

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

January 2006

Volume 6, Issue 1

NEIGHORLY REMINDERS

- ★ Jan. 1—HOA dues
- ★ Jan. -Metro 3 Council Mtg-BB Library pm (time and date not available from Metro Council at time of printing)



**SPECIAL THANKS
TO ALL OF YOU
WHO SO LAVISHLY
DECORATED YOUR YARDS
DURING THE HOLIDAYS.**

* * * * *

**YARD OF THE MONTH
IS CLOSED
DURING THE WINTER
MONTHS.**

HOA

- ★ Dues are to be paid by all residents who live in the Bluebonnet Highland Subdivision(Fairhill/Springlake).
- ★ Be a responsible homeowner and pay your dues on time.
- ★ It is important to keep your email address current so that notices of your invoices and newsletters can reach you in a timely manner.
- ★ The phone number for residential HOA questions and clubhouse rentals has been changed from 292-2020 to 819-5987.

THIEVES AGAIN!!!!

Recent break-in along Springdale. This one happened at 10:30am. with * jewelry+ stolen. This could be you! Take time to go over your checklist. Here are just a few helpful hints to keep you on track. Lock doors and windows, garage door closed, alarm system on, motion lights outside, and timers to turn radio and lights on and off inside your home to make it look as though someone is home. Put dog items around. Make it look as if you have a very large dog. Please don't forget your neighborhood watch program and call the sheriff's office if you suspect anything.



WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



- 1) Service Needed: Residents looking for someone near to do light housework. Submit name and phone number to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org. Please put "housework" in the subject line. Your information will be forwarded to those residents requesting your services.
- 2) Cars are not to be parked on the street. Please read your deed restriction.
- 3) Campers, RV's, boats, etc. are not to be parked in driveways. Please read your deed restriction.
- 4) Roads are torn up but are being repaired. Be patient during this process. Underground work is being done prior to the new overlay. Use common sense, if the road is messed up go a different route. If this is not possible, go slow.
- 5) Trash cans should be picked up at the end of the day. Help keep our streets clean.
- 6) Dogs should be on a leash and not allowed to roam free. While walking you pets don't forget to "Scoop the Poop".
- 7) Dogs barking after 10pm. Please bring in animals after 10pm if they continue to bark.
- 8) Didn't get an invoice for my dues. Please call 819-5987 and let someone know. Even though you didn't get a notice you are still responsible.

HOME IMPROVEMENT TIME

Before beginning any project, take time to look over your deed restrictions. This first step may save you a lot of money and headaches in the end. Copies of various filings are located on the website on the link entitled "Deed Restrictions". If you are planning to put up any type of structure, fence, deck, etc. on the exterior of your home remember that you must submit your plan to the Homeowner's Association for approval prior to beginning your project. Additions such as these need to be approved by the council.

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

NEIGHBOR NEEDS YOUR HELP

Dear Neighbors,
My Mother is from St. Bernard Parish. Her house was destroyed by Katrina, so she and her three cats moved in with us in August. My Mom's cat, Pumpkin, is an inside cat. Pumpkin is very weary of people and hides from everyone but my Mom.



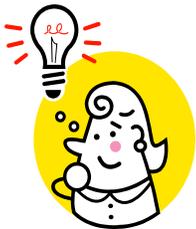
Pumpkin got out and has been missing since Tuesday, November 15th. She is probably quite scared and hiding in someone's bushes. She is wearing a collar that jingles when she moves. You may hear her.

Please, please check your garden and property very thoroughly. Pumpkin knows how to blend in. If you see her, please call us anytime, day or night. My Mom will probably have to catch her.

Please Help!!
Lost Katrina Cat
Grey Cat with 1 eye
225-766-5359

Thanks for your help,
The Schoenfield Family -Your Neighbors

WHAT TO DO????



New to the area or just tired of the same old thing? Then visit <http://www.baton-rouge.com/BatonRouge/aev2do.htm> for a list of activities going on in Baton Rouge. You'll find activities such as ballroom dancing, sporting events, car shows, and much more. Something for men, women and families to enjoy. Just moving into town or been here a while and would like to meet other ladies to golf, cook, have lunch, play cards, etc then check out the NewComers Club at www.batonrougenewcomers.org The list of activities is endless.

ENDULGED OVER THE HOLIDAYS?

Now it's up to you to squeeze in time for your health. Recent studies indicate that three short 10-minute workouts lowered the blood level of triglycerides more than one 30-minute session. So work several short brisk walks, bike rides, or stair climbs into your day's routine for good health. However: if you are trying to lose weight the old rule of increased activity – up to 90 minutes and reduced caloric intake still hold true. Sorry!!

TOP TEN TIPS TO CONSERVE FUEL

With the prices of a gallon of gasoline hovering around \$2.50 per gallon you (and your budget) may benefit by the following tips:

1. Slow down – driving faster than the posted speed burns up to 20% more fuel.
2. Consolidate trips and errands to cut down on driving time.
3. Lighten up – clear out the trunk, the lighter the vehicle, the more fuel efficiency.
4. Cool it? Using the A/C increases fuel consumption by more than 20%. Open the windows for short trips.
5. Top it off. Watch for the prices to drop when your gas tank hits the halfway mark, then fill up at the lowest price.
6. Take it easy – quick starts and hard breaking increase fuel consumption by 40%!
7. Turn it off – If you are going to stop for more than 10 seconds, except in traffic, turn off the engine.
8. Checking your tire pressure at least once a month can save 6% of your fuel costs.
9. Check your owner's manual regarding fuel requirements. If your auto doesn't require premium or mid-grade fuel buy the cheaper regular unleaded – higher octane fuels don't guarantee better performance.
10. Think small – if your family owns more than one vehicle, use the smaller one to run errands or make the longer commute.



Rene's Kitchen

I hope that all my neighbors enjoyed a safe and happy holiday. This month's recipe is an easy, delicious and attractive appetizer from "The Bishop's Bounty". It's been a favorite at our family gatherings-one of those much loved recipes that keeps finding a place on the menu any time of year.

Artichoke Balls

- 1 14 oz. can artichoke hearts
- 2 T. lemon juice
- 1 c. seasoned bread crumbs
- 1/2 t. garlic powder
- 2 eggs
- Parmesan cheese
- 2 T. olive oil



Drain and mash artichoke hearts. Add remaining ingredients except Parmesan cheese and mix thoroughly (mixture may be refrigerated). Form into balls (about 1 inch) and roll in Parmesan cheese. Heat at 400 degrees for about 20 minutes. Serve warm or cold. (I have doubled and tripled this recipe using 1 egg per recipe.)

NEWSLETTER STAFF NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Bluebonnet Review Newsletter staff is looking for residents who would like to assist with putting out our newsletter. The newsletter staff is made up of residents who volunteer their time and effort to put out a monthly newsletter for all of you.

Type of assistance needed:

- 1) Submit articles
- 2) Place the newsletter signs out once a month. If you live along or near the boulevard this would be an easy job for you.
- 3) Lake resident to be our contact concerning lily growth before they get out of hand or too costly to get rid of. This helps save you, the homeowners money.
- 4) Attend the Metro 3 Council meetings to keep residents informed of what is up and coming around our neighborhood.



WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER

The "Neighbor-owned Business/Service" of the website is free to our residents. Contact **webmaster@bluebonnethighland.org** to post your ad. Please view these ads and utilize first, when possible.

Newsletter ads found at the end of the newsletters help pay for our website, free of pop ups as you requested, and domain fees.

The staff would like to thank those businesses who have supported the newsletter this past year and the year to come.

FOR SALE

- ✦ Embroidery Machine-Bernette 600 by Bernina, \$550. Great embroidery machine. Price includes power cord, cover, 2-hoop frames, 1-"Hoop It All" frame, accessory kit, Illustration from built-in design for Bernette Deco 600, & original manual.
- ✦ Embroidery Machine-Bernette 500 by Bernina, \$500. Great embroidery machine. Price includes power cord, cover, 2-hoop frames, accessory kit & original manual.

Both machines have been serviced by an authorized Bernina technician and are ready to help you start your embroidery projects. Call Becky @ 819-1801.

401K - Take advantage of this plan to save for your retirement! With all the news about the shaky future of Social Security you would have to have your head under a rock to not realize that you need to save for your own retirement. Many experts say you'll need at least 80% of your pre retirement income. One of the best retirement plans is the 401K plan offered by your employer. Not only can you save up to \$14000 of "pretax" dollars (that means you don't pay current income tax on that part of your earnings) but you can also add another \$4000 into your account if you are over 50 years old – this is called the "catch up" contribution. The best part is that many employers offer "matching" contributions where they will match part of your contributions – basically FREE MONEY!

SAVINGS 101: Saving for retirement-See May 2005 issue

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to the staff or email **newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org** or fax to 819-1801. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

STAFF

Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner

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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

February 2006

Volume 6, Issue 2

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Feb. 14-Valentine's Day
- ✦ Feb 16-Metro 3 Council Mtg-BBH Library 7p.m.
- ✦ Feb. 17-20 Nat'l Audubon Society & Cornell Lab
- ✦ Feb. 19-Krewe of Mutts Parade 1:30p.m.
- ✦ Feb. 20-President's Day
- ✦ Feb. 28-Mardi Gras

HOA

- ✦ Clubhouse rental is now available 7 days a week. Call 819-5987 for booking.
- ✦ It is important to keep your email address current so that notices of your invoice and newsletters can reach you in a timely manner. If you have submitted your email address and are still not receiving notices, please let us know. Spam blockers maybe preventing this notice.
- ✦ Phone & fax number for residential HOA questions and clubhouse rentals has been changed from 292-2020 to 819-5987.

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL CONCERT

Have a love of music? Have a love for the piano? The Valentine's Day Special Concert with Pianist Van Cliburn just might be the thing for you. Van Cliburn will perform alongside the Baton Rouge Symphony for one event only at the River Center. Tickets range from \$35-\$95 and also a special package for those wanting a little more. Hosted by the Stanford Group and Stanford Trust Company 225-383-0500 or www.brso.org



WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



- ✦ New garbage company now working the area. Pick up days will remain the same. Holidays off are Christmas Day, New Years Day and Thanksgiving.
- ✦ Family friendly websites. If you know of any that we may pass on to other residents please

submit to ffwebsites@bluebonnethighlands.org
Here is your first very informative site that contains "trusted health information" from the U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health. <http://medlineplus.gov/>

BIRD COUNTING

Feb. 17-20, marks the ninth annual Great Backyard Bird Count. Scientists at the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology are counting on you. Want to participate? Go to www.birdsandblooms.com type "bird count" in the search bar for more details. Bird count checklist can be found at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>. You can count birds in your backyard, a local or national park or any other natural area or public land.



