

# Willow Park Greens Community Newsletter

Summer 2005

### SAVE THE DATE July 4th, 7ish 21407 Willow Glade Drive



4th of July Finger Food Potluck! Bring a lawn chair and your favorite finger food.

Join your neighbors to celebrate and socialize!

## SPRING PICNIC-A HUGE SUCCESS

Sunday, April 24, 2005 was a beautiful day. The weather was ideal and there was

an atmosphere of sociability in the neighborhood. Approximately 40 families contributed delicious food and enthusiastic friendliness to make our first community party this year, a resounding success. Children played games and adults chatted as we listened to the lovely singing voice of Dena Hart (Waller). Dena

spent the afternoon entertaining us with familiar country and western tunes as well as her own original work. We have some very talented resi-



dents in our neighborhood! We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Bob and Jan Anderson for hosting such a triumphant event. New

friendships were formed and existing friendships were strengthened as we passed a very pleasant afternoon.

Note: Jan would like to remind anyone who accidentally returned home with extra serving utensils that they can be returned to 21407 Willow Glade

Drive. Since the picnic, her flatware set is missing six serving spoons.

#### WPG WISHES TO THANK THESE Neighborhood Businesses For Sponsoring This Edition Of Our Newsletter!

BOB'S PERSONAL TOUCH LAWNS & IRRIGATION SERVICE

Mowing - Edging -Trimming - Lawn Maintenance Licensed Sprinkler System Installer, French Drains



### Wi-Fi Firefly Your guiding light to wireless security

Is your wireless network secure? Are you sure? WEP? WPA? SSID Broadcast? IP Blocks? MAC Filtering? Don't worry! We can help! Our technicians will handle all the details so that you can

rest easy knowing that your personal information is protected. For more information, visit http://www.WiFiFirefly.com

Willow Park Greens residents receive 10% off our services when you mention this ad.

## AND THE WINNER IS...

We are pleased to announce the winners of Willow Park Green's first Yard of the Month Contest. Paul and Cindy Jordan of Willow Glade Drive, received a \$50.00 Lowe's gift certificate and a lawn sign announcing their achievement, for their horticultural handy work. The judges were looking for manicured lawns and shrubs, neat flower beds and tidy sidewalks. Paul and Cindy do their own yard work and Paul credits their success to "lots of water and fertilizer!"

In addition to the grand winners, we have two runners-up. Sharon Dickinson of Willow Glade Drive and Harry Allen also of Willow Glade Drive were second and third respectively. Honorable mention also goes to 3019 Willow Fork and 2814 Stableview. Our heartiest congratulations to all of the winners! The next contest dates will be July 16, 2005 and August 20, 2005. At the next judging, officials will be looking for seasonal color as well as tidy, manicured lawns and shrubbery. We encourage everyone to sharpen their garden spades and dig in. As we improve our yards and our neighborhood, we're all winners!



#### **Best Wishes**

to WPG's latest newlyweds... Stacy Baker and Cliff Nelson wed on May 20th in Richmond, Texas CONGRATULATIONS!



### NAME THE NEWSLETTER UPDATE!

Due to a lack of response, the "Name The Newsletter" contest has been extended to July 31st. Please submit your ideas to newsletter@willowparkgreens.org or call Tami at 281-646-9288



### Deed Restrictions Letters

Each month, a Principal Management Group representative tours Willow Park Greens to make note of any deed restrictions violations. A friendly request to correct any problems is then mailed to residents with violations. Below is a tally and description of letters mailed to residents in April/May 2005:

2	store trash
cans out	of
public view	
1	clean garage
door	
33	mow/edge
the lawn	
2	relocate sat-
ellite dish	to

### HELP YOUR GARDENS TAKE THE HEAT

Summer has arrived. The weather is hot and our plants are wilting and shriveling in the oppressive south Texas heat. Fortunately, there are simple things you can do to provide them with some relief.

• Begin with good soil. Mixing lots of good quality compost into raised beds or containers before planting will help them retain moisture, increase air circulation and feed your plants slowly over the season.

• A good quality fertilizer applied in the spring and again in the summer (according to the instructions on the container label,) will keep plants healthier and help prevent disease and insect damage aggravated by heat stress and poor plant nutrition.

