

## Waterford Park

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OLDE OAKS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

### NOTICE TO HOMEOWNERS

Next OOCIA Meeting  
**Tuesday, August 15, 6:45 p.m.**  
 at 16030 TC Jester, MUD #44  
 Building.

**Meetings are now the third Tuesday of every month. All homeowners are invited to attend!**

### HOMEOWNER FORUM

#### Bring It to the Board

You live in an HOA. You have a great idea. You're not on the Board, and elections are months away. What next? Present it.

When presenting a good idea, whether to a board or the neighborhood, it isn't about them, or you. It's about the idea.

A good idea needs a spokesperson. And if you've come up with the idea, that spokesperson is you. If you can imagine the concept and how it will benefit your community, paint that picture in your presentation. Or, if you can count the ways it will profit your community, tally it up and explain how the numbers will help.

Before you present your idea at the next Board meeting (in the agenda as **Other** or **Discussion** or **Comments**), contact the Board secretary and ask if your idea can be featured as a main topic of the meeting.

Give your idea wings and a voice, and it can fly.

## Spring 2017-2018 ISD Instructional Calendar

### Important Dates

- August 17** ..... **First Day of School**
- September 4 ..... Labor Day
- September 18 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- October 9 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- November 6 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- November 20-24 ..... Thanksgiving Break
- December 11 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- December 21** ..... **Last Day of First Semester**
- December 22 – January 8 ..... Winter Break
- January 9** ..... **First Day of Second Semester**
- January 15 ..... Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 19 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- March 12-16 ..... Spring Break
- March 30 ..... Spring Holiday
- April 9 ..... Staff Development/Student Holiday
- May 28 ..... Memorial Day
- May 31** ..... **Last Day of School/Early Dismissal**

Make-Up Days (if needed): January 8 and June 1



# Who You Gonna Call?

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KEEP

### OOCIA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Crest Management Company, AAMC.....281-579-0761  
(for deed restrictions, neighborhood management and property improvements)  
PO Box 219320, Houston, TX 77218-9320  
Fax 281-579-7062 | www.crest-management.com

### 2017-2018 OFFICERS

Pat Ganer, President, pganeroociaboard@gmail.com  
Darel Lantz, Vice President, lantzoociaboard@gmail.com  
Susan Szota, Secretary, szotaociaboard@gmail.com  
Deborah Plance, Treasurer, Deborahplance.oocia.board@gmail.com  
Randy Darland, At Large, rdarlandoociaboard@gmail.com

Community Engagement Committee  
Chair, Chatina De Rousselle, cddconsult@yahoo.com

### OLDE OAKS INTEREST GROUP CONTACTS

Book Club.....Kathy Hall, 281-569-4967  
Bridge, Women's.....Susanne Bailey, 281-580-1717  
Dinner With Friends.....Lauren Hensley, 281-893-1833  
Playgroup.....Joyce Ray-Latson, 832-231-3201

### PETS – DISTURBANCES, LOST & FOUND

Report injured, vicious animals and bites  
Animal Control.....281-999-3191  
Complaints about barking dogs  
Sheriff Non-Emergency.....713-221-6000  
Report lost or found pets in OO/WP  
Julie Brown, Pet Liaison .....jbbrown@apex-staff.com, 713-302-9148

### SCHOOLS

Spring ISD Schools ..... www.springisd.org  
Pat Reynolds Elementary School.....281-891-8240  
Edwin Wells Middle School.....281-891-7750  
Westfield High School .....281-891-7130

### REPORT UTILITY ISSUES Add these numbers to your cell phone for easy access

Gas Leaks (Centerpoint) .....713-659-2111  
Power Outages (Centerpoint) .....713-207-2222  
Street Light Outages (Centerpoint).....800-332-7143  
Reporting resident will need pole number and street, including immediate side streets

### Road hazards, street sign and light issues, bridges, flooding

Harris County Precinct 4.....www.hcp4.net  
Monday–Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ....281-353-8424  
After hours, weekends, or holidays.....713-755-5000

### Trash & Recycling

Texas Pride Disposal .....281-342-8178  
www.texaspridedisposal.com; service@texaspridedisposal.com

Trash and heavy trash – Tuesdays and Fridays 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

Recycle – Tuesdays 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

### General Safety

Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services.....713-274-6300  
Report dirty pools, unsafe/unsanitary habitation  
Request Vacation Watch (call 8 a.m.–5 p.m.) .....281-376-2997  
Harris County Alarm Detail (Permits) .....713-755-4600

### MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS (MUD)

Manhole/Sewer Backup.....713-983-3602

MUD #20.....www.edpwater.com  
Billing, Service & Emergencies .....832-467-1599  
Board of Directors: John Dougrey | Robert Skinner  
Brian Wright | Ken Ross  
Board Meetings: First Tuesday of month, 11:30 a.m.  
10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 260, Houston, TX, 713-951-0800

MUD #44.....www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/harris-county-mud-44  
Billing, Service & Emergencies .....281-376-8802  
Board of Directors: Rolf Flemming | Toby Landry  
Robert Ramsey | Tom Sooy | Harry Swanstrom  
Board Meetings: Second Tuesday of month, 7 p.m., 16030 TC Jester

Bammel Utility District Office.....281-376-8802  
www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/bammel-utility-district  
Board of Directors: Nicholas Fava | Garey Nelson | Alan Kaniss  
Al Habinak | James Armand  
Board Meetings: Second Monday of month, 7 p.m.  
3904 Gladeridge (clubhouse)

### OTHER

Olde Oaks Greenbelt Preservation Association .....http://oogpa.com

### Greenbelt Preservation Association:

Craig Lewis, President | Kathy Zigler, Secretary  
Tanya Morland, Treasurer | John Edmonson, Director at Large

