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The Official Magazine of the Memorial Northwest Homeowners' Association

SEPTEMBER 2018

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MEMORIAL NW MARKET REPORT FOR JULY 2018*

HOMES SOLD IN JULY

Total..... 10
Avg Days on Market..... 90
Avg Sales Price..... \$305,900
Avg List Price vs Sales Price Ratio..... 101%
Avg Sales Price Per Sq. Ft..... \$79.26

*Data is from HAR for 7-1-18 through 7-31-18

ACTIVE ON THE MARKET

Total Listings..... 34
Price Range..... \$200,000 - \$507,000

As of August 3, 2018

Stats provided by Esanet Benedict

11 HOMES UNDER CONTRACT

Option Pending..... 4
Price Range..... \$179,000 - \$385,000
Pending Continue to Show..... 2
Price Range..... \$209,000 - \$270,000
Pending..... 5
Price Range..... \$186,500 - \$300,000

As of August 3, 2018

See you at
FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY
October 12th
5-8 PM
MNW Clubhouse Parking Lot



Come join your neighbors for
eats, treats and games!
Don't miss the fun!

Look for our **Halloween Home Decoration Contest** information in this newsletter.

MEMORIAL NORTHWEST Messenger

*The Official Magazine of the
Memorial Northwest Homeowners' Association*

Messenger is a monthly publication of the Memorial Northwest Homeowners' Association in partnership with Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc. It is printed and distributed free of charge to residents of Memorial Northwest.

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Candice Cowin • 832-549-1381
newsletter@mnwhoa.org

Magazine Deadline

The deadline for the October issue
is **September 1**.

Advertising

For information on this and other
neighborhood publications, please call

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Memorial Northwest Community Center Office Hours:

Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Manager **Ann Kidney**
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Jackrabbit

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For emergencies, call	911

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MONTHLY HOA MEETINGS

Your involvement is important.

The first Tuesday of every month your Homeowners' Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center. All homeowners are encouraged to attend. Please come out and hear how your HOA Board is trying to improve and maintain Memorial Northwest.

Upcoming Meeting Date:
September 4



From the Editor

*Submitted by Candice Cowin, neighbor
and MNW Messenger editor*

Cooler temperatures will likely not be visited upon us until late next month, but there's no reason not to begin preparing for a cooler season by making things a little cozier indoors.

Now is the time to get your fireplace cleaned out for those two days of the year that it might actually be used. (If it's been a while since you have had a professional check your chimney, get it scheduled. There is nothing worse than being unable to use your fireplace during a cold snap because it's unsafe, even if yours is as inefficient as mine.) Now is also a great time to get your carpets and upholstery cleaned in preparation for holiday visitors. This time of year, I like to put out a few throw blankets and change out my throw pillows to reflect the upcoming season. I also enjoy adding a few pine cones to my décor. Goodness knows there are plenty of pine cones available right outside our doors. My kids actually enjoy collecting them from the yard after school and placing them casually around the house. When the acorns begin to fall outside, I love to tuck a favorite scented candle inside a glass vase and pile acorns around the bottom. Truth be told, I might even pull on my boots and treat myself to a pumpkin spiced something or other, even if it's still 90 degrees outside. This is September in Texas. Turn up the AC with me and let's pretend.

MNW Messenger

Memorial Northwest Messenger is our full color magazine published by Champions Printing & Publishing. The deadline to submit suggestions for articles and photos is the 1st of each month to be included in the following month's issue.

