



# Vickery Place Neighborhood NEWS

GREENVILLE-BELMONT-HENDERSON-CENTRAL-GOODWIN

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



## COOK'IN IT UP

**Date: Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Time: 7:00-9:00 PM**  
**Place: Sur La Table - 5427 Travis**  
**(close to the corner of Travis & Knox)**

**Please join us for a cooking demo at Sur La Table.**

## CALLING ALL COOKS!

*~ Sandi Holmes-Schwedler*

I know you've heard and read about obesity in America. It is truly an epidemic that will affect our children's health and well-being for their entire lives. We are all busy, too busy sometimes to fix a healthy, home-cooked meal so fast-food sometimes seems like a reasonable alternative.

What if I told you that you can fix healthy meals in about 30 minutes? What if you had a list of basic things in which to stock your pantry so that you always have the

ability to whip up something good? Well, it's all true..and it's all free!

Join us for fun and socializing with your neighbors for a cooking demo, a pantry list, light refreshments and a 10% off coupon to a kitchen store for the next Vickery Place General Meeting.

**Where?** Sur La Table - 5427 Travis  
(close to the corner of Travis & Knox)

**When?** Wednesday April 14<sup>th</sup> 2004  
7:00pm – 9:00pm

**Why?** Free cooking demo, basic, intermediate & gourmet pantry list, light refreshments and a 10% off store coupon.

If you have never joined us for a VPNA Meeting, this will be one of socializing instead of crime talk, code violations etc. Take the time to join us for a fun, informative evening.

VPNA is paying for the rental of the demo kitchen and the food that will be used in the demo, so if you feel inclined feel free to place a few dollars in the tip jar so we can continue to bring you these fun, social outings. Love to see you there!

### *Bulky Trash/Basura Abultado*

**Don't Set Out Trash Before:**

Thursday, April 8th

**Pick Up Week:**

April 12th - 16th



## MAY MEETING SLATED FOR THE THREE C'S: CRIME, CODE, AND CONSERVATION

May's VPNA General Meeting is in the planning stage for discussing and presenting our common favorites: crime, code compliance and the pursuit of conservation district zoning.

Join us on **May 13 at 7pm** at Vickery Towers for the May General Meeting.

Watch the May newsletter for more details on invited guests.

Volume 23, Issue 4

April 2004

CRIME	DATE	ADDRESS
Robbery	2/01/04	53XX Goodwin
Burglary	1/31/04	50XX Goodwin
Burglary	1/31/04	50XX Goodwin
Burglary	02/26/04	53XX Goodwin
Burglary	02/11/04	51XX Vickery
Theft	02/25/04	53XX Vickery
Auto Theft	02/15/04	54XX Goodwin
Vandal	02/12/04	56XX Vickery
Theft	02/09/04	52XX Willis
Theft	02/21/04	52XX Willis
Theft	02/13/04	55XX Vickery

**MARCH MADNESS ALL ABOUT NEIGHBORHOODS WORKING TOGETHER, IN VICKERY PLACE**

~ Leslie Farrell

When a big event like the St Pat's Street Party comes around each year, it takes planning and attention to details from everyone, of which is all about old-fashioned, grass-roots effort.



The March Vickery Place General Meeting was held away from home base Vickery Towers in order to assemble and install "No Parking" signs around the neighborhood. For another year, residents of Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association joined efforts with Vickery Place folks to get a large task whittled down to a small one.

With the assurance of a core group of VPNA volunteers offering home space, vehicles and a trailer, the rest of the fifteen to twenty people worked on hammering away on paper signs printed up by the city and paid for by event planners. After years of trial and error, roofing nails in pairs or in threes for each stake are the preference of veteran St Pat's neighborhood defenders, depending on which neighborhood you live in.

Before night had fully fallen, troops were whisking away signs in armfuls to car trunks and SUV beds for dispersal. Lower Greenville NA had an improved turn-out of volunteers this year thanks to organizers Kathryn Willison, Gay Hopkins and Bill Kennedy. Vickery Place used about 250 recycled signs deemed usable from last year's event and deployed a small army to pound the signs from blocks west of Greenville to as far as Central Expressway. Many thanks to Eric, Todd, Kris and Sandi on the VPNA Board as well as to Beth and Jim Clark, Bruce Thomas, Morris Smart, Bob Wilcox, Dietrich, Arden Starbird, Alain and Kirk and everyone from Lower Greenville NA for a job well done!

