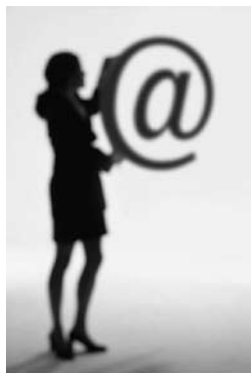


WILLOW PARK GREENS

Community Newsletter

First Quarter
2008



JOIN THE E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST!

WANT TO know the latest news that affects our neighborhood?

THEN GO to www.willowparkgreens.org or send your email address to webmaster@willowparkgreens.org and ask to be included in breaking news flashes and upcoming events!

REMEMBER, EFFECTIVE communication can only be accomplished if you participate!

IN THIS ISSUE!

- How to be GREEN
- Pedestrian Safety
- Yummy Oatmeal and Raisin Cookies!

Going "Green" in Willow Park Greens

How each of us can make a difference!

ON JANUARY 25, 2008, the president of Royal Dutch Shell, Jeroen van der Veen stated,

The energy crisis is not some time in the

"Shell estimates that, after 2015, supplies of easy-to-access oil and gas will no longer keep up with the demand."

future, but very close at hand. It's not a reason to panic, but it is a warning that we all need to make changes in how we live our day-to-day lives. Many of the necessary power conservation strategies will hardly be noticed and will actually save us money immediately as well as in the long run. The following are some simple suggestions to cut fuel consumption:

1) Some energy companies compensate customers who use power in off hours for laundry, dishwashers, etc. rather than strain the power grid during heavy demand times. Check with your power provider to see if they offer these discounts.

2) If you have a timer on your dishwasher, set it to operate after peak hours.

3) Turning your thermostat down several degrees at night while people are sleeping will save energy. Setting the temperature one or two degrees below your normal setting during the day in the winter (or up during the summer) will not be noticed by the people in your home, but will make a

significant difference in your energy consumption.

4) Turning the thermostat on your water heater down a couple of degrees (or more) will save a significant amount on your energy bill as well as make your home safer for small children.

5) Use energy efficient florescent bulbs to replace incandescent light bulbs. They're guaranteed to last years longer than regular bulbs and require much less energy to operate.

6) Check the weather stripping around doors and windows. Stopping leaks will keep your home warmer in winter and cooler in summer and require less energy to do so.

7) Planting shade around your air conditioner will lower the energy requirement to run the unit. However, be careful to leave enough air circulation to keep it running efficiently.

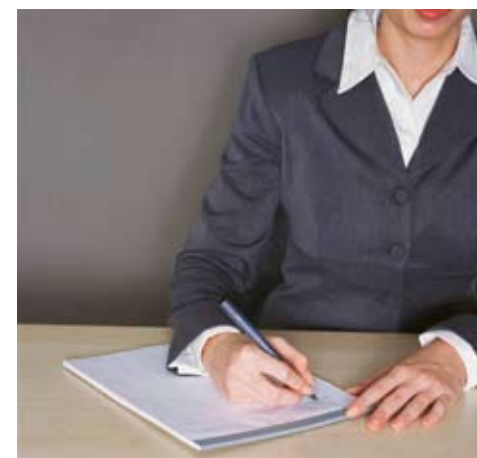
8) Have your major appliances and systems serviced yearly to keep them running as efficiently as possible.

9) Shipping fresh fruit and vegetables from California, Mexico or Morocco so we can have off season produce all year long, consumes huge amounts of fuel. Buying locally, and in season, gives you fresher tasting and more nutritious food as well as supporting people in our local area. We are fortunate to have a Farmer's Market at La Centerra Shopping Center on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, check their website: www.katy-farmersmarket.com

10) Taking this concept one step further, consider putting a small vegetable patch in your backyard or on your patio for really fresh, local vegetables and herbs. It would

be an interesting family project and an education for children who think vegetables grow on grocery store shelves. Reacquaint your taste buds to flavors you haven't experienced since you were a kid. For an easy to manage, intensive garden that takes up very little space, with less work than a conventional garden, visit the Square Foot Gardening website, (www.squarefootgardening.com) For information on gardening in Katy, contact the Fort Bend County Master Gardeners www.fbm.com or visit their demonstration gardens next to the Fort Bend County Fair Grounds.

