



APRIL GENERAL MEETING RECAP: PUBLIC SAFETY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

VPNA's April 2012 general meeting was held at Vickery Towers and hosted guest speakers Natalie Buxton of The Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse and Detective Keith Allen of the Dallas Police Department.

Ms. Buxton informed Vickery Place residents of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 28. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration and is in its fourth year of operation. Take Back Days will occur twice in 2012 and provide an avenue to dispose of expired or unused prescription medication through state and local law enforcement agencies.

If you have prescription drugs that you need to dispose of, do not flush them down the toilet or put them down your drains as they can contaminate the local water supply. Prescription drugs can safely be disposed of throughout the year by removing them from their containers and placing them in plastic bag with undesirable substances, like coffee grounds or kitty litter, and throwing them in the trash. Mark through the personal and medicinal information on the drug containers and dispose of the containers separately.

Detective Allen updated us on the DPD's iWatch Dallas program, an 18-month-old initiative initially tested in Vickery Place. iWatch Dallas is a virtual crime watch program that allows civilians to report suspicious, non-urgent, activity to the Dallas Police through anonymous tips online (iWatchDallas.net), through a smartphone app (downloaded free through iWatchDallas.net), text message (274637) or by phone (214.671.4TIP). Over the past 18 months, DPD has received over 1,800 tips through the iWatch program that have led to over 200 arrests. iWatch is monitored 24 hours a day and will be updated this summer to include enhanced features, such as the acceptance of video. VPNA encourages residents to use the iWatch program to maintain the safety of our neighborhood. In emergencies, always call 911.

Detective Allen also informed us that DPD will be installing approximately 300 additional cameras throughout Dallas neighborhoods beginning this summer. These cameras will add to the approximately 150 already in use that stream video online to DPD and allow them to monitor possible criminal activity and suspected criminals.

Other DPD technological advancements include the application of tracing software that tracks cell phone usage to the last tower used by the phone, allowing DPD to trace the location of a caller to within 500 feet of where calls have been placed or received. This is particularly useful when tracing the location of where a crime is being reported or where a caller may be if kidnapped.

The iWatch program, and other DPD technology initiatives, have made DPD one of the most technologically advanced police departments in the country. Several other police departments now call on DPD for their advice and leadership. Visit the DPD at www.dallaspolice.net.

VPNA would like to thank Ms. Buxton and Det. Allen for their time and interest in supporting our neighborhood. We would also like to thank Vickery Towers for hosting our meeting and Jeremy Meseberg of The Blue Goose Cantina for providing snacks and water.

MAY GENERAL MEETING

Next VPNA General Meeting:
will be Thursday,
May 10th, 7:00pm
at Vickery Towers

Bulky Trash

Week of the 2nd Monday
Don't Set Out Trash Before

Thursday, May 10

Pick Up Week

May 14 - 18



**Weekly Trash
& Recycling Pick-up**
Every Monday

VICKERY PLACE FOOD AND WINE WALK JUNE 2, 2012, 7:00PM - 10:00PM

Last year, over 80 Vickery Place friends and neighbors enjoyed a lovely evening of paired wines and foods. Loved it, missed it? This year promises to be even better! Join your neighbors for the second annual Vickery Place Food and Wine Walk Event, with new locations and food pairings!

Enjoy an early June evening among beautiful patios, porches, neighborly company, and maybe even the summer scent of jasmine. Designated porches on Miller (5411 and 5432) and Vickery (5354 and 5419) streets will offer wine and paired appetizers. Vickery Place resident, Debbie Simurda, through her new catering business, Fresh Catering DFW, will prepare some fantastic bites to complement the wines.

A few of the pairings your taste buds can look forward to (although even more is in store, as there will be several appetizers per house): Sparkling wine with smoked salmon, creme fraiche, and salmon roe canapes; white wine paired with chicken and waffles with horseradish/peach/maple syrup;

an international selection of red wines with such tempting bites as steak with chimichurri sauce; and dessert wine with strawberry shortcake. If you can't wait until the event for your first strawberry shortcake of the season, try your own by following the recipe in this newsletter.

The purchase of a Vickery Place wine glass will be your ticket and is yours to keep at the end of the evening. These may be purchased on-line in advance (discounted) at the Neighborhood Store, or the night of the event at the door. For more details on the event, including advance purchase tickets and volunteer sign-up (discounted ticket for volunteers!), visit www.vickeryplace.org.

