

WORTHAM
VILLAGES



THE WORTHAM VILLAGES

OFFICIAL
COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

BRIEF

Splinters from the Board

By Stan Schoen, @ sschoen@worthamweb.org

A reminder - Welcome to our 2nd edition of the all new Wortham Newsletter! You may have received a newsletter but I assure you this is the only version sanctioned by WVCA (Wortham Villages Community Association). This newsletter will be published once per quarter, not the monthly newsletter you were getting in the now distant past. Personally, I am very pleased that we can bring you what I feel will be a quality product but it can be made better – if you participate. We need your help, we need your content, this newsletter will only be as good as we are in providing information to feed ‘the beast’ (newsletter). Pictures, news, family, anything you wish please forward your thoughts and pictures, etc. to the editor of this newsletter.

Now for the news –

There will be more development in the front of the subdivision but the road construction has slowed things. There are plans for 4-5 restaurant pad sites as well as another office building and a hotel. There is one more lot between the pet spa and the fire station that has not sold as well as one next to Goode Co Barbeque on the feeder. Those are the only lots remaining in that area.

The construction of a new building on the right side of Wortham Blvd as you enter our neighborhood, at Wortham Center, will be an indoor gun range. I am being told it will be a high end range and I am not certain what that means.

Harris County Flood Control has a Bond Election on Aug 25, 2018 and the only thing on the ballot is a \$2.5Billion bond to spend on flood control projects. It will add 0.2% to taxes and for a \$300,000 house is \$60 a year and we have to do something about flooding. Some of that money is needed to fix the retention ponds on Fallbrook which flooded into Wortham as discussed in prior newsletters. MUD would like to install better drainage there so they overflow into the bayou rather than into Wortham like they did during Harvey and the Tax Day flood. Those ponds don't belong to MUD 222 (our MUD) but they obviously affect our neighborhood so we want to fix the problem.

Construction is going to start soon on a major pipeline between the 2 big power lines in the front of our neighborhood. They will be digging a huge trench to accommodate a 16 inch pipeline. This will not affect us so when you see construction you will know what it is for.

(continued on page 2)

Tips For Water Conservation

Residents want their communities to be sustainable. However, to achieve sustainability and long-term viability, it's important that residents work together to implement successful water conservation practices. Water efficiency and conservation contributes to reduced subsidence, which aids efforts to reduce flooding, and helps improve the health for our aquifers and rivers, which will provide adequate sources of drinking water for future generations. Additionally, water efficiency results in less run off into lakes and rivers and less energy used in the provision and treatment of water, which increases the opportunity to create a sustainable environment now and for the future. Most people don't realize the complexity of the distribution of quality drinking water and the collection and treatment of sewage and may not be aware that water and wastewater facilities represent one of the largest electrical consumers within the community. Thus, each of us has a responsibility to use less water to ensure adequate water supplies for the future and to reduce overall energy consumption.

Do Your Part to Keep Our Water Clean

1. Use fewer and better pesticides and fertilizers to avoid chemical runoff to our waterways.

2. Water Wisely. Watering too heavily or too often weakens your lawn and causes erosion and runoff pollution.

3. Using less toxic cleaning products can reduce pollutants in both the air and water, and help improve the air quality in your house.

4. Collect your food scraps, oil, and grease to avoid clogging sewer lines, which can cause overflows that pollute nearby creeks and streams.

5. Whenever you change your oil or other vehicle fluids at home, make sure you recycle them. NEVER pour used motor oil down storm drains which will carry the oil directly to Texas waterways.

6. Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent like kitty litter or sand.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WORTHAM SENIOR CLASS OF 2018!



Congratulations to our Wortham Senior Class of 2018! It's a proud moment for parents and their families as we celebrate these kids and all of their accomplishments! Wishing all the seniors a successful future!