• Mulch applied to a depth of 2" to 4" reduces watering needs by up to 25%, prevents excessive soil temperatures that slow plant growth and helps control weeds while it creates a tidy appearance. Native variety ground covers around trees and in shady areas also helps reduce water requirements.

• Stepping stones at regular intervals in your garden helps reduce impaction as you work. Treading on the earth around plants packs the ground and reduces the amount of water the soil can absorb. Stepping stones, like garden sculpture, add interest and don't need water to keep them looking good!

• Water early in the morning so the water has a greater chance to absorb into the soil before the weather gets too hot. Watering at dusk increases the risk of mold and mildew encouraged by cooler evening temperatures.

• Subscribe to local publications or read regional books and guides that provide specific gardening information for our exacting growing conditions.



• Grow a mixture of perennials and annuals. Choose only plant varieties that are native to this area or have proven to thrive in our climate. A local nursery can recommend the best choices for your site requirements as well as valuable cultivation information.

For people with little time for gardening, consider shrubs instead of flowers. Shrubs are hardy, require less care, prevent soil erosion and create a finished look. that are successful in Katy: A= annual, P= perennial, E= evergreen, D= deciduous Antique Roses varies Þ Asian Star Jasmine Е fs/ps Begonias part sun A Butterfly vine pt shade D Caladium Р shade Coleus pt shade Δ Crossvine full sun Е Day lilies full sun Р Dusty Miller full sun А English Ivy shade Е Е Honeysuckle full sun Impatiens shade A Lantana full sun Ρ Marigolds full sun A Petunias full sun Α Salvia full sun А Star of Texas full sun Ρ Verbena full sun Ρ Vinca

#### The following is a list of plants

### NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### Special Events Committee

Due to the recent success of our Spring Picnic, we would like to create a formal WPG Special Events Committee. The time commitment would not be significant if we had several capable people who could provide their imagination and enthusiasm to make our neighborhood festivities memorable and fun for everyone. The continued success of our local events depends upon this valuable contribution. If you would like to donate a little of your time and some of your brilliant ideas to this worthy endeavor, kindly e-mail your community website at <u>newsletter@willowparkgreens.org</u> or call Jan at 281-578-6945. Any involvement will be greatly appreciated.

#### **Orientation Committee**

To encourage friendliness in our community right from the start, we would like to create a WPG Orientation Committee to greet new residents moving into our neighborhood. Unlike commercial organizations, this committee would not be promoting local businesses or selling anything. They would simply greet new residents and answer any questions they might have about the neighborhood and surrounding area. Help us put our best foot forward by contacting your community website at <u>newsletter@willowparkgreens.org</u> or Robin at 281-578-7208.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following is the expressed opinion of a local resident and does not reflect the opinions of WPG or the newsletter committee.

### Who let the dogs out?

★ Dog urine and feces can be a frustrating lawn care problem resulting in lawn burn or dead patches.

Homeowners making the extra effort to have a green lawn may be quite discouraged by their neighbor's dog damage or their own pet's potty residue.

Holking the dog to a park or field away from the house is a simple remedy to this. The time can be well spent since exercise has physical and emotional benefits for both dogs and their owners. Homeowners are encouraged to choose an appropriate destination and not create problem lawns elsewhere that may affect the overall aesthetics of the neighborhood.

#### Neighborly Suggestion...

Millie Bush Bark Park – just five minutes away from Willow

on... Utilize your residence only for maintaining your pet's needs.

Park Greens!

Location: West Houston, near

George Bush Park at 16756

Hwy 6 and Westheimer in

Westheimer Parkway.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR We would be happy to publish comments or questions from residents concerning issues you think would be of interest to our community. Email your editorial to newsletter@willowparkgreens.org or call Tami at 281.646.9288 Letters we receive are considered property of the community newsletter. Letters chosen for publication may be edited as necessary for length and clarity.

### TIPS ON ALLERGY-PROOFING YOUR YARD

This article can be found at www.allabouthome.com by ServiceMaster

Getting those red itchy eyes and runny noses again? Sinuses clogged? Sneezing all the time? Maybe it's those awful allergies. Pollen is the cause of that and some plants are worse than others about spreading the stuff around. Here are some tips for allergy-proofing your yard and allergy-smart gardening.

• Plants with bright pretty flowers cause less allergy prob-



lems because they rely on insects to transfer the pollen.

• Plants that rely on the wind to spread the pollen produce large

amounts of pollen.

