

# Willowlake Watch

www.willowlake.siteblast.com

October 2009

Volume 5, Issue 10

The Official Publication of the Willowlake Homeowners Association

## “Willowlake Watch”...

### *A New Name*

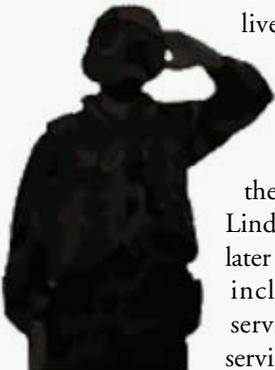
*By Linda O’Pry, Editor*

It is official! The newsletter, formerly known as Willowlake Community Newsletter, has been given a new name. Our newsletter will now be called Willowlake Watch...volunteers watching out for our community. Hope everyone likes the new name.

## Honoring Active Duty Military In Willowlake

To celebrate Veterans Day, we hope to honor active duty military members who live in Willowlake in our November newsletter.

If you have a family member or neighbor currently serving in the military, please contact Linda at 281-795-1777 not later than October 5th. Please include name, branch of service and where they are serving.



## “WILLOWLAKE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING”

The Willowlake 2009 Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for **October 29, 2009 at 7PM**. Two Board positions will be up for election. The location of the meeting is the Houston First Church of the Nazarene at 10001 W. Sam Houston Parkway across from John Moore. **Watch your mail for the official notice and proxy!** Where does my annual assessment go? All funds go for the maintenance and upkeep of the community such as the entrances, all common areas, street lights, electricity, lake maintenance, community insurance, fence maintenance and much more!

## NATIONAL NIGHT-OUT IS OCT. 6

National Night-Out is *America’s Night-Out against Crime!* The “26th Annual National Night-Out” (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), is **Tuesday, October 6th starting at 6pm**. This is a time when **Block Captains** can get involved. If your street isn’t represented by a Block Captain, talk to your neighbors and plan your own block party. We cordially invite all of you to **start planning now** for this important event!!

## Mark Your Calendar!

- October 4 Fire Prevention Wk. Begins
- October 6 National Night-Out-6PM
- October 8 Board Meeting
- October 12 Columbus Day Observed
- October 29 Willowlake Annual Meeting
- October 31 Halloween

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies.....	911
Bratton Pools.....	281-988-7700
Cypress-Fairbanks Hospital.....	281-897-3300
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Department of Public Safety.....	281-890-5440
Fire Department (non-emergency).....	713-466-6161
Center Point Energy - Power Outages Only ...	713-207-2222
Center Point Energy - Gas.....	713-659-2111
Harris County Animal Control.....	281-999-3191
Memorial City Hospital.....	713-932-3000
MUD #11.....	281-807-9500
Poison Control Center.....	800-222-1222
Post Office Central.....	800-275-8777
Harris County Road & Bridge.....	281-353-8424

## MANAGEMENT INFO

Your SCS Management Team.....	281-463-1777
Association Manager	
Terrie Brown.....	tbrown@scsmgmt.com, ext. 7121
Service Manager	
Alicia Newby.....	anewby@scsmgmt.com, ext. 7134
Deed Restriction Coordinator	
Ian Blackburn.....	iblackburn@scsmgmt.com, ext. 7114
Accounting Representative	
Mayra Jarquin.....	mjarquin@scsmgmt.com, ext. 7130

For information on your homeowner's assessments, deed restriction violations or questions in general please contact:

SCS Management Services  
7170 Cherry Park Drive ; Houston, Texas 77095  
281-463-1777 • www.scsmgmt.com

## 2009 COMMITTEES

Architectural Control Committee	
Mark Lackey.....	281-970-4671
Social Events.....	OPEN
Newsletter	
Linda O'Pry.....	mommyma1422@sbcglobal.net
Yard of the Month	
Annette & John Rathgeber.....	annette_mg@yahoo.com
Security Chairman	
Mark Hubenak.....	mhubenak001@comcast.net
Block Captains	
Phyllis Howard...pyhoward@sbcglobal.net,	281-469-6131
Gazebo Rental - SCS	
SCS Management.....	281-463-1777
Pool Chairman	
Lynn Podraza.....	t.podraza@sbcglobal.net
Park Chairman	
Diego Lamacchia.....	dmacchia@hotmail.com

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## NEWSLETTER INFO

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Sales Office.....	advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

**Correction:** In the Pool Committee article printed in Sept., I apologize that a typo was made in the spelling of Willbern Elementary.

