

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

January 2005

Volume 5, Issue 1

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

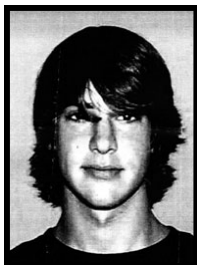
- ✦ New Years Resolution
- ✦ Dec. 31st-Property taxes were due
- ✦ January 1st-HOA dues-BHHA, 10124 Jefferson Hwy., BR., 70809
- ✦ Last quarter for 2004 estimated tax due 1/18/05
- ✦ LSU Leisure classes start 578-5778 or lsu.edu/leisureclasses to register

YARD OF THE MONTH

Thank you residents for decorating your homes during the holiday season. Your efforts did not go unnoticed and were greatly appreciated.

MISSING CHILD FOUND

Dusty's body was found in north Baton Rouge. The family of Dusty Bamberger has had two losses this December. They have had to deal with the death of Dusty and Dusty's grandmother all at the same time. Please keep this family in your prayers.



A special thank you for allowing the newsletter staff to send out an "Amber Warning" to your home and/or office. The staff will only send out these warnings if a child or pet is lost.

GETTING ALL SPRUCED UP

In case you haven't noticed the clubhouse was closed beginning December 11 for a few weeks. This was done in order to give it a thorough cleaning, floor sealing, and painting. Thanks to the crew who were able to work and still allow the clubhouse to be rented out during this process. This will keep the clubhouse updated and rentable for the residents of Bluebonnet Highlands. Lets help to keep it nice. Special thank you to the HOA for getting this job done!

POOL/CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

Any resident interested in being a part of the Bluebonnet Highland Pool and Clubhouse Committee please contact Becky Allemand, 819-1801 for details. Plans to meet in March/April to brainstorm activities, duties, etc for the up coming summer.



EXTENSION

Fred Raiford, the former Director of Public Works has announced his retirement. Jeff Broussard has taken his position as the Acting Director. Involved residents had formed a committee during the planning phase of the Bluebonnet Extension and worked with Raiford to protect our community interests during its development. However, we have a problem as anyone who has attempted to use the new sidewalk can see. On 12/01 an email with photos (dated 11/22) of the "underwater" section of the walkway was sent to Broussard, Pat Culbertson was also copied. Since that email, Pat Culbertson returned a thank you and to keep him posted but no response yet from Jeff Broussard.



At the last meeting with the engineers this sidewalk was mentioned. The engineer stated that they would make sure this was addressed since people no longer had the boulevard to walk on. As you may notice this problem has not been addressed. December 13th was the first day this walkway was usable, yet bottles and trash that collected remained. If this impacts you and your family you may email Broussard at dpw@brgov.com or jbroussard@brgov.com

Raiford stated that quotes are being obtained for landscaping the median with grass sod and trees and that homes along the boulevard will have sod replaced.

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WE'RE LISTENING

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

- 1) A resident of Springlake approached us with their concern of the line of site into traffic at the intersection of Springlake and Bluebonnet. Due to the widening of the boulevard residents view of on-coming traffic was blocked by the shrubs and trees. We notified the HOA and now the crape myrtle trees and shrubs have been trimmed backed and shaped, and the Sago Palm was trimmed and thinned out. If at any future time this intersection becomes a problem please do not hesitate to call the HOA 292-2020 or send email to trees@bluebonnethighlands.org so that we may pass on your concerns.

2) **Be considerate.**

- ✦ There are laws against dogs and cats running free.
- ✦ If your pet potties in someone's yard- **"Scoop the Poop."**
- ✦ See past issues for directions of how to Scoop the poop.
- ✦ Remember, not everyone is an animal lover.



3) **"Children at Play" sign**

National standards, Louisiana State policy and the City of Baton Rouge policy do not recognize the "Children at play" signs for these reasons: warning signs are designed and intended to advise motorists of an unusual or unexpected physical roadway condition ahead. Signs such as this give the wrong message to both children and parents, fostering a false sense of security. Studies show no evidence that these signs help reduce the number of pedestrian accidents or lower travel speeds.

Federal standards do not support these signs because the signs are suggesting that it is acceptable behavior for children to play in the streets. Protect your children by teaching them traffic safety rules and avoid playing in the street.

4) **Status of zoning**

If concerned and interested neighbors wish to form a committee to take action on this please notify the newsletter, zoning@bluebonnet-highlands.org We will pass along names of interested residents and will print updates in the newsletter.

Becky Allemand has contacted Troy Bunch, Planning Director and Chris Cleland, Zoning Coordinator 389-3144 to obtain clarification on zoning and to share this information with our neighborhood. Chris stated:

"In order to rezone any property the owner of the subject property must agree to the rezoning and sign the rezoning application form. Since you would be rezoning from a heavy commercial zoning classification to a low density residential zoning application, the rezoning fee will be waived. You **might** need a Horizon Land Use amendment as well. The fee for this can also be waived. The only expense to you would be the advertisement. This fee paid to the Planning Commission is \$100. If a large scale land use amendment is required (over five acres) than a quarter page ad will have to be placed in the Advocate newspaper. This price runs about \$1375."

Anyone wishing to proceed with this issue may write to zoning@bluebonnethighlands.org. We will collect the names and contact information so that **you** can work together.

- 5) **Builders leaving trash.** Yes, we know builders are not picking up as they should. Until all lots on your street are sold and construction complete, please be patient and make a wise choice; pick up the trash, call the contractor to inform him of his workers and kindly ask that trash be picked up or send it back to the builder by placing it back on the construction site.



6) **Metro 3 Council Meetings**

If you want to keep up with the Metro 3 Council meetings then write to council-dist3@brgov.com and request to be placed on the Metro 3 Council mailing list. You will receive a copy of each month's agenda and the past meeting's minutes. Keep informed. Know what is going on around your neighborhood.

7) **Missing Pet**

Beverly Robinson would like to thank all of you for your help with locating her dog. She received a phone call right after the posting of her number.

POND UPDATE

The lake is now 95% clear of water hyacinths. Two fountains have already been reinstalled and are functioning without problem. We were told that one more would be installed in October, but it has not been done yet. We will continue to follow up until it is completed.



We've also followed up with the HOA for the installation of a barrier to the road behind the lake. The area directly off Bluebonnet will remain accessible to all residents, only vehicle access will be limited.

THE WINTER COLD SEASON

--Jeff Deyo, MD

Winter is here in South Louisiana and the Winter Cold Season is certainly upon us. As most folks know the common cold is a viral illness. By the time you read this article, family members from distant lands will likely have shared their local viruses with you and you will have given them a helping of "Cajun virus" to take home with them. The symptoms, which include cough, sore throat, runny nose, fever, and malaise (feeling run down) may actually be caused by a number of different viruses. So, the more you know the better you can protect yourself.

How do you catch the cold? Not from being out in the cold! The common cold is spread from person to person by direct contact or by invisible particles floating in the air that you breathe. Obviously, since you cannot stop breathing for the duration of winter, better to be really careful about washing those hands a lot.

...from being on an airplane? Not likely, unless sitting next to someone with a cold. The recirculated air does not seem to increase rates of infection.

...from a door handle, shopping cart, sharing a Kleenex? Yes, several viruses can actually live for hours outside their host (you!) and infect the next shopper.

Don't share Kleenex.

...from not using Bactericidal cleaning products? No difference between these products and regular old soap and water. Don't pay extra.

How do you treat the cold? If all your efforts fail and you do come down with the cold, what works and what doesn't? Remember, we are treating symptoms here, medical science still does not have an antibiotic for the viruses that cause the common cold. Tried and true approaches including good hydration, rest, and symptomatic care are the mainstay of therapy. The following list of remedies is also meant to be informational only, your doctor has up to date information tailored for your specific health concerns.

Antitussive – cough suppressant, more reliable in adults than kids, especially those less than 5 years of age.

Decongestants – make you less stuffy, sometimes they make you more wired. Patients with heart conditions know to check with their doctor first before taking this class of medication.

Antihistamines – act as they do for allergies, they dry you up. They also have side effects and may cause you to be drowsy.

Most OTC (over-the-counter) cough remedies are combinations of these medications.

What about...

...Vitamin C? Has been studied, but the results are conflicting. The available information suggests that moderate dose Vitamin C will do no harm.

... Zinc? Once the initial exciting reports of Zinc being effective were examined in larger studies, neither lozenges nor the nasal spray have actually been shown to be effective at symptom reduction.

...Vitamin E? Touted to be a preventative medication for the cold, not supported in clinical trials.

...Echinacea? Nope. **...Antibiotics?** Nope, unless your doctor cultures the nasal secretions and an appropriate bacterium grows out.

So, if all you can do is treat the symptoms, when do you need to seek medical attention? If after the first few days of symptoms, you seem to be getting worse, not better, time to call. If you have other medical conditions or are very old or very young, seek medical attention sooner rather than later. If in doubt – call your doctor!

When it comes to the common cold, an ounce of prevention is definitely worth a pound of cure.

HAPPY FINANCIAL NEW YEAR!

January is a great time of year to review your financial situation. Review your year-end statements from banks, brokers, pension and retirement plans, W2 earnings reports, & the holiday credit card bills! Look at the total financial picture. Question yourself whether you can meet financial goals such as retirement or helping your kids with college? Do you have a financial plan? Finding a financial planner that is best for you will require research. First interview at least 3 planners, meeting each to be sure you are compatible. You should ask about credentials, a written schedule of fees and commissions. Ask to see examples of plans that they have developed and get references. The planner should have a working knowledge of taxes, insurance, estate planning, retirement planning, investing, & family budgeting and be certified by a professional association that requires ongoing training.

Financial planners usually prepare written plans after analyzing your personal and financial history, your current situation, & future goals. Find one who will give you personalized advice for your situation not a computer printout that could fit any client.

You can find or check the status of a Certified Financial Planner at the CFP web site: www.cfp.net where you will also find a manual and brochures to help you choose a financial planner or call 888 237-6275. You can also find a local member of the Financial Planning Association at 800 282-PLAN or www.fpanet.org, or the National Association of Personal Financial Advisers at www.napfa.org or call 888 FEE-ONLY.



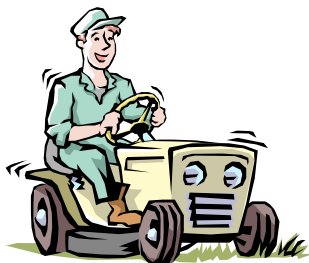
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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of every month. You can send your comments, suggestions, questions or concerns to the staff or email: **newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org** or fax to 819-1801.

STAFF

Becky Allemand, Jay Stogner, Kim Walker

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

February 2005

Volume 5, Issue 2

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ January 1st-HOA dues-BHHA, 10124 Jefferson Hwy., BR., 70809
- ✦ LSU Leisure classes start 578-5778 or lsu.edu/leisureclasses to register
- ✦ Jan 18-May 31- The Baton Rouge Story: Trace Baton Rouge's history from 1760 through the Civil War. 10am-4pm -LA Old State Capitol 342-0500
- ✦ Family Events-www.lamardixonexpocenter.com/calendar.php
- ✦ Feb.26-Race for the Cure

We Want YOU!

The Bluebonnet Highlands newsletter and website is put together by volunteers. We are down to just two people who now need your help. If you have an area of interest (like Dr. Jeff who submitted an article for last month's issue), and would like to share some information, we would like to hear from you. If you could spare some time to nominate a "yard of the month" and place the award sign, please contact us. If you could join us on the newsletter staff to gather information, respond to resident questions and concerns, and write articles, please let us know. We especially need some help from Springlake residents. Now is the time to step up and get involved. We need your help. Please contact us at newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org



POND UPDATE

Still waiting for the fountains. We called and were told that Mr. Bob was busy in November, then had surgery. He has promised to get at least one more fountain installed soon. Some very large turtles have been seen sunning themselves and the ducks are starting to look for nesting sites.



RACE FOR THE CURE

Breast cancer affects one in eight women and many men as well. On February 26th, there will be a Fitness 5K sponsored by the Susan G. Komen organization. Visit their website for more information or to make a contribution to fund research, education, screening and treatment programs at www.batonrougekomen.org



BEAUTIFICATION TIP

- ✦ Place trash cans out the night before or morning of trash pick up day.
- ✦ Leaving cans out on the street or near your garage in plain view is unsightly.
- ✦ Limit number of cars in your yard to zero.
- ✦ Peeling paint from shutters, eaves, etc. means time to repaint.

ROAD REPAIR

Becky Allemand contacted the Department of Public Works concerning resurfacing of subdivision streets within the BBH area. Mr. R. K. Banks, Acting Program Manager's reply (shortened).



"There are currently no plans to rehabilitate the streets in Springlake and Fairhill. However, you should understand that selection of streets and roads is made six months at a time. However, in response to your inquiry, we have re-inspected these subdivisions. Based on condition only, we found two streets—Hillglen Ave. and approximately 200' of Hillway just south of Hillshire—to be in need of rehabilitation. Four other streets—Hilltree Dr., Hillshire Dr., Springcrest Dr. and Springlake Dr. north of Springdale Ave.—are approaching that condition. In conclusion, the

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six street segments listed above will be considered for inclusion when future phases of the program are developed. “

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1) Loud Music

Be considerate of your neighbors. Loud music should not be played after 10:30pm as per City Ordinance Sec.12:100. If convicted of this misdemeanor the fine is to be not less than \$200.00! It's cheaper to be a good neighbor!

