



# Vickery Place Neighborhood NEWS

GREENVILLE-BELMONT-HENDERSON-CENTRAL-GOODWIN

P.O. BOX 720192 DALLAS, TEXAS 75372 VOICEMAIL: (214) 967-5134 WWW.VPNA.ORG



## JUNE MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:30-8:30 PM

**Place:** Best Cellars,  
at 3502 Knox

## SUMMER SOCIAL

The June meeting of VPNA will be a social get-together at **Best Cellars** wine shop, **3502 Knox, 6:30 to 8:30.**

Some wine will be sampled, and appetizers will be served up compliments of Cuba Libre restaurant. No business at this meeting; just some relaxing fun with your neighbors.

**Best Cellars** is a beautiful new shop specializing in fine wines from around the world. Be sure to stop in for a taste of the good life VP style.

**Please join us!**

## AMIGOS DAYS ARRIVE IN VICKERY PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD

~ Candy Hearne

Amigos Days, sponsored by the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church and People Helping People, is a hands-on ministry uniting urban and suburban churches. Residents in urban neighborhoods join forces to help with revitalization in the community.



Amigos at work on Richard Avenue.

This year Munger Place UMC and East Grand Foundry Church co-coordinated efforts in Vickery Place. Last year an article was written for the Vickery Place newsletter about the availability of this program and if any homeowner needed help to apply. This year three homes were chosen in our neighborhood.

I went by to see the work in progress and to visit with one of the homeowners. As we began to talk, the tears started flowing. She scared me - I thought I had said something wrong or upset her until she was able to explain that they were not tears of sadness, but tears of sheer joy.

Mildred had no idea what to expect. People had come out to look over her house to plan what needed to be done, but she still was completely overwhelmed. About 15 volunteers showed up and they worked on everything from leveling, replacing screens, scraping and painting, to putting a handrail on the front porch. The things she likes the most are the new doors with new locks. She says she feels so much safer now. Through more tears she said, "Thank you is so inadequate".

If you or anyone you know is interested in applying for this program in 2004, please call me at 214.841.0895.

## Bulky Trash/Basura Abultado

Don't Set Out Trash Before:  
Thursday, June 5th

Pick Up Week:  
June 9th - 13th



Volume 22, Issue 6  
June 2003

## MANDATORY WATERING GUIDELINES

### Summer watering hours:

From June 1 to Sept. 30, watering of lawns or landscapes with an irrigation system or sprinkler is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Watering with a hand-held hose or a soaker hose is permitted at any time.

### Fines for violations:

Violations of these outdoor watering guidelines can now result in fines of \$250 to \$2,000 per incident. First offenses will be issued a warning.



For water conservation information, call **214/670-3155.**

**CRIME STATS**

Crime	Date	Address
Burglary	04/07/03	52XX Vickery
Theft	04/13/03	54XX Goodwin
Theft	04/11/03	55XX Goodwin

spring and fall, deadhead the spent blooms and cut back the bush.” The Pink Peace Rose was mentioned as a variety that does well here.

We were timely informed and delightfully entertained by Mr. Butterworth and his gardening tips. Many thanks to him for bringing us this great presentation.

We also enjoyed Cuba Libre’s famous Coconut Chicken and their delicious bean dip for refreshments. Thanks Cuba Libre. As always we are fortunate to have the facility of Vickery Towers for our meetings and their generosity in providing beverages. Our monthly meetings have turned into a caliber and style of great proportion and are extremely enjoyable and informative. See you next month at Best Cellars Wine Shop.

**MAY MEETING RECAP**

~ Shelia Huffman  
A variety of topics were addressed at the May meeting of VPNA.

Patrick Butterworth, The English Gardner, was our guest speaker. He told us how to produce the results of a beautiful English Garden here at home.

Bruce Thomas brought the meeting to order and introduced Sergeant Walter Clifton, Jr. of the Dallas Police Department. Sergeant Clifton shared Dallas and local area crime statistics.

Mr. Butterworth entertained us with tales of his English upbringing and summers on his Grandmother’s estate in Binfield in County Berkshire, England.

The City of Dallas recently invited members of neighborhood associations to attend a series of meetings on mosquito control. Vickery Place resident, Sandi Holmes-Schwedler, reported that she had attended one of the meetings and she shared printed literature with us that she had gathered. If you would like a brochure on mosquito control, please e-mail or leave a voice message with your address.

He came to Dallas in the early 1970’s and one of the first things he noticed was our dirt. Not that of legends, but of gardens. Mr. Butterworth said Dallas’ soil is fertile but lacking organic matter. The soil must be worked and organic compost added. Lava Sand, Cow Manure, and Green Sand improve porosity and produce food for the plant. His motto, “the answer lies in the soil.” He emphasized the importance of preparing the beds for planting and of selecting plants that have the same water and feeding cycle. He suggested Liquid Fish Kelp for fertilizing.

