

# The Woodland WORD



Breakfast with Santa Page 5



Winter Pet Safety Page 6



Code Blue Connection Page 7



Reduce Your Carbon Footprint
Page 11



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID Dallas, TX Permit 3384



The purpose of a homeowners association (HOA) is to maintain, enhance and protect the common areas and interests of the subdivision or neighborhood. Individual homeowners, as members of the association, pay periodic assessments, support & utilize neighborhood amenities (ponds, pools, parks, tennis courts, etc.). The assessments pay for community expenses such as entrance monuments, landscaping, amenities like clubhouses, tennis courts, or walking trails, insurance for commonly-owned structures and areas, an on-site management company, or any other item delineated in the governing documents or agreed to by the homeowners' association.

#### **Board Members**

President	Jim Houston
Vice President	Tony DeVito
Treasurer/Secretary	Frank Friar
Member	Lora Fulmer
Member	Frank McArthur
Member	Charles Stark
Member	Shirley Gansser



above and beyond in delivering great customer service.

Have you witnessed an associate doing something great?

- Have you been exceptionally pleased with the service you have received?
- Do you want to let others know how awésome someone is?

Help us show recognition to our Star Performers. Please email your feedback to starserviceonsite@fsresidential.com. Be sure to list the Star performers' name and community. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Your HOA Management Team





Homeowners' Association

The Villages of Woodland Springs Homeowners **Association Professionally Managed** by FirstService Residential



FirstService Residential Customer Service: 877-378-2388

FirstService

Please use this telephone number to report all non-emergency complaints and information.

#### **On-Site Management Team:**

Craig Asaff, General Manager Craig.Asaff@fsresidential.com

Claudia Lindsey, Assistant General Manager Claudia.Lindsey@fsresidential.com

Jessica Chandler, Administrative Assistant Vows.Admin@fsresidential.com

VOWS Office email - vows.admin@fsresidential.com

The On-Site office is located at the Amenity Center at 12209 Timberland.

> On-Site Hours: Monday- Friday 9am-6pm Saturdays 10am-4pm

> > On-Site Number: 817-741-1719 On-Site Fax: 817-741-1720

Account Services: 877-378-2388

www.woodlandspringshoa.com

#### The Woodland Word

Is the only authorized and official monthly publication for the residents of the Woodland Springs Community with news and a calendar of community events endorsed by the Woodland Springs HOA & its members.

#### **PUBLISHED BY**

Community News Connection, Inc. 906 W. McDermott Dr., Ste. #116-352 • Allen, TX 75013 972-396-8855 • www.communitynewsconnection.com

#### ADVERTISEMENT SALES

For information or to place an advertisement 972-396-8855 • info@communitynewsconnection.com

Advertising Deadline for the February 2019 Issue Is December 31, 2018

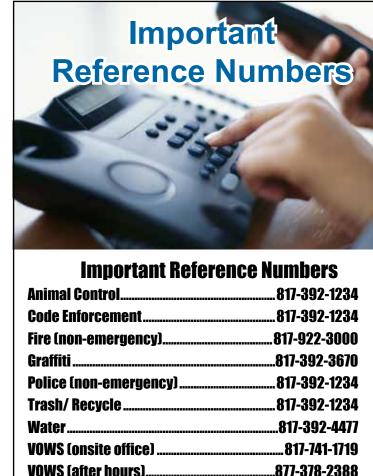
Woodland Springs and Community News Connection (CNC) do not in any way endorse or <mark>support, nor does it take any credit or responsibility for any of the services, paid or volunteer,</mark> listed herein. The Woodland Word is not paid for by the home owners' dues and is not funded by the HOA in any way. The Woodland Word is not a negative publication. It is a community publication created to inform and serve the community. The Woodland Word strives to report only good news; we do not allow articles on politics, religion, controversial topics or any <mark>editorials. We also reserve the right to refuse any advertiser or article submission that we feel</mark> is not right for this "community philosophy" or not a good fit for this publication.