Deadline for October issue is September 1

Deadline for November issue is October 1

Got something to say? Help make MNW better! Your MNW media team is always looking for news regarding the happenings in our neighborhood. Submit photos, articles, announcements and suggestions to:

newsletter@mnwhoa.org

Now accepting the following from MNW residents:

- Engagement and Wedding Announcements
- Birthday and Anniversary Announcements
- Special Recognition Announcements
- Club and Committee News, Scouting News
- School News and Announcements
- Festival and Holiday Fair Announcements

MNW Website

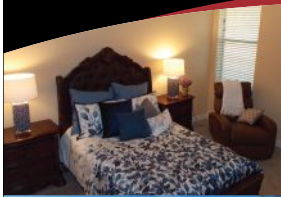
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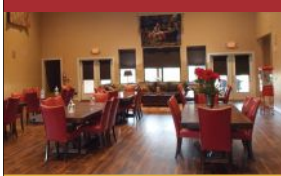
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MEMORIAL NORTHWEST WEBSITE

Homeowners' Association
and Community Center

www.mnwhoa.org

Please email webmaster@mnwhoa.org
for website questions.

To receive e-blasts with current news,
go to the website and click on the link.



President's Message

Submitted by Greg Schindler, MNW HOA President

The Memorial Northwest Homeowners' Association is a non-profit volunteer organization. Our community is dependent upon volunteers to resolve all concerns and issues.

When you decide to become a volunteer, you have to learn how to forgive the bad communication skills of a very-very-very (emphasis added) small number of individuals. The vast-vast-vast (emphasis added) majority of our neighbors are wonderful individuals, and serving is the reward of the job. The efforts of volunteers help sustain Memorial Northwest as the best place to live in northwest Houston.

We do hire others (employees and contractors) to assist our community in sustaining the neighborhood in a variety of tasks, but decisions are made by volunteers like you. When things don't go as well as we would like, there is a process to escalate and get a resolution. If you have an issue but do not know how to contact your Area Director, you are at a disadvantage. Our website contains the contact information as well as an area map to help you contact your Area Director. Knowing and contacting your Area Director is the key to get things done regarding official business of the Association.

On another note, the Association does not participate in social media. Again for emphasis, the Association does not participate in social media. You should not rely on any information claimed or posted by any individual being posted, and such post is only as reliable as the individual.

My appreciation to the Recreational Committee who pulled together "The Plan" for consideration by the members. This plan is very comprehensive for the next 50 years as it defines a vision to be the best place to live in northwest Houston. From a governance process standpoint, by the time you read this article you will know the results.

Regardless of the outcome, we participated together in determining whether to move forward with The Plan or to make a new plan. Either way, it was your choice.

Please send me your thoughts concerning this subject or any subject by emailing president@mnwhoa.org. Good, thought-provoking emails I may use or publish to further the discussion.

GARAGE DOOR PICKUP FOR TRASH AND RECYCLING

**Don't forget: Household trash and recycling are now
picked up at your garage door!**

Only yard waste should be taken to the curb.

Safety and Security

Take a Stand for Safety and Security

Are you interested in promoting a safe Memorial Northwest, building a network of neighbors and law enforcement, strengthening security efforts and implementing these concepts through community events? Then connect with us to support your neighborhood as a better place to live.

Karen Blackwell
Safety & Security Committee
 MNW2VP@aol.com

MNW Security Statistics – June 2018

Monthly Total	Monthly Total
911 Hang Up.....1	Meet the Citizen.....14
Accident/FSGI.....1	Meet the Officer.....1
Accident/Minor.....1	Missing Person.....1
Alarm Local.....16	Parking Lot Check.....52
Animal/Humane.....1	Property Found/Lost.....1
Assault/Family.....1	Runaway.....2
Burglary/Mot Veh.....2	Stranded MV.....1
Check School.....2	Suicide.....1
Child Custody Disp.....1	Suspicious Person.....1
Contract Check.....399	Theft/Bicycle.....1
Criminal Mischief.....3	Theft/Other.....1
Disturbance/Family.....3	Traffic Initiative.....4
Disturbance/Loud Noise.....3	Traffic Hazard.....4
Disturbance/Other.....3	Traffic Stop.....20
Domestic/Prevent.....1	Unk Med Emergency.....1
Drug/OD/Possession.....1	Vacation Watch.....11
Follow-Up.....3	Vehicle Suspicious.....7
Fraudulent Use ID.....1	Welfare Check.....1
In Progress.....1	Total.....568