Pictured:

Back row L-R: Nathan Franz, Trevor Mayne, Savannah Gau, Andrew Heineman, Jason Michels, David Joe, Kinsey Gwinn, Hesham Meijali

Front row: Tess Welch, Kyle Cooper, Macy Suddath, Riley Gaska, Gwendolyn Nguyen, Kylie Bassett, Gunnar Gregurek, Grace Rose

Among those not pictured:

Maddie Christian, Ricky Tapp, Bronwyn Tuff, Dakota Rodriguez, Puneet Jain, Jonathon Roskey, Brandon Roskey, Jasmine Cantu

Picture by Stephanie Joe

Splinters... CONTINUED



HELP REQUEST –

Parents with small children – We need your help with a design for the playground in the detention pond area. We are planning to replace this 20 year old playground with new equipment and want YOUR input please. Send me an e-mail with your thoughts and you can be as specific as you wish - me4box@aol.com. This is my personal e-mail and we really need to hear (read) your thoughts and input.

Finally, on the other side of FM1960 you will see new huge pipes to replace old sewer lines.

Thank you all for being such wonderful people, neighbors and friends. We are Wortham!

Make it a great day! See you at my table.

POOL HOURS FOR 2018!

Now through August 26th

Monday	4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday through Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Exceptions:

Saturday, June 2nd (Swim Meet)*	2:00 p.m – 9:00 p.m.
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September 1st through September 3rd

Monday through Friday	Closed
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Exceptions:

Monday, September 3rd (Labor Day)	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
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You will be required to wear your pool tags in the pool area. Guests will be allowed only as described in the Wortham Villages Pool Rules.

Fun Facts About Pools

Niagara Falls has enough water to fill up all the swimming pools in the United States in less than three days!

Swim fins were invented by Benjamin Franklin.

Swimming became an amateur sport in the late part of the nineteenth century.

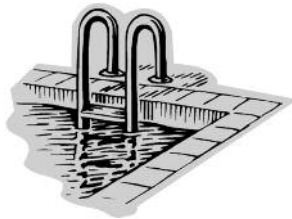
Swimming first became an Olympic event in 1896.

The Deep Eddy Swimming Pool, built in 1915, is the oldest known concrete swimming pool and was built in Texas.

The first swimming pool to go to sea on an ocean liner was installed on the White Star Line's Adriatic in 1907.

The Titanic was the first ocean liner to have a swimming pool and a gym.

The longest swimming pool is the Orthlieb Pool in Morocco. It is 480 meters (1,574 feet) long and 75 meters (246 feet) wide.



A-BEAUTIFUL POOLS

With 33 years of experience in the pool management industry, we are in business to provide safer pools in Houston while empowering employees to succeed in their job. We envision aquatic experiences resulting in happy people and safe, beautiful pools. We consider it a privilege and an opportunity to be working with your community and hope that we are not only viewed as your management company, but also viewed as a part of your neighborhood.

When you walk into one of our facilities you should expect the most qualified and well trained lifeguard and management staff in the city of Houston. Our lifeguards are trained to be ready for any emergency situation.

TRAINING INCLUDES BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- "Proactively Investigate" their water, identifying possible problem swimmers before a problem occurs.
- Frequent in-service training, emergency scenario testing and training.

A clean and orderly facility from top to bottom is also a top priority for our staff. We work hard to deliver a clean pool and spotless restrooms and furniture. If you ever find one of our staff members not delivering on that goal, please do not hesitate to contact the office staff directly.

POOL PARTIES

Reservations start April 2nd

* Pool Parties are a great way to celebrate birthdays, graduations, and school events!

*You can also get a group together for fun at the pool after hours based on your community's policies!

All policies, pricing, information & REGISTRATION are on-line at: www.a-beautifulpools.com. Contact Ann @ 281-376-6510 with any questions you may have.

SUMMER 2018 - NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS

For Area Subdivisions

- Minimum age 15
- Flexible Hours

*APPLY ON-LINE & SCHEDULE YOUR INTERVIEW at www.a-beautifulpools.com

TAX FREE WEEKEND!

Save The Date!

