

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2002

Bluebonnet Highlands Extension Update

What you need to know.

Kim Walker

Editor

I recently contacted Councilman Culbertson regarding any updates regarding the Bluebonnet Extension. I was prompted to do so after hearing rumors that the plans for construction of the roadway were underway. For those of you who are new to the neighborhood and are unfamiliar with the Extension, please refer to our website which has some useful information that can bring you "up to speed" as to what has occurred in the past 24 months. The commitment from DPW is firm – when the time comes, DPW will meet with the committee members from Bluebonnet Highlands and discuss the planning/design of this roadway. Mr. Raiford indicated that DPW does not have enough preliminary information to meet with the homeowners however, when this information is made available, the committee will be contacted and the meeting will be set by Councilman Culbertson's office. I will continue to stay in contact with Council Culbertson regarding this matter and will advise you immediately if there are any changes. If you would like to have a copy of the emails, please contact me personally at KWalker603@aol.com.

Yard of the Month Challenge

Want to proudly display your immaculate lawn and landscape? Want to be the "Jewel" of your block and envy of the neighborhood? All you have to do is get out the old lawn/garden tools and get to work! Not only is this challenge a way to increase the overall beauty and appearance of our neighborhood, it's also a way spark some "friendly" competition among residents! Nominations for Yard of the Month are due by the 20th of each month.

February Yards of the Month

Fairhill

Jeffrey & Aloma Fauria
10647 Hillgate

Springlake

Christopher & Katie Alexander
10355 Springpark

Newsletter Distribution

This will be the last newsletter hand delivered to each residence. Due to the high cost of printing, the newsletter will be made available online every month for viewing. In Springlake, a flyer will be placed on each cluster mailbox informing residents that the newsletter is on-line for viewing. For Fairhill residents, a sign will be placed at the front entrance letting residents know as well. If you don't have Internet access and wish to have a copy mailed to you, please let us know.

For residents who have given us their email address, we will send a reminder email message that the newsletter is ready for viewing. Thanks for your understanding.

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- 4 Recipe of the Month

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Big Valentine Cookie

Ingredients:

- 1 package (18 ounces) NESTLÉ TOLL HOUSE Refrigerated Chocolate Chip, Chocolate Chunk, Chocolate Chip & White Fudge, Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip, Reduced Fat Chocolate Chip or Sugar Cookie Dough, well chilled
- Decorator icing (optional)
- Valentine's candies (optional)
- Melted chocolate (optional)

Directions:

SHAPE an entire package of cookie dough into heart shape on greased baking sheet.

BAKE according to package directions, adding 3 to 4 minutes to the baking time on the package. Cool on baking sheet for 1 minute; carefully loosen cookie with spatula. Cool on baking sheet completely.

DECORATE with candies, icing and melted chocolate.



Mardi Gras Parade Listings

Baton Rouge

- Friday, Feb 8
Southdowns 7:00pm
- Saturday, Feb 9
Mardi Gras Mambo 10K run 8:00am
Spanish Town Parade 12:00pm
- Sunday, Feb 10
Krewe of Mutts Parade 12:00pm

Wednesday, Feb. 6

- Saturn** - Uptown, 6:00 p.m.
Muses - Uptown, 6:45 p.m.
Thor - Metairie, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 7

- Babylon** - Uptown, 5:45 p.m.
Chaos - Uptown, 6:30 p.m.
Bards of Bohemia - CANCELLED
Excalibur - Metairie, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 8

- Hermes** - Uptown, 6:00 p.m.
Krewe d'Etat - Uptown, 6:30 p.m.
Aquila - Metairie, 7 p.m.
Orpheus - Mandeville, 7 p.m.
Selene - Slidell, 6:30 p.m.
Aphrodite - St. Bernard, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 9

- NOMTOC** - West Bank, 11:30 a.m.
Iris - Uptown, noon
Tucks - Uptown, 1 p.m.
Endymion - Mid-City, 4:15 p.m.
Ulysses - West Bank, 12:30 p.m.
Isis - Metairie, 6 p.m.
Bush - Bush, 9 a.m.
MCCA - Bogalusa, 2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 10

- Thoth** - Uptown, noon
Okeanos - Uptown, 11 a.m.
Mid-City - Uptown, 1:30 p.m.
Bacchus - Uptown, 5:15 p.m.
Poseidon - Gretna, noon
Mercury - Metairie, noon
Adonis - West Bank, 1 p.m.
Napoleon - Metairie, 5:30 p.m.
Tchefuncte - Madisonville, 2 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11

- Proteus** - Uptown, 5:15 p.m.
Orpheus N.O. - Uptown, 5:30 p.m.
Zeus - Metairie, 6:30 p.m.

Mardi Gras, Feb. 12

- Zulu** - Uptown, 8:30 a.m.
Rex - Uptown, 10 a.m.
Elks-Orl. - Uptown, after Rex
Crescent City - Uptown, after Elks
Argus - Metairie, 10 a.m.
Grela - West Bank, 10 a.m.
Elks-Gretna - West Bank, after Grela
Elks - Jeff. - Metairie, 11 a.m.
Jefferson - Metairie, 11 a.m.
Lions - Covington, 11 a.m.
Skunks - Lacombe, 1 p.m.
Chahta-Ima - Lacombe, 1:30 p.m.
Folsom - Folsom, 2 p.m.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY - FEBRUARY 2002

MARY ANN SHAD

Mary Ann Shadd was the first Black women editor of a newspaper in North America. She worked for racial integration in the United States. With the passage of the fugitive slave act in 1850, she decided that the future of Blacks looked better outside of the United States. Her conviction to the struggle for the rights of Blacks must have been inspired by her father Abraham Shadd, who was an abolitionist and opponent to the American Colonization Society.

Mary Ann Shadd was committed to the education of people of color. At the age of sixteen she went to Wilmington, Delaware to organize a school for children of color. Over the course of eleven years, Shadd taught in schools for black youth in New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. In 1851, she joined the immigrationist movement and with her brother Isaac moved to Toronto, Canada.

Once in Canada, Shadd found herself locked in battle with Henry Bibb. Bibb was a staunch supporter of segregation in contrast to Shadd Ann who sought racial integration. Bibb published a newspaper called the Voice of the Fugitive in which he frequently attacked Shadd's desire to assimilate. With the motto "Self reliance is the fine road to independence." Shadd founded the paper Provincial Freeman where she in turn challenged Bibb's desire for separation. Shadd used the paper to discuss all aspects of Black life in Canada. The paper exposed all aspects of segregation and discrimination in Canada.

In 1855 Shadd was the first woman to speak at the National Negro Convention. Frederick Douglass said that she gave one of the most convincing and telling speeches in favor of Canadian immigration. Shadd would eventually abandon her belief in immigration but would maintain a strong desire for Black autonomy and maintain her belief in Black self help. During the Civil War she worked as an enlistment officer.

Shadd eventually obtained a Law degree and continued to write letters and articles for newspapers. She increasingly turned attention to gender equality and actively participated in supporting rights for women. Shadd testified before Congress on women's suffrage.

During her life she lectured extensively to many groups on subjects including race pride, the Ku Klux Klan, the Republican Party and women's rights. Frederick Douglass spoke highly of Mary Ann Shadd.

CALENDAR

Feb 8th – Southdowns Parade

Feb 9th – Spanish Town Parade

Feb 10th – Krewe of Mutts Parade

Feb 12th – Mardi Gras

Feb 12th – Lincoln's Birthday

Feb 13th – Ash Wednesday

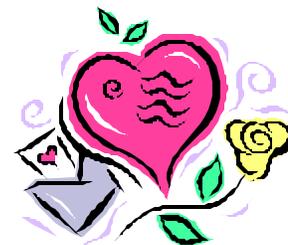
Feb 14th – Valentine's Day

Feb 22nd – Washington's Birthday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homeowner's Dues are due now. If you have not paid your dues, please contact Debbie DeJean @ Clark Taylor & Associates at 293-8320.

