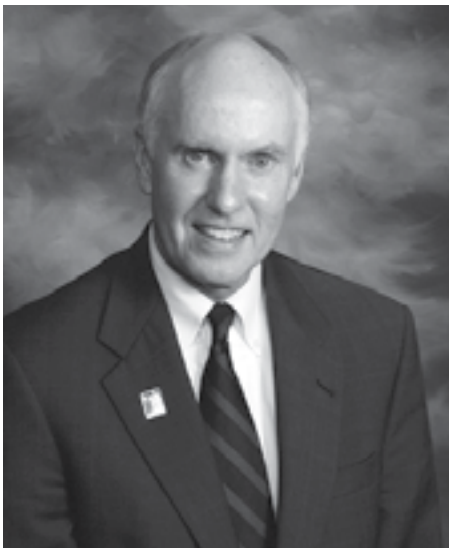




PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE CHAMPION FOREST WOMEN'S CLUB

June 2008

KISD Bond Election Carries the Day



"I am very pleased that the bond passed, because the projects are designed to meet the needs of students by providing new schools and classrooms, renovating existing schools, continuing the technology initiatives that were approved in the 2004 bond and providing safety and security equipment for schools. This bond will be good for the school district and the Klein community. I genuinely appreciated the opportunity to speak to the Champion Forest Women's Club and welcome the opportunity to do so again," said Dr. Jim Cain.

(See page 21)

The Folks Have Spoken

Cypress Forest Public Utility District Board Positions Decided

See page 13.



Champion Forest resident Carol Smith casts her vote with a smile for the camera.



Champion Forest resident Patty Snear "manned the fort" during what she termed, "the PUD election with the best turnout in years."

What's Inside...

- Cypress Creek Cultural District New Feature..... page 28
- Champion Forest Resident Practices What Was Preached..... page 29
- 30-Year Residents Celebrate Champion Forest page 30

Remember...

Cypress Forest PUD Meeting
Tuesday, June 3
PUD Building
16215 Champion Forest Drive
5:30 p.m.

CF Civic Club
Tuesday, June 10
PUD Building
16215 Champion Forest Drive
7:30 p.m.

CF Fund/HOA Meeting
Wednesday, June 11
PUD Building
16215 Champion Forest Drive
6:30 p.m.

CF Neighborhood Watch
Thursday, June 26
PUD Building
16215 Champion Forest Drive
7:30 p.m.

GROW WITH CF WOMEN'S CLUB

The Champion Forest Women's Club has grown larger in numbers than in many, many years. Join your neighbors. Join the Women's Club! 2008 dues are due! Please contact **Kim Shahjahan** at 281-826-0077.



FRIENDS IN THE FOREST

Dear Friends:

What a great **Fiesta Night** we had last month! A good time was had by all as we enjoyed great company, yummy food and drink, and the lovely home of **Kim Leonard**. We were fortunate that the weather held up this year. Thank you to all who attended. The Board wishes to extend very special thanks to Kim and her family for graciously opening up their house and yard.

Summer is here! Please enjoy your kids and vacations. Your Women's Club and our activities will pick back up in the fall with some exciting plans and opportunities. Stay tuned for more information on our **Health & Fitness Fair**.

Congratulations, graduates! May all your hopes and dreams come true.

Your neighbor,
Angela Greenberg, President



CF WOMEN'S CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

The Champion Forest Women's Club is a neighborhood social and service organization. The mission of CFWC is to bring Champion Forest women closer together through community activities. The CFWC fulfills this goal by hosting programs and socials, sponsoring special interest groups, undertaking fund-raising for scholarships, hosting an annual luncheon and charity auction, and producing the monthly Champion Forest newsletter. Meetings are held on a regular basis in homes and local venues. To be part of Champion Forest Women's Club, contact our membership chairman or any Board member.

THE 2008 CFWC BOARD

President	Angela Greenberg , 281-379-1559	Sunshine/Welcoming	Laura Smith , 281-374-0909
Vice President	Lisa Hardin , 281-655-0845		Jackie Peden , 281-376-0281
Secretary	Stephanie Schonherz , 281-370-9230	Special Interest	Christy Geary , 281-320-2746
Treasurer	Barb Smith , 281-251-3093	Ways & Means	Susan Barris , 281-257-5404
Hospitality	Susie Thorpe , 281-257-8785	Scholarship	Karla Canchola , 832-717-3854
Membership	Kim Shahjahan , 281-826-0077	Communications	Elizabeth Stewart , 281-251-5132
Newsletter Editor	Marilou Schopper , 713-302-8851	Historian	Julia Harmon , 281-320-2123
Assistant Editor	Barb Smith , 281-251-3093		Mandy Dewbre , 281-376-2132

Champion Forest Newsletter Available on the Web at championforestonline.com



**FIESTA
NIGHT**



(continued on page 4)

FIESTA NIGHT - continued





CFWC GIRLS GONE GREEN

Champion Forest Women's Club is proud to announce that as part of the "Girls Gone Green" campaign, they will be sponsoring a class at Brill in their continuing study of water conservation. We are proud to be part of this very important project at Brill. If you would like to sponsor a class for the 2008-2009 school year, please contact **Barbara Payne** at 281-893-2099.



Membership Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Champion Forest Women's Club is here for you.
Please join us for a year filled with sunshine,
opportunity and friendship.

Make checks payable to "**Champion Forest Women's Club.**" Mail checks to **Kim Shahjahan** at 15926 Cumbria.

CFWC SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

What a great way to have fun and meet your neighbors! We have many Special Interest Groups with a full variety of interests. Call the Special Interest Chairman of the group that interests you and give it a try. And if there's not a group for your "special interest," contact **Laura Smith** at **281-374-0909**, and she'll see if there's sufficient interest out there to start a new group! Be sure to check out the potential new groups at the end of this section! The only requirement for participation in CFWC Special Interest Groups is to be a member in "good standing." (Article VIII, Section One.) Membership includes annual dues paid to the CFWC.

CF Mothers of Young Children

Elizabeth Stewart, 281-251-5132
Christy Geary, 281-320-2746
Mothers of young children meet weekly for playgroup and monthly for Mom's Night Out. Please contact **Christy** or **Elizabeth** for more information!

Book Club

Connie Nolan, 281-379-5302
Ruth-Ellen Mack, 281-376-2107
Thank you, **Connie N**, for hosting our May meeting. On **Tuesday, June 10** at noon we will meet at **Wendy's** to discuss *Evening* by Susan Minot. Please remember to contact the hostess if you are unable to attend.

Mom's Night Out

Ruth-Ellen Mack, 281-376-2107
On **Wednesday, June 11** at 7:30 p.m. we will dine at Floyd's. Please call if you are planning to attend.

Couples Gourmet

Second Saturday Evening
Linda Anderson, 832-717-3661
If you are interested in joining the Couple's Gourmet Group, please contact **Linda**.

Wine Tasting Group

Third Saturday Evening
Gloria Myer, 281-379-6783
Meets every other third Saturday evening. If you're interested in this group, please contact **Gloria Myer** at **281-379-6783**.

Investment Group

"Smart Women Finish Rich"

Third Wednesday 9:15 a.m.
Diane Weidenheft, President, 281-370-1653
Connie Nolan, Vice President, 281-379-5302
Please contact **Diane** or **Connie** for information about this interesting group.

Potential New Group

En Francais – Est-ce que vous voulez parler en Français?
Telephonnez nous á **281-257-3260** pour discuter l'organisation d'un group de conversation Française.

Newsletter Editor

Marilou Schopper – 9103 Herts Road
713-302-8851 • marilou@swbell.net

Please deliver all articles and photos to the front porch newsletter box or email your news to: marilou@swbell.net.

The newsletter is published without charge to Champion Forest residents through advertising purchased from Champions Printing & Publishing. For advertising information call 281-583-7661.

Deadline for the July 2008 newsletter is June 10.