Volunteers for the event receive a deeply discounted wine glass ticket! Since this is a progressive Wine Walk Event, and volunteers will be designated to only one house, volunteers will have ample opportunity to enjoy the other three houses the same evening.

To volunteer, please e-mail info@vickeryplace.org with your preference of which house at which you'd like to serve. Remember, there's a deep discount for volunteers; a neighborly bargain to be sure!



**Castro's
Tree Service**

Free Estimates
Jeff Castro

Ph#: (214) 337-7097

Cell#: (214) 725-1171

Fax#: (214) 337-5144

E-mail: jridefree@aol.com

Insured
&
Bonded

Specializing In: Tree Trimming, Cutting & Removal



***M*streets.com**

*"Visit my website to
search homes for sale."*

RE/MAX
ABOUT DALLAS

KEN LAMPTON
972-380-7937

VPNA ASSISTS LAKEWOOD NEIGHBORHOODS TO OPPOSE LAKEWOOD THEATER PARKING GARAGE

By Mark Rieves, 2012 VPNA President

In last month's newsletter, we explained why adding new parking lots along Greenville and Henderson Avenues actually ADD to the nighttime parking problem, increasing congestion and crime.

To summarize that article (posted in the "News" area on vickeryplace.org), when parking is limited, business landlords are forced to have a blend of daytime and nighttime businesses because those businesses must share the same parking lots – i.e., a daytime business uses a parking lot during the day and the nighttime bar-restaurant uses the same lot at night. When new parking is added, parking lots no longer have to be shared and daytime business are then replaced by nighttime bars and bar/restaurants because landlords can charge higher rents for nighttime business use.

A few weeks ago, VPNA was contacted by representatives of the Junius Heights (juniusheights.org) and Lakewood Heights (lakewoodheights.org) neighborhood associations regarding a proposed parking garage on Paulus Street, directly behind the Lakewood Theater. They had concerns that the structure would be an eyesore and add traffic/congestion on a street that is adjacent to residential property. Since they had read about the various zoning cases and parking challenges that VPNA faces on Lower Greenville and Henderson Avenues, they wanted to discuss this situation with us.

After meeting with the Lakewood neighborhood representatives, they quickly determine that this parking garage was a unfavorable to the residential neighborhoods for many reasons:

- This area is in a Planned District (PD). The specific zoning on Paulus Street (also part of the PD) is designed to provide a transitional buffer zone between the shopping center and the residential neighborhood. All other businesses in the Lakewood Center have willingly followed the existing zoning rules and most have thrived. A parking garage would greatly infringe upon this residential buffer zone and change a PD that is currently one of the most successful in Dallas.

- The zoning change applicant can eliminate their perceived parking needs by balancing tenants with a better mix of daytime and nighttime businesses.
- The proposed lower level parking lot adds 35 spaces. With valet service, that lot capacity easily increases to 50 spaces. Current nighttime bar-restaurant parking code requires one space per 100 sq.ft. of business space. This additional parking level would allow another 5000 sq.ft. of new nighttime bar or bar/restaurant space.
- Finally, this proposal is not about solving parking problems. It's about creating 5000 sq. ft. of NEW nighttime businesses that will quickly create a parking problem that does not exist today.

On April 18th, representatives of Junius Heights and Lakewood Heights Neighborhood Associations, with full support from VPNA and several other neighborhood associations, argued against the parking garage at the public hearing before the City Plan Commission (CPC). The CPC agreed with the neighborhoods and followed City Staff's recommendation to overwhelmingly recommended "Denial" of the Proposed Lakewood Theater Parking Garage. The proposal now goes before Dallas City Council for a final decision (date TBD).



GOOD NEIGHBOR TIP

Turn off your TV. Leave your house. Know your neighbors. The first three tenets of Build Your Community...

It's 6:00 a.m. and 5607 walks across his front yard next door to 5603 and picks up his elder neighbors newspaper. He deposits it in the old black rocking chair on her front porch. By 8:00, she has read the paper and after saving the crossword puzzle for herself, she takes the gently read front page, business section and sports page and lays it on his porch. After 5607 has read the paper, he extracts the sports section and takes it to one more house where 5611 reads his favorite section. Three neighbors have shared the same New York Times. It happens every day and the Vickery Place Community builds on.