MNW Security Statistics – July 2018

Monthly Total	Monthly Total
911 Hang Up.....1	Incident Report.....1
Accident/FSGI.....20	Information Call.....2
Alarm/Rep. Site.....1	Meet the Citizen.....14
Animal/Aggressive.....2	Mental Case.....2
Assault.....1	Neighborhood Check.....1
Check Business.....2	Parking Lot Check.....35
Child Custody Disp.....3	Runaway.....7
Contract Check.....294	Solicitors.....2
Credit Card Abuse.....1	Suspicious Person.....4
Disch. Firearm.....1	Telephone/Harrassment.....1
Disturbance/Family.....3	Theft/Other.....3
Disturbance/Other.....3	Traffic Initiative.....1
DOA.....1	Traffic Hazard.....2
Domestic/Prevent.....7	Traffic Stop.....4
Drug/OD/Possession.....1	Vacation Watch.....26
DWI.....1	Vehicle Abandoned.....4
Follow-up.....2	Vehicle Suspicious.....6
Fraudulent Use ID.....1	Welfare Check.....5
In Progress.....1	Total.....466

Save the Date!

National Night Out is **October 2**, from 6-8 p.m. Your Safety and Security Committee is working hard to make this a fun and informative night for your entire family.

*Come on out and meet
 your neighbors!*



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AREA RESIDENT

Halloween Home Decoration Contest



Hello, neighbors!

Are you ready for some Spooktacular Fun? It is the first Halloween Home Decoration Contest sponsored by your neighborhood Better Homes and Gardens, Gary Greene Realtors, Esanet Benedict and Jamie Berlin.

Each year, we have noticed that more and more homes in Memorial Northwest are decorating for Halloween.

This year, we are going to reward the First, Second and Third Place best-decorated homes with a yard sign declaring their victory, candy and—most importantly—bragging rights!

To enter, send us your name, address and general contact information by email to Esanet.Benedict@GaryGreene.com or Jamie.Berlin@GaryGreene.com. Homes will be judged on Wednesday, October 24, between 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Photos and addresses of homes will be published in the newsletter and posted on Facebook. Check our Facebook page @MNWFoodTruckFriday for more information.

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Ladybugs

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Submitted by Kathy Dodge

The Ladybugs always welcome guests and new members. For information about joining us, please call Membership Chairman Maggie Houck at 281-379-2773 or email houckmaggie@gmail.com.

The Memorial Northwest Ladybugs resume their meetings this month for the 2018-2019 calendar year. Eleanor Phillips will lead our club as she has graciously accepted to be our Ladybug President for a second term.

The Ladybugs' September meeting will be held on Wednesday, **September 26** with Brandi Hill, who will speak on cultivating orchids.

Judging for Yard of the Month begins this month. Please read the article, "What Does it Take to Get Yard of the Month?" for information on how your yard can win the Yard of the Month award.

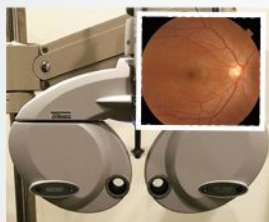
We are expecting another busy and fun-filled year with the Ladybugs. Many fun and interesting programs and trips are planned for the coming months. In October we will take a bus to tour the Hermann Park Gardens. We will have a guided tour of two gardens, McGovern Centennial Garden and the Japanese Garden.

The Ladybugs always welcome guests and new members. For information about joining the Ladybug Garden Club, please call Membership Chairman Maggie Houck at 281-379-2773 or email houckmaggie@gmail.com.

