understated for several reasons:

1. It was calculated before the school year was over.
2. Many volunteers never "log" their time (which until late last school year was a time consuming and cumbersome process on the computer).
3. Many volunteers do not "log" all of the time they spend on various functions. They forget to add travel time, phone and computer time, and many other things they do associated with volunteering.
4. Many volunteers had not logged their hours by the date of the luncheon (guilty as charged...my hours were not logged and they were close to 400).

With the financial situation faced by all schools today, please consider the "gift of time" and volunteering at your local school(s). Don't worry if you don't have a student there, the background check is painless...I had to do it.

And don't forget, if you are the parent, grandparent or legal guardian of a student, you can volunteer at their home campus with the only question asked...what would you like to do?



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*Provided by  
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# Willowbridge - Stonebridge

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CenterPoint - Street Lights & Outages ..... 713-207-2222  
CenterPoint Energy..... 713-659-2111  
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Peel, Inc. .... www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444  
Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444  
PCMI/ Khara Mathews..... 281-870-0585x1350  
Poison Control Center ..... 800-764-7661  
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W. Harris County MUD #11 ..... 281-807-9500  
Willow Place Post Office ..... 281-890-2392  
Willowbridge Website ..... www.willowbridgehoa.com

## ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Block Captains Coordinator  
Pat Dennard - Willowbridge .....pdennard@gmail.com  
Liz Gammel - Stonebridge .....lizgammell@yahoo.com  
Welcoming Committee  
Gracie Galvan ..... 281-732-0009  
Beautification Committee  
Thomas Heitzman ..... 281-807-6937  
Homeowners Association ..... 281-870-0585x1350  
PCMI - Khara Mathews ..... kmathews@stes.com  
Clubhouse/Reservations  
Sherita Jeter ..... 281-870-0585 ext 127  
Pool Parties  
..... TBD  
Pool Tags  
PCMI.....281- 870 - 0585  
Marquee Coordinator  
Barbara Lallinger..... 281-890-8464  
Newsletter Coordinator  
Kyle Survance ..... surou812@yahoo.com  
Security Coordinator  
Julie Dubros..... 281-794-9032  
Website Coordinator (was Committee)  
Pat Dennard .....pdennard@gmail.com  
Yard of the Month Committee  
Nominate your favorite at: willowbridgehoa.com or Call  
Khara Mathews at PCMI..... (281) 870-0585 x1350

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julie Dubros ..... President  
Kyle Survance ..... Vice President  
Tom Heitzman.....Secretary  
Robert Logsdon..... Treasurer  
Fred Edler ..... Director

## HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc. - PCMI  
Khara Mathews..... 281-870-0585x1350  
E-Mail ..... kmathews@stes.com  
Fax ..... 281-870-9170  
If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood please contact the numbers above.

## HOA MEETINGS

HOA meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse, unless otherwise noted on the marquee. Meetings are open to members and your attendance and participation are encouraged!

## WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee meetings are the last Monday of each month.

## HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

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## GUMBO on GLASCOCK

By Barbara Lallinger

What did you do to celebrate New Year's Eve? Go snow skiing? To a hotel and watch the balloons drop at midnight? Spend time with old friends? Pop fireworks? Or, maybe you did all of the above.

A group of neighbors that live on Glascock Street got together for the celebration. It wasn't the first time this group has "come together." It started with Hurricane IKE. Faced with no electricity and frozen food rapidly thawing, Beth Zeffert rallied the neighbors together. Neighbors cooked on their individual BBQ pits and then met in the cul-de-sac to share the food. For several this was the first time they had met some of their neighbors.

For Halloween this year, Beth again rallied the neighbors to have a block party to eat and distribute goodies as a group. Everyone had such a good time, Beth proposed that it be done again for New Years Eve. She asked if my husband would cook gumbo and I said sure! So, Gumbo on Glascock was born. Each of the families that wanted to participate were allowed to invite other family members, friends and guests. For each family, a donation of \$5 (plus \$5 for each family they invited) was requested to offset the cost of the gumbo ingredients. In addition, each one was asked to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. The invitation said if you didn't like gumbo you were in trouble...but to bring what you wanted to eat

and join us to usher in the New Year. I guess a lot of people liked gumbo because Paul "Paux Paux" Saulnier cooked a giant pot and there wasn't much left! With all of the appetizers, side dishes and desserts, no one should have left hungry.

Oh, we can't forget Hayden Holloway ...he brought venison sausage out for the "workers only" that were setting up the tents, tables, chairs, decorations, etc. Several "real" Cajuns were in attendance and one brought black eyed peas for the occasion.

In full disclosure, I must tell you that Paul and I do not live on Glascock. We live on the corner of Pearsall Drive and Glascock; however, our garage lives on Glascock, so we get to participate in these great block parties! Try it.....you might like it!