If you are not currently receiving emails from the HOA, please email us so that we can add you to the list: vows.admin@fsresidential.com

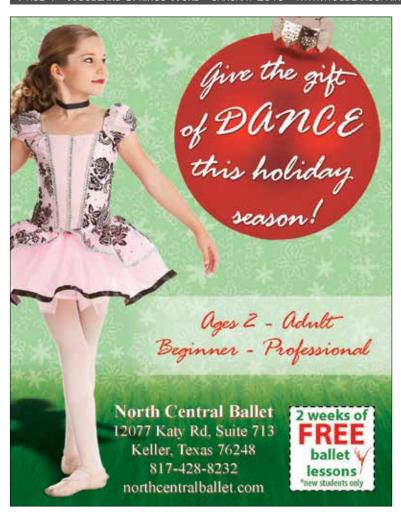
#### **January 2019 Upcoming Events:**

January 1st	New Year's Day
January 10th	Daytime Crafters
January 10th	Scrapbook Night
January 19th	NFWA Meeting
January 22nd	Board Meeting











# HOMEOWNER Rights & Responsibilities

As a homeowner in our association, you have certain rights—and responsibilities.

#### You have the right to . . .

- A responsive and competent community association.
- Honest, fair, and respectful treatment by community leaders and managers.
- Attend meetings, serve on committees, and run for election.
- Access appropriate association records.
- Prudent financial management of fees and other assessments.
- Live in a community where the property is maintained according to established standards.
- Fair treatment regarding financial and other association obligations, including the opportunity to discuss payment plans and options before the association takes any legal action, and the right to appeal decisions.
- Receive all rules and regulations governing the community association—if not prior to purchase and settlement, then upon joining the community.

#### You also have the responsibility to . . .

- Maintain your property according to established standards.
- Treat association leaders with honesty and respect.
- Read and comply with rules and regulations of the community and ensure that your tenants and guest do too.
- Vote in community elections and on other issues.
- Pay association assessments and charges on time.
- Contact association leaders or managers, if necessary, to discuss financial obligations and alternative payment arrangements.
- Request reconsideration of material decisions that personally affect you.
- Provide your current contact information to the association so you receive all information from the community.



# **Breakfast with Santa**

Santa made a grand appearance in VOWS! Everyone enjoyed breakfast provided by Elote, crafts, and of course getting to meet Santa! Thank you to the many volunteers who made this event possible!







Planning to be out of town? Even with a neighbor or a friend watching the house, it's a good idea to contact the VOWS Off Duty Officers to come do a Vacation House Check. (available year round)

Homeowners just need to email them a week in advance, please include the details of the attached sheet, you'll get a response it was received. They really need at least a week to hear from you in case more info needed, so don't wait until the last minute to email them!

Off Duty Officers that VOWS hires will come by and check on the house, NOT just drive by. They will check the door, etc.

Just email: Police4VOWS@gmail.com

#### **City of Fort Worth**

Get connected and stay informed about city services and programs

The City of Fort Worth is launching a new information delivery service to help you get connected to your city government and stay informed about services and programs.

With the addition of this new GovDelivery platform, subscribers can choose the topics they wish to read about and determine when and how often these topics are delivered to them. Daily and weekly digest of information will be available.

All city departments will be using GovDelivery as their mechanism for news and information to residents. No content is going away – it will just look a tad different and be delivered in a new, more convenient format.

If you are an existing subscriber or member of a city email list, we have transferred your email to this new program.

Visit the subscriber preference pages at the link below to manage your subscription, sign up for new topics and tell us how often you want to receive updates so you continue to receive important community news.

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ TXFTWORTH/subscriber/new



We love our pets, so keeping them safe in the wintertime should be a top priority. See below for some friendly reminders detailing how you can ensure your pet stays warm, happy and out of harm's way even on the dreari-

est of winter days.

Beware of sidewalk salt and de-icer. Pets' paws are extremely sensitive, so prolonged exposure to sidewalk salt can be problematic. If you walk your dog regularly in areas where sidewalk salt is used during inclement weather, wipe the underside of paws with warm water and a clean towel when you go back inside. Doing so also eliminates risk of ingestion if your pup licks its paws often. Keep an eye on your pet's toe pads for severe dryness, cracking or bleeding.

Bring pets indoors. Just as in summer months when temperatures reach extreme highs, pets should be brought inside during extreme wintertime lows. This applies for daytime and nighttime temperatures, so check your local weather daily and limit your pup's outside time if the forecast is looking chilly. And remember—if you're uncomfortable with the outside air temperature, chances are your pet is too.

Bundle them up! When pets do go outside during the cold winter months, those with thinner fur coats may need extra warmth. Your local pet store should have an assortment of extra layers for your

> dog-even winter boots for pups who need extra paw protection from the cold and ice. Only add layers if your pet can truly benefit. If you're unsure, ask your veterinarian.



