

JERSEY VILLAGE STAR

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE

AUGUST 2002

Upcoming Events

Aug. 12th Golf Course Adv.
Committee Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

Aug. 12th-14th City Council
Budget Workshop
6:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

Aug. 19th City Council Mtg.
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

Sept. 3rd Planning & Zoning
Commission Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

Sept. 9th Golf Course Adv.
Committee Mtg.,
7:00pm Golf Course Club House

Sept. 16th City Council Budget
Public Hearing
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

Sept. 23rd City Council –
Adoption of fiscal
year 2002-2003 Annual Budget
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

IMPORTANT NOTES...

■ Council may re-establish the Economic Development Committee. Residents interested in serving on this group, please contact the City Secretary, Debbie Loesch at 713-466-2102.

UPDATE ON THE FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS



Fred Garcia, P.E., Director of Communications for the Harris County Flood Control District, provides the following update on the District's progress:

"The latest news is that Harris County Commissioners Court authorized the Flood Control District to acquire right-of-way for a regional detention basin(s) in the White Oak Bayou watershed. This authorization is specifically geared toward locating land to serve as a regional detention basin(s) in the upper White Oak Bayou watershed, ideally, upstream of Jersey Village to further reduce the risk of flooding in the Jersey Village area.

"We are on schedule with excavation of the detention basins one near Gessner and White Oak Bayou (E500-10-00) where 119,000 cubic yards of material have been removed and at the other site (E535-01-00) near the Jersey Meadows Golf course where about 40,000 cubic yards of material have been removed.

"We are planning to have a construction package to continue the excavation at E535-01-00 ready for bid in September 2002." ■

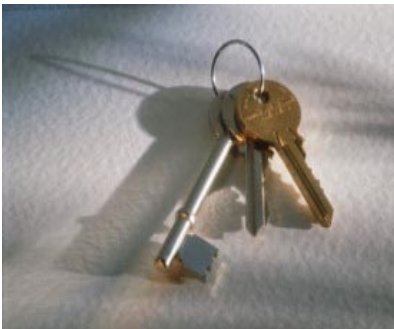
Sandy's Corner

Home Sweet Home

By: Officer S. Joachim

With the rise in homeowners' insurance, we all need to protect the property in our homes. Here are a few simple steps:

- Make an inventory of your valued possessions. Include the make, model, serial number and value of each item. This can help simplify insurance claims.
- Mark your valuables—use an etching tool to identify items such as: cameras, computers, stereo equipment, and televisions. Include your name and an identification number other than your Social Security or driver's license number.
- Videotape or photograph small valuables that can't be etched easily. Photograph each item next to a ruler and a piece of paper with your ID number.
- Check your insurance coverage, and update it if necessary. Ask about an insurance rider for specific items that your regular policy does not cover.



A home security checklist may include:

- Keep doors locked when you are at home alone.
- Secure all swinging doors with dead-bolt locks. Use locking bars

to secure sliding doors.

- Don't hide spare keys. Give them to a trusted neighbor.
- Check your smoke and alarm systems once a month.
- Ask your police department for a home security inspection and follow up by taking care of any deficiencies.



A homeowners' security inspection can be preformed by the police department and may or may not cause a reduction in Homeowners Insurance Premiums. The important consideration is that your particular company may already offer a discount for certain items and thus the homeowners' inspection may not have any effect at all. Only your agent can answer that question.

Section 6 (a) (1)*

- Exterior doors are solid core doors that are 1 3/8 inches thick and are secured by dead-bolt locks. Dead-bolt locks must lock with a minimum bolt throw of one inch that penetrates a metal strike plate. If the door secured by the dead-bolt lock has breakable glass within 40 inches of the lock, the lock must be key-operated from both sides.
- Metal doors are secured by dead-bolt locks as described above.
- Double doors meet the specifications listed above, have the inactive door secured by header and



Officer S. Joachim

threshold bolts that penetrate metal strike plates, and in case of glass located within 40 inches of header and threshold bolts, have the bolts flush-mounted in the edge of the door.