### Questions, Complaints, Comments?

Contact Khara Mathews at PCMI by e-mail: [kmathews@stes.com](mailto:kmathews@stes.com) or calling 281-870-0585, ext 1350. To ensure prompt attention and response please make sure you include your full name, address, and a contact number. Please remember that being polite and practical helps. We are all trying to do a good job and

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# Willowbridge - Stonebridge

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## WillowTalk Stork Report

Congratulations!  
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email info on the arrival  
of your little one to  
articles@peelinc.com.



### Doggie Doo is a DON'T.

Curb the urge to put your pet's droppings down the drain.  
Instead, wrap them properly and toss them in the trash.

*Don't want to wait for the mail?*

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the 1st day of each month at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)



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**References Available • Fully Insured**  
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[bashanspainting@earthlink.net](mailto:bashanspainting@earthlink.net)

## THE RECIPE BOX

By Your Secret Valentine



This recipe is always popular for Valentines and a favorite since 1930s.

### Cake:

½ c. Crisco	2 T. cocoa
1 ½ c. sugar	2 ½ c. flour
2 eggs	1 t. each: vanilla, salt & baking powder
2 oz. each: red food coloring & water	1 T. vinegar
	1 c. buttermilk

### Icing:

6 T. Flour	1 ½ c. sugar
1 ½ c. milk	1 ½ t. vanilla
1 ½ c. real butter (3 sticks)	

**Cake:** Cream shortening, sugar and vanilla. Make a paste of cocoa, food coloring and water. Add to the first mixture. Add flour that has been sifted with the salt to mixture along with buttermilk. Add one egg at a time, beating after each. Add vinegar to soda and fold into mixture. Bake in 2 9-inch pans for 30 mins. at 350 degrees.

**Icing:** Mix flour and milk; cook until thick, stirring constantly. Cool. Cream butter, sugar and vanilla until fluffy. Add to the first mixture and beat until fluffy. Layers may be split in half, making a 4 layer cake. Baking in heart shaped pans makes it extra festive for Valentines.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

1. The Maximum Speed Limit within Willowbridge and Stonebridge is 30 MPH!!!
2. We have several school zone signals inside the community and on West Road (inside: 20 MPH West Rd: 25 MPH).
3. The RED signs with STOP on them at various intersections means come to a complete stop, not Slow Then Opt to Proceed!



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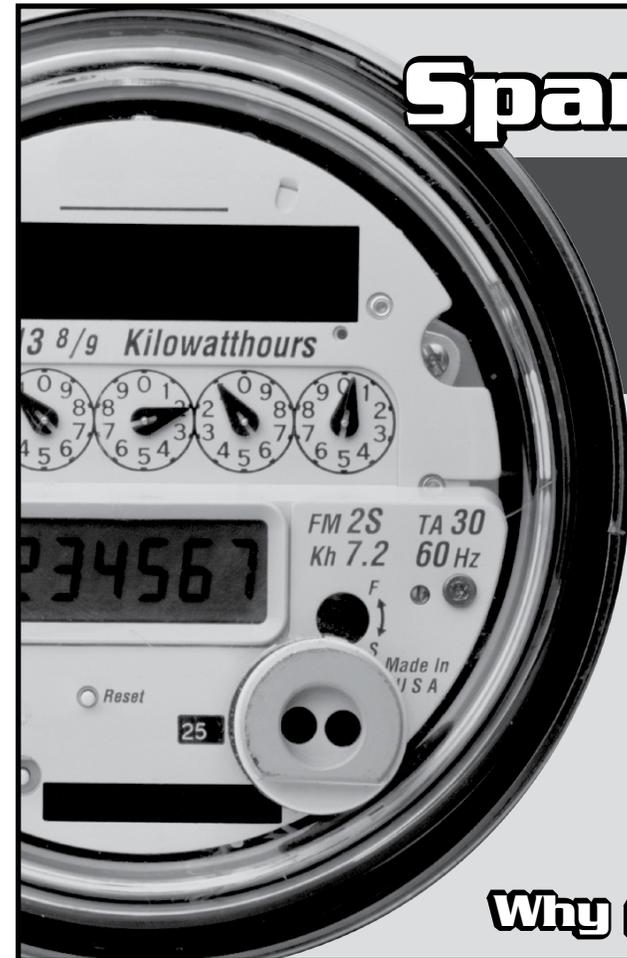
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# Willowbridge - Stonebridge

## To Submit Articles:

**E-Mail** articles and photos to the following address: [articles@PEELinc.com](mailto:articles@PEELinc.com). Articles must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the following month's issue. Please specify on the article that it is to be published in the **WillowTalk**. Accurate and beneficial community information will be posted at the board of director's discretion.

## Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the WillowTalk. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Willowbridge residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the WillowTalk by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or [advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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WB

# Talking Trash

By Barbara Lallinger

**STOP. LOOK. LISTEN....**Remember that Waste Management only observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.