THIEVES AGAIN! RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT

Letter: I spoke with 2 BR City Policemen who are friends of mine, and related the burglary incidents in Springlake. They told me * that 4 college students had been caught for thefts in our area. Although this is a relief, they also said that this is becoming common and there will be 4 more to replace them later on! They were caught on camera using someone else's Visa. They usually break in during the day, take credit cards, purses, and jewelry. It's unfortunate that hard-working people like those in our neighborhood need to worry about others intruding, but it's a fact, so we should all keep our doors locked when we leave. Another note: if you are home and dogs are barking, be aware and check outside for your neighbors. There is a difference in their barks. If you know Dixie, she barks when you pass our fence to say "Hello." But if something is wrong, it's a more deliberate bark. Peggy



Letter: I live at 10223 Springpark Avenue and upon returning home from work this afternoon, I discovered that there had been an attempted break-in at my home. It appears the individuals used some type of blow-torch to cut two small holes in the window of my bedroom (in my backyard). They then

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

used a metal rod to poke through the holes and unlock the windows. Luckily when they inched the window up, my alarm went off and my indoor dogs must have started barking; therefore, they didn't gain entrance into my house. I filed a report with the EBR Sheriff's office and he acknowledged that there have been a few break-ins over the past few weeks in our neighborhood, including another on my street two days ago. After he left, a neighbor informed me that two teenagers (an African American and Hispanic) were walking down our street around 2:00 this afternoon. They were both wearing backpacks and the neighbor believes she saw them jumping the fences of different houses along Springpark. When I called the EBR Sheriff's office back to give them this description of the individuals, they informed me that I would need to contact the officer compiling the report, who would not be back until Monday. It's obvious that the neighbors of Springlake need to band together to help keep these individuals out of our neighborhood. Please be aware of anyone walking or driving around that you feel is suspicious. Given the demographics of our neighborhood, there should be very few teenagers roaming the streets of Springlake. Please err on the side of caution and report any unusual activity to the EBR Sheriff's office (389-5900). I would hate for these recent incidents to adversely impact our neighborhood's great reputation. Thanks, Lance Nobles

Letter: Due to the fact that I work for the District Attorney's Office as an Investigator, I usually hear about crimes in various areas of Baton Rouge. I would like to alert our neighbors of a number of carjackings, burglaries and robberies at gun point in the neighborhoods just off Burbank, between Bluebonnet and the Cracker Barrel convenience store at Elgin Dr. The suspects are black male teenagers. The Sheriff's Office is working the case, and are diligently looking for the suspects.

My point is not to alarm anyone, but to stress the importance of being aware of your surroundings. Lock your doors, use your alarm systems, walk with your head up and with authority, and immediately call the Sheriff's Office (**Burbank sub-station @ 389-5511**) if you notice anything, or anybody, suspicious. Don't be afraid that you might hurt someone's feelings because you called the police on them. You are protecting your property and your neighbor's property.

Anyone can be the victim of a crime. I live on Springwind Ct., and my son's car was broken into about 3 years ago. No one is immune from being the victim of a crime.

Mike Thompson

Letter: Just wanted to let you know that there was another robbery on our street (Springpark Avenue) yesterday. That is the second one in two days. One of the neighbors saw the two who did this. It is two males between the ages of 15 & 16. One is a black male, the other is a dark skinned male, possibly Indian. They each carry a back pack and are walking our streets between noon and 2:00 p.m. when the robberies occur. We know it is the same two who did both robberies on our street because the house that they broke into yesterday they used a tool they stole from the house they broke into on Wednesday. I would appreciate you send an e-mail to every one and give them the description of the teens doing this and ask them to call the police as soon as they see them. Thank you

Letter: On Thursday, January 12, someone attempted to break in our home between 8:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. However, the alarm was activated which apparently helped to interrupt the breakin. Any residents home during the day, please keep a lookout for any unusual activity during the times when many of us are working. Especially with home construction continuing in our neighborhood, we have a lot of people around who can see us leaving for work or school in the mornings and know we will probably be out for a good part of the day.

Letter: As we start the new year many of you will make resolutions to improve your lives, lose weight, exercise more, save more, be more tolerant of others, and as many other resolutions as there are people in the world. However, let us not forget to make some resolutions to help the neighborhood and our neighbors.

During the holidays just passed, we had lawn ornaments stolen, houses toilet papered, and several home burglaries. Why not resolve to learn who your neighbors are and watch for people that do not belong in an area or look a little suspicious. If you have a security system, use it, some of the robberies were committed in the daytime and the security systems were not turned on. Make sure your house number is visible from the street in case someone should need to report an incident to the police; it makes it easier for neighbors to report an incident and assists the police or emergency units in locating your home.

We are a growing community and will have some problems as we grow. We need to help each other get through these growing pains by becoming proactive and making sure our kids, families, and homes are safe. We have a very nice community and can preserve it for everyone with just a little diligence on the part of everyone.

Submitted by a resident

FOR SALE

Only one machine left. Great Embroidery Machine-Bernette 500 by Bernina, \$500. Price includes power cord, cover, 2-hoop frames, accessory kit & original manual. Machine serviced by an authorized Bernina technician and is ready to help you start your embroidery projects. Call Becky @ 819-1801 to set up demo and/or instructions.



411 PHONE TIP

Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 or more for 411/information calls when they don't have to. When you need to use the 411/information option, simply dial **1 800 FREE 411** or **1 800 373 3411** without incurring a charge at all except for the minutes required to make the call.

Your friends and family won't mind this bit of information. Pass it on.

Works on home phone also.

For more information go to www.snopes.com/inboxer/nothing/free411.asp

IN AND AROUND BATON ROUGE

For a list of activities in and around Baton Rouge visit www.aroundtownshow.com. The link entitled "Calendar" will give you list of activities for each month as well as a way to post events. Events include: Big Apple Run/Walk, Journey Into Amazing Caves, Big Buddy Burger Bash, Universal Art Show, Mardi Gras Mambo-Artist in Exile, etc. Great variety of events.

MARDI GRAS PARADE

This is one parade you won't want to miss. The Mystic Krewe of Mutts Mardi Gras Dog Parade will be held Sunday, February 19, 2006 at 1:30pm in Downtown Baton Rouge. For those of you who would like to walk the parade with your dog, registration forms will be available soon online for download and also at various locations around town such as Petsmart, vet offices, and local Raising Cane's. Go early to get a good parking spot and a place to put your chair while waiting. To view pictures of dogs dressed in costumes and past parades visit <http://www.caaws.org>.



Rene's Kitchen

A couple of years ago I was looking for a special kid treat for the Mardi Gras season and found this. It's easy and fun to do with the kids.



Mini King Cakes

1 can of cinnamon rolls, with icing
3/4 cup of sugar, separated into 3 parts of 1/4 each
food coloring

Separate the cinnamon rolls and roll them out by hand so that they look like a hot dog. Shape the roll into an oval, pinch the ends together, and place on a cookie sheet. Cook as directed.

While the rolls are cooking, use food coloring to dye sugar. Make one part purple using blue and red, one part green, and one part gold using yellow. When they are finished cooking, ice the tops with the white icing. Sprinkle the different colors of sugars alternating as you go around the oval. Enjoy!

NEWSLETTER

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Webmaster: Becky Allemand & **Contributors:** Residents

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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

March 2006

Volume 6, Issue 3

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ March 4-Art Car Parade-www.artcarbr.com
- ✦ March 16-18-30th Annual Book Bazaar 578-5925
- ✦ March 16-Metro 3 Council Mtg-7 pm-St. George Fire Dept. on Perkins Road
- ✦ March 17-St. Patrick's Day
- ✦ March 18-St. Patrick's Day Parade (Hundred Oaks-S. Acadian Thruway & Perkins)
- ✦ March 25-26-4th Annual BR Spring Garden Show-LSU Coliseum
- ✦ April 29-Pool Opening

HOA

Don't forget to read your deed restrictions prior to beginning your home projects. (fences, painting, pools, home additions, etc) Check out the website for a copy.

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



- 1) Large dogs are on the loose again. Please DO NOT allow your dog to run, even for a short period without a leash.
- 2) Complaints of people parking over the curbs, on cul-de-sacs, on streets and on front lawns have hit an all time high. Such occurrences look unsightly and hits us all in the pocketbook by seriously lowering our property values. Ride thru other nice neighborhoods to see how many of these you will find. Please take pride in your neighborhood and keep your vehicles in your driveway.
- 3) Litter Volunteers Needed: Meet at white picket fence near lake the 2nd Wednesday of the month around 4:15pm. Bring bags and wear your gloves.

NEW GARBAGE/TRASH PICKUP SERVICE



All residents in EBR Parish who pay for garbage pick up will be receiving new carts. The Bluebonnet Highland area (Fairhill and Springlake) is in Phase IV of the program. They are allowing approximately a month or so for each

phase to be completed. Phase II began in January therefore, the Bluebonnet Highlands should be receiving carts sometime in April. A placard will be put at your door before they begin delivery in this area explaining the garbage/trash pick up. The city website has a map showing all phases of the distribution of the carts and information on garbage/trash/recycling pick-up. The website address is www.brgov.com, click on the link for automated garbage/recycling services. (or visit <http://brgov.com/dept/dpw/solidwaste/automatedphase1.htm>)

This information supplied by the office of Peter Newkirk , Dept. of Public Works.

KATRINA CAT LOST ON 11/15/05 BACK HOME ON 02/16/06

Pumpkin, the grey cat with one eye, is finally home after 3 months. We lost Pumpkin a few weeks before Thanksgiving. We posted "LOST" signs throughout Fairhill and Springlake in hopes that our neighbors would help us find her – AND YOU DID!!!

The response from our neighborhood was truly amazing. We received over 40 calls from folks trying to help us. It was quite touching to know that so many of you were aggressively looking for Pumpkin. THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

My Mom and her three cats are still living with us after losing her home to Katrina. Life is getting better everyday for my mom, and having Pumpkin back home is definitely a moral booster.

We feel very fortunate to live in such a kind and caring neighborhood.

Thanks again,
The Schoenfield Family
and
Alice' Dornan (Pumpkin's Mom)

P.S. -- A special thanks to the people on Hillglen for helping us catch Pumpkin as she lived in their yards and on their porches for many weeks.

Thanks
David

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The Newsletter Staff

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BOOM OR BUST? PROTECTING YOUR HOMESTEAD



As housing prices soar to new heights, you may be noticing a dramatic increase in the cost of home-ownership in Baton Rouge. The prime questions on everyone's minds are "When will this housing bubble burst?" and "How do I protect myself *now*?"

First, some residential housing economics. Many economists differ greatly about whether we are in a bubble or boom or some different, entirely new state.

A "bubble" is generally regarded as an unhealthy climb in the price of real estate, far outdistancing the rate of inflation or rise in household incomes. When that bubble bursts, housing prices tumble and usually cause a recession or "bust" in that locale. A "boom" occurs when at the height of real estate values, a market correction takes a more gradual pace, taking values down to more realistic numbers.

In 1989, N. Gregory Mankiw, current chair of the Bush administration's Council of Economic Advisers, predicted that an 18-year cycle for a housing boom was a reasonable measure to calculate the next bust. His prediction of 2007 for that time could still be achieved.

Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan is among those who believe we are not in the throws of a real estate bubble but rather a sustained climb in prices attributable to the current interest rate and general economic conditions.

National Association of Realtors chief economist David Lereah believes that several current conditions could contribute to a groundswell for a possible bust. Those conditions include the rise in real estate speculation, the maintenance and rise of high residential real estate price-to-earnings (PE) ratios in many major markets, and the greatly increased use of Adjustable Rate Mortgages (ARMs).