### Newsletter Articles

If you have ideas for articles or are interested in writing articles for the newsletter please email your articles to Linda O'Pry at [mommyma1422@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mommyma1422@sbcglobal.net) by the 5th of each month.

### Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Willowlake Watch. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Willowlake residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the Willowlake Watch by advertising, please contact our Sales Office at 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

### Don't Forget!

If you are planning any home improvements, addition or exterior change, please contact SCS for an Architectural Review application.

Upon receipt of your form, the association will respond as quickly as possible. Compliance with our community guidelines is greatly appreciated.

#### To obtain an application:

call 281-463-1777 or log on to the SCS website at [scsmgmt.com](http://scsmgmt.com)

## Kids' Corner

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SEE TWIN WITCHES? You won't be able to tell which witch is witch!

WHY WAS THE WEREWOLF ARRESTED AT THE BUTCHER'S SHOP? He was caught chop lifting!

WHAT DO YOU CALL A GHOST'S MOTHER AND FATHER?

Transparents!

WHAT IS A VAMPIRE'S FAVORITE SPORT? Batminton!

Halloween is  
Coming...  
**DRIVE SLOWLY**

Please drive slowly and watch out for "Trick-or-treaters" on Sat., Oct. 31st.

## After School Snacks

By Monica Ward

School is back in session! The kids are coming home loaded down with homework, and they are hungry. You wonder if they even eat their lunch. My kids say a quick hello when they walk in the door then it's, "What's for snack?" I really try to pack them healthy lunches everyday, so how about those after school snacks? My Mom was very serious about after school snacks. What she put out for us was always healthy, usually a fruit and a protein. She believed that if we, her children, did not eat a substantial enough snack, we would be hungry way before dinner was ready. All you Moms out there know how difficult it is to concentrate on making dinner with whiny, hungry kids in the kitchen. Talk about stress! So I have followed her example and it has worked well for me. *Out of all my Mom's great afternoon snacks, these are a few of my children's favorites:*

- \*Core an apple, any kind, and fill with natural peanut butter. Try the kind with no additives.
- \*Slice a banana lengthwise and spread natural peanut butter on the bottom half; replace top.
- \*Place a slice of cheddar cheese on one piece of wheat bread; put under broiler until cheese melts.
- \*Top a ½ cup of low fat yogurt with fresh fruit and chopped walnuts.
- \*Make your own trail mix using dried fruit, nuts and pretzels.

I hope these simple ideas will give you a little extra peace and quiet while you rush to put dinner on the table.

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## Trash Talk

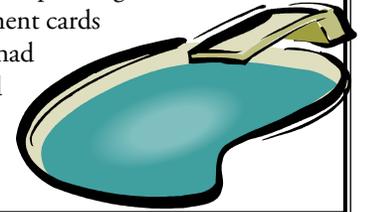
By SCS Management

BELOW ARE THE **FACTS ABOUT TRASH** IN THE WILLOWLAKE COMMUNITY:

- Trash should be put out on the day of OR the night before pick-up day.
  - Trash should be positioned for pick-up next to the driveway in the grass-NOT in the street.
  - When not in use, trash cans and trash bags (also includes carpet, cardboard, boards and other debris) are to be stored out of street view until trash pick-up day.
  - Concerning the bags of grass left behind from landscapers, and who should be responsible for disposing of them: it depends on the contract the resident has with their landscaper; if the grass is left behind, the resident will need to store it out of street view until trash day. Note to homeowners: Please ask your landscapers to 'park friendly' and to avoid blocking homeowners' driveways.
  - Both trash cans and bags can be used; however, in the case of an odor coming from a trash bag, please use instead a trash can with a closed lid.
  - Trash pick-up days are Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Please do not overfill your trash cans, and remove them from street view as soon as possible after pick-up.
  - Residents who fail to comply with the rules can receive a citation in the mail.

