

THE NEW DIRT

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9 TERRA NOVA OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2014

Fall Housekeeping Checklist

Autumn is a great time for another "spring cleaning". The kids have gone back to school, and the weather is turning cooler. Put away the summertime things and deep clean now so you can greet the coming of winter and the approaching holidays with a clean and comfortable home.

- Focus on public rooms: living room, family room, entryway, guest bath.

- Clean from top to bottom. Vacuum drapes and window treatments. Clean window sills and window wells. Vacuum baseboards and corners.

- Vacuum upholstered furniture, or have professionally cleaned if needed. Move furniture and vacuum beneath and behind it.

- Wash interior windows.

- Turn mattresses front-to-back and end-to-end to equalize wear.

- Launder or clean all bedding: mattress pads, pillows, duvets, blankets, comforters. Put away the summertime linens.

- Schedule professional carpet cleaning for early October! Warm October afternoons speed carpet drying. Carpet cleaning firms get busy by the end of October, so schedule now for best service.

- Pull refrigerator away from the wall, and vacuum the condenser coils. For bottom-mounted coils, use a long, narrow brush to clean coils of dust and debris.

- The days are getting shorter, so now is the time to wash light-

diffusing bowls from light fixtures.

- Check dryer exhaust tube and vent for built-up lint, debris or birds' nests! Make sure the exterior vent door closes tightly when not in use.

- Schedule fall furnace inspections now. Don't wait for the first cold night!

- Flush the hot water heater to remove sediment build-up, which decreases the efficiency of the water heater.

After the cleaning and before you recycle or trash any unwanted items, see if they can be reused. Check out some of the online and local resources below:

Habitat for Humanity ReStore – 13350 Jones Road, Houston, Texas 77070

Habitat for Humanity ReStores are nonprofit home improvement stores and donation centers that sell new and gently used furniture, home accessories, building materials and appliances to the public at a fraction of the retail price.

Goodwill & Salvation Army

Old clothes, furniture, and small household appliances in good, working condition can be given a second life through donation to your local Goodwill or Salvation Army.

Freecycle.org

Freecycle is like E-Bay, but it is free! Sign up to post your old furniture, appliances, paint, and electronics, as well as browse for other free stuff in your area.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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Poison Control Center.....800-222-1222
Reliant Energy.....800.332.7143

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AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

CASSIDY STAY BENEFIT

Terra Nova residents raised almost \$1750 at the Cassidy Stay Benefit held on July 14th at the Terra Nova Clubhouse and Pool. This was a great cause made successful by Cassidy's classmates, friends, volunteers and TN neighbors. Thank you to HOA President, Samantha Heaton, pulled this event together this together, to Sam Orta and Tracy Hanna, who lent a hand to the young people at the carwash and to Chrissy Spring for running the kitchen. Anyone still wanting to contribute money can send their donation directly to the Stay Family Memorial Fund c/o Amegy Bank.

VACATION WATCH PROGRAM

Before going on vacation, register for the Harris County Vacation Watch Program at (http://www.cd4.hctx.net/online_forms.php?formID=vacation). As part of the program, an officer is assigned a number of homes to patrol. The officer will regularly go to the home and walk the property to make sure everything is in order. Terra Nova is fortunate to have Harris County Constable, Sam Orta as a resident. You might also like to notify Constable Orta (orta.sam59@gmail.com) of the dates you will be gone, so he can keep an eye on your home.

SEPTEMBER HOA QUARTERLY MEETING

The fall quarterly meeting of the CATN will be held on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 7:30p.m at the Terra Nova Clubhouse (5200 Woodville Lane). All residents are encouraged to attend.

OCTOBER ISSUE DEADLINE

All articles for the October issue of the New Dirt should be sent to the editor (tnnewdirt@gmail.com) by September 6, 2014.



YARD OF THE MONTH

AUGUST

August Yard of the Month honors go to Sally and Richard Miller at 5203 Nodaway Lane. This residence, at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, features beautiful brick walkways alongside beds of knockout roses, foxtail ferns, and for a striking color contrast, clumps of white caladiums. A variety of mature trees shade a healthy, well-maintained lawn. Congratulations to the Millers for keeping our neighborhood attractive.



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& HOT TUB
FIRST



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FROM
DRAINS



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AT THE
BEACH



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& REFRESH
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REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS

and many others...

- Atascocita CIA
- Blackhorse Ranch
- Briar Hills
- Bridgeland
- Chelsea Harbour
- Coles Crossing
- Copperfield
- Cypress Creek Lakes
- Cypress Mill
- Eagle Springs
- Fairfield
- Kleinwood
- Lakemont
- Lakes of Fairhaven
- Lakes of Rosehill
- Lakes on Eldridge
- Lakes on Eldridge North
- Lakewood Grove
- Legends Ranch
- Longwood
- Meyerland
- Normandy Forest
- North Lake Forest
- Park Lakes
- Riata Ranch
- Shadow Creek Ranch
- Silverlake
- Steeplechase
- Sterling Lakes
- Stone Forest
- Stone Gate
- Summerwood
- Sydney Harbour
- Terranova West
- Terra Nova HOA
- Towne Lakes
- Village Creek
- Villages of NorthPointe
- Walden on Lake Houston
- Willowbridge
- Willow Pointe
- Wimbledon Champions
- Winchester Country
- Woodwind Lakes
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AT THE LIBRARY

Susan Tsujimoto, Editor

BARBARA BUSH LIBRARY BOOK CLUBS SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Evening Book Club

On Tuesday, September 9th, from 7:00-8:45 PM the Evening Book Club will meet to discuss the book "The Kitchen House" by Kathleen Grissom. The club will meet in the Women's Council of Realtors Conf. Rm. (2nd Floor). All are welcome, bring a friend.