CHAMPION FOREST *Garden Club*

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Anita Martin
First Vice President – Yearbook	Sally Blackhall
Second Vice President – Programs	Donna McDaniel
Third Vice President – Membership.....	Bonnie Ellis
Secretary	Kathy Hughson
Treasurer	Ruth Lynch
Club Delegate.....	Wendy Fryfogle
Parliamentarian	Faye Weatherly
Historian.....	Barbara Smith

MISSION STATEMENT

The Champion Forest Garden Club (CFGC) is a neighborhood special interest organization chartered in 1978. The mission of the CFGC is to stimulate knowledge and love of gardening and floral design, to encourage civic beautification, to promote conservation of our surrounding natural resources and to foster a close community spirit. The CFGC fulfills this mission by hosting monthly meetings and periodic field trips throughout the year, along with various community projects such as our Arbor Day celebration. Meetings are held monthly at a member's home. Board members are elected annually. To get involved, please contact the membership chairperson.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

“Celebrate the Seasons”

Our May meeting and luncheon at Sally Blackhall's charming house was just delightful. Many thanks to Sally and hostesses **Lupe Lopez, Jeannette Loverdi, Merle Rumsey and Joanne Watford**, who did such a nice job with the decorations and meeting refreshments. We wrapped up the year's business and enjoyed a delicious lunch with friends outside by the pool on a gorgeous spring day. This luncheon marked the end of the 2007-2008 year for Garden Club, and during this time, we have enjoyed the seasons together by getting to know each other, learning through our fantastic programs and by staying in tune with our beloved neighborhood community.

(continued on page 8)



Champion Forest Garden Club board meets before the luncheon to discuss E36 and Champion Forest In Bloom

GARDEN CLUB NEWS - *continued*

As part of our year-end activities, we also held the installation of the 2008-2009 Garden Club officers. **Stephenie Russell** did a very touching presentation in installing our new officers, and each was presented with a seasonal arrangement reflecting her new position. I am so pleased to announce the following wonderful and capable leaders who will be heading up the club operations:

President **Anita Martin**
First Vice President **Sally Blackhall**
Second Vice President **Donna McDaniel**
Third Vice President **Bonnie Ellis**
Secretary **Kathy Hughson**
Treasurer **Ruth Lynch**
Club Delegate **Chris Agan**
Parliamentarian **Faye Weatherly**
Historian **Barb Smith**

Although the club will resume our normal schedule this September, we still have a busy summer planned with our ongoing programs! Be on the lookout for **Edna Gilbert** and her team of judges as they select the Yard of the Month for **June, July and August**. By the way, if you get a chance, please stop



in and thank the nice folks at RCW Nurseries (FM 249 at the Sam Houston Tollway); they are the generous Yard of the Month sponsor for our neighborhood.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 19, 2009!** Our Backyard Tour is taking shape, and **Paula Anderson** and **Rosanna Fisk** have been hard at work already to make this event a huge success that you won't want to miss. Stay tuned for more details in the fall as we finalize details!

Summer certainly is the season for celebrating and for growing and enjoying. I would like to congratulate all graduates as they close this chapter in their lives and look toward their exciting futures. Whatever your summer plans, be sure to stop and enjoy the moments; they are so fleeting!



Yard of the Month

Boyd & Anita Martin
5423 Chapel Brook Drive

Congratulations!

NOTE: Due to the camera limitations we were able to show only a portion of this beautiful yard. We encourage you to take the time to drive by this home and enjoy the entire yard. - the Publisher

I would also like to thank the entire Garden Club for the honor of serving as your president. This is truly a group of amazing and talented women, and I've enjoyed making new friendships, as well as cherishing the ones that have stood the test of time. We have such diverse personalities and opinions, which have made for some lively discussions, but I have loved every minute! I also appreciate how everyone always comes together for the common good of our club – your passion and dedication is part of what

makes Champion Forest such a wonderful place to live. **Each of you** has touched my heart in more ways than you'll ever know, and I feel blessed to have had my "season of service" with you all this year. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the summer and again in September when **Anita Martin** takes the reins.

Have a wonderful summer!

Chris Agan
Champion Forest Garden Club



Edna stops to pose while working as a hostess for the Garden Club spring luncheon.



Merle celebrates her newly adopted grandchildren by showing a picture of the beautiful family.

(continued on page 10)



Garden Club Celebrates Another Wonderful Year



The Garden Club thanks Chris for a great year.



Chris Agan congratulates the new Garden Club president, Anita Martin.

Champion Forest In Bloom Needs You!

“The mission of Champion Forest In Bloom is to provide a community resource to assist with the planning and implementation for continued beautification of the common areas in our neighborhood.” In conjunction with the HOA, PUD, Champion Forest Garden Club and Sundance Earthscapes, we are ready to move forward with E36, the esplanade on Champion Drive at Louetta. The project has been divided into three phases:

Phase 1

Phase 1 will deal with the initial demolition, new soil and the retrofit of the irrigation system. (As part of our water conservation program, the irrigation will be an underground drip system throughout the bed area. Turf areas will have 4” pop-up spray heads with low-angle nozzles.) Maximum water conservation is the ultimate goal.

Phase 2

Phase 2 involves the planting of olive trees and caesalpinia, the placement of boulders, and the spreading of mulch.

Phase 3

Phase 3 takes phases 1 and 2 and brings the esplanade into full bloom. **Here is where you can help.** We have

received enough donations to complete phases 1 and 2, but we need \$5,000 to finish the project. Please consider making a donation to this beautiful entrance into Champion Forest. Fill out the form below, and send it with your check to:

Champion Forest In Bloom	or	Champion Forest HOA
Barbara Smith		Rozann Janek
9415 Godstone Lane		8326 Mentmore Drive
Spring, TX 77379		Spring, TX 77379

Thank You for Your Donation to Esplanade 36

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Signature: _____



Look for the Wildflowers!

As you are driving on Herts Road, nearing Champion Forest Drive, take a glance into the gully to see nature at its best. The Champion Forest Garden Club planted Texas wildflower seeds, and they make a beautiful floral carpet for your viewing pleasure. Thanks, Garden Club!

Welcome Packets – Don't Forget

The Civic Club wants to make sure that every new resident gets a warm "hello" and helping hand. A neighborhood Welcome Packet delivered by a smiling face accomplishes both. If you know of a new resident on your street, please contact Heidi Baty at 281-235-6621. The packets include a CF directory, a CFWC newsletter and other helpful information about the community that can aid new residents.

CFWC Sunshine and Welcome

Champion Forest Women's Club would love to share the sunshine in your life. If you are new to the neighborhood, we would like to come by and give you a welcome gift. If you are a new parent or grandparent, please send us a picture and information to brighten up the newsletter. We would like to share anything that brings sunshine into your life. Call CFWC **Laura Smith** at 281-374-0909 or email **Marilou Schopper** at marilou@swbell.net.

Welcome to Champion Forest NEW RESIDENTS



Please fill out this form and return to Heidi Baty at 16125 Parish Hall (281-235-6621) before the 10th of the month. (Check box(es) that apply):

- We would like to be included in the newsletter
- We would like to be included in the neighborhood telephone directory
- We would like to make changes to our information in the telephone directory
- I would like someone to contact me regarding neighborhood activities

Name: _____

Children's Names and Ages: _____

Moved from: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Husband is employed by: _____

Work phone: _____

Wife is employed by: _____

Work phone: _____



CYPRESS FOREST
Public Utility District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Petrick
Jim Lynch
Linn Smyth
Fred Jones
Greg DiCioccio

MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas State Legislature created the Cypress Forest Public Utility District (CFPUD) in 1971. The mission of the CFPUD is to finance, construct, own and operate waterworks, wastewater, and drainage facilities and to provide such facilities and services to its customers. The CFPUD is governed by a five-member board of directors that is elected by the public and has staggered four-year terms. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the PUD Building on Champion Forest Drive. The CFPUD Board also hosts a regular Brown Bag Lunch for all interested residents. To get involved, please contact a Board member.