**WANTED:  
A voice from  
Vickery Towers!**

Please send in articles representing thoughts or sentiments from the Greatest Generation Ever! The article should be no more than a few solid paragraphs; and, if lengthier than the issue can allow, will be run as space permits.

For news articles regarding Vickery Towers events with dates, please submit according to the VPNA editorial deadline calendar (see Terry Abshire of Vickery Towers for copy of calendar).

Ideally, but not required, the article would be produced electronically for submittal via email. In lieu of having access to word processing tools, please feel free to mail hand-written or typed articles to the VPNA post office box as noted on the heading of each issue.

Please include your name to be used as a byline, and a telephone number to be used solely for any clarity questions for transcribing.



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

**TALE-WAGGING ADOPTION**

~ *Shelia Hoffman*

Many of you may remember seeing the story on the news in early January about the Boston Terriers that were rescued from a breeder in Graham, Texas. The owners were violating city codes and humane standards so the dogs were removed from the home and custody was given by court order to the SPCA of Texas.



After the story appeared on television and in the newspaper people lined up at the Dallas SPCA to adopt the Bostons and they all found new homes with the exception of one mother who had given birth to four puppies shortly after the rescue. Mom and babies, three had survived, were put in foster care until the puppies were old enough to be weaned.

Saturday morning, February 28, Vickery Place resident, Shelia Huffman, accompanied by her friend, Debbie Stearns and her Boston Terrier, Loveday, made the 6am trek to the SPCA on Industrial Boulevard to cue up for the 10am opening of the adoption center. Upon arrival at the SPCA, they learned from determined campers already lining the building steps that the two male pups were at the Dallas

location and most likely spoken for as adoptions are on a first come, first serve basis. The one little girl had been sent to McKinney. Coffee thermos and blankets in tow the threesome headed north and took their place in line at the McKinney shelter to await the 10am opening.

The happy tale-wagging ending of the story— Mom found a new home as a companion to an older person, the boys found homes in Dallas with young families with children, and a bright, sunny life in a yellow house in Vickery Place awaits 8 week old Phoebe Joanne.

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**IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT MOSQUITOES!**

~ *Sandi Holmes-Schwedler*

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 of 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!

**DALLAS POLICE  
DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL  
OPERATIONS APPRECIATION DINNER**

~ Leslie Farrell

Not long ago, Deputy Chief D V Garcia invited our officers of Central Operations to dinner to award them for their exceptional service and effectiveness in the past year.

For a few years now, Central Operations has been the only division in the Dallas Police Department which has taken time to recognize outstanding service with friends and families, and now, this year, with the citizens they serve.

Chief Garcia remarked that past events have been nice, with the nicest of locations to gather, such as the Fairmont Hotel, thanks to a variety of sponsors, but, something was missing. The people of their division, the citizens they serve and protect were not there. So this year, the Chief opened up the awards reception to representatives of all of the neighborhoods under the care of Central Ops.

The evening was a great opportunity to say 'thank you', to be sure, but also to meet and greet with the family members and spouses of our officers who are also always faced with sacrifice for the sake of the public good.

The Chief offered a positive message to all that evening that the changes ahead for the city's police department, as a search for a police chief continues at this writing, are inevitable and must be seen as good. Well said for one representing a profession that often has only itself to embrace and dig-in through the difficulties of politics and budgetary challenges. This Chief reinforced a philosophy of a team effort in approaching the changes ahead, including we citizens in that formation.

Chief Garcia predicts that new leadership ahead for the department will have all divisions and subdivisions around the city paying homage to their best like Central Ops does, reinforcing the positive and giving thanks where it is due.



**Community Service Officer of the Year,**  
Police Officer Craig McPhail with wife, Irine

**Non-Sworn Employee of the Year**  
Margaret Drake

**2003 Most UUMV Arrests**  
Keith Huber, #7839

**2003 Most BMV Arrests**  
David Kattner, #5885

**2003 Most Burglary Arrests**  
David Kattner, #5885  
Tim Stecker, #5638

**2003 Most Robbery Arrests**  
Tim Stecker, #5638  
Kara "Beth" Gray, #8155

**Community Service Officer of the Year**  
Police Officer Craig McPhail, #5630

**Deployment Officer of the Year**  
Senior Corporal Chris Hauffe, #6683

**Investigative Unit Officer of the Year**  
Senior Corporal Sam McCutchan, #3144

**Supervisor of the Year**  
Sergeant William Reese, #5009

**Watch Commander of the Year**  
Lieutenant Vernon Hale, #6685

**Central Officers of the Year**  
1<sup>st</sup> Watch - Police Officer Fred Rubin, #6012  
2<sup>nd</sup> Watch - Senior Corporal Robert Kamphouse, #4170  
3<sup>rd</sup> Watch - Senior Corporal Gary Burch, #6093