2) Parked Cars

Occasional gathering may require extra cars parked on the streets, but remember that cars should face the direction of the flow of traffic and not block access to your neighbors drives. We have also had complaints regarding long term parking of motor homes and persistent parking of business vans. Please be considerate.

3) Dark Streets, Potholes, Street Signs

Take responsibility and if you notice it—make the call to get it fixed. Good lighting is necessary to keep our neighborhood safe. Call ENTERGY 1-800-368-3749 to report a dark street light.

4) Lake Fence

Due to the number of non-resident fishermen, vehicles at night, vehicles driving on the ridge cutting ruts, vehicles driving to close to children while fishing, the front lake fence has been pad locked. There is enough shoulder space to park safely. A good idea would be to post your neighborhood decal so that the police will know you belong to the BBH neighborhood. To obtain decals write decals@bluebonnethighlands.org. Don't forget to pick up any trash that you bring along.

5) Next Projects For BBH Subdivision

Fence painting and new fencing along the boulevard. Three cul-de-sacs in Springlake are on the schedule for planting.

6) Clubhouse and Perimeter Fence

The clubhouse floor has been re-stained and sealed, the walls inside the clubhouse have been painted. The front and rear door latches have been replaced. An entire section of the fence in the rear had fallen, several broken boards, along with broken support posts. All were reported and have since been repaired.

7) Zoning Issue

There were no responses by residents regarding the zoning issue.

8) Landscaping for Median

Bids to be received on March 1 and work would start approximately mid-April.

HELP YOURSELF

Here is a list of phone numbers to have on hand so you can help yourself fix those annoying situations. Other helpful numbers can be found at www.bluebonnethighlands.org "Helpful Phone Numbers and Links."

- ✦ Loose dog in your yard? Animal Control 774-7700
 - ✦ Pothole in your street? Public Works Dept. 389-3158
 - ✦ Street Sign falling down? Public Works Dept 389-3158
 - ✦ Suspect child abuse? Child Protection Hotline 925-4571
 - ✦ Loud Music (after 10:30pm) Sheriffs Office 389-5000
 - ✦ Garbage not collected? BFI Garbage 778-3800
-

SUSHI ANYONE?

Sushi Etiquette: The Thai Kitchen Restaurant on Perkins (346-1230) now has a sushi bar. So you're sitting at the bar, and your order arrives along with some green paste, some thinly-sliced pink stuff, and a bottle of dark liquid. What is all this stuff and what do you do with it? The dark liquid is **soy sauce**, however sushi should not be soaked in soy sauce or the rice will fall apart. Pour the soy sauce in the small dish and use it for dipping. Remember you're paying for the flavor of fresh fish - don't drown it



out. The green paste is **Wasabi**, (Japanese horseradish) guaranteed to clear your sinuses – use cautiously. Mix a small amount of Wasabi into the soy sauce bowl. The pink stuff is **Gari**, (pickled Ginger root) use this to freshen your taste buds between bites of sushi.

Maki Sushi (rolled in seaweed) should be eaten first since the crispness of the seaweed does not last long after touching the damp rice. Maki sushi and **Sashimi** (slices of raw fish without rice) are eaten with chopsticks. **Nigiri Sushi** (pressed rice with slices of fish on top) should be eaten with your hands, grip the sushi from the sides, then flip it so that the rice is on top, dipping only the fish topping lightly into the sauce. Place the sushi in your mouth so that the topping meets your tongue first. Savor the sweet and salty tastes. Remember sushi should be savored as a delicacy. So pass the sake and enjoy!

Do YOU have an interesting story, or do you know someone who does? Email Fairhillfun@cox.net and someone will contact you for a short interview.

SPECIAL THANKS!

A special thank you to Mr. Jeff Broussard for allowing his workers to raise the sidewalk near the hills on Bluebonnet Blvd., so that our residents can walk, ride and jog safely.

COMING NEXT MONTH: COMMUNITY POST

The place for Fairhill and Springlake residents to post news of items for sale, trade or donation, services needed, garage sale notices, etc. This is a free service. Just email **y o u r n o t i c e t o post@bluebonnethighlands.org**. Once reviewed and accepted your request will be posted in the next month's newsletter. Items can run for more than one month, but you will need to resubmit the notice by the 20th of each month.



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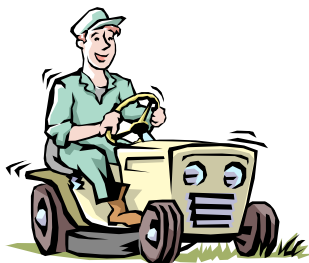
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RENEWAL MASSAGE THERAPY



KELLIE BANKSTON AVERETT
MASSAGE THERAPIST (LIC #LA1322)

10124 JEFFERSON HWY.
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

(225) 205-5798

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STAFF

Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner

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Volume 5, Issue 3

March 2005

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ January 1st-HOA dues-BHHA, 10124
- ✦ Family Events
 - www.lamardixonexpocenter.com/calendar.php
 - www.brcentroplex.com/site.php

YARD OF THE MONTH CHALLENGE

Want to proudly display your immaculate lawn and landscape?

Want to be the "Jewel" of your block and envy of the neighborhood?

All you have to do is get out the old lawn/garden tools and get to work! Not only is this challenge a way to increase the overall beauty and appearance of our neighborhood, it's also a way to spark some "friendly" competition among residents! The first round of votes will be announced in the April issue of this newsletter so don't forget to vote by emailing 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.

Nominations begin now for the April "Yard of the Month".



HOA – WORKING FOR US

The Home Owner Association has been busy improving and repairing the neighborhood. The new fence is complete on the Fairhill side of the boulevard, Springlake fencing should be complete soon, the brickwork has been repainted, new landscaping installed on the entranceways and along the walkways. Fairhill has new signs and our Lake is free of water hyacinth. The clubhouse has been refreshed and we have the only street lights on the Bluebonnet extension. If you haven't paid the HOA dues (only \$204 a year) because you

can't "see" where the money is going – open your eyes and get out your checkbook. Be a good neighbor – get involved and support the HOA.

WE'RE LISTENING

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1) NEIGHBORHOOD CUL-DE-SACS

Mr. Clark Taylor, developer, has Cul-de-sacs planted once the majority of lots on a street are sold. Once they are planted the HOA does not go back to replant. Residents are more than welcome to join together to spruce up their cul-de-sacs to make them more attractive.

2) UNSIGHTLY MAILBOXES

Do you remember why you moved here? Clean, quite, safe, and more. If you post a sign, once the event is over, go back and take it down. If you have placed stickers, please wash them off. Cluster mailboxes were washed down in the past by one of the residents who no longer lives here. Keep the mailboxes looking clean. Follow this for posting on street post as well.

3) LOST PETS (4)

Thank you all for all the help in locating and delivering pets to their owners this past month. These may be pets to some but are family members to others. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. We are still trying to locate a home for one black lab puppy.

4) LOST KITTEN

A black kitten with collar has been found. Please call 766-9234.

5) FAIRHILL SIGNS

The signs placed at the corner of Hillmont are the signs that the developer has installed to help the builders sell their homes, since the new filings of Fairhill are not easily seen from Bluebonnet. If the homeowners on that street would like a different sign they are welcome to get together and purchase one.



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Rene's Kitchen

Springlake resident Renee Torregrossa has volunteered to share some recipes:

"With a busy family schedule finding a recipe that is easy and good is challenging. I use the frozen Creole seasoning mix from Southside Produce; it saves time cleaning and cutting time. Soup makes a great meal – enjoy!"



Pumpkin and Brie Soup

1 Tbsp. oil 2-14 ½ oz. cans chicken broth
1 onion, sliced 8 oz. Brie, rind removed, cubed
1 tsp. garlic, minced ½ c. milk
1 15 oz. can pumpkin
Tony's seasoning, to taste

Sauté onions in oil until they're brown. When the onions are just about done, add garlic. Add remaining ingredients. Heat to a simmer. Puree in a food processor or with a hand processor.
6 servings

Spinach and Crawfish Soup

2-10 oz. pkg. frozen chopped spinach,
thawed and drained
1 14 ½ oz. can fat-free chicken broth
1 T. oil
1 c. frozen Creole seasoning
½ lb. sliced mushrooms
2 c. low fat milk
4 oz. cream cheese
2 cans cream of mushroom soup
1 lb. crawfish tails
Tony's seasoning, to taste

Puree the drained spinach and chicken broth-set aside. In large pot, sauté Creole seasoning mix and mushroom in oil until tender. Add spinach mixture to pot and simmer 10-15 minutes. Add remaining ingredients, simmer until blended. Add crawfish, simmer 10-15 minutes.
8 servings

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

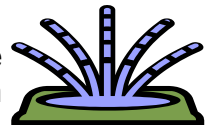
Last issue we asked for you our neighbors to contribute to our newsletters. We'd like to thank Dr. Jeff Deyo who's article appeared in the January issue and Rene' Torregrossa for her part in this issue. We encourage others to take part. Thanks Dr. Jeff and Rene'.

Rene' has lived in Springlake for 9 years. She is a Medical Technologist in the labs at Earl K. Long Hospital and graduated from LSU. She enjoys cooking for husband David and their daughter. *"I love trying new recipes, but finding ones that are easy and good is challenging. I have a collection of cookbooks that I often use, and occasionally, I concoct my own recipes. I thought it would be fun to share some of my recipe successes."*

Dr. Deyo has moved from Houston to Fairhill almost 2 years ago, when he took a position at the Baton Rouge Affiliate clinic of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He and his wife Sarah love living in Baton Rouge. Dr. Deyo received a combined MD/PhD from University of Texas and a post-doctoral clinical fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital. His patients, children with cancer as well as blood disorders, come from all of Southern Louisiana.

POND UPDATE

Finally- 3 of 4 fountains are installed. The last one will go in after parts that were ordered arrive, hopefully by the end of this month. Lots of springtime activity on the lake – I counted 17 turtles sunning themselves and the water snakes are out as well so be careful.



TAX TIPS

Taxpayers who itemize are able to claim both cash and non cash charitable deductions. Visit www.goodwillpromo.org for a free list of approximate values of donated items. If you are able to claim medical deductions remember that you will be able to add the cost of mileage to and from the doctors office at .14 cents per mile. Also, adding to an traditional IRA can save you tax dollars, you have until April 15th to make a deposit for tax year 2004.

UNIVERSITY CLUB REVIEW

We recently met with Denise Pinegar, the Director of Sales and Marketing at The University Club and have exciting news for Golfers! Bluebonnet Highlands' resident are invited to play a special one time only "Introductory Round" for only \$45.00. The Club is also offering a special promotion Golf Membership to Residents. For more information, call Denise at 819-9002.

The University Club is a private golf club featuring 18 championship holes in addition to 4 practice holes. The 32 acre practice facility is the largest in the region. Lessons for all levels of golfers are available, from beginners to scratch golfers! Call the professional staff at 819-0800 for rates and information.

The golf shop is open to the public and is one of only two vendors of LaCoste and Lilly Pulitzer clothing in Baton Rouge. The Shop also carries LSU logo items, children's clothing as well as men's and women's wear along with the latest golf equipment. Non-golfers can also enjoy a \$10.00 off coupon (coupon enclosed) any LaCoste purchase in the Golf Shop.

The University Club Swim and Tennis Facility houses 4 lighted rubico tennis courts and a 5 lane swimming pool with Cabana area. Tennis Pro Todd McCarty coordinates Clinics, individual lessons, and league play. The UC Swim Team (Kids) competes with other area clubs throughout the summer. Bluebonnet Highland residents can join the University Club Social Membership, which includes year round tennis, seasonal swimming, and Clubhouse charging privileges (\$500.00 initiation fee and \$40.00 + tax monthly dues).

We also enjoyed lunch at "The Grill" where Chef Todd Barrios prepares wonderful breakfast and lunch items and hosts a monthly Gourmet Dinner Club. Barrios was recently named the American Culinary Federation of Baton Rouge "Chef of the Year". The Grill is open to the public from 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM and we strongly recommend that you check it out. The University Club Plantation is located on Nicholson Drive, approximately one mile on your left. Visit the website at www.universityclubbr.com or call Denise at 819-9002 to arrange for the \$45.00 Intro Round.

**University Club Gift Shop
LaCoste Items Only
Coupon-\$10 Off Per Purchase**



Bluebonnet Highland Residents Only

BLUEBONNET BULLETIN BOARD (BBB)

The place for Fairhill and Springlake residents to post news of items for sale, trade or donation, services needed, garage sale notices, etc. Email your notice to post@bluebonnethighlands.org. Once reviewed and accepted your request will be posted in the next month's newsletter. Items can run for more than one month, but you will need to resubmit the notice by the 20th of each month.



LE CORBUSIER LOUNGE CHAIR:

The original Ergonomically designed lounge. This classic modern design relieves stress on your back. The soft leather seat with padded headrest is fully adjustable - just slide it to a comfortable position on the black steel base. The base has rubber feet to protect your floors. Originally \$1200 now \$800 firm.
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Do YOU have an interesting story, or do you know someone who does? Email Fairhillfun@cox.net and someone will contact you for a short interview.

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Not intended to solicit property currently listed.

