



TIMBERGRAM

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TIMBERLAKE ESTATES
WWW.TEPOA.ORG

Board of Directors

Brett Basford
Chairman
281-469-8638
bjjaq@swbell.net

Jeff Gunn
Vice Chairman/Legal
281-970-1279
jeffsclassics@yahoo.com

Pam Thompson
Secretary
281-970-8054
jpthom17@yahoo.com

Robert Key
Lake
281-807-9457
robertdkey@sbcglobal.net

Mike Ruiz
Treasurer
832-444-8502
bigtexasmike@hotmail.com

Ann Pavalock
Communications & Timbergram
281-469-5395
jpavalock@comcast.net

Wayne Francisco
Security
281-890-3004
francisret@aol.com

Letter From The Chairman, 2nd Quarter, 2008.

Neighbors –

Over the past few months, several security related items have come across my “virtual desk” via email that have made me think about security from several different angles. I have forwarded these items out via our TEPOA email distribution so many of you are aware of the incidences. So this month’s topic is security in the broad sense of the word – computer security, personal security, mail security and home security.

As a recap, those incidences were:

- Purse snatching in broad daylight at the new Barker Cypress HEB
- Break-in and vandalism in our neighborhood through an unlocked door
- Bump, rob and assault on Eldridge at Lismore lakes
- Mail stolen from mailboxes in the neighborhood, rifled and discarded in the ditches – probably a search for identity theft opportunities
- Numerous identity theft scenarios.

My point is not to make everyone run scared, but to spark personal awareness in all that you do and everywhere you go. While it is sad that we can no longer trust that people will respect our property and personal safety, the hard fact is that there is no city in America, big or small, that is immune to crime at any level. Be aware of your surroundings whether at home or out and about. Trust your instincts when something doesn’t “feel” right. If an email sounds too good to be true or requests unsolicited information, question it and take precautions to prevent losing your identify to a thief. Use lighting and locks on your house to protect you and your property. And although you might think it doesn’t do any good, call law enforcement and report it when an incident does occur – you never know when your incident may be related to others that lead the police to an arrest.

Taking a brief look back at the past quarter and ahead into this quarter...

Looking back at accomplishments for the past quarter...

- The board transitions have been completed – Mike is up to speed as our new treasurer.
- Planning is underway for an updated directory.
- Planning is underway for Spring Fling.
- The TEPOA website and email to residents continue to be a very exciting communication tools for the neighborhood. If you have not visited the website, it is located at www.tepoa.org. . Also, send your email addresses to Brett at bjjaq@swbell.net to be added to the email distribution list for TEPOA.

Looking forward to this quarter...

- Have fun with our neighbors at Spring Fling
- Get the updated directory completed and distributed.
- File liens on all properties that have past due maintenance fee and do not currently have a lien on file.
- The board cannot do everything by itself; we need your continued help and support! Please contact a board member to see how you can get involved and help better the neighborhood.

Thanks for your continued and constructive support. I offer peace to you, your families and those brave soldiers fighting around the world for our freedom and that of others!

...Brett

Together – we can build “community” and make a difference!!

Community Spotlight...

CAI-Houston is producing a weekly news/talk radio show, "Community Spotlight", featuring guests who address specific weekly topics. Distinguished guests include local, regional, state and national political leaders, business leaders, homeowners, HOA board members, and others with vested interests in HOAs.

The show is moderated by a CAI-Houston host and it gives ample opportunity for listeners to call in with questions pertinent to the subject that week. Community Spotlight airs every Friday afternoon from 2 to 3 PM, on CNN 650 AM radio. For those who cannot get to an AM station on their radio, streaming internet and podcasting is now available. Go to www.cnn650.com and click on the "listen live" on the right of your screen, and you can listen to the station from your computer.

CAI-Houston is a Chapter of Community Association Institute, a national organization, and encompasses the several counties bordering Harris County. CAI provides education and networking opportunities to its members so that we may all maintain and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. CAI is a national organization dedicated to fostering vibrant, responsive, competent community associations.

SUGAR SHOCKERS!

