

JERSEY VILLAGE STAR

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE

JUNE 2002

Upcoming Events

- June 4th** Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- June 10th** Golf Course Adv. Committee Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- June 13th** NHCRWA Town Hall Meeting
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- July 2nd** Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- July 8th** Golf Course Adv. Committee Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Aug. 12th** Golf Course Adv. Committee Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Aug. 12th-14th** City Council Budget Workshop
6:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Sept. 3rd** Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg.,
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Sept. 9th** Golf Course Adv. Committee Mtg.,
7:00 pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Sept. 9th** City Council Budget Public Hearing
7:00 pm Civic Center Auditorium
- Sept. 23rd** City Council – Adoption of fiscal year 2002-2003 Annual Budget
7:00 pm Civic Center Auditorium

New City Council Members Sworn In

A record number of residents turned out on May 4th for the City Council election and returned two Council members for another two year term and elected a replacement for retiring Councilwoman, Joyce Berube.

Russell Hamley, Place Two, was re-elected as was Rusty Preece, Place Three. A. J. Widacki was elected for Place One.

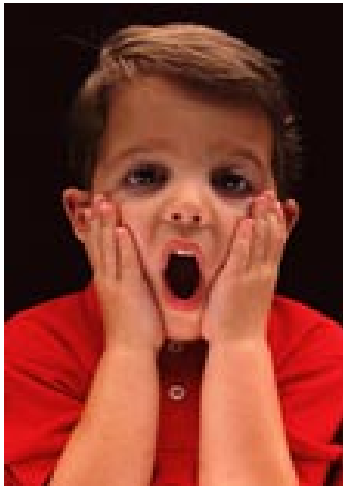
“The highest priority in the City is to lessen the probability of flooding,” according to **Russell Hamley**. “The City has been in constant contact with the Harris County Flood Control District and they have accelerated the schedule of projects that will directly impact Jersey Village. My votes have been to slow the raising cost of government and to lower the tax rate. It is my intent to maintain the quality of city services while keeping costs in check.”

“I am grateful the voters have chosen to return me to office for another term,” **Rusty Preece** said. “I intend to continue to be diligent in controlling unnecessary spending and to work on a consensus to get the long-overdue infrastructure projects accelerated with the goal to make JV a place we can all be proud of as quickly as possible. The political scene in JV has changed dramatically during the time I have served and as the ranking elected official, I’m going to make sure that we stay focused on an overriding goal -- let’s do what is best for everyone.”

“As a citizen of Jersey Village and new member of City Council,” says **A. J. Widacki**, “I feel that communication with the citizens is most important. With the current flooding situation in Jersey Village, I’d like to see a timeline in the JV Star and city website (www.jerseyvillage.info) with the scheduling and commitment that Harris County Flood Control has promised, and communicate about the status of street improvements, as well. I would also like to invite the citizens of Jersey Village to attend the City Council Meetings held on the third Monday of every month. This is an opportunity to express your concerns or ideas at the beginning of each meeting. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.” ■



(Left to right) Russel Hamley, Rusty Preece, and A.J. Widacki.



Home Alone - Safety Tips for Working Parents

“Home Alone” took on a whole new meaning after the movies about a youngster who proved to be resourceful, fiercely independent, and successful in thwarting would-be intruders after he found himself left behind in the family residence without his parents. These huge box-office comedy thrillers created another urban hero figure — that of the super kid who is afraid of nothing and who is safe on his own.

This story might be entertaining to watch on the screen, but it hardly represents the reality of today’s latchkey kids. With an increasing number of parents who both work outside the home, there are thousands of children who will be at home alone during the summer months -- some for the first time -- and many who care for younger siblings, too.

There is no magic formula to measure a child’s readiness to assume self care at home. Very often, circumstances drive the issue; daycare might become unavailable, cost-prohibitive, or unsatisfactory, or there is no neighbor nearby to provide supervision along with their own children.

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Groundbreaking for New Fire Station... On April 22nd, City officials and JV firefighters used the ceremonial shovels to signify the start of construction approved in the February bond election. City officials in the front row, left to right, Dale Brown, City Manager; Joyce Berube, retired City Councilwoman; Russell Hamley, Rusty Preece, City Councilmen; Mayor Ed Heathcott; Fire Chief Kathy Hutchens; Councilman Greg Holden; and Frances Wubbenhorst, City Councilwoman.

