

Deerfield Village

**A publication
dedicated to the
residents of
Deerfield Village**

4045 Deerfield Village
Houston, TX
77084-3291

Office: 281-463-2624

Fax: 281-463-7679

E-mail:

deerfield4@sbcglobal.net

Website:

www.deerfieldvillage.net



Office Hours:

MTThF—8:30-2:30

W—8:30-11:30



**Deadline for
January issue:**

December 15

Submit articles and ads
to office at Rec Center,

or e-mail
don2dusk@aol.com

(Karen Duhrkopf)

Manager's Report - Nora Whittaker Fearing

As you know, I send out all the Deed Violation Letters--however I do not do the actual inspections. I am familiar with most of the violations and when you call the office I will try to explain what the committee is looking for and if I can't resolve your issue, I will ask the Deeds Committee to help. For those of you who call and let me know completion or projected completion dates of projects, I thank you for your cordial calls.

I have learned several things about Deeds over the past 3 years. First and foremost--no one is intentionally picking you out. Many times the residents feel they are singled out and get very defensive. This is not true. **It is not personal!** The committee members report violations by address only, and usually do not know who lives there. Also--the committee is very flexible. If you receive a violation that requests you paint your house or replace your siding, they do understand you need to get bids and make financial arrangements. If you will call the office and let me know that you received the letter and intend to take care of the violation by XXXXX time, I simply make a note and pass it on to the Committee. They monitor until the work is completed, and you don't receive any further contact. If you don't respond, then you will receive a 2nd violation notice, and then a final notice indicating that the violation is being turned over to the Board for legal action. Unfortunately as you can see by driving thru other neighborhoods, we need the Deeds Committee to maintain the look and values residents have a right to expect.

Now for the Top 10 violations I see when sending out letters (in no particular order)

1. **Trash cans** stored in view (not left out one time). All cans must be stored from public view.
 2. **"Stuff"** left in yards and driveways. As with trash cans, "stuff" must be screened from view.
To give you an idea of "stuff": ladders, coolers, trash, mulch bags, tables, pet carriers to name a few.
 3. **Boats, Campers, Trailers** may not be stored or parked in the driveway or on the street. Around holidays and vacation many residents bring their boats/campers over to clean and stock—and the Committee understands. It is the ones who try to keep their trailers, campers, and boats permanently stored in the drive or street that will get the letters. These types of items need to be in your garage, behind your fence, or stored at an off site facility.
 4. Mold/algae on the bricks or siding of your home. The Committee simply will ask that you clean or power wash.
 5. Fence(s) that need to be replaced. This could simply be rotted or missing pickets, or in some cases a request to replace an entire fence.
- See Manager's Report on page 2*

December 2005

Deerfield Playgroup—

If you are looking to meet other moms in Deerfield with young children, this is the perfect opportunity for you. Dates and time may vary depending on the weather. Contact Angela Burris for a calendar of meeting places.

281-463-8065 or
aburris@houston.rr.com.

Security Stats - October 2005

Contract #87; Harris County
Precinct #5

ACTIVITIES	Total
Accidents	3
Alarms	6
Assaults	3
Burglaries	0
Burglary of Motor Vehicle	0
Citizens Assistance	28
Citizens Contact	16
Criminal Arrests	0
Criminal Mischief	1
Disturbance Calls	11
Suspicious Vehicles	3
Suspicious Persons	0
Thefts	1
Traffic Citations	1
Traffic Warnings	3
Vacation Watch	35

Reminder: Constable Emergency telephone stickers are available at the DV Rec. Center office:
281-463-2624

Constable Dispatch: 281-463-6666

Manager's Report from page 1

6. Siding that needs to be replaced. As the subdivision ages, houses need more upkeep--and many homes have or will have to replace the siding.

7. Painting—as with the siding our houses age and we need to freshen up the paint.

8. Structures built in back yards that exceed the 8 foot height allowance. There is a form that residents need to fill out if they are working on the exterior of their home, or looking to add something to their yard. Before you do something that might not meet with the Committee's approval, please fill out the form (I can email it to you) and let them look over your project. Most of the time you will receive approval.