If you would like to nominate a Fairhill residence for Yard of the Month or have general questions about the neighborhood and you live in Fairhill, please send email to Becky Allemand at becky@cox.net. Becky is the new Fairhill contact person and staff member to the newsletter.



Newsletter Staff:
Kim Walker – Editor
Joni DeVilbiss – Co-Editor & Webmaster
Becky Allemand – Fairhill Coordinator
Mike Thompson – Crime Prevention Tips
Nancy Coon – Real Estate

C/O Kim Walker
10406 Springdale Avenue
Baton Rouge, La 70810 (225) 757-9227

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March 2002

Keep Bluebonnet Highlands Safe

Kim Walker



Recently, flyers were posted throughout the neighborhood about a lost puppy. Many of our residents are pet owners so I sympathize with them because pets are very special to their owners. One of the "lost puppy" signs was posted in such a way as to completely cover the STOP sign at the corner of Springbrook and Springlake Drive. This was very dangerous, because it could have caused a very serious accident within the neighborhood. If you need to post signs, please make sure they do not obstruct the view of our traffic signs. Please post signs below the traffic signs or on the mailboxes or in areas in which are considered common areas and will be viewed by all residents. We really need to keep Bluebonnet Highlands safe. It's going to take all of us to do so. No one else can do it for us!



Now don't ye
be forgettin' to
wear your
green!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Editor's Corner
- 1 Yard of the Month - March
- 2 St Patrick's Day
- 3 Recipe of the Month
- 4 Announcements & Calendar

Yard of the Month Challenge

Want to proudly display your immaculate lawn and landscape? Want to be the "Jewel" of your block and envy of the neighborhood? All you have to do is get out the old lawn/garden tools and get to work! Not only is this challenge a way to increase the overall beauty and appearance of our neighborhood, it's also a way spark some "friendly" competition among residents! Nominations for Yard of the Month are due by the 20th of each month.



Yards of the Month for March 2002

Fairhill

William & Cheryl Russell

10729 Hillwood

Springlake

Jason & Lori Jeansonne

10425 Springdale Avenue

KINDNESS COUNTS

Residents, if you are planning to entertain guests on your premises, please be courteous and respectful of your neighbors. Please ask your guests not to park on your neighbor's lawn. In addition, please make sure your guests do not litter in the yards of other residents. If you are experiencing any problems, please contact Debbie DeJean at 293-8320.

Let's continue to keep
Bluebonnet Highlands
beautiful!

The History of St. Patrick



Some 1,500 years ago, a teenage boy named Patricius, from what is now Great Britain, was kidnapped and enslaved by marauders from a neighboring country. Not since Paris and Helen of Troy has a kidnapping so changed the course of history. The boy they captured eventually became Saint Patrick. He escaped from Ireland, but returned of his own volition some years later. He had a vision and realized that he was handpicked by God to convert Ireland to Christianity.

So this former Britain turned Irishman forever changed Christianity as well as Ireland. The folklore and legends of St. Patrick come from myths about snakes and teaching people about Trinity by using a shamrock (hence the association of shamrocks with March 17). The chronology of his life is a bit confused and there is no way of telling when he was born, when he was ordained a bishop or when he died.

Only two documents exist that were written by the hand of Saint Patrick. In fact, they are the only written documents from Ireland or Britain from the fifth century. Experts do know, however, that he was born somewhere in Roman Britain into a somewhat wealthy family. He was not religious in his youth and there is evidence that he denounced his family's faith. He was enslaved to a local warlord and worked as a shepherd until he escaped some years later.

Upon his return, he started studying for the priesthood

with the intention of returning to Ireland as a missionary to his former captors. When he actually made it back is not clear or for how long he ministered there but it was definitely for a number of years. In the end, he made a commitment to Ireland and intended to die there and scholars agree that he probably did.

St. Patrick the man had humility and strength that helped him to overcome every obstacle he encountered while trying to convert the barbarians of Ireland. These were people who still practiced human sacrifice, who warred with each other constantly and were known as great slave traders of the day. It was definite that he had his work cut out for him and he worked his way through it himself without help.

During the six years he was enslaved, his education was set back and for this he would always be self-conscious. He was self-educated and should not have been considered uneducated by any means. He was an advocate against slavery for obvious reasons and became the first person to speak out against it. He was also an advocate of women as well and spoke of them in his writings as individuals, not temptations of flesh. He spoke of enslaved women and their high spirits despite the menacing terrors they endured. He was a great saint of the downtrodden and excluded.

By the time of his death, the Irish no longer participated in the slave trade and they never took it up again. Human sacrifice was also done away with, but war still remained a major theme though more confined and limited. The results of his conversions were astonishing and long lasting. He was responsible for the preservation of Western thought through the Dark Ages by the Irish monasteries founded by his successors. And when the lights went out all over Europe, Ireland remained one of the few lights left in the world.

Green Punch Recipe

Ingredients:

- 2 (3 ounce) packages lime flavored gelatin mix
- 1 quart hot water
- 1 (46 fluid ounce) can pineapple juice
- 2 (12 fluid ounce) cans frozen orange juice conc. (thawed)
- 2 cups white sugar
- 4 1/2 cups cold water
- 2 liters ginger ale

Directions: In a large saucepan dissolve the gelatin in 1 quart of hot water. Allow to cool. When gelatin is cool, pour into a large punch bowl, Stir in pineapple juice, orange juice concentrate, sugar and 4 1/2 cups cold water. Pour in ginger ale just before serving. ***makes 20 servings**

Nutrition at a glance

- Calories - 234
- Protein- 2g
- Total Fat –
- Sodium - 40mg
- Cholesterol –
- Carbohydrates - 58g
- Fiber -





EASTER EGGS – DID YOU KNOW?

Of all the symbols associated with Easter, the egg is the most identifiable. It is the symbol of fertility and new life. For centuries, eggs have been associated with the customs and traditions of Easter.

Originally Easter eggs were painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring. They were used in Easter-egg rolling contests or given as gifts. After they were colored and etched with various designs, the eggs were exchanged by lovers and romantic admirers, much the same as valentines. In medieval time, eggs were traditionally given to the servants at Easter. In Germany, eggs were given to children along with other Easter gifts.

Different cultures have developed their own ways of decorating Easter eggs. The people of Greece exchange Crimson eggs to honor the blood of Christ. In parts of Germany and Austria, green eggs are used on Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday). Slavic people decorate their eggs in special patterns of gold and silver.

Austrian artists design patterns by fastening ferns and tiny plants around the eggs. Then the eggs are boiled and the plants are removed, revealing a striking white pattern. The Poles and Ukrainians decorate eggs with simple designs and colors. A number of eggs are made in the distinctive manner called *pysanki* (to design, to write).

Pysanki eggs are a masterpiece of skill and workmanship. Melted beeswax is applied to the fresh white egg. It is dipped in successive baths of dye. After each dip, wax is painted over the area where the preceding color is to remain. Eventually a complex pattern of lines and colors emerges into a work of art.

In Germany and other countries, eggs used for cooking were not broken, but the contents were removed by piercing the end of each egg with a needle and blowing the contents into a bowl. The hollow eggs were dyed and hung from shrubs and trees during Easter Week. The Armenians decorate hollow eggs with pictures of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and other religious designs.

CALENDAR

- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20 Spring begins
- Mar 24 Palm Sunday
- Mar 29 Good Friday
- Mar 31 Easter
- Apr 7 Daylight Savings Time
- Apr 13 Baton Rouge Household Hazardous Materials Day
- Apr 22 Baton Rouge Earth Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Did you know...

Nine of the people who signed the Declaration of Independence were of Irish origin and nineteen Presidents of the United States claim Irish heritage, including our first President -- George Washington.





Welcome Spring!