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added.**

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

Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner



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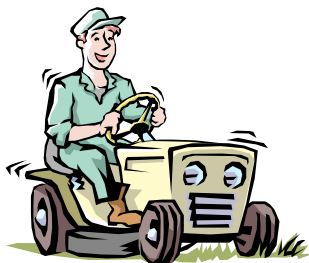
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THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

Denise Pinegar

Director of Sales & Marketing

15333 Memorial Tower Drive • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810
PH: 225-819-9002 • FAX: 225-819-0202
TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002
EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

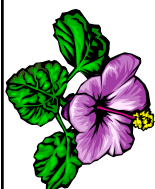
April 2005

Volume 5, Issue 4

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ 4/3— Daylight Savings Time Begins
- ✦ 4/15— Income Taxes Due
- ✦ 4/30—Fest for All - Downtown Baton Rouge

YARD OF THE MONTH



Fairhill

Walter and Ann Watson
10702 Hillmont Ave.

Springlake

Tony & Melissa Kirkland
10436 Springpark Ave.

POOL OPENING APRIL 30th

Summer is near and that means Fun in the Sun! The opening date for the pool is set for April 30th. Soft drinks, water, etc will be available to purchase at the pool with all proceeds earmarked for upkeep of pool area and supplies. Carry in will not be allowed as long as the machines are there.

Rules to remember:

- ✦ Hours are 8am-8pm
- ✦ Closed on Monday
- ✦ No one under the age of 18 is allowed in the pool area without an adult.
- ✦ No glass containers are allowed
- ✦ No alcohol is allowed
- ✦ Only 2 guest allowed per household
- ✦ Do Not allow anyone to use your card to enter the gate.
- ✦ Do Not jump gate if card does not work.
- ✦ Pool parties require scheduling. Call 819-1801.
- ✦ Failure to comply will result in card deactivation.



FOOD FOLKS AND FUN

Start getting ready. The 5th Annual Hotdogs & Hospitality at the Clubhouse is just around the corner. Join us for a Bluebonnet Block Party!



Come out to meet and mingle with your neighbors. Couples, Singles and Families are all welcome to hangout out in the clubhouse or have fun in the sun.

In preparation for this event, we'd like to get an early start. Please let us know if you plan on attending by calling Becky 819-1801 or email webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org.

Donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate for this event please select an item from the menu and let us know your plans. The menu includes: soda, hotdogs, chili, chips, ice, cups, etc. We also need cash donations to provide a space walk for the kids to enjoy—can you help?

When: Saturday, May 21, 2005

Where: The Clubhouse on Bluebonnet Blvd.

Time: 12:00 noon until 4:00pm

WE'RE LISTENING

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



- 1) Types of fish in the lake are brim, bass and catfish.
- 2) Anything being done about Homeowners who do not pay their dues on time? Yes, see page 2.
- 3) To get automatic HOA dues notification (Jan./ July) send email address to dejean4121@cox.net.
- 4) **Rec Complex fence jumping.** On 3/25 three reports of people jumping fence of complex. All groups were not outsiders but our own residents. No one is allowed to go over any fence. If your card does not work go to the main office at 10124 Jefferson Hwy. If there is a pad lock on the pool fence it is there for a reason. Please Do Not Jump the Fence. The complex is being monitored because we have had a fence section destroyed already.

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

HOA-NOTICE

Due to the number of delinquent homeowners with outstanding dues, there will be a late penalty of 20% per month as per your deed restrictions. This penalty will be assessed each month against the unpaid balance plus the accrued unpaid interest. The late payment schedule is as follows:

- ✦ In addition, If your dues become delinquent a \$20 reactivation fee will be assessed to reactivate your rec complex card.

Bluebonnet Highlands Homeowners Assn

Late Payment Schedule

Month	Past Due	20%	Total Due
January	0.00	0.00	102.00
February	102.00	20.40	122.40
March	122.40	20.40	142.80
April	142.80	20.40	163.20
May	163.20	20.40	183.60
June	183.60	20.40	204.00
July	204.00	20.40	224.40
August	224.40	40.80	265.20
September	265.20	40.80	306.00
October	306.00	40.80	346.80
November	346.80	40.80	387.60
December	387.60	40.80	428.40

If first half is paid, late charges are as follows for second half:

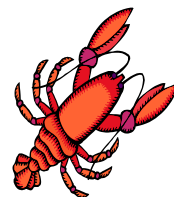
Month	Past Due	20%	Total Due
July	0.00	0.00	102.00
August	102.00	20.40	122.40
September	122.40	20.40	142.80
October	142.80	20.40	163.20
November	163.20	20.40	183.60
December	183.60	20.40	204.00

Rene's Kitchen

'Tis the season for crawfish! Got leftovers from that Easter crawfish boil? This is a wonderful recipe from our Springlake neighbor Maureen Oubre. It is a favorite for Maureen, Edgar, and their three children Katherine, Kevin, and Kyle.

Crawfish & Cheese Manicotti

1 box manicotti noodles
1 lb. mozzarella cheese, grated
1lb. longhorn Colby cheese, grated
½ c. Parmesan cheese
1-2 lbs. Louisiana crawfish tails
½ c. Italian bread crumbs
1T. garlic powder
2 eggs
1 16 oz. jar chunky spaghetti sauce
½ c. oil
salt and pepper to taste



Heat water to boiling in a pot large enough to hold noodles. Add oil and drop noodles singly into water. Boil until soft, drain and rinse. Mix all ingredients except spaghetti sauce and fill noodles. Place noodles in a single layer into baking dish. Cover with spaghetti sauce. Bake at 350 for 35-40 minutes. Serves 4.

Tip: Rinse thawed crawfish tails before adding to recipe for fewer calories and fresher flavor (the fat can go a little rancid, even in the freezer). And **ALWAYS** use **Louisiana** crawfish tails. I find the flavor and texture of home-grown crawfish superior to imported.

Rene Torregrossa

YOUR 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!

DUCK CROSSING

Spring is around the corner and many ducks are now nesting. For some reason they seem to feel safe in flower pots, while others are hidden in shrubs around your homes. Soon they will be having babies and crossing the streets get them to the lakes.



Sometimes with large broods, baby chicks get left behind. Ducks with a lot of eggs often leave the nest when the majority of chicks are hatched and abandon late hatching chicks. If you find a lost or abandoned baby ducks, which probably won't survive on their own, please feel free to bring them to our home where we have set up a nursery- where we raise the chicks, then release them on the lake when they are grown.

We're at 10763 Hilltree Drive on the Fairhill Lake. Just look for the 'duck crossing' sign and we're the house with the empty lot beside it. Our pets include three white Peking ducks (they look like ones on the Aflac commercial) and four Mallard's, in addition to the 30 other black & white neighborhood ducks that call the lake HOME.

WHAT'S IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We are starting to visit and review local businesses. If you would like to submit a location for upcoming articles, please contact us on the website. We went to visit Asteria Salon at 9880 Bluebonnet, which opened a year ago. We were surprised by the selection of jewelry, purses and accessories offered in addition to the full services of the salon. The staff includes 5 stylists offering color specialists, CHI Thermal straightening services and formal styling for special events. The nail specialist offers gel nails as well as manicures and pedicures and the skin specialist offers facials, waxing and skin care services. Image Skincare and Bed Head Makeup lines are also available. Asteria Salon has a great special going at this time with 20% off and a chance to win a free Spa Night. That 20% discount makes that Spa Night really sound great. Check out their ad on page 4 to see their specials and learn how you can get a chance to win a free Spa Night.

CHOCOLATE GOES BEYOND TEMPTATION

Chocolate is full of fat and calories but also full of flavonoids, the antioxidant that enhances blood flow and lowers blood pressure. Dark chocolate

stimulates endorphins, known to reduce sensitivity to pain, and serotonin, the neurotransmitter that promotes the feeling of well being. So, enjoy chocolate at little at a time ...with less guilt.

SPECIAL THANKS!

A special thank you to the East Baton Rouge Sheriff Officers who stop speeders along Bluebonnet Blvd. Because of you, our residents who live along this boulevard will remain safe from speeders. Your efforts are noticed.

BB BULLETIN BOARD

Okay Fairhill and Sprinlake residents—clean out the garage and closets and sell it here. Have a teenage babysitter or carwasher that needs customers? Email your notice to post@bluebonnethighlands.org. Once reviewed and accepted your request will be posted in the next month's newsletter. Items can run for more than one month, but you will need to resubmit the notice by the 20th of each month.

For Sale

Driveway Gates- one pair of six foot tall driveway gates, black aluminum "wrought iron," complete with gate posts. \$350.00, Ph 937-9881

Want to Rent a garden tiller for a weekend.
Ph 937-9881

LE CORBUSIER LOUNGE CHAIR

The original Ergonomically designed lounge. This classic modern design relieves stress on your back. The soft leather seat with padded headrest is fully adjustable - just slide it to a comfortable position on the black steel base. The base has rubber feet to protect your floors. Originally \$1200 now \$800 firm. 767-3772



Do YOU have an interesting story, or do you know someone who does? Email Fairhillfun@cox.net and someone will contact you for a short interview.

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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Not intended to solicit property currently listed.



Asteria *Salon and Spa*

When you need one look to say a thousand words.

Treat mom to a day of beauty and relaxation this Mother's Day, May 8th.

Sign Up for Spa Night-May 3rd

Start the evening off with wine and hors d'oeuvres. A licensed yoga teacher will be on hand to help you relax. For more information call 225-769-7275. Also, take a chance to win a free Spa Night by signing up at 9880 Bluebonnet Blvd., Suite F (Corner of Bluebonnet and Burbank). Drawing April 30th.

Microdermabrasion
coming in May.

New arrival of Purses
and summer Jewelry.

- | | |
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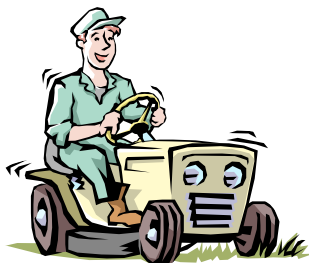
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THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

Denise Pinegar

Director of Sales & Marketing

15333 Memorial Tower Drive • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810
PH: 225-819-9002 • FAX: 225-819-0202
TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002
EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

May 2005

Volume 5, Issue 5

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ 5/21-5th Annual Hotdogs & Hosp.-Clubhouse
- ✦ Event Zone-<http://www.wafb.com/Global/category.asp?C=4490&nav=0aWa>
- ✦ 6/12-Chef John Folse 2nd Annual White Oaks Plantation Tomato & Herb Fest. 751-1882
- ✦ Pool Parties must be registered 819-1801

YARD OF THE MONTH



Fairhill

Stanley J. Stewart
10688 Hillwood

Springlake

Kevin and Courtney Ydarraga
10213 Springpark

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

The "Yard of the Month" will only be acknowledged thru this newsletter due to property damage, one sign run down and other stolen. Signs are costly and were purchased by the newsletter staff members who are volunteer residents of this subdivision.



FOOD FOLKS AND FUN

The 5th Annual Hotdogs & Hospitality will be held May 21st at the Clubhouse/Pool. Please let us know if you plan on attending by calling Becky 819-1801 or email webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org. This will help us to know how many to expect.

Donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate for this event please select an item from the menu. The menu includes: soda, hotdogs, buns, chili, chips, cups, etc. We also need cash donations to help with the cost of a space walk for the kids to enjoy. Will you help?

When: Saturday, May 21, 2005



Where: The Clubhouse/Pool on Bluebonnet Blvd.

Time: 12:00 noon until 4:00pm



WE'RE LISTENING

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

- 1) More and more residents are complaining about cars running stop signs. Please obey the signs in Fairhill and Springlake. Come to a complete stop. 
- 2) **Slow down!** Two different families along Hillmont have woken to find vehicle tracks cut through their front yards.
- 3) Key Pad at Clubhouse. Scroll down the codes and press call next to the title that is needed, (Police, EMS, etc) Phone near pool calls 911 only.
- 4) Pets
 - a) James Reaves would like to thank the neighbors for helping him find Chester. A special thanks to his neighbor who went with him and the one who took care of him while lost.
 - b) Two Yorkies still missing. One Yorkie found by Kristi Folse 757-1007. Please call her if you lost your pet.
 - c) Please obey the leash law and remember to scoop the poop and be a responsible pet owner. 

CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

As you know the pool is open. We have a great committee this year that will be maintaining the restrooms and pool surroundings. Please help by picking up after yourself and following the rules. This year's volunteer committee members and pool schedule as follows:

Monday: Pool Closed, Tuesday: Melissa Dotson
Wednesday: Becky Allemand, Thursday: Ed Legenski, Friday: Yvonne Kemp, Saturday: Alexa Jeansonne and Alycee Sunstrom; Sunday: Linda Landry

- ✦ A drink machine is in place. Ten cases must be sold each month in order to keep. Please use the machine.
- ✦ Review last month's issue for pool rules.
- ✦ Gates are to be kept closed. Do not prop them open.