Experts say you shouldn't consume more than 10 teaspoons of added sugar per day. But, you may be surprised to learn that seemingly virtuous foods are packed with the sweet stuff – and lots of it. To convert grams of sugar on a nutrition label into easy-to-understand teaspoons, just divide the grams of sugar listed by four. Check out how much sugar is in some of your favorite "healthy" foods.

1 container low fat blueberry yogurt10 ½ tsp.
1 cup vegetarian baked beans5 tsp.
Low-cal frozen chickens stir-fry dinner5 tsp.
½ cup spaghetti sauce..... 2 ½ tsp.
1 cup low-sodium vegetable soup2 tsp.

(For comparison, an Oreo cookie contains one teaspoon of sugar.) Who can eat just one Oreo?

CLASSIFIEDS

If you have something you would like to sell, or if you are in the market for a particular item or have a service to offer, maybe your neighbors can fill the bill. Advertise it in the Timbergram. It is free to residents!

HELP NEEDED - Part time seasonal office-telemarketing help needed starting Feb. 1. Perfect hours for mom with kids in school, retired person or college student. Twenty to Twenty-five hours per week from Feb. 1 through June 1. contact Dixie Smith at 281-970-1003 or email Dixie@sta-mail.com.

FOR SALE - Buffet E11 Clarinet. Perfect for your 6th grade band student! Call Christie Walker @ 281-807-7312.

CUSTOM LAMPS - Lynn Lievsay makes custom lamps. In addition, complete room treatments including paint, window and bed cover etc. Call Lynn at 281-894-4273.

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Your neighbors recommend for good service...

Aaron Septic
281-260-9914

Tree Service & Cutting Co.
Humberto Castro
281-960-6617 – cell

X-Pert Pest Solutions
16712 Bobcat Trail
713-408-1522
www.xpertpest.com

1960 Appliance Service
281-893-1171

C. J. Beard
"Handyman"
Carpentry & Painter
281-448-5731

Yards Done Right
281-788-2047

Wedding Anniversary

On December 24th, 2007, Ted and Madge Stewart, 12311 Tall Forest, celebrated 59 years of marriage! Ted and Madge were married in Leaday, Texas, Christmas Eve, 1948. They are the parents of two sons and two daughters, two grandsons, four granddaughters, and twin great-grandsons.

CONGRATULATIONS!

CLEAN JUST ABOUT ANYTHING

- A swipe of baking soda erases heel marks from hard floors.
- Wash your hands with vegetable oil to clean off oil-based paint.
- Best non-toxic drain opener - Put the following down the drain: 1 cup salt, 1 cup baking soda, approx. 1 gallon boiling water. It will dissolve congealed grease immediately.
- Sprinkle a layer of salt on baked on grease and spills in your oven. Lift out with spatula.
- Flies stay away from your outdoor table if you wipe the table with full strength white vinegar or lay citrus peels on the table.
- Plop a softener sheet into a casserole pan with burned on food, fill with water and let sit. Burned food will slide out.
- Bleach spots off Formica counters by using straight lemon juice or mixing it into a paste with baking soda.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Alkaline batteries, pagers, toys, flashlights, etc. are not considered hazardous waste and may be disposed of in your trash. Nickel-cadmium batteries should be taken to local electronics stores such as Radio Shack or Circuit City and lead-acid or lithium batteries should be discarded at a hazardous waste event or facility.

It's OK to throw dried latex paint containers in your trash. Oil based paint is hazardous waste and should be discarded at a hazardous waste event.

Used oil and filters can often be recycled at a local auto parts store. Call 1-800-253-2687 to find one near you.

Don't throw compact fluorescent bulbs in the trash—dispose of at a hazardous waste event. Regular light bulbs can be placed in the trash.

It is possible to schedule a household hazardous waste collection for our neighborhood with the HazMobile. If you are interested in organizing an event, phone the Watershed Protection Group at 713-290-3000. Perhaps Ravensway would be interested in taking part in this. This would be great to coordinate along with Spring Fling.

