

THE
MEMORIAL CREEK
ESTATES

Bulletin



Meet the Davis Family!

The Memorial Creek Estate's feature family this month is the Davis family of five: Kari (40), Caleb (37), Jonah (11), Cameron (8), and Taryn (6). And, the Davis family also includes five pets including Benson and Miles, their happy and fun loving King Charles Cavalier Spaniels who love to be walked back at the gully. They can sometimes be seen gallivanting around the neighborhood when someone forgets to latch the back gate only to be returned to us by one of their many friendly neighbors! The other Davis family pets consist of three cats. Moses, Paulie, and Hannah who can be seen sauntering around the Davis yard.

Besides being a fun-loving family (hence, the photo), the Davis is a very active family and enjoy camping, hiking, road trips, playing games, and movie nights. Caleb is interested in all things aviation and is currently working on getting his pilot's license. Kari enjoys

running in the neighborhood, cooking, and gardening. Jonah is an avid reader and likes to create his own comics. Cameron loves soccer and has been playing since he was a kindergartner. Taryn loves the water and takes swimming lessons and is on the Marlins swim team in the summer. Jonah just advanced into Boy Scouts while Cameron and Taryn are both in Cub Scouts.

The Davis family has lived in Memorial Creek Estates since 2010 and shared that they love the quaint family friendly atmosphere at MCE and are happy to call it their home.

If you happen to be out and about walking the neighborhood, be sure to stop by the Davis home, and congratulate the Davis' on the Yard of the Month recognition!



Memorial Creek Estates Bulletin

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

First Service Residential..... contactus.tx@fsresidential.com
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Steve Peltier..... Board Member
Kurt Gooslsbee..... Board Member
Anthony Carroll..... Committee Member
Deborah Maly..... Committee Member
Lauren McCarty..... Committee Member
Lester Brown..... Committee Member

*Monthly HOA meetings on the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm
6900 Crescent Clover, Spring, TX 77379*

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Pool | Sweetwater Pools 281-988-8480

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Fire Department 9755 Landry Blvd.

Animal Control 281-999-3191

Spring Cleaning Checklist



Yes, it is that time of year. Along with the joy of having longer days and warmer weather comes the list of “to-dos” to prepare your home for spring.

The following is a list of basic home maintenance items that were printed in the Houston Chronicle’s, Sunday, March 3, 2019 article titled “Spring Home Maintenance Checklist”. For more details, please refer to the Houston Chronicle’s web site.

I like the beginning of the Spring Checklist “Maintaining your residence can save thousand in the long run, and there are some home improvement projects you can complete yourself, without hiring a professional”. The idea of increasing the value of my home and doing so with little additional investment other than some elbow grease and time, is very appealing!

Here is the Spring Home Maintenance Checklist

1. Clean you gutters (do I hear an ugh!)? The article explains that clogged gutters can cause water damage to your home by not allowing the water that has collected to flow where it is intended to go, thus creating an opportunity for rot, mold, bugs, etc. and who knows what else!

2. Clean your dryer vent. Hey-another money-saving tip. The clean dryer vent can save money by reducing dryer times! Also, from a safety perspective, lint that becomes trapped in a dryer vent can potentially cause a house fire.

3. Check the washing machine fill hose. Apparently, cracks and leaks in the water hoses can cause water damage (again with the water!). Water from the leaky hoses can create water damage to floors as well as foundations.

4. Fix crack in walkways and driveways. Inspect drive way and walkways for cracks and loose particles in the structure. Catching these items when they are little problems can save big dollars before they spread into costly repairs.

5. Touch up paint areas. The article advised completing a top to bottom inspection for peeling or chipped paint areas. The easy touch-up fixes will keep your home looking fresh and will prevent further damage.

(Continued on Page 4)



**Memorial Creek
Estates
Facebook**

Did you know we have a Facebook Page! We are the "Unofficial Memorial Creek Estates" Stay in the know between newsletters.

Memorial Creek Estates Yard of the Month March 2019



The March 2019 Yard-of-the-Month award goes to the Davis family (additional information on the Davis family in the Feature Family section of the newsletter). You can tell it is spring in the neighborhood just by looking at the variety of flowers in the Davis' yard. There are colorful flowerbeds around the base of the two trees in the front of the home and near the entrance. The Davis's yard is a beautiful example of combining colorful flowers, manicured hedges, and use of landscaping features such as rocks, throughout the front yard, without the appearance of the yard being cluttered.