Texas shoppers will get a break from state and local sales taxes on August 10, 11 and 12 – the state's annual tax holiday. As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced less than \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could give shoppers a cost savings of nearly \$8 on every \$100 they spend. For details, visit: www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/publications/98-490

Incident Report

June 2018

Incident	Total
911 Hang Up	2
Accident/Unk Maj Min	1
Accident/FGSI	3
Accident/Major	11
Accident/Minor	22
Alarm Local	20
Arson Fire	1
Assault	1
Assault Family	2
Burglary/Hab	3
Burglary/Motor Vehicle	7
Check Business	3
Check Park	4
Child Cstdy Disp	1
Contract Check	150
Credit Card Abuse	1
Criminal Mischief	1
Dist Family	7
Disturbance/Loud Noise	3
Disturbance/Other	8
Domestic/Prevent	1
DWI	3
Follow Up	3
In Progress	1
Information Call	3
Meet the Citizen	5
MUD Building Check	9
Neighborhood Check	40
Open Door/Window	1
Prop/Found/Lost	2
Road Rage Incv	1
Suspicious Person	3
Theft/Other	3
Traf Initiative	13
Traffic Hazard	5
Traffic Stop	25
Unk Med Emer	2
Vacation Watch	2
Vehicle Abandoned	1
Vehicle Suspicious	6
Vehicle Recovery	2
Warrant Service	1
Welfare Check	3

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SUMMER IS DEFINITELY HERE!

How To Stay Safe In The Heat

Summer is here! Playing outdoors is a great way to have fun and exercise, but it comes with risks. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) says that your best defense against summer related accidents and illnesses is prevention.

Sun Safety

Ultraviolet radiation (UV) comes from the sun and tanning beds. Less than a handful of sunburns can increase you and your child's risk of skin cancer later in life.

Prevention:

- Avoid sun exposure between 10 am - 4 pm. You are still at risk on cloudy days.
- Pick a sunscreen that has the words, "BROAD SPECTRUM" to block both types of UV rays.
- Look for a SPF of at least 15. SPF 30 or more is better.
- Apply sunscreen generously 15 minutes before outdoor activities, and reapply every 2 hours and after swimming.

Heat Exhaustion

Summer heat waves are dangerous. Children under 5 and adults older than 65 years of age are at the highest risk. Warning signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke include:

- Oral temperature above 103 degrees Fahrenheit
- Dizziness, throbbing headache, confusion, or unconsciousness
- Muscle cramps or muscle twitching
- Nausea or vomiting

If you see these signs, you might be dealing with a life threatening illness. Get medical help asap.

Prevention:

- Drink more fluid than your thirst indicates. Water is the best choice.
- Encourage your family members to drink fluids throughout the day.

- Take breaks while working outdoors.
- Choose lightweight, light-colored, and loose fitting clothes.



Hot Car Safety

Safecar.gov reports that even when temperatures are in the 60's, the inside of the car can rise above 110 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature in the car rises 20 degrees in the first 10 minutes.

Prevention:

- It is never okay to leave your child in a car, even for less than a minute.
- Never leave car keys where your children can get them.
- Make it a habit of looking in the front and back of the vehicle before locking the doors.
- Place your purse, brief case or something else you need in the backseat so you will have to check the back seat of the car before you leave.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration advises you call 911 if you see a child alone in a hot vehicle. If the child is in distress due to heat, get them out asap.

Bug Bites

The warmer weather attracts bugs. Mosquitos and ticks can transmit diseases. Mosquitos are out between dusk till dawn, and ticks are out at all times.

Prevention:

- Avoid tick-infested areas, such as woody or grassy areas.
- Check everyone in the family every night after you come indoors.
- The CDC recommends looking under the arms, between the legs, around the waist, inside the navel, hairline/scalp.

TRAVEL TIPS

Traveling soon? Don't just rely on Post-it notes and your email inbox. Thanks to all the travel apps and websites that have popped up in recent years, organizing your travel plans has never been easier.

Here are a few of the most popular:

For finding airfare: Google Flights, Kayak and SkyScanner help you draw a quick baseline for the cost of flights. They also suggest alternative days to travel if you can be flexible on your travel dates to save a little money.

For researching hotels: The professional photos a hotel posts on its website aren't always reflective of the truth. TripAdvisor offers thousands of consumer reviews along with photos that have been uploaded by travelers rather than advertising professionals. If you do arrive at a hotel and don't like it, apps HotelTonight and Roomer can help you find a suitable (and likely discounted) alternative there on the spot.

