

Castlewood Connection

August 2009

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Upcoming Events

Balloon Festival
Copperas Park
August 14-16

HOA Board Meeting
with Mayor Costa
August 19

Back to School Party
August 21

First Day of School
August 24

Reminders

Monthly HOA Meeting
3rd Wednesday
of each month

On-site Management
Office Hours:
Mon-Fri: 8:30a - 4:00p
After Hours by Appt.

Advertising Deadline
All ads, business and
classifieds, must be submitted
no later than the 20th of the
month prior to publication



Back to School Party!!

August 21

6:30p - 9:00p

Clubhouse



Come Join Us

for our end of summer party
with bounce houses, face painting,
hot dogs, snow cones & swimming!



Good Times for All Ages!

We'll See You There!



Castlewood

3420 Fairfield Lane
Highland Village, TX 75077
Phone: 972-317-2457
Fax: 972-317-5889
manager@castlewoodhoa.com
Website: www.castlewoodhoa.com

2009 Board of Directors

Tony Leone, President
tonyleone@castlewoodhoa.com

Denny Reid, Vice President
dennyreid@castlewoodhoa.com

Dan Franklin, Treasurer
danfranklin@castlewoodhoa.com

Gary Bowery, Secretary
garybowery@castlewoodhoa.com

Amanda Mitchell, Director
amandamitchell@castlewoodhoa.com

Modifications Committee

Shelli LaCaze, Chairman
Ron Kurash
Larry Legg
Becky Muczko
Holly Xenios

Meets first Monday of the month.
Please go to the website to print
and fill out an application for any
exterior home improvements.

Management Company

Capital Consultants Mgmt. Corp.
Central Division Office
2301 West Plano Pkwy, Suite 100
Plano, TX 75075
469-246-3500

Manager, Jo Lynn Tefft
manager@castlewoodhoa.com
972-317-2457

Advertising Rates

Business Card - \$25
¼ Page - \$50
½ Page - \$75
Full Page - \$100

discount on 3, 6 or 12 months

Note from the Board:

**Castlewood HOA Meeting
with Mayor Costa
Wednesday, August 19
7:00pm at the Clubhouse**

Dear Residents:

Mayor Costa and members of the city council will be attending the Castlewood HOA/Board meeting on Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00pm at the clubhouse. They will be here to give a brief update on Highland Village "happenings" and the FM 2499 construction.

We request that questions from residents be submitted to Jo Lynn at the management office no later than Wednesday, August 12. This will provide adequate time for the mayor and councilmen to prepare their answers to your questions. Speaking time at the meeting will be limited.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation,

Castlewood HOA Board of Directors



CATS MISSING!

Approximately six cats went missing from Castlewood in July. Animal Control hasn't had any reports of bobcats or coyotes in the area. However, both are possible. Due to the high number of missing cats, please be aware and try and keep your pets inside at night. If you see a coyote or bobcat, or if you have any additional

information, please contact Animal Control at 972-899-5092 and/or the management office.

Fences...Again! We have some fences that are looking pretty "ragged." Please maintain your fence; keep them stained and repaired. A lot of fences need to be replaced. If you have plans to replace your fence in the near future, please contact the management office. Remember, the finished side needs to face out. You will also need to submit a

Home Improvement Form to the Modifications Committee prior to replacing your fence. Quite a few residents have recently put up some really nice fences and it isn't fair to them for the ones that aren't! The Modifications Committee is in the process of revising the "Design Guidelines" to require fences to be stained.





Guitar Lessons

I have received several requests for guitar lessons. If you teach guitar, or know someone to recommend, please contact me at manager@castlewoodhoa.com

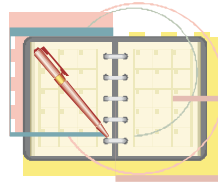


Thanks, Jo Lynn

Help!

The website needs a facelift!

We really need a new format, new pictures, etc. - a whole new look. If anyone has any expertise, suggestions, recommendations or time to volunteer, it would be most appreciated. Contact Jo Lynn at 972-317-2457 or manager@castlewoodhoa.com.