9. Weeds in flowerbeds or tree well, yards that need or edging. This is self-explanatory.

10. Inoperable cars/trunks parked in the driveway or street. As with the boats, campers, and trailers, these must be kept out of view-in the garage, behind a fence or at an off-site facility.

There will be shortened office hours for the Holidays. Please call the office and listen to the message for specific times. Have a wonderful and safe Holiday Season!

CHANGE IN TENNIS COURT SECURITY

Due to the increasing use of our tennis courts by non-residents for activities other than tennis, and because of recent vandalism, soon we will be installing new gates at the entrances to Courts 1 and 3. These gates will have a locking mechanism which will require the use of a key to gain entrance to the tennis courts. (The gates to Courts 2 and 4 will be permanently locked). All Deerfield residents (1 key per household) who wish to use our tennis courts will need a special key which can be obtained from Nora in the Deerfield office. These keys are not capable of being duplicated and will be numbered. A \$25.00 refundable deposit will be required to obtain a key for your household. These new gates will be installed sometime during the month of December. Although this system may not be as accessible as it has been in the past, we have found it necessary to implement this form of security to protect our Deerfield amenities!

Denise Hickey

Realtor® / eCertified®

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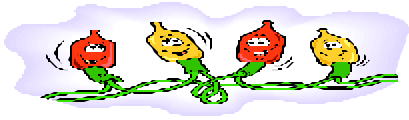
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**Decorate your house and yard
for the holidays!**

Each year, Deerfield lights up northwest Houston with its glowing lights and decorations.

Decorations are judged each year by the Landscape Committee. This year, the "judges" will determine the winners on December 13, so make sure you have your sparkles and decorations surrounding your house by then! Winners will be posted in the January newsletter.

Don't forget—decorate by December 13!



*The Christmas Party is
just for you!*

Come join us, Sunday, December 18 from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Deerfield Rec Center for an afternoon of fun and goodies. There will be a special guest you don't want to miss, plus **SNOW IN HOUSTON!!!!**



Tuesdays and Thursdays at the
Rec Center

from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

Make a New Year's resolution to be a part of this
group—it will do a body good!

Contact Information

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Board Trustee</u>	<u>Committee Chair</u>	<u>Phone(281)</u>
Community Svcs.	Dan Karsten	Tim McGhee	550-8194
Deed Restrictions	Don Driggs	Mike Nunez	861-8080
DVCA Board	Dennis Hughes		
Financial Svcs.	Bob Henry	Rollie Volker	550-3958
Landscape	Mike Polk	Jay Singleton	463-7346
MUD #136		Steve Dornak	463-3723
Rec Center	Amber Basinger		
Security	Larry Burger	George Hintz	463-1244
Swim Pool	Jim Boarman	Melinda Hughes	859-8024
Tennis	Marie Nugent	Steve Ward	859-1043

NOVEMBER 2005 HCMUD 136 NEWS

www.hcmud136.org

By Steve B. Dornak

For complete minutes, go to website listed above.

A resident inquired about future reductions in the property tax rate and asked about the large interest payment due in March, 2006. It was explained that the District's bonded indebtedness would be significantly reduced by the end of 2006, resulting in a lower tax rate in 2007. It was also noted that, at this point, it is not possible to quantify the reduction, due to uncertainties about the amount of money that will be required for conversion to surface water and for continued well maintenance.

The Tax Assessor and Collector's report was presented and reviewed by the board. Homeowners should have received the 2005 Tax Statement by this time. If you or your mortgage company have not received it by now please call Bob Leared Interests at 713-932-9011. M.U.D. #136 taxes are due January 31, 2006 and after this date penalties and interest begin to accrue.

The Operations Report had the normal maintenance and operations items. The District did go on inter-connect with another District due to a fire in the main water well control panel. The failure occurred on Wednesday, October 26th and was repaired and back on line Monday, November 7th. Since the cause of the fire was undetermined, and the possibility of a recurrence could not be ruled out, the directors requested ECO & TC&B, using their best technical resources, determine the root cause of the problem as soon as possible and recommend any further action

needed to prevent another failure. A claim has been filed with Travelers Insurance but, at this point, we can not say if Travelers would perform their own investigation.