May Yard of the Month

Congratulations to...

■ 16221 Seattle

Roy and Donna Wilson

■ 15421 Shanghai

Joe and Deborah Creppon

■ 15318 Chichester

Debbie Stepp

■ 16109 Wall

Bruce and Cheryl Sanford

■ 16401 Jersey Hollow

Will and Frances Lees



LEARN HOW TO SAVE A LIFE...

Jersey Village Emergency Service is offering American Red Cross CPR and First Aid classes on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Special arrangements are available for daytime classes.

The course fee is \$40 and participants will be provided with all materials needed and will receive an American Red Cross Card upon successful completion of the class.

For more information or to register, call 713-466-2130.



Sandy's Corner

National Night Out-August 6th 'AMERICA'S NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME'

By Officer S. Joachim

On Tuesday, August 6th, neighborhoods throughout Houston will once again join forces with communities nationwide for the **19th Annual National Night Out**, a crime and drug prevention event.

National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Jersey Village Police Department, will involve over 9,700 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. In all, over 33 million people are expected to participate in this "Night Out Against Crime," and is being supported in part by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

The objectives of National Night Out are: (1) To heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) To generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; (3) To strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) To send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

From 7 to 10 p.m. on August 6th, residents in neighborhoods throughout Houston and across the nation are asked to lock

their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. Many neighborhoods -- including Jersey Village -- will be hosting a variety of special events such as block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from police, flashlight walks, contests, youth activities and anticrime rallies.

Once again this year, we invite all of Jersey Village to join forces with us to **Give Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party**. All block parties should register with the Jersey Village Police Department.

The night of National Night Out the police department, the fire department, and Mayor and Council members go around and visit



every registered party. "Goodies" are distributed to the children and adults, we answer questions that citizens may have, show them the police equipment, etc. Some of the block parties in the past have featured ice-cream socials; some have grilled hot-dogs and hamburgers; and some parties have organized games and scavenger hunts.

National Night Out is a time for neighbors to come out and meet their neighbors, to share information with each other and to build a critical crime prevention tool in their neighborhood. The police department needs and appreciates all of the eyes and ears that we can get, up and down every street.

For additional information or to sign up to be a block captain please contact Officer S. Joachim at 713-466-2125.

(Officer Joachim is available to help organize the block parties and hopefully, to spread them across the city, as well as to help out with information and fliers, and to provide helpful tips about possible activities.)



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 a City Council meeting, held the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.



TASK/PROJECT	% COMPLETE	COMMENTS
Philippine St. Reconstruction	3%	Construction of waterline 95% complete
Lakeview/Rio Grande Recon.	15%	Water line const. done, storm sewer being installed.
Tahoe Lift Station/Gravity Line	1%	Parts and components ordered.
Elevated storage tank #2 Village	30%	Rehab work started. (Work not allowed in high wind.)
SCADA system for water plant	99%	Operating in test mode.
Fire Station/City Hall Project	100% Design	Fire Station const. started; rear parking lot under const.; demolition of buildings 75% complete.
Senate Avenue/Paving	98%	Repairs to sprinkler system underway.
Senate Avenue/Landscaping/Lights	0%	Lighting plan details are being developed with assistance of Parks and Landscaping Committee.
Water plant upgrade	100%	Completed
Sewer Rehabilitation	100% Design	Contractor, under construction
Water line over W.O.B.	95%	Waiting for Flood Control Review
Repaint GS Tank #2	0%	Engineer's proposal received.
Jersey Meadow Street construction	100%	Complete
Castlebridge bridge construction	0%	Prelim. design underway; to bid November 2002

HOME ALONE

Continued from page 2

A latchkey child should want to stay alone, and be comfortable assuming the additional responsibility. Some experts suggest that an excellent way to find out is to ask your child — most children will tell the truth. If your youngster is prone to be a worrier, has nightmares, or is nervous or anxious when he or she is alone, they may not be ready to stay by themselves.