Kim Walker
Editor

Warm wishes and a Springtime welcome to all residents! As

Springtime approaches, more and more residents will venture outside to enjoy the weather and fellowship with neighbors. If you're an avid gardener or if you just like the outdoors, the Springtime temperatures await you! It's also a great time to take advantage of getting to know your neighbors. There's nothing like community spirit - spread a little because it can be contagious. While preparing to welcome you to another edition, I was also preparing for a vacation to Kauai, Hawaii. Many have told me how beautiful Kauai is and that I will have a great time. I am excited and happy to venture off for a little R&R but I know that when I return, I will also be returning to a beautiful place - Bluebonnet Highlands!

Mahalo

Inside this issue....

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- Trashy Request from a Neighbor
- Seeking Volunteers for Clubhouse Committee
- Keep Bluebonnet Highlands Beautiful
- Bluebonnet Extension
- Pool Opening
- A Saturday Flutter By
- Annual Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day & Paint Swap
- The Operation KidSafe Child Safety Program
- Yards of the Month



"Trashy" Request From a Neighbor

As a resident of Springlake for two years, I have never noticed as much trash in our streets as I have in the last few months. No one wants their yard/neighborhood to look "trashy" and I ask everyone's help in solving this problem. As I walk around the neighborhood each afternoon, I have noticed that many of the residents put out a garbage can full of garbage versus having the pieces of garbage in bags. If trash is loose, it is inevitable that when the can is dumped, trash will fall out. Be a GREAT neighbor! Put your trash in bags so that we can all have a beautiful, litter-free yard/neighborhood!

Thanks in advance, Annette

Seeking Volunteers for This Year's Clubhouse Committee



If you would be interested in serving on the Clubhouse Committee, please call Kim at 757-9227 or send email to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org.

Keep Bluebonnet Highlands Beautiful

It is something we hear over and over and yet we still don't practice. Crawfish in a sewer drain is an unsightly mess but it could also clog the much needed drainage in our neighborhood. Flying tarpaper from construction sights is a nuisance and an eyesore. Several instances of contractor littering were reported to Clark Taylor's office in recent weeks. We want our neighborhood to be a nice place to live, a place we can be proud of. Don't let these types of negligence go by without saying something about it. It will take all of us!

Bluebonnet Extension

Possible meeting next month. Keep your ears open!

Pool Opening April the 14th

Summer is just around the corner and that means Fun in the Sun! Unless there are any unforeseen problems, the opening date for the pool is set for April the 14th. Of course, the water will be cool, but the weather is warming up enough for lying out. As most of us already know, we are without vending machines, so come to the pool prepared. Also please remember some of these very important rules:

- Hours are 8am-8pm. Extended hours for exercise only (laps in pool or tennis) are 6am-8pm.
- No one under the age of 18 is allowed in the pool area without an adult
- No glass containers are allowed
- No alcohol is allowed
- Only 2 guests allowed per household

In addition, let's please remember to clean up after ourselves. Last Summer, we had a group of residents that were on the "Clubhouse Committee". These residents helped with keeping an eye on the condition of the pool and supplies. A few of these residents have since moved so we are looking for any resident volunteers that would like to join us on the committee. If you would be interested in helping out, please contact Kim Walker at 757-9227.

Yards of the Month

Springlake	10313 Springdale Charlotte Napper
Fairhill	10848 Hillmont Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wright.

The Operation KidSafe Child Safety Program

Audubon Ford - 11455 Airline Hwy.
Friday, March 8 - 1-7 p.m.
Saturday, March 9 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
FREE OF CHARGE

Operation KidSafe will take a child's picture using a Digital Video Capture Device that interacts with our custom software. The software then captures the child's fingerprints, using digital ink-less fingerprint capture device, and includes them as part of the child's file. The parent is provided with an 8½"X11" printout, containing the photograph & fingerprints. In the upper right-hand corner is an individualized security number. The parent can use the copy they receive to turn over to law enforcement anywhere in the world to instantly aid in an investigation.

A Saturday Flutter By

Saturday, April 27, 8:00 AM 12:00 noon

On Saturday, April 27, the Red Stick Farmers' Market will host A Saturday Flutter By, an educational and inspirational day of activities celebrating butterflies. The Red Stick Farmers' Market is held each Saturday morning in the parking lot of the Municipal building in downtown Baton Rouge, North Blvd. at St. Louis Street. The Saturday Flutter By will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the opening bell.

The Red Stick Farmers' Market Saturday Flutter By will also host several local nursery owners who will offer plants that provide nourishment and habitat for butterflies as well as information on how to care for the plants. Other activities include a butterfly release and a door prize drawing.

The Red Stick Farmers' Market is a project of BREADA. For more information about this event, the Farmers' Market, or other BREADA sponsored project contact Andrew W. Smiley at 225-336-9532.

8:00 Opening Bell - Shop the market for trees and plants that provide nectar and habitat for butterflies and get tips from the professional nursery owners on how to plant and care for them.

9:30 - 10:00 Butterfly Presentation with Dr. Gary Noel Ross, recent recipient of the Governor's Conservation Communicator Of The Year Award.

Get the facts about butterflies in Louisiana, including how to attract them, what to feed them, and tips on creating a habitat for these and other creatures. Plus, learn about their migration patterns, local preservation efforts, and other timely info.

10:15 Butterfly Release, sponsored by Mizell Farms

10:15-11:30 Ask the Expert with Dr. Ross - This is an opportunity to ask a professional lepidopterist your specific questions about butterflies, their habits, and their habitats. Dr. Ross will be marketing his autographed butterfly books and posters at special prices!

11:45 Butterfly Gift Basket Giveaway -Register throughout the day for the door prize drawing.

12:00 Closing Bell

Location: Municipal Building Parking Lot, 300 North Blvd. at Saint Louis Street in Downtown Baton Rouge. The Red Stick Farmers' Market is a project of BREADA. For more information, call 225-336-9532.

**Annual Household Hazardous Materials
Collection Day & Paint Swap
Saturday, April 13th 8:00am-12:00pm**

The East Baton Rouge City Parish, Dow Chemical Company, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will hold the annual household hazardous waste collection Saturday, April 13th.

The Baton Rouge collection begins at 8 a.m. and runs until noon in the Memorial Stadium parking lot. Please enter from Scenic Highway at Foss Street. The Department of Public Works will have directional signs posted and there will be police officers stationed at critical points to direct participants to the site. There may be some delay but, please be patient and follow directions so that everyone can benefit from this event. For more directions see the map to the right.

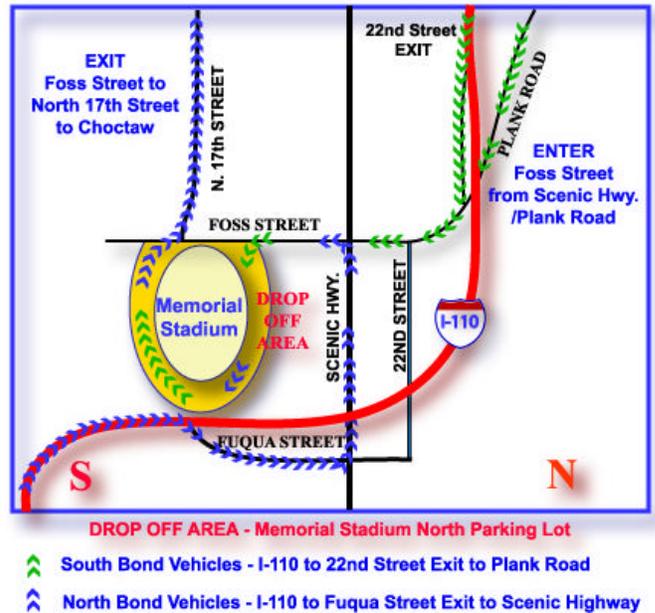
Dow will be collecting items such as fertilizers, pesticides, pool chemicals, household cleaners, and other common household products that contain hazardous materials and should not be disposed with general household waste in the landfill. This is a non-commercial collection day, residential collection day only.

