

MAY GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 10
 Time: 7:00 pm
 Place: Vickery Towers
 (Greenville at Belmont)

SUMMER SAFETY FOR KIDS AND CANINES

SUMMER SAFETY FOR KIDS AND CANINES

VP resident **Priscilla Rieves** will present “Tips and Tools for a Kid Safe Summer”. Priscilla is a Board Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner holding an MS, RN, and CPNP. She is also a Clinical Professor at Texas Woman’s University and has worked with children for 21 years, giving parents guidance about all aspects of their child’s health, development and welfare.

Dr. Wendy Dearixon will speak on summer safety issues, inoculations and pet wellness for dogs and cats. She will also address children's safe interaction with pets. Dr. Dearixon is a 1990 graduate of Texas A&M

College of Veterinary Medicine. She owned Animal Clinic of Richardson for 12 years and in 2005 opened Vickery Place Animal Hospital at 2720 N. Henderson Avenue. Her professional interests include Dentistry, Dermatology and Soft Tissue surgery.

Vickery Park, located at 2810 N. Henderson Ave., will provide sandwiches and cheese boards--so don't worry about dinner before the meeting. And be sure to put your name in the drawing for cool summer door prizes. Join us for this fun and informative meeting to kick off the summer!

APRIL GENERAL MEETING RECAP – Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (ENP)

An Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (ENP) provides Police presence through off-duty Dallas Police Officers for community/homeowner organizations. At the April 10th General Meeting, about 30 residents listened and learned more about implementing an ENP in Vickery Place. Our ICP officer Keith Allen reviewed some of the particulars from the police patrol’s side and answered questions about current criminal activity. Rob Brunk, a resident from the Greenland Hills neighborhood and who is block captain chair, spoke about how their Crime Watch/ENP program has been successful for the past 18 years. He emphasized that Crime Watch and ENP go hand in hand—having a police presence helps catch criminals and deter criminal activity, but just as importantly so does getting to know your neighbors, looking out for one another and creating a sense of community.

Beth Bentley reviewed the costs involved with ENP, which includes the squad car, patrol officers, a computer terminal on-board and a cell phone or pager. To jump start the program, Roger Andres, of Andres Realty (who own business properties on Henderson) offered to match dollar for dollar those residents who participate in the VP ENP program.

We want to thank Greenville Avenue Public House, located at 2010 Greenville Avenue (next to Char Bar) for generously providing a variety of deli sandwiches and chips. For those who didn’t have the opportunity to sit down to dinner beforehand, this was greatly appreciated! The door prize of freshly cut tulips was won by Andy & Debbie Simurda. And ‘Thank You’ to Vickery Tower’s for graciously hosting our monthly meetings. *ENP Con't Page 2 >*



See Vickery Place Moms
 Page 4

Bulky Trash/Basura Abultado

Don't Set Out Trash Before:

Thursday, May 10



Pick Up Week:
 May 14-18

Volume 26, Issue 5
 May 2007

ENP Next Steps: Responses from the ENP online survey, survey forms collected at the meeting and emails received, indicate Vickery Place residents are ready to move forward with an Expanded Neighborhood Patrol in conjunction with a Crime Watch program.



Roger Andres, Rick & Beth Bentley, Shelia Huffman, Rob Brunk

The kick-off date for our Crime Watch/ENP program will be June 1, 2007—kids will be out of school and typically criminal activity spikes during the summer months. Initially we will begin with 10-15 patrol hours per week, which can be increased as more people join. The route and days/hrs of patrol will be ever changing, determined by factors such as criminal trends in the neighborhood and input from the Crime Watch committee.

crimial trends in the neighborhood and input from the Crime



VP residents

Diane Flint and Donna Webster

Many of you expressed an interest in becoming a block captain—someone from the VPNA Crime Watch Committee will be contacting you with information. Block Captains will in turn contact residents on their block asking them to join the Crime Watch Program, collect dues and answer any questions regarding the Crime Watch/ENP program. Captains will also be gathering emergency contact information.