*Until next month,
The Ladybugs*

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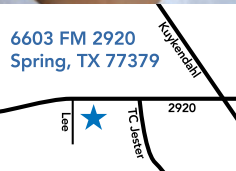
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YARD OF THE MONTH CRITERIA

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. General Appearance: Grass mowed and edged, weed free, green with no brown grass | 20 points |
| 2. Beds cleaned and edged | 10 points |
| 3. Walks, driveways, and curbs edged and swept: | 10 points |
| 4. Shrubs neatly pruned: | 10 points |
| 5. Color contrast: | 10 points |
| 6. General neatness: Garbage cans out of sight; no toys, bikes, etc. on front lawn; hoses rolled up; air conditioners hidden by shrubs, etc. | 20 points |
| 7. Overall landscape design in keeping with the architecture of the house: | 10 points |
| 8. The front lawn has a discernable, intentionally balanced landscape design: | 10 points |
| Total | 100 points |

What Does It Take to Get *Yard of the Month?*

For over thirty years now, the Memorial Northwest Ladybugs Garden Club has been consistently judging Yard of the Month for several strong reasons. The award promotes excellent landscaping, colorful gardening, and the subdivision's remarkable curb appeal. The promotion of the award has remained as steady as the purposes have remained. Often, the Ladybugs publish in the Memorial Northwest magazine the special criteria for earning the Yard of the Month award. You will find those careful, longstanding guidelines listed next to this article along with their point values.

Reminders:

A yard cannot win more than once per year. A house with a "For Sale" sign is not eligible to win. A house cannot win with a boat or R.V. in the driveway. (This is a deed restriction. Those items have to be hidden behind a fence.)

Each judge uses this list every time she takes her turn in judging. With about 25 women in the Garden club, you can see why each member has to take two turns in the judging of over 2000 homes in our neighborhood. This year the Ladybugs have decided to judge the months of September, October, and November, and then the months of March, April, and May of next year. December is in a class by itself because the club does not use these same criteria for judging the Christmas award.

As you know, the neighborhood yards are too dimly lit to judge the grass and flower beds, so the judges for the Christmas Award are primarily looking at lights and theme decorations that the judges can see from their cars.

Each month of the September to May Garden Club year, the members sign up for the months that they can serve as YOM judges. This judging system ensures that the same people will not do the judging every month. The system also spreads the responsibility for choices around to help eliminate any biases that could possibly exist. The subdivision is always divided into three separate sections for judging YOM, so that no team has to judge all 2,000 homes in one day. The two-member teams have five days to do the judging, starting on the first day of each month going to the fifth day, giving the ladies flexibility with their personal schedules. On judging day, the Ladybugs teams drive down each and every street of their assigned section, first selecting the strongest competitors and writing those addresses down. Then, the judges make a second sweep, comparing those three or four strong contenders more carefully. At this time, when the selected houses are so impressive, the judges take a harder look to see if any one of the limited selections is a clear winner. Really, when all the criteria have been met by all of the potential

(continued on next page)

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Yard of the Month - continued

“winners,” the subject of “color” usually comes up. Most often, the addition of “color” to the already excellent yards will decide the final YOM winner.

Remember, this same judging system is being used in all three sections so that each month three first-place awards are actually given, and three equally stunning yards are photographed for our MNW magazine. Most of the time, the competition is severe because there are so many high quality landscaped yards in our neighborhood. When you win this coveted award, your household is not eligible to win until one year later. This “fairness” rule has been a longstanding one in the club. The reason for it is that we want to pass the praises out to as many different homes as possible to accomplish our mission of encouragement. The whole point of Yard of the Month awarding is to compliment you for maintaining such wonderfully groomed front yards. When you win this award, you will receive a \$25 gift card from Plants for All Seasons on Louetta. You will also stand as a shining example to every house on your street. By looking at your award winning yard, your neighbors will see clearly for themselves what it takes to win Yard of the Month in Memorial Northwest.



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September To-Do List

This time of the year, fall is in the air!

