

# The Village Gazette



Volume 8, Issue 6  
Village Creek Community Association

June 2011

## *Once Again the Annual Village Creek Easter Party Was a Big Hit With Kids of All Ages!*

A petting zoo, fire truck tours, crafts, games and cookies were also enjoyed. Thanks to the awesome job by the social committee we had a fire truck leading our parade along with the Easter Bunny in attendance for pictures with the kids. An egg hunt, crafts, games, and cookies followed to make it a huge success. Our thanks goes to the social committee for putting everything together including stuffing the eggs, arranging the entertainment and setting up for the event. They are: Sharon Gabbert, Natalie Stepanski, Amy Hyden, Jennifer Fox, LeAnn Karsten, Hope Myers, Tracy McCoy, Ruth Verduzco, Caren Seal and a special thanks to Sharon Dillard for "assisting" the Easter Bunny again this year.

### **Thank You to the following companies for their contributions....**

- Chick-Fil-A (249/Jones) for supplying the free ice cream vouchers
- Hope Myers with MPrints photography for taking pictures at the event
- Klein Volunteer Fire Department

The social committee meets the 1st Wed of the month at 6:30 pm. If you'd like to volunteer or learn more contact Caren Seal at [social@myvillagecreek.net](mailto:social@myvillagecreek.net).



*(Continued on Page 3)*

## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY COOKOUT!

Village Creek will be sponsoring a 4th of July Cookout at the pool, Monday, July 4th @ 5:30. Come to the pool for hot dogs, apple pie and ice cream. You don't get more American than that!

*Look Forward to Seeing  
You There!*



# 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  
Kay Serventi .....kserventi@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  
Municipal District Services (24 hrs) .....281-290-6500  
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..... www.centerpointenergy.com/outage  
Sex Offenders.....www.familywatchdog.us  
Comcast - Cable/High Speed Internet.....713-341-1000  
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Trash pickup Tues/Fri  
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Yard Stork .....kpuente@garygreene.com

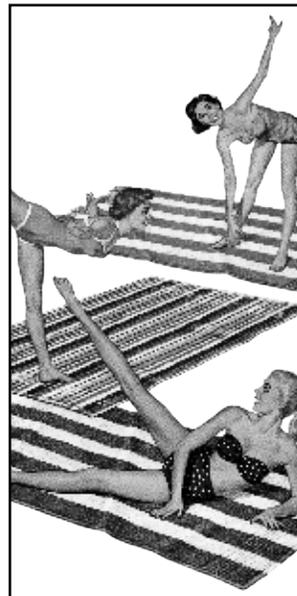
### NEWSLETTER

Editor..... newsletter@myvillagecreek.net  
(Deadline is the 10th of each month)  
Publisher - Peel, Inc..... 512-263-9181  
Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Don Rumsey .....don@myvillagecreek.net  
Sharon Gabbert..... sharon@myvillagecreek.net  
Jeff Lev ..... jeff@myvillagecreek.net  
Tom Brogan ..... tom@myvillagecreek.net  
Richard Moore .....richard@myvillagecreek.net  
Pool Card Info ..... poolcards@myvillagecreek.net  
Social Committee..... social@myvillagecreek.net

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ONLINE



THIS SUMMER,  
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June 1, 6:00 p.m.  
**Cypress Showroom**  
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Cypress, TX 77429

June 8, 6:00 p.m.  
**Woodlands Showroom**  
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The Woodlands, TX 77381

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### VILLAGE CREEK MARKET REPORT

Statistics are averages compiled from Houston Assoc. of Realtor MLS, 5/3/11

CATEGORY	NO.	PRICE	PRICE/SQ FT	DAYS ON MKT
Active Listings	22	\$225,324	\$77.95	174
Pending Listings	2	\$221,750	\$82.21	141
Sold Since 2/1/11	8	\$240,800	\$76.99	205

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## Residents Take Back Our Woods!

In the past two months the Village Creek walking trail and surrounding woods have been set on fire, vandalized with spray paint obscenities, and littered with trash items. Residents were shocked to learn about a camp behind the swing set where someone had used an old camper top to hide a fire pit along with other illegal activities. This outrage had residents coming together to clean up the illegal camp trash and vandalized walking trail. Acts such as these that destroy our neighborhood will not be tolerated. The Constable is conducting an investigation and residents are on high alert for anyone acting suspiciously. Remember that you can call your tips to the Constable anonymously by calling 281-376-3472. Our thanks go to those neighbors who donated their time, effort, and resources to repair the damages.