Sheridan Jones of Preservation Dallas recapped the Discover Dallas program that will categorize architectural styles of homes built prior to 1965. Sheridan asked for volunteers for the program and encouraged everyone to attend the orientation on May 20 at Preservation Dallas.

Mr. Butterworth has created gardens for many notable East Dallas homes and we saw a slide presentation of some lovely local lawns and gardens. He showed how the use of evergreens and dry stack walls could be used to create dramatic effects. He said that gardens need yellow in their color scheme and herbs for texture.

Greg Kalina, Scott Sharrer and Michael Bratcher were on hand representing Henderson area restaurants, Cuba Libre, Candleroom and Sense. They addressed parking and other issues associated with neighborhood restaurants, and then took questions from the floor.

“Roses”, he said, “are difficult to grow in Texas. Feed them in the



Totally organic garden on Swiss Avenue



Butterworth and door prize winner, Angi Brown



Stone Cow in the 5300 Block of Richard, by VP resident Harold Campbell.



Limestone Mermaid by British stonecarver David Briggs graces a watergarden on Vickery.



Welded Steel by Texas artist Mac Whitney, on Goodwin Ave.

## VP YARD ART

**Vickery Place is home to an eclectic group of people, and the yard art in the neighborhood reflects this diversity. Downtown Dallas will soon have the Nasher Sculpture Center, but VP has long had its own sidewalk sculpture exhibit. These photos show a sample of the original art scattered throughout the neighborhood.**



Wood Minimalism on Goodwin at McMillan.



Welded Steel Abstract Figure in the 5100 Block of Vickery.



Stainless Steel Sculpture by Mac Whitney, on Goodwin.



Welded Steel by VP resident John Holt, at the corner of Bonita and Laneri.

## ENJOY HOMEGROWN BASIL IN PESTO

~ Shelia Huffman

I recently spent a delightful Saturday on a **SUSAN TAYLOR CULINARY TOUR**. The tour started at SMU and we visited local food landmarks such as Luna Tortilla Factory, Morgan Chocolates, Mozzarella Cheese and more. The tour included lunch and there was time for sampling and shopping at each stop. I enjoyed it so much that I have already signed up for the El Dia de los Muertos Tour in November.

Susan is a contributing editor for the food section of the Dallas Morning News and she shared this pesto recipe for our VPNA newsletter. This is a great way to enjoy some of that basil if you have a backyard herb garden. Susan says a trick that she learned from an herb farmer on one of her herb farm tours is that the pesto will not turn black if it is not totally immersed in oil. An added benefit is that this is a less oily pesto.

- 1 cup of basil leaves
- ¼ cup nuts finely chopped (pistachios, pine, walnuts or pecans)
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ¼ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 2 tablespoons broth (chicken or vegetable)
- ½ to ¾ lb. pasta

Bring water for pasta to boil in a pasta pot. Put grated cheese and nuts in a food processor and blend. When pasta water boils, put basil leaves down into water and immediately remove the leaves from the pot. This is especially easy if you are using a two-piece pasta pot. Immediately run the basil under cold water. Squeeze the water out of the blanched basil and add it to food processor. Add minced garlic and process. While the processor is running add olive oil and broth. Process until pesto is smooth. This makes enough for ½ to ¾ pound of cooked pasta, plus some leftover to spread on sandwiches or dollop on fish.

If the pesto is a bit thick when mixed with the pasta, add a tablespoon of pasta cooking water. The leftover pesto will keep in the refrigerator for 10 days without turning black.

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**TALKIN' TRASH**

~ Shelia Huffman

If trash is being picked up on your curb rather than your alley, call District 4 Manager, Ben Walker. He will help you determine why your street and block has curb pick up rather than the more convenient alley service.

Trash cans may not be placed on the curb prior to 8:00pm the evening before scheduled pick up and must be removed by 8:00pm following pick up to comply with city code. Alley cans need not be moved.

You may reach Ben Walker or his secretary, Regina Williams, by calling 214-670-3495. If your alley is impassable due to overgrowth and pot holes, report it to code compliance. You are responsible for keeping the trees and bushes behind your house trimmed. The absence of trashcans on the curb improves the appearance of our neighborhood.

HELP KEEP VICKERY PLACE BEAUTIFUL!



Thanks to Lem.net for hosting [www.VPNA.org](http://www.VPNA.org)

**DISCOVER DALLAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
 The architectural survey of historic Vickery Place is in need of volunteers for photography, field survey and research work. If you can help, contact Beth Bentley at 214-821-0831 or [BentleyB@northstar.net](mailto:BentleyB@northstar.net).

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## STOP RAISING MOSQUITOES IN YOUR HOME OR YARD!