- Sliding glass door are secured by secondary locking devices to prevent lifting and prying.
- Dutch doors have concealed flush-bolt locking devices to interlock upper and lower halves and are secure by a dead-bolt lock as described above.
- Garage door are equipped with key-operated locking devices.
- Windows are secured by auxiliary locking devices.

Section 6 (a) (2)*

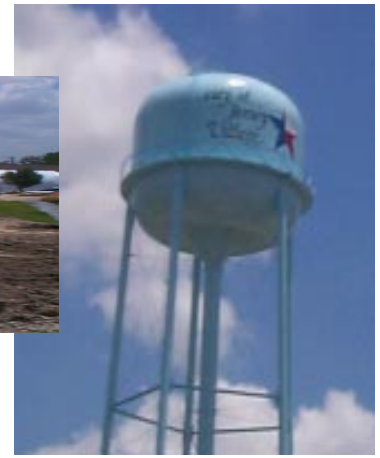
● Property is equipped with an electronic burglar alarm that meets the following requirements: all exterior structure openings are contacted; the system includes an interior and exterior siren; all equipment is U.L. approved and is monitored by a U.L. approved central station; and sales, service, installation, and monitoring of the system are done in compliance with the Private Investigations and Private Security Agencies Act.

For questions about home inspections please contact Officer S. Joachim at 713-466-5824. ■

* Texas Department of Insurance, Texas Insurance Code.

Capital Improvements

Each year, the City of Jersey Village allocates hundreds of thousands of dollars to maintaining and improving the infrastructure that sustains our community. Our Public Works Department reports on the progress of these efforts at the monthly Council Meetings, and the STAR will include this update as a regular feature. To learn more about how these projects are selected and undertaken, plan to attend the Budget Workshops in August.



TASK/PROJECT	% COMPLETE	COMMENTS
Philippine St. Reconstruction	50%	Water line const. complete; 50% of paving replaced; remaining portion: installation of 2nd stage inlets; no weather delays -- this project is ahead of schedule.
Lakeview/Rio Grande Recon.	60%	Storm sewer line const. finished; part of paving complete; also ahead of schedule.
Tahoe Lift Station/Gravity Line	1%	Parts and components ordered; not started.
Elevated storage tank #2 Village	85%	Rehab work started. Majority of painting complete.
SCADA system for water plant	100%	System operating on automatic.
Fire Station/City Hall Project	5%	Both old structures removed; parking lot scheduled to open soon. Final completion date: Jan. 30, 2003
Senate Avenue/Landscaping/Lights	20%	A plan has been developed for the 3 esplanades; quotes requested for conduit and installation of lights.
Sewer Rehabilitation	80%	Majority of project completed without problems.
Water line over W.O.B.	98% Design	Plans and specs completed.
Repaint GS Tank #2	0%	Engineer's proposal received.
Castlebridge bridge construction	0%	Prelim. design underway; to bid November 2002

Garage Sale Signs

Garage sale or personal property sales in Jersey Village may be advertised in two ways:

1. One non-illuminated, temporary ground sign not exceeding four square feet in size and five feet in height may be placed on the property where the sale is taking place (behind the sidewalk) for two days prior to the sale.

● Garage sale signs placed on the City easement (between the sidewalk and the curb), and any garage sale signs that are affixed to trees, utility poles, traffic sign posts, fences, etc., are prohibited. The

City will remove prohibited signs immediately.

● A garage sale sign shall be removed within 24 hours following the end of the sale.

● No permit shall be required for the erection of such a sign.