Please cut out or copy this schedule for handy reference of the days that we WILL NOT have service that day or the following day. Service will resume on the next regularly scheduled pick up day.

- Monday, May 31                      **Memorial Day**  
*(service resumes Thursday June 3)*
- Monday, September 6            **Labor Day**  
*(service resumes Thursday Sept. 9)*
- Thursday, November 25        **Thanksgiving Day**  
*(service resumes Monday Nov. 29)*



## Recycle/Redeaux

**OLD SHOES** - Drop off any brand of sneakers at a Nike store. They have a Reuse-A-Shoe program that grinds up old shoes to make materials for athletic areas like tracks and playgrounds. For shoes that are gently worn, bind them together with rubber bands and send to Soles4Souls, Inc., 315 Airport Rd., Roanoke, AL. 36274-8011. Go to soles4souls.org for more information.

**BIG ELECTRONICS** - Best Buy will take TVs, DVD players, computers and other similar electronics and recycle most of them for free. Certain monitors, TVs and laptops will cost you \$10...but the good news is you get it back in the form of a \$10 gift certificate toward your next Best Buy purchase. Find out more at bestbuy.com/recycling.

Hint: Turn in your electronics first, then shop!

**CANDLEHOLDERS (Glass Jars)** - Put the used jar in the freezer for one hour. Remove it and gently tap the bottom a few times. The wax should pop right out.

**TEA LIGHT CANDLES** - If you use tea lights and the package says the metal cups are aluminum, you can pull out the used wick and put the metal bottom in the recycling bin!

## Rachael's



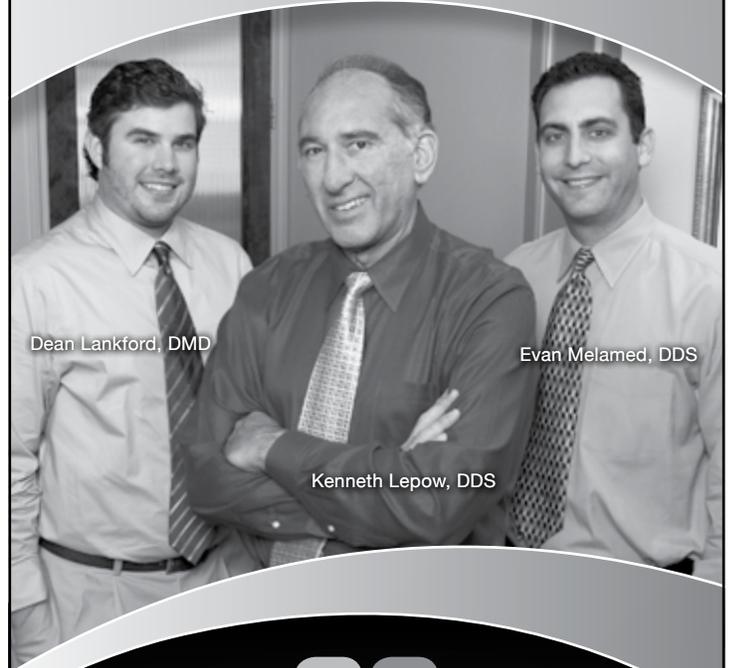
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## Valentine's Day Headquarters



Valentine's Day is Sunday Feb. 14th!!

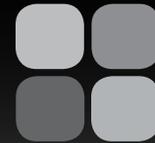
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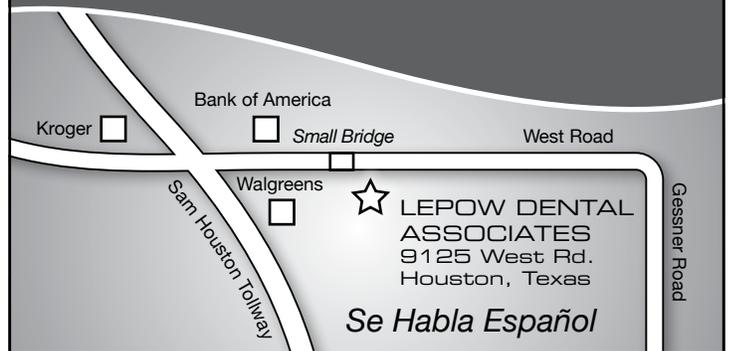
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<b>Price Range:</b>	\$189,900 \$265,467		\$169,000 \$275,000
<b>Average Price</b>	\$234,438		\$220,850
<b>Avg Price/sq.ft.</b>	\$84.54		\$76.79
<b>Avg DOM</b>	106		63
<b>High Price/sq.ft.</b>			\$62.71
<b>Low Price/sq.ft.</b>			\$94.52



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\*According to information taken from the HAR MLS Computer    \*\*Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009