The Board is continuing to receive requests to reduce individual homeowner water bills due to excess water usage. Remember, if you have a leak and the water passes through your meter the Board cannot reduce your bill. The meters are replaced at regular intervals (1 million gallons usage). Should you receive a higher than usual bill please check for leaks, by turning off all faucets, and checking your meter. If the triangle shaped indicator is moving then you have a leak somewhere in your home or on your property.

The next HCMUD 136 meeting is **Thursday, December 8, 2005 at 6:30 pm** in the Deerfield Village Recreation center. Meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend.

Pet Hotline News – Marie Nugent

Holidays are just around the corner and some of you will be going on vacation or visiting relatives. This is the time to be sure that your pets have ID on them...whether they are being cared for at home or if you take them with you...phone # is very helpful. If you need a simple form of ID, please call me and I will provide one for you at no charge. Remember, lost pets without ID's end up at the pound and are give 3 days before they are destroyed.

Thank you all for walking your pets on leash and for those of you that pick up after your pets—a major "Thank You."

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DEERFIELD VILLAGE RESIDENT



How Dry Are We?

By Landscape Committee

At this point in 2005 we are several inches short of normal rainfall. In fact, we are very close to a severe drought condition as measured by the Keetch-Byram Drought Index.

This index uses many different climate factors, assigning each a numerical value. County governments use this index in determining when to issue a ban on outdoor burning. When the total value reaches 600, severe drought conditions exist. The index for Harris County is approaching 600. Current conditions are very stressful for the trees along our greenbelt. Several pines trees have died and several more are not looking good. As for the St. Augustine grass, the dry conditions can promote cinch bug infestation. However, with shorter days and cooler weather, the grass is going to go dormant. So continued watering is not needed. If a green lawn is your objective, consider planting rye grass seed.

Happy Holidays

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Ads and Such

Blonde wood spinet piano-\$475.00; Antique Cherry drop leaf gate leg table-\$300.00; antique love seat \$150.00; (1) rosewood antique chair-\$75.00.; (1) antique depression desk w/chair, \$200.00. Call 281-859-1104

New Girl Scout Troop, first grade Brownies, welcome any girls that want to join. Please call Rose at 713-870-4357 if you are interested in joining our troop.

Needed: boys and girls who want to deliver the Deerfield Village newsletter. Requirements: at least 12 years old, responsible, able to devote 1-2 hours for delivery. Call the Rec Center office at 281-463-2624.

HELP!!!

Garage Sale anyone???? I need a coordinator for the 2006 Annual Garage Sale. Please call the office.

DEERFIELD VILLAGE 'HAPPENINGS'

DECEMBER 2005



Office Hours: MTRF: 8:30-2:30

W: 8:30 – 11:30

SNOW IN DEERFIELD-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Committee Meetings:

Community Services	Monday, December 5	7:30 PM
Tennis Committee	Wednesday, December 7	8:00 PM
Security Committee	No Meeting this Month	
Deeds Committee	Monday, December 12	7:00 PM
Landscape Committee	No Meeting this Month	
MUD #136	Thursday, December 8	6:30 PM
Swim Committee	Monday, December 19	7:30 PM
Financial Services	Tuesday, December 20	7:30 PM
Board Meeting	No Meeting this Month	

Community "Game" Opportunities:

Ladies Bunko	Thursday, December 15	7:00 PM
Texas Hold 'Em Poker	Thursday, December 8	8:00 PM

Other Community Meetings/Events:

Optimist Board	Wednesday, December 14	7:30 PM
Optimist Club	Thursday, December 15	7:30 PM
Qigong	Every Wednesday	7:30 PM

Scout Troop Meetings:

Troop #120	December 19 & 20	7:00 PM
Cub Scout Pack 1135 Den 5	December 1 & 8	4:30 PM
Girls Scout Troop 5449	December 6	5:30 PM
Schunk Boy Scout	December 13	7:00 PM

If you would like more information on any "happenings", or would like to participate in any of the activities listed above, please call the Association Office at (281) 463-2624.



March Elections coming up!

There will be 3 Board positions open in 2006. It's time to start thinking about how to serve Deerfield. Applications will be available beginning January 1, 2006. Elections will be held in March. Watch the newsletter for more information.