Tell us about your street and the community building that is happening there. Go to vpna.org

LAKEWOODSTOCK

Come on down to Lakewoodstock on Sunday, May 20th at Lakewood Village Shopping Center (Gaston & Abrams). Enjoy live music (including Vickery Place resident Salim Nourallah), local food, and area artists from noon to 8:00 p.m. There will be kid and teen activities, and lots of fun surprises. Admission is free. Hop on your bike and peddle down to the festival--Boy Scout Troop #325 will be on hand to check your bike on the north side of the event. For more info, go to www.lakewoodstock.com.



CALL FOR ARTICLE AUTHORS!

We love good stories about local topics of interest including our area's history, schools, residents, and events. Send your idea for a newsletter or VPNA website article, to info@vpna.org. If you write the article and send us your picture, we will include that as well.

UR LAWN CARE

Maintenance & Landscaping

Call Uwe Reisch – 214-886-9202

E-mail: uwereisch@yahoo.com



SWISS AVENUE MOTHER'S DAY HOME TOUR

Treat your mother to the 39th Annual Swiss Avenue Mother's Day Home Tour, Saturday May 12th and Sunday May 13th! It's a weekend-long celebration showcasing some of the city's finest early 20th century homes.



Travel between the tour homes on air-conditioned mini coaches, or amble down the avenue in horse-drawn carriages, both provided at no charge.

Between tours, relax and refresh in Savage Park--food and beverages provided by near-by eateries, live music performed by area talent, and local artisans will be showcasing their wares on the median in front of Savage Park.

A Mother's Day Champagne Brunch in Savage Park on Sunday from 11am-2pm will feature entertainment by Matt Tolentino & The Singapore Slingers, a big-band-era orchestra specializing in music written between 1900 and 1935.

For ticket prices and more info, visit www.sahd.org.



DESIGN - BUILD - REMODEL



ChrisBlackConstruction.com 214-773-5566

3RD ANNUAL PEEP AT THE COOPS: THE EAST DALLAS URBAN COOP TOUR

Sunday May 20, 11:00am-5:00pm, Rain or Shine. Keep chickens in Dallas? You bet! More people than ever are flocking to the practical attraction of raising backyard chickens. They are natural food producers, pest control, compost makers, provide amusement for all ages and make beloved pets. Each chick has their own personality and their own style of coop, from the simple to the “eggs”travagant.

Stonewall Jackson Gardens and Outdoor Science Lab, 5828 East Mockingbird Lane, will once again serve as the Headquarters, where \$5 Coop Tour maps will be available, along with seminars given by “eggs”perts, t-shirts, raffle, food trucks and more. Visit www.apeepeatthecoops.org.



MORE LOCAL HAPPENINGS: PRE-MOM'S DAY TRUNK SHOW

“Pre-Mom’s Day Trunk Show” featuring sassy jewelry designs by Jewel Rehab of Garland, TX. May 6, 2012 from 12 - 4 p.m. at ART is ART. 2811 N. Henderson Ave., Dallas, TX 75206. For more details, please visit www.artisart.biz



DALLAS CITY COUNCIL APPROVES TWICE WEEKLY LANDSCAPE WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

Following one of the worst droughts since the 1950s, the Dallas City Council approved an ordinance limiting the use of sprinkler systems to twice weekly. The ordinance went into effect on Monday, April 23.

The conservation effort limits the use of automatic irrigation systems and hose-end sprinklers to no more than twice per week, although hand watering, soaker hoses and drip irrigation systems can be used more often. Dallas residents and businesses are reminded that the conservation ordinance prohibits watering with hose-end sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from April 1 through October 31.

Residents are asked to program and maintain their automatic sprinkler systems to use water as efficiently as possible and reminded that automatic systems are required to have working rain and freeze sensors.

Landscaping experts say the average lawn in north Texas only needs about one inch of water per week, even during the summer. Watering deeply and infrequently is the best for a healthy landscape with deep roots. The City of Dallas will allow variances for additional watering periods for new landscaping and special circumstances.

For Dallas customers, current water supplies are anticipated to meet demand through 2035. Moving to a twice weekly effort is expected to extend water supplies to 2045.