Barbara Bush Library.....281-376-4610  
6817 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379  
Hours: Monday 1-9, Tuesday 10-9, Wednesday 10-6,  
Thursday 10-9, Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday Closed

Northgate Country Club.....www.northgatecountryclub.com  
General .....281-444-5302  
Membership.....281-440-4006

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police – Fire – Ambulance.....911  
Nonemergency Sheriff .....713-221-6000  
Fire Department – Klein Volunteer.....281-251-0101  
Animal Control.....281-999-3191  
24 hr. Emergency Poison Control Center.....800-222-1222  
CenterPoint Electric.....713-207-2222  
CenterPoint Gas.....713-659-2111  
Harris County Pct. 4 (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) .....281-353-8424  
Harris County Pct. 4 (outside regular hours).....713-755-5000  
Registered Sex Offenders .....www.familywatchdog.us

www.iwatchharriscounty.com Download the app for Apple and Android phones to report criminal activity anonymously.

To have your house checked on while you're away on vacation go to www.harriscountyso.org/vacation\_watch.aspx and complete the form online, or call the Cypresswood substation.

Watch for "Alerts" posted on our community website at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OldeOaksWaterfordPark> and on www.nextdoor.com

In recent months, it has come to the attention of our Board that our community's safety and wellbeing has been affected by a serious situation involving Deed Restriction violations. A house on Ivy Falls was bought in September with renovations completed early this year and subsequently advertised as a venue to hold parties and events. It is advertised to sleep 20 people along with the description, "Small gatherings, birthday celebrations, receptions are welcome. No more than 30 guest are allowed on the premise at one time. If additional guest will be visiting premises, all cars must park within the driveway or at local public park, Meyers Park." The rent for the venue varies by the advertising web and dates requested but currently on Home Away the daily rent is \$1,524. But it is also stated, "No Deposit! Three Payments Plan Options!"

There have been events held at the home nearly every weekend for over three months. At times traffic has totally blocked Ivy Falls to one-way traffic, causing car alarms to go off and angry drivers to honk horns after 12 midnight. Often the neighbor's driveways have been blocked with the partiers. On at least three occasions large party busses have arrived with entertainment or guests. There have been live bands inside and out, huge spotlights in the front and back yard to allow for videoing and pictures when it is well after dark, and of course loud, out-of-control partiers going up and down the street, getting in and out of their cars until after three in the morning. One engagement party had unusually loud fireworks set off in the back yard at the close of the party.

There is much more going on than can be described here at that venue but the bottom line is our Olde Oaks property values will decrease if this type of venue is ignored. Obviously, this is a huge problem for safety and security in our area as well.

The local Sheriff's Office and the Constable's Office have responded extremely well and quickly to calls. Renters have been ticketed. Needless to say, this blatant operation as a business venue is a violation of our Olde Oaks Deed Restrictions. Numerous calls from homeowners expressing their concerns have been relayed to the Board and Crest Management.

A certified demand letter was sent on behalf of the Board requiring the activity to stop by June 22. On June 24 there was a graduation party complete with balloons and yard signs announcing the party location. The Community Association's lawyer was contacted and a second letter was sent out through his office.

As Olde Oaks homeowners, your personal safety, your ability to enjoy your private family life, and the security in knowing an emergency vehicle could get to you quickly if needed is very important to all of us. We are pursuing every way possible to get this problem resolved as quickly as we can. The disrespect and disregard for our community in this neighborhood by the owners of this property are unbelievable, but their endangering of our safety and property values will not be allowed.

*Pat Ganer,*  
OOA President

# Karen Haehn, Realtor

30 years of experience

**Olde Oaks Resident**

**Author**

**Coach**

**Volunteer**



# Why use a Resident Realtor?

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**The Haehn Group**



**REALTOR Market Activity**  
as of 7-18-17

Active Listings	38
Option Pending	2
Pending Still Show	2
Pending	2
Sold	61

Values and square footage depend on many variables. Call for more information on your home today!

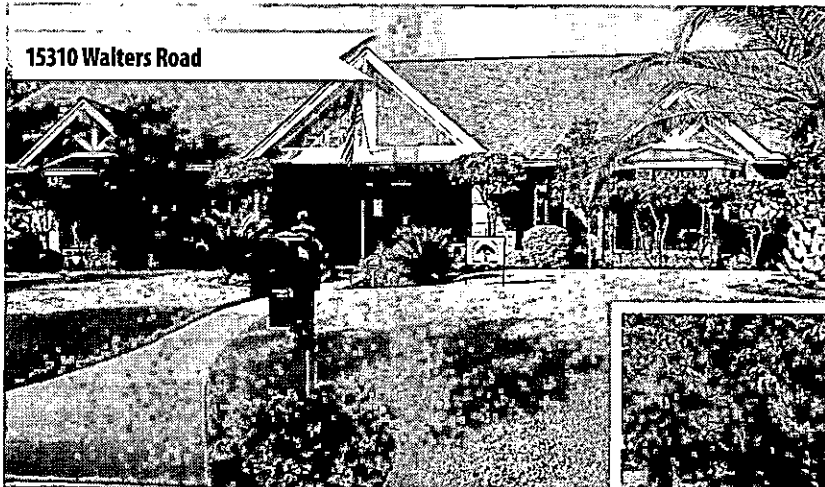
Office: 832-919-8220  
Karen@TheHaehnGroup.com