These are only a few of the things we can put into practice to conserve energy. Look for more suggestions in coming issues of the WPG Newsletter.



Letters To The Editor

Have a comment or suggestion for the next issue?

WE WOULD be happy to publish comments or questions from residents concerning issues you think would be of interest to our community.

E-mail your "letter to the editor" to newsletter@willowparkgreens.org or call Holly at 281-398-7472.

Letters we receive are considered property of the community newsletter and may be edited as necessary for length and clarity.



COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Web site:
www.willowparkgreens.org

Newsletter & Advertising:
newsletter@willowparkgreens.org

Crest Management
Bernita Armstrong, Association Manager
Tiffany Montemayor, Assistant Association Manager
Robin Motley, Accounting Representative
Telephone: (281) 579-0761
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Newsletter Committee:
Holly Chervnsik
Robin Margaret
Ron & Joyce Merrett

Board Members:
board@willowparkgreens.org

Bob Anderson:
281-829-9068
21407 Willow Glade Drive
Cell 832-741-4812
bobachevy1@aol.com

Fred Hightower:
coming soon

Barbara Parker:
281-646-9227
2919 Willow Fork
bparker15@comcast.net

Need Ad Space?

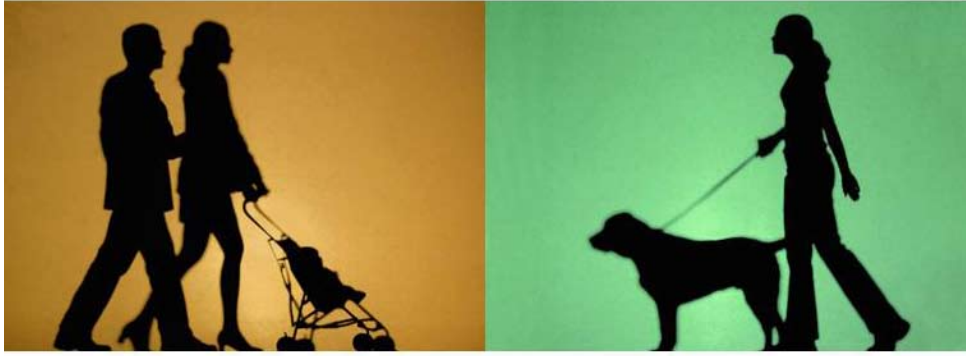
Sell your products and services here!

HOME-BASED BUSINESSES, babysitters, house-sitters, garage sales, classified advertisements, baby and wedding announcements, graduations, etc.

Send all inquiries to:

newsletter@willowparkgreens.org
or call Holly at 281-398-7472.

SAFETY AT NIGHT!



WE CARE ABOUT YOU!

A Review of the Basics

IT HAS been brought to our attention that on a number of occasions walkers, runners and teenagers on bikes are not wearing clothes that can be seen in the dark.

Here are some suggestions you might like to follow:

Dress correctly: If you are walking, running or cycling when it is still dark, ensure that you are dressed to be seen. Drivers at night or early mornings are rarely on the lookout for walkers or runners, so you need to advertise your presence as vividly as possible. Wear light-colored or reflective clothing like shocking-pink or brilliant orange. Many brands of walking shoes have reflective material on the heels. Reflective belts are also extremely useful as they are easily noticed by drivers, and can be worn with little or no discomfort. The worst type of clothing to wear while in the dark is a blue, black or navy garments, which render you virtually invisible to traffic. If you don't have reflective gear or light colored clothing, pull a white T-shirt on over your outdoors clothes.

Face the traffic: If your walking routes do not have bike paths or sidewalks and you are forced to walk on the road, always walk in the direction facing oncoming traffic.