Crime Watch/ENP dues will be \$200 per year, from January to December. Dues will be collected twice a year or \$100 for 6 months. Since we are starting our program mid-year (plus one month) and we will need initial start up funds, we are asking for \$120 for the remaining 7 months of 2007.

Anyone who lives in Vickery Place can participate, whether you rent or own.

To join, please fill out the form below—mail it back with a check to VPNA, bring it to the May General Meeting or give it to your block captain. For more information email info@vpna.org.

Benefits of joining Crime Watch/ENP:

- Police response within seconds to your 911 calls when an ENP officer is on duty.
- ENP officers will become experts on our neighborhood, able to recognize suspicious activity.
- With data terminal in police car, officers are able to check instantly for stolen vehicles and warrants.
- Patrols can check on your home when you are on vacation.
- Receive Crime Alert emails/phone calls through our ENP network.

VICKERY PLACE CRIME WATCH / EXPANDED NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL DUES FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

(Email is required to receive neighborhood alerts; please print clearly)

YEARLY DUES FOR 2007 - \$120, paid through 12-31-07

Mail this form and checks payable to VPNA to Vickery Place Neighborhood Association,
PO Box 720192, Dallas, TX 75372 or give it to your assigned block captain.

AN ANGEL AMONG US

This eight pound, three year old Spaniel-Shih Tzu Mix was found in our neighborhood on March 23rd attempting to cross the street at Belmont and McMillan. She was wearing an E-collar, a cone shaped device usually placed on a dog to keep it from biting or scratching an incision after surgery. This little dog was probably wearing the collar to prevent her from pawing at the wounds caused by the wire that had been wrapped around her muzzle until it caused serious injury to her face, nose and mouth.



The Garland couple who spotted her picked her up and took her to Operation Kindness, a no kill shelter in Carrollton. The shelter immediately took her to their veterinarian where reconstructive surgery was performed. This beautiful, sweet little dog was given the name Angel.

The veterinarian said that there was evidence that a wire had been wrapped around the little dogs muzzle for more than a month. It is terrifying and heartbreaking to think that a person or persons could be so cruel. It is especially disturbing to know that the person(s) who performed this horrendous act may live in our neighborhood or near-by.

Animal cruelty is against the law, punishable by fine and/or imprisonment. A reward fund in the amount of \$10,000 has been established for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for this cruelty. If you have any information regarding this case, please contact Operation Kindness at 972-418-7297, ext. 226 or Dallas Animal Services at 214-671-0105. Additionally, if you would like to make a donation to help pay for the expenses of Angel and other victims of abuse and neglect, please make your check payable to Operation Kindness and bring it to the May 10 VPNA General meeting or mail it to VPNA at P. O. Box 720192, Dallas, 75372. It is tax deductible.

So yes, there was a little angel among us, but terrifyingly, there may still be a monster in our midst. Research studies have shown that there is a correlation between animal abuse, child abuse and domestic violence. Please help bring this person(s) to justice.

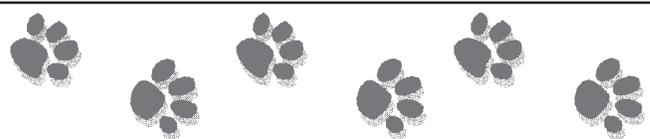
At this writing, Angel is doing well. She is recovering from surgery and awaiting her new and loving home.

BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK MAY 6 - 12, 2007

The American Humane Association created 'Be Kind to Animals Week' in 1915 to celebrate the unique bond between humans and animals. Every year, animal shelters throughout the country hold special events during this special week to raise awareness about Being Kind to Animals, and to teach people about the amazing role animals play in our lives. Be Kind to Animals Week is a great time to promote our nation's animal welfare organizations and to encourage everyone to get involved to make a difference for animals.



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**Bring your dog and cat
safety questions
for Dr. Dearixon to the
VPNA May General Meeting,
Thursday May 10, 7pm!**

VICKERY PLACE MOMS

The earliest Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods.



During the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "Mothering Sunday". Celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent "Mothering Sunday" honored the mothers of England.



In 1879 Julia Ward Howe, author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" wrote the Mother's Day Proclamation as a call for peace and disarmament.