**832-696-3308**

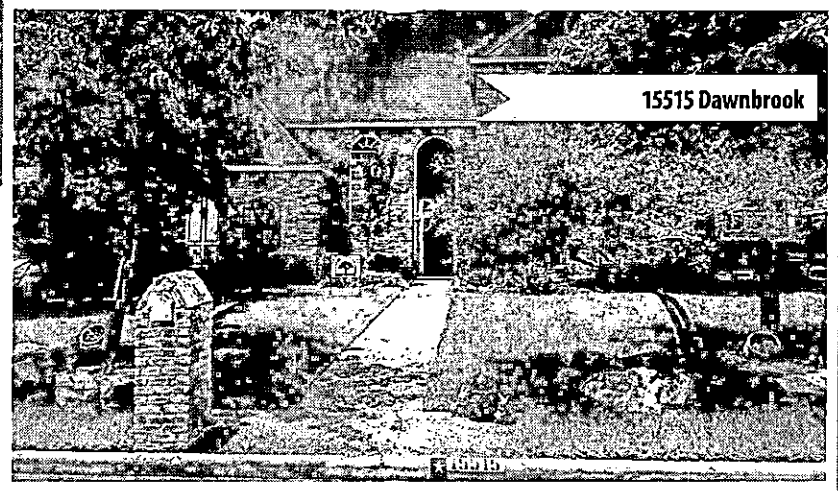
[www.har.com/karenhaehn](http://www.har.com/karenhaehn)

[www.KarenHaehnAuthor.com](http://www.KarenHaehnAuthor.com)  
Daily Blog: <https://goo.gl/TwSo2Q>

# Yards of the Month



15310 Walters Road

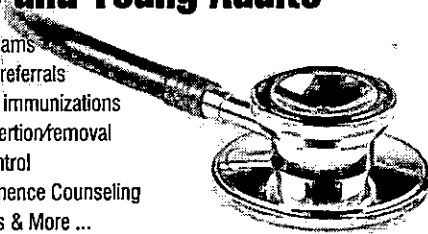


15515 Dawnbrook

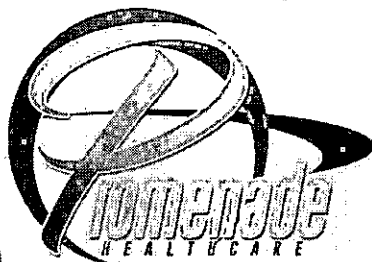
*Congratulations!*

## Healthcare for Teens and Young Adults

Well Woman/Male Exams  
Pregnancy testing & referrals  
HPV vaccine & other immunizations  
Nexplanon & IUD insertion/removal  
Condoms & birth control  
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Questions about  
Health  
Insurance?

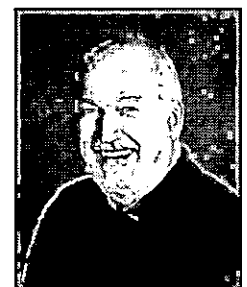
*Ask me! I'm a local area resident!*

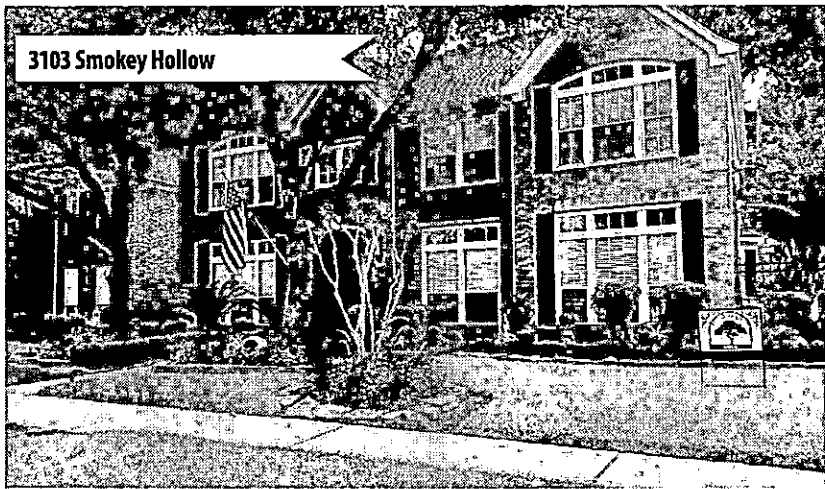
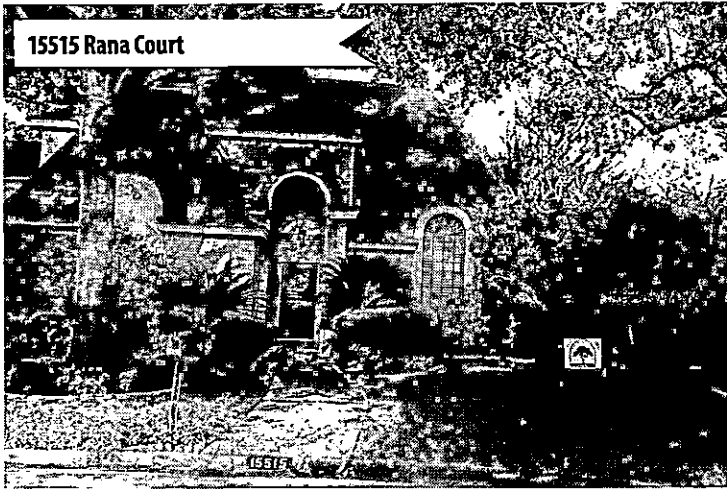
- Memorial Hermann Medicare Advantage: The oldest and largest health care system in Houston, zero dollar premiums!
- Small business owner? Affordable premiums; 22 different plans; a variety of employee benefits.
- Short Term Medical: Affordable premiums; over 200 different plans.
- International Medical Insurance: Health insurance typically doesn't cover you outside of the U.S.