So, what can we do if you're considering buying a house in these current conditions?

✦ **Purchase within your limits**

Ensure that your housing costs (included property taxes, principal and interest, and insurance) fall somewhere around 25% of your family's gross income.

✦ **Be wary of rate-fluctuating, low initial payment mortgages.** With ARMs and initial interest-only mortgages you may have small payments today,

but when rates rise you may be stuck with property whose value is less than the principal still owed on the debt.

✦ **Watch out for a property whose value has appreciated enormously in a very short time.** If a house has appreciated significantly, without any major improvements or additions, its price may be an over inflated value that you could never reap later when you sell.

If you're a current homeowner who has already taken advantage of the record-low mortgage rates, some steps to protect your investment include:

✦ **Know the fair market value of your home.** Have a recent appraisal of your property and convey all known faults and issues to the appraiser to get an accurate picture of the fair market value.

✦ **Take advantage of tax incentives, rebates or deferrals:** Check with your local property assessment office for any such program applicable to your house. Louisiana offers a \$75,000.00 homestead exemption which reduces the assessed value of your residence.

✦ **Know what homes are selling for in your area.** Pay attention to the selling price of similar houses in your area.

Having the tools in place in anticipation of a housing market bust or correction (depending on whose economic theory you subscribe to) can go a long way in helping you protect yourself.

Kyle Ferachi is a resident of Fairhill and practices law with Keogh, Cox & Wilson, Ltd. He may be contacted at 383-3796. This article was originally written by Hal Coffey and modified for application with Louisiana law.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kyle A. Ferachi

CELL PHONES AND TELEMARKETERS

Cell phone numbers have been released to telemarketing companies. You will be charged for these calls... These telemarketers will eat up your free minutes and end up costing you money in the long run. To prevent this, call 888/382-1222 or visit www.donotcall.gov. It blocks your number for five years. This is the National Do No Call Registry. This is the same location for reporting a complaint. Don't forget to print out your registration.





FISHING IN THE LAKES

The lakes located in Bluebonnet Highland are for the residents of Fairhill and Springlake only. It seems that non-residents are now fishing more often therefore, your help is needed. Decals are available, so that while fishing we can recognize those of you who are **residents**. Call 819-5987, to request a decal. These decals are not to be given to anyone who is not a resident of the subdivision. The common areas to the lakes are for those residents not living on an actual lake. Guests are to be accompanied by a resident at all times. If you drive your vehicle to the lake on Bluebonnet, please have a BBH decal visible. If you don't want to put a decal on your glass then please put it on a card so that while you are fishing it is visible.

Did you know that in Baton Rouge, if you reached 60 before June 1, 2000, you do not need a license to fish but, if you turned 60 after, you need a "senior license" at a cost of \$5.00. If you are disabled, there is a \$2.50 fee.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

On Valentine's Day a resident in the Fairhill Subdivision lost his 3 labs. We'd like to thank Brianna Sanders, in the Springlake Subdivision for noticing these dogs in her front yard and bringing them into a safe area until the owner could be found. Due to her quick thinking the owner was located within minutes.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT



These two dogs were spotted 2/26 tearing up trash in front of a home on Springbrook. The dog on the left had a blue designed collar while the other had none. Please

do not allow your dogs to run loose and make a mess of our area.



NEIGHBOR-OWNED BUSINESSES/SERVICE IS GROWING

- ✦ Check out this section of the website. We've posted many new ads by our very own residents. Please, patronage our residents first whenever possible. Contact **webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org** to post your ad. This is a free service for the residents of Fairhill and Springlake Subdivisions only.
- ✦ Newsletter ads found at the end of the newsletters help pay for our website.

Rene's Kitchen

This is the perfect soup for a St. Patrick's Day menu. This beautiful emerald green soup comes from "I Love Spinach" by Burgundy Olivier of Lafayette, La. If you're a spinach-lover this cookbook is a must.

Buttermilk Spinach Soup

- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen chopped spinach
- 4 c. chicken stock or broth
- 2 T. grated lemon zest
- 2 T. cornstarch
- 2 c. buttermilk
- Salt and white pepper



Combine spinach and 2 c. chicken broth in a large saucepan. Bring to boil and use spoon to break spinach apart. Add lemon zest and puree until smooth (in the pot with a hand processor or in a blender). Combine remaining 2 c. broth with corn starch, stirring until dissolved. Pour into saucepan; add spinach mixture. Bring to a boil on high heat, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, add buttermilk and pour into serving bowls or mugs. Sprinkle with remaining lemon zest; season with salt and pepper. Serve immediately.

If you want to bring this somewhere in a crockpot: heat spinach mixture, and add the buttermilk shortly before serving.

WEBSITES SUBMITTED BY RESIDENTS

For religious articles <http://www.cukierski.net>

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to **newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org** or fax to 819-5987. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand & **Contributors:**Residents

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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

April 2006

Volume 6, Issue 4

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ April 2-Daylight Saving Time begins
- ✦ April 14-Good Friday
- ✦ April 16-Easter
- ✦ April 17-Pool Cleaning 2pm
- ✦ April 20-Metro 3 Council Mtg-7pm BBH Library
- ✦ April 22-Pool Opening-correction

YARD OF THE MONTH CHALLENGE IS ON

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 and 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! The first round of votes will be announced in the May issue of this newsletter so don't forget to vote by email: yard@bluebonnethighlands.org or by hitting "reply" on your newsletter reminder notice to give the address. Nominations for Yard of the Month are due by the 20th of each month. Once you see your address printed in the newsletter you may request to have the "Yard of the Month" sign displayed in your yard in you so choose.



WE'RE LISTENING



When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).

Comments from residents:

- 1)"No parking in front yards. This does not look very pleasing....looks like the slums."
- 2)"....keeping garage doors open during the day is like hanging out laundry."

DOG ATTACK

A mother strolling her 4-month old baby and walking her dog on a leash became victims of a dog attack. Dog on the loose attacked her dog while on leash. Neighbors did come to the rescue of the screaming mother. Sounds like something you hear from some other place but this happened in your neighborhood. **Residents, it is the law to keep your dogs on a leash at all times.** Animal control should be called and sheriff's office as well to press charges before a child is seriously injured or killed.



HAVE YOU SEEN HARLEY?

Harley disappeared Sunday, February 26, 2006. She is short in height, red hair, and the cutest little dachshund on four legs. She is missed sadly by her family. If you see her please call 225-766-2657.



FRIENDLY, LOVING DOG LOOKING FOR HOME

This well trained dog needs your help. He definitely has someone who loves him somewhere! He loves kids, has clean teeth and trimmed nails. We are looking for someone to take care of him until the owners are found. If you can help please call 405-1164.

TRIXIE-The black cat has returned home. :)

HOA

- ✦ Check out deed restrictions prior to exterior home improvement (fence, patios, painting).
- ✦ Seems that someone is coming into Fairhill Subdivision putting up mailboxes without approval. Integrity Signage and Mailbox does not have the approval of the developer. Anyone needing information on repairing or putting up a mailbox should contact John Brown 753-6709. Mr. Brown has been approved by the developer.

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

POOL OPENS APRIL 22

Summer is just around the corner and that means fun in the sun!

Pool Rules:

- ✦ Pool hours 8am-8pm
- ✦ No diving
- ✦ Alcohol, food, glass containers, cigarette butts, balloons and hair clips are not allowed in the pool area
- ✦ No one under the age of 18 is allowed in the pool without an adult
- ✦ Life savers for emergency use only
- ✦ Do not allow anyone to use your card
- ✦ 2 Guest per household only-if space allows
- ✦ Soft drinks from vending machine only
- ✦ No jumping the fences
- ✦ Closed on Monday for maintenance

The pool is for residents of Bluebonnet Highlands who have an active complex key. Allowing someone else to use your card will cause a deactivation period and reinstatement fee on your card. If you notice anyone jumping the fence to gain access who is not a resident please call the Sheriff's Department at 389-5000.

Rules are posted on the fence. Please take time to read them to all family members.

The pool area is kept clean by volunteers. Additional workers are needed. Visit the website for information for holding a party of any size under the link "Clubhouse". Call 819-5987 for questions on pool, complex key, and/or parties.

Reminder: The pool does not have an established Lifeguard on Duty, therefore, each member agrees when entering this area that they swim at their own risk.

FENCE JUMPING

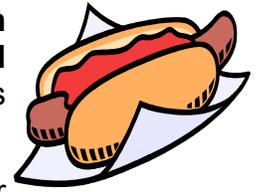
It's a shame that our very own residents are jumping the fence to get into the pool area. The padlock is there because the pool is still closed for the season. No one is allowed to jump the fence for any reason.

Please continue to call the HOA number to report fence jumpers. Cards are deactivated and the resident must go the HOA office to pay a fine and to get reinstated.



FOOD FOLKS AND FUN

Start getting ready. The 6th annual Hotdogs and Hospitality at the clubhouse is just around the corner.



Come out and meet your neighbors, whether it be chatting in the clubhouse or having fun in the sun. Don't have kids, no problem, just come out and join us for a super "block party."

In preparation for this event, we want to get an early start. Please let us know if you plan on attending by contacting Alycee: 767-1596 or rsunstrom@cox.net.

If you would like to donate for this event please select an item and call Alycee. Menu includes: soda, hot dogs, chili, chips, etc. Cash donations are also welcome in order to provide a space walk for that day as well. Please note that any donation would be greatly appreciated and this gathering will only be open to Bluebonnet Highlands residents.

When: Saturday, May 27, 2006

Where: The Clubhouse on Bluebonnet

Time: 12 noon until 4:00pm

Rain Day: Sunday, May 28, 2006

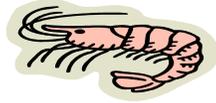
CLUBHOUSE/POOL COMMITTEE

Special thanks to those who have volunteered to serve on this year's clubhouse committee. Additional clubhouse members are still needed. If you think you would like to be on this committee but would like to know more, please contact Becky at 819-1801.



Members include: Becky Allemand (Sun/Mon), Melissa Dotson (Sun.), Yvonne Kemp (Fri.) Kevin Macaluso (Thurs.), Tom & Catherine Mungall (Wed.) and Alycee Sunstrom (Sat.).

Rene's Kitchen



This is one of my favorite recipes from the cookbook "I Love Spinach."

Shrimp Alfredo in a Heartbeat

1 jar (16oz) light Alfredo Sauce
1/2 lb. headless shrimp, cooked,
peeled and deveined
1 t. chopped fresh basil
12 oz. spinach fettuccine, cooked al dente
2 t. Parmesan cheese

Pour Alfredo Sauce into medium saucepan and warm over low heat. Add shrimp and basil. Simmer 15 to 30 minutes to allow flavors to marry. Pour over hot pasta and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

I love this recipe because of its versatility. You can substitute any pasta, any prepared white sauce, any seafood or cooked chicken, any herbs. You can add spinach, asparagus, fresh tomatoes, artichoke hearts, whatever else you like. You can throw the seafood and vegetables in the water with the pasta toward the end of cooking, drain, return to the pot, and then just throw in the sauce and herbs and heat up. This is one of those recipes that invites your creativity!