This will be the 20th Household Hazardous Waste Material Collection since 1985 when the program began. Last year's collection prevented 186,287 pounds of household hazardous waste from being disposed in the landfill. Over time, the annual collection has diverted a total of 1,325,207 pounds.

The first 1,000 participants can also trade in their old leaky gas cans and receive a new 2.5-gallon environmentally friendly gas can from Dow for free.

In conjunction with the collection, DEQ will sponsor a paint swap at the event in Baton Rouge. Used motor oil collection will be sponsored by ExxonMobil. The Corporate Recycling Council will be collecting used electronic equipment including computer hardware, cell phones, copiers, fax machines and more, and Exide will be collecting used automotive batteries. Lamp Recyclers of Louisiana will accept fluorescent bulbs and elemental mercury articles and Southern Scrap Express will collect scrap metals.

For more information concerning the proper disposal of household hazardous waste materials, call the Environmental Services Department at Dow Chemical's Louisiana Operations at (225) 353-6094 or (225) 685-6094, or contact the City Parish Recycling Office at (225) 389-5194 or visit the City of Baton Rouge Recycling site at <http://ci.baton-rouge.la.us/Dept/Recycle/default.htm>.



CALENDAR

Apr 1st	April Fool's Day
Apr 7 th	Daylight Savings Time
Apr 13 th	Baton Rouge Household Hazardous Materials Day
Apr 14 ^h	Pool Opening
Apr 22 nd	Baton Rouge Earth Day
Apr 24th	Administrative Professionals Day
Apr 27th	A Saturday Flutter By
May 1st	May Day
May 12th	Mother's Day
May 18th	Armed Forces Day
May 27 th	Memorial Day

Newsletter Staff:
 Kim Walker – Editor
 Joni DeVilbiss – Co-Editor & Webmaster
 Becky Allemand – Fairhill Coordinator

webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org



C/O Kim Walker
 10406 Springdale Avenue
 Baton Rouge, La 70810 (225) 757-9227



Her love is like an island
In life's ocean, vast and wide
A peaceful, quiet shelter
From the wind, the rain, the tide.
'Tis bound on the north by Hope,
By Patience on the West,
By tender Counsel on the South
And on the East by Rest.
Above it like a beacon light
Shine Faith, and Truth, and Prayer;
And thro' the changing scenes of life
I find a haven there.
- Author Unknown

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- **Keep Bluebonnet Highlands Beautiful**
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Keep Bluebonnet Highlands Beautiful

Please refrain from parking "For Sale" automobiles along Bluebonnet Boulevard. Parking on the grounds damages the grass, is very unsightly and devalues the property of the neighborhood. If you have an automobile that you wish to sell, please post your flyers on the mailboxes or contact the newsletter. We will be more than happy to list the sale on our newsletter website. In addition, please refrain from parking on the median along the Bluebonnet. This practice is very dangerous and could be the cause of a serious accident or injury. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Clark Taylor's office.

Clubhouse Committee Established

This year's committee members are as follows:

Becky Allemand 819-1801
Iron Archie 757-8226
Boyd Charles 769-7847
Greg Fahey 819-8439
Mark Simoneaux 763-9878
Kim Walker 757-9227
Melissa Dillon 757-9026 (alternate)



Members will check the clubhouse (pool, restrooms and grounds area) on their assigned duty days. If you have any concerns while visiting the clubhouse, contact the individual(s) listed above or Clark Taylor's office.

Make your life easier -

Many residents (new and old) are not aware that there are homeowner's dues. The annual homeowner's dues are \$204 per year. They are due January 1st of each year. The entire balance may be paid in full or semi-annual payments of \$102 can be made in January and July. Residents who would like to be billed with an invoice via email, please forward your email address to Debbie at Clark Taylor's office and she will send your invoice directly to you! Her email address is dejean4121@cox.net. Remember that dues must be current in order to take advantage of our wonderful clubhouse, tennis courts and swim facilities.

Bluebonnet Extension Meeting with Committee Members fast approaching

In an email message from Councilman Culbertson on Thursday, April 25th, 2002, he stated that Mr. Fred Raiford and the engineer would soon be ready to meet with the resident committee to discuss the concerns and suggestions for the widened roadway. Hopefully, the meeting will address all of the concerns of the residents. Our voice will be heard in the design and implementation process!

As of print, the date, time and location of this meeting have not been finalized; however, it is expected to take place in mid-May. Once the meeting occurs, the committee will report back to the neighborhood at large.

The resident committee members are as follows:

Becky Allemand
Kelly Jolivette
Gene Pennison
Paul Roberts
Freddy Smith
Kim Walker

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. If you have any questions, you can call Kim Walker at 757-9227

Clubhouse Tidbits

The clubhouse is closed on Mondays for regular scheduled pool maintenance. **The hours are from 8am – 8pm.** If you would like to swim laps in the early hours of the morning, call Debbie DeJean at Clark Taylor's office to have your card programmed to enter at 6:00am. Adults only at this time please – no kids allowed to play or swim during early hours.

Unless dues are current, your entry card will not allow access to the clubhouse gate. Residents should not allow other residents access. This is unfair to residents who have paid their dues in a timely manner.

The outside showers have been installed for your use and convenience. Please make sure they are turned off after each use. It will help keep costs down. Thank you in advance.

Would you like to rent the clubhouse?

Visit our website for more information.

Yard of the Month

Mona Ragan & Karen Miller
10868 Hillmont

Gabrielle Lundin
10254 Springbrook

CALENDAR

May 1	May Day
May 4-5	New Orleans Jazz Fest Breux Bridge Crawfish Festival
May 5 – 11	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 12	Mother's Day
May 18	Armed Forces Day
May 27	Memorial Day
June 14	Flag Day
June 16	Father's Day
June 21	Summer Begins

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 6

June 2002

Happy Father's Day

Father's Day, contrary to popular misconception, was not established as a holiday in order to help greeting card manufacturers sell more cards. In fact when a "father's day" was first proposed there were no Father's Day cards!



Mrs. John B. Dodd, of Washington, first proposed the idea of a "father's day" in 1909. Mrs. Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart. William Smart, a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife (Mrs. Dodd's mother) died in childbirth with their sixth child. Mr. Smart then raised the newborn and his other five children by himself on a rural farm in eastern Washington state. It was after Mrs. Dodd became an adult that she realized the strength and selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent.

The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910 in Spokane Washington. At about the same time in various towns and cities across American other people were beginning to celebrate a "father's day." In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day. Finally in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day.

Father's Day has become a day to not only honor your father, but all men who act as a father figure. Stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, and adult male friends are all honored on Father's Day!

Inside this issue....

- Happy Father's Day
- Bluebonnet Extension Meeting
- Abandoned Baby Ducks
- Cat and Kittens Need Home
- Clubhouse Etiquette
- Clubhouse Committee
- Hurricane Season
- Yard of the Month
- Calendar

Summer's Here – Keep our kids safe

Summer is officially here! Many of our neighborhood kids are out of school for their summer vacation. With this in mind, many will seek out the clubhouse to enjoy the pool and playground area. Please be aware of children accessing the clubhouse. It's our duty to make sure our kids are not only having a great time but are also safe in the process.

Calendar

June 14 th	Flag Day
June 16 th	Father's Day
June 21 st	Summer Begins
July 4 th	Independence Day
	Everybody plan on showing some spirit and lets paint the town Red, White and Blue.

Yard of the Month Challenge



Want to proudly display your immaculate lawn and landscape? Want to be the "Jewel" of your block and envy of the neighborhood? All you have to do is get out the old lawn/garden tools and get to work! Not only is this challenge a way to increase the overall beauty and appearance of our neighborhood, it's also a way to spark some "friendly" competition among residents! Send your nominations by the 20th of each month to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org.

Yards of the Month

Joseph & Charlotte Stevens at 10640 Hilltree

Lisa and Jason Hargrave at 10561 Springlen Ct

Bluebonnet Extension Meeting Update

May 7th, 2002 at the Dept of Public Works

Attendees:

Jeff Broussard – Assistant Director, DPW

Dr. Pat Culbertson – District Councilman

Ken Morales – Project Engineer, Professional Engineering Consultants Corp.