In the Lawn – Water well but less often. With shorter days and cooler nights, we can begin to reduce the amount of water applied as needed. Avoid watering in the evenings if possible to prevent fungal diseases. It's time to feed your lawn to get it recovered from summer. Watch for chinch bug damage and brownpatch and treat it ASAP with the appropriate product. If you're not sure what's happening in your grass, bring in samples and pictures to the nursery, or email me at sherriharrah@yahoo.com and I'll be happy to help diagnose it for you.

In the flowerbeds – Refresh your flowerbeds and containers: It's time for snapdragons, dianthus, mums, petunias, lobelia, crotons and more. This is my favorite time to plant flowers! Our fall flowers, for the most part, will last through the winter! You get so much bang for your buck this time of year!

In the Veggie Garden –

- It's time to start your fall vegetable garden. Early September is your last chance to get tomatoes and peppers in the ground.
- Cool-season vegetables such as these can be planted directly in the garden from seed or transplants:

cauliflower	brussels sprouts	kale
broccoli	cabbage	mustard
- Lettuce, and kohlrabi can be planted September through January. Look for seeds or transplants to add to your garden.

Maintain watering on newly planted seeds and transplants. Do not rely on your sprinkler system! Get out the hose and hand water the first 2 weeks after planting.

Hummingbirds: Migrating hummingbirds can be found at your feeders and natural nectar sources. Keeping feeders clean, filled, and in a shady area will encourage visitors! Get your green on!

*Courtesy of Sherri Harrah,
Plants For All Seasons at Hwy. 249*



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POOL SCHEDULE

Saturday and Sunday

September 1 and 2 12 – 8 p.m.

Monday

September 3 (Labor Day)..... 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Community DISCUSSION GROUPS

Meeting Number One – “We Are One”

Held at the Memorial Northwest Community Center

Day Session

Date: September 11

Time: 10 a.m. to noon

Evening Session

Date: September 20

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

Topics for Meeting One

1. Why do people fear others who are different?
2. What do you think drives these emotions?
3. How do we overcome these challenges?

KHS TENNIS TEAM

Hosts Annual GARAGE SALE

Saturday, October 6: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Now is the time to clean closets and garages - donate your used clothes, furniture, bikes, **anything** to support the Klein High School Tennis Team - We can even pick up your items!

To schedule a drop-off or pickup: Contact us at bearkatgaragesale@gmail.com or text/call 713-829-3639.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

Schedule Change

Due to the oppressive heat, we will postpone the August Food Truck Friday event to **October 12**.

Also, keep an eye out for guidelines to our Halloween house decoration contest!

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Being Your Best: Health, Fitness and Your Personal Journey

Health and Fitness

By Pamela Evans, PFTA Certified Trainer
and Memorial Northwest Resident

There are many reasons why people exercise. Most people exercise to look better and lose weight. Maybe you exercise to reduce the odds of developing heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. However, studies have shown that exercise may also improve concentration, sharpen our memory, help us learn faster, prolong mental stamina, enhance creativity, and lower stress. It may help kids improve their grades and adults become more productive at work.

There are many positive effects that exercise has on our brain. One of the positive effects of physical activity is improved memory. The hippocampus portion of the brain responds strongly to exercise. The hippocampus is at the core of the brain's learning and memory systems and creativity. Therefore, the increased activity in this area of the brain increases one's memory.

Besides improving a person's memory, exercise can help you focus and stay on task. Studies have shown that children who participate in physical education, extracurricular activities, or have recess tend to be able to focus better in the classroom. They are also less likely to get distracted. It has been shown that just 10 minutes of playful coordination skills, like bouncing two balls at the same time, has helped improve concentration among teenagers. Also, children who took a standardized test after moderate exercise scored higher on the test than kids who were tested after sitting still for 20 minutes. Therefore, if your child is struggling in school, physical exercise may be the key.