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Life & Health Insurance Agent

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Cell: 979-533-3070  
Fax: 832-533-8107

bbrooke@ambains.com  
www.ambains.com  
P.O. Box 681806  
Houston, TX 77268-1806





Congratulations to these  
 July Yard of the Month winners!  
 The purpose of Yard of the Month is to  
 highlight addresses which enhance our  
 entire community. You are invited to  
 nominate a yard for consideration by  
 emailing the Beautification Committee:  
 Susan Szota at [szotaociaboard@gmail.com](mailto:szotaociaboard@gmail.com).



## Jan Kopfler

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 Office: 281.378.1800  
[jkopfler@cbunited.com](mailto:jkopfler@cbunited.com)



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With real estate prices rebounding and consumer confidence growing across the country, many people are deciding that 2017 is the year to finally make a move to a new home. If you're considering a move this year, I'd love to help you get your plan started.

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## Olde Oaks and Waterford Park

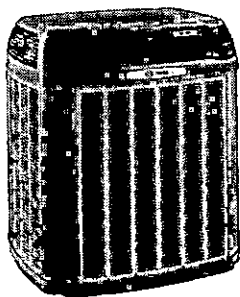
### Sheriff's Department Patrol Statistics For Year Ending: 2017

Incident Category	April	May	June	YTD
911 Hang-Up Call	0	2	0	2
Alarm – Silent / Panic	2	0	0	5
Alarm – Home Security	1	1	23	57
Assault	1	2	1	7
Burglary – Home	1	0	1	3
Burglary – Vehicle	2	0	2	20
Criminal Mischief	1	1	1	6
Disturbance – Loud Noise	4	4	2	16
Disturbance – Animal	3	0	2	8
Domestic – Prevention	2	1	1	8
Domestic – Violence	0	1	0	2
In Progress	0	0	1	4
Medical / Fire	0	0	1	4
Neighborhood Check	651	650	827	3627
Robbery – Aggravated	0	0	0	1
Robbery – Individual	0	0	0	2
Sex Offender Check	0	0	1	1
Suspicious Person	6	5	4	27
Theft	6	0	0	8
Telephone Harassment	2	1	0	5
Vacation Watch	3	32	42	88
Vehicle – Accident	0	0	2	2
Vehicle – Abandoned/Disabled	1	1	0	4
Vehicle – Speeding	58	49	47	241
Vehicle – Suspicious	10	13	2	43



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## Trash Pickup

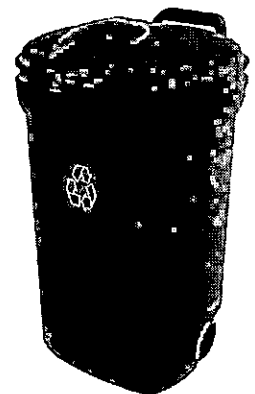
### Trash Service Days

#### Trash and Heavy Trash:

Tuesdays and Fridays  
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

#### Recycle:

Tuesdays  
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.



Remember, **be kind to your neighbor** and keep all trash cans out of sight – either in your garage or behind a fence – except for trash days. Thank you.

## MUD #20 Monthly Meetings and Minutes

The NW Harris County MUD #20 monthly Board of Directors meeting is held the first Tuesday of each month starting at 11:30 a.m. The meeting location is at the offices of Young & Brooks, 10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 260, Houston 77024 and is open to MUD #20 customers. The board meeting minutes are posted each month at the following link: [http://www.edpwater.com/your\\_district.html](http://www.edpwater.com/your_district.html) under North West Harris County Municipal Utility District #20. Please feel free to address any water/sewer issues to the MUD #20 operator, Environmental Development Partners (EDP), at 832-467-1599.

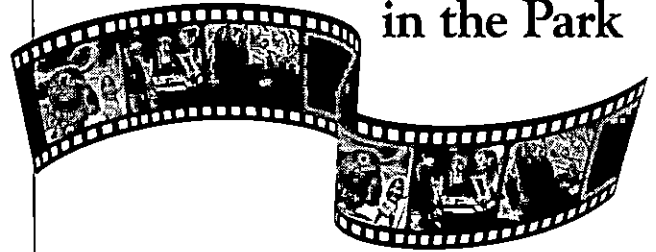
## Deed Violation Reporting

Follow the basic steps for proper reporting. This helps the management company help residents stay in compliance. Talk to the neighbor; if you feel the neighbor is uncooperative or in need of assistance, please contact the management company by phone or email.

Deed restrictions are strictly enforced. To report violations, contact Pam Hummel, Assistant Community Manager, at 281-945-4661 or [Pam.Hummel@crest-management.com](mailto:Pam.Hummel@crest-management.com).

Precinct 4

# Summer MOVIE NIGHTS in the Park



Precinct 4 welcomes the community to enjoy a free movie, snack, and activity at Collins Park on Friday, August 18 at dusk.

Early arrival is recommended to get a good location for your blanket and lawn chairs. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please visit [hcp4.net/p4movies](http://hcp4.net/p4movies) and vote on which movie you would like to see in August.

## SPORTS PHYSICALS FOR ALL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

HOUSTON  
**Methodist**  
ORTHOPEDICS &  
SPORTS MEDICINE

A great season starts with a sports physical. **Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine** will be providing sports physicals for every athlete in Spring.

**Tuesday, Aug. 22**  
**3-6 p.m.**

### Spring location

**Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine**  
**7105 FM 2920**  
**Houston, TX 77379**

Physical cost is \$20 – **Cash only**  
(no credit cards or checks accepted)

No appointment necessary

For more information, please call **281.737.2120**.