Bluebonnet Highlands Committee Members:

Becky Allemand – Fairhill

Kelly Jolivette – Fairhill

Gene Pennison – Springlake

Paul Roberts – Springlake

Fred Smith – Springlake

Kim Walker – Springlake



About the project:

- In August of 2001, the city contracted with Professional Engineering Consultants Corporation (7600 GSRI Avenue Baton Rouge, La 70820 225-769-2810) to design the extension from Burbank to Nicholson Drive
- The total estimated cost of the project is 8 million dollars. The majority of the cost of the project is the addition of drainage/curb and gutter, 1/8 of the cost is the asphalt overlay.
- In October or November of 2002, the project will be advertised for bidding for a minimum of 25 days.
- The Metro Council will review the bid(s) and make a selection.
- All parties will execute the contract with construction beginning shortly thereafter.
- The construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2002, but may not begin until January 2003.
- The project is expected to take approximately 1 year to complete.

About the Road:

- The extension will consist of two parts – Residential and Rural with a 4 Lane Boulevard – 2 lanes in each direction for 2 ½ miles. The road will be equipped with an asphalt overlay, used as a sound barrier for quieter riding. It will also include curb and gutters throughout. The drainage will be enhanced with enlarged piping to carry the water load.
- New drainage pipes will be installed first.
- All necessary elevations will be met – will be raised in grade 1-foot in some areas where necessary.
- Existing road will be completely taken out. A temporary roadway will be erected on one side, while the other side is being constructed.
- Two lanes will be open at all times to allow entrance and exit from the neighborhood.
- Contractor will maintain driveways during construction allowing those residents living on Bluebonnet access to their homes.
- The existing 100ft right-of-way will be undisturbed.
- The existing 30ft grass median will be reduced to 20ft, with the roadway extending 7ft closer to homeowners along the Boulevard.
- There will be a 10ft landscape servitude. Existing landscaping has not been fully addressed. Landscape plans will be addressed and presented to the Bluebonnet Highlands Committee Members.
- The existing 5-foot sidewalks will remain undisturbed.
- Sidewalks are proposed from Burbank to Nicholson.
- The boulevard will have lighting from Nicholson to Burbank.
- Trucks carrying hazardous materials will not allowed from Nicholson to Burbank.
- Traffic light to be considered near the Recreational Center because of concern for the safety of children traveling on foot.
- The first set of mailboxes for Springlake will be relocated. This will be discussed with Clark Taylor.



Abandoned Baby Ducklings

Baby ducklings that have been abandoned by their mother will probably have little chance of survival on their own. Lorry and Mark have set up an incubator to nurse stranded babies until they are large enough to be returned to the lake. They currently have 5 chicks in residence. One is about 5 weeks old and the other four are only about 5 days old. Accommodations include a large shaded cage with seaweed swimming pool and view of visiting ducks that come to feed daily on the porch. If you find abandoned baby ducks, please call Lorry and Mark at 761-9265 or send email to Lorry2tv1@aol.com. Lets all work together to keep our duck population healthy and strong.



The big ducks from the lake come up to visit and Lorry gives them treats too.



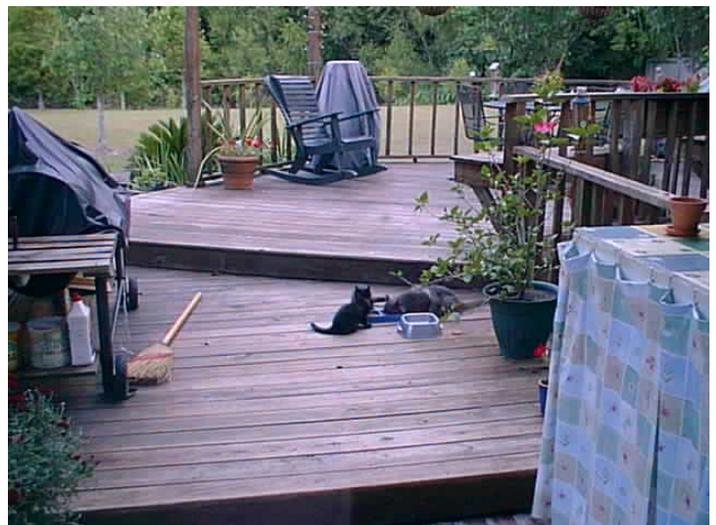
Check out these accommodations complete with ramp and swimming pool. Lorry even brings in fresh seaweed every day.



Peep is the oldest and the younger ones have adopted Peep as their surrogate mother or big sister.

Mother cat and kittens need home

Found: gray, long-haired female cat with two small fluffy black kittens living under deck on Springlake Drive. The kittens have been eating dry cat food for two weeks. If these are your cats, please call Cindy at 761-0352. If they aren't claimed and someone would like to adopt them, please call. Cindy says that they are adorable and she loves to watch them play, but due to allergies, she isn't able to keep them.





Hurricane Season

Did you know that Hurricane Season lasts from June through September?
It's time to start thinking and preparing for the possibility. It pays to be prepared.

Do you have an Evacuation Plan?

- Where would you go if you are told to evacuate? Choose a few different places – an out of town relative, an out of town friend, a hotel.
- Have telephone numbers and road maps handy
- Listen to radio or TV for evacuation instructions. If you are advised to evacuate, then do it right away. The longer you wait, the more traffic and congestion there will be.
- Do your family members know where to meet you?
- Do your out of town relatives know where to reach you?

Prepare a Hurricane Disaster Kit

Some items you may want to include:

- First aid kit
- Essential medications.
- Can opener and canned food
- Bottled water - at least three gallons per person.
- Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags
- Batteries and battery-powered radio and flashlight
- Keep in mind the needs of elderly or disabled family members.

Hurricanes Bring High Winds

- You can buy pre-cut 1/2 inch outdoor plywood to cover each window of your home. It would be a good idea to pre-drill any holes so that it can be installed quickly in case there is a need.
- Trees can be made less wind resistant. Trim dead or damaged limbs and selectively remove branches to thin and therefore allow the wind to blow through.
- Bring in or secure lawn furniture, trash cans, potted plants and other items that could be blown and cause damage.

What should you do in case of a Hurricane WATCH?

A hurricane watch means that hurricane conditions are *possible* within 36 hours.

- Listen to the radio and TV for up-to-date information. Forewarned if forearmed.
- Make sure you have a full tank of gas in case you need to evacuate
- Think about covering windows
- Make sure you have an evacuation plan
- Have your Hurricane Disaster Kit ready

What should you do in case of a Hurricane WARNING?

A hurricane warning means that hurricane conditions are *expected* within 24 hours.

- Listen to the radio and TV for up-to-date information.
- If you are told to evacuate, then do it quickly
- Stay inside and away from windows.
- Remember that the eye of the storm is deceiving and just because the storm calms down, does not mean that it is over. The worse part of the storm is on the other side when the wind blows the opposite way.
- Tornadoes can be a by-product of hurricanes. In case of a tornado, stay inside and move to a central part of the home away from windows. Got to a closet or bathroom.
- Beware of flood waters. Do not drive through a flooded street. Six inches of moving water can knock a person down and as little as two feet of moving water can wash away your car. If you get stuck on a flooded road with rising water, get out of your car and climb to higher ground.
- If the power goes out, please use flashlights rather than candles.