Great Books Discussion Group

On September 15, from 7:00- 8:45 PM the Great Books Discussion Group will meet in the Women's Council of Realtors Conf. Rm. (2nd Floor) to discuss "Thus Spoke Zarathustra" by Friedrich Nietzsche. The Great Books Discussion Group meets on the third Monday of each month.

Afternoon Book Discussion Group

The Afternoon Book Club will meet on two dates in Septemberto discuss "Life After Life" by Kate Atkinson. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25 from 1:30 - 3:30 PM, in the Earl Elliot Room (Foyer). A second meeting will be held on Friday, September 26 from 2:30 - 4:30 PM in the Women's Council of Realtors Conference Room (2nd Floor).

Detailed calendar with many other library events and programs at <http://www.bcpl.net/location/barbara-bush-branch-library-cypress-creek>.

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LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

· SEPTEMBER SIGN-UP ·

Fun-Fair-Positive Soccer (FFPS) FALL Registration - Now Open!

For boys & girls, ages 4-18, FFPS provides a positive youth sports experience, equal play time & play every position, balanced teams, positive coaches & much more. SIGN UP EARLY AND SAVE! Schedule includes all eight games, played locally on Saturdays, October 11th through December 6th. For more information, to find a location near you, or to register online, go to www.FFPS.org or call 1-800-828-PLAY.

· SEPTEMBER 8TH ·

Kids' Running Team's Cross Country

The Northwest Flyers Track Club Youth Cross Country Team kicks off the fall season with registration and a mandatory orientation for parents and athletes on September 8, 2014, at 7:00 P.M. Registration will be held at Cypress Creek High School, 9815 Grant Rd., Houston, TX. For more information, visit www.northwestflyers.org, or contact Coach Donnell Carter at dcarter.nwflyers@yahoo.com, or 281-467-4727.

· SEPTEMBER 15TH ·

Bluebonnet Squares

LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE. The Bluebonnet Squares invites you to a FREE Fun Night September 15th, 7:30 P.M., at Spring Woods United Methodist Church (1711 FM 1960 West). No prior dancing experience or ability is required. Regular lessons for couples or singles with partners begin September 23rd, at 7:30 P.M. For more information call Betsy Maxwell at 281-350-3669 or John Gray at 713-417-9749. You can also visit the Bluebonnet Squares website at <http://bluebonnets.irisar.com>.

· SEPTEMBER 15TH ·

Northwest Houston Business & Professional Women

Business women in Northwest Houston seeking to network with other professional women are invited to join the Northwest Houston Business & Professional Women (BPW) for the Think Pink Fashion Show and Silent Auction benefiting Breast Cancer on Sept. 15 at Northgate Country Club, 17110 Northgate Forest Dr., Houston, Tx 77068. Register by Sept 15 at <http://nwhoustonbpw.com>, or contact Goldie Roberts, Publicity Chair, at 832-722-5064.

· SEPTEMBER 16TH ·

Cypress-Tomball Democrats

Cypress-Tomball Democrats will meet on Tuesday, September 16th, 2014 at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. Chonya Johnson, government affairs consultant, trainer, and author of "The Five Minute Advocate" will speak. Her topic will be "Before November: On-the-Spot Advocacy to Get out the Vote!" Meetings are open to all. For more information, visit the website at www.cytomdems.com, or contact Glenn Etienne at cytomdems@yahoo.com.

· SEPTEMBER 20TH ·

Cypress Symphony, Erik Sundet conducting

Join the Cypress Symphony on September 20th, 7 P.M. at The Centrum, for a night of beautiful, passionate music featuring works by Barber, Vivaldi and Bartok. Visit cypresssymphony.org for tickets!

LRUD WATER TIP

Every glass of water brought to your table at a restaurant requires two glasses of water to wash and rinse it. Please tell your waiter NOT to bring a glass of water, unless you are going to drink it.

Bathroom facilities claim nearly 75% of the indoor water used. An ultra-low, flush toilet can cut your family's total indoor water use by 20%.

Editor's note: When replacing your toilet, consider donating it to a Habitat for Humanity Re-Store, rather than sending it to the landfill.



The Recipe Box

Susan Tsujimoto, Editor

It's back-to-school time!! With all the activities you might find yourself short on time around dinner. This is a quick-and-easy weeknight recipe that's sure to please everyone in the family.



Pronto Pizza

Ingredients

- 4 English Muffins
- Butter
- 6 oz can tomato paste
- 1 Tbsp salad oil
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp oregano
- ¼ tsp garlic powder
- ½ c shredded mozzarella
- 24-32 pieces of pepperoni
- 1/3 c green pepper, diced
- 1/3 c onion, diced
- Parmesan cheese, grated

Preparation

1. Split muffins and toast, spread with butter.
2. Combine tomato paste, salad oil, salt, oregano, and garlic powder.
3. Spoon tomato mixture onto muffins
4. Sprinkle each muffin with 1 tablespoon of cheese
5. Top with 3-4 pieces of pepperoni and veggies
6. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese
7. Place under broiler until cheese is melted,-OR- bake at 425 for 5-10 minutes.
8. Serve with a green salad tossed with Italian dressing.

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Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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If I had my life to live over..

I'd dare to make more **mistakes**
I would relax.

I'd **limber** up and be **sillier** than I've been this trip.

I would climb more mountains
and swim more rivers....

I would eat more ice cream.

I'd start going barefoot earlier in the Spring
and stay that way later in the Fall.

I would go to more dances, ride more **merry-go rounds**
and have more **belly - aching** laughter!

I would pick more daisies,

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