The other key issue is are the parents ready to leave their youngsters unsupervised at home. The first question to ask yourself is, "What is going to give me an acceptable level of confidence about this?" In other words, what do you need to know about the

safety of your child being at home that will allow you to do whatever it is that keeps you away from home in the first place?

Consider your children's maturity level. Do they understand -- and follow -- safety instructions? How do they do when it comes to making decisions under pressure? Do they think clearly and make the choices you would want them to? Do you have any first-hand information about how they would react in an emergency? How safe is your neighborhood? Do you -- and your child -- know your neighbors, and trust any (or some) of them to come to your child's aid if necessary? Do they know about calling 9-1-1?

If you can't answer these questions with confidence, per-



haps more time is needed to reach a decision.

Prepare youngsters who will be staying home alone by setting down firm rules, insisting that they be followed, and telling youngsters exactly what is expected of them, so there is absolutely no doubt they understand. After some time passes, sit down with your child or children, ask them how the time alone is going, invite

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Summertime in Jersey Village...

Golf, Golf, and More Golf

Summertime in Jersey Village means hot days and hot deals at Jersey Meadow Golf Course. The best thing about summer is the long days...which means more golf. We have a super twilight fee for \$15.00 at 6 p.m., 5 p.m. for Star members.

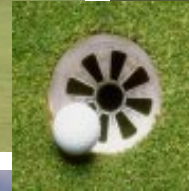
The clubhouse is being renovated and should be completed by June 28th. This will be a great place to have a party or business meeting...or just come by and have one of our delicious 1/2 lb. hamburgers!

Here are some of the hot items and cool deals going on at Jersey Meadow Golf Course this summer...

- Junior golf camp, June 24-28
- VIP tournament and open house (all Jersey Village residents are welcome)
- Men's Golf Association tournaments
- Senior Golf Association tournaments
- Sunday morning tournaments
- Instructional clinics
- Club fitting day
- New Golfer Program...and much more!

Have you signed up for the STAR MEMBERSHIP yet? Save money and receive a free round of golf...call us for more details.

JMGC has a new grounds superintendent, Trevor Ogden. Trevor came over from Wildcat Golf Club and he is doing a great job with the golf course!



GOLF TIP OF THE MONTH...

***From Sam Hewitt, Head Professional/GM,
Jersey Meadow Golf Course***

One of the biggest and most frequent problems I see when giving a golf lesson is the player raising or lowering their body during the swing. A man who is 6 feet tall will be close to 5ft. 8 in. when he addresses the ball. That same man needs to be 5 ft. 8 in. tall when he makes contact with the ball.

If a golfer raises his body 1 inch during the backswing, then he will need to lower his body 1 inch during the downswing in order to make solid contact with the ball. Many players do this without realizing it. Some of the symptoms of this move are deep divots, fat shots, or bladed

shots. A good way to know if you are raising up is to watch yourself swing on video or in a mirror. If you are raising up during the backswing, chances are you are picking the club up too steep during the backswing, causing you to raise your entire body. Try to hit some shots by taking the club back low to the ground; it should feel kind of like you are hitting a shot under a low lying limb of a tree. This will feel strange at first, but stick with it and it should help you out. If you have any questions about this, or you would like to schedule a lesson, please give me a call at 713-896-0900 or 281-217-1290. ■

HOME ALONE, Continued

them to express their concerns, and carefully go over the areas where additional attention is needed.

To make it work there has to be a basic agreement -- almost a contract -- between the kids and the parents about specific conduct and safety issues. The parents have to have confidence that their kids will be safe...and the children have to believe it, too.

Begin with a thorough check for safety risks in the house or apartment. This includes obvious dangers like access to firearms, adult beverages, and kitchen appliances -- especially those that use natural gas. (If cooking is to be "off limits," plan to have snacks on hand that do not require heating up.)

This is a good time to put together a First Aid kit with your child, and discuss appropriate measures in the event of an injury. Post emergency phone numbers near all the telephones in the house, and be sure to include contact information for neighbors and other relatives who live nearby. Take this opportunity to review emergency evacuation drills to refresh their memory about how to get out of the house in case of fire.