Clubhouse Etiquette

The pool area and grounds are to be enjoyed by all residents who have paid their dues and wish to relax and enjoy! As you know, a clubhouse committee has been formed to oversee the clubhouse to ensure it is ready for your everyday use. Many of our members work and volunteer their extra time to check the clubhouse on their duty days. Remember to be responsible for your actions. Please help the members by adhering to the following clubhouse etiquette rules:

1. No eating in the pool (large or small kids wading pool). Please utilize the pool tables/umbrellas to enjoy your snacks and sodas. Additionally, there is a picnic table near the playground equipment for your use if the poolside tables are taken.
2. No horseplay in the pool area or in the pool(s).
3. Adults should accompany small children in the restrooms.
4. Please remove all trash from the patio tables. Be courteous - wipe up drink spills and wipe down your chaise lounge after sunning to remove residual tan oils, lotions, etc.
5. Please lower the umbrellas after use.
6. Turn outside showers to "off" after use.
7. Turn off lights in restrooms after use. This will keep our costs down and conserve energy.
8. If you use the skimmer, please return it to the area kept alongside the fence closest to the clubhouse.
9. DO NOT allow entrance for other homeowners with the use of your gate key pass. This is unfair to members who have paid their Homeowner Dues. If you have any questions regarding this policy, contact the Homeowner's Association at 293-8320.
10. Follow all rules as posted regarding the Tennis Court.
11. Please throw empty tennis ball canisters into the trash can.

As a reminder, the pool is closed on Mondays for cleaning and maintenance. Mr. Guy Oliver is responsible for pool maintenance. Overall, he has done a great job, but if you notice the pool has an unusual amount of dirt or debris after the scheduled maintenance, please contact him at 954-2475. Mr. Oliver prides himself on providing us with a clean pool. We are working on getting a new skimmer, as the old one appears to be on its last leg! In addition, we are also trying to get a new life ring. We will keep you posted.

Clubhouse Committee

This year's committee members are as follows:

Sunday: Mark Simoneaux 763-9878

Monday: closed for cleaning

Tuesday: Greg Fahey 819-8439

Wednesday: Boyd Charles 769-7847

Thursday: Becky Allemand 819-1801

Friday: Iiron Archie 757-8226

Saturday: Kim Walker 757-9227

Alternate: Melissa Dillon 757-9026

Alternate: Dianna Vantimmeren 769-6315

Members will check the clubhouse (pool, restrooms and grounds area) on their assigned duty days. If you have any concerns while visiting the clubhouse, contact the individual(s) listed above or Clark Taylor's office at 292-2020.

Next time you are at the clubhouse, remember to check the lost and found box – it's getting full.

It's That Time Again

Annual homeowner's dues are payable on January 1st of each year. Dues can be paid in one of two methods.

1. A one time fee of \$204
2. \$102 at the first of the year and again on June 1.

To request an invoice via email, send email to Debbie at Clark Taylor's office: dejean4121@cox.net.

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Clubhouse News

Many of our residents are enjoying the Clubhouse and its facilities, in particular, the pool. In an effort to keep our pool(s) safe, Clark Taylor and Associates have removed the tables and umbrellas from the clubhouse premises. On the weekend of June 22nd, a table was found overturned and the entire glass portion of the table shattered, causing glass to spill over into the pool and on the ground. While performing his Sunday cleaning duties, our clubhouse committee member, Mr. Mark Simoneaux, noticed the overturned table. He was able to clean up majority of the broken glass. On Monday, Mr. Olivier performed a thorough cleaning and vacuuming of the pool, as the pump ran all weekend and glass could have easily spread across the entire floor of the pool. Last year, we experienced the same problem as a result of the umbrellas being left open and the wind causing the tables to overturn. The loss of the tables is regrettable; however the safety of our residents is more important. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this matter, we ask that you contact Clark Taylor & Associates at 293-8320.

Neighborhood Break-ins

As of June 30, 2002, there have been no new auto break-ins reported. The incidents that occurred earlier in the month were between the hours of 3:00am and 5:00am and four Springlake residents were directly affected. If you notice a car driving suspiciously slow through the neighborhood, do not hesitate to call the Sheriff's Office at 389-5000.

Inside this issue...

- Flag etiquette
- Clubhouse news
- Yards of the month
- Update – recent auto break-ins
- Neighborhood Watch
- Recipes

*Show your
American Pride
this 4th of July*

Neighborhood Watch

Recently, Bluebonnet Highlands has experienced a rash of auto break-ins. We cannot tolerate this in our neighborhood. It's going to take a combined effort from our residents to be aware of our surroundings and report any suspicious activity. Several neighbors have requested a revival of our Neighborhood Watch program. **If you are interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch Task force for Bluebonnet Highlands, please contact us immediately here at the newsletter.** You may send email to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org or call Kim at 757-9227. Once a committee has been organized, they will contact the Neighborhood Watch program with the Sheriff's Department and designate a meeting place and time. Each resident will be notified.

Yards of the Month



Fairhill

10724 Hillglen
George & Terri Bell

Springlake

10116 Springbrook
Ronald Davenport



Happy Independence Day – Flag Etiquette

The Flag Code, which formalizes and unifies the traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag, also contains specific instructions on how the flag is not to be used. They are:

The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.

The flag should not be used as a drapery, or for covering a speaker's desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.

The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard

The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.

The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind.

The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.

The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.

When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country; it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

Constitution of the United States

The system of fundamental laws of the United States of America. The Constitution was drawn up by 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia during the summer of 1787 and ratified by the states in 1788. The Constitution defines distinct powers for the Congress of the United States, the president, and the federal courts. This division of authority is known as a system of checks and balances, and it ensures that none of the branches of government can dominate the others. The Constitution also establishes and limits the authority of the federal government over the states and spells out freedoms and liberties for U.S. citizens.



Spitz

This is one of the kittens mentioned in last month's newsletter. He has been adopted into a good home.

Practice Pet Etiquette and be kind to your neighbors - "Scoop your Pet's Poop"!

Fourth of July Bake

(Casserole)



1. Pour 14 ounces of elbow macaroni in 4 quarts of rapidly boiling water. Boil 4 to 6 minutes. Drain.
2. Empty into large baking dish. Sprinkle with grated cheese.
3. Arrange 16 cherry tomatoes as the stars in flags and 8 frankfurters as the stripes.
4. Place in 375 degrees oven and bake for 15 to 20 minutes. Serves 4.

Patriotic Mold

Red Layer:

1 (3oz.) pkg Jell-O strawberry gelatin (use 1 1/3 cup water)
1 (10oz) pkg Bird's Eye quick thaw strawberries

White Layer:

1 (3oz.) pkg Jell-O lemon gelatin (use only 1 cup water)
1 pt. Vanilla ice cream, slightly softened

Blue Layer:

1 (3oz.) pkg. Jell-O Lemon, black cherry, or Concord grape or black raspberry gelatin
1 1/2 cup fresh, froze or drained canned blueberries, mashed
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup boiling water
1/2 cup cold water

Dissolve strawberry gelatin in 1 1/3 cups boiling water. Add frozen strawberries. Stir gently until fruit thaws and separates. Chill until thickened. Pour into an 8 cup mold (star-shaped, if desired), a 9-cup Bundt pan, or straight-sided saucepan. Chill until set, but not firm.

Dissolve 1 package lemon gelatin in 1 cup boiling water. Blend in ice cream, beating until smooth. Chill until thickened. Spoon over strawberry mixture in mold. Chill until set, but not firm.

Dissolve remaining package of lemon gelatin and the sugar in 1 cup boiling water. Add 1/2 cup cold water; chill until thickened. Stir in blueberries and spoon over lemon ice cream mixture in mold. Chill until firm, or overnight. Unmold. Makes about 8 cups or 12 to 14 servings.

Fireworks Safety



To help you celebrate safely this Fourth of July, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Council on Fireworks Safety offer the following tips:

- Always read and follow label directions.
- Have an Adult present.
- Buy from reliable sellers.
- Use outdoors only.
- Always have water handy (a garden hose and bucket).
- Never experiment or make your own fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Never relight a “dud” firework (wait 15 to 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water).
- Never give fireworks to small children. If necessary, store fireworks in a cool dry place.
- Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trashcan.
- Never throw or point fireworks at other people.
- The shooter should always wear eye protection and never have any part of the body over the firework.
- Stay away from illegal explosives.