# Your Curb Appeal Checklist

The curb appeal of our community depends on each resident maintaining his or her property as completely as possible. For those who keep their homes and yards well maintained, the association thanks you for your efforts and good examples. We encourage all residents to pay particular attention to the following maintenance items.

- ✓ Exterior paint – Paint is a quick and easy way to keep your property looking fresh, new and clean. It will also protect against corrosion, weathering and insects.
- ✓ Landscaping – Landscaping is extremely important to our community's curb appeal. Please remove dead plants and branches. Keep shrubs properly pruned and flowers well-tended. Keep yards free of leaves and remove grass clippings.
- ✓ Roofs – Please ensure your roofs are properly maintained and cleaned.
- ✓ Driveways and sidewalks – Please repair cracks, pitted or flaking surfaces and other concrete problems. Remove weeds from sidewalk joints and debris from driveways and sidewalks. Do not use driveways for storage or auto repairs.
- ✓ Gutters and downspouts – Please keep them cleaned out to prevent overflowing and flooding.
- ✓ Window boxes, awnings and decks – Please replace worn or damaged fixtures, check fittings for stability and paint all items at least bi-annually.

*Thanks for keeping our community looking sharp!*



**POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

## REMINDER

### Save The Date – Mark Your Calendars!

Hello, neighbors!

It's that time again! We are already planning for a magnificent National Night Out on Tuesday, October 3 and we are counting on your involvement. We invite you to participate in our planning committee.

We are currently discussing whether to hold the event at the MUD #44 Building at 16030 TC Jester as one community or break it down into individual block parties. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated.

We love door prizes. This is a great way for neighbors to learn about you and your business. (We will gladly accept donations, notepads, calendars, pens, bottled water, etc.).

Did some well-meaning person give you a gift card that you'll probably never use? We will gladly "re-purpose" it for you and use it as a door prize.

Please call Chatina De Rousselle at 337-602-0549 for information about how you can become involved.

## BASHANS PAINTING & HOME REPAIR

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- Gutter Repair & Replacement
- Crown Molding
- Wood Replacement
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- Wallpaper Removal & Texture
- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Roofing
- Faux Painting

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Deadline for September newsletter is  
August 10 by noon.**

Editor Karen Haehn • Email: [OOCIAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:OOCIAEditor@gmail.com)

If you would like to see an increase in the number of pages we can utilize for community information, please let businesses know about the newsletter and have them place an ad by contacting Champions Printing directly at 281-583-7661.



## Emergency Preparedness

When Hurricane Rita arrived, did you have to run to the store and try to find items that would take you through the storm? Were the shelves empty? You can avoid that panicky feeling if you prepare now.


1. Prepare a 72-hour kit for each person in your family. For more information, see [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Replace food and water yearly or when expired.
2. Prepare your home:
  - Clean out gutters and downspouts.
  - Check trees and bushes around power lines and call Reliant Energy (713-207-7777) before doing any trimming. Trim trees where they scrape the roof to avoid losing shingles in heavy winds.
  - Purchase plywood to cover large windows, if necessary, and keep some plastic sheeting on hand.
3. Learn the best evacuation routes for this area. Routes are generally the main highways north. For evacuation maps, see [www.hcoem.org](http://www.hcoem.org).
4. Apply now for flood insurance. Flood damage is not typically covered by homeowners' insurance. See [www.tsarp.com](http://www.tsarp.com) for floodplain maps and [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) for flood insurance information.

So get yourself, your family, and your home ready now. Remember, "If you are prepared, you will not fear."

## Dancing With Friends

Roger McKnight has graciously opened his beautiful home to neighbors who are interested in learning some new moves on the dance floor. With two professional dance teachers, homeowners have enjoyed some fun times getting to know one another while at the same time learning to impress during those wedding line dances. Neighbors with no previous dance experience have learned other fun dances like the ones on *Dancing With the Stars*. Come on out and join your friends and neighbors as we dance the night away at Roger's. Contact Roger at [romak@swbell.net](mailto:romak@swbell.net) to find out more or to let him know that you would like to join in.

**FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED**



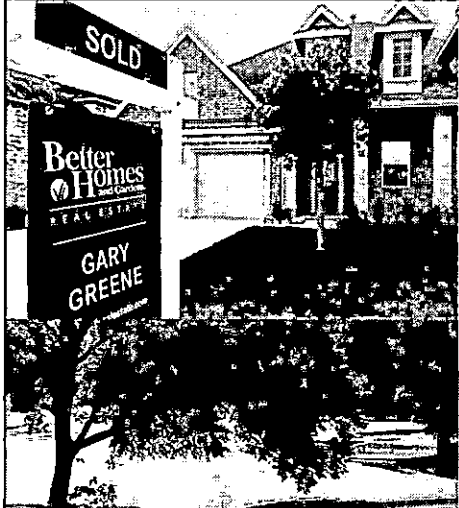
**TexServ  
Electric**

**Tommy Norrell**  
Owner  
Master Electrician  
Area Resident

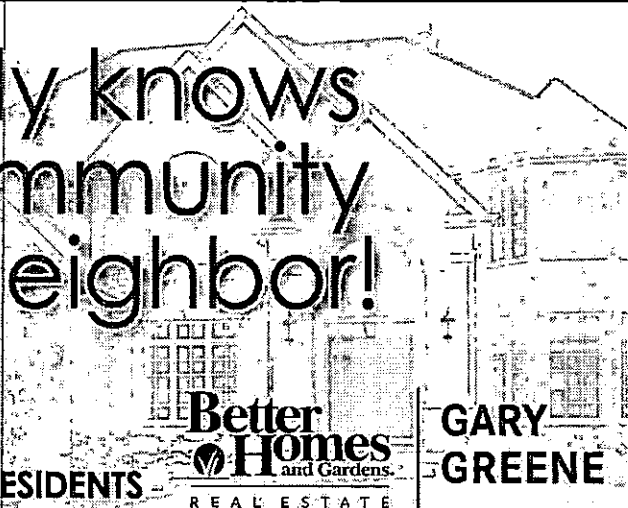
Diagnostic • Fixture Replacement • New Circuits  
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Visit [WWW.TEXTSERVELECTRIC.COM](http://WWW.TEXTSERVELECTRIC.COM) for ALL our services!