Keep your pet active and out of trouble. During inclement weather when you can't make it outside with your pup, set aside some extra time during the day to make sure they have some exercise—even 15 minutes of playtime helps. Paying attention to your pup keeps them engaged and happy, and ensures no bad behavior caused by boredom.

## **CODE BLUE CONNECTION :**

# Teaching Our Children about the Police

Many of us adults learned about life lessons from our parents, school or maybe even Mr. Roger's. In todays' world of video games, super heroes and make believe, a child may get a false impression of good and evil. As a parent we need to reinforce "Human Helpers" to our children. We all want our children to feel a comfort knowing their parents will provide and protect them. Outside of the home, a child needs to feel secure in their surroundings too. That's why it's important we teach our children that the police are protectors, human helpers who will keep them safe. They need to know the police officer wears a badge because they have taken a sworn oath to protect all people. The officer puts their own life on the line every day to protect all people from evil. We need to reinforce that the officer is their friend, a trusted person who will help them in a time of need.



Our children should also understand that people with authority should be respected. A child's attitude towards a police officer begins with a parent's attitude towards an officer. A parent's sarcasm or disregard toward law enforcement, produces a child's disrespect towards law enforcement. It's important to remember our children learn from us.

Our new North Division Police Station wants to reach out and engage the community. In the lobby is a small library that was created so children can learn about police officers. Everyone is invited to bring a child to read and learn. The community room can be reserved as a meeting area or a lecture room. The community is encouraged to stop by for a visit. The new North Division Police Station is located at 8755 N. Riverside Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76244.

Officer Barry Sawyer #3199 is our Neighborhood Police Officer. If you would like him to speak to your child or a group, please contact him at 817 392-3177 (Office) or barry.sawyer@fortworthtexas.gov.

Cindy Strause is the North Division Code Blue Coordinator. If you would like to know more about the Citizen's on Patrol program, please contact her at 817 392-3172 (Office) or cindy.strause@fortworthtexas.gov.



# Why Make New Year's Resolutions?

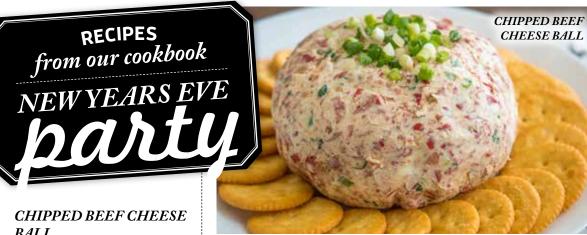
A New Year is an opportunity to improve yourself, your habits and your outlook perhaps making you a better, healthier and nicer self. Whether you join a gym, begin a new hobby, choose a better diet or decide to get rid of a bad habit, the New Year is a great place to start, a fresh beginning.

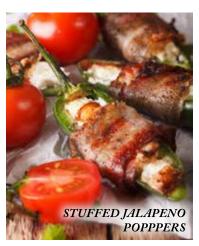
How few there are who have courage enough to own their faults, or resolution enough to mend them

Benjamin Franklin

It takes courage to make a resolution, to rise above your normal responses and actions, to make better decisions for better life outcomes. You should make New Year's resolutions to learn new skills, choose to be kind, think positive thoughts, get more exercise and improve yourself. By improving yourself, you improve your community and your city. Have courage and resolution to make changes this year.

What will your New Year's resolution be?





### **BALL**

- 3 pkgs. of cream cheese
- 3 pkgs. sliced beef lunch meat (chopped)
- bunches green onions (chopped) Worchester sauce to taste Salt to taste

Mix together and form ball and chill. Can be formed into molds (lay down plastic wrap first).

#### HOLIDAY SANDWICH LOAF

2 lb. loaf bread (chilled)

#### **HAM FILLING**

- cup ground cooked
- cup sour cream
- cup chopped walnuts
- cup pickle relish

#### **CHEESE FILLING**

- 1 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- cup butter
- tsp. cayenne pepper

#### **CHICKEN FILLING**

- cup chopped chicken
- 8 ½ oz. crushed pineapple
- cup sour cream
- tsp celery salt

#### **FROSTING**

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream

Slice crust of bread length wise. Butter each side of bread that will have a filling against it (this keeps the filing from seeping into bread). Put chilled filings on bread and chill loaf until time to frost. Frost one hour before servings.

#### TORTILLA ROLLUPS

- (8 oz.) pkgs. Cream Cheese
- (8 oz.) pkgs. Chive & Onion cream cheese
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- tbsp. El Fenix Hot Sauce
- tbsp. Pace Picante Sauce
- (10 ct.) pkg. Flour Burrito **Tortillas**

Mix ingredients into cream cheese. Spread cream cheese mixture on tortillas and roll. Chill. Cut into inch sized sections and serve with picante sauce.