Remember the old entry sign? It's still on the little strip of land between the old Cypress-North Houston and the new road. We are getting estimates from several people that do masonry work to see about having it replaced. If you would like to help, your input is welcomed. At first we thought some of the old sign lettering could be saved, but after a closer look, nothing is salvageable.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

TAX INFORMATION...

Get on-line instead of in-line. Use your mouse to select the payment icon and pay your property tax, renew vehicle registration as well as register to vote without leaving home.

You can protest your property appraisal, view your tax and value history and find out if the taxman owes you money. Just log on to www.hctax.net.

FREE CREDIT REPORTS...

In case any of you were not aware, you can receive a free credit report every 4 months from one the credit bureaus. Make sure you are not a victim of fraud! Also, for free newsletters from Richard Alderman, the People's Lawyer, from University of Houston, go to his website peopleslawyer@uh.edu.

TIMBERGRAM COST & DEADLINES...

Business card size ad..... \$15.00 per quarter
One-quarter page ad \$25.00 per quarter
One-half page ad \$45.00 per quarter
Full-page ad..... \$85.00 per quarter
Information is due by the 18th of the month preceding the quarterly meeting. Make check payable to TEPOA and mail to Timbergram c/o TEPOA, P.O. Box 452, Cypress, TX 77140. Personal ads are free to Timberlake residents.

2008 DIRECTORY...

We will be gathering information for the new 2008 Directory to be published in April. Please be sure we have your information correctly listed. This is your opportunity to update anything you want to update. Also, if you would like to sponsor the directory by placing an ad, please make checks payable to TEPOA and note on the check that it is for the directory. Prices will be available at the April general meeting.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES...

Millsap is selling School Supplies for the 2008/2009 school year April 1st—April 30th. Supplies are available for K—5th Grade. Come in to Millsap to order through the school OR order on-line at www.epipacks.com, enter ID # MIL004.

DOCUMENTS TO SHRED...

To protect your identity, shred any financial receipts, statements, documents containing address, passwords, pin numbers, social security numbers, maiden names, signature, drivers license numbers, credit card bills, statements, and offers, cancelled and voided checks, unused checks, carbon copies and utility bills.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS...

SELLING OR REFINANCING...

If you are selling or refinancing your home, it is important to have your Realtor, Title Company or Mortgage Company contacts our treasurer Mike Ruiz at 832-444-8502. Contacting Mike directly will speed up the process to obtain the required information.

COUNTY LAW...

A gentle reminder to please NOT burn in the ditches - it is against the law. If you see someone is burning in the ditch, please call Steve Hupp at 713-920-2831 and the county will be happy to talk to the offender.

DO'S AND DON'T'S OF BURNING...

- DO burn leaves and sticks.
- DO be aware of the weather conditions.
- DO stay with your fire.
- DO consider alternatives to burning like composting.
- DO keep water and hand tools handy.
- DO select burn locations away from overhanging branches and utility lines.
- DO establish wide firebreaks around piles of leaves and brush to be burned.
- DO contact the county at 713-920-2831, fax at 713-447-8963, or email at pollution_control@hcphes.org if you suspect illegal or suspicious burning.

- DON'T burn household trash, especially aerosol cans.
- DON'T burn at night - specifically, you can burn 30 minutes after sun up until 30 minutes before sunset.
- DON'T burn within 50 feet of a structure.
- DON'T burn in or near the ditch.
- DON'T burn under a burn ban - ban status <http://www.cypresscreekvfd.com/outdoorburn.html> or 713-920-2831.
- DON'T burn when it hasn't rained in a long while.
- DON'T burn treated lumber, tires, rubber or plastic products.
- DON'T burn when there is a low cloud cover.
- DON'T burn when it is windy outdoors.
- DON'T burn wet leaves - they put off a ton of smoke

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD...