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## Spring Cleaning Reminders from the HOA

The weather is warm and the flowers are in bloom! Here are some guidelines to help us take pride in where we live.

- 1) When cutting bushes or trees, the branches must be bundled and no longer than four (4) feet in length and no more than forty (40) pounds. The trash service will not remove a pile of branches.
- 2) If you plan to paint your home, even the same color, you must apply for Architectural Control Committee (ACC) approval before you begin this project. Please remember to include a color sample with your application.
- 3) If you plan to do any exterior improvements, modifications, repairs or replacements, please remember you need approval of the ACC.
- 4) Driveways should be power washed to remove oil and stains.
- 5) Flowerbeds should be weeded and then mulched to prevent more weeds.

- 6) Trees should be trimmed away from stop signs and sidewalks to allow for visibility.
- 7) Clean entire lot area from all debris piles. They are a habitat for pests such as rodents, snakes, and mosquitoes.
- 8) Examine fencing and make repairs. Maintenance of shared fences is the responsibility of all parties who share that portion of fence. Painting or moving fencing also requires ACC approval and the paint must be Behr Brand in Premium Natural Cedar or Behr Brand Clear.
- 9) Trim the bushes around your home in order for law enforcement and neighbors to keep a better watch on our properties. This provides a good view of your home and does not give a place for an intruder to hide.
- 10) Being a good neighbor is helping one another. Look for ways to help neighbors by offering to lend a hand.

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# The Village Gazette

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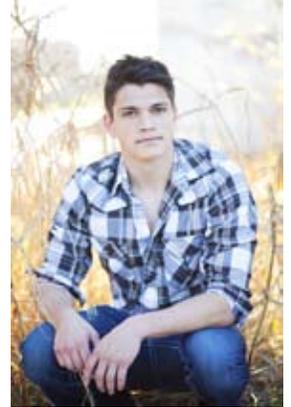
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## Village Creek Congratulates One of its Own!

Senior Anthony Moore is part of the graduating class on June 4<sup>th</sup> at Tomball High School. Anthony is a member of the National Honor Society and President of Mu Alpha Theta (The National Mathematics Honor Society). He also plays rugby and is graduating in the top 6% of the high class with 44 college hours from dual credit classes. He will attend the University of Texas at Austin next year. Your neighbors wish you the best for your future endeavors!



Seniors can still send in information to newsletter@myvillagecreek.net so we can celebrate their accomplishments!

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## May 2011 Yard of the Month

*Congratulations to 12722 Mossy Ledge*



Great job! Keep working hard it could be you next month! We want to express our gratitude to Arbor Gate for supplying the \$25 gift cards to the winners.

### ARE YOU READY TO SELL?



*In a competitive market you need an agent who knows how to make your home stand out! I am an **Accredited Staging Professional**. Let me help you get your home **SOLD!***

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Market Data for Village Creek

**Min \$/sq. ft. sold - \$62.58**

**Max \$/sq. ft. sold - \$93.68**

**Avg \$/sq. ft. sold - \$77.74**

**Average Days on Market – 188 days**

**Sales Price \$148,000 - \$320,000 (9 sales)**



#### **Suzanne Ellison, CDPE, ASP, ABR**

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## FINANCIAL FOCUS

### *Know Your Investment Risks — and How to Respond*

When you invest, you take some risks. While you can't totally avoid these risks, you can take steps to help reduce their impact and increase your comfort level. And the more comfortable you are with your investments, the easier it will be to follow a long-term strategy that can help you meet your goals.

Let's look at the most common types of risk related to investing, along with some suggestions on helping to reduce these risks:

**Losing principal** — This type of risk is most closely associated with investing. For example, when you purchase a stock, you know that its value could go up or down. If it drops below your purchase price, and you then sell your shares, you will lose some of your principal.

**Your response** — You can't eliminate the risk of losing principal, but by owning a mix of stocks, bonds, government securities and other types of investments, you can help reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio. Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't guarantee a profit or protect against loss.

**Losing value when interest rates change** — This type of risk primarily affects fixed-income investments, such as bonds. If you purchase a bond that pays, say, a 4% interest rate, and the market rate goes up to 5%, then the value of your bond will drop because

no one will be willing to pay you the full price for it when newer, higher-yielding bonds are available.