WEBMASTER REQUEST

If you have submitted an article or requested information from the webmaster and did not receive a reply please resubmit. Due to computer crash we lost contacts.

SALE BOARD

Have something to trade or sell? Submit description of item by the 20th of each month. Free of charge for Bluebonnet Highlands residents only.

QUARANTINE ON WOOD

The Formosan subterranean termite is the most destructive insect found in Louisiana and are found in half of the parishes within this state. Due to their aggressiveness the commissioner of agriculture in Louisiana imposed a quarantine for the Formosan subterranean termite on October 3, 2005, in Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington parishes.



The quarantine is in effect until it is rescinded by the commissioner of agriculture. If a waiver of a requirement or an authorization to carry out one of the prohibited acts is granted, it does not rescind or modify the quarantine.

Several prohibitions and requirements of the quarantine pertain to new construction, movement of wood, the movement of temporary housing, and the selling of all architectural components.

It is strongly recommended that all new construction and reconstruction of structures in the quarantined parishes use termite-e resistant materials.

For a copy of the quarantine, contact the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. On termites, their management, termite-resistant building materials and movement of termites, contact your county agent, Dr .Gregg Henderson 225-578-1831. or visit www.lsuagcenter.com and click "termites."

RESIDENT-OWNED BUSINESSES

Have you been to the website lately??? We have added resident-owned businesses this past month. Check them out first. These ads are free for our Bluebonnet Highlands (Fairhill and Springlake) residents.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org or fax to 819-5987. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand & **Contributors:**Residents

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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

May 2006

Volume 6, Issue 5

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ May 18-Metro 3 Council Mtg-7pm BBH Library
- ✦ May 27-Hot Dog and Hospitality-BBH Clubhouse/Pool-details in April issue
- ✦ May 29-Memorial Day-**Pool Opened**

YARD OF THE MONTH

Fairhill

Stanley Stewart
10688 Hillwood



Springlake

Randall Looper
10381 W. Springwind

Vote for "Yard of the Month"
yard@bluebonnethighlands.org
by the 20th of each month.

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).

Comments from residents:

- 1) Yes, time to scoop the poop. Not everyone enjoys dogs and cats, so please pick up after your pet.
- 2) Stop at all stop signs and slow down. Passing vehicles traveling down Hillmont is not necessary. Leave a few minutes earlier, if needed but slow it down.
- 3) Parents please have babies wear protective diapers while in the pool. Surprises are not always welcomed. :(



HOA

- ✦ Homeowners need to contact Entergy if light poles are knocked down or bulbs burnt.
- ✦ Homeowners' responsibility to know their deed restriction (dues/painting/buildings)
- ✦ Questions concerning complex cards, clubhouse rentals, and dues please call 819-5987.

BBH RESIDENTS NEEDING ASSISTANCE



The BBH complex has truly become an asset to our subdivision with more families using the tennis court, soccer field and yes, even the little worn out swing set. It is at this time that we come to you, the residents for your help. We would like to purchase a swing set for the complex to replace the old and worn out set that is presently located on the grounds. At this time, we would like for you, if possible to make a **pledge, in good faith**. By pledging, we would be able to see how much money we could raise. If we come close to the amount then we would be able to contact you for the actual donation. If the total pledge amount comes out over the amount needed then we can let you know to make your check out for a lesser amount. To send submit your pledge write to swingset@bluebonnethighlands.org. Please include your name, physical address and pledge amount.

ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN

At approximately 12:30 am today (Sunday, April 23) my husband witnessed a dark color SUV stop in the middle of Hillmont. The African-American passenger (male) ran up the drive way of the house across the street and tried to open the doors of both vehicles. My husband then flashed our front porch light to let them know they were being watched, to which they immediately sped off. He was unable to get a good look at the vehicle or the people involved. Can you please let everyone in the neighborhood know about this incident and remind them to lock their home and car doors.



Submitted by: Resident

Two cars sifted through on Hillglen 4/23/06.

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

Dear Residents of Fairhill and Springlake,

Our development is growing. Many concerns and complaints have been voiced regarding safety in the neighborhood. It is time that we come together to make sure that our neighborhood remains safe for all, especially the children of Bluebonnet Highlands.

Due to the number of complaints from our residents concerning speeding and running stops signs in the subdivision, we contacted the Sheriff's office. They responded and issued citations mainly to residents. Unfortunately, once the officers were gone the violations started again. In order to assist you we have contacted Dr. Pat Culbertson, Pete Newkirk, and Fred Raiford for their assistance, and now we need your input.

It is very important that we maintain our neighborhood standards of safety, friendliness, and beauty. In an effort to keep these criteria, many believe that we should ban together as neighbors and insure safety for all of us.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey below. If you know of anyone who does not receive email please make a copy for them. Topics are numbered for your convenience. You may send an email with the numbers with your choice. Signs, humps, and painting will be determined by this survey. Assessment for patrols will be determined by the number of those wanting this service. A meeting will be announced to discuss fees with those residents willing to pay an assessment. You will not be charged anything until we have met. Please feel free to use the back of this form for additional comments, if needed.

	TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED	DESCRIPTION	ARE YOU IN FAVOR? CIRCLE ONE	
			Yes	No
1	SPEED HUMPS Physical Address: _____	To create a safe environment for all residents. To create a means of slowing down speeders on a more consistent bases. (Provide exact location of needed hump. Speak with your neighbors to decide the best location for placement. We will try to follow your suggestions)	Yes	No
2	FIRE HYDRANTS	To paint the curb red directly in front of each hydrant as a reminder that this is a no parking zone and is against the law.	Yes	No
3	INTERSECTIONS	To paint the curb yellow about 10-15ft on all corners of an intersection. To improve visibility for spotting small children riding bicycles, pedestrians, and vehicles.	Yes	No
4	STOP SIGN LINES	To paint white lines on the road to denote you must stop here.	Yes	No
5	NO PARKING SIGNS	To place no parking signs along streets as a reminder that we do not park on curbs, sidewalks or in front lawns.	Yes	No
6	PATROL OFFICER	To create a safer environment for the residents of BBH by hiring a patrol officer, aka: off-duty policeman, or security policemen to patrol the subdivisions. (Fee for such officer is \$ 20/hr.) I would be in favor of a special assessment of \$25-\$30/yr. to cover the cost of a patrol officer.	Yes	No
7	Person Filing Out this form: (one per household)	Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____		
8	Additional Comments:	_____ _____ _____		
	Due Date:	May 15, 2006		
	Mail, Fax, Drop Off, Scan/Email	Becky Allemand, 10617 Hillwood Ave., 819-5987 (fax), (A box/container will be located near the front door) BBHRep@cox.net		

Committee to Elect Jason DeCuir State Senate

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Golf Match, Crawfish Boil and Music!

The Committee to Elect Jason DeCuir is hosting a golf tournament on May 9th at The University Club at 12:00 noon followed by a crawfish boil and live music.

At 4:00 PM, following the golf match, crawfish and music will keep the activities going. **Even if you don't play in the tournament, join us and meet more of your neighbors and visit with Jason DeCuir, candidate for State Senate District 14.** Crawfish and music are compliments of the Committee to Elect Jason DeCuir.

The golf match "begins" at noon. *There is an entry fee for the golf match.* Reserve your "place" by contacting Chris Jones at (225) 281-8070 or (225) 383-3796 or by emailing Jason@decuirforsenate.com.

Many of you know Jason already. He grew up nearby in Magnolia Woods where his parents still live. You, one of your children or someone you know may have gone to school with him at one of his alma maters: St. Aloysius, Catholic High, Howard University, Louisiana Tech, LSU Law School or Georgetown University Law School.

His willingness to run for Senator of District 14 is great news for our Senatorial District. Jason's solid values, educational background, tested community involvement, professional experience, and willingness to make the sacrifices necessary to serve as our Senator is our good fortune.

The golf tournament and the crawfish boil are your opportunity to re-connect with Jason, to get to know him better, to meet him, and to take seriously your role in creating the future of our

district and our state.

There's more information on the website: www.decuirforsenate.com.

Hope you'll join us for 12:00 noon at the golf tournament and/or for complimentary crawfish and music starting at 4:00 PM on May 9th at The University Club.

LOST CAT

This morning our cat Midnight – black and white and big and fluffy went out side around 4:30 and 5:30 this morning and we have not seen her since. She answers to Min-Min or Midnight. Reply to cat@bluebonnethighlands.org



WHAT'S UP WITH THE SPEED LIMIT?

This passed month, speed limit signs along the boulevard went up to 40mph. The lower speed limit of 30mph was a request by the residents of Bluebonnet Highlands Subdivision at the onset of the Bluebonnet Extension project to protect our residents. Dr. Culbertson, our Metro 3 Council Representative, was notified of this change. He immediately requested an update from Pete Newkirk of DPW and Walter Monsour of the Mayor's office of why the signs were changed to 40mph. Documentation was found, therefore the agreement that was promised to our residents would be honored.

Special thanks to Dr. Culbertson, Pete Newkirk and Walter Monsour for helping "to keep the word" of government officials.

Note: Metro 3 Council meetings allow you to have input of your surroundings. Yes, your opinion counts in decisions of future development. Attend and make a difference.

SEX OFFENDERS NEAR YOU? SCHOOL? WORK?

1. Visit <http://www12.familywatchdog.us/>
2. Enter your address - It will show a "house", that's yours...all the little colored boxes are Sex O f f e n d e r s . . .
3. Click on them and you get a name & picture of the person along with his/her crime...pretty a m a z i n g . . .

POOL UPDATE

- | The pool has just opened and there are a few concerns that need to be addressed.
- | Pool hours are 8am-8pm unless granted special permission.
- | Food is not allowed in the pool area. This includes chips. Picnic tables are provided for eating.
- | Balloons are not permitted in or near the pool. A dozen popped balloons have been picked up already.
- | Cigarette butts are not to be left on the ground. If you smoke, pick up your butts. The people who clean the pool area are volunteer residents and are not being paid for keeping the area clean.
- | Close the gates as you go in and out of the area.
- | Please bring your children to the restroom to make sure they are using the facilities properly.
- | If you move furniture under the overhang for shade, please return it to the open area once you are finished.
- | Please read the posted rules on the fence.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org or fax to 819-5987. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand
Contributors: Residents

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Website: www.janestamant.com

"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

June 2006

Volume 6, Issue 6

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ June 14-Flag Day
- ✦ June 18-Father's Day
- ✦ June 22-Metro 3 Council Mtg-7pm BBH Library
- ✦ June 23-Summer begins
- ✦ July 1-HOA dues

YARD OF THE MONTH

Springlake

Andrew and Ivory Daigre

10448 SPRINGCREST DR.



Vote for "Yard of the Month"
yard@bluebonnethighlands.org
by the 20th of each month.

SURVEY RESULTS

I would like to thank those residents who participated in the survey. The survey was compiled from various complaints that continued to come to the BBH Rep. Since the concerns were from different sources it was felt that you, the residents needed a voice in the matter as well. The survey served as your voice.