Today Mother's Day traditions include attending church, wearing a red corsage if your mother is living or a white one if she is deceased. It is also celebrated by serving Mom

breakfast in bed, taking her out for brunch and with gifts and flowers.



There should be no shortage of celebrations in Vickery Place this Mother's Day. Anna and Skylar are pictured in a photo taken by neighborhood children's portrait photographer Jayme Nourallah. Lindsey and Hannah pose in front of the tulips during a day at the Dallas Arboretum. Vickery Place Mom's Club coordinator, Jennifer, helps Henry find Easter Eggs. Heather and Isabella stop to smell the roses during a stroll through the neighborhood. New mom, Shannon, has the perfect spot for rocking Charlie--- her Vickery Place front porch. She is pictured with Grant, Charlie, and Grandma Janice.



Grandma Carol, "Gigi" rocks new born Harrison. Later Mickey holds him for big brother, Jack, to take a closer look. Unknown to these two families, each grandmother traveled from Houston to Vickery Place, the same week, to the same street in the same block to lend a hand to their daughters with toddler boys, and newborn baby boys. Small world!

*Happy Mother's Day,
Vickery Place!*

FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE WITH MAPLE SYRUP FROM PAULA DEAN

Make this dish a day ahead and pop into the oven Sunday morning. Add hot coffee, juice and a few slices of crisp bacon and you will have a perfect breakfast in bed for Mom.

1 loaf French bread (13 to 16 ounces)
8 large eggs
2 cups half-and-half
1 cup milk
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
Dash salt
Praline Topping, recipe follows
Maple syrup



Slice French bread into 20 slices, 1-inch each. (Use any extra bread for garlic toast or bread crumbs). Arrange slices in a generously buttered 9 by 13-inch flat baking dish in 2 rows, overlapping the slices. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, half-and-half, milk, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt and beat with a rotary beater or whisk until blended but not too bubbly. Pour mixture over the bread slices, making sure all are covered evenly with the milk-egg mixture. Spoon some of the mixture in between the slices. Cover with foil and refrigerate overnight.

The next day, preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Spread Praline Topping evenly over the bread and bake for 40 minutes, until puffed and lightly golden. Serve with maple syrup.

Praline Topping:

1/2 pound (2 sticks) butter
1 cup packed light brown sugar
1 cup chopped pecans
2 tablespoons light corn syrup
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl and blend well. Makes enough for Baked French Toast Casserole.



If you have a friend or relative with Alzheimers consider joining the

Vickery Towers Alzheimers Support Group

Meeting at Vickery Towers
the 2nd Tuesday of every month

May 8 at 6:30pm in the Media Room
Light refreshments will be served

For more information call Alecja
214-826-1113 ext 116



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LINDSEY STEPHENSON BROWN TODDLER PLAYGROUND DEDICATION AT TIETZE PARK

Lindsey Stephenson Brown spent many happy hours among the trees and grass at Tietze Park near her home on Vanderbilt Avenue. She passed away suddenly and tragically at the age of 30 on April 14, 2006, the day her first child, Hudson, was born.

Knowing of her love of the park, Lindsey's family requested that donations in her name be made to the Friends of Tietze Park



Foundation. The Foundation established a memorial fund and a Toddler

Playground was erected in the park to honor Lindsey. Ground was broken in November 2006 and the playground was completed in time for Hudson Brown's first birthday on April 14.

Hudson celebrated his birthday at the park with family, friends and City officials at a party and ribbon cutting honoring the toddler playground dedicated to his mother. ~*Shelia Huffman*

Hudson Brown with his grandmothers



Toddler Playground

A GRAND OPENING THAT'S MORE LIKE AN OPEN HOUSE

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ONCE UPON A TIME...

The School of Contemporary Ballet Dallas presents their annual Spring Concert *Once Upon a Time.....Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales* Sunday, June 3, 2007 at McFarlin Memorial Auditorium, 7:00pm.

To purchase tickets please log onto www.tix.com and go to the link under Contemporary Ballet Dallas.

The dance School is located at 1902 Abrams Parkway, Dallas, TX 75214, 214-821-2066 and offers children and adult classes in ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop, modern, and adult fitness!