For more information on water conservation efforts in Dallas visit www.SaveDallasWater.com or call (214)-670-3155. For regular lawn updates check the following on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TxLawnWhisperer>

City of Dallas Maximum Twice Per Week Watering Schedule

Last Digit of Address	Watering Days Allowed
0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 (even numbers)	Sundays and Thursdays
1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 (odd numbers)	Saturdays and Wednesdays
No address number	Sundays and Thursdays

DALLAS LAWS, REQUIREMENTS AND RESOURCES FOR PET OWNERS

With the expansion of its human and animal populations (both domesticated and feral), the City of Dallas has adopted a number of laws and requirements for pet ownership and maintenance for pet owners. The City also provides information resources and programs for owners in need.

Common City of Dallas Laws and Pet Requirements:

1. **Registration:** Annual registration is required for all dogs and cats over four months of age residing in Dallas. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required.
2. **Spay / Neuter:** All dogs and cats in the City of Dallas must be spayed/neutered or need to obtain an Intact Animal Permit.
3. **Dangerous Dogs:** The Texas Health and Safety Code defines a dangerous dog as one who makes an unprovoked attack that causes bodily injury, or causes a reasonable person to believe that the dog will attack. In addition to the normal requirements for dog ownership, the owner or harbinger of a dangerous dog must register the dog as a dangerous dog, restrain the dog at all times on a leash or in a secure enclosure, and obtain liability insurance of at least \$100,000.
4. **Leash Law / Restraint:** Animals outside of a fenced yard or enclosed pen or structure must be restrained at all times by a tether or leash.
5. **Confinement / Tethering:** All animals must be confined at all times. Animals may only be tethered for three (3) hours in a 24-hour period.
6. **Pooper Scooper:** Persons having custody of a dog are required to remove in an immediate and sanitary manner any feces created by their dog on any property not controlled by them. It is further required that those individuals have in their possession a device for the safe and sanitary removal and disposal of the dogs feces.
7. **Noise:** Noise made by any animal is considered unreasonable if it continues for more than 15 minutes or exceeds the sound pressure level allowed in a residential district.

Violations may be reported to City Services through 3-1-1 or <http://dallascityhall.com/services/animals.html> and are subject to citation, and possible fine if observed by city officers at any time.

Resources:

- Dallas Animal Services: dallasanimalservices.org/
- Spay / Neuter Assistance Program: Dallas Animal Services offers free spay/neuter services for pets owned by qualified, low-income Dallas residents. See http://www.dallasanimalservices.org/spay_neuter.html for specific information
- Pet Tips (provided by the Humane Society of the United States): <http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/>
- Pet Care for Pet health, behavior, training, poison control, nutrition and more (provided by the ASPCA): <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/pet-care-tips/>
- Adoption Agencies: dallasanimalservices.org/adoption_agencies.html

Common Plants that are Poisonous to Pets (primarily dogs and cats) include: Azalea/Rhododendron, Baby's Breath, Begonia, Carnations, Castor Bean, Chrysanthemum, Cyclamen, Daffodil, Gladiola, Hosta, Ivy (California, Branching, Glacier, Needlepoint, Sweetheart, English Ivy), Lilies, Milkweed, Morning Glory, Oleander, Poinsettia, Pothos, Sago Palm, Tomato Plant, Tulip/Narcissus, Yew.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

As mentioned in the Wine Walk article Debbie Simurda will be providing food parings for the upcoming Wine Walk. Here is her recipe for Strawberry Shortcake With Lemon Biscuits:

This is a great basis recipe which can be varied with type of fruit (peaches, raspberries, blueberries). The biscuits can also be served for brunch. Makes 8 servings.

Lemon Biscuits:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups cake flour
- 1/2 cup sugar, plus more for sprinkling
- 2 tablespoons baking powder
- Pinch (1/16 teaspoon) kosher salt
- 1/2 cup cold butter (1 stick), cut into chunks
- 1 cup well-shaken buttermilk
- 1/2 cup cream, plus more for brushing
- Finely grated zest from one lemon

Strawberry Compote:

4 pints strawberries, stems removed and quartered
1/2 cup Grand Mariner (optional)

1/4 to 1/2 cup sugar

2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

Pinch (1/16 teaspoon) kosher salt

Can be warmed on the stove, low-medium heat for 20 to 30 minutes. Dissolve a tbsp. corn starch in some warm water then add to compote while it warms on the stove. Let cool.

Whipped Cream:

1 cup cold heavy cream

2 tbsp confectioners' sugar (or 1 tbsp granulated sugar)

Preheat oven to 400°F.

