



Vickery Place Neighborhood NEWS

GREENVILLE-BELMONT-HENDERSON-CENTRAL-GOODWIN

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YOU'RE INVITED TO: THE VICKERY PLACE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT BLOCK PARTY

Tuesday, Aug 5th
6:30-8:30pm

On Glencoe between Willis & Miller

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RAFFLE PRIZES, LIVE
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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME BLOCK PARTY AUGUST 5, 2003

—by Leslie Farrell & Shelia Huffman

It's time again for our annual block party observance of National Night Out Against Crime! In our continuing effort to fight crime, protect our children and educate our residents, Vickery Place Neighborhood Association has been making plans for the 20th Annual National Night Out, August 5, 2003.

The VPNA National Night Out Block Party is one of the largest in the city. For twenty years now, the National Association of Town Watch has encouraged neighborhoods across America to 'take back the night' from crime and get out and meet your neighbor. Clearly, in these difficult budgetary times, citizen participation can only enhance our neighborhood community and increase the effectiveness of city services, including police crime prevention.

Getting to know your neighbors, both next door and two and three blocks away can foster a network of aid and communication. Turn your porch light on, join us on Glencoe between Miller and Willis in Vickery Place, and exchange a 'hello'! The party will feature live music - mariachis and Colin Boyd; lots of food and drinks, including bottled water; Adventure Railway train and pony rides for the kids, a bounce house for the lightweights, balloons & more!

Plan on buying raffle tickets for prizes from our neighborhood merchants such as: Sticks & Stones; Whimsey; Rene Rodrigues Hairobics; Angel Jackson, manicurist; Jennifer Cox, hair colorist/stylist; Cox Lock Shop; Patrick Butterworth, English Gardener; Plaza Azul; Weddings By David; M Bountiful; Alfredo's; Hairway to Heaven; Darla Pepper, Facial Expressions; Henderson Market; Eagle Postal Center; M-Street Veterinary Center; Herman Alma, psychic and many more! Proceeds of raffle sales benefit the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association, which produces the important monthly VPNA Newsletter and maintains www.vpna.org.

Representatives from the Dallas Police Department as well as civic leaders will be on hand with tips on crime prevention and education, and just to be available. Bring your family, your kids, your leashed dogs or cats, your friends and neighbors for a terrific night out! Event begins at 6:30pm and lasts until 8:30pm, on Glencoe Ave between Willis and Miller. Be there!

Bulky Trash/Basura Abultado

Don't Set Out Trash Before:
Thursday, Aug 7th



Pick Up Week:
Aug 11th - 15th

Volume 22, Issue8
August 2003

CRIME STATS

No crime stats this month. The July & August stats will be included in next month's newsletter.

JULY MEETING SUMMARY

~ Shelia Huffman

Wow! July saw another exciting meeting of the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association.

Our guest speaker was Jed Morse. Mr. Morse is the assistant curator of the **Nasher Sculpture Center and Garden**. The new art venue is located in the Arts District of downtown Dallas next to the Dallas Museum of Art and is scheduled to open October 19, 2003. Several major US cities courted Raymond and Patsy Nasher in hopes of receiving the collection and we are fortunate to have it right here at home.

The 55,000 square foot building will contain one of the finest collections of 20th century sculpture in the world as well as an auditorium, educational classroom, café and a 1.9-acre outdoor sculpture garden.

Works by Matisse, Giacometti, Picasso, Calder, Rodin, Serra, Di Suvero and more will be housed in this state of the art facility designed by architect, Renzo Piano.

Mr. Morse's slide show previewed many of the sculpted pieces as well as the excavation, construction and model of the building and garden. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

Former Vickery Place Newsletter Editor, Matt Simons, is now the graphic designer for **LEGACIES** magazine. Matt was on hand with complimentary copies of the current issue.

Beth Bentley asked for survey volunteers for the **Discover Dallas** project that is being headed up by Preservation Dallas.