#### WHITE CHOCOLATE **TRASH**

- cups Rice Chex Cereal
- cups Wheat Chex Cereal
- 3 cups Cheerios Cereal
- 1 1/2 bags White Chocolate Chips (3 cups)
- cups Honey Roasted **Peanuts**
- bag (I lb) regular M&M's
- bag (I lb) Peanut or Almond M&M's
- cups stick Pretzels

In a LARGE bowl mix together all ingredients except the white chocolate chips. Melt the white chocolate chips and pour over mixture in bowl. Mix gently until all coated. Let set in bowl 30 minutes or so to dry. You can use

seasonally colored M&M's to make it look festive!

#### STUFFED MUSHROOMS (ELKES)

- lb. Breakfast Sausage
- tsp. Crushed Red Pepper
- oz. Cream Cheese
- cup Monterrey Jack Cheese
- dz. Mushrooms (cleaned and trimmed)\* \*save trimmings and chop into sausage

Cook sausage and mushroom trimmings with crushed red pepper and cool to room temperature. Fold in cream cheese and Monterrey jack cheese. Stuff mushrooms. Bake @ 350 for I5 minutes or until hot. Makes 2 dozen.

#### CHEESE LOG

- pkg. Cream Cheese (8 oz.)
- lbs. Sharp Cheddar Cheese, finely grated
- cup finely chopped pecan pieces
- cloves of garlic (or 2 tsp. chopped) Chili Powder (lots! Spice jar full!) **Wax Paper and Foil**
- I. Blend together (you can use a food processor if you have one). Add a couple of shakes of chili powder too.
- 2. Divide in half and mix thoroughly with hands to blend all together smoothly. Divide into 4 equal quarters and roll each

quarter into a 2 inch diameter log (about the size of a Ritz cracker). On a sheet of wax paper coat the out side if each log totally in chili powder. Wrap in wax paper and over wrap with foil tucking ends over to seal. Keep refrigerated. 3. Slice and place on crackers and serve! Will keep for a little over a week but never more than two weeks!

#### STUFFED JALAPENO **POPPERS**

- lb. ground sausage
- pkg. taco seasoning
- (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
- pkg. bacon (thin sliced)
- lb. large fresh jalapeno peppers
- I. Place sausage in a skillet over medium heat, and cook until brown. Drain grease and mix in the taco seasoning. In a bowl, mix the sausage and cream cheese. Slice your peppers in half; Make sure you remove the seeds and ribs from the pepper. (You may want to wear gloves while handling the peppers so you don't end up getting the juices in your eyes later on!) Spoon about I tablespoon sausage mixture into each jalapeno half.
- 2. Wrap thin sliced bacon around each stuffed pepper and secure with a soaked wooden toothpick. Wrap a slice of bacon around each pepper. Secure the bacon with a wooden toothpick. (You may want to soak wooden toothpicks in water before you begin to prevent burning.)
- **3.** Grill or broil the poppers until the bacon is cooked.



#### **B-L-TPOPPERS**

- 16 cherry tomatoes
- I lb. bacon, cooked & crumbled
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- √s cup green onion, finely chopped
- 3 tbsp. parmesan cheese, finely grated
- 2 tbsp. parsley, finely chopped
- **I.** Cut a thin slice off the top of each tomato. Scoop out and discard pulp.
- 2. Turn tomatoes upside down on a paper towel to drain. In a small bowl, combine the remaining ingredients and mix well
- **3.** Spoon filling into tomatoes, mounding slightly.
- **4.** Cover and chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours.

Tip: I use a metal I/4 tsp measuring spoon to scoop out the tomatoes.

#### LONE STAR CAVIAR

- I 2 oz. jar diced pimentos, drained
- I cup red onion, chopped
- I cup celery, chopped
- I red bell pepper, chopped
- 3 cans black eyed peas, drained & rinsed
- 4 oz. can chopped green chili peppers, drained

Mix all ingredients together.

#### **DRESSING**

- ²/₃ cup vinegar
- ²/₃ cup sugar

- ½ cup oil
- I tsp. seasoned salt
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper
- I tsp. minced fresh garlic

Mix all ingredients together in a large bowl. Pour dressing mixture over salad and mix. Chill over night. Serve as a side salad or use as a dip. Enjoy!