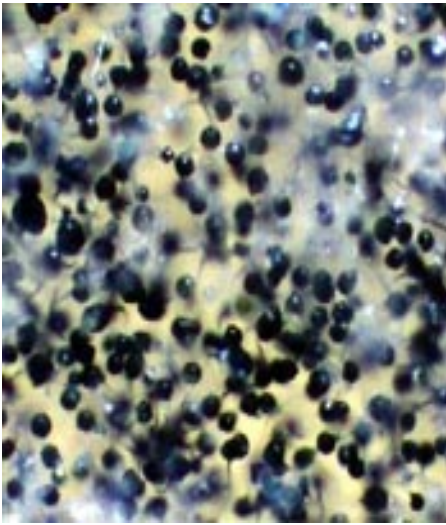
2. One non-illuminated temporary directional ground sign not exceeding four square feet in size and five feet in height may be located on a lot (behind the sidewalk) other than the property where the garage sale is taking place during the garage sale for a period of time not exceeding 12 hours.

● The sign shall be removed immediately upon conclusion of the garage sale.



● Temporary directional sign(s) may be located on a lot no more than two times in any 48-hour period.

● No permit shall be required for the erection of such sign. ■



Stachybotrys

Some FAQs About Mold

Q What is mold?

A. Molds are forms of fungi that are found everywhere -- both indoors and outdoors, all year round. Outdoors, molds live in the soil, on plants and on dead or decaying matter. Another common term for mold is mildew. Mold growth is encouraged by warm and humid conditions, although it can grow during cold weather also. There are many thousands of species of mold and they can be in any color, including white, orange, green, brown, or black. Many times, mold can be detected by a musty odor. Most fungi, including molds, produce microscopic cells called “spores” that spread easily through the air. Live spores act like seeds, forming new mold growths (colonies) when they find the right conditions. All of us are exposed to fungal spores daily in the air we breathe, both outside and inside.

Q. How does mold get into a house or building?

A. Most if not all of the mold found indoors comes from outdoor sources. It seems likely to grow and become a problem only where

there is water damage, high humidity, or dampness. All molds need moisture to grow.

Q. How can I prevent mold growth?

A. Controlling excess moisture is the key to preventing and stopping indoor mold growth. Keeping susceptible areas in the home clean and dry is very important. Ventilate or use exhaust fans (to the outdoors) to remove moisture where it accumulates: bathrooms; kitchens; and laundry areas. Be sure the clothes dryer vents to outside the house. Repair water leaks promptly, and either dry out and clean or replace any water-damaged materials. Materials that stay wet for longer than 48 hours are likely to produce mold growth.



Q. Can mold be toxic?

A. Some molds can produce toxic substances called *mycotoxins*. Airborne mycotoxins have not been shown to cause health problems to occupants in residential or commercial buildings. The health effects of breathing mycotoxins are not well understood and are currently under study.

High or chronic airborne exposures, typically associated with certain occupations like agricultural work, have been associated with illnesses, although these are rare.

Q. What is “black mold”?

A. The news media often refer to

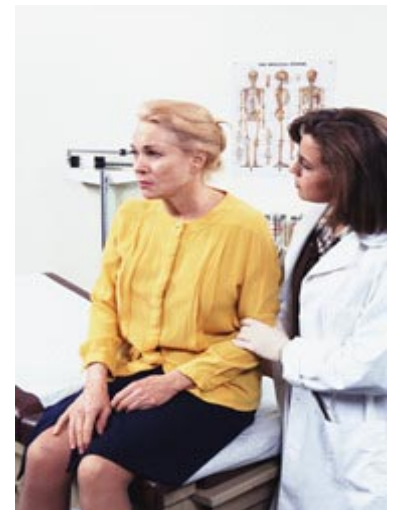
“black mold” or “toxic black mold.” It has usually been associated with the mold *Stachybotrys chartarum*, a type of greenish-black mold commonly associated with heavy water damage. Known health effects are similar to other common molds. It has been inconclusively associated with more severe health effects in some people. While there are only a few molds that are truly black, many can appear black. Not all mold that appears to be black is *Stachybotrys*.

Q. Why are we concerned about mold?

A. Small amounts of mold growth in homes (such as mildew on a shower curtain) are not a major concern, but no mold should be permitted to grow and multiply indoors. When molds are present in large quantities, they may cause nuisance odors and health problems for some people. Some molds can cause structural damage to wood.