Thanks to Jed Morse for the great slide presentation, Morris Smart for organizing the meeting, Candy Hearne and Shelia Huffman for providing snacks and to Vickery Towers for hosting our meetings and providing beverages.

See you in August at National Night Out.



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Vickery Towers resident



Neighbors visiting at July meeting

Former Vickery Place residents and active members in the neighborhood association, Tim and Heather Oliver, welcomed Andrew Issac on July 8. The Ollivers, Tim, Heather, Baby Andrew and two-year-old Zachary now reside in Wilmette, Illinois.

TIME TO INVEST TIME IN CRIME WATCH

~Leslie Farrell

Is there any credibility to the notion that when the economy goes south, crime goes up? Have you or any one you know on your block experienced theft, burglary, or loss or damage due to criminal activity in the neighborhood? Does your block have an active network of eyes, ears, and communication when crime does happen nearby?

It only takes common sense to confront any notion or reality of a rising cycle of crime by considering this: city services, in particular for this topic — the Dallas police, can only do so much while resources shrink and other grave crimes demand their time. Crimes typically found in residential areas are crimes that can be abated with strong citizen activism. Residents of a neighborhood and their building of community within the blocks and circles of that neighborhood are just the tool to inhibit and slow crime to a virtual stop.

Common sense approaches for each Vickery Place household to do their part in combating crime look like this:

- Take an ice cold lemonade or a cold bottle of beer over to your neighbor and introduce yourself — get to know one another.
- Exchange phone numbers and e-mail addresses with your neighbor so you can contact one another for a variety of reasons like: would you grab my paper & mail over the weekend while I'm away; I haven't seen you at your door in a while, are you okay? Or, I've seen a stranger going through your backyard but you were away at the time, is everything okay?
- Turn on porch lights at dusk and through dark; install lights at other entry ways or walkways so anyone present can be illuminated. In fact, maybe motion detectors and timers would be a good idea if you are often away from home.
- Reconsider that overgrown hedge in front of a window or porch and whether it creates a convenient cover for a burglar to jimmy the door or break open a window.
- If you have a home security system, keep it maintained with correct contact numbers at the monitoring office and pay the city license as required.
- Pay attention to alleyways, especially if you have a privacy fence and are not likely to see comings-and-goings on a regular basis.
- Heed your home's best friend, Fido; is your dog trying to tell you that a stranger has entered your yard?
- Always call 9-1-1 when you **suspect** persons or activities, even if some one is just walking door-to-door with no obvious business doing so, or if strangers to the neighborhood are loitering around vacant homes, lots, or curbsides. Don't assume someone else is calling in a problem activity; assume that the more voices of concern, the better. Write down license plates of suspicious vehicles; note descriptions of apparel and appearance; keep a simple diary of observations of any patterns of activity that might suggest drug dealing. Your call to 9-1-1 statistically reinforces to city & police leadership the need for patrolling and police coverage for your beat. Our police can't respond to our needs if they don't realize what those needs are when balancing patrol assignments.
- Create crime watch networks for your block or even a smaller cluster of homes. Consider sharing information beyond your immediate network with the rest of Vickery Place and getting involved with citizen crime prevention groups. If you have a working crime watch in Vickery Place, let others know by attending monthly Vickery Place Neighborhood Association meetings and offer success stories and tips on what works or what doesn't work.

Planning is underway for an upcoming VPNA general meeting to focus wholly on the current issues and concerns of our neighborhood as relates to crime and how we can network and keep a vital Crime Watch active. Please watch for the date, and meanwhile, plan on attending the VPNA National Night Out Against Crime Block Party on August 5, on Glencoe, between Miller and Willis, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, and get to know your neighbors in Vickery Place!