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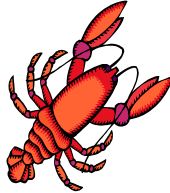
www.bluebonnethighlands.org

Rene's Kitchen

This crawfish recipe is easy and awesome (don't let the cottage cheese put you off)! It is derived from a recipe in a cookbook distributed by the La. Department of Agriculture & Forestry. The cookbook may be found in its entirety at www.crawfish.org

Crawfish Cheese Enchiladas

10 oz. green enchilada sauce
12 oz. cottage cheese
8 oz. sour cream
4 oz. can chopped chilies, undrained
1 lb. Louisiana crawfish tails
Tony's seasoning to taste
8 8-in. flour tortillas
2 cups fiesta blend shredded cheese,
divided (1c. for inside enchiladas, 1c. for on top)

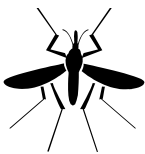


Spread ½ of enchilada sauce evenly in a lightly greased 13x9 in. baking dish. Combine cottage cheese, sour cream, chilies, crawfish tails, and seasoning. Spoon about 1/3 c. mixture down center of each tortilla. Sprinkle with cheese. Roll up and place, seam side down in dish. Top with remaining enchilada sauce. Cover and bake 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Uncover and sprinkle remaining cheese; bake until cheese is melted. Serves 4.

Rene' Torregrossa

MOSQUITOES

by Jackie Macaluso



Spring has finally arrived and so have those mosquitoes! But wait! Before you douse your children and yard with an arsenal of chemicals trying to control those persistent little insects, take heed of the positive role these creatures have in our community. Mosquitoes are a food source for many aquatic bugs, dragonflies, fish, bats, and some birds. Plus, male and female mosquitoes are pollinators of many flowers, including some exotic orchids. So that isn't enough information to keep the bug spray on the shelf? By simply reducing standing water you will significantly curtail female mosquitoes from breeding. Because some female mosquitoes can lay between 100-300 eggs in one evening, every 3 nights, persistence is key to mosquito control.

This means thoroughly check your property for any container that may be able to pool water, fresh or stagnant. The goal is not to allow water to stand for more than 2 days. Don't overlook the small stuff; this may not be an ordinary container. Trash can lids, bottle caps, flower pot saucers, tarps, tree holes or stumps, puddles, toys, and bird baths are just a few common examples. So get out there and pick up your trash can lids, discard bottle caps and free-floating garbage, empty overfilled flower pots and saucers, shake out tarps, fill tree holes or stumps with mortar, fill or drain puddles, pick up toys frequently, and change birdbath water often. Also, frequent weeding and mowing will help prevent excess water accumulation. Check around faucets and air conditioner units to repair or prevent any leaks that remain for several days, and clean debris from rain gutters. Most important try to get your neighbors to do the same! Finally, take comfort in knowing that humans are not mosquitoes first choice for a blood meal or bite. Mosquitoes prefer horses, cattle, small animals, and birds, but are not too picky. Many factors influence biting, including carbon dioxide, temperature, moisture, smell, color, and movement. However, mosquitoes are attracted to certain people more than others. If you happen to be a mosquito magnet, try wearing loose, protective clothing, stay away from scented soaps and perfumes, burn citronella candles, and use ceiling fans. Feeling confident that you won't be bothered by pesky mosquitoes this summer? Want to celebrate with a cold one? Better make it something non-alcoholic! Alcohol on the breath only attracts them! Enjoy!

Sources: mosquito.org and organicgardening.com

SORE MUSCLES???

Do you have sore muscles because you did too much? Recently I lifted a very heavy suitcase, which resulted in pulled muscles. After several months of pain, the aches in my arms and shoulders were not going away. I decided to call Kellie who advertises therapeutic massage in our newsletter. She explained the various styles of massage like Swedish, Deep Tissue, etc. and after I decided what I needed I scheduled an appointment. I can't believe the difference of what just one treatment has made. Kellie even sent me home with stretching exercises to further help my arms. This is one ad I'm glad we received. I can truly recommend her services. Thank you Kellie!

HOA

Please find below the revised payment schedule. Print and keep for your records. Thank You!

Bluebonnet Highlands Homeowners Assn

Late Payment Schedule

Month	Past Due	20%	Total Due
Jan.	0.00	0.00	102.00
Feb.	102.00	20.40	122.40
March	122.40	20.40	142.80
April	142.80	20.40	163.20
May	163.20	20.40	183.60
June	183.60	20.40	204.00
July	306.00	20.40	326.40
Aug.	326.40	40.80	367.20
Sept.	367.20	40.80	408.00
Oct.	408.00	40.80	448.80
Nov.	448.80	40.80	489.60
Dec.	489.60	40.80	530.40

If first half is paid, late charges are as follows for second half:

Month	Past Due	20%	Total Due
July	0.00	0.00	102.00
Aug.	102.00	20.40	122.40
Sept.	122.40	20.40	142.80
Oct.	142.80	20.40	163.20
Nov.	163.20	20.40	183.60
Dec.	183.60	20.40	204.00

NEWSLETTER PROBLEM?

Can't download the newsletter or other PDF formatted documents? Maybe you need to install or reinstall Adobe Reader. For a free version, go to www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html Look for the words: "Download Adobe Reader 7.0". Click on the box that reads, "Get Adobe Reader" and let it install reader on your computer. Now that you are set up we hope you enjoy more of our newsletters.

CAR DECALS

Car decals were created due to a suggestion by one of the residents that we have some kind of identifying tag to let residents know who lives in the neighborhood. The decals have been in

existence for at least 4 1/2 yrs. however, they have not been used extensively throughout the neighborhood. For those of you who have placed the decal in your car window, Thank You. Please note displaying the decal is not mandatory. You are not required to do so. We want each and every one of our residents to feel safe. If you do not feel safe by including the decal in your automobile, please don't use it. We do encourage you to get to know your neighbors, especially your immediate neighbors. If you fish in the lakes but don't want the decal on your window then I suggest placing your decal on a card then near a window so that it can be visible while you are fishing. We get many calls about people fishing in the lakes who are not residents. We cannot check them all, therefore this would be a big help. The Bluebonnet Highlands Subdivision decals may be requested at www.bluebonnethighlands.org.

SAVINGS 101

You need to save for retirement, college, a down payment, or any financial goal but where do you find the money to do that? Often the best exercise is to keep a financial journal for a month. List EVERY penny you and your family spend and for what, then look at the accounting with a critical eye. If you normally eat lunch out every day how much could you save if you cut that back to just twice a week? Do you always order out or eat fast food, how much could you save if you planned to precook a meal on the weekends to heat up during the busy week or replaced fatty and expensive snacks with fresh fruit? (I won't mention the obvious health benefits) Do you really NEED all 200 digital channels or the fancy phone services or could you cut back? Normally a typical family can "recapture" \$300 per month or more by getting control of non-necessary spending. How much could your family save? Take the journal challenge!

BBH BULLETIN BOARD

FOR SALE

Surround sound speaker system. 2 rear Bose speakers, 2 front Jamo speakers, 1 center channel speaker. Speaker wires included. \$500 OBO 767-8443.

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

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Not intended to solicit property currently listed.



Asteria *Salon and Spa*

When you need one look to say a thousand words.

Treat mom to a day of beauty and relaxation this Mother's Day, May 8th.

Sign Up for Spa Night-May 3rd

Start the evening off with wine and hors d'oeuvres. A licensed yoga teacher will be on hand to help you relax. For more information call 225-769-7275. Also, take a chance to win a free Spa Night by signing up at 9880 Bluebonnet Blvd., Suite F (Corner of Bluebonnet and Burbank). Drawing April 30th.

Microdermabrasion
coming in May.

New arrival of Purses
and summer Jewelry.

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| ✦ Hair | ✦ Bed Head |
| ✦ Color | ✦ Bed Head |
| ✦ Skin | ✦ Makeup |
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| ✦ Bracato | ✦ Paul Mitchell |

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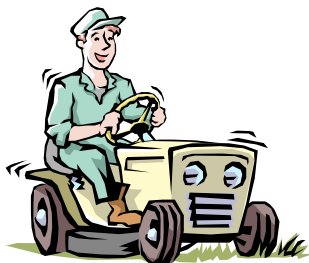
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PH: 225-819-9002 • FAX: 225-819-0202

TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002

EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

June 2005

Volume 5, Issue 6

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Pool Parties must be registered. Call 819-1801 for info or www.bluebonnethighlands.org
- ✦ June 14th-Flag Day
- ✦ June 15th-Estimated tax payments due
- ✦ June 19th-Father's Day
- ✦ June 19th-Metro 3 Council-7pm BB Library

YARD OF THE MONTH

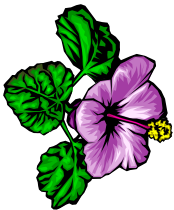
Fairhill

Troy Courville
10741 Hill Pointe Ave

Springlake

Nomination not submitted.

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



HOA DUES

The 2nd half of your HOA dues (\$102) will be due on July 1st. Dues are paid on a annual or semi-annual basis. Invoices are sent out in January only, therefore, payment is due even if you do not receive an invoice. The address to send your payment is as follows:

Bluebonnet Highlands Homeowner's Assn.
10124 Jefferson Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

For bill inquiries please contact Debbie DeJean at 292.2020. Checks should be made payable to Bluebonnet Highland Homeowner's Association.

What happens if you don't pay your dues?

The rules are clearly defined in section 6.6 of the Act of Restrictions. The Act of Restrictions for both Springlake and Fairhill can be found on our website.

- ✦ The HOA can expedite legal proceedings and/or contact a collection agency to collect on unpaid dues.
- ✦ A lien can be placed upon your property for these unpaid assessments.
- ✦ Late fee of 20% until paid

PETS NEEDING A GOOD HOME

- ✦ Mom and kittens needing a home. Call Jerry, 761.0495.
- ✦ Mom and kittens needing home. Moving soon, call Mary, 757.0202.
- ✦ Lab X about 10 m. old needs discipline, kind heart, and no children. Call Debbie, 938.7633.



HILLMONT ENDEAVOR

The trenches are dug for the footings and contractors have been donating some of the brick. The next step is to hire someone to complete the job. The price of the fence is estimated at \$1000 and same for the lettering for the sign. Mr. Taylor will not help in the financing of this project. The house that will collect drop off donations, or mail to, will be 10500 Hillmont Avenue (the white house on the corner). The sooner we collect the money the sooner we can continue. PLEASE PLEASE HELP!

By Lori Mann

SPECIAL THANK YOU

The newsletter staff would like to thank Jackie Macaluso for submitting the Mosquito article last month. Jackie has a B.S. in entomology and is a resident of Fairhill Subdivision.

We welcome articles from our residents. If you have a topic of interest please feel free to submit for publication.

UNIVERSITY CLUB UPDATE

Two months ago we ran an article which brought in two new memberships to the club. Thank you residents for responding. Don't forget, you don't have to be a member to eat lunch on the premises. The food is really good.

"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 are not affiliated with the Homeowner's Association and receive no financial help from them."

The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

WE'RE LISTENING

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



- 1) Neighborhood businesses and ads are part of the website. This section of advertising is free for residents only. Check out what your fellow residents have to offer at www.bluebonnethighlands.org
- 2) **Loose Dogs Are Problem.** There are complaints about people allowing their dogs to run loose throughout the day. Be a responsible pet owner, walk your dog with a leash. Dogs in question are: 1 large brown dog and 1 large black dog in Springlake, and 1 large black and white dog in Fairhill. Animal control will be called.
- 3) New residents with babies looking for recommendations for full and part-time baby sitters. Please submit to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org.
- 4) Cars parking in the street are becoming a problem impeding the flow of traffic. This is in violation of the deeds restrictions and is very hazardous. Please do not park on the street.
- 5) Subdivision speed limit is **30mph**. Hillmont Ave. is not a speedway. **SLOW DOWN! It maybe your child that is saved.**
- 6) Litter around the Springcrest mailboxes has become an eyesore. Do not empty your trash near the mailboxes, take it home with you. There are no trash receptacles available at these sites.



METRO 3 MEETING

Meeting May 20th.

Approved: 3-story storage facility on Capital Court, behind Mexican Rest. on Bluebonnet.

Approved: Rezoning of land area between Mall of LA and Interstate for a wireless tower.

Denied: Property on Bluebonnet, near Asteria Salon and Subway for restaurant with alcohol. No one present to discuss type of facility or exact location. Will move on to public meeting June 15th.

"On the Half Shell"; results of survey to date:

Total of 47 responses:

44 In favor

3 Against

Get involved. Next Metro 3 meeting will be held June 19th, 7pm at the BB Library.

MEETING WITH THE MAYOR

Mayor-President Holden was unable to attend due to commitment to the National Honor Society. He will reschedule his visit with the Metro 3 Council.

Pothole Tax Issue. This is not a new tax but a tax that is renewed about every 5-5 1/2 years. The Mayor would like to see this tax renewed with a longer time frame (20-25 yrs). The benefits would give the city of Baton Rouge the ability to get projects done cheaper and quicker. Presently the city works on a proposal, waits for money to begin project, then get more money to finish the project. This set up is basically pay as you go. Time from start to finish is longer and inflation drives the project price up. If money was bonded then projects could get started quicker with cheaper interest rates. You borrow money to fund projects and have the revenue to pay it back.