For keeping track of your details: Flight times, your hotel's address, rental car info, confirmation numbers—so many numbers you want at your fingertips when traveling. Triplt and TripCase are two apps that strip out unnecessary information and put what you need to know from confirmation emails into a well-ordered itinerary. They're both free!

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you're liable to step in one such reminder!

Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter. It is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a baggie with you to pick up waste with and then dispose of it properly.

By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in a neighborhood. Thank you for your cooperation!

Have you checked-out our new website?

WWW.WORTHAMVILLAGES.COM

Yes, We're Now On Facebook!

The community is now on Facebook. When you get a moment, visit our Facebook page and while you're there, give us a like! Online at:

www.facebook.com/worthamvillagescommunity

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH KNOW-HOW

Neighborhood Watch was created to obtain citizen involvement in discouraging and preventing residential and property crime.



The Program uses citizen involvement to:

- Secure their home and personal property
- Report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office
- Increase public awareness through education

Neighborhood Crime Facts:

- Burglary, auto theft and arson are some of the most prevalent neighborhood crimes.
- Household burglary is one of the easiest crimes to commit and prevent, but one of the hardest to solve.
- Over one-half of Law-Enforcement's time is spent on investigating burglaries.
- Most home burglars are young amateurs and looking for easy targets.
- A majority of household burglaries occur during daylight hours.
- Household burglary has a high potential for death and/or injury in cases where a burglar is surprised by the homeowner.

Organizing a Program:

- Visit your neighbors and tell them you are interested in discouraging crime in the neighborhood
- Organize a neighborhood meeting, and contact the local Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit to have a representative come out and address the group.
- Block Captains and Section Coordinators should be elected.
- Block Captains should prepare a watch map listing.
- Section Coordinators may provide the Sheriff's Office with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all block captains.
- Since awareness and involvement are the keys to a successful program, keeping interest high and continuing the groups Crime Prevention Education must be a primary focus of all participants.

For more details, visit: www.nnw.org



Teen Job Seekers

Parent name: Brittany and Cameron Overstreet
Daughter's name: Vanessa Walker-Overstreet (12)
Phone: 713.501.4144
She is available to: Pet sit, House sit, Baby sit.

If you would like to place a Teen Job Seekers ad, please email your information to Prepared Publications at: info@preparedpublications.com.

Back To School Safety

According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe.

Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic.

In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.

Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign.

Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.

Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way. Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop.

FINISH THE SEASON STRONG

August Lawn & Garden Checklist



Keep an eye on lawns to spot problems early and treat accordingly. Insects such as chinch bugs (treat with EcoSmart granules or diatomaceous earth) and fungi such as grey leaf spot (treat with Actino-Iron) are two things to watch out for.

Hummingbirds are here!! Migrating hummingbirds can be found at your feeders and natural nectar sources. Keeping feeders clean, filled and in a shady area will encourage visitors. Natural nectar sources for hummingbirds include Turk's cap, Hamelia, shrimp plant, Firespike, Salvia, Lobelia (cardinal flower), Pride of Barbados, Anisacanthus, and cigar plants. These are all hummer magnets.

Seeds to plant now include cucumbers, calendula, snapdragon and alyssum. Plan for the fall vegetable garden and choose seeds for planting next month.

For preparing fall gardens, top dress with 2-4" of organic matter: compost like Ladybug Revitalizer and The Ground Up Vegan Compost are great choices. A layer of pine straw will keep weeds at bay until seeds or transplants have been placed.

Plant transplants for tomatoes and peppers now. Keep young plants protected from intense midday heat by placing cages over plants and clothes pinning newspaper or cardboard at the second rung level. This temporary shade device can be removed once plants reach height of the cardboard; they are established.

Use seaweed spray such as Microlife Seaweed to boost the immune system of plants. A healthy plant is more resistant to insect infestations and fungal problems. A spray-down every two weeks that covers the entire surface of all leaves will do the job.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day
October 27, 2018 from 10am to 2pm

This program aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medication.



For locations, type in the link:
https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/



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