To Make Biscuits: In large bowl, sift together all-purpose and cake flours, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Use pastry cutter or fork to blend in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. In medium bowl, whisk together buttermilk and cream, then whisk in lemon zest. Add liquid mixture to dry mixture, stirring with fork just until dough forms. Turn dough out onto floured work surface and knead gently just until dough holds together,

about 10 turns. Place dough on plate, cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate until well chilled, at least 30 minutes.

On floured work surface, pat out dough to 1/2-inch-thick round. Using 3-inch cutter, cut out biscuits. Transfer to ungreased baking sheet, brush lightly with cream, and sprinkle with sugar.

Bake until golden brown, 15 to 18 minutes, then transfer to rack to cool.

To Make Compote: In large mixing bowl, combine strawberries, Grand Mariner, 1/4 cup sugar, lemon juice, and salt. Mix gently, taste, and add more sugar if needed. Let stand at room temperature until juices form, at least 30 minutes.

To Make Whipped Cream: Chill medium mixing bowl and whisk in freezer for 10 minutes before beginning. In chilled bowl, whisk cream until it begins to foam and thicken. Add sugar and continue to whisk just until soft peaks form. Do not over-whip.

To Plate: Cut biscuits in half horizontally and place each bottom half in wide bowl or on plate. Divide compote among bowls, spooning strawberries onto biscuit bottoms and pouring some juice into each bowl. Top each shortcake with Chantilly Cream and biscuit top.

Christopher

swam a half mile

in 17 minutes

Find Your Fitness

Christopher York was not a swimmer two years ago. The best he could do was tread water. Now he swims circles around competitors in triathlons.

For aspiring athletes, or anyone who wants to be faster, stronger and ahead of the game, personalized training is a stroke of genius.

50% off the enrollment fee when you join, or join with a friend and both receive 75% off.

Call 214.820.7872 or visit
LandryFitness.com

Tom Landry
FITNESS CENTER

The Tom Landry Fitness Center is part of
the Baylor Health Care System

We're on Facebook
and Twitter!
Follow us!



©2012 BHCS VP CE 02.12

MAY YARD OF THE MONTH

Sarah Mundy and Ame Barrier have been the proud owners of 5444 Richard Avenue since the summer of 2005. Since purchasing the Craftsman bungalow, the couple has made many improvements to the home and the property. The yard is one of the most striking on the street due to the sheer volume of the plants and flowers that lend a lush feel to the curb appeal of the home. The entire front yard is

NORTH HAVEN
Gardens



practically a flower bed with very little grass area. The beds are absolutely brimming with pink, magenta, yellow and Joseph's Coat roses. In the center of the yard stands a forest pansy red bud with it's deep rusty red heart shaped leaves. Under the red bud there are purple salvia, native grasses and zinnias. Next to the front porch you'll see a long hedge of yellow St. Johns wort with its fringed flowers. Other notable plants that lend to the dark and bright contrast in the beds are a purple fringe plant and a prominent white Acanthus plant (also known as bear's breeches) in full bloom. A visitor would almost certainly be forced to brush up against the many fragrant blooms to get to the porch, and what a lovely way to be greeted! Sarah and Ame will be awarded with a \$50 gift card to North Haven Gardens and, by the looks of their yard, it will be put to good use!

-Anna Short, Beautification Committee Chair

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Mark Rieves
Vice-President – Selena Urquhart
Treasurer – Greg O'Shea
Secretary – Debbie Simurda
Members at Large:
Beth Bentley Allan Cano
Julie Do Mary Kay Henley
Will Short

The Vickery Place Neighborhood News is published by
Vickery Place Neighborhood Association.
For sponsorship rates and information
email info@vickeryplace.org

For newsletter article submissions or questions
email: newsletter@vickeryplace.com



Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/VickeryPlace



Find us online VickeryPlace.org



Sign up for
neighborhood
crime watch &
e-newsletter emails
at VickeryPlace.org



NORTH HAVEN *Gardens*



Many
Rose Plants
are Heat
Tolerant!

Heat Tolerant Summer Plants!

We have a huge selection of heat tolerant perennials, shrubs and trees to keep your garden gorgeous! *Butterfly Bush, Texas Sage, Roses, Mexican Plum Tree, a rainbow of Salvias, & more!*

FREE summer programs & watering tips. Details at www.nhg.com

For gardens as wonderful as Vickery Place!
7700 Northaven Rd. (Just West of 75)
Open Daily ☎ 214-363-5316
www.NHG.com