Projects on the drawing board:

- ✦ I-12/I-10 Essen Interchange Improvements
- ✦ Bluebonnet @I-10 Interchange Improvements
- ✦ I-10 Frontage Roads Essen to Highland
- ✦ Reiger Road Extension to Pecue Lane
- ✦ Pecue Lane Expansion Highland to Airline
- ✦ Pecue @ I-10 Interchange
- ✦ Pecue@Perkins Realignment
- ✦ Bluebonnet Lane Expansion Mall Dr. to Perkins
- ✦ Siegen Land Expansion Highland to Perkins
- ✦ Gardere Lane, Lane Expansion
- ✦ Route Parallel to Bluebonnet from Perkins to Picardy
- ✦ Route Parallel to Essen from Perkins to Essen Park
- ✦ Essen Park Extension to Bluebonnet

Not listed; to bring the extension from Seigen to Nicholson. Mr. Daniel Williams stated this would take too long to act upon but the consensus of the people in the audience was that if this project had been started when it was first brought to the board it would be closer to reality. This project would alleviate a lot of traffic problems, and would be cheaper now if land was acquired prior to other development.

NEWSLETTER ADS

Don't forget to visit the ads at the end of the monthly newsletter. Asteria Salon and Spa has an evolving ad that offers discounts. To run an add or to get more information, please write to webmaster@bluebonnethighland.org

Rere's Kitchen

Do you need something to bring to a party? This is an easy, delicious, and attractive appetizer.

Pinwheels

- 1 pkg. flour tortillas
- 1 (8 oz.) carton sour cream
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. shredded cheddar
- 1 (4 ¼ oz.) can chopped ripe olives
- 1 (4 oz.) can diced green chilies



Mix cream cheese and sour cream until smooth. Add cheese, olives, and chilies, spread over tortilla, roll into a roll. Place tortilla rolls seam down on a plate, cover and refrigerate overnight or until chilled. Slice and serve with salsa.

Tip: For a fun and inexpensive party, invite your neighbors over. Ask everyone to bring either appetizers or desserts.

POOL UPDATE

- ✦ The pool committee must say goodbye to Ed Legenski and his family. Ed has been with the committee for a couple of years but now must move away. He will be greatly missed. At this time we need to fill his shoes. Men, I ask you to support your neighborhood and help this committee keep going at the same level of care given to the pool that we have strived to achieve. Please call Becky 819.1801 to inquire.
- ✦ We have had several complaints about alcohol and glass bottles at the pool. This is a major infraction and deactivation of your card will be enforced.
- ✦ Several homeowners have jumped the fence to sun on Mondays. The pool is closed. This has caused the chain link fence to sag and post to bend. Soon this will look shabby and there is no money for fence repairs.
- ✦ This past month, one of the life rings disappeared. I would like to thank the person for returning the life ring to the pool. Life rings are not toys and should be used only in an emergency.
- ✦ Remember, the pool committee is made of volunteers. Please pick up your trash, including cigarette butts.



HOT DOG AND HOSPITALITY AT THE POOL

April 21st started out slow but as the day progressed a steady stream of residents continued to come and go for 5th Annual Hot Dog and Hospitality Day at the pool. Children enjoyed the space walk and over 100 hotdogs were served to the residents of the BBH. I'd like to thank those people who donated their time and money to help put this event on for the residents. A special thank you to the newsletter staff and the HOA for their kind donation.

PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT

Protect yourself by shredding any documents listing your birth date or social security numbers before disposing of them. Tear up any credit card offers that have your name preprinted on them. You can also call 888.567.8688 to remove your name from lists sold to credit card companies. To stop solicitations from the Direct Marketing Association you can write for a free form to Direct Marketing Association, Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 643, Carmel, NY 10512. You can also remove yourself from mortgage and home equity loan offers by calling the Acxiom U.S. Consumer Hotline at 877.774.2094 or writing to DataQuick, Attn: Opt-Out Dept, 9620 Towne Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92121.

THE NEWCOMERS CLUB

Ladies, if you've just moved in or been here a while, and would like to meet new friends, there is a group you should know about. The Newcomers Club is a great organization offering a wide array of activities including golf, bridge, bowling, cooking classes, card games, books club, etc. as well as luncheons and other social functions. The club is also a service organization that supports local charities. For information call 757.9904 or visit www.batonrougenewcomers.org

NEWSLETTER STAFF NEEDS YOU!

The newsletter staff is looking for a Springlake resident to help with articles for the newsletter. To inquire, webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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STAFF

Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner

ADS

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Not intended to solicit property currently listed.



Asteria

Salon and Spa

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(Corner of Bluebonnet and Burbank)
225-769-7275

**When you need one look to say a thousand words.
Mention this ad when you call and receive \$20 off
a full high light or receive \$10 off an adult hair-cut
for new customers only.**

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New arrival of
purses
and
summer jewelry

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MASSAGE THERAPIST (LIC #LA1322)

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TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

July 2005

Volume 5, Issue 7

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Pool Parties must be registered. Call 819-1801 for info or www.bluebonnethighlands.org
- ✦ July 1-HOA dues
- ✦ July 4-Independence Day
- ✦ July 21-Metro 3 Council-7pm BB Library

YARD OF THE MONTH

Fairhill

Pam & Stephen Torres
10731 Hillpointe Ave.

Springlake

Ronald Davenport
10116 Springbrook



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

HOA COUNCIL REPS

The HOA has appointed Becky Allemand (Fairhill resident) and Gene Pennison (Springlake resident) as council reps to the BBH HOA Board in accordance with #3 of the deed restrictions. Residents may contact these residents with concerns by writing to becky@bluebonnethighlands.org or gene@bluebonnethighlands.org.

CLUBHOUSE COMPLEX

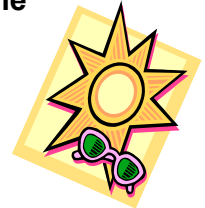
- ✦ Remember, no one is allowed to jump the fence, unless you wish to have your card deactivated.
- ✦ Food brought into the complex should be eaten at the picnic tables or playground area only. Food left on the ground will attract ants. **Food is not allowed in the pool area at any time.**
- ✦ Residents are allowed to have two guest per household at the pool. If you are bringing more than two please visit the website for details or contact Becky 819-1801 for additional information.
- ✦ July 4th-Monday-Pool will be open for holiday.

Rene's Kitchen

Looking for a quick and easy summer dessert? I love the Symphony Bar Pie recipe from our neighbor Yolande Charles.

Symphony Bar Pie

Oreo cookie crust
1 lg Symphony bar
16 oz. Cool Whip, thawed,
divided
Heath bar, crumbled, or pieces



Heat Symphony bar in the microwave until just melted, mix with 8 oz. Cool Whip. Pour into Oreo cookie crust. Spread remaining Cool Whip on top. Top with Heath bar crumbles. Refrigerate until firm. Serve.



GET OUT OF TOWN!

It's summer and vacation time at last. Check these resources to help you plan.

Www.Lonelyplanet.com lets you browse vacation destinations by themes like history, food or beaches. Frommers.com lets you check message boards for travel tips. The savings Sleuth at www.msnbc.com travel section offers ideas and cash saving tips.

Www.Learningvacations.com has some unusual travel and education opportunities. Www.railtvl.com offers luxury railroad travel. Once you have your destination remember to check out prices for airfare and hotels at expedia.com, travelocity.com and orbitz.com.

A great travel search engine is www.sidestep.com and for last-minute travel bargains check out smartertravel.com. Now get going and enjoy your vacation!

"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!"

The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Kyle A. Ferachi is a resident of Fairhill and practices law with Keogh, Cox & Wilson, Ltd. He earned his Juris Doctor degree from Louisiana State University and his B.A. degree from Louisiana Tech University. You can reach Kyle at 383-3796. Thanks Kyle for sharing your knowledge and submitting the following article.



LOUISIANA'S NEW HOME WARRANTY ACT

In 1986, the Louisiana legislature enacted a new home warranty act to provide warranty and remedy provisions for builders and consumers. The Act, found a La. Rev. Stat. 9:3131 et seq., applies to any structure which is designed and used as a residence. All newly constructed homes are covered by a warranty starting at the time the first purchaser obtains title or occupies the house, whichever occurs first. Three separate warranties are made through the Act by the builder to the original purchaser and to subsequent owners who purchase the home during the warranty period.

The first period warrants against defects in the house given noncompliance with building codes and/or standards or due to other defects in materials or workmanship not regulated by building standards. The standards are those adopted by the city and parish. This warranty period is for one (1) year.

The second warranty period covers all electrical, heating, cooling, ventilating and plumbing system. This warranty does not cover appliances or fixtures. Once again, it will only apply if problems caused are because of the builder's noncompliance with the building standards. This warranty period is for two (2) years.

Finally, the third warranty period warrants that the house will be free from major structural defects due to noncompliance with the building standards or due to other defects in materials or workmanship not regulated by building standards. Major structural defect is defined by the Act as any actual physical damage to designated load-bearing portions of a home including the foundation, beams, columns, walls, and roof framing systems, to the extend the damage

makes the house unsafe, unsanitary or unlivable. This warranty period is for five (5) years.

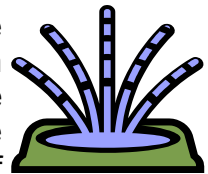
If defects are present, a homeowner must notify the builder by certified or registered mail, within a reasonable time. Failure to do this may relieve the builder of his obligations. Also, the Act requires that the homeowner give the builder an opportunity to repair the defect. After these efforts, a homeowner may file a lawsuit against the builder, if done within thirty days of the warranty extinction. For example, if a lawsuit is not filed within two years and thirty days because of a defect in the electrical wiring (caused by the builder's failure to comply with building standards), the homeowner has no right to recover.

The new home warranty act does not cover fences, landscaping, including but not limited to sodding, seeding, shrubs, existing and new trees, and plantings, as well as off-site improvements, all driveways and walkways, or any other improvement not a part of the home itself. Additionally, after the first year, the concrete floor of a basement and the concrete floor of an attached or unattached garage that is built separate from a foundation wall or other structural element of the home is not covered. Likewise, there are other items not covered.

Given the notice requirements of the Act, the strict time frames and the many exclusions, it is advisable that you seek the advice of an attorney if you suspect defects in your home. This article is for general information only and is not a guarantee of results. The information presented in this article should not be construed to be formal legal advise nor the formation of a lawyer/client relationship.

POND UPDATE

The #4 fountain In Lake Longwood is working once again but won't last for long. The fountain is going out because residents are putting heads of lettuce in the pond. As the lettuce drifts near the fountains the nutria sit and eat the lettuce and the wires. Please do not put any type of vegetation into the lake. This is getting costly.



WE'RE LISTENING

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



1. Residents who have paid ads in this newsletter are: Flynn Foster, Jane St. Amant, Nancy Coon, & Anne Wilks. Other resident businesses are found at www.bluebonnethighlands.org entitled "Neighbor-owned Business/Services".
2. To report street signs missing contact Jeff Broussard at jbroussard@brgov.com
3. Names of individuals drinking alcohol at the pool to may be submitted to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org
4. Complaints pertaining to unkept yards, overgrown lots, and tall grass near the lakes have been reported. Letters have gone out to those residents who are in violation of the deed restrictions. Residents, remember why you moved here. Keep it neat and clean.

CLUBHOUSE/POOL COMMITTEE



The clubhouse committee has lost one of its members. Ed and his family have just recently moved out of state. Any resident(s) of Springlake or Fairhill who would like to inquire about this committee please contact Becky, 819-1801 or becky@bluebonnethighlands.org. We need someone to lock up on Sunday night at 8pm. This committee works hard to keep the pool area clean and to instill in the neighborhood the importance of being a responsible resident. We need your help.

NEWSLETTER ADS

Don't forget to visit the ads at the end of the monthly newsletter. Asteria Salon and Spa has an evolving ad that offers discounts. To run an add or to get more information, please write to newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org

NEWSLETTER STAFF NEEDS YOU!

Get involved with your subdivision. The newsletter staff is looking for a Springlake and Fairhill residents to help with articles for the newsletter. Residents, we encourage you to feel free to submit an article of interest. To submit or inquire, newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org



METRO COUNCIL ZONING MEETING

The rezoning of the area near Albertson was approved from C-2 (Heavy Commercial) to C-AB-1 (Commercial Alcoholic Beverage One) on June 15. This means that a restaurant may serve alcohol and not a bar serving food. A bar would be a zoning C-AB-2 classification. Becky Allemand spoke on behalf of residents of Springlake and Fairhill Subdivision with collected data from the two subdivisions. The final tally was 56 For, 3 Against, the Rezoning. The council was pleased that these subdivisions had a way to express themselves. Ms Terri, owner of On The Half Shell, thanked us for our input at this meeting. She is looking forward to meeting you once the restaurant is open.

EMERGENCY!

Hurricane warnings may have you buying water and batteries – but do you have a whistle? Water, food and clean air and dry shelter are essential for survival so include dust masks to filter air, plastic sheeting and duct tape along with drinking water and batteries in your emergency kit. For personal sanitation include moist wipes, garbage bags and ties. Don't forget the first aid kit, medications and infant supplies. Make a family plan so you know who to contact and where to meet if your family is separated. Can you quickly find important papers and cherished mementos to take in case of an evacuation? Do you know how to shut off the water, power and gas lines to your house? Are wrenches, pliers and other tools handy? For a complete Emergency kit 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. By the way -whistles can save your life if you are under debris and/or need to signal for help - include one in your kit!