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A Message to all Residents

Kim M. Walker

Our community has been stunned with several unsolved homicides over the last few weeks. In addition, several children across the country have been abducted and murdered in many cases from the protective arms of their homes and families. On a more personal level, vandals breaking into our cars and stealing possessions from our property in the still of the night have victimized **our** neighborhood. Having said this, we must wake up and be aware of our surroundings. We can't control what is going to occur from day to day however; we can take precautions to try to make the world we live in a safe place. If necessary, become a "nosey" neighbor. Report suspicious activity. Participate in our upcoming neighborhood watch meeting – details are included in this newsletter. Check local programs aimed at offering safety awareness programs. Have fun however, in the process, be safe and cautious. Take care and continue to have a great summer!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 A Message to Neighbors
- 1 Annual Homeowner's Meeting & Neighborhood Watch Program
- 1 Yards of the Month
- 2 Recipes of the Month
- 2 Real Estate Information
- 3 Announcements

Annual HOA Meeting Set

The Bluebonnet Highland's annual Homeowner's meeting has been set.

**The Bluebonnet Branch Library
August 29th, 2002
6:00 pm**

Immediately following the homeowner's meeting, **Captain Ronnie Brouillette will join us from The Sheriff's Department Neighborhood Watch Program. Mr. Brouillette will help us re-start our watch program.**

**TO MAKE OUR WATCH PROGRAM WORK, WE
NEED AT LEAST 50% PARTICIPATION.**

PLEASE ATTEND.

Please attend the HOA meeting and stay for the Watch meeting. We will need several person(s) throughout the neighborhood to serve on the watch committee as well as block captains.



YARDS OF THE MONTH

Springlake Molly & Matt Jones 10433
Springwind Court

Fairhill Stephen & Margaret Sawyer
10709 Hillwood Ave

RECIPES OF THE MONTH



SPICY MEXICAN DIP CROCK POT

Brown 2 lbs. ground beef with a chopped medium onion. Drain off fat. Place this in a 2 1/2-quart crock pot and add: 1 can red enchilada sauce (your call on how hot), 1 small can green chilies, 1 regular can cream of chicken soup, 3/4 lb. of Velveeta cheese, and 1 small can mushrooms (optional). Put pot on high and cook 2 hours stirring occasionally to mix ingredients. Yummy with tortilla chips!



LIME SHERBET PUNCH

- 1 1/2 Gallon Lime Sherbet Ice Cream
- 2 2 Liter 7-Ups
- 1 Bottle Ginger Ale - approx. 1 liter

Serves approximately 30 people.

Help Stamp out the Pests – A Springlake resident suggested we all treat our yards on the same weekend and stamp out the pests in our neighborhood. On the weekend of August 9, 10, and 11, choose your own favorite pesticide and let's get rid of those ants, bugs, rodents, etc. Also remember to empty standing water from containers outside. It is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.



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The raw data for the following real estate information was provided courtesy of Merdis Ard your neighborhood realtor with [Keller Williams Realty](#) at 768-1850.

FAIRHILL

Comparing 6 homes that were sold 5/3/02 - 7/3/02

New Homes

Avg. Sq. Ft.	2016
Avg. Price per Sq. Ft.	\$97.00
Avg. Purchase Price	\$195,750
Avg. Days on Market	165

Resale Homes

Avg. Sq. Ft.	1898
Avg. Price per Sq. Ft.	85.5
Avg. Purchase Price	\$161,250
Avg. Days on Market	69

SPRINGLAKE

Comparing 15 new homes and 13 resale homes that were sold 1/25/02 - 6/28/02

	Average	Min	Max
New Homes			
Sq. Ft.	1610	1499	1673
Price per Sq. Ft.	\$95.98	\$91.14	\$101.00
Purchase Price	\$154,557	\$139,350	\$161,900
Days on Market	58	0	160
Resale Homes			
Sq. Ft.	1594	1410	1900
Price per Sq. Ft.	\$89.27	\$75.37	\$97.00
Purchase Price	\$141,384	\$130,000	\$155,000
Days on Market	60	5	199

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Personal safety at the Clubhouse. Please do not allow anyone to enter the clubhouse walk-in gate or drive-up gate if they do not have an access card. Clark Taylor's office was called on the weekend of July 20th to report non-residents at the clubhouse sexually harassing many of our female residents. If you are at the clubhouse and feel threatened in any way – CALL THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AT 389-5000 IMMEDIATELY.

Homeowner's Association Dues are Past Due – If you pay in installments, the second half of the annual homeowner's dues was due at the beginning of July. If you have not paid your dues, please contact Debbie DeJean at 293-8320. Failure to pay your dues will result in a loss of clubhouse privileges.

Respect clubhouse rules and regulations. Please remove trash/debris after use from the pool area. No eating is allowed in the pool.

Are you aware of neighborhood business/service owner/operators? We have Decorator Services, Fitness Consultants, Food Vendors, Cellular Service Representative, Real Estate Specialists, Tutoring and Pet Sitting Services. Visit our website at <http://www.bluebonnethighlands.org>.

A resident on Springpark had two decorative ceramic pots stolen from their front porch. If you notice strange or suspicious activity, please report it to the proper authorities. The phone number for the sheriff's department is 389-5000.

Be aware of the "Children at Play" signs in the neighborhood. Also, please obey the STOP signs and follow the speed limit. Safety in our neighborhood should be our #1 concern. Residents have reported incidents of speeding along the boulevard and within the neighborhood. Obeying the posted speed limits must begin with us. Do your part and drive the speed limit.

Would you be interested in donating \$5.00 towards planned activities at the clubhouse for all residents? If so, please contact Becky Allemand (Fairhill) at 819-1801 or Kim Walker (Springlake) 757-9227. We would like to create an activity committee to plan events for the rest of the year.

The Springlake Yard of the Month Yard Sign was damaged. The cost to replace the sign is \$35.00. Kim Walker has replaced the sign twice within the past 18 months at her own expense. If you would like to donate to maintain the Yard of the month sign, please contact Kim at 757-9227.

We need your suggestions - Whether it's positive or negative, your feedback will allow us to bring you what you want to hear.

Be considerate of your neighbors and your pets – Please do not let your dogs run loose in the neighborhood. They can be destructive when left unattended and without identification. Your neighbors may be forced to contact animal control if you do not take responsibility for their actions.

Springlake Mailboxes - Kathryn Chalas, a Springlake Resident, contacted the newsletter regarding circulating a petition in Springlake to acquire individual mailboxes instead of the cluster boxes presently installed. At last years' homeowner's meeting, Clark Taylor indicated he would consider the petition to allow individual mailboxes like the ones installed in Fairhill, but in order for it to be considered, the petition must have the signatures evidencing at least 51% participation from the residents of Springlake. A choice would have to be made on the specific design of the mailbox and each individual homeowner would handle the mailbox cost for their lot. If you are interested, please contact Kathryn Chalas at TKYouth@aol.com

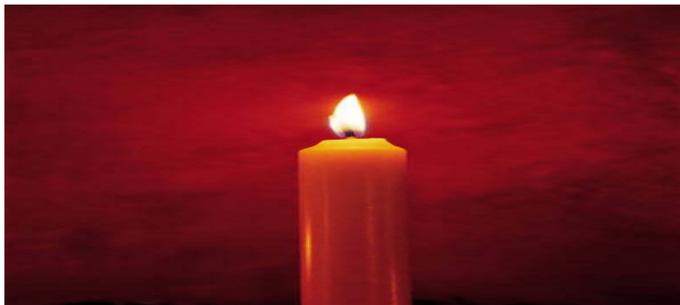
One Year Later...

Kim M. Walker – Editor

It has been one year since the tragic events of September 11th. One year later, we are faced with remembering the horrific acts of terror and loss. I urge each and every resident to never forget those tragic events. Personally, my family will light a candle to remember and celebrate the lives of those stolen from us – lives I didn't even know – nevertheless, worthy of celebration and praise. It's our way of "never forgetting".