The survey was sent to 613 residents and resulted in only 57 replies. I am posting the results but due to the low turn out it is impossible for the HOA to make any changes.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1) Speed Humps | 17 Yes, 36 No |
| 2) Fire Hydrants | 33 Yes, 19 No |
| 3) Intersection | 29 Yes, 22 No |
| 4) Stop Sign Lines | 29 Yes, 20 No |
| 5) No Parking Signs | 20 Yes, 32 No |
| 6) Patrol Officer | 34 Yes, 20 No |

Additional comments.:

- people need to obey the laws so we shouldn't have to put up signs
- putting money out for something we should do is not necessary
- begin neighborhood watch programs
- too much stuff

ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN



Five cars and a boat were ransacked over the Memorial weekend. The substation officer stated that our neighborhood is a very nice neighborhood for gadgets. Please make sure that nothing is visible in your car to make someone want to break-in. Also, if you leave your garage opener in your car, make sure that you lock the door of your home going into your garage at all times. You are leaving a way for these people to get into your home. Put motion lights on your home. If you see them go on, check it out. If you hear a neighbor's alarm go off, make a visit to check it out. IF you hear a dog bark, check it out.

SWINGSET UPDATE

Pledges in good faith have reached \$215. Pledges will be taken for another month. If you are not sure if you made a pledge, just resubmit. Your pledge will not be counted twice unless you specifically request to do so. For more details read newsletter dated May 2006. To make a pledge, write to swingset@bluebonnethighlands.org. Include your name, physical address and pledge amount.

HISTORY OF BLUEBONNET EXTENSION AND SPEED LIMIT?

This article brought to you because of questions submitted. Additional information can be found for all to read: www.bluebonnethighlands.org, follow the link entitled "Bluebonnet Extension". There you will find information about the Bluebonnet Extension, as it was called, and the Resolution as it was written about the 30mph speed limit. As you can see, some of the meetings concerning the extension began as far back as 1999.

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WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



Comments from residents:

- 1) Mailbox clusters look ugly. What can be done? The US Postal Service states that you can not hang flyers of any type on any mail receptacle, therefore you are more than welcome to remove. These boxes are not bulletin boards. Please adopt a cluster and help keep them free of flyers. If people are driving up on the curb feel free to put plants.
- 2) When picking up your mail at the clusters, please DO NOT pull up on the grass. This is unsightly.
- 3) Time to Scoop the Poop!. When walking your dog please pick up after them. Not all people are animal lovers.
- 4) Can we adopt a cul-du-sac? Sure, go for it.
- 5) What time is too early to cut your grass? We don't want to get the law books out so please be considerate of your neighbors. Not everyone gets up at 6am. Try to use loud machines in the middle of the day when possible.
- 6) Advertisement signs popping up are against the deed restrictions, except Real Estate signs. If someone puts up a sign at the entrance of our subdivisions please call the number on the sign and ask them to remove it. If on your property then remove.

NEW CONTACT INFO

-New BBH Rep is Mekell Traylor. For general questions concerning deed restrictions, dues and misc. items write bbhrep@bellsouth.net. The phone number is 819-5987. Please call 292-2020 for about 1 week until this line is connected.

-New Clubhouse Rep is Jackie Macaluso. For clubhouse and small pool rentals or questions call or write BBH_Pool@yahoo.com or 612-3391. Remember, all parties need to be registered. Jackie and Kevin are the new Pool Committee Chairperson's.

HOA

July 1-Second half of HOA dues. Not sure if you already paid, just call your rep.



Spring has just sprung and it's already feeling like summer. My recipe for this month is a cool, refreshing gazpacho that offers relief. I just tried this recipe from Holly Clegg's Trim and Terrific Cookbook. If you've never eaten gazpacho, it's kind of like salad in the form of soup. I've enjoyed sitting outside with the neighbors on these warm afternoons with a glass of wine and a cup of this delicious chilled soup.

Gazpacho with Shrimp

6 cups tomato juice
2 T. red wine vinegar
1 T. minced garlic

1 c. finely chopped green bell pepper
½ c. finely chopped red bell pepper
1½ c. peeled, seeded, chopped tomato
½ c. chopped onion
1 c. chopped green onion (scallion)

1 t. dried basil
1 t. dried oregano
Dash hot pepper sauce
Salt and pepper to taste
1 lb. small cooked, peeled shrimp

In a large bowl mix first three ingredients. In another large bowl, combine chopped vegetables. Add half the vegetable mixture to the tomato juice mixture. Place remaining vegetables in a food processor, and process until smooth. Add to tomato juice mixture. Stir in seasoning and shrimp (for a vegetarian soup, omit the shrimp). Cover and refrigerate until well chilled. Serve chilled.

POOL UPDATE

Parents continue to bring food into the pool area. The rules clearly state no food allowed in the pool area. Please if you see anyone eating food, ask them to go to the picnic area. You are paying for the ant poison that we continue to put out because of this problem.

The trashcans are now for plastic and cans only. If you are eating pizza it should be at the picnic table. Take your trash home with you. The volunteers do not want your trash.

Alcohol is never allowed in the pool area. This holds true for clubhouse rentals, sunbathers, etc. Any drink, with any form of alcohol is **NOT ALLOWED**.

Babies not potty trained must wear proper swimming attire. No swimming in birthday suits or leaky diapers. If babies potty in the pool, the pool will be closed in order to be shocked. **DO NOT JUMP THE FENCE**, these chemicals are harmful!

Someone had a pool party on Sunday, May 23, 2006 but did not register with the HOA. We need for you to contact us as soon as possible. Pool rentals are \$20 plus a \$20 deposit for clean up. Please call before we deactivate your card.

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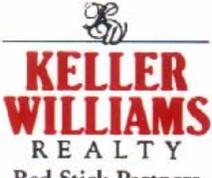


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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

July 2006

Volume 6, Issue 7

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ See calendar of events page 3
- ✦ July 1-HOA dues
- ✦ July 4 & 18-Clubhouse Hotdog Sales
- ✦ July 20-Metro 3 Council Mtg, 7pm, BB Library
- ✦ August 4-6 National Hot Air Balloon Championships-Baton Rouge

YARD OF THE MONTH

Springlake

RONALD DAVENPORT
10116 SPRINGBROOK AVE

&

BO & CORKY SMITH
10111 HILLMONT AVENUE

Vote for "Yard of the Month"
yard@bluebonnethighlands.org
by the 20th of each month.



HOA

- We currently have 266 Fairhill homeowners and 537 Springlake homeowners. The current filing of Springlake that the builders are building now has 71 lots. The next filing of Fairhill, which will be Fairhill 4 will have 60 lots. Construction for this filing should begin in about a month. We are working on Springlake 8, but lot numbers are not available at this time.
- July 1-Second half of HOA dues. Pay your dues between July 1-31 and avoid a late fee. Call Mekell, 819-5987 or BBHRep@bellsouth.net if you need a balance. Don't forget to leave your name, address and brief message.
- Contact Mekell for BBH decals available free of charge to the BBH residents. Great for those who use the pool, fish or just letting everyone know you really belong here.
- Jackie can help you out for all pool parties and clubhouse rentals. Contact Jackie for additional information at BBH_Pool@yahoo.com or 612-3391. Remember, all parties must be registered.
- **Clubhouse will sell hotdogs and popsicles on July 4, 18, August 1, and 15. Bring the kids!!!!**

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



Comments from residents:

1)Mailbox clusters still an eyesore. Stop the signs.
2)Please be sure to check your Dryer Vent Carefully to be sure it stays cleaned out free from lint buildup. We are a family of five and use our Clothes dryer every day. Our home was built by Stafford Custom Homes. We moved into our new home in November 2004. Approximately 14 mos. after moving in our walls in the laundry room bubbled up and the paint began to peel off. After checking into it we found that we had a large amount of lint build up which can also be a fire hazard. It is not even 2 years yet and it is building up quickly. The first time the builder replaced the vent on the roof with the exact same vent which is actually a bathroom vent exhaust cover. At this time we are having to get some one else to replace the vent cover with a proper vent. We just wanted to make other residents aware of this problem. Thanks, Greg Tullier, Springridge Ave.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAM

Welcome all Fairhill and Springlake parents and caregivers of children of all ages to a group designed to encourage community building and the development of Bluebonnet Highlands as a family-friendly neighborhood.

We hope you will join us! It does not matter where you are from or what your parenting style, it would be nice to create a network so that our children will have many friends in the neighborhood and learn to be part of a community. Whether you have just moved here or have been a lifetime resident, whether you have young kids or old, whether you work full-time or stay-at-home. In the past there were churches, small towns, stable work places where one worked all his/her life. Also people lived close to their extended families. Now those means of networking have become weaker or so varied that they are not pillars of communities as much. Here we can see our children as the center of our

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community and get to know each other. In relaxed settings we can let our children play and socialize. Non-structured environments, meeting others outside of institutions, creating safe places for the neighborhood children to just play is valuable. I hope that this space will fulfill that need. There's tons going on for us and our kids, yet because many of our children don't attend one neighborhood school, there's no way for all of us to communicate.

Members are welcomed to use the group to:

- exchange news and information about kid-focused events & services,
- connect our kids for play dates, sport teams, picnics, neighborhood events
- seek, sell and swap baby gear – strollers, cribs, carriers, toys, clothes ...
- discuss school and education issues, carpooling
- recommend babysitters, pediatricians, dentists, maybe even start a babysitting co-op?
- host neighborhood garage sales, parades, fundraisers
- parents and caregivers day/night out

To join, in the comments section of the membership form, please introduce yourself and your family (including kids' ages). This will allow us to build a membership roster as well as help keep spammers out of the group. We cannot accept blank applications. This is a restricted membership group. All requests for membership must be approved by the moderator. Before being approved, you will be asked to verify that you are a parent or caregiver of this neighborhood by providing your home address.

What it is not:

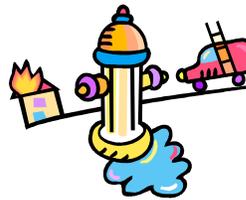
- ~ a chat group for discussing the challenges of parenting. There are lots of groups for that purpose.
- ~ a chat group for non-kid-related issues in the Bluebonnet Highlands neighborhood. The Bluebonnet Highlands Neighborhood has a web page (www.bluebonnethighlands.org)
- ~ a political soapbox for overtly controversial topics.
- ~ a forum for advertising. However, if you own your own kid-related business in the neighborhood, we do want to hear about it, so please contact the webmaster at www.bluebonnethighlands.org.

Please spread the word! We're looking forward to meeting our neighbors!

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bluebonnet_Highlands_Parents

ADOPTION NEEDED

Our family has become too large. We are offering some of our babies for adoption. Please call 766-9234 for FREE healthy gerbils.