#### CHEESY SAUSAGE BALLS

(Cooks.com or yummly.com)

#### Family Size Recipe (makes 24)

- 3 cups Bisquick
- I lbs. breakfast sausage
- 4 cups cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 3/4 tsp. crushed red pepper
- I cup water

#### Party Size Recipe (makes 48)

- 6 cups Bisquick
- 2 lbs. breakfast sausage
- 8 cups cheddar cheese
- I cup grated parmesan
- 8 green onions chopped
- 1 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper
- 2 cups water

Mix together, drop by teaspoon and form balls and bake for I5 -20 minutes at 275 degrees. Spray Baking Pan or Foil with Pam Spray!!! Spray even when reheating! Make ahead of time because they reheat wonderfully! Freezes well too! To reheat, loosely cover in foil to keep from drying out and reheat in 350 degree oven.



#### TWO-PEPPER TOMATO RELISH

(Better Homes & Gardens)

- I cup red bell pepper, chopped
- I cup tomato, seeded & chopped
- ½ cup red onion, finely chopped
- 3/4 serrano pepper, seeded & chopped
- 2 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 4 tsp salt

Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl. Cover and chill in the refrigerator for 2 hours. Great for hamburgers, hot dogs and brats. Yields 2 ½ cups (20 servings).

#### SAUSAGE BREAD

Andrea Immer Robison (Pairings with Andrea)

- 12 oz pork or turkey sausage
- 3 cloves garlic, mashed and minced
- I ½ cups grated mozzarella cheese

- cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
- I can refrigerated pizza dough
- I large egg, beaten
- I tbsp. oregano
- **I.** Preheat oven to 350 degrees Over medium heat, add sausage,
- **2.** garlic and oregano to heated skillet, Cook, stirring until sausage if browned. Remove from heat and spoon sausage onto paper towel-lined plate to drain.
- **3.** On lightly flowered surface, roll pizza crust dough into and 8 x I2 inch rectangle. Spread sausage along center of dough, then top with cheeses. Fold long sides of dough over sausage and cheese mixture, overlapping. Fold ends over slightly.
- **4.** Transfer to baking sheet sprayed with cooking spray, seams side down. Brush top and sides with beaten egg.
- **5.** Bake for 20-25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from oven and cool on baking rack.
- **6.** Cut into one-inch thick slices and serve. Yields 6 servings.

#### **AMENITY CENTER RULES & REGULATIONS**

# Thinking of renting the Amenity Center for a party or event?

Please call the office today at (817) 741-1719 to reserve your spot.

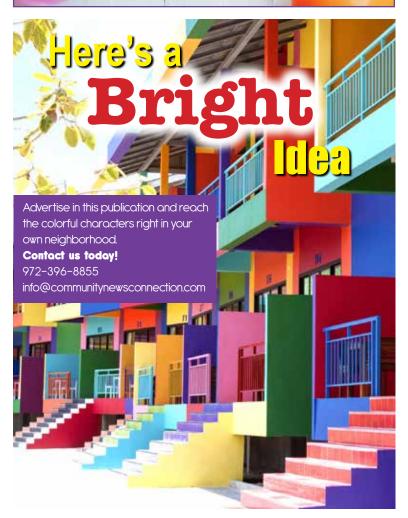
The Amenity Center can be rented by VOWS homeowners for their personal use. However, in the interest of maintaining the Center, avoiding extra work for the on-site staff, avoiding potential damages and keeping the Center in good condition, rules and regulations have been established for its use. A few rules are as follows: No Alcohol, no pets, and no fog machines. For a complete list of rules visit our website at www.woodlandspringshoa.com.

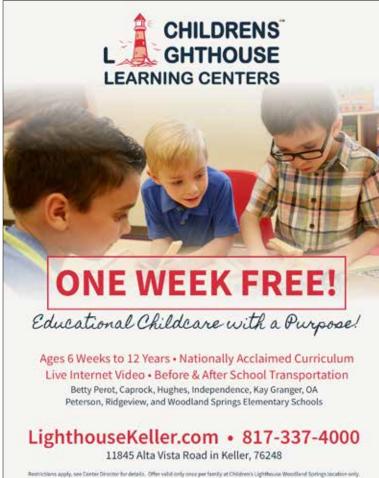
When each homeowner rents the Amenity Center, a contract must be signed signifying their understanding, acceptance, an agreement to follow the rules and regulations regarding the rental. Violation of any of these rental conditions is cause for denial of future rentals.

