



THE TRAINING WHEELS ARE OFF!

BICYCLE – a vehicle with two wheels tandem, handle bars for steering, a saddle seat and pedals, by which it is steered. Doesn't sound too complicated does it? Two of our HCSO Patrolmen, Officers Garcia and Nichols might disagree. They recently completed the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Bicycle Patrol Certification course which consists of 40 hours of classroom and road training. The training course is located at Deussen Park in northeast Harris County, TX.

Topics covered in the classroom portion are bicycle maintenance and safety. The road portion of the training is split into a timed 4 ½ mile ride that requires the trainee to complete the course within a predetermined time. The second portion of the course consists of bicycle handling skills which include:

- Operating in a crowded environment
- Negotiating obstacles
- Pursuit tactics
- Patrolling rugged terrain
- Urban patrolling and tactical exercises
- Crowd control

According to Deputy Nichols the course was challenging and the instruction excellent. Bicycles provide numerous advantages to the department and Deputies. The bikes allow a quiet response, great mobility, and can navigate traffic easily as Deputies are able to make use of sidewalks and park trails too. The WHMUD #11 Board generously provided the Sheriff's Office two fully equipped mountain bikes for use in the parks and roadways of the Mud District. Bicycle operations and maintenance costs are low but probably the greatest benefit is public relations, as Deputies are able to interact with the citizens on routine patrols. Deputy Garcia noted that on their first time out they were teased a little about their shorts but residents seemed happy to see them. Some were surprised as was the case with HOA President Jennifer Y'Barbo. She said she was working in the yard and "dressed to till" (Madame President, you know what they say about glass houses and wrought iron fences?). Deputy Garcia

(Continued on Page 3)



By Walter Griffin

After witnessing two near miss accidents a month or so ago involving bicycles and motorized vehicles (one with a car and one with a motorcycle), it became apparent that bicyclists and car/truck/motorcycle drivers are experiencing difficulty "sharing the roads" in our neighborhoods.

Frequently, bicyclists ride on our streets with earphones plugged in and enjoying whatever it is their MP3 is playing, with their heads down, and are oblivious to other traffic around them. Likewise, motorists in a hurry or texting or otherwise using their cell phones are preoccupied and are negligent of the bicyclists, and even the pedestrians walking in the streets instead of on the sidewalks. Somehow, we should become more cognizant of each other or a serious accident will happen, and the probability is that the pedestrian or bicyclist will suffer the most bodily harm.

It is commonly brought up at the HOA meetings that cars are running stop signs, but so are bicyclists. And joggers and pedestrians who do not use the sidewalks can be seen walking in the streets, and often two or three abreast. That circumstance presents a hazard for them, the automobiles, and even the bicyclists who ride into the middle of the street and even into the oncoming lane to get around them.

I teach motorcycle safety to those wishing to learn to ride at Awesome Cycles, Inc. on Kuykendahl, and we stress vulnerability and visibility of motorcyclists. The same circumstances hold true for bicyclists and pedestrians/joggers---if you are not visible to traffic, you may become a serious statistic; and you can cry about having

(Continued on Page 3)

Willowbridge - Stonebridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies.....	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Street Lights & Outages - CenterPoint Energy.....	713-207-2222
CenterPoint Energy.....	713-659-2111
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
AT&T - Repair	800-246-8464
Billing	800-585-7928
Trash – WCA.....	281-368-8397
Vacation Watch - Harris County District 5	281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11.....	281-807-9500
Willow Place Post Office	281-890-2392
Willowbridge Website	www.willowbridgehoa.com

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Beautification Committee

Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@subhou.com
Homeowners Association	281-497-4320
Graham Mgmt - Tracy Graham	
.....	grahammanagement@sbcglobal.net

Clubhouse/Reservations

Tammy Puerta	281-497-4320
Pool Parties/Tags	
Sweetwater Pool Co.	281-988-8480

Marquee Coordinator

Barbara Lallinger.....	281-890-8464
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Newsletter Coordinator

Barbara Lallinger & Rebecca Peters	
.....	willowbridgenews@gmail.com

Security Coordinator

Julie Dubros.....	281-794-9032
.....	martin@juliedubros.com

Website Coordinator

Angela Doray.....	willowbridgehoa@live.com
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Yard of the Month Committee

Nominate your favorite at: willowbridgehoa.com or Contact

Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@subhou.com
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Lost Pet Coordinator

Sonia Moore	msrco@aol.com, 281-955-8068
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Welcoming Committee

Gracie Galvan	281-732-0009
.....	galvangracie@hotmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Y'Barbo	President
George Schaudel	Secretary
Rebecca Peters	Treasurer
Brian Fisher	Director
Barbara Lallinger	Director

HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc. - Graham Mgmt

Tracy Graham

E-Mail

Fax

If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood please contact the numbers above.