Thanks to Lem.net for hosting www.VPNA.org

DALLAS HARLEQUINS BRING INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR TO GLENCOE PARK

By Dan Gargiulo (dan@quins.com)

Odds are that you've never heard of the Dallas Harlequins Rugby Football Club. If you have, consider yourself among the fortunate. If you don't know the Harlequins, it's time you got to know them.

For most people, rugby is one of those things ESPN shows at two o'clock in the morning between the "World's Strongest Man" competition and the Dog Show finals. Yet for those who know and appreciate the sport, nothing comes close.

Imagine taking the precision and agility of soccer and adding the force and brutal collisions of football minus the pads and helmet. That's rugby. It has often been referred to as "Football's bigger, meaner, older brother." And for more than thirty years, Dallas has been home to one of the premier rugby teams in the country – the Dallas Harlequins. And their home in Dallas has been Glencoe Park.

Formed in January 1971, the club grew quickly from a handful of curious Dallas athletes to become a force in the Texas Rugby Football Union (TRFU). Beginning in the 1980s, the club earned further recognition, as it became a power in the Western RFU and the USA RFU.



Anthony Holder breaks a tackle vs. Fort Worth

For twenty years, the Harlequins have been one of the top rugby clubs of over 1,700 in the United States, having won their way into the "Final Four" of the Division I National Club Championships on six occasions. In 1983, the club reached the Championship finals in Chicago, and in 1984, the Harlequins won the National Club Championship in Hartford, Connecticut by defeating the Los Angeles Rugby Club. Since that time, the Harlequins finished third in the Division I Championships on four occasions: 1986 in Tampa, 1991 in San Diego, 1992 in Denver, and 1995 in Austin.

In addition, the Harlequins have won the Texas RFU Championship a staggering twenty times, and they were the first Texas RFU club to defeat a team from outside the United States. In 1983, they became the only western hemisphere club to be formally affiliated with the team for whom they were named: the prestigious Harlequins Rugby Club of London, England.

(Continues on page 5)

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(Continued from page 4)

In 1997, the Dallas Harlequins became one of the founding members of the USA Rugby Super League, an annual competition among the top clubs in the nation. The USA Rugby Super League has now become the top division of USA Rugby, with the Harlequins facing off with 15 other top clubs



Brett Pedersen carries the ball vs. rivals Dallas Reds

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in the US for the National Championship. The past two seasons, the Harlequins have reached the Quarterfinals in the Super League, and are looking to the 2003-2004 season as a chance at their second National Championship. As the 20th Anniversary of the Harlequins' first national title, it would be a fitting time to hoist the championship trophy again.

In addition to their top-level men's side, the club also features teams competing in high school and "old boys" competitions in Texas rugby. In its first year as a team, the Harlequins Colts Under-19 high school side won the Texas RFU and Western RFU High School championships, and placed 6th in the 2003 USA High School Rugby Championships. In "Old Boys" competition (for players over 35 years of age), the Harlequin Gentlemen traveled to the Cayman Islands and came home with the prestigious title of the 2003 Cayman Old Boys Tournament.

The Harlequins' 2003 Fall season against Texas area clubs begins October 18th at Glencoe Park. All matches are free to the public and begin at 2:00 PM, and the full schedule of matches, along with other information on the Harlequins and rugby, is available on the Harlequins' website at <http://www.quins.com>

If there is a problem with this transmission, or for more information about Dallas Harlequins Rugby, please contact Dan Gargiulo, media relations coordinator, Dallas Harlequins Rugby Football Club at (214) 906-7044 or via e-mail at dan@quins.com

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LA MARIPOSA SAYS 'OLA' TO VICKERY PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



La Mariposa thanks the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association for their warm welcome to the area. In 1998, after 22 years on Routh Street, owner Ray Grawunder decided it was time to move his Mexican Folk Art Shop & Gallery. The move to 2813 Henderson from the Quadrangle was a perfect fit.