Keep right: If you're walking on a cycling or pedestrian path, always walk on the right hand side so that faster walkers, runners and cyclists can easily pass. If you're walking with one or more companions, don't hog the path and prevent others from easily overtaking.

Leave the walkman at home: That way you will be alert to any potential dangers, be it a dog, a fast-approaching car, or the sound of other people around you.

THANKS
TO OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
BUSINESS
OWNERS

PRAISED BY
OPRAH
AND DR. OZ!

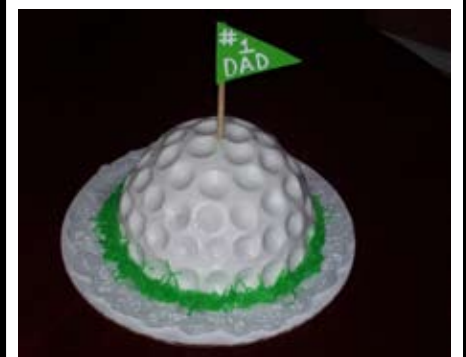
MonaVie
SOLD HERE!

mymonavie.com/hollychervnsik



KIDZ KAKES
by Amy McCaffery

traditional and cupcake cakes!



[www.freewebs.com/
kidzkakes](http://www.freewebs.com/kidzkakes)
(832) 217-9438
sam_mccaffery@hotmail.com

JUST FOR FUN!

THIS WILL BOGGLE YOUR MIND AND YOU WILL KEEP TRYING OVER AND OVER AGAIN TO SEE IF YOU CAN OUTSMART YOUR FOOT - BUT YOU CAN'T - IT'S PROGRAMMED IN YOUR BRAIN!

WITHOUT ANYONE WATCHING YOU (THEY WILL THINK YOU HAVE FINALLY FLIPPED), AND WHILE SITTING WHERE YOU ARE AT YOUR DESK IN FRONT OF YOUR COMPUTER, LIFT YOUR RIGHT FOOT STRAIGHT OFF THE FLOOR (NO CROSSING YOUR LEGS!) AND MAKE CLOCKWISE CIRCLES.

NOW, WHILE DOING THIS, DRAW THE NUMBER "6" IN THE AIR WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND.

YOUR FOOT WILL CHANGE DIRECTION.....AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT!



KATY I.S.D. INFO

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

SPRING BREAK:
MARCH 17 - 21

EARLY DISMISSAL:
APRIL 18

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY:
MAY 26

OUR SCHOOLS:

EXLEY ELEMENTARY:
281-237-8400

MCMEANS JR. HIGH:
281-237-8000

CINCO RANCH HIGH SCHOOL:
281-237-7000

WWW.KATYISD.ORG

WILLOW PARK GREENS

Our Questions Answered By the Board

Please contact a newsletter committee member to have YOUR questions answered!

HOA Board - Willow Park Greens

EACH MONTH we will attempt to answer questions that concern all our neighbors about past, present and future issues. We are here to help you, so speak up and ask away!

Newsletter: What are the responsibilities of the management agent - currently Crest? Do we get to see their audited books to ensure that our funds are being handled properly?

Board: Attend board meetings and annual meetings, prepare and mail board and annual meetings notices, answer phone calls regarding various issues from homeowners, directors, attorneys and contractors, obtain bids as directed by boards. Inspect property for deed restriction violations, and common area inspections, prepare and mail deed restriction violation letters, type minutes. Accounting prepares financials monthly, billing of assessments, receipt of assessments, post all bills, prepares checks for signatures, prepare and mail certified demand letters, prepare and monitor monthly delinquency list.

Any homeowner is able to review the balance sheet and income statement report of the association.

Newsletter: If our trash collection days, Tuesday and Friday, fall on Federal or local Holidays, how are we notified if trash will not be collected?

Board: Usually if the trash pickup falls on a Holiday it will not be picked up until the next collection date. The trash company contact information is WCA 281-368-8397.

Newsletter: This has been asked before but is there any



chance of us having a monthly recycling pick-up and would the board be willing to investigate the cost?

Board: I have asked Crest to check into this and let us know.