TOP 10 FIRE SAFETY TIPS

1. Install and Maintain Smoke Detectors: follow manufactures directions and consider installing battery operated detectors outside bedrooms to protect you in case the power is out, disabling the wired detector.
2. Plan and Practice your escape: have a family plan and choose an outside meeting place where everyone can gather.
3. Be careful cooking: keep stove clear of combustibles and don't leave pots unattended. Smother pan fires with a lid, not water. Consider having a small fire extinguisher in the kitchen.
4. Use electricity safely: If an appliance starts to smell unusual, unplug it and repair or replace it. Check electrical cords replace any with frays or cracks. Don't overload outlets or extension cords.
5. Crawl low under Smoke: if there is a fire teach your family to crawl to the nearest safe exit. If you have an inside deadbolt lock on a door, hide the key LOW on the wall.
6. Stop, drop and roll: If your clothes catch fire – don't run. Cove your face with your hands and drop to the ground and roll to smother the flames.
7. Cool a burn: Immediately place a wound in cool water for 10 – 15 minutes to ease pain. Do NOT use fat on a burn as this prolongs heat and can damage skin.
8. Matches are for Adults: Teach children from an early age that matches are not toys and if they find matches they should tell an adult.
9. Space heaters need space: at least 3 feet from anything that can burn and NEVER leave a heater on when you go to bed or leave home.
10. Don't hide – get outside: Instruct children not to hid under beds or in closets, get outside and go to the meeting place.

This article brought to your attention due to the recent experience of one of our residents.

Rene's Kitchen



Looking for a cool easy drink for your Fourth celebration? I found this delicious recipe in Gourmet. You can really let those creative juices flow with this recipe. Consider other jams or lemonade. Consider blackberry syrup on waffles or better yet, in your next batch of frozen margaritas! OMG!

Blackberry Limeade

2 c. fresh lime juice (from 8-12 limes)
1 2/3 c. superfine granulated sugar
1 qt. cold water
2 Tbs. blackberry syrup (store-bought or homemade, below)

Stir together ingredients in a pitcher until sugar is dissolved. Garnish with thin lime slices.

Blackberry Syrup

Microwave (stirring) 1/4 c. blackberry jam and 1 Tbs. water until jam is dissolved. Press through sieve into small bowl and discard solids. Keeps, covered and chilled, 1 week.

Rene's Blackberry Limeade

1 can frozen limeade concentrate
blackberry syrup
Prepare concentrate as directed on package. Stir in 1 Tbs. syrup per quart.

FOURTH OF JULY FUN

From testing your trivia to making your own flag, this site has something for every interest. For great ways to celebrate Independence Day, choose from Crafts, Games, Pintables, and 4th of July Books,. Plus, be sure to check our 4th of July History 101.

www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/july4/

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✦ 3rd– Fireworks & Fais Dodo. Crescent Park Donaldsonville 225-473-4247 Ext 13
- ✦ 4th– 4th of July Boar Parade. South end of False River, New Roads, Free admission. 225-498-2822

- ✦ 4th- Star-Spangled Celebration at the USS Kidd. Battleship and Museum open for touring from 8:45am to 3pm. Features live music, an air show with a mock battle between the Kidd and World War II aircraft, food and drink booths, and fireworks over the Mississippi River 225-343-1942.
- ✦ 14-15th Deep South Cane & Rigging
- ✦ 5-16th– Which. LSU Theatre production written and directed by Jeannie Musick. Theater 150, Music and Dramatic Arts Building, LSU Campus. 225-578-9278.
- ✦ 27th– 30th Annual Preservation Awards Banquet. The Foundation for Historical Louisiana recognizes five outstanding preservations. Faculty Club, LSU campus. 6pm 225-387-2464.
- ✦ 28-29th– Feliciana Hummingbird Event. St. Francisville. 225-721-0476.

2006 DEEP SOUTH CANE & RIGGING SWAMP POP MUSIC FESTIVAL

benefiting Cystic Fibrosis

Friday, July 14 @ 5:00pm

Saturday, July 15 @ 10am

Trade Mart Building-Air conditioned

Adults: Weekend Pass \$15, Friday \$10,

Saturday \$7, **Children Under 10 FREE!**

225-769-9994

Friday

7-8pm Papillion, children's entertainer

8-11pm Waylon Thibodeaux Louisiana's Rockin Fiddler & special guest Jo-El Sonnier, "King of Cajun"

11-12:30am Wayne Toups and ZydeCajun

Saturday

11-12 am Papillion, children's entertainer

12-1pm Cliff Nickens

1-2:30pm Wayne Foret Band

2:30-4pm Hospice

4-5:30pm Kenny Cornett and Killin Time Featuring Van & Grace Broussard

5:30-7:30pm Kenny Fife & Bac Trac with Mike & Steve Broussard

7:30-10pm The Preston Blanchard Band

10-1am-Aaron Foret Band

Information on cook off and additional activities visit: <http://www.swamppopmusicfest.com/home.php>

POOL NEWS

Food is not allowed in the pool area. Food is allowed at the picnic area. Ant poison is expensive.

Alcohol is never allowed in the pool area. This holds true for clubhouse rentals, sunbathers, etc.

Trashcans are for plastic and cans only. Please take your trash home with you. The volunteers do not want your trash.

Babies not potty trained must wear proper swimming attire. No swimming in birthday suits or leaky diapers. If babies potty in the pool, the pool will be closed in order to be shocked. DO NOT JUMP THE FENCE, these chemicals are harmful!



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand

Contributors: Residents

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

August 2006

Volume 6, Issue 8

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ HOA dues—Did You Forget?
- ✦ Aug. 4-6 National Hot Air Balloon Championships-Baton Rouge
- ✦ Aug. 10-Pool Closed 6-8pm
- ✦ Aug. 17-Metro 3 Council Mtg, 7pm, BB Library

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).

YOUR BBH REP IS WORKING FOR YOU!



- I know no one wants to hear about crime but talking to the sheriff's department, it's not just our neighborhood but all good ones that have been hit. Their advice is please don't leave doors unlocked and personal items in plain view of bad people. The subdivision can have off duty sheriffs officers patrol but more resident input is needed. There are about 700 homes in our subdivision. The cost for a five day week would cost us roughly about \$100/year. Your BBH Rep has talked to several that are more than happy to come and patrol if we are willing to pay them. The sheriff's office does not have enough man power on duty to patrol otherwise. They mentioned it doesn't look bad to have security-most neighborhoods do. The Sheriff stated they would be at any meeting to explain in detail to the residents why and what they would get for their money. Also, Mr. Fred Raiford would be at the meeting to explain or answer any questions they would have for the Sheriff's Dept. Meeting can be held at the clubhouse. A date will be posted on the marquee of the website as soon as one is established. Keep looking.
- And on a happier note: Some of the eyesores have been resolved. The fence has been changed out at the corner of Springcrest and Bluebonnet, the wooden gates for the DPW system and the Entergy system along Bluebonnet have been fixed, the HUGH hole at the entrance to Fairhill at Hillglen and Bluebonnet, and still in progress at this writing the hole next to the white picket fence at the Lake on Bluebonnet Blvd. The

contractors have been contacted so slowly the tall grass growing behind the fence line between Hillrose and Hillmont should be clearing. The weeds should be coming down.

- Lakeside residents. Please remember that all residents pay for the fish that are placed in these lakes. Non-residents do not have permission to fish these lakes. If you have a guest, you need to accompany them while fishing. If you are a lakeside resident and people are fishing in the lake without a resident on their side, please call the BBH Rep or the Sheriff's office. Contract workers do not have permission to fish these lakes unless the resident is sitting on the side of them as their guest. Remember, all homeowners have supplied these lakes with FISH and if you are not with them, they are trespassing, even if they are not "bothering you". Bottom line—other residents pay for it and they don't want them out there fishing.
- ATV's are not to be driven in the neighborhood it's a violation of the deed restrictions and the law.
- If you misplaced your deed restriction please go to www.bluebonnethighlands.org and print a copy for your records. If you receive a violation notice please refer to this document for an explanation of your violation. COMING SOON! New Recycle Bins and New Yellow phone books. (Yeah) the new recycle bins will be automated as well. This helps to keep our neighborhood neat and clean. Don't forget to pick up your bins once you get home in the afternoon.
- Metro 3 Meeting Announcement:
 - ✦ The New Rave Theatre @ The Mall of LA is now open.
 - ✦ There will be a Phase IV Mall of La Expansion: -- more Retail shopping centers, more restaurants and Phase V is the future development of Hotel/ Motels and parking garages.
- On Burbank near Walgreens-2 new food places (Sonic and Popeye's) opening soon.
- Sidewalk **Maintenance** The City-Parish Department of Public Works constructs sidewalks, curbs, and gutters along many Parish roads. Once installed, these rights-of-way become the responsibility of the property owner on whose property the sidewalk crosses. Property owners

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

are responsible for regular maintenance of sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, such as sweeping, and removal of debris and trash. If a sidewalk repair is needed as a result of a City-Parish induced problem (example storm or sewer system leak) the Department of Public Works will repair **t h e s i d e w a l k**. Should a sidewalk repair be necessitated because of a property owner's need or negligence, the property owner is responsible for making the change. For more information, to report a sidewalk, curb, or gutter in need of repair, or to have someone evaluate if a sidewalk repair falls under the City-Parish's responsibility, please call Citizens Service at 389-3090, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 pm. Monday through Friday. Visit <http://brgov.com/AskBR/default.htm> for additional questions and answers.

- **What to do if the recycling truck misses my pick-up** Call the East Baton Rouge Parish recycling office at (225) 389-5194 to report the missed pick-up. The recycling office will coordinate a pick up with BFI. Or call BFI directly at (225) 778-3800.

TRASH PICKUP

Trash items that do not belong in the automated pickup service will be picked up every Thursday. Trashcans that are no longer wanted should be placed with Thursday pickup and clearly marked with a large "X". Cans are to be placed on curbside either the night before or early morning and picked up once emptied. Cans left out for days is an eyesore to our beautiful neighborhood. For additional information pertaining to pickup call the DPW citizen service line 389-3090.

CARS PARKING ON STREET

Cars left on the street are preventing the sweep cleaning truck and the automated garbage truck from completing their services in our subdivision. OOPS stickers will be distributed to those in violation by Allied Waste. Vehicles need to be parked in your driveway to allow for sweepers and trash pick up.

RECREATION COMPLEX UPDATE

Parents: Do You Know Where Your Kids Are?

The complex gate was vandalized by several preteens the evening of Friday, July 21. According to eyewitnesses, these preteens were inside the pool/clubhouse complex on the playground, without adult supervision. Parents please supervise your children. You are responsible for their actions. The HOA should not have to pay for such damages.

Clubhouse Corner:

- Clubhouse rentals have increased from \$75 to \$100 with a \$100 deposit. If you have a deposit already in, you will not be assessed the difference. The money collected from the clubhouse rentals is used to purchase items needed for maintenance and upkeep of the pool/clubhouse complex. The much needed increase is due to request by the homeowners of wanting dimmer switches for lighting differences for specific functions, replacement of broken lamps, A/C servicing, new Life Ring Buoys, etc.
- Future clubhouse renters will now need to provide proof (copy of house deed, cash sale, property taxes, etc.) that they are the owner of a property in either Springlake or Fairhill at Bluebonnet Highlands. We will not rent the clubhouse to residents who are not on the deed, regardless of relationship to the homeowner, or who will not furnish proof of ownership. This means if your name is not on this document you can not sign the contract for renting. We apologize for the inconvenience which this requirement imposes.