CYPRESS FOREST PUD NEWS

The Folks Have Spoken

Cypress Forest Public Utility District's Board Positions Decided in May 10 Election



Director Position 3 – Greg DiCioccio

I thank the residents of our Utility District for taking the time to vote for me. I am excited to have an opportunity to join our Water Board where I can contribute to the management of our District.



Director Position 4 – Tom Petrick

After a 500+ voter turnout, Roy Riley graciously called to congratulate me, and we agreed to work together. I want to thank all who worked so hard, and especially **Mary Jane**. Whether you voted for me or not, I will do my best to serve our neighborhood.



Director Position 5 – Fred Jones

I want to thank all who voted in the Cypress Forest PUD election on May 10. I especially want to thank those people who worked so tirelessly in my behalf during the campaign. I look forward to working to ensure that our community continues to be a great place to live.

Update on Conversion from Ground Water to Surface Water

Cypress Forest PUD's engineer is currently designing a new chloramine disinfection system that will allow the water from our District's wells to be blended with surface water that will be delivered to us in 2010 by the North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA). This is in compliance with the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District's mandate to reduce our dependence on ground water over the next 30 years. In 2010, 30 percent of our potable water supplies will come from surface water, 70 percent in 2020, and 80 percent in 2030.

Currently, the well water being delivered to our homes is disinfected by *chlorine*, and the surface water – acquired under long-term contract by the NHCRWA from the City of Houston's Northeast Water Purification Plant at Lake Houston – is disinfected using *chloramines*.

We are required, as are all water districts within the NHCRWA's 2010 conversion area, to make the conversion to chloramine disinfection prior to September 2009. Our plans to design, construct and operate this new system must be approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental

Quality (TCEQ), and we will continue to rely on the guidance and leadership of the NHCRWA throughout this procedure.

We will continue to keep our neighbors and customers updated on this critical conversion process. Additional information about this topic – as well as many other current and future water supply issues – is available at the Authority's website (www.nhcrwa.com). On the Home Page, in the center of the "What's New" section, select "Districts Chloramine Letter" and "Disinfection Conversion Associated with Receipt of Surfacewater."

We will be pleased to discuss this and other topics of interest to our residents at our monthly Board of Directors' meeting held the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. (Please confirm the date and time on our website, www.cyforestpud.com. When you visit the site, please sign up in the space provided at the bottom of each page to receive periodic notices.)

**Linn Smyth, Director
Cypress Forest PUD**



CHAMPION FOREST *Civic Club*

BOARD MEMBERS

President John Shipp, 281-376-0240
 Vice President.....Ellen Thomson, 281-379-1925
 Treasurer Winn Andrus, 281-370-8723
 Secretary TBD
 Civic Events Coordinator.....Heidi Beale, 281-370-0423
 Marquee Coordinator..... Maura Mulvehill, 281-379-5660
 Directory ChairmanHeidi Baty, 281-257-2634

MISSION STATEMENT

The Champion Forest Civic Club (CFCC) is a neighborhood service organization chartered in 1995. The mission of the CFCC is to unite the community. The CFCC fulfills this mission by publishing a neighborhood directory, hosting a Halloween Happening, supporting National Neighbors' Night Out, sponsoring the CF Annual Easter Egg Hunt, July 4th Parade, and other events throughout the year. The Civic Club also maintains the marquees at the entrances to Champion Forest.

CFCC collects \$15 annual dues from all residents. Board members are elected every other year in October. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at 16215 Champion Forest Drive. To get involved, please contact any Board member.

CF CIVIC CLUB NEWS

Directory Delivery Takes Place This Month!

Block Captains, the 2008 Champion Forest directories are ready to be distributed. Please stop by to pick up your directories: **Monday, June 9** (8 a.m.-12 p.m.) or **Tuesday, June 10** (4-7 p.m.).

Directory pickup will be at the home of **Sue Akers, 15915 Stornoway** (phone: 281-320-0004, email: svakers@comcast.net). We look forward to seeing you on Monday, the 9th or Tuesday, the 10th. If neither of these days is good for you, please phone Sue as to when you would like to stop by. Thank you!

2008 Directories

Neighbors, if you haven't received your 2008 Champion Forest directory soon after the Block Captain pickup on **June 9 and 10**, please phone **Heidi Baty (281-235-6621)** or **Sue Akers (281-320-0004)**.

(continued on page 16)



CIVIC CLUB NEWS - *continued*

Wanted: Block Captains

This is a job that contributes so much to the neighborhood but requires very little time. We currently have 127 Block Captains. Wouldn't you like to be one too?

Streets Without Block Captains

These streets are without a Block Captain. Please phone **Heidi Baty (281-235-6621)**.



- Chipstead Drive (16200-16307)
- Hexam Drive (16155-16515)
- Landau Park Lane
- Napfield Drive
- Darschelle Drive
- Dawnchase Court
- Agusta Court
- Shelby Court



CHAMPION FOREST FUND, INC. *Homeowners' Association (H.O.A.)*

BOARD MEMBERS

President **Roy Riley**, 281-376-0270
Vice President..... **Rozann Janek**, 281-655-0262
Secretary **Cristy Hayes**, 281-257-3260
Treasurer **Todd Hardin**, 281-655-0845
Director and Security
Committee Chairman..... **Wally Bircher**, 281-374-7422
Community Outreach Committee **Heidi Beale**, 281-370-0423

CHAMPION FOREST WEBSITE

www.championforestonline.com

Log on for the latest neighborhood and community news.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Champion Forest Fund, Inc. is a nonprofit tax-exempt corporation chartered in the State of Texas. The association was formed for the purpose of providing for the maintenance, preservation and architectural control of the residential lots within Champion Forest subdivision and promoting the safety, health and welfare of its residents.

CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT SERVICES (CMS)

For all deed restriction or neighborhood maintenance questions, contact CMS at **281-296-9775** (phone), **281-296-9788** (fax), or by email at conmgsvc@swbell.net.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Name	Home Phone	Email
Roy Riley, CF HOA President, Committee Chair	281-376-0270	President@ChampionForestOnline.com
Rozann Janek, CF Fund VP	281-655-0262	VicePresident@ChampionForestOnline.com
Cristy Hayes, CF Fund Secretary	281-257-3260	Secretary@ChampionForestOnline.com
Fred Jones	281-320-2966	FredPJones@comcast.net
Jackie Kern	281-376-0771	kirkkern@aol.com
Joyce Preston	281-376-5844	jpst@netzero.net

The Neighborhood Watch Committee typically meets at 7 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month at the PUD Building. Everyone is welcome, but please contact a committee member to verify schedules before attending.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

The Champion Forest Neighborhood Watch Committee is a standing committee of the Champion Forest Fund, Inc./Homeowners' Association (CFHOA). The committee's mission is to mobilize Champion Forest residents and law enforcement professionals to reduce crime against residents' person and property. Our strategy is to drive awareness, knowledge, involvement and community pride via education, multiple communication campaigns, and establishment of a communication relationship via CF Connection. The volunteer members serve at the pleasure of the CFFHOA. To get involved, please visit www.ChampionForestOnline.com and select the "Neighborhood Watch" tab at the top of the home page or contact your Section Leader or any of the committee members.



The Champion Forest Neighborhood Watch Program

Our Homeowners' Association, the Champion Forest Fund Inc., has established a Neighborhood Watch Program to help residents protect homes, vehicles and persons from crime.

Despite crime statistics any given month, the CF community will always be an affluent target-rich environment for burglars. Law enforcement patrols cannot do it alone; local resident involvement is essential.

The Neighborhood Watch Program Involves:

- Making homes and motor vehicles more burglar resistant.
- Improving personal safety.
- Being aware of suspicious activities and reporting them promptly to the Constable's Department/local law enforcement.
- Implementing the safety measures learned from the classes.
- Spreading the word to neighbors and friends.

