

NORTHVIEW NEWS DECEMBER 2007



*We would like to wish all of you a
Happy and Safe Holiday Season.*

REMINDER

North View Food Drive

*Please join us in the Spirit of giving, the
Saturday 22, 2007 9am to 11am*



North View Food Drive

Saturday 22, 2007
9am to 11am

Park / Pool Parking Lot

Benefiting Low Income Families

St Luke 1st Missionary Baptist Church

For more information contact Board Member,
Jesslynn Robinson at northviewnews.com

Annual Christmas Parade

The Ponderosa Volunteer Fire Department will drive through North View between noon and 4:00 on December 22ND. This is an annual event where toys are normally collected. Although the Fire Department will not collect toys this year, however, if you have toys you would like to donate, you may drop them off Saturday 22, 2007 9am to 11am Park / Pool Parking Lot. These toys along with the food collected will be given to St. Luke's 1st Missionary Baptist Church to benefit needy families.

FAREWELL

We would like to say **THANK AND SAY FAREWELL** to **TALLY JENKINS** who has been our Management Company representative for nine years. She has hung in there through thick and thin and knows our neighborhood better than any of us. We appreciate all she has done and will miss her. She is not going far, she remains with Chaparral Management however has had to release some of her accounts. Although Tally's shoes are too big to fill, Gloria Lee has come in strong and will work closely with us and will still have access to Tally when needed. THANKS TALLY.

FIRE SAFETY

Fireplaces and Wood Stoves are a common source of heat for our short winters, but just because our cold season is short, we cannot dismiss the dangers of fire hazard. Careful attention to safety can minimize fire hazards. Check out these safety tips.

- Have your chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening to preventing embers or sparks from jumping out.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors, for it can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Do not use excessive amounts of paper to build raging fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.

➤ NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. This can cause the ashes to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.

Apache Seasons

There was an Indian Chief who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the Spring, the third in summer, and the youngest son in the fall.

When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted.

The second son said no it was covered with green buds and full of promise.

The third son disagreed; he said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen.

The last son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment.

The man then explained to his sons that they were all right, because they had each seen but only one season in the tree's life.

He told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, and that the essence of who they are and the pleasure, joy, and love that come from that life can only be measured at the end, when all the seasons are up.

If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer, fulfillment of your fall.

Moral:

Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest

Holiday Meal Makeovers

Overstuffed Spread

According to the National Institutes of Health, pounds packed on during the holidays account for half of all weight gained annually. Don't let a few weeks of holiday gatherings undo a year's worth of dieting. Check out these lighter options to traditional holiday dishes and enjoy yourself without going overboard.

Apple Cider Beats Eggnog

Six fluid ounces of eggnog without alcohol has 258 calories and 14 grams of fat (more than a Snickers bar), while the same amount of apple cider has only 90 calories and no fat. It's a no-brainer! If you can't forgo the eggnog, consider a reduced-fat version.

Veggies and Hummus Top Chips and Dip

Veggies and hummus are lower in fat and calories than your typical chip-and-dip (or cheese-and-cracker). Plus, they're full of fiber, which helps stave off hunger and keeps you satisfied.

Shrimp Cocktail Is a Winner

Whenever you have to choose between deep-fried anything and simple, cold fish, the latter is almost always healthier. Three ounces of shrimp have just 90 calories, but if they're fried, the same amount packs more than 200 calories.

Turkey Breast Is Your Best Bet

In addition to being an excellent source of protein, turkey offers the least amount of fat per serving, among all other meats, if you pass on the skin. Four ounces of turkey breast sans skin is just 152 calories and almost no fat compared to 236 calories and 12 grams of fat in a skin-on drumstick.

Cranberries Make a Good Sauce

Spoon cranberry sauce over turkey and stuffing instead of meat-based gravy. Cranberries are packed with vitamin C and also provide a fair amount of dietary fiber, so you can protect yourself from an impending cold and fill up at the same time.

Green Beans Minus the Casserole

Enjoy green beans steamed with garlic, or for a lower-fat version of the traditional casserole (you know, the one full of butter, cream, cheese and fried onion strings), use fat-free cream of mushroom soup and go light on the butter. All the yum and none of the guilt.