Pool:

- **Closed August 10th, 6-8pm**

- Life Ring Buoys, aka Lifesavers, Life rings are not toys. These are for emergency use only. Please leave at designated signs.



Pool Puddle:

- Thank you to those residents and volunteers who continue to help keep our pool area clean and are placing their bottles and cans in the recycling bin near the trash cans.
- Please remember to take out all hair accessories before swimming! We are finding many hair ties, rubber bands, and bobby pins in the pool, where they do not belong.
- The pool breaker has finally been replaced, so that our pumps will work more efficiently. The pool ladder closest to the parking lot will be repaired soon.
- Glass bottles (even in koozies) are not permitted in the pool area.
- The pool area, bathrooms, drinking fountain, and soda machine, are always closed on Mondays, regardless of whether or not a person is cleaning the pool at the time of your arrival. Please do not enter the pool or pool area, even if the padlocks are not present. Keycards will open the pool/clubhouse complex for use of the tennis court, playground, and recreational field as they are available for everyday use from 8am to 8 pm. However, the pool is not open on Mondays!

- Please do not bring pets into the pool area, as pet waste will cause closure of the pool for cleaning.

Playground:

- A new glider swing is being purchased for the playground.

Poolside Q&A:

- Umbrellas were removed due to people leaving the umbrellas open and throwing them into the pool.
- Tables were removed due to people leaving food on the tables causing ants to take over and tables having to be washed daily.

Complex Card not Working or Lost:

- Contact bbhrep@bellsouth.net



Chicken w/ Chiles and Pasta

- 2 lbs Skinless boneless Chicken breast (which is 3 or 4 breast depending on weight)
- 1 (10 - oz) can of cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10 - oz) can of cream of celery soup
- 2 (4 - oz) cans of chopped green chilies
- 1 (8 - oz) pkg. Of shredded cheddar cheese, optional
- 1 pkg. of cooked Angel Hair pasta

Place chicken, cream of mushroom and celery soups, and green chilies into a slow cooker. Cook on low for 6 to 8 hours.

Serve over pasta and top with Cheddar cheese, if desired.

A good white wine also goes great with this recipe.

Cooking with Meken

This is a Slow Cooker Recipe from Julie Kay, What a Crock! with the Advocate's Food Section. I have personally tried this recipe for my family and I (which includes 2 children ages 4 & 2) and we all loved it, hope yours will too.

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"Bringing Buyers And Sellers Together"

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

September 2006

Volume 6, Issue 9

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ HOA dues—Did You Forget?
- ✦ Sept. 21-Metro 3 Council Mtg.-7pm, BB Library
- ✦ Oct. 16-HOA Mtg.-6 pm, BB Library

HOA

The annual HOA meeting will take place at the Bluebonnet Library, **October 16th** at 6pm. The HOA will be reporting on the budget. A printout with expenses and name of those residents delinquent will be provided. The delinquent homeowners fees for Springlake is \$13,011.64 and Fairhill is \$11,4221.56 at a total of \$24,433.20. The lawyer has been able to collect from some homeowners but again this is an expense to you, the homeowner.

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s) or print your concern for others to be notified.

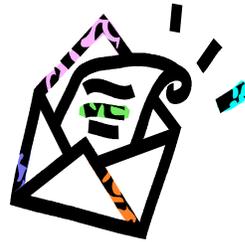


1) RESIDENTS NEEDING TO CURB THEIR DOGS.

There are a number of residents who walk their dogs and do not even have the decency to pick up after them.



There are also resident's who let their dogs roam freely into their neighbor's yards to do their business as well (one being on my street). I have dogs of my own that I clean up after in my own backyard on a daily basis so you can imagine how frustrating it is for me to have to clean up after our inconsiderate neighbor's dogs. I have emailed this request before which has been printed in the newsletter but maybe if it gets printed a second time these offenders might get the picture, otherwise maybe I should start walking my dogs on their lawns.



2) The HOA REP receives complaints from residents, then sends out a letter notifying that resident of the violation. Some residents have

wondered why the resident just doesn't call them. This is because in the past it has started an unfriendly situation for both involved leaving a nasty relationship between neighbors. Sometimes some people just don't know their neighbor well enough to knock on the door. These letters are meant to have a situation corrected, without putting a blame on anyone. We want our neighborhood to remain clean, neat, and friendly. Remember why you moved here.

"The goal of this newsletter/website is to create a sense of community in Bluebonnet Highlands through the sharing of information and occasional organized events. We are your neighbors who have volunteered our time and funds to bring you information that is important, helpful and sometimes, we think entertaining!" We welcome articles from you, our residents pertaining to places to visit, activities in and around the area, and information that may help other neighbors. Please join in and submit to the newsletter.

We are not responsible for any incorrect information but we do try to keep it accurate.

Webmaster: bluebonnetwebmaster@charter.net

COMPLEX UPDATE

Special thanks to the HOA for providing the children of our subdivision with a new and much needed glider. The glider was purchased from the online company www.playkids.com for \$84.99. Two kids can swing on the hunter green seat at one time. Check it out.



POOL NEWS

- ✦ Just a little reminder for you to get your swimming time in while the weather last. The pool usually closes in late October so get out there and enjoy the rays while you can.
- ✦ Each year the pool is kept up by resident volunteers. Please write to bbh_pool@yahoo.com if you are able to continue your duties for next year or if you interested in being a new volunteer. The committee runs great when there are two volunteers for each day of the week.



SUSHI ANYONE?

Our favorite restaurant lately is "Hello Sushi" on Burbank near Nicholson. The food is delicious, the prices are reasonable, and the service is wonderful. Anyone who says they don't like sushi doesn't know what they're talking about. There are so many different kinds of sushi- raw, cooked, even deep-fried. My daughter's first experience with sushi was an appetizer they serve called "sushi pizza." It's a crispy fried rice cake with a seafood sauce and roe on top. At 11-years old, she now enjoys sharing our sushi rolls- raw and cooked! We also enjoy snacking on edemame, salted steamed soybeans. We enjoy eating at the sushi bar so we can see the food being served and get recommendations from the friendly staff. It's a new experience every time we visit. Sushi is not only a taste-tingler, but also a visual experience. It is some of the most beautiful food I've ever seen. I highly recommend this restaurant. Submitted by: Rene'

EMERGENCIES-HURRICANES——> ARE YOU READY?

Katrina and Rita may have had you buying water and batteries – but do you have a whistle? Water, food and clean air are essential for survival. Include a dust mask or cotton shirt to filter air, plastic sheeting and duct tape, medications and infant supplies. For personal sanitation include moist wipes, garbage bags and ties. Don't forget the first aid kit, cash and make a family contact plan. Can you put your hands on important papers in case of an evacuation? Do you know how to shut off the water, power and gas lines to your house? Can you put your hands on wrenches and pliers? For a complete supply checklist log on to www.Ready.gov. or www.FEMA.gov. For forecast information visit the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov

Pre-packaged Disaster Supply Kits are available thru your American Red Cross 225-291-4533 Ext. 230 for more information. Visit the Red Cross website for more information on classes and volunteer groups at <http://www.batonrouge.redcross.org/>

ARTICLES

The newsletter staff is in need of your input. Let us know places of interest and special places you like to shop. Share your experiences and knowledge with others in the neighborhood.

CHANGED YOUR EMAIL LATELY?

Don't forget, if you change your email address you need to contact the HOA Rep so that you can receive your notices for HOA dues, newsletter reminders, and lost family members. Call Mekell, your BBH Rep at 819-5987 or BBHRep@bellsouth.net with your updates.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand, email: bluebonnetwebmaster@charter.net

Contributors: Residents

****Due to some technical difficulties it maybe necessary to contact the webmaster at ballemand@charter.net**

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

October 2006

Volume 6, Issue 10

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ HOA dues—Did You Forget?
- ✦ **Oct 2– Planning Commission Mtg.- 5pm**
- ✦ Oct 9-Columbus Day
- ✦ Oct 16-National Boss Day
- ✦ **Oct 16-HOA Mtg.-6pm, BBH Library**
- ✦ **Oct 19-Metro 3 Council Mtg-7pm BBH Library**
- ✦ Oct 24-United Nations Day
- ✦ Oct 29-Daylight Saving Time Ends
- ✦ **Oct 31-Halloween**

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM HOA

To: Bluebonnet Highland Residents
(Fairhill and Springlake)

The city of Baton Rouge is trying to put an entrance to our subdivision on Burbank. We need as many homeowners to attend the planning commission meeting to voice **YOUR** opposition.

There is a planning commission meeting set for **October 2nd at 5pm** at the Governmental Bldg, 3rd floor. The address is 222 St. Louis Street.

Mr. Taylor is trying to get a preliminary approval of this last filing of Fairhill. Originally, we were going to have one entrance from Bluebonnet to Fairhill on the master plan because Bluebonnet ended at Fairhill's entrance. The final filing will extend from Hillbrook toward Burbank. Mr. Taylor is proposing to make this street a cul-de-sac instead of an outlet to Burbank. Since the beginning, the city has extended Bluebonnet and required us to add the two additional

entrances to Fairhill. Therefore we do not feel there is a need for an entrance to Fairhill from Burbank but, as stated above, the city is requesting us to put an entrance on Burbank. Again, we need as many homeowners to attend the planning commission meeting to voice their opposition.

POOL NEWS

The pool will close for the season October 30th, therefore the last day to swim will be October 29th. The pool committee would like to thank all residents who helped keep the pool in good condition throughout the season. We are a small group and really appreciate all the help from you.



COMPLEX KEYCARD

Residents who do not have a key card should contact their HOA Rep at bbhrep@bellsouth.net to order a replacement. If you just purchased a home, check with the previous owner since the cards are not free unless you are a first time homeowner. Dues must be paid in order to have an active key. Please do not ask a neighbor to borrow their key since this can cause your neighbor to have their card deactivated as well as your key.

HOA (repeat article)

The annual HOA meeting will take place at the Bluebonnet Library, **October 16th** at 6pm. The HOA will be reporting on the budget. A printout with expenses and name of those residents delinquent will be provided. The delinquent homeowners fees for Springlake is \$13,011.64 and Fairhill is \$11,4221.56 at a total of \$24,433.20. The lawyer has been able

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Webmaster: bluebonnetwebmaster@charter.net

to collect from some homeowners but again this is an expense to you, the homeowner.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Did you know that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month? Remember those affected by this disease by wearing something "pink" every Friday during the month of October.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY



With Halloween just around the corner you may want to visit <http://www.halloween-safety.com/> This site has a lot of safety tips for all members of the family, pets included.

ADS

Please check the ad information at the end of this newsletter. If your contact information has changed please write to ballemand@charter.net with the necessary changes. It is my understanding that two have changed.

CHANGED YOUR EMAIL LATELY?

Don't forget, if you change your email address you need to contact the HOA Rep so that you can receive your notices for HOA dues, newsletter reminders, and lost family members. Call Mekell, your BBH Rep at 819-5987 or BBHRep@bellsouth.net with your updates.