## Pool's Closed!

After September 30, the Willowlake pool will be closed until next season! Please keep your pool access cards in a safe place, as they will be used for future years. All pool access cards will be deactivated at the end of the pool season; then reactivated next year in 2010 as pool registration forms are received. Replacement cards are \$5.00 each. We hope you had a great summer, and enjoyed swimming at the pool!



## Howls, Goblins and Bonus Points - just another Halloween at First Service!

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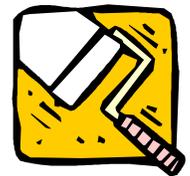
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## West Road Security Meeting Minutes *August 31, 2009*

**The West Road Security Meeting** for communities along West and Jones Road was held on August 31, 2009 at 7:00pm at Willowbridge Clubhouse, 9330 Willowbridge Park Blvd., Houston, TX 77064.

**Communities in Attendance:** Willowbridge/Stonebridge, Westbridge, Willowlake, Winchester Country, Steeplechase.

**Deputies in Attendance:** Chris Aguirre, Steeplechase and Sergeant David Morrison, District Five.

### Agenda Discussed:

#### **Contract Deputy Program:**

The Contract Deputy Program promotes a community oriented policing concept, where a uniformed patrol deputy is proactively patrolling the same area.

The deputies spend 70% of their time in their contract and 30% will be spent responding and assisting other sheriff deputies with outside emergency calls.

For more information about the contract deputy program, visit the Sheriff's website at: <http://www.hcso.hctx.net/>

#### **Crime Watch Program:**

Communication is the key to a successful program! Keep your neighbors informed by posting security tips, concerns and alerts on sites such as Twitter, LinkedIn and community websites, publishing articles in your newsletters and distributing security alerts via emails helps residents stay informed and alert to criminal activities. Neighbors working together through the Neighborhood Crime Watch could combat crime in their area, the most effective way-before it starts.

**I neighborhood** is a website where you can post community events for your neighborhood: this may be a quick and easy way to communicate with your residents. For more information, visit the site at: [http://i-neighbors.org./](http://i-neighbors.org/)

#### **New Texas Laws:**

Two important ones are cell phone use in school zones are prohibited, and ALL occupants of vehicles must use shoulder harness

or seat belt (front & all back seats). If your school does not have the signs posted, please contact Precinct 4 at 281-353-8424. If you want to read additional information concerning the new laws, visit the DPS website: <http://txdps.state.tx.us/>

#### **National Night-Out:**

October 6, 2009 from 6:00-9:00pm. 'National Night-Out' is a great opportunity for citizens, law enforcement and other public safety officials to join forces. Events are planned to promote crime prevention and drug prevention awareness and to strengthen the police-community partnership. We encourage neighborhoods to come together and send the message that we are all working together to prevent crime and keep our neighborhoods safe. Please notify the Sheriff's Office if your community will participate in National Night-Out; call the Crime Prevention Unit at 713-759-9454.

#### **Security Concerns:**

##### **Willowlake:**

Residents running stop signs at Branch Park Dr. and Bending Willow Ln. and at Branch Park Dr. and Summer Run Dr. from around 5:00-6:00pm.

##### **Steeplechase:**

Residents running stops signs at Yearling Dr. and Steepleway Blvd. Residents are concerned about the suspicious people roaming through the neighborhood at night.

If you have any concerns regarding your contracts with the Sheriff's Office, please contact **Sergeant Morrison, District Five at 281-290-2100 or email at david.morrison@sheriff.hctx.net**. For all emergencies: Call-911. Remember, call the Sheriff's Office at 713-221-6000 if you have witnessed a crime or were a victim of one.

#### **Next Security Meeting:**

November 30, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Willowbridge Clubhouse. Remember, if you go out of town this weekend, call District 5 at 281-290-2100 for a Vacation Watch.