COMMUNITY EVENTS YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE

- August 21** - Back to School Party
Ann Price
- October 17** - Garage Sale
- October 31** - Halloween
Laura Rojas
- November 7** - Progressive Dinner
(being considered)
Volunteer Needed
- December 5** - Breakfast with Santa
Volunteer Needed

Dates Subject to Change



KidzArt

Fall Classes Now Enrolling

Ages 4 to Adult

drawing, clay,
water color, painting,
oil pastel

Cindy Hodge

Art Instructor
(in Castlewood)

972-317-2080 - h

214-636-5833 - C

Volunteers Needed!



We still need volunteers for upcoming events, especially the Back to School Party. Call Jo Lynn at 972-317-2457 or manager@castlewoodhoa.com.



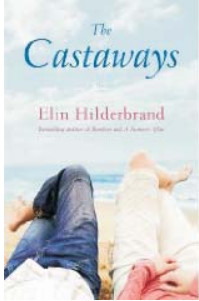
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Christine Gerval- Owner
www.affordablepetandpeopleservices.net

Amanda's Picks



Best Summer Read...
The Castaways
by Elin Hilderbrand

I give this book 4-1/2 stars out of 5. Best read in a long time. A book about grownups with grownup troubles.



And to go along with this book...

Sofia Coppola's Riesling Wine - A great summer wine! You can find it at the Majestic Liquor store on 407. (I made them order and stock - the bottle is very pretty too!)
Amanda Green Mitchell

Welcome Our Newest Castlewood Residents

Jeff & Barbara Bailey
3416 Wimbledon

Alan & Tammie Greer
3105 Winston Drive

Victor & Maria Verissimo
3418 Sherwood Lane

DFW HOMEWORX
Remodel & Repair
One call can fix it all

Joe McConathy
Castlewood

972-533-5776
joe@dfwhomeworx.com

**Castlewood Covenants
.....Reminders**

All air conditioning and pool equipment must be screened. If you are on the walking path, on a corner and/or have a wrought iron fence, all equipment must be screened from the street and/or path.

We realize that during the summer months you may on occasion have your boat, trailer, etc., at your home. If it is going to be longer than overnight, let the management office know. Long-term parking of boats and trailers is prohibited.

The pool area has gotten much better. Some of the issues we are still concerned with are:

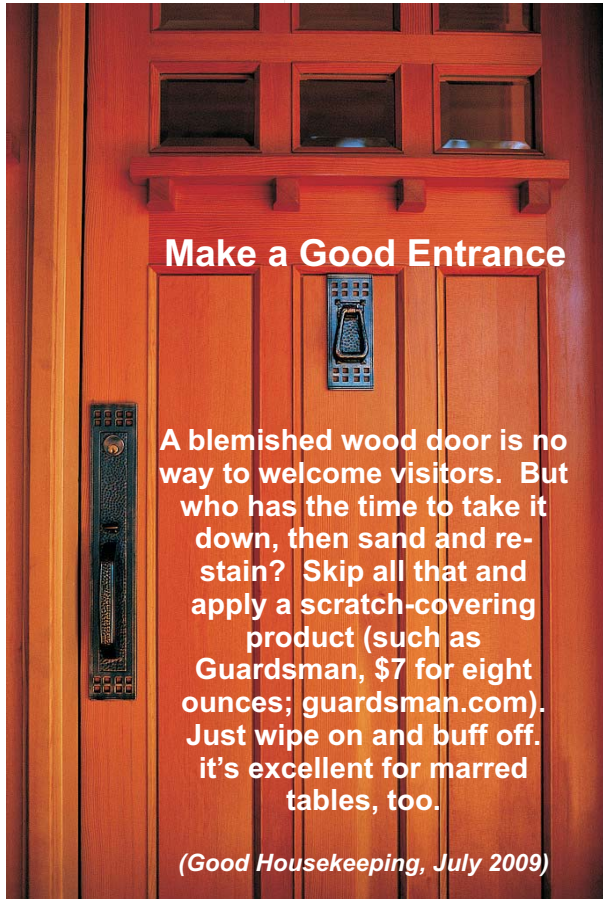
- ◆ No glass containers are allowed anywhere (patio or pool area).
- ◆ No smoking under the patio cover or in the water. Be considerate and get out of the water and away from other people/children. "A No Smoking Policy" will be evaluated for the pool opening next year.
- ◆ Do not eat or drink in the pool water.
- ◆ Do not allow your children under the age of 12 to be at the pool without an adult (age 18+). Children cannot be responsible for children. Kids have short attention spans...do not put your child in the position of watching younger siblings/friends.