HOA MEETINGS

Willowbridge/Stonebridge Homeowner's Association

Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each quarter (Jan, Apr, Jul, & Oct) at the community clubhouse at 7:00 pm.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

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

HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

To report street or curb damage, missing/damaged street signs and street flooding: (281) 353-8424 or www.hcp4.net.

If a resident wants to request a new sign or replace a damaged one, they have to go online and fill out a request.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint Energy. We pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision... every month... regardless if they are illuminated or not!! This is also a serious safety issue. To report an outage, follow these steps:

1. Dial (713) 207-2222.
2. Choose a language preference.
3. Select option "4" (for street light outages).
4. Provide the 6 digit number (located approximately 5 feet up the pole), street name and closest address.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Newsletter Article submission Deadline is 3rd of each month. Please give a 2 month advance notice.

(Sharing the Roads, Cont. from Cover)

the “right of way” (if you did indeed have the right of way) all the way to the hospital via ambulance or life flight.

I will not get into the political arena on the matter, but I’ve heard it said by bicyclists that “I pay taxes, so I have the right to ride wherever I want to on the street”...well, how much do bicyclists pay in road taxes? Road taxes are primarily collected on fuels, road use taxes, and motor vehicle sales taxes. And if they do have such rights, then why aren’t they required to pay for liability insurance just as automobile/truck/motorcycle drivers do? Again, this is a sticky topic---one that took the city of Houston months to finally grasp and pass legislation on...and many motorists are still not happy with the legislation, and bicyclists are still being hit by automobiles with catastrophic results. In many cases, the motorist is found to “not be at fault” for the accident as the bicyclist/pedestrian was not visible or was otherwise putting themselves and/or others at risk.

I sometimes open that topic (“sharing the road”) for discussion in my motorcycle classes, and the remarks/comments are interesting. Not long ago, an attorney in one of my classes told us that his client had collected from a bicyclist (bicyclist reportedly had personal liability insurance and was very arrogant with the investigating officers and the court) for the damage done to his client’s car, attorney’s fees, court costs, and so forth. The bicyclist was found at fault for deliberately weaving in and out of traffic resulting in several

fender benders along Highway 529 near FM 1960. There is a bicycle lane there, but bicyclists do not always remain in their lanes; and with the speed limit in that area being 45mph, bicyclists are constantly endangered by passing and turning motor vehicle traffic.

Summertime is upon us. Parents and guardians, please remind your children/charges that more and more people are texting and talking on cell phones while driving, and that a bicycle and/or pedestrian cannot win at road rage, nor will they likely recover from a serious incident involving a motorized vehicle. The speed limit within the confines of our neighborhoods is 30mph, and severe bodily damage will occur when a person is hit by a vehicle traveling at that speed.

As the signs posted along the Texas highways state, “Let’s Share the Road”.

(The Training Wheels, Cont. from Cover)

also said being on the bikes allowed residents to flag them down and converse with them regarding various issues. If you see the deputies please give them a “thank you” and remember, the bicycle patrol tends to be quiet and can sneak up on you!



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Willowbridge - Stonebridge

2015 POOL WRISTBANDS ISSUANCE SETS A RECORD!!!

Wrist bands were distributed 5 times this year (2 more than normal). Our weather cooperated for the most part (beautiful on the first day, Monday with 2 volunteers processing 220 residence applications and Thursday, 2 volunteers valiantly ducking lightning and thunder boomers). Willowbridge/Stonebridge has 827 residences. Approximately 47.5 percent of the residences applied for 2015 wristbands (green for adults and red for children 12 and under). The board is aware that there were still complaints from residents regarding the timing and are working on resolving this for the 2016 season. Many residents are not aware, but the application is on the website. In addition, Laura Neidhardt (Stonebridge resident) gifted her email list with a copy. This year (as last year) we ran out of applications and had to run to the Mr. Z's to have more printed. For the 2016 season we plan to print the application in the newsletter. If you have other ideas of how to improve this process please contact one of your board members. Don't forget that you must be up to date on all HOA dues, late fees, etc. to be issued wrist bands. The board receives a list of homeowners in arrears and sometimes our list and your payments do not coincide. In the future, if you think you are not paid in full, please contact Graham Management at (281) 497-4320 in advance of applying for your wristbands. This will save both you and the HOA time on issuance dates.