EARLY VOTING You can begin Early Voting for the May 12th Mayoral & City Council Election on April 30.

- April 30 - May 4, 2007 (Monday through Friday), 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
- May 5, 2007 (Saturday), 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
- May 6, 2007 (Sunday), 1:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
- May 7 - May 8, 2007 (Monday and Tuesday), 7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Early Voting locations close to Vickery Place: Samuell Grand Recreation Center, 6200 E Grand Ave and Dallas City Hall downtown, 1500 Marilla St.



To view a full list of Early Voting locations, Dallas Mayoral and City Council candidates and information about the May 12th Election, go to <http://www.dalcoelections.org>. Both of Vickery Place's current City Council representatives, Angela Hunt and Pauline Medrano, are up for re-election. You can help decide the future of Dallas—VOTE!



**SALSA SUNDAY!
(the food, not the dance)**

Garden Clubs & Neighbors: North Haven Gardens is hosting a new event Sunday, June 10th—Salsa Sunday! There will be a Salsa Contest with prizes for the winning salsas. Prizes will include Gift Cards, products and plants. Salsas can include fruit, herbs, tomatoes, vegetables and anything else you can think of! Find an entry form and rules on their web-site, www.nhg.com

VPNA EMAIL LIST

If you would like to be on the VPNA email list to receive emails about upcoming meetings and events, please visit the web-site www.vpna.org and follow the prompts.

Join our Email List

Email:



2007 GRADUATES

If you have a child graduating from grade school, middle school, an academy or high school, we would like to list them in the June newsletter, along with where they plan to attend next year.

Francis Elizabeth Higginbotham
Hockaday Graduation
circa 1921

MEET THE BOARD

Mark Rieves grew up in Roanoke, Virginia and graduated from Virginia Tech. After graduation, work took him to Houston and then on to California, Arkansas, and Oklahoma before moving to Dallas and purchasing his craftsman house in Vickery Place in 1992. “I rented a 1935 bungalow just outside of Pasadena, California, and caught the ‘old house and charming neighborhood’ bug. As soon as I discovered the Lower Greenville Avenue area in Dallas, my mind was made up on where to live in Dallas” says Mark.



Mark was a VP Member at Large in 1994 before being transferred to Boulder, Colorado. “One of the best decisions I ever made,” says Mark, “was renting my house in Vickery Place and not selling it when I moved to Colorado.” A year and a half later, he was back in Vickery Place and in his bungalow for good.

In 1999, he met his wife Priscilla and was pleasantly surprised when she wanted to stay in his house. Mark says “what was ‘my’ house rapidly became ‘our house’.” Priscilla’s interior design talents saw a lot of potential in Mark’s white walls, hardwood floors, and breakfast nook full of mountain bikes and gear. “My friends don’t recognize the place now” he jokes.

Mark became heavily involved in the Conservation District effort in 2005 when he realized his block of 5500 Goodwin was not included in the original plan. “I had been sitting on the sidelines thinking someone else had taken care of everything” says Mark. He quickly jumped on board and helped get the original ordinance passed in June ’06 as well as appending the additional 13 blocks in January of this year.

Mark has been a corporate training developer and consultant for many years and joined Countrywide Financial Corporation fulltime in 2005. He is an avid American History buff and has ancestors who worked along side some of our founding fathers. He enjoys playing Adult League Baseball and traveling/camping/hiking with his wife Priscilla.



Selena Urquhart, a native Texan, moved to Vickery Place with her husband Alun in 2004. Selena has loved historic homes since her childhood, so the attraction to the architecture of the neighborhood was as much of a draw as the location. When she is not at work you can find her digging in her garden, upside down in a yoga class, buried in a good book, walking her dog, or traveling the world (her husband’s Scottish heritage takes them back to Scotland frequently). Top on her list is having an early-morning cup of coffee on her deck with her husband or a glass of wine with friends.

Shortly after moving to Vickery Place, Selena became involved with the neighborhood association, supporting Conservation, chairing Yard of the Month and now serving as Member at Large on the VPNA board.

Selena says she is never bored and is usually the instigator of all kinds of adventures!