If you ever have questions or concerns about violation letters or modifications requests, please contact the management office.



The new lock is missing from the front gate of the tennis courts. Please check your bags and return it to the management office if you find it. Thanks.

Tip of the Month



Register now for MOPS!
MOPS or Mothers of Preschoolers
(ages birth-Kindergarten)

MOPS will start up for the 2009-2010 school year on Sept 9 and meets on alternating Wednesdays at:

Crossroads Bible Church
8101 Justin Road (FM 407)
Double Oak, TX
9:00a – 11:15a
(childcare is provided)

To register, or for more information, go to
<http://www.crossroadsbible.org/mops>
or call 972-355-3343

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Eric Allen
214-537-0874
www.highlandshoreshomeservices.com

Stair Flair.com
Change Wood Stairs
to Wrought Iron
214-325-2072

**Andrea West**
Piano Teacher
972.317.1120
469.233.6221
andrea_west@verizon.net

Lions Club Balloon Festival

Copperas Branch Park

Friday, August 14th
Saturday, August 15th
Sunday, August 16th



The annual Lion's Club Balloon Festival is a great Highland Village tradition. This community event is sponsored by the Highland Village Lion's Club and other area Lion's Clubs and is held the third weekend of August at Copperas Branch Park. This annual festival includes live entertainment, arts and crafts exhibits, food vendors and a children's area. A \$5 donation is accepted as admission to the Balloon Festival. All proceeds from this event are donated to local charities and local events. For more information call 972-317-9073 or visit www.hvballoonfest.org.



TIRED OF CLEANING YOUR CASTLE?

Local clean-a-holic would love to clean yours. We clean over 70 homes within Castle Hills in Lewisville. We are bonded and insured. Call Julie with Castle Housekeepers for your free estimate.



214-797-1055 or 972-899-2468

Items NOT Recyclable:

- ♦ Household trash
- ♦ Aluminum foil
- ♦ Auto/window glass
- ♦ Ceramics, china/dishes
- ♦ Drink boxes with straws
- ♦ Hard cover books
- ♦ Light bulbs
- ♦ Waxed milk and juice cartons
- ♦ Plastic grocery sacks
- ♦ No Styrofoam of any kind (cups, plates, food containers, peanuts or packaging materials)
- ♦ Plastic toys
- ♦ Waxed paper
- ♦ **Food containers (includes pizza/donut boxes)**
- ♦ Yard waste
- ♦ Plastic, glass or metal containers that held hazardous materials such as motor oil, paint, pesticide or weed killer

There have been some "undesirables" in the recycling at the clubhouse!

Did you know?



One pizza box with food content can downgrade a whole load of recycling material.



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Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on August 21, 22 and 23 - the state's annual tax holiday. Lay-away plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday. As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The

exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES - NEW IN 2009!

The 81st Texas Legislature recently passed HB 1801 (2009) expanding the list of items qualifying for exemption from Texas state and local sales and use taxes during the annual sales tax holiday in August. Effective this year, in addition to clothes, footwear and some backpacks, Texas families also get a sales tax break on most school supplies priced at less than \$100 purchased for use by an elementary or secondary student.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN ALL-INCLUSIVE LIST OF QUALIFYING SCHOOL SUPPLIES (IF PRICED LESS THAN \$100):

- ! Binders
- ! Book bags
- ! Calculators
- ! Cellophane tape
- ! Blackboard chalk
- ! Compasses
- ! Composition books
- ! Crayons
- ! Erasers
- ! Folders; expandable, pocket, plastic, & manila
- ! Glue, paste & paste sticks
- ! Highlighters
- ! Index cards
- ! Index card boxes
- ! Legal pads
- ! Lunch boxes
- ! Markers
- ! Notebooks
- ! Paper; loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board & construction paper
- ! Pencil boxes and other school supply boxes
- ! Pencil sharpeners
- ! Pencils
- ! Pens
- ! Protractors
- ! Rulers
- ! Scissors

No exemption certificate is required - with one exception. If the purchaser is buying the supplies under a business account, the retailer must obtain an exemption certificate from the purchaser certifying that the items are purchased for use by an elementary or secondary school student. "Under a business account" means the purchaser is using a business credit card or business check rather than a personal credit card or personal check; being billed under a business account maintained at the retailer; or is using a business membership at a retailer that is membership based.