The Following are the Yard of the Month's Honorable Mentions

Thi and Alex have done a beautiful job of making the landscaping in their yard interesting and beautiful. Notice the azalea bushes at the walkway; these azaleas are even more prominent now, as we enter into spring, than they were at the time of the photo. There are a few "Sister" plants, palms, and a variety of flowers. Again, what a difference a few weeks can make as the plants have grown during the onset of warmer weather and have become abundantly more colorful. Congratulations Thi and Alex! Good job!



Another Yard-of-the-Month Honorable Mention selection, is the following home. If you live on the "short block", you will have had to have passed this home. The family is working with the plants and maintaining weed-free flower beds many days during the week and nearly every weekend. Their hard work really pays off as the pansies, palms, and the calla lilies (my personal favorite) are some of the most beautiful in the area. And, an interesting element is the kumquat tree. Kumquat trees can be found not only in this yard, but in a few others in the neighborhood.



So many of the homes in the MCE subdivision are coming to life with the spring weather and what a joy to be a part of a community that takes great pride in maintaining and beautifying our neighborhood!

Congratulations to each of the YOM families!!!

Memorial Creek Estates Bulletin

(Continued from Page 2)

6. Clean around and under the refrigerator. The dust on coils makes the frig work harder and ↑ electrical bills (\$\$\$). There are so many other things you could do with that savings!

7. Replace batteries in smoke detectors. We all know about this one!!! Safety, safety, safety!!!

8. Prepare your lawn mower for summer. No excuses for an unkempt lawn! Change the oil, sharpen blades (not promoting Ace, but they do have a sharpening service), replace spark plugs, oil and clean trimmers, etc.

9. Examine the seals around window and doors. Another savings opportunity. Repair the seals around windows and doors to prevent (drum roll here...) water damage! And, saves on heat and AC costs by reducing energy used by HVAC systems.

10. Drain your water heater. Okay – so this is a new to me. In an effort to prevent gunk build up in the bottom of the water heater, drain the spigot at the bottom of the tank. In doing so the life of the water heater will be extended and it will reduce energy (\$\$\$).

11. Do a roof inspection. For this one, you may consider a professional. The roof of the house is the most important protector against water damage. NOW is the time to look for possible water damage or defective areas.

Club Track Team Registration for Middle and High School Athletes



Club Track Team Registration for Middle and High School Athletes

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is now registering middle and high school athletes for the spring and summer 2019 season. An orientation session for school athletes will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Matzke Elementary School, 10002 Mills Rd., Houston, 77070.

The team, which is celebrating its 32nd season, is sanctioned by USA Track & Field, and provides a full program of “track” events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and “field” events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, discus, shot put and javelin. It is an excellent “off-season” program for young athletes who compete on their middle school or high school track teams.

For additional information about the team and the orientation, visit www.northwestflyers.org, email linette.roach@sbcglobal.net, or call 832-725-4754.

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Raptors

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

Have you ever heard of a hawk vest, raptor shield or coyote vest? I had no idea they even existed until I started researching this article. Although they may go by different names, they are all very similar and serve the same purpose. They claim to protect small animals from birds of prey, coyotes and even aggressive dogs. Now you may think this is silly and even a little ridiculous but if you're someone who has suffered the loss of a pet snatched by a raptor or coyote, it makes perfect sense. As recently as January 18th in Pennsylvania, an 8-pound bichon frise was playing in the backyard when an eagle swooped down, grabbed it with its talons and flew off with it. Not to worry. For some unknown reason, the eagle dropped it 4 miles away and the dog recovered.

A bird of prey is a meat-eater but not all birds of prey are raptors. Eagles, owls, ospreys, kites, hawks, buzzards, harriers, vultures, and falcons are all raptors. Three traits help distinguish a raptor from other birds of prey and these three traits make raptors excellent hunters. A raptor has a curved beak with sharp edges, sharp claws or talons and excellent eyesight.