**Mark Hubenak, Willowlake Security Coordinator-Mud 11**  
Email: [mhubenak001@comcast.net](mailto:mhubenak001@comcast.net)

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## **meet our team**

Huong T Le, MD  
Quoc Le, MD  
Alex Nguyen, MD  
Blandina Sison, MD  
Anthony Yee-Young, MD  
Diana Malone, MD  
Shital Patel, MD  
Heidi Nashed, MD  
Luz Marquez, MD  
Jennifer Dong, MD  
Asma Ahmed, MD  
Vu Anh Phung, MD  
Annie Hoang, MD  
Tami Berckenhoff, PA-C  
Brandi Valenzuela, PA-C  
Sydney Payne, PA-C

## **1960 Family Practice Is Pleased To Introduce Our Newest Physicians**



Dr. Vu Phung joined 1960 Family Practice in July 2009. Dr. Phung graduated from Texas Tech University and is board certified in Family Medicine. He completed his residency in Family Practice and in pursuing his special interest; he completed his fellowship in Geriatric Medicine. Dr Phung welcomes patients of all ages to his practice.



Dr. Annie Hoang joined our practice in August of 2009. She graduated from Texas A & M University and finished her training in Family Practice at Texas Tech University. She is board certified in Family Medicine and has been providing comprehensive care for adults and children with compassion and kindness for the past 10 years. She welcomes all new patients to her practice.

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**Well Woman Exam** - This is a comprehensive gynecologic and obstetric evaluation. Including the evaluation of the cervical epithelial cells for abnormalities that could cause cancer. Women of child bearing age should have a well woman exam once a year.

**Mammograms** - 1960 Digital Imaging offers Digital Mammograms. Women should have a baseline mammogram beginning at age 35. Mammograms are recommended every 2 years through age 45. Women over the age of 45, should have a mammogram every year.

**Don't get caught with the flu!!**

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## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

School is back in session. **Please be aware of children walking and biking to and from school!** Of course, we want all children to be safe and school buses are relatively safe. However, accidents and injuries involving school buses do happen. More often than not these injuries happen when children are entering or exiting the bus. Here are some safety tips for school bus riders:

- Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- Hold onto the handrails when entering or exiting the bus.
- Once on the bus, take your seat and remain seated face forward.
- Talk quietly so that you don't distract the driver.
- Never throw things on the bus and keep your hands to yourself.
- When you exit the bus, take ten giant steps away from the bus. When you are closer than 10 feet from the bus, the driver might not see you. This is known as the DANGER ZONE.
- If you forget something on the bus, do not return to the bus. The driver might not see you.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you.
- If you need to cross the street, cross in front of the bus, never behind the bus.

Motorists should follow safety rules around school buses. Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop. Motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights indicate that the bus has stopped and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off. Here are a few more safety tips for motorists:

- When backing out of a driveway or garage, watch out for children.
- When driving through neighborhoods and especially in school zones, watch out for children. Children don't always pay attention to traffic and don't always know that motorists have trouble seeing them.
- Slow down. Watch out for children walking or playing in the street.
- Be alert and ready to stop. Children sometimes dart into the street.

### School Bus Sticker

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## SEPTEMBER 'YARD OF THE MONTH'

### *Congratulations to 9618 Bending Willow Lane!*

Congratulations 9618 Bending Willow Lane! The residents were creative with red brick accents surrounding a beautiful display of blooming flowers.

This is the last yard of the month award until May 2010. However, we will be giving out awards for holiday decorations in December. Details will follow in the upcoming newsletters.



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## Hurricanes - Tips to Prepare and Protect

The destructive force of a hurricane should never be taken lightly. These powerful storms can unleash devastating winds, torrential rains, storm surges, and tornadoes, causing extensive damage. And while you can't stop a hurricane from coming, you can strengthen your home against its brutal force. Here are some plans you can make and steps you can take to help protect your property, and even save your life.

**Prepare** - Long before **hurricane season (June 1 - November 30)**, make sure you take these precautions to help insure your family's safety and minimize damage to your property:

### DEVELOP A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN.

- Find the fastest routes from your home and workplace to your public evacuation shelter or other safe area. Let friends and relatives know the shelter's location.
- Make sure you're aware of the disaster plans of your workplace, children's schools, or day care centers.
- Make sure your vehicle fuel tanks are filled.
- Designate an out-of-state friend or relative as a family contact.