A deposit of \$500 is also required. This deposit will be returned in full after the event if the Amenity Center is cleaned, put in order, and determined to be damage-free. A list of the charges that will be deducted from the deposit for non-compliance is provided each renter at the time the rental contract is signed.

Each renter should take pictures and provide them to the office staff to verify the condition of the Amenity Center when the rental is started in order to avoid potential deductions from the deposit amount.









sustainable living space. Remember to check the association's CC&Rs for guidelines and possible restrictions prior to beginning any projects.

Try composting. Compost is a natural way to enrich planting and gardening soil with nutrients from kitchen waste like apple cores, banana peels and coffee grounds mixed with plant matter like yard clippings and fallen leaves. The keys to successful compost are time,

ventilation and heat. You can start with a medium-sized container and a lid that includes ventilation holes placed in direct sunlight, if possible. Remember to be mindful of where you place the compost on your property to decrease the likelihood of offensive odors seeping into your neighbor's living space.

Grow your own herbs and garden veggies. Even if you don't have an outdoor gardening space, you still can grow herbs and vegetables indoors in small containers. Herbs like oregano, rosemary and mint

require little maintenance and can thrive if placed near a bright or sunny window. Vegetables like tomatoes and carrots also can be grown indoors with the proper care. Check your local home improvement store for seed packets and guides for getting started. And, don't forget to use your compost to enrich that soil!

**Consider using drip irrigation**. Drip irrigation uses a slow-drip watering method to hydrate your lawn and garden on an ongoing basis instead of running a sprinkler system or hose for several intermittent periods. Running drip irrigation often can be both a costefficient and environmentally responsible alternative to traditional watering methods, but be sure to consult a landscape professional to learn about which plants and foliage benefit most.

Use solar-friendly outdoor lights. Several products on the market now employ the use of small solar sensors or panels to help reduce the amount of electricity used for outdoor lighting accessories. Semi solar-powered lantern lights, walkway illuminators and attached light fixtures are available at many home improvement stores. Opt for energy efficient light bulbs to go with your solar-friendly outdoor lighting accessories whenever possible.

Semi solar-powered lantern lights, walkway illuminators and attached light fixtures are available at many home improvement stores.





# **VOWS OWLS**

Older, Wiser, Lively Seniors



VOWS Amenity
Center
10 AM - 11:30 AM

Over 50? Meet with fun folks at our weekly event. Bingo, card games, exercise classes and potlucks are just a few of the activities planned. Our goal is to bring together senior residents in our neighborhood for fun activities. We plan to meet weekly on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the Amenity Center.

For more information, please contact the HOA office at 817-741-1719.



#### **NOTARY ON SITE**

Notary Public services are now at the VOWS HOA office. Services are provided by appointment only.

Please call or send an email to claudia.lindsey@fsresidential.com to schedule and appointment.

Services are free to VOWS residents.



## hand written THANK YOU NOTES

It may seem old fashioned to hand write thank you notes, but it is the right thing to do. An emoji, a post on a social media site or text from your phone can be cute and fun but should not take precedent over a hand written note. By writing a thank you note for Christmas gifts, birthday gifts or an act of kindness, you are expressing your personal gratitude to the giver and reaching within yourself, exploring exactly how you feel. Having gratitude is good for you. A study was conducted with a group of people that were asked to write short simple gratitude notes and after the study was concluded their brains continued to feel thankful for months. The more you practice gratitude the more your body benefits.

It might take a little longer to sit down, pick up a pen and actually write a note, but the receiver of the note will appreciate you even more. Hand written notes and letters were the only way of communicating for centuries and continue to be warm and personal today. Set yourself apart, write a thank you note and make someone's day.

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

If you'd like to inform residents of a club, group, hobby, or interest, let us know - email the management office at vows. admin@fsresidential.com with the subject ACTIVITIES. Only residents who are current with VOWS HOA assessments may participate. All meetings below are at the Amenity Center unless otherwise noted. Please note that scheduled activities or details may change after The Woodland Word goes to print, but up-to-date info can be found at: www. woodlandspringshoa.com/community-events-calendar/

#### **VOWS OWLS**

Over 50? Meet fun folks at our weekly event. Bingo, card games, exercise classes and potlucks are just a few of the future activities planned. Our goal is to bring together senior residents in our community for fun activities. Meets every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the Amenity Center.