Physical activity can also have a positive effect on your mood. This effect on your mood may be due to the increased levels of endorphins or even the increased levels of the pleasurable and pain-killing hormones in the body. These increased hormones also allow exercise to be a promising way to overcome depression.

Just simply walking improves certain types of cognitive functions that are involved in creativity – specifically, convergent thinking, such as the ability to come up with new solutions to a problem.

So next time your child is stuck on a math problem, go on a walk with them and then come back and try again.

It seems that regular exercise also reduces your risk of developing certain types of illnesses and diseases. This means fewer sick days from work or school. Fewer missed days from work or school will make you more productive.

What should you do? Every adult and child needs to stay physically active throughout the day. Try to ensure that you get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. If you do not have the time to exercise, you may break it up throughout the day. The truth is, when we make the time to exercise, it makes us so much more productive. Therefore, the time we need to exercise will open up. Exercising will aid in making everyone happier, smarter and better.

Fitness Center 101

Second Friday of every month from 7-8 p.m.

Have you ever walked into our Fitness Center and had no clue as to where to start or even how to work any of the machines? Well, wonder no more. Two of our neighborhood Personal Trainers, Brandon Ivey and Pamela Evans, will be in the Fitness Center on the second Friday of every month to help you for free. They will show you how to work the machines, answer your questions and show you a few basic exercises to help you get started.

Upcoming date: **September 14**

Stretching Class

Bring a mat and join us in the Community Center Meeting Room for stretching and coffee every Friday. It's free!

Let's start stretching at 7 a.m. Stay after to talk with your neighbors and have some coffee! For more information contact Pamela Evans at thatfitnesstrainer@gmail.com or call 832-790-7053.



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BRIAN A. MOHR, DDS, PA
ORTHODONTIST

Exercise of the Month

Pike-Up

By Pamela Evans, PFTA Certified Trainer
and Memorial Northwest Resident

Type: Strength

Main Muscle Worked: Abdominals

Equipment: Ball/Row Machine

Level: Intermediate

1. Get in the push-up position with your hands shoulder-width apart with your feet on the seat of the row machine or your lower quads on the stability ball.



2. In the starting position, your body should be almost straight with your feet together.
3. Contract your lower abs to raise your hips as high as you can and bring the row seat closer to your hands or allow the ball to roll down to your shins.



4. Push your feet back out and allow your abs to relax.
5. Repeat for the required number of reps.

Variation: You may do an easier form of this exercise by tucking in your knees instead of piking up.

Texas Renaissance Festival

Saturdays, Sundays,
and Thanksgiving Friday

September 29th
through
November 25th

Kids get in Free on Sundays!

Pet News

Therapy Pet Pals of Texas

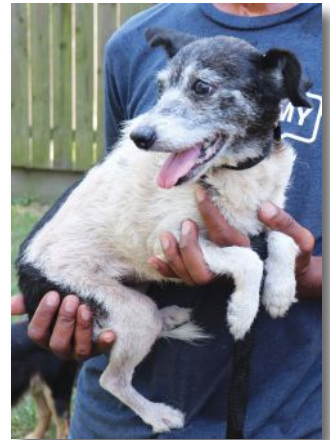
The Woodlands/NW Houston Chapter of Therapy Pet Pals of Texas is looking for volunteers with calm, friendly and obedient dogs to provide pet therapy to elderly and ill people at local healthcare facilities around The Woodlands /Tomball/ Spring/Conroe and Montgomery County area. The non-profit organization will be taking reservations up to September 4 for their September 8 Qualifying/Training Class. Please visit their website for complete information at www.therapypetpals.org.



Pet of the Month

Minnie is a sweet little girl. She is a senior 10+, so she needs a calm, loving home to retire in. She is very sweet and easygoing and was saved from a high-kill shelter.

The adoption fee is \$100, which includes rabies and age-appropriate vaccines, microchip and neuter/spay. If interested, please call 832-267-5777 or email animalrescuekingdom@gmail.com.