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# Nobody knows our community like a neighbor!




**WATERFORD PARK RESIDENTS**




*As your neighbors, who better to tell the story of our community and your home.*

*Call Ryan or Royale today for all your real estate needs!*

**Ryan Jockers**  
281.685.1889  
[Ryan@RyanandRoyaleRealty.com](mailto:Ryan@RyanandRoyaleRealty.com)



**Royale Jockers**  
281.799.3482  
[Royale@RyanandRoyaleRealty.com](mailto:Royale@RyanandRoyaleRealty.com)



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# Flooding 201: So You Think You're Not Vulnerable?

We are in the hurricane season. We are susceptible to excessive and historic rainfall. We have never flooded before. I have flood insurance so I'm not worried. My house is not close to the creek. Government regulations will protect me.

So, which of the above camps are you in? Should you be concerned with the potential of flooding of your home? Do you have any idea of what you will go through if you have flooding into your home? If you are not concerned with flooding potential, before you put the subject to rest, talk to one of your neighbors in our community that have experienced water intrusion into their home and ask them what you should expect.

The rest of this article is devoted to the potential of flooding in our community from Cypress Creek rising above the top of its banks. Other forms of flooding, namely ponding and surging from backflow of sewers due to air bubbles were discussed in a previous article in the newsletter entitled "Flooding 101" in August 2016. Past articles can be seen from the OOCIA website under "Newsletters." Note that the definition of a 100-year storm was incorrectly mentioned as a storm that had a 1% chance of occurring every 100 years. The correct definition is one that has a 1% chance of occurrence in any given year. There can (and has been) more than one 100-year storm in any year.

It is important to note that, before the arrival of man, stormwater moved around from high points to lower points along its path to the Gulf through natural channels, creeks,

bayous, and rivers. Today, the preferred method of moving flood waters around in the County is still through the original creeks and bayous but now is enhanced by Flood Control District constructed and maintained open channels, ditches, gullies, and piped steel sewers. These methods or "conduits," with the exception of creeks and bayous, may be dry or mostly dry during periods of no rainfall. Water levels in these conduits quickly rise as stormwater enters on the way to its destination of creeks and bayous and, ultimately, the rivers, on the way to the Gulf. When historic rainfall occurs, the ability of existing conduits is overwhelmed by the volume of water to be moved and results in flooding into areas not normally affected by rainfall. We now see that the volume of water to be moved is exacerbated by activities of man, namely construction of homes, streets, shopping centers, parking lots and other land uses. Permeable soil and water-absorbing flora are replaced by impermeable surfaces (rooftops and concrete) which allow stormwater to quickly move, stack up and eventually flood vast areas.

Flooding also depends on where the rainfall drops, whether it occurs in the higher elevation upper or local lower areas of our vast watershed. Rainfall in and around the Katy Prairie, as well as the eastern part of Waller County, has a significant impact on the volume of water Cypress Creek delivers to our downhill area. The existence of the well-known "Overflow" area and the prairie "Divide" along and west of the Grand Parkway is the subject of another discussion. For the purpose of this article, only the path of water to our doorsteps will be addressed. To refresh your memory, here are some historic facts for past peak water levels at the Stuebner Airline Bridge:

### From HCFCD:

Time	Peak Water Level (Ft.)
October 1949	110.74
April 2016	110.3
FEMA 100-year storm level designation (BFE)	109.6
500-year storm level designation	112.3

As you can see, the April 2016 (Tax Day) storm exceeded the 1% or 100-year storm designation by 0.7 feet. On a generally flat surface, an almost unlimited supply of water ½ foot deep spreads out over a vast area. It can completely fill low spots so that they are deeper than the surrounding area.

Do you know what the elevation of your home is? Do you know that a substantial portion of the MUD 20 area ground elevation is equal to or less than 111.0 feet? Some think that because they are located blocks away from the creek that they don't have much vulnerability to flooding. Not true!

Earlier in this article, it was mentioned that the current drainage strategy of HCFCD is the use of channels to move the water from subdivisions to the creek. There's nothing wrong with that. But, if you look at the elevation profile of some of those channels, they can provide paths from the creek back upstream to their drainage areas due to rise of levels in the creek. In the case of one particular channel, K 128-00, which borders the eastern edge of the Northgate subdivision and runs



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from well south of FM 1960, under 1960, and then on to the creek, it can potentially provide a backdoor entry point of floodwater to Waterford Park and surrounding area. It would take roughly another six inches of floodwater on top of the Tax Day storm levels for that to occur. For a depiction of this channel (K 128-00), you can go to the HCFCD website at <http://www.harriscountyfemt.org/>, insert your address and pull up the map of the creek with its associated channels. Elevations are not shown on that map but they run less than 111 feet for much of the distance of that channel from the creek to FM 1960 with a noticeable spill point into Waterford Park. Backup from these channels is not some wild theory of the boy crying wolf. There are examples of this occurrence, one recently reported to me, where a resident in Champion Forest who lives a couple of blocks west from the Dry Gully channel and north of the creek experienced flooding during the Tax Day storm from the exact cause of water backup from the creek.