Of all the animals in the animal kingdom, raptors have the best eyesight. Their eyesight is 6 to 8 times better than ours. As far as which raptor has the best eyesight it is most definitely the eagle. It is believed that an eagle can spot an ant crawling on the ground from atop a 10-story building, or a rabbit up to a mile away. Breaking that down even a little further, this means an eagle flying at an altitude of 1000 feet over open country could spot prey over an area of almost 3 square miles from a fixed position.

The talons, or claws, of raptors are curved downward and are razor sharp. If you were to see a raptor's foot up close you would also notice rough bumps on the pads of the feet which aid in hanging onto their prey like slippery fish. The raptor swoops down and with a vise-like grip either kills the prey or inflicts serious wounds.

The beaks of raptors are all the same. They are curved with very sharp edges. They use their beaks to tear off fur, pull out feathers and tear meat into bite-sized pieces that they swallow whole. Raptors also have what we would call a "tooth" on the inside of the upper part of their beak. It's shaped like a triangle and is called a tomia. This is used to cut the spinal cord of its prey.

If you come across an injured raptor, there are very important steps to take to insure your safety and the safety of the bird. First, call TWRC Wildlife Center. If the bird doesn't fly away when approached, this doesn't always mean it's injured. It could be protecting food or babies. If it is determined that the bird actually needs rescuing, we will direct you on how to safely capture and restrain the hawk. If you do not feel comfortable handling the hawk, we can recommend other options for transport. If it is injured, you'll need heavy gloves, safety glasses and a thick towel or blanket. Throw the towel or blanket over

the bird and take hold of the bird by keeping its wings close to its body and your hands out of reach of the talons. Darkness helps calm birds and the towel provides that. Place the bird in a sturdy box or pet carrier that is only slightly larger than the bird. If it's too large, the bird will be able to flop around and could inflict even more injuries. Be sure to remove the towel or blanket from the container. Now place that towel or blanket over the carrier. Bring the bird to us as quickly as possible for care. Please do not attempt to feed the bird or provide water. As with most wild animals, it is illegal to have raptors in your possession. They are federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918.

If you have any wildlife questions, give us a call at 713-468-8972 or check our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org.

Spring is our busiest season and babies have started coming in. We need compassionate people to help feed and care for baby squirrels, baby opossums and baby birds. The age requirement is 14 and up. This is an experience you'll never forget! The link is <https://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org/volunteer/>



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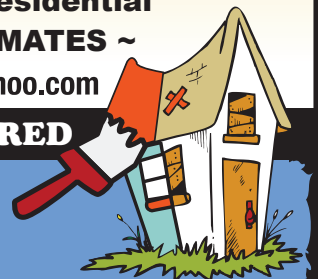
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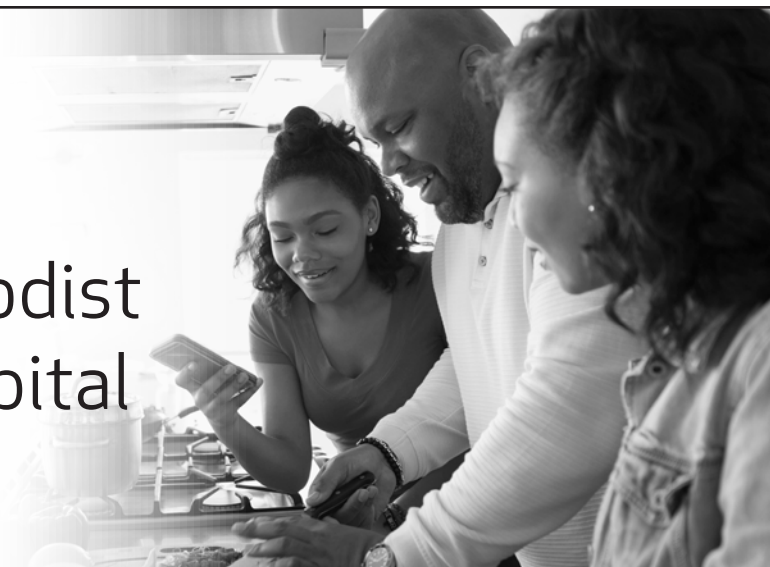
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