Our pool is a 6 lane lap pool with a deep end and diving board, as well as a covered wading pool designed for young children (please note rule on diapers in Pool Rules article). Many residents with pools picked up wrist bands this year, stating that when the kids have guests over, they like the community pool because it has a diving board. The pool was completely refurbished last year. The only thing that could have made it newer would have been to dig a new hole!

Please remember that your board is made up of 5 volunteers and they can't do everything. Volunteers are needed for community pool parties, wristband distribution, festivals, fun day in the park, National Night Out, etc. We also appreciate all of you who keep the neighborhood looking nice by picking up trash while walking. Every little bit counts!

POOL HOURS

Summer Season officially opens: Friday 6/5/15

CLOSED ON MONDAY

Tuesday – Saturday 10:30 am - 8:30 pm

Sunday 12 Noon - 8:00 pm

POOL RULES

In anticipation of a great swim season the Willowbridge/Stonebridge HOA asks for your cooperation in following these official pool rules:

- Swimming is at your own risk.
- No swimming without a lifeguard on duty.
- This facility is for the Exclusive use of the Willowbridge/Stonebridge HOA Community.
- All trespassers will be prosecuted.
- Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children.
- No one 12 years of age or younger is permitted in the pool area without the supervision of a person 18 years of age or older. EXCEPTION: PARENTS MAY AGREE to allow 11 year olds to come alone and they will be issued an adult wrist band at time of distribution.
- Wrist bands must be worn at check in and on swimmer at all times. If you do not have a wrist band, you will not be allowed access into the facility.
- Residents are allowed (1) guest per pool tag. Guests within the

(Continued on Page 5)

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(Continued from Page 4)

POOL RULES CONTINUED

pool area must be accompanied at all times by their host. Guests must sign in.

- Regulation swimwear must be worn at all times. Cutoff jeans, basketball shorts, over sized shirts or other inappropriate wear will not be allowed.
- Disposable diapers are not allowed in the pool. Children under the age of 2 years must wear disposable swim pants or rubber pants.
- No running or rough-housing around the pool allowed.
- No diving allowed in the pool, except in the deep end.
- Anyone with open sores or wounds is prohibited from using the pool.
- No glass containers allowed in the pool area.
- No pets allowed in the pool area.
- No loud music or abusive language will be tolerated.
- Only small floating devices will be allowed in the pool area (at lifeguard's discretion).
- No skates, skateboards or bikes allowed in the pool area.
- Pool will be closed with the first sound of thunder until 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder. Closure shall be at the discretion

of lifeguards on duty.

- All swimmers must be cleared from the pool during the administration of serious first aid and during sessions as may be determined by the lifeguards from time to time.
- Failure to follow rules may result in your immediate removal from the pool area and/or possible suspension from the pool for an extended period of time.
- Willowbridge/Stonebridge HOA will strictly enforce these rules and you will be asked to leave if disobeyed. Failure to leave the facility will result in the lifeguards contacting the authorities to have you removed.
- Report damages or needed repairs to the facility, by contacting Graham Management at (281) 497-4320. Note: 2 guests per tag are allowed this year to be evaluated at end of season with possibility of reverting back to 1 per tag for the 2016 season.

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CHMS SRES

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

So that we may meet the publishers deadline in a more timely manner the deadline to submit articles for WillowTalk, is being changed to the 3rd of the month (previously the 8th). Please remember that most articles need a (2) month lead to be included in the current month's Newsletter.

THE SCHOOL ZONE

By: Barbara Lallinger

The Jersey Village High School Project Prom 2015 board would like to thank all of you in our community who supported our event this year. Many of you put in countless hours planning and executing fund raising events throughout the entire year. Many others participated in and even brought friends and neighbors to the fundraisers themselves. Approximately 100 parents volunteered to make the night of Project Prom a success. It could not have happened without you.

This event impacts everyone in our community, not just the senior students and their parents. Keeping our students safe is a community effort. We want to sincerely thank you for helping provide a safe and memorable Prom for the Seniors of 2015!



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