Education is our top priority. Our education classes are provided by the Harris County Sheriff's Department Community Services Division and include "How to Protect Your Home" and "Out and About Safety."

(continued on page 18)

Neighborhood Watch - *continued*

How Do the Residents Begin?

Go to the Neighborhood Watch page at www.championforestonline.com.

1. Find a listing of scheduled classes.
2. View the videos of the two classes.
3. Print the text files containing the elements of the program.
4. Call your Section Leader and ask for a DVD containing the recorded classes or ask about class schedules.

The Classes

How to Protect Your Home

Topics Covered – Doors, windows and locks; inside and outside lighting; alarm systems; landscaping; drapes, shades, blinds; suspicious persons; telephone calls with blocked Caller ID; answering the door; What about safes?; How much should I find out about my domestic help?; Casing your home (think like a burglar); Home security inspections (how to reduce your insurance premiums by 5%).

Out and About Safety

The class focuses on protection of your person and vehicle while out and about.

Topics Covered – While driving your vehicle; Intersection safety; Bump and runs; Parking lot safety; Carjacking safety; Items left in vehicle; Vehicle theft; Driving at night; Mall safety; Avoiding situations that pose personal risk; Deterrent devices like mace and whistles; Cooperate, resist or run?; What if they have a weapon?; Safety while traveling.

Burglars need to know which homes have the items they want to steal, and where they're located. They get this information by working for a company that services your house (cleaning, painting or remodeling). Or they find it by knocking on your door and trying to sell you something or solicit a donation. This risk is avoided by following the "Zero Tolerance" guidelines established by our NW program.

Zero Tolerance for Suspicious Persons

Suspicious Persons or Vehicles/Solicitors – Everyone has seen suspicious persons or vehicles in the community. Constable Hickman urges that you not engage these persons, but rather report them immediately. He also states that a large percentage of solicitors have outstanding warrants and should not be encouraged. Report all as "suspicious persons or vehicles" to the Constable's Dispatch at **281-376-3472**.

Girl Scouts Are OK! – We love the Girl Scouts and other bona fide neighborhood fund-raisers. If a resident wishes to sponsor a fund-raiser, please contact NW@ChampionForestOnline.com, and we will try to help with a CF Connection alert.

Community Action – To be effective in dealing with suspicious vehicles, as well as solicitors, it is important that they are not encouraged. Call the Constable's Dispatch. Calling for constable's assistance in "nonemergency situations" will yield a faster response than calling 911.

Section Leaders – Each section of CF has one or two Section Leaders. They have been trained in both NW classes and will assist you in the program. Call them with any questions.

The Champion Forest Neighborhood Watch Committee

Committee Members – **Arthur "Roy" Riley**, CF Fund, Inc., Committee Chairman (281-376-0270); **Rozann Janek**, CF Fund, Inc. (281-655-0262); **Cristy Hayes**, CF Fund, Inc. (281-257-3260); **Fred Jones** (281-320-2966); **Jackie Kern** (281-376-0771); **Joyce Preston** (281-376-5844)

The Neighborhood Watch Committee typically meets at 7 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month at the Cypress Forest PUD Building, 16215 Champion Forest Drive. Everyone is welcome, but please contact a committee member to verify schedules before attending.

Each section of our neighborhood has one or two Section Leaders. Call them when you have questions, suggestions or need information.

Neighborhood Watch Section Leaders

<u>Section</u>	<u>Section Leaders</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
1	Kathy Lawrence	281-370-6925	KLawrence@bubblescarwash.com
1	Barb Smith	281-251-3093	barb9415@sbcglobal.net
2	James Reed	281-379-1610	jimreed@hal-pc.org
3	Kallie Gilbreath	281-251-1885	kallies@swbell.net
3	Mark Winder	281-374-0319	markw13@sbcglobal.net
4	Randy Janek	281-655-0262	mrjanek@sbcglobal.net
5	Angela Greenberg	281-379-1559	abg@lanierlawfirm.com
6	Heidi Beale	281-370-0423	Hbeale2000@aol.com
7	John Cozart	281-376-6150	john@cozartfarrell.com
7	Ross Richardson	281-379-5503	ross@pembrokeadvisors.com
8	Val Arbona	281-370-4589	val@valarbona.com
9	Joyce Preston	281-376-5844	jprst@netzero.com
10	John Shipp	281-376-0240	jshipp04@earthlink.net
11	Anna Hoyt	281-880-7126	annahoyt@earthlink.net
CF Villas (12)	Vicki Downing	281-880-7489	vbdhome@sbcglobal.net
Ch. Glen	John Upton	281-587-0450	john.upton@sbcglobal.net
Windrush	Steve Bruman	832-687-3538	bruman0623@yahoo.com
Sterling Gate	Mike Baker	281-370-3918	hcco2@yahoo.com

What Are the End Words?

- Be assured there is a criminal element out there that is committed to stealing your goodies.
- Attend the scheduled training classes, print the class program, stream the class to your computer or get a DVD from your Section Leader.
- Implement the safety measures you feel are important to you.
- Spread the word to your neighbors and friends encouraging them to get on the program.
- Be alert. Be vigilant, but not a vigilante!

CONSTABLE'S PATROL ACTIVITY REPORT

Type of Activity

Burglary of a Habitation	0
Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	0
Theft from a Habitation	1
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	0
Theft - Other.....	0
Robbery	0
Assault	0
Sexual Assault.....	0
Criminal Mischief.....	1
Disturbance - Family.....	1
Disturbance - Juvenile	0
Disturbance - Other.....	9
Alarms	54
Suspicious Vehicles	63
Suspicious Persons.....	14
Runaways.....	0
Telephone Harassment	1
Other Calls.....	299

Many residents in Champion Forest have not notified their alarm companies as to which law enforcement agency to notify should the need arise. Please contact your alarm company and instruct them to contact the Harris County Pct. 4 Constable's Department at 281-376-3472 should your burglar alarm activate or you hit the panic button and need law enforcement for an emergency.

Disclaimer: The information contained in the Contract Summary Report is provided by the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office. The Champion Forest Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is not responsible for the content of the CF Patrol Contract Summary and Activity Reports, and the Fund disclaims and denies any and all liability therefor.

SUMMARY REPORT

Under Investigation

Theft from a Habitation – 16400 block of Agusta Court

Criminal Mischief – 15900 block of Champion Drive

Disturbance (Family) – 8300 block of Harrow Lane

Disturbance (Other) – 16400 block of Graven Hill Drive

Telephone Harassment – 16100 block of Parish Hall

Other Calls

Cypresswood Drive at Champion Drive – Two-car motor vehicle accident. Vehicle 1 westbound on Cypresswood Drive ran stop sign and collided with southbound vehicle 2 in inside lane. Driver of vehicle 2 transported to Willowbrook Methodist with nonlife-threatening injuries. Passenger of vehicle 2 and driver of vehicle 1 were uninjured.

9100 block of Herts Road – Small child was observed standing alone unsupervised in the driveway next to street during heavy school traffic.

16200 block of Morningbrook Drive

5600 block of Champions Glen

8200 block of Redchurch Drive

Constable's Dispatch – 281-376-3472

There are registered sex offenders living in many neighborhoods. For more information, go to www.familywatchdog.us and follow the links.

For the public information synopsis, email Lt. Finley at IFinley@consolidated.net with your name and home address. He will add you to his regular email list.

Bond Passes

The citizens of the Klein ISD gave approval on May 10 to a \$646.9 million bond plan that will allow the district to build new schools, renovate existing facilities, purchase technology for an increased enrollment, and increase safety and security. Superintendent Dr. Jim Cain stated, "I want to thank the bond steering committee for its months of hard work to develop the 2008 Bond Plan and the citizens of the district who gave approval to the plan. As the bond funds are spent, we will remain dedicated to keeping the community informed. Our district newsletters, the district website and our KleINTOUCH daily messages will remain important communication tools to let you know how tax dollars are being spent."

Head 'Em Up!