Q. How do molds affect people?

A. Most people will have no reaction at all when exposed to molds. Allergic reactions, similar to common pollen or animal allergies, are the most common health effects for individuals sensitive to molds. Flu-like symptoms and skin rash



may occur. Molds may also aggravate asthma. Fungal infections from building-associated molds may occur in people with serious immune disease but this is very rare. Most symptoms are temporary and eliminated by correcting the mold problem.

Q. Who is affected by exposure to mold?

A. People who may be affected more severely and quickly than others include: infants and children; elderly people; pregnant women; individuals with respiratory conditions or allergies and asthma; persons with weakened immune systems (for example, people with HIV infection, chemotherapy patients, or organ or bone marrow transplant recipients, autoimmune diseases).

Those with special health concerns should consult their doctor if they are concerned about mold exposure.

Q. What should I do if I see or smell mold in my home?

A. The most important step in solving a mold problem is to identify and fix the moisture sources that caused the mold growth. For small mold problems, use detergent and water to wash mold off hard surfaces and dry completely. Porous or absorbent materials (such as ceiling tiles, wallboard and carpeting) that become moldy should be replaced. If you do not see mold growth, but notice a musty odor, mold may be growing behind water-damaged materials, such as walls, carpeting or wallpaper. Persons cleaning mold should wear gloves, eye protection and a dust mask or respirator to protect against breathing airborne spores (an N95 dust mask or respirator may be purchased in hardware stores). If you have health con-

cerns, you should consult your doctor before doing any mold cleanup.

Q. Should I test my home for mold?

A. Probably not. It should not be your first step. Your first step should be to inspect your home for any evidence of water damage and any visible mold growth. Testing for mold is expensive, and you should have a clear reason for doing so. In most cases, it is not economically practical or useful to test for mold growth on surfaces or for airborne spores in the home.

Testing also tells you little about where mold is located and how to clean it up. In addition, there are no standards for “acceptable” levels of mold in buildings, so when testing is done, it is usually to compare the levels and types of mold spores found inside the home with those found outside the home.

If you know you have a mold problem, it is more important to spend time and resources to get rid of the mold and solve the moisture problem causing the moldy conditions rather than to test for the mold problem.



Q. Who do I call to deal with extensive mold growth?

A. A professional experienced in mold cleanup may need to be hired to address extensive mold growth in a home or building. It is important to correct large mold



Black mold in ceiling material.

problems as soon as possible by first fixing the source of the moisture problem, then cleaning the surfaces, and finally by drying the area completely. If you use outside contractors or professionals, make sure they have experience cleaning up mold, check their references, and have them follow the recommendations and guidelines given in the information resources below.

Want more information?

- **State or Local Department of Health**
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):**
www.epa.gov/iaq
- **EPA and FEMA Flood Clean-up Guidelines:**
www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/flood.html
www.fema.gov/dizas/aftrfld.htm
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):**
www.cdc.gov/nceh/asthma/factsheets/molds/molds.htm

Source:

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)

www.aiha.org
or call (703) 849-8888.

GOLF TIP OF THE MONTH...

The most frequent question I get asked as a PGA golf professional is, **“How come I hit my short irons straight, but I slice my driver and long irons.”** This is a hard question to answer without looking at someone’s swing, but there is a reason that short irons are easier to hit than long irons.

In short, backspin offsets sidespin. What this means is that the more loft a club has on it (like a wedge), the more backspin it produces. Remember, backspin offsets sidespin.

A driver, on the other hand, might only have 8 degrees of loft. Since it has less backspin, the sidespin is enhanced/ This is why many golfers hit their 3 or 5 wood better and even farther than their drivers. If this is the case for you, go ahead and tee off with your 3 wood until you practice enough with your driver to hit it solid and straight.

If you’re thinking about getting a new driver, you might want to consider getting one with a lot of loft (10 to 12 degrees). Even if you hit the ball high, I would not recommend getting a low lofted driver to anyone who is not an accomplished player. The reason you hit the ball high is probably a swing flaw, not the loft of the driver. I play with a 10.5 degree driver and I am thinking of getting an 11 or 12 degree driver.