What is the solution to the flooding problem? There are no simple solutions. Revisions are needed to upgrade existing flood mitigation regulatory development and operation permit requirements. This process entails a combination of regulatory, financial, political and leadership issues. Extensive technical evaluation is of paramount importance in this process to identify "No Impact" land development criteria/regulatory requirements. Who is going to do this for us? Glad you asked. There is an organization named the Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition that acts as a "watchdog" carrying out technical evaluations and advocating for communities located throughout the watershed. Very active in its mission, they employ engineering experts who are independent of governmental agencies to conduct engineering computer

modeling evaluations to either verify or refute the adequacy of government studies, and also master planning and land development regulations. When improvements are necessary in order to stop the existing ongoing, ever-increasing "rising waters" flood risks in the Cypress Creek Watershed, appropriate remedial requirements are identified through computer modeling. Unfortunately, politics play a huge part in the governmental process, and this independent organization is needed to keep the playing field level.

CCFCC is a 501 C 3 Non-Profit Organization managed by a 9-member board of unpaid, volunteer directors elected by our neighboring resident member organizations. It financially exists totally from donations and occasional grants. The majority of this is received through a 50-cent per month donation by residents of a few water districts. Each engineering/computer modeling study typically costs about \$20,000. A recent poll on the Nextdoor site asked whether our community would be willing to contribute \$6 per household on an annual basis to join in helping fund the Coalition expenses. Fifty percent of the 46 respondents to the poll said "No." That would be a very understandable disappointment to the CCFCC board, most of whom are retired engineering and senior business management personnel who are contributing a significant amount of unpaid time devoted to this volunteer work. Many are also directors of MUDs themselves. If you believe this article is informative and want to see others on the flooding issue, please communicate that to your Board.

Submitted by Dave Baldwin

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# Pearl Fincher | Museum of Fine Arts

6815 Cypresswood Drive in Spring • Parking and Admission are Free • 281-376-6322 • [www.pearlmfa.org](http://www.pearlmfa.org)

## Exhibits

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Summer exhibitions offer a poignant and powerful examination of the effects of the Great Depression and will run through September 9, with fall exhibits opening on September 30. Admission is free, but a suggested donation of \$5 per adult is appreciated. The museum will be closed September 10 – 29 while the fall exhibitions are installed.

**Dignity in Labor:** Texas Regionalism from the Bobbie and John L. Nau Collection features remarkable paintings, lithographs and murals from the 1930s which depict the hardworking character of Texans, the development of the oil industry, and the vast open space of the Lone Star State.

**Introducing America to Americans:** Depression-Era Photographs from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston showcases some of the most iconic images from a Farm Security Administration photography project in which exceptional photographers created a “visual encyclopedia of American life” during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. This exhibition is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

Coming this fall, the museum is pleased to present **Contemporary Quilt Art** from the International Quilt Festival Collection, as well as work by Anat Ronen: Urban Legend. After coming to the U.S. from Israel in 2007, Ronen embarked on a new career in art and has become one of the most exciting and highly regarded street artists of our day—though she has no formal training in art. She uses her natural gifts to create murals and other art on buildings, highways, bridges and more, in Houston as well as other cities across the U.S. and around the world.

## Junior Art Workshops

Young artists will have a unique opportunity to develop their skills at two distinct workshops this fall. First is the Junior Art Workshop – Drawing Series which will take place Tuesdays from 4:30-6 p.m., beginning September 19 and continuing through October 10. The studio course will present a strong introduction to basic drawing concepts, with projects based on subjects such as still life, landscapes, and inventive forms.

Next up is the Junior Art Workshop – Acrylic Series, which will take place Tuesdays from 4:30-6 p.m. beginning October 17 and continuing through November 14. This course will present students with techniques and concepts that are common to acrylic paintings, such as brush strokes, variations in value, color mixing, compositional decisions and more. “Thinking outside the box” will be emphasized, and students will also learn how to “know when to stop.”

Both classes are designed for students ages 10 to 14 and will take place at the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts. Discounted tuition is available when you become a member of the Museum. For more information or to register, please visit [www.pearlmfa.org](http://www.pearlmfa.org).

## Adult Art Workshops

Adults can join in the fun as well, with a series of acrylic painting workshops on Saturday afternoons October 14 – 28. Designed for beginner and intermediate levels, each class will focus on a different theme or subject matter. Educators who take the course will earn three hours of Continuing Professional Education credit for each workshop. For more information or to register, please visit [www.pearlmfa.org](http://www.pearlmfa.org).

## Museum Family Days

There's fun for the whole family during free Family Days! Family Days will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, August 12 and September 9. The August Family Day will offer a chance to create mixed media figures, while September's date centers around rocket sculptures. Family Days are designed for children ages five and up.

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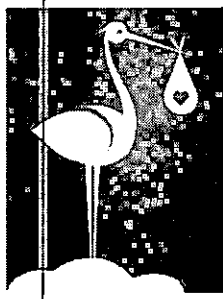
## CREEKFEST: Save the Date!

Save the date for Creekfest, coming on Saturday, October 7! This annual community festival celebrating the Arts and Outdoors is sponsored by the Cypress Creek Cultural District. Major sponsors include Resource 1, the main event sponsor, as well as Fidelity Investments, sponsor of the high school chalk art competition.