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

ADS

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Director of Sales & Marketing

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TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002

EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

August 2005

Volume 5, Issue 8

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Pool Parties (max. 10) must be registered. For info call 819-1801 or www.bluebonnethighlands.org
- ✦ July 1-HOA dues
- ✦ August 9-Neighborhood Watch Meeting
- ✦ August 18-Metro 3 Council-7pm BBH Library
- ✦ September 20-HOA Meeting-6pm- BBH Library

YARD OF THE MONTH

Fairhill

None submitted

Springlake

10213 Springridge Ave



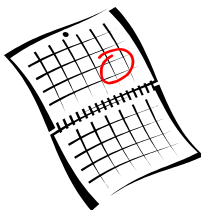
Vote for "Yard of the Month"
www.bluebonnethighlands.org
by the 20th of each month.

YARD OF THE MONTH SIGN

The Yard of the Month sign was stolen a few months back. This month, the sign reappeared at the clubhouse front gate. Thank you for its return! Now that the sign is back if you wish to have the sign displayed in your yard please contact webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org or 819-1801 and the sign will be delivered to your home for you to display.

HOA

It's that time of year again so mark your calendar. The 2005 Homeowner's Association Meeting is now scheduled for September 20th. The meeting will begin promptly at 6pm at the Bluebonnet Library so please be on time. Mr. Pat Culbertson, our Metro 3 Councilman, will be on hand at 7pm to answer any questions you may have concerning the area.



RESIDENTS BE WARE!!!!

I would like to make the Bluebonnet Highlands residents aware of a man by the name of Kenneth Harris that is regularly in the neighborhood doing bed work/landscaping or knocking on the door asking if you need work done. After seeing him do work for other neighbors I agreed to have him complete work for my home. He showed up and started the work and just before leaving for supplies asked for money to pay for the materials and never returned to complete the work. I have confronted him on 2 occasions and two months later I still have not been able to get my money back from him, his phones have been disconnected, nor has he made any attempt to contact me by phone or visit. Please beware of this man, he is not trustworthy, and I would absolutely not recommend having him do any type of work for you. He is a black man, with a shaved head, about 5' 10" tall, muscular build, and drives a blue Chevy extended cab truck with tinted windows, an American flag on the back glass and a dual cell phone antenna.

The police said there is nothing they can do because he did not sign a contract with us, nor is he registered as a business. So please beware of this man. He ended up costing us more than double of what we wanted to pay because of the work he left and the grass he killed in my yard.

By: Springlake Resident

NEIGHBOR NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please help me get my LSU Softball Women's College World Series rings back. Someone broke into my house on Springbrook on July 25th and took two LSU WCWS rings and one SEC ring. The police said it looked like it was probably someone young.

They stole:

- Three LSU Rings
- A Nikon 35 mm camera

I am offering a \$100 reward for each ring.
Please call 225.802.3692.

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The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

THEIVES AGAIN!

There was another incident on Springglen. The burglars went in * through a bathroom window and went out through the front door with the use of the thumb-turn latch. Another break-in occurred on Springbrook. Both cases look like it was a young person. There are two suspects that were arrested and still in custody but the third suspect is still out there. Teenagers are still coming onto the streets since the two were arrested.

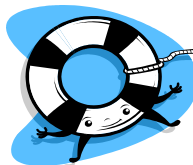


Contact has been made with the Sheriff's office about starting a Neighborhood Watch program for the street. Mr. Fred Raiford, previously head of the Dept. of Public Works, is now in charge of this area through the Sheriff's office. Mr. Raiford has agreed to come to discuss what can he do for our neighborhood. Anyone interested in getting a Neighborhood Watch going in our neighbor may attend by calling Lisa, 767-9476. Meeting, August 9th, 7pm, 10561 Springglen Ct. Coffee and drinks will be provided but feel free to bring cookies.

CLUBHOUSE/POOL COMMITTEE

Please welcome Tom and Catherine Mungrall from Springlake Subdivision to the pool committee.

Volunteers check restrooms and poolside areas to ensure YOUR visit is pleasant. They also report any violation that may be taking place at the complex.



We ask all residents to please use the trash cans for any trash they do not want to bring home. Food is not allowed in the pool area at anytime but may be eaten at the picnic tables in the yard. The main gate is to remain closed at all times. Alcohol is never allowed. Names of individuals drinking alcohol at the pool maybe submitted to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org. Then there are cigarette butts, do I need to say more.

Don't forget, pool hours are 8am-8pm.

Don't은, 시간에 의하여 8am-8pm.

인 시설 잊는다.

No se olvide, piscina que las horas son los 8am — los 8pm.

WE'RE LISTENING

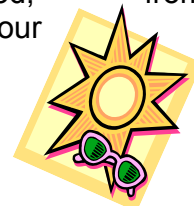
When you contact the newsletter we compile and forward your concerns to the appropriate individual(s).



1. **Residents with unsightly yards.** Once reported, letters are sent out to those individuals who are not keeping their lawns mowed. If nothing is done then the HOA will cut the yard for them and send an invoice for that service. Please keep the area looking neat.
2. **Bluebonnet Boulevard weeds.** Anyone wanting to start a group to pull weeds on the Bluebonnet median please write webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org. so that a group can be organized. The DPW planted the small shrubs and trees but are not maintaining the area. If you want it to continue to look like this—do nothing.
3. Complaints about parking on the median are in. This is not a parking lot.
4. Infant Day Care sign has been posted at the Jimmy Swaggert building on Bluebonnet Blvd

Rene's Kitchen

This easy and inexpensive pie comes from my favorite cookbook "Talk About Good," from the Junior League of Lafayette. Your guests will never guess the main ingredient.



Mystery Pie

- 1 pt. whipping cream (I use Cool Whip)
- 3 egg whites
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 c. coarsely chopped nuts (I use pecans)
- 24 Ritz crackers
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Beat egg whites until stiff. Add sugar, baking powder, and vanilla. Fold in crumbled Ritz crackers and nuts. Place in pie plate and bake 25-30 minutes in 350 degree oven. Let cool. Spread with whipped cream; cut and serve.

Tip: If you enjoy collecting recipes that are representative of particular regions, Junior League cookbooks fill the bill. You can get great deals on these and other cookbooks on EBay and Half.com. I recommend any of the Louisiana Junior League cookbooks for your out-of-state friends who want to bring home some Louisiana cooking.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

The new shopping mall "Town Center" on Corporate Boulevard is home to Baton Rouge's newest kitchen supply store. **The Kitchenary** has links to neighbors in both Springhill and Fairhill subdivisions. Dana Helton (Springhill) is the proprietor of the new store and helping her at the store is Lori Mann (Fairhill). Lori's cousin is the owner of the original Kitchenary in Lafayette. The store is full of unique kitchen gadgets, quality knives, cookware, baking and serving ware. Check it out and support our neighbors!

LETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS

I do not live in your neighborhood. This being said, I really don't like the 30 mile/hour speed limit. I drive Bluebonnet twice a day, everyday. (Yes, even Saturday and Sunday.) I have been told that the HOA insisted on the speed limit. Gardere has much more foot and bicycle traffic and that speed limit is 40 and 45.



It is very discouraging to be driving the speed limit only to be passed by someone that has just turned out of Fairhill and/or Springlake going faster than the speed limit. This also is true of those turning into the subdivisions - they pass me as I do the posted speed limit and then turn into the subdivisions. The most bothersome of all is a Baton Rouge Police Supervisor cruiser that pulls out of Springlake. I have yet to see that vehicle do the posted speed limit! I'm very surprised there have not been any major wrecks on Bluebonnet during rush hours.

Yes, I know that some of the drivers must be visitors, but the residents are the majority of the speeders. Please encourage the residents of Bluebonnet Highlands to set an example by driving the posted speed limit.

Thank you,
Mary Ann Walker

NEWSLETTER STAFF NEEDS YOU!

Get involved with your subdivision. The newsletter staff is looking for Springlake and Fairhill residents to help with articles for the newsletter. Residents, we encourage you to feel free to submit an article of interest. To submit or inquire, newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP!

The probability is high that at some point this summer you may visit a beach. The risk that the beach might be contaminated increased **Danger!** more than 50 percent from last year – 88% of beach closures are due to bacteria associated with fecal contamination! Several organizations monitor beach conditions and have web sites that provide updated information. So look before you leap into the surf - www.epa.gov/OST/beaches, www.earth911.org, and www.surfrider.org.



ITALIAN DINING

The newsletter staff is eager to share our latest "food finds". Becky had a sneak peek at Monjunis Italian Café & Groceries opening July 14th at 711 Jefferson Highway, Suite 4A (near the new mall at Goodwood). This new location of the Shreveport restaurant is comfortably decorated with retro Italian flair with imported chandeliers and grape vines hanging from the ceilings inside and in the courtyard as well. Try the Meatball Nacho appetizer: large tasty meatballs served on garlic rounds, covered with cheese and garnished with Peproncini. The restaurant is family friendly and prices are kind to your budget. Let the staff: Jimmy, Michael and Cody know you heard about them in our newsletter. Visit their website at www.monjunis.com. Bon Appetit!



BBH BULLETIN BOARD

For Sale:

Palm m130: Includes Palm, all software, docking station, detachable ultra-thin keyboard, leather cover, and more \$150. Software included for documents to go and more. webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner

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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

September 2005

Volume 5, Issue 9

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

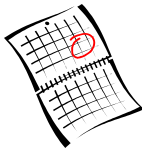
- ✦ Sept. 3—LSU vs North Texas 7pm-postponed
- ✦ Sept. 5 – Labor Day—Pool Open
- ✦ Sept 10—LSU vs Arizona State 7:45pm
- ✦ **September 14**—HOA Mtg-6pm- BBH Library
- ✦ September 22-Metro 3 Council Mtg.-6pm-BBH Library
- ✦ Sept 23—Autumn begins
- ✦ Sept 24—LSU vs Tennessee-away

HOA MEETING

Due to scheduling problems the HOA meeting has been moved to September 14th instead of the 20th. A letter went out to all residents during August for notification. If you did not receive a letter in the mail and/or an email notice please contact the HOA to make sure you are listed correctly. Call 292-2020. The meeting will begin promptly at 6pm. Mr. Raiford and Dr. Culbertson will be there for questions and concerns.

METRO 3 COUNCIL MEETING

The Metro 3 Council meeting will be held at the Bluebonnet Highland Library at 6pm on September 22nd. Mayor Melvin "Kip" Holden will speak on the proposed tax extension at 7pm.



RESIDENTS BEWARE AGAIN!!!

I, too, had a similar experience with Kenneth Harris. I trusted him because he seemed sincere and wanted to work, and I always admire those who are trying to do better. When I told a friend, she verified that he was trustworthy and had never done anything to her. At the time, Kenneth had finally shown back up at my home, but I told him to leave. He got into an argument with me. I had already paid him for mulch so I lost that, but I was concerned about his violent behavior. His demeanor the day he returned to my house was representative of irrational behavior.

By Springlake Resident

SEX OFFENDER ON OUR STREETS!

If you found a flyer on your mailbox for painting numbers on the curb you had a sex offender at your doorstep! Fred Raiford and Baton Rouge Sheriff were called in and traced the license number of the fellow – he is a resident of Lafayette LA and is a convicted sex offender that had not registered as required by law. Major Schiele confronted him and advised him to immediately stop distributing flyers in our neighborhood. If you see him again, call the Sheriff.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FORMING

Springlake has had a number of burglaries. Residents have begun a neighborhood watch on their streets. Contact Springlake resident Lisa Hargrave lisa@hargravefamily.org to get involved. Block Captains are needed throughout Springlake and Fairhill. Protect yourself and your property by doing the following:

1. Get to know your neighbors and their routines.
2. Report any and all suspicious activity to the sheriff office 389-5000
3. Report strangers in the neighborhood – they may be casing your house.
4. Keep deadbolts bolted and alarm systems armed. Motion detector lighting in the front and back of your house helps.
5. Use a timer for radios, TVs and lights to make it appear house is occupied.
6. Consider installing a fence if you back up to an open area.

Notice: Trespassing will be reported

Some of the burglaries in the neighborhood have been linked to young men who are entering into Springlake through residents' yards from adjacent neighborhoods. With the support of the Sheriff's Office, many Springlake residents have decided to report all trespassing through yards to the Sheriff's Office. Please help us to support these residents whose homes back up to open property or adjacent neighborhoods.

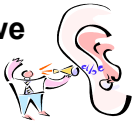
"The goal of this newsletter/website is to create a sense of community in Bluebonnet Highlands through the sharing of information and occasional organized events. We are your neighbors who have volunteered our time and funds to bring you information that is important, helpful and sometimes, we think entertaining!"

The Newsletter Staff

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WE'RE LISTENING

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



1. Baby Carriages in the streets:
Mothers - Please keep carriages and small children ON the sidewalks and not in the street.
2. Unkempt Median: The city has not cut grass or maintained the plant beds. A2Z is now cutting the grass, and homeowners Paula Lundin, Becky and Lloyd Allemand, and Howard Johnson are pulling up the weeds – we need more neighbors to help. You can see where weeds were pulled the beds stayed cleaner weekPeople jumping complex fence. Law breaking “trespasserss longer.
3. ” turned out to be deadbeat residents who have not paid dues and jump the fence to use the pool. License plates were traced and police notified.
4. More complaints about cars parked in the street overnight. Deed restrictions do not permit constant on the street parking. Homeowners will be notified by the HOA. Please park your cars in the garage or driveways on your property.