Parents certainly don't want to make their children paranoid about staying alone in the house, but it is entirely appropriate to go over safety instructions and to discuss potential dangers. Things have, unfortunately, changed in our society. Give your youngsters lots of encouragement, support and reinforcement, and treat their mistakes as learning experiences instead of failures. Show them how much you appreciate their self-reliance and cooperation while you are away. ■

You're Invited to Participate

The City of Jersey Village has a number of vacancies on important boards, commissions, and committees and City Council is looking for a few good men and women to fill them.

There is one vacancy on the **Planning and Zoning Commission**, a seven-member

group that meets at least once a quarter to advise City Council in establishing criteria for the development of land and on other specific assignments. The **Board of Adjustment** -- a group made up of five voting member and two alternates that is authorized to hear and decide appeals relative to zoning issues -- special exceptions and variances, has an opening for one new member. There is also an opening on the **Golf Course Advisory Committee**.



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.



Joyce Berube, recently retired City Councilwoman, volunteered to serve on the **Parks and Landscaping Committee**, the **Recreation and Events Committee**, and to fill one of the vacancies on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Parks and Landscaping (seven members, two-year terms) serves an advisory role



*Fab Fifties
Bunny Hop*

Volunteering to serve on these important Committees is a great way to help our community grow and prosper, and it offers a unique hands-on opportunity to help perpetuate the values and principles on which Jersey Village was built.

Contact the City Secretary, Debbie Loesch, to submit your name for consideration -- phone: 713-466-2102, or by e-mail: dloesch@ci.jersey-village.tx.us. ■



Actions by City Council -- May 20, 2002 Session

1. Held a public hearing on the condition and demolition of a substandard building at 15801 Tahoe. Homeowner was present and made comments. Council ORDERED that the structure located at 15801 Tahoe Drive be demolished and removed on or before September 1, 2002.
2. Council appointed Joyce Berube to Planning and Zoning Commission, Recreation and Events Committee, and Parks and Landscaping Committee, and is seeking other volunteers.
3. Council members designated as Committee liaisons.
4. Proposed elimination of the requirement for drip irrigation systems in the right of way discussed. Follow up required.

**New Council
Committee Liaison
Assignments**

At the May City Council meeting, Council Liaisons for Boards, Commissions and Committees were designated:

Planning and Zoning:

Russell Hamley

Parks and Landscaping:

Rusty Preece

Recreation and Events:

Frances Wubbenhorst

**Golf Course Advisory
Committee:**

A. J. Widacki

Board of Adjustment:

Russell Hamley

**Building Board of
Adjustment:**

A. J. Widacki



A. J. Widacki, Place One



Russell Hamley, Place Two



Rusty Preece, Place Three



Mayor Ed Heathcott



Greg Holden, Place Four



**Frances Wubbenhorst,
Place Five**

**MONTHLY STATISTICS,
April 2002**

JV Police Department:

Calls for Service	576
Vehicle Theft	4
Theft	17
Aggravated Assault	3
Burglary, business	3
Burglary, vehicle	5
Disturbance	67
Narcotics, felony	0
Minor accidents	66
Major accidents	13
Alarms	50
Suspicious person	52
Traffic control	2
Traffic hazard	19

JV Emergency Services Dept.:

Fire/County	10
Fire/ETJ	0
Fire/JV	11
EMS/County	16
EMS/ETJ	2
EMS/JV	40
TOTAL	79
Transports	29
Mutual aid received	5
Mutual aid given	26



New Reserve Officer

Police Chief Charles Wedemeyer welcomed Joyce Underhill as the Department's new Records Clerk and Reserve Police Officer. Underhill recently retired from the Harris County Sheriff's Department after 27 years of service. She was introduced to Council at the May meeting. ■



**NATURAL AND MANMADE
DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS CLASSES**

The Emergency Services Department has announced that their one and a half hour disaster preparedness class will be held periodically at the Jersey Village Civic Center, 16327 Lakeview. Topics in this important seminar include: early warning systems, evacuations, shelter in place, what to do with pets and personal/family disaster kits.

This course is conducted by the Jersey Village Emergency Services Training Officer. For more information about when the next class will be held, please contact Rob Missall at 713-466-2130. ■



**City of Jersey Village
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Jersey Village, TX 77040**



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