The Executive Board will meet on the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted. The meetings are usually at the home of Ann Pavalock, 12719 Oakfield Drive, at 7:00 pm. In accordance with the State Statutes, Executive Sessions of the board are open for the public to hear discussions but not participate in the discussion. The board will hold a closed session immediately following the open executive session.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.TEPOA.ORG

Quarterly Meeting, January 14, 2008
Cypress Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Station 22, Cypress, Texas

Agenda Item	Discussion Leader														
Call to order	Chairman														
Confirm quorum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be current on maintenance fees to vote and participate • Please conduct yourself in an orderly fashion or you will be asked to leave the meeting 	Chairman														
Installation of new board members – Wayne Francisco, Mike Ruiz and Ann Pavalock were installed	Chairman														
Reading and approval of minutes not heretofore read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10/08/07 	Secretary														
Announce purpose of meeting	Chairman														
Committee Reports	Board and Committee Chair(s)														
Unfinished business	Chairman														
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Secretary</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas at the Lake Review • Online Calendar Review </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Legal</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed Restriction Focus areas • HIR Reminder • Deed Restriction violation updates </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Treasurer</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Spend Report • Previous Quarter Income Report • CD updates • % of property owners who have paid and not paid for 2007 • Amount of money outstanding to TEPOA • Late notice mailout update </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Security</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident reporting update </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Communications</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for Timbergram articles • Call for email addresses • 2008 Directory Update and Request for volunteers </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Lake</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Improvement Plans • Call for Pavilion Committee Volunteers </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Chairman</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Election Update • Call for committees </td> </tr> </table>	Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas at the Lake Review • Online Calendar Review 	Legal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed Restriction Focus areas • HIR Reminder • Deed Restriction violation updates 	Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Spend Report • Previous Quarter Income Report • CD updates • % of property owners who have paid and not paid for 2007 • Amount of money outstanding to TEPOA • Late notice mailout update 	Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident reporting update 	Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for Timbergram articles • Call for email addresses • 2008 Directory Update and Request for volunteers 	Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Improvement Plans • Call for Pavilion Committee Volunteers 	Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Election Update • Call for committees 	
Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas at the Lake Review • Online Calendar Review 														
Legal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deed Restriction Focus areas • HIR Reminder • Deed Restriction violation updates 														
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Spend Report • Previous Quarter Income Report • CD updates • % of property owners who have paid and not paid for 2007 • Amount of money outstanding to TEPOA • Late notice mailout update 														
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident reporting update 														
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for Timbergram articles • Call for email addresses • 2008 Directory Update and Request for volunteers 														
Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Improvement Plans • Call for Pavilion Committee Volunteers 														
Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Election Update • Call for committees 														
New business, motions and resolutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit Committee Report • Budget Committee Report and budget approval 	Chairman														
Special programs – none	Chairman														
Close	Chairman														

TEPOA Article of Incorporation, 11/12/85, Article Four

The specific and primary purpose for which the Corporation is organized is to own, operate and maintain recreational property exclusively for the use and benefit of its members, and to enforce, defend and maintain those deed restrictions in effect and filed of record in the Real Property Records of Harris County, Texas for the Timberlake Estates, Section One, a subdivision of Harris County, Texas as such deed restrictions may be in force at this time or as amended from time to time.

Minute's summary January 14, 2008

Chairman Brett Basford called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. A quorum was confirmed. Secretary Pam Thompson read the minutes from the October 8, 2007 general meeting. A motion was made by Bill Watts and seconded by Philip Harmon to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried and minutes were accepted.

Paula Hughes reported on the success of the Lights at the Lake and Pam Thompson reviewed the online calendar for the first quarter of 2008. The Board members gave their reports and Brett called for committee volunteers and stressed the importance committees will play in making our organization run more effectively.

New Business: Bill Watts presented the Audit Report. Bill reported that the committee found all records to be in good order. Wayne Francisco presented the Budget Committee Report. The additional committee members were Phil Harmon and Ron Carter. The floor was opened for discussion and comments. Jane Plumlee made the motion to accept the budget as proposed. Bill Watts seconded. Motion approved. Philip Harmon made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Julia Gaitz and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Thanks to Houston Marine Moms group, Texas Teaparty Republican Women, church groups and many, many of you, the December trip to Brook Army Medical was the most successful ever! All items donated were placed on tables to give out at the Monday morning breakfast. There must have been 150 to 175 soldiers and Marines there that day! It was like one giant PX store! Some of the wives said that it was like getting a pay raise because it is just that much less they have to buy for themselves. The average Lance Corporal makes \$18,000 per year and that doesn't stretch very far, especially considering that many of them have young children!