#### **DAYTIME CRAFTERS**

Crafters group that meets monthly at the Amenity Center. Open to anyone in the HOA. Bring any project you want to work on or just come and see what others are doing. Bring your own food and drink and feel free to come and go at any time. This is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors, share ideas and have fun. Email Janas Horner at janashorner@earthlink.net for more information.

#### ADULT INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS ENGLISH CLASSES

Meet new friends as you learn English! Classes are available at beginning, advanced beginning, and intermediate levels. Focus is on vocabulary, grammar, and conversation as well as on learning everyday tasks like banking, shopping, making appointments, and completing job applications. Students from varied backgrounds and language groups are welcome. Contact Dorothy O'Grady (817.337.7458) or Lawrence Duhon (817.431.2545) to register. Location: First Baptist Church of Keller, 225 Keller Parkway, Keller, TX 76248, Room 224. Fee: \$5 total for class book and workbook.

# Get Your Business Noticed Advertise Here Call 972-396-8855 or info@communitynewsconnection.com for ad rates and sizes.

#### **VOWS BOOK CLUB**

Meets the second Thursday of the month at 8:00 pm. Books are nominated and voted on by members. Add yourself to the Facebook group "woodland springs book club" for more information.

#### WALKERS/RUNNERS/BIKERS/TRI-ATHLETES

Saturdays 6:30 am; meet at Bray Birch Park to go for a walk, run, or bike ride. Walkers/Runners are diverse in experience.

#### HOMESCHOOL GROUP

VOWS residents who homeschool children are invited to join the homeschool group, created to support each other. Please contact Holly Bender by email at vowshomeschool@gmail. com with HOMESCHOOL in the subject line.

#### **PLAYGROUP**

Bray Birch Park after school 3:00 pm. Everyone is welcome!

#### TODDLER PLAYGROUP

Playgroup for preschool age children. Please go to the VOWS Facebook page at facebook.com/woodland.springs and search "VOWS Playgroup in the search box for more information on this group.

#### **CRAFT NIGHT**

VOWS hosts a craft night each month – see calendar for date. Admission is an item to share for the potluck meal; please bring your own drink. (No alcohol). For more info: dikes1@aol.com with the subject "CRAFT NIGHT".

#### THE COWTOWN STACKERS CUP STACKING CLUB

This group meets Thursdays from 5:00 pm -6:00 pm at the VOWS amenity center on Timberland Blvd. Stackers from ages 5-95 with skill levels from beginner to expert are invited to attend. Cost is free but please bring your own cups, timer, and stack mat. For more information, contact Jimmy and Carmen Griffith at jcgx4@sbcglobal.net.



#### **COVENANT CORNER**

A quorum is the minimum number of owners who must be at a meeting before business can be transacted. State law tells us what that minimum number is for our association. Achieving quorum is a common problem in many associations.

Meetings that don't have a quorum must be adjourned and rescheduled at a later date. This costs the association money and creates more work. And, achieving a quorum at a second meeting—if we couldn't get one the first time—is even harder.

So, why bother to try again? Because the board is legally obligated to conduct an annual meeting. It's an important part of conducting association business. During the annual meeting, new board members are elected and the coming year's budget is presented to the homeowners for approval. No quorum—no election, no budget. This means the current directors will have to continue serving until an election can be conducted. It also means that last year's budget will remain in effect until a valid meeting (one with a quorum) can be held to approve a new budget.

Good news: You can be "at" a meeting and across the country at the same time by signing a proxy! That's how you assign your vote, in writing, to another person. Proxies count toward the quorum, so they're very important to the association.

We ask you to complete a proxy form, even if you plan to attend the meeting. That's just in case something comes up that prevents you from attending. And, when you do attend the meeting, your proxy will be returned to you.

## Good Winter Practices

- Keep your water bottle filled, even in the cold weather. Your body loses approximately eight cups of water each day even when you do not sweat as much. Be sure to replenish your body with at least eight cups of water a day.
- Winter can leave your skin vulnerable to dryness. Keep your skin hydrated with moisturizing lotions and soothing oils. A humidifier also helps to keep your skin less dry and protected from winter's harshness.
- Despite the winter temperatures, keep active. Go for a brisk walk or try to balance on an exercise ball (working on your core) while watching television. Keeping active during winter can keep you healthy and keep the winter blues away.