Newsletter: When will our gate be repaired? What is the status of the security improvements to be paid for from our Special Assessment? How will this be Monitored, not just this year but also long term?

Board: The electrical is completed and ready for the cameras. We have bids and more coming for the best price and the best company for the job.

It will be monitored from the home of the President of the HOA. We will have a system that will record over every 24 to 48 hours to save cost.

Newsletter: Now that visitors have to use the keypad at the gate, can the keypad be lit up, as it is hard to read at night?

Board: This was not budgeted for but we can look into obtaining bids.

Newsletter: When will our annual meeting take place? Can we see the agenda and proposed budget in advance of the meeting rather than at the meeting?

Board: The meeting will be held in April. The agenda and approved 2008 budget can be sent out with the notices.

Newsletter: Can the Board be increased in size by one or two members to help share the load without making it unmanageable?

Board: You are able to do a by-law change but you will need 2/3rds of the membership to do this. However, this will make the Board slower in making decisions and could prevent it from making decisions. Time is your enemy with larger Boards.

Have a question?

Send an email to newsletter@willowparkgreens.org.

Neighborhood Links

Keeping you up-to-date with the community via your computer



WWW.KATYMAGAZINE.COM - Your one-stop source for all that's new in Katy. You can search for jobs, events, real estate, shopping, businesses and amusement!

WWW.KATYONLINE.COM - Tired of asking "what's for dinner" and getting no new answers? Take matters into your own hands and select a new restaurant from the many listed here! "At last a comprehensive & useful restaurant directory for Katy!"

WWW.KATYFARMERSMARKET.COM - Now THIS is the place to find fresh produce, delicious right-off-the-farm eggs, and gifts for any occasion! The Katy Farmer's Market is open from 8am to noon every Saturday at La Centerra at Cinco Ranch Blvd and the Grand Parkway.

That brings us to:

WWW.LACENTERRA.COM - Where you can shop, eat, play in the fountains, and don't forget the Saturday morning Farmer's Market!

WWW.ATWORKINKATY.COM - We have a new upscale shopping center even closer to us! See what's new at the Villagio Shopping Center located at Westheimer Parkway and Peek Rd.

Looking for some free exercise and fun? it's just down the Parkway!

WWW.PCT3.HCTX.NET/PTerry/ - Have you visited Terry Hershey Park lately? It's just a few minutes away, with entrances in George Bush Park. The Hike and Bike Trail is the main element in Terry Hershey Park. But there are other features, including restrooms, gazebos, a lighted walking trail, exercise stations, playground, and picnic sites.



WWW.LINKTICITY.COM - Have you ever been at a friend's house, discussing something you found on the Web and saved to your Internet "Favorites", but can't find it again? Fret no more with this handy tool that allows you to take your favorites with you! Linkticity allows you to organize your favorites and access them from any computer with a login and password that you supply.

Look for more exciting links in future newsletters, or feel free to share your "Favorites" with us at newsletter@willowparkgreens.com.

NEIGHBORLY RECIPE!

OATMEAL-RAISIN COOKIES AN EASY RECIPE (MAKES ABOUT 28)

3 CUPS OLD FASHIONED OATS
1 CUP PLUS 2 TABLESPOONS ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR
½ CUP TOASTED WHEAT GERM
1 TEASPOON BAKING SODA
½ TEASPOON GROUND CINNAMON
½ TEASPOON COARSE SALT
1 CUP (2 STICKS) UNSALTED BUTTER, SOFTENED
1 CUP GRANULATED SUGAR
1 CUP PACKED LIGHT-BROWN SUGAR
2 LARGE EGGS
1 TEASPOON PURE VANILLA EXTRACT
1 ½ CUPS RAISINS

METHOD:

PRE-HEAT OVEN TO 350. STIR TOGETHER, OATS FLOUR, WHEAT GERM, BAKING SODA, CINNAMON AND SALT IN LARGE BOWL; SET ASIDE.
PUT BUTTER AND SUGARS INTO BOWL OF ELECTRIC MIXER FITTED WITH THE PADDLE ATTACHMENT, MIX ON MEDIUM SPEED UNTIL PALE AND FLUFFY, ABOUT 5 MINUTES. MIX IN EGGS AND VANILLA. REDUCE SPEED TO LOW. ADD OAT MIXTURE, MIX UNTIL JUST COMBINED. MIX IN RAISINS. (DRIED CRANBERRIES CAN BE USED AS AN ALTERNATIVE).