Klein ISD is preparing for the Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten Roundup. Children who enroll in kindergarten must be five on or before September 1. To be enrolled in pre-kindergarten a child must be four years of age on or before September 1 and meet enrollment criteria. At these events parents will pre-register children for the 2008-2009 school year.

To register, a parent must present a proof of identity for the child and a complete immunization record from a licensed physician. Parents must also show a proof of residence in Klein; telephone bills are not accepted as proof of residence.

For the first time, parents will find registration forms online. Please check the KISD website at www.kleinisd.net or call 832-249-4173 for dates and hours of the event.

Have Them Read All Summer Long!

Each summer, the Klein Elementary Summer Library Recreational Reading Program supports reading while school is not in session. One day each week for six weeks, eight elementary libraries will be open for students from **June 17** to **July 2**. Secondary students may use the libraries where summer school is held. Information about the elementary summer library schedules can be accessed via the KISD website.

Technology Baseline Standard Being Met

How will technology bond funds be used? With funds from the 2004 Bond, Klein began to implement its Technology Baseline Standard Initiative that places a Starboard interactive whiteboard, eInstruction assessment system, a document camera, a projector, and four student networked computers in classes to prepare students for their future. This initiative will continue with the new bond funds.

As a part of the previous bond funding, students at the Vistas High School Program and Krimmel Intermediate were issued and trained to use tablet PCs across the curriculum. Klein Oak High School students will be issued PCs and trained in the fall of 2008. The 2004 Bond funds will also fund the future one-to-one implementation at the other district high schools.

(continued on page 22)

KLEIN ISD NEWS - *continued*

The 2008 Bond will fund the one-to-one implementation for intermediates #9 and #10 and Hildebrandt Intermediate. The 2008 technology bonds will also fund career and technology education, technology applications and fine arts computers and software, mathematics graphing calculators, science probes, replacement computers, printers, library and student information systems networking equipment and the technology infrastructure to support the district.

Online Course Work Gaining Popularity

The Klein ISD is featured as one of six school districts profiled in "Learning in the 21st Century," published by Project Tomorrow and Blackboard. Klein Forest High School's success with the district's initial pilot of online learning was referenced in the article. Klein Forest students recovered 875 credit hours using online curriculum during scheduled periods with close supervision by teachers at the school.

All Klein ISD high schools offer online courses for credit recovery using the Education 2020 program. Students accepted into the program attend class at a set time in a computer lab where they work at their own pace. Each campus sets the criteria for determining students who will participate in online learning.

Online classes are offered in Klein to support efforts that encourage all students to graduate from high school. Those interested in participating in online courses for credit recovery should contact their counselor.

Klein ISD Recognized for Music Education

For the second consecutive year, the Klein ISD has been named one of the best communities for music education in the U.S. This year's list contains 110 school districts in 29 states. From Texas, ten school districts were recognized including Arlington, Carrollton/Farmers Branch, Coppell, Denton, Lewisville, Plano and Pasadena.

The 110 designated school districts exemplify community commitment to include music education as a part of a quality education for all children. These school districts also encourage lifelong participation in music making.

School districts participated in a detailed survey answering questions about funding, enrollment, student/teacher ratios, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, private music lesson participation and other relevant factors in their communities' music education programs. Congratulations to the music educators of the Klein ISD for earning a second commendation from the NAMM Foundation for excellence in music education.



Brill's Pack 535 Cub Scout Membership Rally Breaks Records

More than 25 new Cub Scouts joined Brill's Pack 535 at their Spring Membership Rally on

April 28. Those are the best Spring Rally results in the Pack's history. The Pack officials credit their success to much pre-rally work including flyers, Open House display, announcements and, of course, their way cool *Scout Song* being played during announcements at Brill. The dedication, passion and enthusiasm of scout leaders were evident as parents were wow-ed. The introduction and application process proceeded smoothly with the parents as all scouts and scout wanabes were otherwise occupied with their own 2008 *Pack 535 Olympic Games*.

The terrific dedicated leadership is leading Pack 535 to becoming stronger and more solid, an entry in the how-it-should-be-done category...



Cub Scouts collected on a debt owed by Cub Scout Leader Milton Schopper. The promise was "pie" throwing privileges for each super fund-raising scout. As you can see, the fund-raiser was a huge success.

Cub Scouts Campout Blows Out Expectations

Editor's Note: *The following letter was from a scout leader to all parents of participants of a recent campout. Are your boys scouts?*

Wow! What a fantastic weekend for the Pack 535 Annual Spring Camp at Huntsville State Park! Except for a few gusts of wind, God blessed us with great weather for a campout. It was cool enough to have nice campfires both nights. We had a good turnout; we all understand the busy schedules a family has, but for you families that were unable to make it, you missed a really

(continued on page 24)

Cub Scout Pack 535 - *continued*

special treat! As we were sitting around the campfire, **Carter's** dad **Bob** said the Space Station would be crossing the northern sky at 8:53 p.m. We all walked out to the fishing pier, and Bob's sources were right on! But then we had an extra special treat when we were all looking at the NW sky and the Space Station was just entering into view: a "shooting star" shot across the sky from the north heading eastward, and it looked as though they crossed paths! Very special!

We all walked back over to the campfire and conducted a very moving United States flag retirement ceremony. We all need to be very thankful to have **Todd Reynolds** and **Chip Herd** for making this a very appreciative moment as we honored our country and fellow Americans who serve or have served to protect our freedoms, freedoms as simple as having a campout with your fellow scout!

Friday night we had our movie that went off without a hitch and for Saturday's lunch, the group participated in making their own silver turtles. The hike was great. We saw various acts of nature, learned a few things and got in some great exercise too. We also had a lot of bike riders and skateboarding going on! Several scouts earned their fishing belt loop, although no kids came back to tell me about the whopper that got away!



Pack 535 Cub Scouts take a rare (forced) break during Campout Weekend. Gorgeous weather and well-planned activities made for a memorable time for the boys and their parents.

For those of you who were able to attend, I want to say a big thanks and for those of you who were not, I certainly understand. For those of you who have never attended one of our campouts, please make every effort possible to do so in the future. It does not require having hundreds of dollars of gear. All it takes is the investment of time with your scout. Even if you can only make it out for a day or evening trip, this is quality time that they get with you, the leaders and their fellow scouts, time that is immeasurable! These young cubs are at a very impressionable time in their lives, and scouting provides an excellent opportunity for positive reinforcement and keeps their compass pointing north!

Thanks for sharing a super fun weekend with all you cub buddies! I am truly blessed to be around such great kids, parents, uncles and granddads! It is so rewarding to have a cub come up to you without being forced and say with respect, "Thank you, Mr. Hahn!" This is when I know that scouting is impacting and molding their lives!

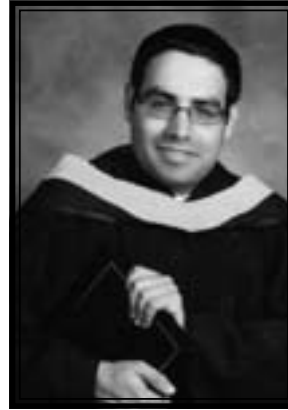
Congratulations, 2008 Graduates



Anne Victoria Agan

Anne Victoria Agan, the daughter of **Dan and Christy Agan** and sister of **Robert and Mary**, will graduate from Klein High School. She is a four-year line member of the Klein Bearkadette Drill Team where she served as Social Chairman, Vice President and Drill Trainer. Anne is a member of the National Honor Society

and Technology Student Association, where she placed first in regional and state competitions. For the past six years, she has served the community through the Cypress Creek Chapter of the National Charity League, receiving several philanthropy awards for her work with the disabled at SIRE, Houston's therapeutic equestrian center. After traveling with her family this summer, Anne will attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University in the fall where she will major in architecture.