As I look at my five-year old daughter, who is growing like a weed, I think about how precious and short life really is. In minutes, it can be changed forever. As I reflect one year later, which I hope you will too, take time to smell the roses, live a little, laugh a lot, and love forever.

Remembering September 11th



*"You can be sure that the American Spirit will prevail over this tragedy."
Colin Powell*

Yards of the Month

Fairhill: Charles & Linda Gayles
10754 Hillshire

Springlake: Toni Everett
10413 E. Springwind Court

Homeowner Meeting Recap

The following is a summation of the Annual Homeowner's Meeting held Thursday, August 29, 2002 at the Bluebonnet Branch Library. Due to work related travel and illness, the Newsletter Staff was not able to attend the meeting, however, we were able to contact one of our residents, Mr. Paul Roberts, who provided us with the information below. If you have any comments, questions or concerns regarding our neighborhood, the association or items in general, please feel free to email the newsletter @ www.bluebonnethighlands.org. We will forward your questions to Clark Taylor and Associates.

- Clark Taylor began the meeting by reviewing the income and expenses from 1/1/02 thru 8/29/02. The debt owed on the Clubhouse has been refinanced to a lower interest rate therefore saving the BHHA, Inc on interest expense. In addition, the balance sheet reflects an account receivables with a past due balance (past due homeowner dues) of **\$18,541.00**. It was suggested that this list of residents be posted on the newsletter website however, legal ramifications are unclear. 58 Springlake Residents & 27 Fairhill Residents are on the list. **Call Debbie directly at 293-8320** if you want a copy of the list.
- There was some discussion regarding hunting on the adjoining property to Fairhill. Homeowner's suggested calling the Sheriff's department – Sheriff's department stated assistance would be provided only if shots were within 200 yards of the property. Clark Taylor will look into contacting the property owner regarding putting up posted signs.
- The mailboxes for Springlake is a dead issue. Only 25 residents signed the petition online. The post office will not issue individual boxes for residents and Clark Taylor has no influence with the Postal Service.

Homeowner Meeting Recap *(cont'd)*

- Bluebonnet Extension – Clark Taylor deferred to Paul Roberts who is a committee member. Paul advised residents to check out the website and read the latest events regarding the extension. See “The Bluebonnet Highlands Extension” section.
- Big discussion regarding signage along Bluebonnet. Residents want the signs removed or redesigned to look more updated. Clark Taylor agreed to look at redesign. Clark deferred this issue to Paul Roberts, a builder in Springlake. Paul agrees the signs need to be updated, however, he stated he thinks the signs should remain because in his opinion, the signs attract buyers to a particular price range. If the price is right, they enter. If not, they don't. The signs are very common, for example, in Houston, TX. **Jane St. Amant, Debbie Murphy, Paul Stephens and Kim Scullin** volunteered to serve on the redesign committee. As soon as we know more about the committee and their agenda, we will post online.
- Builders – Lots of trash, burning trash and debris. What to do? Various homeowners complained about trash from construction sites accumulating on their lots/homes. Complaints about burning trash ignored. Mr. Taylor commented that it is legal to burn outside of the city limits and suggested calling the Fire Department.
- Speeding drivers and stop sign runners. (residents and other individuals) – Call the Sheriff's Department.
- Restrictions / Violations – There is a home in Fairhill that is being built by an individual and is suspected by other homeowners of not meeting restrictions for square footage and landscaping. Debbie DeJean is aware of this situation and is working on resolving. If you notice violations of the act of restrictions, it is suggested that you take digital photos and email them to Debbie DeJean @ dejean4121@cox.net.
- Only **54** residents attended the homeowner's meeting. We have approximately **470** residents. Homeowner's – **PLEASE** get involved. Our meeting is only scheduled once a year however; if you have some concerns, please make sure you are heard. Our clubhouse can be used as a meeting place to address homeowner concerns.

Announcements

- **Email your questions, comments, concerns, suggestions, etc to our newsletter website.** We will forward your concerns to Clark Taylor and associates. You can call Debbie DeJean or Clark Taylor directly at 293-8320.
- **Springlake is growing** – Builder source says Springlake V had been presold for 54 out of 55 lots even before the streets were laid! Fairhill is on fire with activity! This is excellent growth for our neighborhood! Jane St. Amant, resident of Springlake and Realtor, told us Springlake V should have power to the streets by month end. She noted interest rates are at an all time low so those of you interested in purchasing or refinancing, consult your local lenders.
- **August 2nd, around 2pm, a Hilltree Drive resident drives up to home and finds unknown black male on premises.** She sounds horn to alert him, calls husband and Sheriff's dept. Sheriff questions man who says he was looking for a jobsite. The Sheriff's charged him with trespassing and allowed him to leave since nothing was taken from the property. The residents were unharmed.
- **Mid August, Springrose Resident notified us about late night congregation on the streets in the new filing of Springlake.** It appeared that several young people were meeting on the new street after hours. After the commotion was heard, the Sheriff's Department was called and the individuals were asked to leave.
- **August thru September** – Young boys trespassing. Gaining access to clubhouse grounds by jumping the fence and/or waiting for residents to open the gate to ride in on bikes. They have been asked to leave several times. They are extremely belligerent – Do not try to address them. Call the Sheriff's department. They are not residents of Bluebonnet Highlands.

A Letter to the Editor

Recently, I received an email from Marietta Del Favero, a Springlake Resident. With her permission to reprint, I would like to share her comments with the neighborhood. Bluebonnet Highlands is a great community and I'm sure we'd all like to keep it that way – *Kim Walker*

“Reviewing past association minutes, there appear to be several issues that are not new that I feel will ultimately, if they have not already, bring out property value down....”

- 1. I generally have no problem with parking on the street, but I have noticed often that people are parking in front yards or on the grass easement next to the street. This is a common sight in sub par neighborhoods, e.g. inner city slums, and one I think should be subject to penalties, if even it is just noting the offenders in the newsletter.*
- 2. The same goes for people who do not keep up their lawns. 12-inch high grass is not characteristic of a neighborhood that has pride of ownership. Individuals who walk their dogs and leave unsightly gifts on the lawns of others need to be addressed with more than just friendly reminders in the newsletter. In many communities, people walking dogs without a pooper-scooper in their hand can be reported and fined. Here may be a good source of revenue for the upkeep of the Yard of the Month sign!*

I urge the Board to get a handle on these issues as the property values of all are being negatively affected”.

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

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Announcements *(cont'd)*

- **Pool news from Clark Taylor and Associates.**
The weather is still warm; therefore, the pool will remain open until further notice. The office will accommodate its residents so that they may enjoy the pool on the hot days still ahead. Hopefully, the pool will remain open until the weather begins to cool off. As always, please do not allow others to enter the clubhouse with your pass. Be careful of your surroundings if you are at the pool alone – safety is very important. If you feel threatened in any way, leave immediately, and/or call the **Sheriff's Department at 389-5000.**
- **Neighborhood Watch Meeting. Needless to say, the NWM that occurred directly following the Homeowner's meeting was not a success.**
With only 54 residents attending the meeting, less than a quarter of the residents attended. We urge you to be aware of your surroundings and those of your neighbors as well. If you see something suspicious, call the authorities immediately. We urge you to get involved – crime affects our entire community.
- **A special thank you to Mr. AKM Shahjahan & Doria Parvin of Springdale Ave.** who donated \$10.00 to be utilized for Springlake sign upkeep and special events for the neighborhood.
- **If anyone is interested in planning a Trick-Or-Treat Activity for Halloween,** please email us. Last year, we hosted a costume party at the clubhouse and can do it again if we have enough response. We think the kids as well as the adults enjoyed it! All ideas and suggestions are welcomed.
- **Use the Website** – It's packed with lots of interesting information. Old newsletters copies, bluebonnet extension information, helpful numbers, resident business owners and services and lots more. Check us out at www.bluebonnethighlands.org