# Snowblake Cookies

2 c. sugar
½ c. vegetable oil
4 (1-oz.) squares
unsweetened
chocolate (melted)
4 eggs (not 3)

2 t. vanilla extract
2 cups flour
2 t. baking powder
½ t. salt
¾ c. sifted powdered

Combine first 3 ingredients in large bowl; beat at medium speed of mixer until blended. Add eggs and vanilla and mix well. Combine flour, baking powder, and salt. Add about ¼ of dry mixture at a time to chocolate mixture, mixing after each addition. Cover and chill for at least 2 hours. Shape into 1-inch balls and roll in powdered sugar. Place 2-inches apart on greased sheets. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Don't overbake! Make 8 dozen.





# Space for Sale

Call 972-396-8855 or email info@communitynewsconnection.com for ad rates and sizes.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR WINTER

# paredness is personant when it comes to read trips year round and hitting the read for a

Preparedness is paramount when it comes to road trips year-round, and hitting the road for a long drive during winter months is no exception. With an increased risk of potential driving hazards like sleet, snow, strong winds and frigid temperatures, it's a good idea to think about ways to ensure you'll travel safely.

Consider the following tips when preparing for your winter road trip:

- Invest in an emergency kit for your vehicle. Available at most major retailers, these kits are relatively inexpensive and contain items like flares, booster cables, flashlights, ponchos and first aid supplies for minor injuries.
- Develop a contingency plan. Create a strategy for dealing with a flat tire, vehicle accident, dead battery or other potential travel delays. Keep

a hard-copy list of people or businesses to contact for help should you need it.

- Stay in touch. Check in with a designated contact during your journey with updates on your location, delays encountered or unexpected situations that require longer travel time. When driving, remember always to pull off the road before using your cell phone.
- Check the local weather report before heading out. Winter weather can be tricky and forecasts aren't always accurate. You can double check your destination's weather history on a variety of websites to determine typical conditions to expect in that area during your travels.
- Store warm clothes and blankets in your vehicle. Be prepared to stay warm if you're stuck for extended periods by keeping a blanket or two in your car. Also, pack a small travel case with snow boots, socks, gloves, a scarf, hat and heavy sweater in case you need to leave your vehicle.
- Review your travel route without GPS. Read through detailed driving directions, including alternate routes, so you know your options. Also consider keeping a map handy in case your navigation system is compromised during your trip.

## **ARMOR SELF STORAGE**

**YOUR Neighborhood Storage Facility** 

**Located right outside Woodlands Springs** 

With every new rental you will receive:

- A FREE truck rental
- A FREE lock
- Friendly on site management
- Clean facility with wide driveways
- Fully gated with your own access code
- Competitive rates

Visit us at 808 Katy Road in Keller 817.431.3100 • www.armorselfstorage.net

#### **LEE AIR SERVICES**

Family owned Heat & Air Conditioning Company Serving DFW Since 1979

- 24/7 Repair Service
- Free New System Bids
- We Except All Major Credit Cards.
- Financing Available For Qualifying Customers
- · Retail Parts And Filters
- Service Agreements

Call TODAY 817-337-1975

Leeairservices.com office@leeairservices.com 2390 Michael Drive • Southlake, TX 76092





TACL-A295C • TACL-A45504E • TAMU 1976

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JANUARY 2019**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		New Year's Day	2	Cowtown Stackers 5-6pm	4	5
6	7	8	VOWS OWLS 10-11:30am	Daytime Crafters Cowtown Stackers 5-6pm Craft Night 6-10pm	11	12
13	VOWS Homeschool Group	15	VOWS OWLS 10-11:30am	Cowtown Stackers 5-6pm	18	NFWA Meeting 8-11am
20	VOWS Homeschool Group	Board Meeting 6:30pm	VOWS OWLS 10-11:30am	Cowtown Stackers 5-6pm	25	26
27	VOWS Homeschool Group	29	30 VOWS OWLS 10-11:30am	Cowtown Stackers 5-6pm		

# We Build CONFIDENCE

As a parent, you understand that with educational success comes confidence. Our main focus is preparing your child with an advanced foundation and higher level skills. Kids 'R' Kids is the Smart Choice for a Smarter Child.

- 6 Weeks 12 Years / 6:30 AM to 6:30 PM
- AdvancED Accredited Program
- Cohesive Team of Highly Trained Directors & Teachers
- Advanced Curriculums & Interactive Technology
- Assessments to Evaluate Progress
- Skills Reinforcement through ABCmouse.com to Build a Bridge between the Classroom and Home

817-337-0010 • www.krkkeller.com Kids
4117 Keller Hicks Road, Keller, TX 76244



SMART CHOICE. SMARTER CHILD.®