Steven M. Bloom

Steven M. Bloom, son of Champion Forest residents **Evelyn and Mitchell Bloom**, has received his bachelor's degree from Ramapo College in Mahwah, New Jersey. He received his bachelor of science in accounting and bachelor of arts in economics, with a minor in political science. He graduated with economics honors. He is

a 2003 graduate of Klein High School. This past year, he was the Student Trustee to the college's Board of Trustees and led the advocacy effort for additional higher education funds from the state of New Jersey on behalf of the student body. He has co-written two economic research papers with professors at Ramapo on economics and baseball, the economics of higher education in New Jersey. He will be employed as an internal auditor at Toys 'R Us, Inc., corporate offices located in Wayne, New Jersey. He will reside in Elmwood Park, New Jersey.

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2008 Graduates - continued

Blaire Rachelle Brownlee



Congratulations to **Blaire Rachelle Brownlee**, who is graduating with honors as a senior at Klein High School this spring. She is a member and Chairperson of Student Council, member of the National Honor Society, President of the Seniors on Service Organization, member of the National Charity League, member of Young Life and award recipient of Who's Who Among American High School students as well as Klein High School students. Her dream of continuing her education in the beautiful state of Colorado has come true! In the fall of 2008, Blaire will be a Colorado State University Ram! She plans to major in business with minors in marketing and communications.



Kaitlin Hillary Kerr

Kaitlin Kerr, daughter of **Chuck and Debbie Kerr**, will be graduating this June from Klein High School where she was a 4-year member of the Klein Varsity Tennis team. She is Chairperson of Seniors on Service, has been actively involved in the KHS Student Council and the Champions Chapter of the National Charity League where she has been recognized with several service awards. Kaitlin will be attending Baylor University in the fall with plans to attend law school.

Jessica Erin O'Connell

Jessica Erin O'Connell is the daughter of **Tom and Susan O'Connell** and is graduating from Klein High School where she is a Varsity Tennis player and a member of the National Honor Society. She is a member of St. Timothy Lutheran Church and the National Charity League-Champions Chapter. Jessica will be attending Texas State University in the fall.



Calling All Graduates!

If you are graduating in the spring, we would like to spotlight you in the newsletter. Please send a picture and significant information (accomplishments and future plans) to marilou@swbell.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kuykendahl – Important Thoroughfare, Confusing Name

Come on, you know you've done it – struggled with the pronunciation of the large street right up the road from Champion Forest. I sure have. I have heard some creative attempts – each new pronunciation said as authoritatively as the last. Curiosity got the best of me. So much so, in fact, that I researched the name a bit on the Internet. What did I find?

- Any person with a family surname of Kuykendall, Kuykendahl, Kikendall, Kirkendall, Kirkendale, Kuyrkendall, Cuykendall, Cuyrkendall, Coykendall, Corkendall, etc., can be assured they are a descendant of Luur Jacobszen van Kuykendaal, son of a Dutch immigrant to New Netherland.
- Many today spell the name Kuykendahl, Kuykendall or Coykendall but **pronounce it “Kirkendall.”** There are also a few examples of families who changed the spelling to agree with the accepted pronunciation.
- Some of the earliest Kuykendalls in Texas were NC descendants who were Col. Stephen F. Austin's original 300 and played key roles in forming Austin's Colony.
- There were northern versus southern state K-Family cousins fighting against cousins on opposite sides of the

bloody Civil War. Many K-Family members are to be found in the records of WWI and WWII and subsequent military actions.

- One finds no royalty, presidents, generals or captains of industry in the historical records of the K-Family. However, one also finds no thieves, swindlers, traitors or murderers. Only honest, hardworking, loyal and religious folks.
- Today K-Family members are to be found in all 50 of the United States and many other countries of the world.

*Information from **Family History, Our Dutch Heritage, A Research Synopsis of the Kuykendall Family: Kuykendall, Kirkendall, Cuykendall, Coykendall, etc.**, Compiled by Gene Kuykendall, 1997*

Thanks, Gene, for setting me straight. – Editor

REMEMBER...

An Architectural Review Application must be submitted BEFORE you begin any home improvements.

Contact **Consolidated Management Services** at 281-296-9775 (phone), 281-296-9788 (fax) or by email at comngsvc@swbell.net whenever you need assistance.

CYPRESS CREEK cultural district

What is the Cypress Creek Cultural District? We are a group of volunteers determined to make a difference! We realized that many people in north Harris County do not know about the many great cultural opportunities in our area, and so we decided in February 2006 to change that situation. Our mission is to **promote, communicate, and collaborate** the good things in north Harris County. A few events in June...

Symphony North of Houston

Save the Date!! **June 29 from 4-6 p.m.**
Young Artist Concert

Symphony North of Houston is a community-based orchestra composed of a very special group of classical musicians, which include teachers, homemakers, engineers, lawyers, bankers, and many other professionals that enjoy playing classical music.

In addition to performing six subscription concerts at Northwoods Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas, Symphony North has consistently supported the young artists

of Houston by sponsoring a yearly Young Artist Competition. Each year the winning performers have the opportunity to perform a concerto with Symphony North. Our philosophy is that good music should be accessible to everyone. Because of this, admission to our concerts is by donation. We look forward to seeing you at our concerts.

ACE Theater

Adult Stage Production

Exit The Body

A mystery writer rents a New England house that is the rendezvous point for some jewel thieves. The focal point of the set is the closet which opens into a living room and a library. A body found in the closet promptly disappears only to be succeeded by another. The hunt for the jewels reaches a climax at 2 a.m. when four couples unknown to each other turn up to search. Not since the days of Mack Sennett has there been such a hilarious series of entrances and exits.

Directed by: Karen Daugherty

Performance: **June 6-28**

Location: ACE Theatre

Call 281-587-1020 for reservations!

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts

Renovation of the old Cypress Creek Library is complete and our area has another great cultural venue – The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts. The first exhibition is in place and features Remington's paintings and sculpture from the collection of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. The museum is at 6815 Cypresswood Drive in front of the Barbara Bush Library just east of Stuebner Airline Road. Go to www.PearlMFA.org for the viewing hours and future exhibitions.

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is pleased to open to the public with its inaugural exhibition, *Frederic Remington and the American West: Selections from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston* (through **July 3**). This exhibition, as a part of MFAH Outreach Programs, is supported by the Hamill Foundation.

Champion Forest Resident Practices What Was Preached

Neighborhood Watch Advice, Taken Seriously, Leads to Con Man's Arrest

Champion Forest resident **Fred Jones** was comfortably occupied inside his house one recent afternoon – totally unaware that a scam artist was hard at work in his driveway at that very moment.



Champion Forest resident Fred Jones can't really explain the pros and cons of coming in his driveway.

The deed was exposed when a young man rang the doorbell sometime later and said that he had returned to “finish paying on the truck.” Fred didn't know the young man and didn't have a truck for sale. Come to find out – another man, unknown to Fred, had made an appointment with the young man to sell a Harley Davidson Edition \$50,000 truck in Fred's driveway. He represented Fred's home as his own and took \$150

earnest money from the unsuspecting youth. He told him to return with the rest of the money later – no problem.

Fred might have shaken his head and reported nothing to the Constable's Patrol. But Fred followed the Neighborhood Watch principle of reporting any suspicious activity – Fred got on the phone to the Constable's Patrol. The officer took the report. But, the sad fact remained – the young man was out the \$150 – a life lesson learned.

This story has a positive twist. The young man got some consolation from the fact that the Harley Davidson Edition truck was spotted soon afterward in the Raveneaux parking lot by our own Lt. Larry Finley. The con man was picked up, and the stolen truck returned to its rightful Houstonian owner. The con man was in fact an ex-con, just a week or so out of prison. What to do with him? No problem. He had warrants in three states calling for his arrest. He saw Texas in his rearview mirror shortly after the local evening news broadcasted his smiling, publicity-giddy features to their audiences – a hardened scammer at 27 years old.

It goes on until someone puts a stop to it. Way to take an active role in neighborhood crime-fighting, Fred!