SLOW DOWN!

Still speeding down Springlake? If you hear me yelling at you to SLOW DOWN, SLOW DOWN, please don't make ugly gestures at me. There are many children who may accidentally step into your path. It's our neighborhood, and we want to feel safe. Parents and children are walking in the afternoons to wind down from work. Do not speed around them as if they are in your way. The beauty of our neighborhood is that we can safely and leisurely walk our families and pets. If you are stressed out and eager to get home, please do not put others in danger. My golden retriever Dixie ran out into the street to retrieve her ball (yes, off leash) and a car literally left track marks from skidding to avoid hitting her. Had they been driving more slowly, they would not have had to slam their brakes.

Occasionally a dog or child will run out in the

street, and we would not want a horrible accident to occur.

Lots of people like to walk their babies and dogs in the early evening, and although there are sidewalks, some people do walk in the street, and some of the folks in cars go so fast and get so impatient. Slow down and leave 5 minutes earlier! Life is not a race.

By Springlake Resident



CHANGED YOUR EMAIL LATELY?

Don't forget, if you change your email address you need to notify the HOA so that you can receive a HOA dues reminder and meeting dates. Call 292-2020 to report

your updates or contact webmaster@bluebonnethighland.org.

EXTRAORDINARY NEIGHBOR!

Over the years the newsletter has received many complaints from residents regarding things they want us to do something about – and we wonder “why didn't they just do something on their own instead of wanting someone else to do it for them?”

For example: the weeds growing in the Bluebonnet median. The city has been called and they just whack off the top of the weeds but one EXTRAORDINARY NEIGHBOR has done something!! Mr. Johnson has been out in the heat pulling the weeds and removing the debris – he's not being paid for his work. He took action on his own for the benefit of ALL THE NEIGHBORS! Mr. Johnson and his wife, Cookie are residents of Springlake and have only lived here about 9 months. If anyone would like to help him keep the median strip clear of weeds and debris please do. Thank you Mr. Johnson and I hope you have started a trend of involved, action oriented residents. The Johnson's own and operate “The Purple and Gold” Landscape service – we urge you to support them – they have demonstrated how much they support and appreciate the residents of Bluebonnet Highlands. Thank you.



SUMMERTIME RECIPES

Old Fashioned Lemonade



5 large lemons
1 cup granulated sugar
16 cups cold water
4 cups ice cubes
1/8 tsp. freshly grated nutmeg
Several sprigs of fresh mint

Microwave whole lemons for 30 seconds. Squeeze four of the lemons and reserve the juice.

Cut the remaining lemon into 1/4 inch slices, removing all the seeds. Press 1/2 cup sugar into the slices with a wooden mallet or potato masher.

Place the sugared slices and any resultant juice into the container you plan to serve it in and let it stand for 15 minutes. Add the reserved lemon juice, sugar and cold water. Stir in ice cubes, sprinkle with nutmeg and garnish with fresh mint.

Submitted by:
Greg Tullier



Together, we can save a life

CONTRIBUTIONS are urgently needed to support the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.
<https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation-form.asp>

NEWSLETTER STAFF NEEDS YOU!

Get involved with your subdivision. The newsletter staff is looking for Springlake and Fairhill residents to help with articles for the newsletter. Residents, we encourage you to feel free to submit an article of interest. To submit or inquire, newsletter@bluebonnethighlands.org

Rere's Kitchen

Football season is here again. Chicken Skewers would be an easy and delicious addition to your tailgating menus. I found this recipe in *Food and Family Magazine*, a beautiful and free publication by Kraft. You can get it, too, at their website: <http://www.kraftfoods.com/kf/>



Sizzlin' Chicken Skewers

1/3 cup hot water
1/4 cup KRAFT Original Barbecue Sauce
1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
1/4 cup lite soy sauce
1/4 cup chopped cilantro
2 Tbsp. GREY POUPON Honey Dijon Mustard
1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breast halves, cut into 12 thin strips

MIX water, barbecue sauce, peanut butter, soy sauce, cilantro and mustard in medium bowl with wire whisk. Refrigerate half of the mixture to use as a dipping sauce. Pour remaining mixture into large resealable plastic bag. Add chicken; seal bag. Shake gently to coat chicken. Refrigerate 1 to 2 hours to marinate. PREHEAT grill to medium-high heat. Thread chicken onto 12 skewers in ribbon fashion; discard any remaining marinade in bag. GRILL 5 to 7 min. or until chicken is cooked through. Serve with the reserved dipping sauce.

BBH BULLETIN BOARD

For Sale:

Palm m130: Includes Palm, all software, docking station, detachable ultra-thin keyboard, leather cover, and more \$150. Software included for documents to go and more.
webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org

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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MASSAGE THERAPIST (LIC #LA1322)

10124 JEFFERSON HWY.
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

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Director of Sales & Marketing

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PH: 225-819-9002 • FAX: 225-819-0202

TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002

EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

October 2005

Volume 5, Issue 10

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ October 13-Yom Kippur
 - ✦ October 20-Metro 3 Council Mtg.-6pm-BBH Library
 - ✦ October 31-Halloween
-
-

HOA MEETING HOMEOWNERS:

Clark Taylor presided, 19 residents present. The 2006 budget was reviewed. Mr. Taylor said that 3 more Springlake and 1 more Fairhill filings are to be developed. He said that he did not tell the builders that the HOA would install fountains in the new lakes because the upkeep is too expensive for the HOA to absorb. Homeowners on the new lake have raised funds to purchase and install a fountain themselves; the pond service will be notified to clean the scum off the new lake. Mr. Taylor also explained that ALL neighbors have access to enjoy the lake from the lakeside park area off Bluebonnet Blvd. Property directly behind lakeside homes is private property. Mr. Taylor reiterated that the HOA pays for landscaping, lighting on Bluebonnet Blvd, insurance, and the recreation complex, improving the quality of life and increase property values for our neighborhoods. The Clubhouse rentals and fees brought in \$2300: a motion was made to allow the rental of the clubhouse AND pool, not more than once a month during pool season for a fee. Funds collected pay for pool furniture and playground equipment. Mr. Taylor suggested that the determination of fees be left up to the pool committee and this was agreed.

HOMEOWNER DUES:

The HOA collected over \$9000.00 in late fees from homeowners, however over \$20,000 in association dues are still past due. A collection agency has been retained. Remember that your \$17.00 per month is going towards the upkeep of all the public areas (pool, tennis court, playground, lakeside park, fences, landscaping and the lighting on the median) all of which increase your property values and enhance the quality of life in our subdivisions. Contact Debbie at 292-2020 to discuss your account.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS:

Guest speaker Fred Raiford of the Sheriff's Dept. gave stats of traffic violations issued to residents in the Springlake Subdivision. During a 3 month period 142 citations were issued. Citations included: 84 speeding, 24 inspections stickers, 11 stop signs, 11 seatbelt violations, 6 no insurance, and 17 other misc. violations.

Be careful out there and slow down!

Special guest attending were Col. Greg Phares, Capt. Les Rainey, Lt. Ricahrd Waller, and Lt. Robert Stone.

BURGLERY UPDATE:


The police followed up on 34 Security Alarm calls. There were 4 actual burglaries and 2 reports of theft in the neighborhood. Remember to lock your doors, set your alarms and make it appear that someone is at home to discourage theft and **please** report all suspicious people, cars or activities to the Sheriffs Department at 389-5000. Let's watch out for each other.

KEYS FOUND

A set of keys was found earlier this month on Springdale. Please call 757-7650 to claim.

WE'RE LISTENING

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

- 1) Request have come in to put out and pick up trash cans in a timely manner. Cans left to linger look messy and are preventing people from using the sidewalks safely. 
- 2) Water sprinklers aimed over the sidewalk are preventing residents from using the sidewalks safely. Residents are having to walk in the road and cars are swerving to avoid being sprayed. Please check angle of water.
- 3) Mosquitoes: Call Mosquito Abatement 356-3297.

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POOL UPDATE

The pool closed last year on Oct. 2. The pool committee is willing to keep the pool open a little longer so that you, our residents, may enjoy the sun rays. We do ask for your help by picking up after yourself, placing tables and chairs back to the original position and by not leaving cigarette butts near the pool. Food is still being found in the pool area. Please refrain from eating near the pool. The only location food is to be eaten is on the picnic tables.

If you are interested in serving on the clubhouse/pool committee for 2006 please contact Becky, 819-1801. Volunteers are needed.

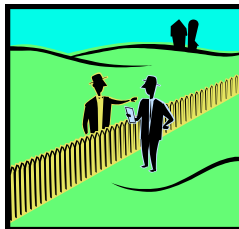
STREETS IN DISREPAIR

The Dept. of Public Works Rehab Department stated it could take up to 100 days to have all streets repaired. The contractors are currently in the Shenandoah neighborhood. The DPW said that the contractors had to test the soil under the road to make sure it didn't also need repair. When they get back to our neighborhood they will repair the holes and do a complete overlay of the streets.

By: Joan King, Resident

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Pete Zanders, wife Tara and children have resided 6 years in Springlake Subdivision. They are the new owners of Fresh Coat. Pete is pleased to bring professional interior painting services to local residents. For more details see their ad in the Neighbor-Owned Business Services on our website.



NEEDS A HOME

Free to a good home. Female tortoiseshell long hair spayed female cat needs a good home. Very loving and great with children. Call Kathryn, 767-5302.

KATRINA CONTRIBUTIONS

The Louisiana PTA has set up a link on their website for monetary donations to go directly to schools to help children displaced due to the recent hurricane. If you would like to make a donation please do so by visiting the LAPTA website <http://www.lapta.org> or by going directly to <http://www.laptakatrina.kintera.org>

EMERGENCY INFORMATION LIST

If your family is involved in an accident, sudden death, or any disaster - could they put their hands on important documents – do they know where your will or medical insurance policy is. Do they know who the Insurance Company is; do they know if you have a 401K, or IRA or a CD? Recent events have demonstrated the need to be prepared. Sit down with your family and put together a FAMILY INFORMATION LIST.

1. Designate a contact person out of state that everyone will call if your family were to be separated. Have everyone memorize the information and phone numbers.
2. Gather ALL important documents including: Social Security Cards, Passports, birth certificates, critical medical information including names of Doctors and prescription medicines, Bank names with checking account, saving account, CD, and Safe Deposit box numbers, Investment Accounts, Wills, Trusts, Medical Power of Attorney & Living Wills, Automobile titles, Property Titles, Mortgage papers, all insurance policies, all medical and dental insurance policies, and Credit card companies – to name a few.
3. Make a LIST of all the data on all the paperwork. If you have a computer, put the list on a CD. Place a copy of the list in a safe deposit box and/or mail a copy to a trusted relative not living with you – such as a person you have named as a beneficiary or a trustee. In the event of emergency you and your family will have access to all important documents and information.
4. Now that all the paperwork is in one place, make file folders for each category such as: Insurance, Banks, Assets, Medical, Certificates and Wills and put them all in one safe place so in the event of evacuation you can reach everything at once without thinking about it. Putting all documents in a fireproof safe is a good idea. Making copies of the passports, SS cards and important certificates is also a good idea in case an original is damaged or misplaced.
5. Taking photos of your home, inside and out as well as photos of everything inside of closets and assets such as jewelry, guns, collections, and electronic equipment will help you remember and prove what you had in the case of an insurance claim. Include the photos – saved to a CD with your documents.

Rene's Kitchen

I was never a "cold soup person" until I tried this refreshing recipe in Holly Clegg's *Trim and Terrific Cookbook*. This is great for those warm days still ahead.

Cucumber and Avocado Soup

3 c. cucumber, peeled and diced
2 c. buttermilk
½ c. chopped avocado, divided
¼ c. chopped red onion, divided
1 t. chopped fresh basil, divided
salt and pepper
1 t. lime juice
1/2 c. seeded chopped tomatoes
4 T. nonfat plain yogurt

In a blender, combine cucumber, buttermilk, ¼ c. avocado, half the red onion, and half the basil. Blend until smooth, season with salt and pepper. Chill for 1 hour. In a small bowl, mix remaining avocado, onion, basil, lime juice, and tomato. Ladle soup into bowls. Dollop each with 1 T. yogurt; top with tomato mixture. (4 servings)

HALLOWEEN

Halloween is a cherished tradition but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful. There is no real "trick" to making Halloween a real treat for the entire family. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian/car crashes.



Both children and adults need to think about safety on this annual day of make-believe.

- Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.
- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.
- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard. (Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injuries on Halloween.)
- If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retro reflective tape should be used to make children visible.
- Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.

- When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.
- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.
- Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.
- Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.

Children should understand and follow these rules:

- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.
- Walk, do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

To ensure a safe trick-or-treat outing, parents are urged to:

- Give children an early meal before going out.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.
- When in doubt, throw it out.

National Safety Council

<http://www.nsc.org/library/facts/halloween.htm>

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.