**Your response** — You can combat, or even ignore, interest rate risk by holding your bonds until they mature. By doing so, you'll get your full principal back, provided the issuer doesn't default, and you'll continue to receive regular interest payments unless the bonds are "called," or repurchased by the issuer. (You can help protect against this by purchasing bonds that have some degree of "call protection" and by owning bonds with different maturities.)

**Losing purchasing power** — This risk largely applies to fixed-rate investments such as certificates of deposit (CDs). To illustrate: If you purchase a CD that pays 2%, and the inflation rate is 3%, you are actually losing purchasing power.

**Your response** — Despite their vulnerability to inflation, CDs can offer you some valuable benefits, such as preservation of principal. Yet if you are concerned about fighting inflation, you may want to look for investments that have the potential to offer rising income, such as dividend-paying stocks. In fact, you can find stocks that have increased their dividends for many consecutive years. (Be aware,

*(Continued on Page 9)*



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Children under the age of 5 are at especially high risk.

Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

**JOIN US IN GETTING READY FOR A SAFE SUMMER IN THE WATER!**

**June 14th World's Largest Swim Lesson at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels.** Join Colin's Hope as we partner with Schlitterbahn to try and break the world record for the World's Largest Swim Lesson on Tuesday, June 14th. Visit [www.Schlitterbahn.com](http://www.Schlitterbahn.com) for more information.

**June 26th Open Water Swim benefits Colin's Hope** Splash into Lake Travis for the Red Licorice Events Open Water Swim at the Mansfield Dam on June 26. The swim benefits Colin's Hope and you can choose from 800m, 1.2 mile or 2.4 mile options. Visit [www.redlicoriceevents.com](http://www.redlicoriceevents.com) for more information.

**August 27th & 28th 3rd Annual Colin's Hope Kids Triathlon** Athletes ages 5-15, mark your calendars for August 27th & 28th. Our Kids Triathlon will once again take place in the Lake Pointe neighborhood. Registration opens in early June and will fill up very quickly! [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)

Children who drown often do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They can silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

For more information, check out our website at [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)

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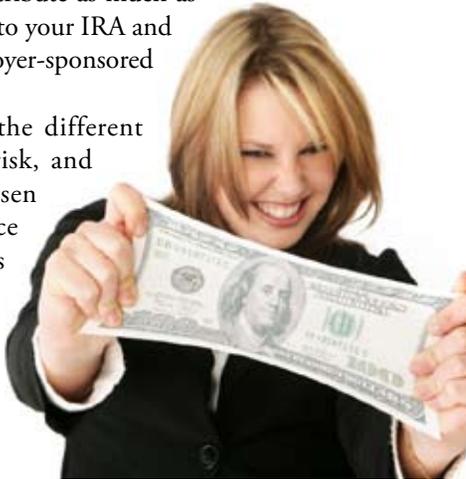
# The Village Gazette

## Financial Focus - (Continued from Page 8)

though, that companies can reduce or eliminate dividends at any time. Also, an investment in stocks fluctuates, and you could lose your principal.)

Apart from these individual techniques to reduce investment-related risk, you should also save early and save often — because the more money you accumulate, the greater your ability to follow a long-term strategy that reflects your personal risk tolerance. That's why it's a good idea to contribute as much as possible over the years to your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

By understanding the different types of investment risk, and by acting to help lessen them, you can reduce much of the stress sometimes associated with investing — while you increase your prospects for achieving your objectives.



## Playgroup

Village Creek has also started a toddler/preschool playgroup. We meet once a week at various parks in the area. For more information contact Tracy at [tmcco99@gmail.com](mailto:tmcco99@gmail.com) (please note the corrected email address).

## Village Creek Stork Report

Congratulations!  
Let us help celebrate...  
email info on the arrival  
of your little one to  
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## SHOW OFF YOUR SUPERHERO

Parents this is your chance to brag on your kiddos. We want pictures of your kids doing everyday things, school events, plays, sports, etc. Send in your pictures to be featured in the Village Gazette.

E-mail your pictures to [newsletter@myvillagecreek.net](mailto:newsletter@myvillagecreek.net) by the 9th of the month.

A graphic design featuring several puzzle pieces. One piece is a dark silhouette of a person. Another piece is a light gray silhouette of a speech bubble. A circular logo with a white 'P' on a dark background is also present. The text 'HOW ARE YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKING SKILLS?' is written in large, bold, black letters across the bottom of the graphic.

**HOW ARE YOUR  
SOCIAL NETWORKING SKILLS?**

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## Village Creek

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