### PUT TOGETHER A DISASTER SURVIVAL KIT IN CASE YOU NEED TO EVACUATE.

- The kit should include basics such as water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and blankets, emergency supplies/tools, and special items such as cash.
- Be sure to include important documents, including insurance policies.
- Once you have placed these items in airtight plastic bags, store them in an easy-to-carry container, such as a plastic storage container with lid or a duffle bag.
- Keep the kit in a convenient place known to your whole family.
- Change the water and food supply every six months.
- Update your kit once a year, based on your family's changing needs.
- Ask your physician or pharmacist about whether you can store your medications with your survival kit and the best way to do so.

### PROTECT - WHEN A HURRICANE WARNING IS GIVEN: SECURE YOUR PROPERTY.

- Close window shutters or attach protective panels with previously installed fasteners.
- Garage or store vehicles you plan to leave behind.
- Moor boats securely. If your boat is ashore in a jack stand, strap the boat down when possible.
- If you have a pool, cover the pump filter.
- Anchor garage doors.

### GET YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY TO SAFETY.

- Keep your radio tuned to local weather advisories.
- If you are ordered to evacuate, go to a shelter as directed by local authorities.
- Lock doors and windows before you go.
- Bring your survival kit and other supplies.
- Let friends and relatives know where you plan to be.
- If an evacuation has not been ordered or there is no time to get to a shelter, stay in the middle of your home away from windows. Try to take cover under a staircase or a heavy piece of furniture.
- **Dial 2-1-1 to register if you have special care needs, or if you simply do not have transportation:** Gulf Coast residents in evacuation zones with special health care needs—who do not have friends or family to help—should register in advance for a ride by dialing **2-1-1** in advance. Residents with no other transportation can register for a ride in advance by dialing **2-1-1**.

### HELPFUL HINTS:

- A 74 M.P.H. wind (the lowest hurricane wind) can blow water up a wall about 4", forcing gallons of water through even very small cracks in walls and causing serious damage! That's why it's so important to seal any holes or cracks.
- Also, make sure your home has flood insurance because a standard home insurance policy doesn't cover damage caused by a flood. Flood insurance is backed by the U.S. Government's National Flood Insurance Program. There is generally a 30-day waiting period for the policy to go into effect.

## The Coffin...

### Fun For All

A man was walking home alone late one foggy-night, when behind him he hears BUMP...BUMP...BUMP.

Walking faster, he looks back and through the fog he makes out the image of an upright casket banging its way down the middle of the street toward him. BUMP... BUMP...BUMP. Terrified, the man begins to run toward his home, the casket bouncing quickly behind him FASTER...FASTER...BUMP... BUMP...BUMP. He runs up to his door, fumbles with his keys, opens the door, rushes in, slams and locks the door behind him.

However, the casket crashes through his door, with the lid of the casket clapping clappity-BUMP...clappity-BUMP...clappity-BUMP. With the casket on his heels, the terrified man runs. Rushing upstairs to the bathroom, the man locks himself in. His heart is pounding; his head is reeling; his breath is coming in sobbing gasps. With a loud CRASH the casket breaks down the door, bumping and clapping toward him.

The man screams and reaches for something, anything, but all he can find is a bottle of cough syrup! Desperate, he throws the cough syrup at the casket...and,

(hopefully, you're ready for this!!!)

The coffin stops!



## Real Estate Market Report

*Willowlake* Specialist

**DAVID "SUPER DAVE" FLORY**



- **#1** Realtor in Willowlake\*
- **#2** Realtor in Houston & Texas\*\*
- **#9** Realtor in United States\*\*
- **Selling Over 500 Homes A Year**

	ACTIVE	PENDING	SOLD Last 6 Mos
<b># of Listings</b>	4	0	7
<b>Price Range:</b>	164,500 204,000		125,000 187,000
<b>Average Price</b>	\$183,525		\$159,492
<b>Avg Price/sq.ft.</b>	\$78.90		\$72.79
<b>Avg DOM</b>	50		97
<b>High Price/sq.ft.</b>			\$78.96
<b>Low Price/sq.ft.</b>			\$67.49



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\*According to information taken from the HAR MLS Computer      \*\*Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009