

Stonegate Email News of 2009-06-12

The Biggest and Best Dive-In Movie!

Last Friday, 247 people had a great time at Stonegate's first dive-in movie of the season. Convening at 4PM, the kids celebrated a perfect afternoon by splashing down the big, inflatable waterslide provided by sponsor *Fitness Experience*. Then the 2nd Annual *Stonegate Family Games* started, beginning with flag tag and ending with the air mattress races. Icees, soft drinks and hot dogs fueled the fun until, when the movie started, what had earlier seemed like way more than enough was all gone. (There's a not-so-subtle hint here: It's impossible to plan food if you don't know how many will show up. So please, next time sign up in advance!)

By the time the movie started, parents with small children were headed for the exit, an exhausted child draped across daddy's shoulder while mommy juggled the raft and the beach bag. For them, it was the end of a successful afternoon meeting other Stonegate families and setting up play dates. Families with children old enough to stay up past 7:30 watched *The Game Plan*, a Disney comedy about daddies and daughters. The children sat with (or on) their parents, or with a group of friends, feet dangling in the water – and the little boys didn't even try to push their pals in. Maybe they were just too tired.

The Stonegate Sharks' First Home Swim Meet.

They'll be done by 10AM this Saturday. Open swimming will resume right after the meet.

This Week's Movie.

The Stonegate Movie Discussion Group will meet at 4PM Monday, June 15 to discuss *Easy Virtue*, playing at the Camelview. Everyone is welcome.

Stonegate Summer Camp.

The first two-week session was a big success. The second session starts this coming Monday, June 15. Tennis pro Quita Remick and camp director Jeremy Feldman are still accepting applications. Call Jeremy at (480) 688-2181.

Living Green in Stonegate

Over the years, Stonegate has gone greener and greener. We use much less water and electricity now than we did when the community was new. And we're always looking for ways to conserve, re-use and recycle. So when we have information you may be able to use, *Stonegate Email News* will pass it on.

Green Tip: Greener turf with less water.

Nobody wants to waste water. So let's start by looking at how to go about applying it. Your turf has to look green and strong. But water that runs out onto the sidewalk or street is 100% waste and does nobody any good. In fact, it's actually bad for the pavement. Fortunately, figuring out how long to let the sprinklers run is easy.

Get a watch with a sweep-second hand or a digital timer. Turn on the sprinkler and time how long it takes before the water runs out onto the sidewalk. That's the maximum allowable time for those sprinklers. Then set the irrigation clock for a minute less, since the water will continue to move even after the sprinkler stops. If your lawn needs more water than you can give it in one session, add more sessions. Early morning just before sunrise is a good time to water. But watering in the evening can lead to ugly fungal problems.

Right now, most of Stonegate's sprinklers are set for three-minute sessions, four times a day. You may have read gardening articles which advocated longer watering, allowing the water to sink in. And if your lawn is very flat, longer watering may be possible. But *not* if it lets water run onto the sidewalk or street.