MNW Pet Liaison

Did you know we have a pet liaison? If you have lost or found a pet, MNW resident Elvie Kingston will help him/her get home. Social media is working well to help our pets get home, but don't forget to contact Elvie if you have found or lost a pet. She will keep track of where these pets are being kept until the owner can come pick them up.

Elvie Kingston, Pet Liaison

281-320-2912 • Elvie@ElvieKingston.com

Pet Walkers

When walking your pet, please be respectful to your neighbors by remembering to keep your pet leashed, restrain them from jumping on others and to clean up any messes they may make. By law, pets must be on a leash when in public.

Deed Restrictions Regarding Pets and Animals

No animals, livestock or poultry of any kind shall be raised, bred or kept on any lot. No more than two dogs, cats or other household pets may be kept, provided that they are not kept, bred or maintained for any commercial purpose.



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Bluebonnet Squares

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If you can shake hands and walk, you are already square dancing! Learn to square dance to music by artists like Journey, Lady Gaga, Neil Diamond, Justin Timberlake, Garth Brooks and even do-si-do to Uptown Funk!

No dance experience necessary!

Our “Fun Night” is on **Tuesday, September 11**, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Spring Woods United Methodist Church, 1711 FM 1960 West (across from the Denny's). Refreshments are included. Lessons follow on Tuesdays starting **September 18**. The first two lessons are free! Couples, singles, family, friends and students ages 9 and up are welcome. Dress is casual. Please wear comfortable shoes.



If you have questions, please contact our class coordinator, Hannah Langston, at hannahlaralangston@gmail.com, 713-530-9739, or Sandy Remson, 281-257-9972 (leave message).

For more information and to register early, please refer to our webpage:
<https://sites.google.com/view/bluebonnetsquareshouston/lessons>.
Hope to see you there!

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- Excellent grammar, spelling and language skills
- Computer and word processing skills
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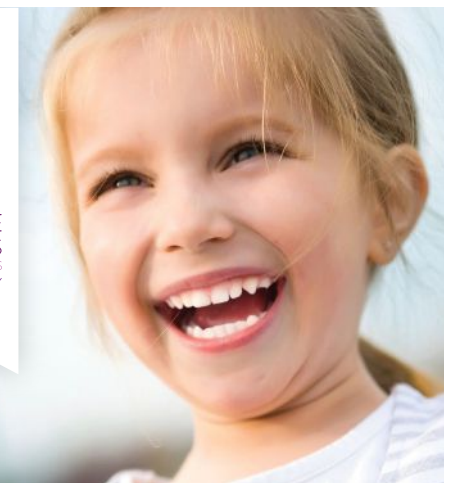


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Barbara Bush Branch Library

September Events

September is all about the adults as we move into fall at Barbara Bush Library! For a full list of events, please go to <http://www.hcpl.net/content/events-programs>.

Citizenship Practice Interviews

Mondays at 7 p.m.

Beginners' English Classes

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Spanish With Oscar

Thursdays at 2 p.m.

Knit and Crochet

Fridays at 12:30 p.m.

Book Club

September 17 at 7 p.m.

September 28 at 2 p.m.

Passport Services

September 25, 1–6:30 p.m.

September 26 at 4:30 p.m.

September 27, 1–6:30 p.m.

Barbara Bush Branch Library at Cypress Creek is at 6817 Cypresswood Drive, Spring 77379.

Trash & Recycling

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Both our household trash and our recycling are now garage door pickup. Not only is this much more convenient, but it keeps the appearance of our beautiful neighborhood much more attractive to anyone driving through it on pickup days, including prospective homebuyers!

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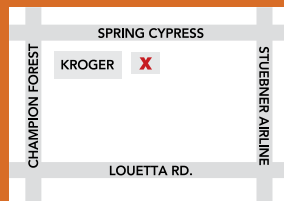
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