USING A 2 INCH ICE CREAM SCOOP, DROP DOUGH ONTO BAKING SHEETS LINED WITH PARCHMENT PAPER, SPACING 2 INCHES APART. FLATTEN SLIGHTLY WITH YOUR HAND.

BAKE UNTIL GOLDEN AND JUST SET, ABOUT 14 MINUTES. LET COOL ON SHEETS ON WIRE RACKS ABOUT 5 MINUTES. TRANSFER COOKIES TO RACKS, AND LET COOL COMPLETELY. COVERED COOKIES CAN BE STORED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE UP TO 3 DAYS. THEY ARE USUALLY EATEN BY THEN!!



REAL ESTATE NEWS

HOW THE CURRENT HOUSING MARKET HAS AFFECTED US

Hi Neighbors!

We are constantly hearing in the media about how the real estate market is doing in the rest of the country, but how is it doing here in South Katy? It appears that although more homes were sold in South Katy in 2006 than sold in 2007 (2989 in 2006 versus 2908 in 2007), the days that homes were on the market before they sold fell from 62 days in 2006 to 55 days in 2007. Houses sold about a week quicker in 2007 than they did in 2006! And the really great news is that the average home price in South Katy rose from \$233,021 in 2006 to \$247,592 in 2007. That's an increase of about 6.25% - which just about equals the decline in values that California is currently experiencing.

So, lets talk about Willow Park Greens. We currently have six active listings in the neighborhood. The average price of those listings is \$206,539. Last year, 14 homes in the neighborhood sold at an average price of \$198,452. We also currently have one home for rent (we had two for rent last year), one Option Pending (cross your fingers), and five homes that were pulled off of the market (2 were terminated and 3 expired and were not renewed). Buyers should be back out in force in the upcoming weeks, so I anticipate all of these lovely homes in our neighborhood moving quickly!

Until next time, this is your Katy and Willow Park Greens update!

Robyn Jones
www.robynjoneshomes.com

REALTY PROS OF TEXAS

ROBYN ROSEMAN JONES REALTOR®

832-721-9979 PHONE
832-415-2661 FAX
ROBYN@ROBYNJONESHOMES.COM
WWW.ROBYNJONESHOMES.COM
21348 PROVINCIAL DRIVE ■ KATY, TX 77450



MORE NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES

MedicTag™
Personal Emergency Information Device

Because your life matters,
MedicTag™ will be there for you.



MedicTag™ can tell them when you can't.

WWW.HEALTHTECHSERVICES.COM



Bob's Personal Touch
LAWNS & IRRIGATION SERVICE

Bob G. Anderson, Owner
(281) 398-9698 / (832) 741-4812 cell
Email: bobachevy1@aol.com
21407 Willow Glade Dr, Katy, TX 77450

Call for your
"FREE"
estimate
today!



Chervnsik
Web Design & Graphics

Logos, Web Sites,
Digital Photography,
Signs, Brochures,
Promotional Items,
Presentations,
Instructional Design

Holly Chervnsik
3103 Willow Trace Ct
Katy, TX 77450
281.398.7472
281.615.9032 cell
www.chervnsik.com

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?



CALL **LAURA SAVAGE**
TO PLACE AN ORDER
OR BOOK A PARTY TODAY!

LOTS OF INVENTORY IN-STOCK NOW!

LAURA SAVAGE
21427 WILLOW GLADE DR.
(281) 772-0776



HOMEMADEGOURMET.COM/LAURASAVAGE

EMAIL NEWSLETTER@
WILLOWPARKGREENS.ORG
TO INCLUDE YOUR AD
IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!