BEEF JERKY FUND - Beef jerky is probably the most requested item from our BAMC heroes. The best smoked beef jerky that Operation Military Embrace can find is at Dozier's Meat Market in Fulshear, Texas. Timberlake Garden Club has started a Beef Jerky Fund so these good people can keep a supply of jerky to our guys. Seventy-five packages that include 3 different types of jerky per package, all vacuum sealed, costs \$300. If you would like to donate, you can log on to www.operationmilitaryembrace.com or call Ann Pavalock at 281-469-5395.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
Amen"

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH!

WHAT IS A VETERAN?

A veteran – whether active duty, retired, national guard or reserve – is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to and including my life."

That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it!

FLAG TRIVIA

1. At which Philadelphia residence does Old Glory fly 24/7?
2. Which U.S. President established Flag Day?

Answers on page 8

With the primary behind us now, it's onward to the general election in November. Let's all get behind our candidates and give them our full support. Volunteer at a phone bank or block walk. It's the American Way!

April 8, 2008 - Primary Runoff Election

September 5, 2008 - First day to apply for ballot by mail for general election.

October 6, 2008 - Last day to register to vote in the general election.

October 20, 2008 - First day of early voting in the general election.

October 28, 2008 - Last day to apply for ballot by mail for the general election. It must be received, not merely postmarked.

October 31, 2008 - Last day of early voting in the general election.

GENERAL ELECTION DAY! - NOV 4, 2008

TEPOA Quarterly Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2008
7:00 to 9:00 PM
Cypress Creek Volunteer Fire
Department, Station 22
11900 Cypress N. Houston

ANSWER TO FLAG TRIVIA

1. The Betsy Ross House
2. Woodrow Wilson

TAX \$'s PAY FOR THIS?

This is something all Texans should know, especially since this has received very little or no publicity.

Your Texas driver's license has a phone number on the back, just above the bar code on the lower left side: 1-800-525-5555. It's very small print, but it is there.

This number can be called for emergency assistance on a Texas highway or wherever you might have trouble while in your car.

A service truck will be sent to you.

This service is state operated, paid for with your tax dollars.

If you are ever stranded, just call the number on your driver's license...help is on the way.

A state trooper will be sent to make sure all is well.

This one is worth passing on especially to all the women you know.



Lake Update

Major clean-up of the lake property was done in January. Underbrush was cleared from the perimeter and around the water's edge. Dead trees were cleared and hauled away. It is now possible to stand on Park Forest and look across to Pine Spring. According to most, the park has never looked better.

Just a reminder that *Yard of the Month* begins in April. Let's all take this opportunity to get our yards in shape and maybe you'll win this summer!



SPRING FLING UPDATE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008! SPRING FLING IS HERE AGAIN! FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT PAULA HUGHES AT 281-894-2734 OR JEFF GUNN AT 281-9970-1279.;

Garden Club News

Jean Bahr hosted the January meeting of the Timberlake Garden Club with a pot luck luncheon. We discussed our March speaker and decided to chip in some money to cover the \$30 fee required by the Master Gardener's Association. Ron Brown will speak on March 18 and Joanne Carter will host the luncheon.

Jane Plumlee and Jean Bahr suggested we plant some flowers and easy care shrubs around the lake property. The Garden Club will donate the plants and care for them. We will need to present it to the Timberlake Board of Directors at the next meeting. Jane also suggested we provide coffee and cookie at the quarterly meetings to encourage more neighbors to come. If you would like to participate, call Ann Pavalock at 281-469-5395.

We decided to hold one plant swap this year in October. A trip to the Brookwood Community is planned for April.

Lynn & Ron Brown



Jean Bahr & Brenda Watts



Joanne Carter



TCPL 12979

RANDY McNEILL



16712 BOBCAT TRAIL
CYPRESS, TX 77429

713-408-1522
WWW.xpertpest.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.TEPOA.ORG

TEPOA

P.O. Box 452
Cypress, TX 77410-0452