Creekfest will take place in the center of the Cultural District located on Cypresswood Drive, one block east of Stuebner-Airline Drive. A myriad of events, performances and activities will be offered by the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Cypress Creek FACE, Cypress Creek Christian Church and Community Center, the Barbara Bush Library, and the Cypress Creek Greenway in Don & Sylvia Collins Park. Among the many exciting activities planned are professional chalk artists creating two and three-dimensional images, high school chalk art projects, family art activities, entertainment, food trucks, canoe rides, Blessing of the Animals and much more!

For sponsorship opportunities or to learn how you can become involved, please visit [www.creekfesthouston.com](http://www.creekfesthouston.com) or email [info@cypresscreekculturaldistrict.org](mailto:info@cypresscreekculturaldistrict.org).

## New Baby?



### Congratulations on your new arrival!

To arrange to have a stork sign in your front yard, please call Kathy Hall at 281-569-4967.

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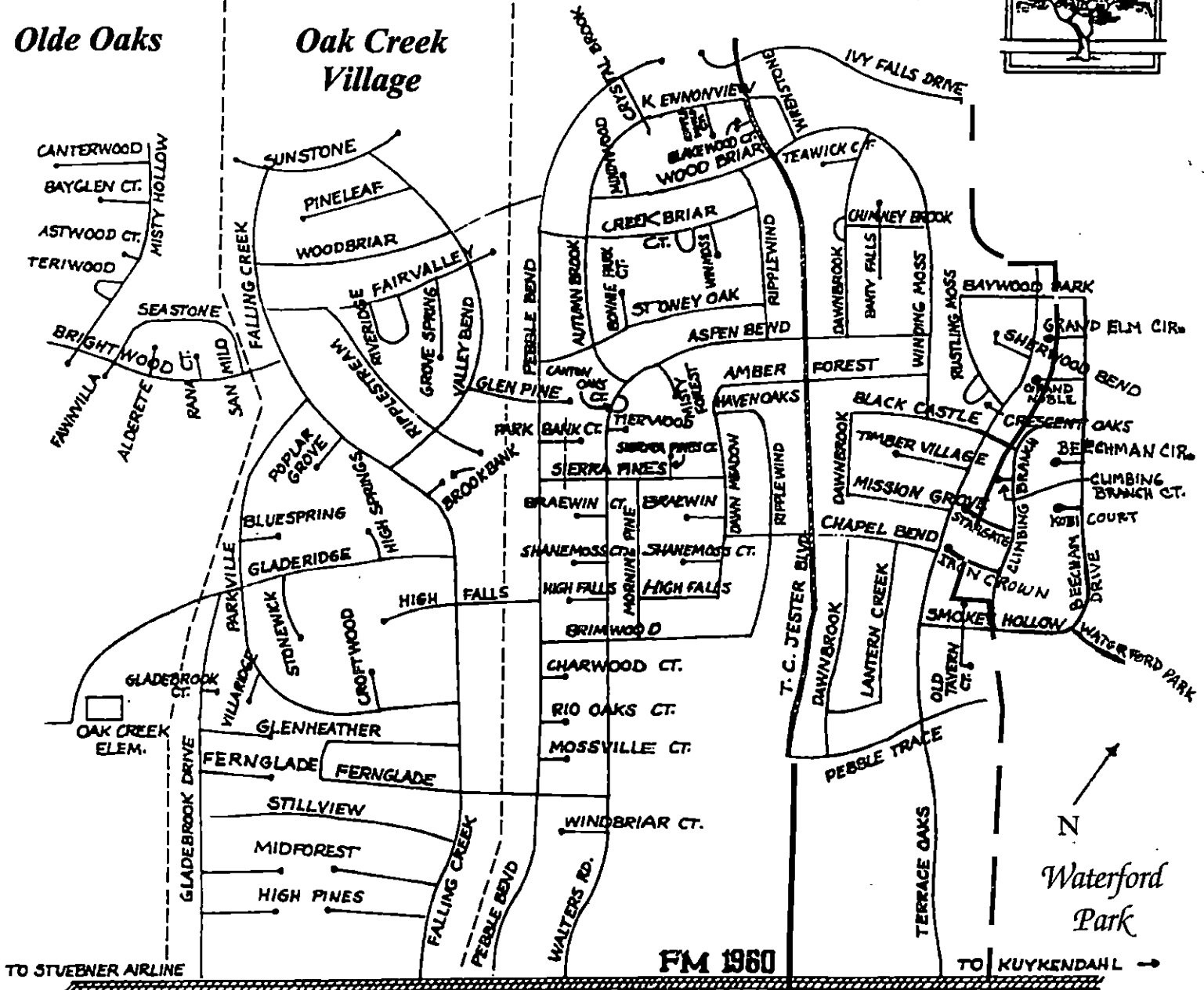
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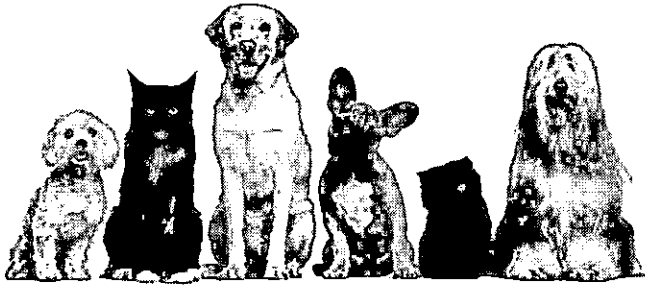
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## To post online, here are some suggested sites:

- [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) (There is an urgent alert that can be sent!)
- [www.houstonspca.org](http://www.houstonspca.org)
- [houstontx.gov/barc](http://houstontx.gov/barc)
- [www.findingrover.com](http://www.findingrover.com) (install free application)

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