If you have any questions about this or any other golf-related questions...or if you want to schedule a lesson, give me a call at 281-896-0900.

Sam Hewitt,

GM/Head Professional,
Jersey Meadow Golf Course

MORE GOLF NEWS...

As I get older, each summer seems to get hotter than the one before. It is global warming, or am I starting to show my age? For those of you who are braving the elements, congratulations! Here at Jersey Meadow, we’re trying to stay cool by offering some hot summer specials. For the month of August, a Star member can play and ride for \$35 after 11:00 am on the weekends. We are also running weekday specials.

Check out our website (www.jerseymeadow.homestead.com) for more specials. If you haven’t joined our Star membership, you’re missing out on a lot of good golf discounts. Golf rounds are up by about 20% compared to last year. We’re starting to book a lot more tournaments for the fall. If you want to have a tournament here, give us a call while there is still space available.

Sam



Congressman Kevin Brady will speak to Jersey Village residents on Thursday, August 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the Jersey Village Civic Center. Following redistricting last year, Jersey Village was moved out of District 7 into District 8 resulting in the change in congressional representation.

For additional information about the event, contact Bill Walker at 832-467-1189.



The Recreation and Events Committee will be having its **Annual Ice Cream Social**, Sunday August 25, 2002 from 6-8p.m. at Carol Fox Park. This is a free event and we encourage everyone to come out for a cool dessert and visit with your neighbors. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on, and have a great time!

Yards of the Month

Congratulations to...

- 16106 Seattle
George & Lori Kunschman
- 15726 Jersey Dr.
Mac & Becky Camp
- 15320 Clevedon
Jim & Ellen Box
- 11 Epernay Place
Damian & Julie Luna
- 8313 Achgill
Angelo & Carol Graci



The sun has been shining on our improvement projects... and that's a good thing. While the typical afternoon summer thunderstorms predictably dump varying amounts of rain, progress is being made on the capital improvement projects currently underway.

In fact, thanks to the number of good weather days, a few of the projects are actually ahead of schedule!



**MONTHLY STATISTICS,
JUNE 2002**

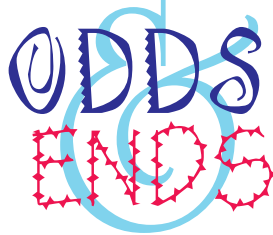
JV Police Department:

Calls for Service	456
Vehicle Theft	7
Theft	18
Aggravated Assault	0
Burglary, business	0
Burglary, vehicle	7
Disturbance	46
Narcotics, felony	0
Minor accidents	65
Major accidents	13
Alarms	67
Suspicious person	35
Traffic control	1
Traffic hazard	27

JV Emergency Services Dept.:

Fire/County	10
Fire/ETJ	7
Fire/JV	20
EMS/County	14
EMS/ETJ	2
EMS/JV	39
TOTAL	92
Transports	32
Mutual aid received	10
Mutual aid given	24

A group of youngsters recently got up close and personal with Officer Arthur Woolery during a tour of the Jersey Village Police Station.



■ **First Mondays with the Mayor...**new channel of communication between City Council and residents. The first Monday of each month, at 7 p.m., City Hall.

■ **Committee Vacancies...**There are openings on two important City Committees -- **Recreation and Events** and **Parks and Landscaping**. Parks and Landscaping (seven members, two-year terms) serves an advisory role to the director of public works regarding issues involving parks and other property owned or controlled by the City, and meets quarterly. The Recreation and Events Advisory Committee, also composed of seven members serving two-year terms, makes recommendations to the director of parks and recreation, the City Manager, and City Council, and promotes public interest in events and programs scheduled for City residents. This group is also responsible for organizing volunteer groups to conduct these events. Contact the City Secretary, Debbie Loesch, for more information about meeting times and to submit your name for consideration -- phone: 713-466-2102, or by e-mail: dloesch@ci.jersey-village.tx.us. ■



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