Grawunder says: "Our customers are great. Our neighbors are wonderful. And the excitement generated by this area is unique in Dallas. La Mariposa has found it's new home, and we're here to stay." The transition to Henderson was easy and a great choice. La Mariposa's customer base is centered in Vickery Place, Lakewood and Highland Park.

Ray Grawunder holds a Masters Degree from TCU in Education. He thought his life was going to be one of teaching and educating, but quickly found his true calling was not going to be in a traditional classroom. He developed the concept of La Mariposa while studying at the University of Americas in Puebla, MX in the mid-1970's. Ray's unique love of Mexico was inspired by his studies in the Mexican Cultural Graduate program. Frequent trips with archeologist and anthropologists and the schools' white German Shephard, Oso, were made to archeological & cultural sites on an antiquated school bus.

Grawunder knew then that he had to do more than just learn and experience the culture for himself. He was compelled to find a way to share this knowledge with others, and La Mariposa was born in the Quadrangle in 1977. With \$2000 for inventory, decorations and fixtures, the store began in a space that measured 600 Sq Ft.



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Grawunder continued to teach and coach for another 4 years at Southwest High School in Ft. Worth, while beginning the establishment of La Mariposa in Dallas. It was a true labor of love, and by 1981, the store had expanded to triple it's original size. Ray left the education field, and dedicated himself fulltime to La Mariposa. He feels he never really left teaching, as he has the opportunity to educate his customers daily on Mexican culture and art.



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The store has developed a reputation for quality folk art, ethnic clothing, home décor and fun fiesta items at reasonable prices. Most items are imported directly from Mexico, Central & South America, and the majority of them are hand made, one of a kind treasures. Grawunder still makes 10 to 12 buying trips South of the border each year, and has just returned from Oaxaca, Mexico's Folk Art capital. La Mariposa represents Oaxacan artists such as Josephina Aguilar, Dolores Porres and Irma Blanca who have been showcased at the Dallas Museum of Art, and various other exhibits. The business has expanded

over the years to include assisting decorators, wholesale buyers and worldwide sales via the internet. Southern Living, In Style Magazine and D Magazine have all featured La Mariposa in recent issues.

The Manager of La Mariposa, Candy Hearne, is very well known to the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association as a past President, and current Board member. Candy is finishing her first year as full time Manager of La Mariposa. Another valuable employee is Raema Toney who drives over 50 miles several times a week from Kaufman, TX to work with Ray and Candy. Ray exclaims: "I have the 2 best employees in the world. Their customer service skills are unsurpassed, and they excel in assisting our clientele in creating their own fiestas, and all other gift and decorating needs."

La Mariposa is open 7 days a week from 10:30 -5:30 Monday thru Saturday, and 1:00-5:00 Sunday. They welcome your visit any time, and would be thrilled to have the opportunity to meet you and share some of their knowledge with you. Make sure to ask about items such as Guayaberas, Apilleras, Katrinas, Talavera and Alebrijes.

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Chicken Enchiladas

- 1 med onion chopped
 - 1 4 oz can chopped green chilis
 - 8 oz cream cheese
 - 4 chicken breasts cooked and shredded
 - 15-20 flour tortillas
 - 1 lb. monterry jack cheese
 - 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
 - 2 tbs butter
- Mix onion, chillis, cr cheese and chicken together and put some in tortilla and roll up. Put in casserole dish with the 2 tbl. butter melted in it. Continue until all chicken mixture is used. Cover all with shreaded cheese and pour heavy cream over all. Bake in 350 degree oven 20-25 min.
Enjoy.....Candy Hearne

**VPNA NOCHE NACIONAL HACIA FUERA
CONTRA PARTIDO DE BLOQUE DE DELITO EL
5 DE AGOSTO DE 2003**

¡Esto es el tiempo otra vez para nuestra observancia de partido de bloque anual de la Noche Nacional Hacia fuera Contra el Delito! En nuestro esfuerzo de continuación para luchar contra delito, proteja hacia fuera a niños y eduque a nuestros residentes, Vickery Coloca la Asociación de Vecindad (Vickery Place Neighborhood Association) ha estado haciendo proyectos para la 20a Noche Anual Nacional Hacia fuera, el 5 de agosto de 2003.