~ Sandi Holmes

That's the message from the City of Dallas. Every one of us can make a difference to break the life cycle of the mosquitoes. It's really very simply but will require you to do a few things:

- Get rid of old tires, jars, cans, buckets etc. They all can hold water and will become a breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- Empty plastic wading pools when not in use. If in use, clean it out weekly.
- Repair leaky facets and pipes. Mosquitoes only need a fraction of an inch in which to lay and hatch their larva.
- Change water in birdbaths twice weekly, and scrub out the birdbath to make sure it's free on larva.



Approximately 2 weeks after the eggs are laid the mosquitoes are adults. They usually stay within 1 mile of their breeding ground. Don't let your address become theirs!

**Mark Your Calendars**  
National Night Out  
August 5<sup>th</sup>

## PETS ARE NEIGHBORS, TOO!

*Help your pet be a good neighbor by being a responsible pet owner*



As summer approaches your pet will want to accompany you on neighborhood walks. Please keep your dog on a leash and please take a POOPER SCOOPER along with you so that you can clean up after your dog. A POOPER SCOOPER is as simple as a plastic bag, but can help keep yards and sidewalks clean. Besides, it's the law.

As the weather warms please take extra care to make sure that your pets have fresh water and plenty of shade when they are outdoors. On long walks and visits to the park, they need water just as you do. Never leave your pet alone in the car in the summer. Also remember to treat your dogs and cats for fleas and ticks and heartworms.

You may be aware that there have recently been changes in animal vaccinations. I asked Dr. Bain of Hillside Animal Clinic to re-cap the new inoculation schedule. *Dogs will now require rabies vaccine every three years, DHL and Parvo vaccine every three years, Bordatella annually. Currently cats will continue to need Rabies vaccine annually but their respiratory inoculations will now be good for three years. Repetition for Leukemia vaccine for cats is still under question.*

**Check with your vet!** And remember that you can take advantage of low cost vaccines and spay/neuter clinics to help keep your pet healthy and to reduce overpopulation in dogs and cats.

Reminder! Animal neglect and animal cruelty is against the law. If you witness animal neglect or cruelty call Dave Garcia at 214-651-9611, ext. 120 to report the crime.

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## STREETSCAPE: Life on the Edge

~ Morris Smart

Life in Vickery Place means living near Central Expressway, with all of the associated problems of traffic and noise. One area resident has taken that challenge to the extreme, choosing to live right on the edge of Central Expressway.

Two years ago, Steve Moore moved from Hurst to the new home at 5106 Vanderbilt. The house was built just a few steps from Central on a wedge shaped lot that had been sliced off when Central was widened. The builder, Rockland Homes, set out to build a livable home right on the freeway's edge. Using a good deal of imagination, a three bedroom, two bath, two car garage home of 2500 square feet was designed for the lot. The house turns a shoulder to the freeway, with the front door tucked into an alcove away from the rush of the nearby traffic. A thick stone wall was built to shield the west side of the house from the service road, providing security and an additional layer of sound control.



Steve and his wife Marett share the house with Steve's part-time kids, Hayden and Landon. Steve enjoys the minimal yard work required to keep the landscaping looking great. He says that it did not take long to get used to the noise. Inside, the sound is muffled by the sound deadening foam sprayed inside the walls during construction. Security is enhanced by good fences and cameras that Steve can monitor from his computer at his office in Mesquite.

Steve says that he and Marett enjoy the Lower Greenville area for its shopping and restaurants. Life on the edge is made more bearable by amenities like the Katy Trail and proximity to Whiterock Lake. And, it doesn't take long to get on the freeway!

## FUN ON THE FOURTH -

### Local 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations

~ Shelia Huffman

Have a safe and wonderful July 4th. And remember, **IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO SET OFF FIREWORKS IN DALLAS.** Respect the safety of your family and neighbors and view the fireworks at one of these displays:

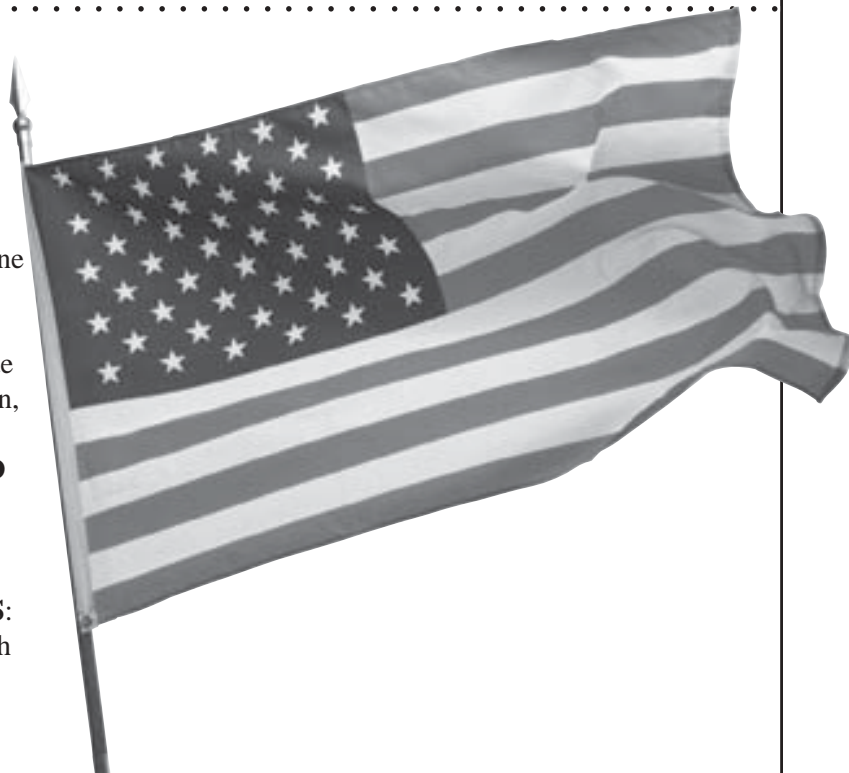
**STAR-SPANGLED SPECTACULAR, DALLAS WIND SYMPHONY AT THE MEYERSON:** Salute to America! Music by John Philip Sousa, Irving Berlin, Aaron Copland and George M. Cohan.

**OLD FASHIONED FOURTH OF JULY AT OLD CITY PARK:** Celebration of Freedom with a parade, picnic, hot dogs, apple pie, red wagon contest and fireworks.

**TRINITY FEST 2003 IN DOWNTOWN DALLAS:** 2<sup>ND</sup> annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will feature top-notch entertainment, antique cars, kids zone, food and fireworks.

**THE ANNUAL LAKEWOOD 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PARADE:** Close to home, the parade begins at 10am at Lakewood and Cambria and ends at Winstead and Tokalon.

**LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB ANNUAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY:** You must be a member to view it from within the grounds, but there are neighborhood spots where you can see the fireworks.



**FLY YOUR FLAG WITH PRIDE THIS SUMMER**  
Don't forget to put your stars and stripes out for Flag Day this year, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Go ahead and leave your flag out all month in celebration of Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

## JUNE YARD OF THE MONTH

The June YOM is 5322 Goodwin, home of Gerald and Ann Gaubert. Gerald and Ann have lived in their 1921 Craftsman style home for 3 ½ years and are originally from Louisiana. Their yard and porch offers a shady respite to the heat and sun of summer.

A walk splits the St. Augustine lawn in two and leads you to the front porch. The bed in front of the porch is small and well kept and contains an anchoring Japanese yew on each end with azaleas and hydrangeas. Two large ferns in pots are placed in either side of the porch steps. The bed meanders around the west side of the porch and house and contains acuba (large green leaves with splashes of yellow), hydrangea, Indian hawthorne, hardy wood ferns and a large azalea on the corner. A beautiful grey Pennsylvania flagstone walkway guides you from the front walk around to the side of the house. In the front yard is a massive crepe myrtle that towers over the house and is surrounded by variegated lariope, gerber daisies and wood ferns. A cute table for two and a porch that shows off a tile inlay of red and yellow roses and the house numbers, finishes it all off.

**Plant:** All warm season grasses, summer annual color (zinnias, lantanas, cosmos) and perennial color too like salvias, turk's cap and yarrow. Tropical color like bougainvilleas and hibiscus and plentiful at nurseries now. Plant trees and shrubs, keeping them well watered the rest of this year.

**Fertilize:** This much should be your 2<sup>nd</sup> major fertilization of the year. If you use organic fertilizers, put fish & seaweed emulsion and molasses on your yard and planting areas.

**Prune:** To keep most flowering plants blooming, be sure to cut off spent blooms.

**Water:** Don't forget to water the small trees on the parkway. We are behind in rainfall and newly planted trees and shrubs can easily die if left too dry. When you do water, try to do it in the early morning or early evening hours. Many of you water from noon to 3pm, which can waste water. Much of it evaporates in the summer sun. Also, plants in pots dry out faster than those in the ground.

**Pests:** There are many non-toxic sprays and powders to address most of your issues with insects. Try one to see if it rids you of your pests. Remember that not all bugs are bad. Try to identify them before you kill them.

Keep fresh water out for the birds, but change it weekly to break the mosquito larva cycle. Keep mulch on all your beds. It not only looks good, it helps retain moisture in the soil and regulates the temperature.

Do you have any suggestions, questions, comments or want to recommend someone's front yard for YOM? Then email me at [sandimholmes@yahoo.com](mailto:sandimholmes@yahoo.com).

Happy Gardening, Sandi

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