30-Year Residents Celebrate Champion Forest

A Look at the History of Our Neighborhood

It was a summer gully-washer that caused **Don and Terry Heath** to postpone putting down earnest money on a home near Kuykendahl and Louetta. Instead of heading to write the check, they decided to head home, since, after all, they were biking that day. As fate would have it, shortly afterward, they received a phone call from a friend asking them to come on down and check out the new Champion Forest neighborhood.



Don and Terry Heath

The Heaths liked what they saw and on June 30, 1978, they moved into their brand new home on Taidswood – just 10 days before their daughter Sharon was born. Back then, there wasn't much to the neighborhood. Cypresswood didn't go through to 249 (which was 149 then), and Raveneaux was just a recently poured foundation. The “built” streets were all very close to the Heaths: Stockport, Appin Falls, Endstone and New Forest – maybe 50 or 60 homes – lots of construction, lots of new faces, lots of activity.

It was especially interesting to chat with Terry about the Champion Forest newsletter. You see, she was the first editor of our neighborhood's news sheet. She typed it on a Texas Instruments 994A, printed it and hand delivered the 8½”x11” sheet herself. She even helped write the original bylaws of the Women's Club.

If you meet Don and Terry in the neighborhood, please say hello and thanks for their support of our neighborhood (bolstering your property values). Also, you might ask them about their experiences here. They have a slew of stories. You could ask them about:

- Raveneaux memories. (Don's tennis memberships number in Raveneaux's 4,000 tennis membership series? 4001, of course.)
- The time another summer gully-washer gave Don and Terry a extra dose of lightning. A strike on their home blew a 3-foot hole in the roof and actually blew bits mylar off of the wall paper in the ½ bath across the house.
- The county's efforts to get a bridge over the creek on Champion Forest Drive. The construction stopped when a 100-year flood showed the bridge deck to be under water. After a lengthy re-engineering, the bridge deck was upped by 18”. Shortly after the long-awaited completion,

another 100-year flood came – and sure enough, the arch of the bridge rose high and dry above the water. Unfortunately, the six feet of water on either side of the bridge still made it impassable! (Your tax dollars at work!)

- The scary fly-by of tornados after Alicia in 1983
- A fun and funny history of wacky leadership in the young neighborhood

Don and Terry say that over the years they have recommended Champion Forest to many friends and associates as a great place to live. They also note that while folks may whine and complain about deed restrictions, the neighborhood that they almost bought in, near Kuykendahl and Louetta – all those years ago – today has only a fraction of the value of their home in Champion Forest. Don made a sweeping gesture at his neighbor's homes indicating the close clipped lawns and freshly painted exteriors – “Look how well they are maintained. That protects our investment. We are so happy to have made the decision to buy here.”

Editor's Note: *If you are a resident of Champion Forest and have been here 30 years, please send an email to me at marilou@swbell.net. I love the good conversation. Your interesting history makes good reading, too. Thanks.*

Raveneaux Racers

Swim Team

Swim season is in full swing, and the Racers are having a ball! We've enjoyed the Kick-Off party and Racer Rallies, and we swam hard in our meets against Willow Forest and Cutten Green. Come help cheer the Racers on to victory on **June 7** when we face Champions at Raveneaux! Our final meet is on **June 14** against High Meadow Ranch and will be held at Raveneaux as well. We'll wrap up the season at Divisionals on **June 21** at Magnolia High School and celebrate a successful season at our annual awards banquet on **Sunday, June 22** at 6 p.m. at Raveneaux. Go, Racers!

(continued on page 32)



Raveneaux Racers - continued



***Swim season
is in full swing!***

***The Raveneaux Racers Would Like
to Thank Their 2008 Sponsors***

Buddy & Kathy Brown
Architectural Flooring – Michael Kling
Lincoln Property Co. – Kevin Wyatt
Paragon Pools – David Pavlisec
The Woolfolk Family
Harold & Nelda Wallace
Re/Max Northwest Realtors – Debbie Donahue
Vacuums of America – Karla Canchola
El Rincon Mexican Restaurant
Anthony L. Hill, D.D.S.
Trophy Source
Best Donuts
The Bravenic – Hodgins Family
The Bryan Family
The Clay Family
The DeShazer Family
The Fidler Family
The Hardin Family
The Pieri Family
The Stockinger Family
The Wyatt Family

KIDS IN THE NEWS

Madison Carter, a 7th grader at Kleb, got picked to play on the Team Texas Lacrosse tournament (ages 15 and under) in Vail, Colorado, this summer!

Way to go, Maddie. She is a second-year lacrosse player for the Klein Middle School Lacrosse Club. She plays defense and attack.



KLEB LACROSSE

IN THE MAIL

This space is reserved for residents with opinions to express, thoughts to share and any question another reader may be able to answer. Jot it down and drop it in the mail to **Marilou Schopper** at 9103 Herts Road, Spring, Texas 77379, put it into the birdhouse mailbox on Marilou's front porch, or contact her by email at marilou@partysport.com.

Remember: This newsletter will not publish anonymous comments or questions. Please include your name and address.

Thank you, Marilou

Dear Marilou:

My step daughter and family recently moved to Champion Forest. Last weekend she told me that her and several of her neighbors' property taxes have gone up around 20%. She planned to protest the property taxes, but she did not know about the process of property tax protest arbitration or what that was. Since it is a relatively new process for property owners, I thought you might want to let your neighbors know about it.

If you or any of your neighbors have any questions about property tax arbitration, feel free to contact me at your convenience. I also have several helpful Internet links that are informative if you are interested.

Thanks for your interest,
Ron

Arbitration

Finally, an affordable alternative for property owners protesting their taxes and for the taxing authorities, too.

Yes! There is an alternative for property owners that are dissatisfied with their property taxes and the value assessed their property by the CAD (Central Appraisal District). After protesting the taxes with the ARB (Appraisal Review Board), the property owner now has an alternative course of action to continue the protest process. The alternative is "Binding Arbitration." Most other arbitrations are very formal, conducted by lawyers or retired judges with the parties to the arbitration being represented by lawyers. The lawyers argue points of law back and forth, and in the end the arbitrator makes a decision (award). When lawyers are involved, the cost to the parties is expensive. The property tax protest arbitration does not involve any lawyers, unless one of the parties wants to hire a lawyer. The use of appraisers or sales agents/brokers as arbitrators keeps fees down and lends some expertise to determining the fair market value of the owner's property.

Since September 2005, binding arbitration offers the property owner and CADs an affordable way to continue the property tax protest process without court action and additional high legal fees. There are some qualifications the property owner and property must satisfy before an arbitration can take place.

1. The property value in dispute must be less than \$1,000,000.
2. Property taxes on the property must be current.
3. Filing for arbitration must be sent to the Appraisal District within 45 days of the ARB's award (value determination).
4. The property owner must send a check for \$500, made payable to The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. \$50 of that \$500 is not refundable. However, \$450 of the \$500 is a deposit and may be refunded to the property owner if the award is in your favor.

The Comptroller's office has a list of licensed real estate appraisers and real estate sales agents/brokers that have satisfied the requirements to qualify as a property tax arbitrator. This list is accessible through the Internet.

If you have any questions on Property Tax Protest Arbitration, I may be contacted at 713-316-8604.

Ronald Canady
Arbitrator ID# 32020217611

Dear Editor:

I read in the May issue of the Champion Forest newsletter about where to look for information in case your pet goes missing. I would like to enlighten your readers who have pets that there are two other possibilities "when pets go missing."

Around Christmas time I was told of two "owl strikes" in nearby Brandonwood subdivision which resulted in the death of 2 cats. In February, while out strolling in our yard just after dark one evening, I heard an owl hooting in one of our trees!! We have 2 outdoor cats, so I became immediately concerned. We kept close watch on our cats for the next few days and since they both have their claws, felt they could protect themselves.