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Becky Allemand and Jay Stogner

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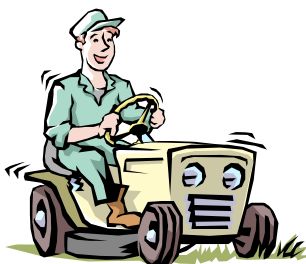


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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

November 2005

Volume 5, Issue 11

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Nov. 1- All Saints Day
- ✦ Nov. LSU Games- 5,12,19, 25
- ✦ Nov. 8-Election Day
- ✦ Nov.10-Metro 3 Council Mtg.-7pm-BBH Library
- ✦ Nov. 11-Veteran's Day
- ✦ Nov. 24-Thanksgiving



YARD OF THE MONTH

Fairhill
10516 Hillmont
Springlake

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

HELP WANTED: CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

Jay will be leaving Baton Rouge at the end of the year. Her leaving will be a huge loss for our subdivision and our newsletter. We need residents interested in helping to submit articles. The short articles can be emailed and can be tips or information of any kind as long as they are of interest to our neighborhood- tips on entertaining, cleaning, gardening, housekeeping, restaurants; information on what's going on in Baton Rouge, etc. Please help to keep our newsletter. Please contact webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org if interested.



POOL UPDATE

The BBH pool closed October 29th for the season. The pool/clubhouse committee, run by residents who volunteer their time need your help. If you would like more information and are interested in keeping the pool presentable please contact Becky 819-1801.

WE'RE LISTENING

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



- 1) For more information about the Bluebonnet Extension project (development of the existing Bluebonnet Boulevard) please refer to the website link entitled "Bluebonnet Extension".
- 2) The HOA was contacted concerning the condition of the fence along Bluebonnet Blvd. The HOA contacted the developer and they have contacted the contractor who built the fence.
- 3) The median had become unsightly therefore weeds and shrubs have been eliminated for cost efficient upkeep methods by the HOA. The DPW planted the median but failed to maintain them. As a result of neglect, several shrubs were dead and complaints that visibility was impaired creating safety concerns when crossing the boulevard was the catalyst for this decision.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Kathryn Chalas, a resident of Fairhill Subdivision and past resident of Springlake has now taken her interest one step further. Painting has been a hobby for as long as she can remember, but started painting for others about 5 years ago. Kathryn does custom canvas paintings, specializing in children's rooms, nurseries and bathrooms and birthday banners. She can match any décor. If you want that special touch of paint please contact Kathryn at Katchalas@gmail.com. Check out her work at www.katscanvasart.photosite.com.



Don't forget to visit the website for additional information and services supplied by our very own residents. Services are found under the link entitled, "Neighbor-owned Business/Service".

"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!"

The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

NEED HOUSE WORK? TIPS ON CHOOSING THE RIGHT CONTRACTOR

With housing prices rising to extraordinary levels, perhaps you have considered renovating rather than moving to a larger house. Here are some points to consider before you sign on the dotted line with a contractor.



- ✦ Ask for referrals from friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors. Receiving a referral from someone you know is often the best way to find the right person to do the job.
- ✦ Keep in mind the scope of the job. For example, if you want to add a two-story addition to your home, the contractor who redid your Aunt Jane's half-bath is not necessarily the person for the job. Like lawyers, contractors have specialties, and ripping off roofs and sides of houses is far different from replacing some plumbing fixtures.
- ✦ Be wary of references from the contractor, who will likely give you his three best customers. Rather, ask the contractor for the names of the last 3 projects he has completed or is presently working on. If he hesitates, it could be a warning signal. Additionally, ask to visit one or more of his current work sites.
- ✦ Determine the licensing regulations in your state. In Louisiana, a contractor must be licensed by the state licensing board for contractors. In order to become licensed, the contractor must fulfill multiple requirements, which includes, among other things, passing a written examination and classifying the type of work which he intends to do. The contractor's license is valid for a term of one year. If you would like more information, the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors website is quite helpful: www.lslbc.state.la.us.
- ✦ Make sure your contractor has insurance—worker's compensation and errors and omissions—and that the coverage amounts are sufficient. If your contractor fails to secure the tarps on your exposed roof and water gets into your home, the damage could be significant. By the same token, contact your own insurance company and find out whether

you can add a rider for a nominal cost. That way, if something goes wrong you will at least be reimbursed. The insurance companies can then fight out who ultimately pays the claim, not you.

- ✦ How busy is the contractor? This is tricky because a contractor who is not busy may not be a contractor you want on your job. On the other hand, a contractor who is too busy may not be able to devote the necessary time to your job. Find out who will be overseeing the job. Who will be at your home daily? Make sure you know whom to call if any questions or problems arise.
- ✦ When drafting or reviewing the contract, consider all the things that can go wrong—a rock ledge six feet down, torrential downpours, a plywood shortage—and be clear about whose responsibility it is to pay for damages or delays in such scenarios.
- ✦ Finally, the most important thing is to control the money! It is reasonable to pay the contractor a certain amount up front for supplies and down payments to subcontractors. However, never pay a contractor more than one-third of the contract price in advance and do not pay for work before it is completed. Many contractors will set up the contract so that they can request a check at least once a week. Be sure the contract defines the steps in your job—demolition, pouring the foundation, erecting interior walls, and so on. Tell the contractor that you will pay as each task is completed and include it in the contract.

Of course taking all these steps is no guarantee of a problem-free project, but they will help direct you to a good contractor.

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 Ellen Rappaport Tanowitz and modified for application with Louisiana law.

ARTICLES and LOOSE ENDS!!!

Write to webmaster@bluebonnethighlands.org to submit an article for the newsletter. Visit the website to catch up on old topics and helpful phone numbers.

Rene's Kitchen

We have a fall tradition in our home called Pumpkin Night- a meal completely devoted to pumpkin. For dessert, these Pumpkin Chocolate Cheesecake Bars are awesome.

Pumpkin Chocolate Cheesecake Bars

Crust:

1¼ c. graham cracker crumbs
¼ c. sugar
1/3 c. butter, melted



Filling:

2 8-oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened
1 ¾ cups sugar
3 lg. eggs
1 c. canned pumpkin
½ tsp. pumpkin pie spice
½ tsp. vanilla
¼ tsp. salt
6 oz. semisweet chocolate, cut up
2 tbsp. butter
1 ¼ c. sour cream
¼ c. sugar
fresh grated nutmeg

1. Crust: Mix crumbs, sugar and butter. Press in bottom of lightly greased 13x9x2" baking pan.
2. Preheat oven to 325. Filling: In a large bowl beat together cream cheese and 1 ¾ c. sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating until just combined. Stir in pumpkin, spice, vanilla, and salt. Pour 1¼ c. of filling into a medium bowl. Set both bowls aside.
3. Melt chocolate and butter in a small saucepan over low heat, stirring frequently until smooth. Stir melted chocolate into 1¼ c. filling. Carefully spread chocolate mixture over crust. Bake 15 minutes. Carefully spread remaining filling over baked layer. Bake 40-45 minutes until slightly puffed around edges and just set in center. Cool 30 minutes.
4. Combine sour cream and ¼ c. sugar. Spread over baked bars. Refrigerate overnight. Sprinkle with fresh nutmeg. Cut and serve. Keep any remaining bars refrigerated.

MISTLETOE MARKET

Grab a friend and join us for the 5th annual shopping extravaganza!!!

Saturday, Nov. 12, 9am-6pm

**Holiday Inn Select
(Premier Ballroom)**

4728 Constitution Ave.

(Located next to Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant)
Shop till you drop! Everything from candles, purses, cosmetics, jewelry, cook books, *children's art, clothing, bows, bath products, food and more!!

*Canvas Art by Kathryn Chalas

Come and find something for everyone on your Christmas list!!



DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VETERANS DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY?

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor *ALL* those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank *LIVING* veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty. A complete history of Veterans Day, and why it is observed on November 11, can be found on our Veterans Day History Web page (<http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.htm>).

For more information visit http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetday_faq.htm



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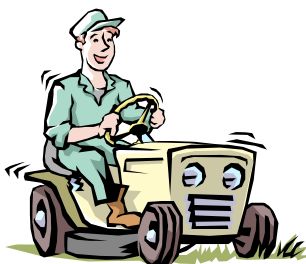


THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

Denise Pinegar
Director of Sales & Marketing

15333 Memorial Tower Drive • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810
PH: 225-819-9002 • FAX: 225-819-0202
TOLL FREE: 1-877-GOLF-002
EMAIL: dpinegar@universityclubbr.com

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Joe Lohman
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The Bluebonnet Highlands Review Newsletter

December 2005

Volume 5, Issue 12

NEIGHBORLY REMINDERS

- ✦ Dec. 2—Metro 3 Council Mtg. 7pm BBH Library
- ✦ Dec. 3—LSU vs SEC Championship Game (CBS)
- ✦ Dec. 21—Winter Begins
- ✦ Dec. 25—Christmas; Hanukkah Begins
- ✦ Jan. 1—HOA dues



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

REFLECTION

This has really been a year for all of us—from traffic accidents to hurricanes. I would love to say, at least we all made it. Of course as you know those words are not possible. As we all get ready to close out one year to begin a new year please let's remember to take time to smell the roses. Be thankful for what we have and remember to tell your loved ones "I Love You" each day.

HOA

Association Fees, also known as HOA dues are payable on **January 1st** by all.

- ✦ **Payment options:**
 - 1 year = \$204 or
 - 6m = \$102 payable by January 1 and again by July 1st.
- ✦ Remember that penalties are strictly enforced for nonpayment and/or delinquent accounts.
- ✦ Please contact the HOA at 292-2020 with any questions pertaining to your HOA dues.
- ✦ Notification of email change is appreciated.

Mail Payment To:

Bluebonnet Highlands Homeowners Association
10124 Jefferson Hwy.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

WE'RE LISTENING

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



- 1) Trash cans are becoming an eye-sore. Cans should be brought in the night that garbage has been picked up. If you are going out of town please ask a neighbor to pick up your can(s). If you miss the pickup then please bring your trash back to your home. Do not leave it out until the next trash day.
- 2) If you see anyone walking in your yard and you did not give them permission call the sheriff's office. Halloween decorations were stolen from a yard on Hillmont.
- 3) Thank you to those residents who redirected their sprinkler systems so not to hit the sidewalk and the road. Some of you have actually changed the time you are watering so not to sprinkle during those special times. It is nice to know that you care and were just unaware. :)
- 4) Posted Signs: Please remove signs left over from parties, garage sales, and lost and found once the event is over or if they become unsightly.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

Want to Jump? Call your neighbor! Jeff and Amy Caire have just moved into the Springlake subdivision because of the recent hurricane, which flooded their home in Metairie. Being that they are both LSU alumni, they are happy to be back in Baton Rouge. Jeff has a spacewalk rental business where he rents, delivers and sets-up the spacewalks at very affordable prices. He would love to help you in your party planning needs. Daily or weekly rentals are available. Please pass the word along to your friends and family. Call Jeff's JumpWorld at 225.757.6230 or jscaire@cox.net.



"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!"

The Newsletter Staff

www.bluebonnethighlands.org

Rene's Kitchen

Sweet potatoes are a holiday favorite here in south Louisiana. In my copy of the Louisiana cookbook "The Bishop's Bounty", I have a note next to the following recipe. It says, "The best!" I have not tasted better sweet potatoes.



Aunt Janet's Sweet Potatoes

4 c. cooked, mashed sweet potatoes	1 t. vanilla
1 c. sugar	1/2 t. ginger
2 eggs, beaten	1/2 t. cinnamon
1/3 c. milk	1/2 t. nutmeg
1/2 c. butter	1/8 t. cloves

Combine above ingredients and spread in a 1 pt. casserole dish.

Topping:

1/3 c. flour	1/3c. butter
1 c. brown sugar	1 c. chopped pecans

Combine topping ingredients and spread over sweet potatoes. Bake uncovered at 350 for 30 minutes. Serves 8.

WEBSITE

The "Neighbor-owned Business/Service" section of the website has been update. Please don't forget to visit this section before doing your holiday shopping. If you requested your business to be placed on that section and you don't see it please write back since your request may have gotten lost in cyberspace. Remember, these are our very own residents. Services are found under the link entitled, "Neighbor-owned Business/Service".

The newsletter staff does not profit in any manner from these ads.

NEWSLETTER

- ✦ When requesting the newsletter staff to send out a notice of a lost pet during the middle of the month

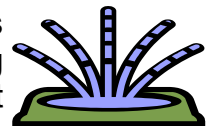


please notify us if that pet has been found. If toward the end of the month the animal is still missing please write in with a short article for the newsletter.

- ✦ The newsletter staff is in need of residents wanting to be a part of disseminating information to our residents.
- ✦ This is a volunteer group that communicates via email and basically helps keep the communication lines open for residents and the HOA.
- ✦ The newsletter is a way to voice your concerns or inquiries.
- ✦ For more info contact: webmaster@bluebonnethighland.org Becky 819-1801

THE LAKES

Just a little reminder, the lakes are not to be used for throwing trash or Christmas trees. Last year the HOA was called due to residents tossing their trees and other debris into the lake. If you are a lake lot owner or live near one of the lakes, please refrain from throwing anything into the lake. Added vegetation also attracts nutrias as well.



PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN ON LINE

Almost 19 million kids access the Internet at home – here's how to protect yours. Keep the computer out in the open – supervision is still the best protection. Teach your kids not to give out personal information. Check the activity logs and history lists to track the sites your child is visiting. Install filtering software – like SafeBrowser.com, rated best by Consumer Reports. For more advice check out: www.netparents.org, www.kids.getnetwise.org,

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