Champagne Is Choice

At just 100 calories, a glass of champagne will do much less damage than a hot toddy, which weighs in at 200 calories -- and that's before the whipped cream. Just keep in mind that after one or two glasses of champagne, you may be more likely to say yes to that pecan pie.

Pass Up the Pecan Pie For Pumpkin

A slice of pecan pie has about 400 calories and pumpkin pie has about half that. You can cut the calories in your pumpkin pie even more by using an egg substitute, low-fat evaporated milk and a sugar alternative like Splenda.

ACC

THE THREE LETTER WORD

We are dealing with a lot of homeowners making modification to their homes with prior approval.

PRIOR APPROVAL IS A MUST

Make sure you obtain prior approval as it will save you money in the long run. The Board is in the process of developing a list of approved colors for exterior painting. Once finalized, they will be placed on the website. In the meantime, please submit a sample card of your desired color along with the ACC form.

THE PROCESS The first time a homeowner receives a deed restriction violation letter, the home-owner is expected to fix the problem or respond to the Chaparral Management within 10 days.

If a homeowner does not fix the problem, or contact Chaparral Management, in this time frame, a second letter is sent via certified mail.

THIS LETTER CARRIES WITH IT A \$29.32 FEE which is charged to your account. Needless to say, it benefits the homeowner to take care of the problem, or notify Chaparral Management of their intentions, prior to receiving the second letter.

If you receive a deed restriction violation letter, please read it carefully.

If you unable to fix the problem at that time, call Chaparral Management and give them a time you plan to have it completed. This will prevent you from getting a second letter, and also prevent your account from being charged.

STOP SIGNS



Please do not tape signs to stop signs in the neighborhood. When the signs are removed the tape usually stays and is an eyesore. If you see a stop sign with tape or signs look out for your neighborhood, and remove as much of the tape as possible. THANKS

TIDBITS

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Remember to take down all your decorations after the holidays. When the subdivision is inspected in after the New Year, deed restriction letters may be sent to residents who do not remove their decorations in a timely manner. Thank you for your cooperation.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & HOUSE NUMBERS

Homeowners should inspect and look to see if you can find your house. Many street numbers on the houses are either not there or missing numbers. This can be a problem for emergency vehicles trying to find your home in the event of a medical, police, or fire emergency. City of Houston ordinance requires street numbers to be clearly visible from the public street. Please check your house and see if you could find your house numbers during the day or night.

GRASS CLIPPINGS & LEAVES –

Have you seen a neighbor sweeping the gutter by the curb and removing the grass clipping to make the neighborhood look nice? Has this neighbor swept these clipping and leaves down the storm drain? **THIS IS ILLEGAL AND HOMEOWNERS COULD BE FINED.** Debris in the drainage system can clog the storm sewers and could cause a major problem with flooding in the neighborhood. Use lawn bags and gather grass and leaves for the trash men to collect. Thanks for your help.

SMITHY'S LIGHTS



Christmas Light Decorating made easy!!!
Smith's will

- put up your lights,
- maintain your lights,
- take them down,
- box them up and
- place them on your front door.

Call for an appointment 832 646-4536

The Ponderosa Fire Department is looking for a few Good Men and/or Women.



If you are interested in volunteering, please call
(281) 821 0366

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

CENTERPOINT

<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage/>

PRECINCT 4-COMMUNITY ASST

<http://www.cp4.hctx.net/cad/index.htm>

PRECINCT 4 - CONSTABLE DEPT

<http://www.co.harris.tx.us/pct4/>

HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

<http://www.hd.co.harris.tx.us/Display.htm>

HARRIS CTY VICIOUS DOG INFO

<http://www.countypets.com/webbad.htm>

CCFCC

www.cfcc.org.

FAMILY WATCH DOG

<http://www.familywatchdog.us/>

NORTH VIEW SUBDIVISION

www.northviewnews.com

Chaparral Management

281-537-0957

Contact: Betty x29 for ACC applications, and to report park or pool area maintenance problem.

Sandi x23 for deed restriction violations

Susan x21 for questions regarding your statement.

Nathan Lawn & Yard Service

Not A THANg is too hard.



- Beds
- Flower Fertilizer
- Grass Plantation
- Mulching

Phone: 281-513-3852

CALL FOR FALL AND WINTERIZING.

Keep an eye out for the upcoming Johns' Q&A that will be featured in this newsletter.