Then one morning when one of them didn't come to eat, I looked around and out near the edge of our property I saw what at first looked like a blanket of cotton. On closer inspection I realized it was fur. There was nothing left, but fur. Horrified, I began to warn neighbors about the owl, only to be told by several people, including our vet, that the culprit was probably a coyote!! Yes, the coyotes run the creekbed and because of all the recent new construction west and north of Champion Forest, they are being forced back this way. As our vet said, "They will adapt to live among us." I have heard of coyotes taking small dogs in Champions subdivision also. And as recently as this past weekend we saw on the news that coyotes had grabbed 2 different two-year-old children out of their yards and driveways in **Chicago!!** Luckily the parents were nearby and fought to get the children back. The coyote had picked one child up by his diaper!

These attacks were not at night. Coyotes are not necessarily nighttime predators. Like your dog, they like to be out running during the day, too! One of our residents saw a coyote on the Raveneaux golf course one morning a few weeks ago. We have lived here for 15 years, and I have never heard about this problem, but I think it may be a growing concern, and I just wanted to let people know that if you leave a small pet outside and it disappears, it may not have run away or been stolen! Keep an eye out!

Sincerely,
Lindy Hamblin

Green Medians or Gray Medians for FM 1960?

TxDOT will be adding raised asphalt (or concrete) medians and protected turn lanes to the center of FM 1960 between Mills and Gatewick (east of I-45 and west of Highway 249). This project will replace the dangerous continuous turn lane in the middle of FM 1960. The public overwhelmingly approved the concept of raised medians and protected left-turn lanes at public meetings in 2004. An Access Management Study showed that these changes would reduce the number of crashes and improve mobility by reducing traffic delays. The construction is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2009.

TxDOT is responsible for the location and sizes of the medians. TxDOT's funding is for road construction and will not cover planting or maintenance. The medians will be constructed of asphalt or concrete, **unless** the community steps forward to raise funds to landscape and beautify the medians.

The Green Medians Committee's goal is to turn the gray medians into green medians. This committee is a group of community volunteers serving as a committee of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce. The Houston Northwest Chamber Foundation (a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation) will serve as the entity for all financial transactions. This road construction project has created a one-time opportunity to make a difference in the appearance of the center lane of FM 1960.

Green medians will increase residential and commercial property values, revitalize FM 1960, and add scenic beauty and pride.

Donations are needed to design and plant the medians. With a projected budget of \$500,000, no donation is too large or too small. Please send your tax-deductible donation made payable to Green Medians and mail to Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce Foundation, 14511 Falling Creek, Suite 205, Houston, TX 77014 or call 281-440-4160 for more information. Email committee chair Barbara Schlattman (bschlattman@mindspring.com) to volunteer or for speaking engagements. Together, we **can** make a difference!

Green Medians Steering Committee: Pauline Adams, Bryan Becker, Gary Cofran, Mary Davis, Tom Davis, Nancy Grayson, Clara Lewis, Helen Myers, Barbara Schlattman, Jack Searcy, Seth Sharr, Sue Stewart, Barbara Thomason, Ron Walkoviak, Glenn Wilkerson, & Ray Zobel

Main Street 1960



This or That

The decision is yours!

YOUTH SERVICES

Find your new Champion Forest Baby-sitter,
Lawn Care or Pet Care provider here!

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| B – Baby-sitting | P – Pet Care |
| C – Car Detailing | PS – Pool Service |
| E – Entertainment, Piano, Singing | S – Party Serving and Clean-up |
| L – Lawn care | SW – Swim Lessons |
| O – Odd Jobs | W – Pressure Washing |

* Klein Vol. Fire Dept. Certified

Please Note: Law enforcement agencies advise that publishing children's contact information on the Internet compromises their security. For this reason, the teenage job seekers list has been omitted from the online version of your newsletter.

Pet Liaison

Call Ruth or Jim Lynch at 281-320-9570
to report a lost or found pet.

CF Lost and Found

If you've found a lost item and would like to try to get it back to its owner, please contact **Kathy Lawrence** at 281-370-6925.

Got News?

Email your news to marilou@swbell.net or drop it in the front porch mailbox at 9103 Herts Road.

Advertising Information

The Champion Forest Newsletter is published monthly for the residents of **Champion Forest**. It is made possible by your neighborhood businesses and friends from ads purchased in the newsletter. Please support these businesses. If you would like to help sponsor this newsletter by purchasing ad space, please call **Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc.** at 281-583-7661 by the 10th of each month.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Tahoe 2-Bedroom Timeshare. For details call Barbara Spaeth at 281-370-5322.

Need a Recommendation? My housekeeper Maria has been with our family 10 years and is looking for additional work. Maria will clean and do your laundry and ironing as well. Maria is honest, hardworking and reliable. Please contact Jane Kimmel at 281-655-4409 or 281-455-7048 (cell).

Looking for Summer Childcare: Champion Forest residents looking for summer childcare in our home for three boys ages 10-13. We can work around summer vacations and other commitments. Driver's license a plus. Call Pam at 713-851-8309.

Need Help for Finals? Daniel Jackson, a Champion Forest resident and parent of two KHS students, is available for tutoring in math and science. No subject too difficult. Helping kids since 2000! Please contact Daniel at 281-379-4060.

Piano Teacher: Experienced with all ages, National Guild Teacher certification, in your neighborhood. Call Diane Cameron at 281-376-3804.

Wanted: Music... Vinyl records, LPs. If you want to get rid of those old records you have never used for ages and never will, please call me and I'll be glad to come and buy them from you! I am your neighbor and my hobby is collecting and listening to records. I am interested in LPs/33s vinyl records and collections of all kinds of music: jazz, rock, blues and mostly progressive music from all over the world (not interested in classical, country or pop/easy listening music). If you want to get rid of your turntable, I'll help you with that too. Thanks. Call John at (cell) 832-368-4543, email jchara@oceaneering.com or Helen at (cell) 713-458-0907, email helengeorgiadou@hotmail.com.

Editor's Note: The Champion Forest newsletter's classified ads are available at no charge for resident personal property wanted or for sale, or for resident services that directly help the children of Champion Forest. Submitted ads are run in the newsletter at the discretion of the editor. The Champion Forest Women's Club board of directors will hear an appeal to the editor's decision. Thank you.



YOU GOTTA PROBLEM?

Animals

Dead in Public Roadway –
Commissioner Eversole's Office..... 281-353-8424
Loose – Animal & Rabies Control 281-888-3191

Electricity

Reliant Energy..... 713-207-7777

Garbage and Recycling

Royal Disposal and Recycle 713-526-1536

Gas

CenterPoint Energy 713-659-2111

Mosquitos

Harris County Mosquito Control..... 713-440-4800

Neighborhood Eyesore

Consolidated Management Services 281-296-9775

Phone Repair

Southwestern Bell Telephone 1-800-246-8464

Security

(Nonemergency) Constable's Dispatch..... 281-376-3472

Street

Curb Repair, Street Repair, Signs, Sweeping
Commissioner Eversole's Office 281-353-8424
Traffic Signals
Houston Transtar 713-881-3210

Street Lamps

Reliant Energy 713-945-3219

Water

Cypress Forest P.U.D..... 713-405-1760

Emergency? Call 9-1-1.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Cypress Forest PUD Mtg. • 5:30 p.m. Backdoor Garbage Pickup	4	5 KISD Last Day of Classes	6 Backdoor Garbage Pickup & Recycling	7 KISD High School Graduation
8	9	10 CF Civic Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. Backdoor Garbage Pickup	11 CF Fund/ HOA Meeting 6:30 p.m.	12	13 Backdoor Garbage Pickup & Recycling	14 <i>Flag Day</i>
15 <i>Father's Day</i>	16	17 Backdoor Garbage Pickup	18	19	20 Backdoor Garbage Pickup & Recycling	21 <i>First Day of Summer</i>
22	23	24 Backdoor Garbage Pickup	25	26 CF Neighborhood Watch Meeting 7:30 p.m.	27 Backdoor Garbage Pickup & Recycling	28
29	30	Backdoor Garbage Pickup				