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VICKERY PLACE SNAPSHOT...1982

On January 28, 1982, nearly 100 Vickery Place neighbors gathered together in the basement of the Greenville Avenue Christian Church for a meeting with representatives of the Dallas Department of Housing and Neighborhood Services to consider the future of the neighborhood. This article is the third in a series of snapshots of the information presented by the City at that meeting and information later published in the planning guide for our neighborhood.

Our neighborhood made up almost two-thirds of the US Census Tract 10, so population and housing statistics for that tract in the 1980 Census were used as the reference for the planning guide. There wasn't a lot of population growth from the 1970 Census to the 1980 Census, with the population only increasing by 13 residents. Only 39% of the adults at least 25 years old were high school graduates and only 2% were college graduates. The average household income of \$14,600 was almost double the 1970 average, but was still below the median yearly Dallas household income of \$18,000. Possibly contributing to the lower income level was that 22% of our residents were classified as unskilled workers and only 14% were professional workers.

The neighborhood was 68% white, 1% black and 31% Hispanic. According to the responses to the survey mailed to the neighborhood, approximately one-fourth of the residents had lived in the neighborhood 11 years or longer, and approximately one-third of the residents had lived in the neighborhood less than 2 years. Fewer than half of the neighborhood residents had lived in the neighborhood for at least 5 years, but 63% planned to still live in the area for at least the next 2 years. Most of the residents owned their homes with an ownership rate of 61%. They were very evenly divided on whether the condition of the neighborhood had improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same in the last 5 years, but almost half believed the condition of the neighborhood would be better in 5 years.

Next time: so just what was the condition of our neighborhood in 1982?

MARCH CRIME STATS:

<u>CRIME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
BURGLARY	03/01/07	54XX RICHARD
BURGLARY	03/03/07	55XX BELMONT
BURGLARY	03/23/07	52XX VICKERY
BURGLARY	03/26/07	54XX VICKERY
BURGLARY	03/26/07	55XX BELMONT
ROBBERY	03/29/07	52XX WILLIS
THEFT	03/01/07	52XX MILLER
THEFT	03/06/07	55XX VICKERY
THEFT	03/09/07	51XX WILLIS
THEFT	03/10/07	51XX WILLIS
THEFT	03/18/07	56XX WILLIS
THEFT	03/14/07	53XX MILLER
THEFT	03/16/07	52XX MILLER
THEFT	03/17/07	53XX GOODWIN
THEFT	03/17/07	53XX VICKERY
THEFT	03/21/07	51XX WILLIS
THEFT	03/24/07	56XX VICKERY
THEFT	03/29/07	28XX HENDERSON
VANDAL	03/05/07	52XX BONITA
VANDAL	03/08/07	56XX VICKERY
VANDAL	03/13/07	26XX MADERAST
VANDAL	03/17/07	28XX GREENVILLE
VANDAL	03/29/07	51XX WILLIS
AG ASSAULT	02/17/07	51XX GOODWIN
OTHERASLT	03/05/07	28XX GREENVILLE
OTHERASLT	03/10/07	52XX WILLIS
OTHRASLT	03/10/07	52XX WILLIS
TEL HARASS	03/03/07	55XX RICHARD
TEL HARASS	03/09/07	56XX RICHARD
TEL HARASS	03/12/07	54XX RICHARD

Recycling Pick-up

Thursday, May 3
Thursday, May 17
Thursday, May 31



NORTH HAVEN Gardens

Pretty Perennials

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Event details at www.NHG.com

YARD OF THE MONTH

This month's yard of the month goes to Nick and Maria Zavala at 2309 Glencoe. Nick and Maria moved to Vickery Place in 1978 and Maria has created a beautiful English Garden of roses and a variety of native flowers in her front yard. When I visited their home, Maria's son was on hand to tell his mom that her yard had been selected and to share with us that the yard is the result of his mom's green thumb.



NORTH HAVEN
Gardens

Happy Mother's Day, Maria, and congratulations on being

selected for Vickery Place YOM! The Zavala family will receive a \$25.00 gift card from North Haven Gardens where Maria just may select a new rose bush.

~Shelia Huffman



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