ARTICLES

The newsletter staff is in need of your input. Let us know places of interest and special places you like to shop. Share your experiences and knowledge with others in the neighborhood. If you are new to the area and would like a one time article about yourself and your business please send in an article. We do like to promote our residents. Your input is needed to keep this line of communication open. Without your input the newsletter will shut down.



Having a crowd during football season? Here's a great recipe.

Chili Beans
The Allemands

5 lbs. ground beef
2 cans regular whole tomatoes
3 lbs. ground turkey (you can use beef here as well)
2 cans tomato sauce
5 med. Onions (diced)
4 cans New Orleans Style Kidney Beans
1 bunch green onions (chopped)
4 packets chili powder
2 stalks celery (chopped)
1 Tablespoon oregano
2 med. bell peppers (chopped)
1 Tablespoon Cumin
1-2 can(s) diced Rotel (according to taste)
4 Tablespoon Lea & Perrin
2 cans regular whole tomatoes
Salt to Taste

Start with a large pot. Brown meat, then drain. Add remaining ingredients. Cook at least for 4 hours. The longer you cook it the better it gets.

Options for serving.

Condiments include grated sharp cheddar cheese, sour cream, diced onions.

Serve with Ritz Crackers, Corn Chips or Tortilla Chips

Even good over rice.

WE'RE LISTENING

When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s) or print your concern for others to be notified.



- 1) Mailbox clusters becoming an eyesore. Residents please bring unwanted mail to your home. Do not throw on the street.
- 2) Camera found in Springlake Subdivision. Contact your BBH Rep, Mekell, at bbhrep@bellsouth.net or 819-5987 to claim.
- 3) Your BBH Rep attended the Metro 3 Council Meeting. There has been nothing in the past or present concerning a Super Wal-Mart near our subdivision. She will keep her ears and eyes posted.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org. Staff has final approval on types of articles to be included in this newsletter.

Webmaster: Becky Allemand, email: bluebonnetwebmaster@charter.net

Contributors: Residents

****Due to some technical difficulties it maybe necessary to contact the webmaster at ballemand@charter.net**

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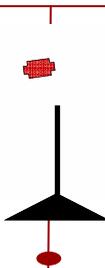
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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

November 2006

Volume 6, Issue 11

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Pool-Closed for the Season
- ✦ Nov. 7-Election Day-go out and vote!
- ✦ Nov. 9-Metro 3 Council Mtg.-7pm BBH Library
- ✦ Nov. 11-Veteran's Day
- ✦ Nov. 23-Thanksgiving

WHAT IS VETERAN'S DAY?

Veterans Day is a federal holiday to honor military veterans. It commemorates the armistice treaty that ended the fighting in World War I. The armistice went into effect at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918 (The 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month). Germany, bereft of manpower and supplies and faced with imminent invasions, signed an armistice agreement with the Allies in a railroad car outside Compiègne, France. The First World War left nine million soldiers dead and 21 million wounded, with Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, France, and Great Britain each losing nearly a million or more lives. In addition, at least five million civilians died from disease, starvation, or exposure. Veterans Day is observed Friday, November 10, 2006 this year. It is observed Monday, November 12, 2007 next year



To see video and read additional info please visit http://www.history.com/media.do?action=clip&id=tdih_1111

CLUBHOUSE NEWS

For people who like a quiet atmosphere, now is the time to book the clubhouse for that special get-together. Great time to open the rear doors on those nice cool evenings. Your quest will not have to share the restrooms with pool goers since the pool is closed for the season. The tennis court and playground remains open.

NEW RESIDENTS

If you have any questions concerning the subdivision please contact your BBH Rep, Mekell Traylor at BBHREP@BELLSOUTH.NET.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES LAMAR DIXON EXPO

Visit <http://www.lamardixonexpocenter.com/>

Check the calendar for more details.

Nov. 4-5 BR Kennel Club Dog Show

Nov. 4-5 Southern Pride Youth Rodeo

No. 9-11 National Corvette Restoration Society Regional Car Show

Nov. 11 Kelly's Kids Clothes

Nov. 13 Barnes & Bailey Circus

Nov. 16-18 7 Z Beefmaster Cattle Sale

Nov. 18-19 Classic Arms Gun & Knife Show

Nov. 23-26 Cajun Classic Quarter Horse Shows

Nov. 24-25 Kajun Bucking Bull Sale

Dec. 1-2 McGrain Antique Show

THIS COULD BE THE LAST

Bluebonnet Highlands is in need of a newsletter editor and webmaster.

Becky moved away July 10th but has been maintaining the website and continued to be our newsletter editor even at long distance. The time has come for our residents to take over these duties. The newsletter has been our means of communicating for over 6 years. The newsletter and webmaster notifies you of upcoming dues notices, meetings, etc saving much money from HOA expenses. The HOA can not afford to pay for postage and announcements. If you are interested in keeping the newsletter and website then we need for a few of you to step up to the plate—NOW. If no one is willing,



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then refunds will be sent to those businesses who have paid for ads at the end of this newsletter. Becky has not solicited new ads since she was leaving and a request for her replacement went on deaf ears. If you are interested please contact Becky for more information, bluebonnetwebmaster@charter.net. This is a volunteer position.

BBH BUSINESS MEETING HOMEOWNERS MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2006

Clark Taylor opened the meeting. Pat Culbertson was present, Councilman for the area. He will answer questions after meeting is over.

Agenda was passed out.

Budget was discussed. Any questions? Yes, breakdown of postage, copies and administrative fees. Debbie explained that this was the cost to mail notices, cost of copies made and administrative fees (management fees). Cost per home, \$2.50 per door closest bid was \$7.00 to \$10.00 per door. When development is complete that is what you will be looking at.

Ground maintenance—is this for cutting the grass etc? Yes.

Cul de sac areas. Trees and ground cover plants were planted by developer. If they died after this time, then the homeowners in that area have replaced them at their expense. When the cul de sac areas that were not planted are finished, the developer will plant trees in that area in January. If they die then it is up to you to replant. We try to keep the seasonal color at the entrances.

Wooden sign at the entrance to Hillmont that was placed there for sales purpose only. Residence in that area decided that they were going to get together and put up something better. This has not been done. The wooden sign is still there and will stay there until the area is fully developed. Two more filing will be developed in Fairhill.

What kind of debt are we talking about? The Association has a debt at this time of \$284,893 to Whitney Bank for the Recreation complex. This is approximately \$20,000/yr for interest and \$20,000/yr for principal. Also about \$89,785 to developer for moneys that were loaned to the Association during times when moneys were not collected. This should be paid off hopefully within the next three years. These are the only debts that the Association has other than current monthly operating expenses. The loan to Whitney Bank will mature in 2008 and there will have to be some restructuring for this loan. Payments are being made semimonthly so that more and more is going to the principal.

Will there be any additional assessment per household to help payoff the debt? As a developer I will not go there. In the 7th filing of Springlake and all future filings the fees are \$30/month instead of \$17/month. A survey was done by Ms. Becky, thru the newsletter, and there was no response as to raising monthly association fees. The raise in the fees is still less than is paid for other area subdivisions.

Mr. Taylor asked for questions on the balance sheet. There were no questions.

Moving on to the Actual Income Statement are there any questions? As most of the money is collected in the early part of the year, when you get the September you will see that we only collected \$1,700. That is why when the Association is a little short the developer will loan the association the funds to pay the bills. This month the developer had to loan the association about \$4,000.

You will see that there is an attached list of homeowners who have not paid their assessments. As you will see Springlake is about \$9,000 and Fairhill is about \$9,000. That's \$18,000 that has not been paid. If you have any ideas how we can collect this other than filing liens on the property or suits thru our attorney.

When the Sheriff's office arrives at their doors, they are not answering the door. We have given permission for the Sheriff's office to come between the hours of 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM to drop off the lien papers.

Open discussion—property behind Springlake. Are

there any plans to develop this property? We think it will be residential. problem occurred during the building of the home the builder is responsible.

Any other matters to discuss? I see that you are now developing property across the canal. Is this going to be Springlake or Fairhill? This will be Springlake 8. Behind this will be two filings of Fairhill. Will the filing along the lake be Springlake or Fairhill? This will be Springlake.

What is to be done with the green area located at Springtree and Springtime, where the gate is off of Bluebonnet? This was originally for a day care center, but no one was willing to develop this at that time. We have no plans for it at this time.

Discussion was held on why they were diverting the canal behind Hillbrook. It was explained that this was for the City Parish to come in and further develop the next section of Springlake/Fairhill. There will be a street back there. The canal will not be changed, but extended.

The property in front of Springlake is commercial. The Burbank side is for an assisted living project. There is a good buffer between this area and the subdivision.

What about the grass cutting and lighting? We have noticed that it is not as it was in the past. Mekell talked to Mr. Newkirk with the city parish and she was told that they were going to put up some new lighting and work on the grass situation. They will also complete the sidewalks along Bluebonnet.

Who is responsible for cleaning up the grass clipping and trash? We will talk to the person who does our common area work. This should be done every time the grass is cut so as to keep the clipping from clogging the drains. This has happened and we have had some flooding because of this. We need to remind all residents to clean up and bag all of their clippings to keep the drains open. The lawn company that we use does pick up trash, but he only come every 7 to 10 days. Trash does not wait for him to come.

Discussion was held on cracked sidewalks. The city parish will come out and look at the sidewalks, if it is anything to do with the homeowner then it is your responsibility to fix it. If it is the city's problem they will fix it. If the

What do you do if the streetlight is not working? You call Entergy. They will come out and fix it. This is their responsibility.

Again, another mention about the administration fees. The \$2.50 per home is cheap. Three different Management companies would not even take homeowners association's as they are too much trouble. The going rate is about \$7.00 to \$10.00 per home.

If DPW or the city parish has given the subdivision areas final inspection approval, then they might be held liable. If the sidewalks are causing a problem then you might not be able to get anything done.

A question was asked about what happens when a trailer is left parked in someone drive, or the grass is overgrown. Mekell explained that she usually sends the homeowner a copy of the deed restriction and a violation letter explaining that they are breaking one of the restrictions. The first is a warning, second is a stronger warning (if not taken care of legal action will be taken) and the third letter is a certified letter stating that legal action has been taken. A lengthy discussion was held on what is your idea of landscaping.

Crime was discussed and everyone was informed that all crime should be reported to the Sheriff's office. Speed bumps were discussed, but this would involve a traffic study and more participation from the homeowners. There are over 750 homeowners, but only 22 showed up for the meeting.

Survey was sent to homeowners thru the newsletter and hand delivered, but there was minimal response. Mekell even wanted to personally go door to door and tell them about this survey. If you are a homeowner you have the right to speak your mind on anything that affects your home and life in this subdivision.

A lengthy discussion was held about fences along the cornfield. At the time these lots were sold, the owners were given a certain amount of money in place of property needed for a road by this cornfield. The money was for fencing. Some of

the owners decided not to fence their property and now problems exist from people from outside the subdivision coming in from that direction. There have been a lot of car break-ins in this area. It was decided that Mekell would get together with the interested homeowners and try to see if these people would be willing to put up some money to fence this area. If so the developer would also put up some money to help with the cost.

Meeting was closed after about an hour.

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