• Rain helps to wash pollen out of the air, but it also breeds mold, mildew and weeds. If you are allergic to mold, avoid gardening after a good rain. • Keep your garden well weeded and keep the grass cut short.

• Wear a mask when gardening or doing lawn work.

• Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and wash them when you're finished.

• Avoid gardening in the early morning or at sundown when pollen counts are highest.

• Keep the yard and garden free of weeds such as ragweed, dock, English plantain and lamsquarters.

• Protect your eyes with glasses or sunglasses.

• Take a shower when you come in from the yard. **Plants to watch out for:** 

Male junipers

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- Fruitless mulberries
- Seedless ashes
- Cottonless cottonwoods

• Elm, sycamore, olive, oak, walnut, maple, birch, ash, willow and pecan trees

Cypress and privet

hedges

- Bermuda grass
- Bluegrass
- Artemisia
- Amaranth
- Sorrel

## Plants that won't aggravate allergies:

• Fruited mulberry, pear, silk, magnolia, palm, redbud, yew and fir trees

• Azalea, oleander, yucca, pyracantha and hibiscus shrubs

- Cacti
- Lilies
- Iris
- Tulips
- Crocus
- Hyacinths
- Daffodils
- Chrysanthemums
- Roses
  - Bougainvillea
  - Ferns
  - Orchids
  - Gladiolas





SCHOOL CORNER Important Dates for Katy ISD Summer Break

May 26th-August 9th

First Day of School

Aug. 10th

Exley Elementary 281.237.8400

<u>McMeans Jr. High</u> 281.237.8000

<u>Cinco Ranch High School</u> 281.237.7000

For more information on local schools visit the Katy ISD website at www.katyisd.org

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Recumbent Exercise Bike \$50 OBO, Craftsman Lawn Mower (new condition/barely used) \$75 OBO 281-646-9288

If you have something to announce or share with the neighborhood...let us know today! Email your FREE listing to newsletter@willowparkgreens.org or call Tami at 281.646.9288



- Please do not drive up onto the mail box curbs... surrounding grass does have sprinkler systems which are being damaged.
- Please do not leave trash bags out overnight. This is attracting some new critters to our neighborhood as well as being a violation to our neighborhood deed restrictions.

### PLACES TO VISIT & COMING EVENTS

Fort Bend County Library Cinco Ranch Branch 2620 Commercial Center Blvd Katy, Texas, 77494 281-395-1311 www.fortbend.lib.tx.us

Harris County Public Library Maud Smith Marks Branch 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, Texas, 77450 281-492-8592 www.hcpl.lib.tx.us/indes.htm

#### Katy Chamber of Commerce Katy Health & Business Expo 2005

Saturday, July 30, 2005 10 am to 5 pm

Katy Mills

Discover what types of businesses are located in the Katy area and learn what services they have to offer.

#### www.katychamber.com

### Katy Chamber of Commerce Business Resource Center

Provides Katy area entrepreneurs and business owners with important information and key resources required for the successful start-up and operation of business ventures.

Located at:

The Great Southwest Equestrian Center 2501 S. Mason Road, Suite 230, Katy

281-828-1100

www.katychamber.com/ newsletter/2005\_apr/ article170.html

Katy Visual & Performing Arts Center Summer Camps 2005 & Free Workshops and

**Performances** KVPAC is a non-profit organi-

zation that provides arts education to people of all ages through Theatre, Visual Arts & Music.

Located at: The Great Southwest Equestrian Center

2501 S. Mason Road, Katy

281-829-2787

www.KVPAC.org

Texas Cooperative Extension Office

281-342-3034

www.fbmg.com

Answers your garden and landscape questions.

Green Thumb Seminars Second Thursday of each month 7 – 9 pm ADMISSION FREE

Bud O'Sheiles Community Center 1330 Band Road,

Rosenberg, Texas (Near the Fair Grounds)

### The Great Southwest

#### **Equestrian Center**

Plays host to some of the most prestigious horse shows in the country. Call or visit their website for upcoming events and local businesses located on the premises.

2500 S. Mason Road, Katy 281-578-7669

www.gswec.com

To announce your upcoming event contact us at: www.newsletter@ willowparkgreens.org

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## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

<u>Willow Park Greens Website</u> www.willowparkgreens.org

<u>Newsletter & Advertising</u> newsletter@willowparkgreens.org

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