Llegar a conocer sus vecinos, tanto al lado como dos y tres bloques lejos puede criar una red de ayuda y comunicación. ¡Conecte su luz de pórtico, únanos sobre Glencoe entre el Miller y Willis en el Vickery Place, y cambie 'un ¡hola!'! El partido destacará la música viva - mariachi y Colin Boyd; mucho alimento y bebidas, incluso agua embotellada; ¡el Ferrocarril de Aventura se entrena y paseos de poni para los niños, una casa de salto para el lightweights, globos y más!

Los representantes del Departamento de Policía de Dallas así como líderes cívicos estarán a mano con puntas sobre prevención de crimen y educación, y solamente estar disponibles.

¡Traiga su familia, sus niños, sus perros de leashed o gatos, sus amigos y vecinos durante una noche fabulosa hacia fuera!

El acontecimiento comienza en 6:30pm y dura hasta 8:30pm, sobre el Ave Glencoe entre Willis y Miller. ¡Esté allí!

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AUGUST YARD OF THE MONTH

August YOM goes to Charla and Jason Balette at 5250 Goodwin. They're originally from Houston and they have lived in their 1926 Tudor-style home for 2 years. They've done a lot of work in those 2 years, especially to the front of the house. Neighbors emailed the VPNA website and nominated this lovely yard for yard of the month.

The driveway is off-set, with a small walkway leading to the porch. Between the driveway and the walkway, Jason was able to create a small, raised bed which is the perfect place to highlight some of their lovely blooming annuals. Across the front of the house is a very large, curved raised bed. Charla has planted a nice assortment of azaleas, hollies, camellia and indian hawthorne. The annuals still look great, even in the hot summer sun due to the fact that Jason put in a drip irrigation system. The annuals give a splash of color with pink, purple and red with pansies and red dianthus. Charla also put some purple alyssum in the mix. Cute window boxes are on the window ledges above the large bed and lush ferns and overflowing pots are arranged on the porch.

Thanks to everyone who sent in yard nominations...keep them coming!

Is it hot enough for you? Well, it's hot enough for your pets too. If you can, bring your pets in during the hottest part of the day, or at least provide them with shade and plenty of fresh drinking water.

Plant: Fall color (fall seems far away doesn't it?) like mums, asters, marigolds. Finish your fall vegetable plantings of beans, corn, cucumbers, melons and squash. Finish planting warm season grasses and sow your wildflower seeds.

Fertilize: A perfect organic fertilizer for even the hot summer months is Bioform. It contains seaweed and fish emulsion which can be used to spray the leaves of a plant, or watered in at the base. Even roses love this product. I also spray it on my tomatoes.

Prune: Anytime of year, trim the spent blooms off of your plants to help stimulate blooming.

Water: Water deeply and as infrequently as possible. Check your potted plants daily. The small pots may even need watering more than once a day if they're in the sun.

Pest control: I encourage each of you to buy Howard Garrett's "Texas Bug Book". This book gives you color photos of the pests we find here in Texas, most often. It gives information on whether they're beneficial (stalk, kill and eat other bugs) or not. You'd be truly amazed that if you encourage the good bugs, you won't have to spray the bad ones. I haven't put one drop of pesticide in my garden for almost 5 years. You can go to most nurseries and buy beneficial insects, like praying mantids, ladybugs and green lacewing to be released in your garden at dusk. Try to work with nature.

Lastly, our feathered friends could use some water and food, but don't forget to clean out your birdbath once a week to ensure mosquito larvae haven't made it their home.

Email me with your bug or gardening questions and especially with your nominations for YOM.

Happy gardening,

Sandi...sandimholmes@yahoo.com



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