LIST OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR & BACKPACKS AND THEIR EXEMPTION STATUS:

TAX-FREE

- ! Baby clothes
- ! Backpacks for use by elementary & secondary students
- ! Belts with attached buckles
- ! Boots - cowboy, hiking
- ! Caps/hats - baseball, fishing, golf, knitted
- ! Coats & wraps
- ! Diapers - adult and baby
- ! Dresses
- ! Gloves (generally)
- ! Gym suits and uniforms
- ! Hooded shirts & hooded sweatshirts
- ! Hosiery
- ! Jackets
- ! Jeans
- ! Jerseys - baseball & football
- ! Jogging apparel
- ! Neckwear & ties
- ! Pajamas
- ! Pants & trousers
- ! Raincoats & ponchos
- ! Robes
- ! Shirts
- ! Shoes - sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
- ! Socks (including athletic)
- ! Shorts
- ! Suits, slacks & jackets
- ! Sweatshirts
- ! Sweat suits
- ! Sweaters
- ! Swimsuits
- ! Underclothes
- ! Work clothes & uniforms

TAXED

- ! Accessories (generally) - barrettes, elastic ponytail holders, wallets, watches
- ! Backpacks - unless for use by elementary/secondary students
- ! Baseball cleats & pants
- ! Belt buckles (without belt)
- ! Boots - climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders
- ! Buttons & zippers
- ! Cloth and lace, knitting yarns & other fabrics
- ! Dry cleaning services
- ! Football pants
- ! Golf gloves
- ! Handbags & purses
- ! Handkerchiefs
- ! Hard hats
- ! Helmets - bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports
- ! Ice skates
- ! Jewelry
- ! Laundering services
- ! Leather goods - except belts with buckles and wearing apparel
- ! Pads - football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder
- ! Personal flotation devices
- ! Rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear & costumes)
- ! Roller blades & skates
- ! Safety clothing, glasses
- ! Shoes - bicycle (cleated), bowling, golf

For a complete list, go to:

http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html



Castlewood Homeowners Association
3420 Fairfield Lane
Highland Village, TX 75077

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Timely Tips

Neil Sperry's e-Garden Newsletter
neilsperry.com

Plant: Fall annual color from marigolds, celosias and zinnias. Buy plants that are in bud, but not showing color. Fall vegetables. Sequence of planting from this point forward: bush green beans, squash, cucumbers and melons (early August in North Texas, mid-August in South Texas). Two weeks later: broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts and cabbage. One to two weeks later: lettuce, spinach, beets, carrots, radishes and turnips. Fall perennials, including mums, *Salvia leucantha*, fall asters and others. St. Augustine from sod and bermuda from seed or sod.

Prune: Roses by one-third, just above outward-facing buds, to reshape and groom plants for fall growth and bloom. Remove old flower stalks, seed heads and dead leaves from perennial gardens. Annuals such as coleus, impatiens, begonias, lantanas and copper plants lightly to promote new growth.

Fertilize: Turf and all landscape plants with all-nitrogen or high-nitrogen plant food. Water immediately after feeding to prevent leaf scorch. (Wait one month to feed St. Augustine if gray leaf spot fungus has been a problem in the past couple of years.) Patio pots and hanging baskets with water-soluble food each time that you water them. Use iron/sulfur product if needed to correct chlorosis (yellowed leaves with dark green veins; most prominent on new growth). Keep iron off painted and masonry surfaces that could be stained.

On the Lookout: Leaf rollers in vinca groundcover, sweetgums and cannas. Use systemic insecticide. Lace bugs turning pyracantha, azalea, sycamore, Boston ivy, chinquapin and bur oak and other plants' leaves tan (use systemic insecticide). Aphids causing sticky honeydew drips onto surfaces beneath pecans, crape myrtles, oaks and elms (systemic, general-purpose insecticide). Honeydew results in black sooty mold -- usually not damaging to the plants. Stone fruits, including peaches, plums and apricots, to protect against peach tree borers. Spray the trunks with a borer-preventive product last week of August every year.