Kara "Beth" Gray receiving award from Chief  
"Danny" Garcia for **2003 Most Robbery Arrests**

REMINDER: April meeting  
at Sur La Table - Wednesday, 4/14



### CUCUMBER AND FETA SALAD

Spring is here and it is nice to start thinking about some of our favorite hot weather foods. This recipe is great with grilled chicken, or as an appetizer with pita chips. Enjoy!

- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese (4 ounces)
- 1 1/2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups cubed, seeded & peeled cucumber
- 1 cup finely chopped red onion
- 3 Tbsp chopped fresh mint
- 3 Tbsp chopped fresh dill
- 8 lemon wedges

Combine feta cheese, lemon juice and pepper. Partially mash with a fork. Add cucumber, onion, mint and dill. Yields 8 servings.



### FRUIT AND NUT EASTER EGGS

These can be made long before needed. Their flavor improves as they ripen.

You will need:

- 2-1/4 cups sugar
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- 3/4 cup hot water
- 1/2 lb. marshmallow creme
- 1/2 cup shortening, melted
- 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 cups candied fruit (cherries and pineapple)
- Nuts
- Dipping chocolate

#### **How to Make Your Fruit and Nut Easter Eggs**

- In a saucepan, cook sugar, syrup, and water to 265 degrees.
- Add marshmallow creme and beat until almost firm.
- Add melted shortening, confectioners' sugar, candied fruit, and nuts.
- Mix well, shape eggs by hand and dip in the chocolate.

The eggs will keep 6 to 8 months. Makes 10 eggs.

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## Dallas Police Department Volunteer Programs

The Dallas Police Department's Citizen Volunteer Program offers several opportunities for citizens to participate in the Dallas Police Department.

### Requirements are as follows:

- At least 21 years of age
- Successfully complete a background check
- Have a valid Texas Drivers License or Identification card
- No Misdemeanor A or B conviction in the last 5 years or a DWI conviction in the last 10 years
- Complete a one hour volunteer orientation class in addition to the individualized training conducted for each program
- Commit to a minimum of 4 hours of volunteer service each month

### The following are some of the programs available for volunteer citizens:

**CITIZENS OFFERING POLICE SUPPORT (C.O.P.S)** is a program designed to allow the volunteer to assist in office related duties.

**VOLUNTEER IN PATROL (VIP)** is a non-confrontational neighborhood patrol program.

**CITIZENS HELPIN IN PARKING SOLUTIONS (C.H.I.P.S)** is a special trained volunteer who patrols neighborhood and shopping centers, issuing parking citations for handicap parking violations.

**VOLUNTEER RESPONSE TEAM (VRT)** is a special trained citizen or group of citizens who can respond on short notice to assist officers in the field.

For more information about these volunteer citizen programs with the Dallas Police Department, contact your division's Interactive Community Policing Unit (ICP).

**Central Operations: 214.670.4413**

**Northeast Operations: 214.670.5302**

### HENDERSON CONVENIENCE

NOW OPEN! DELI SERVING BREAKFAST & LUNCH - FULL MENU  
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT - "PARA LLAVAR".  
GREAT TACOS - EGG, CHICKEN OR BEEF \$1 EACH  
2831 North Henderson (214) 821-7699

### LUCKY LIQUOR

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CLOSED SUNDAY  
2835 North Henderson (214) 824-4456



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# Dallas Police Department Volunteer Application

PERSONAL		
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Name (Last, First, Middle)	Race / Sex	Date of Birth
Street Address	Home Phone	
City, State, Zip	Texas DL or ID Number	Business Phone
Do you live in Dallas?	How long?	Do you work in Dallas?
		How long?

EDUCATION		
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High School Graduate?	GED?	Name and Address of High School
College Graduate?	Degree & Major?	Name and Address of College

BACKGROUND
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Please explain, briefly, why you wish to be a volunteer for the Dallas Police Department

Are there any skills you would like to utilize while volunteering?

What position are you interested in? If you do not have a position in mind, what would you consider the ideal volunteer position?

List associations, clubs, affiliations, etc to which you belong.

Have you ever been arrested for, convicted of, or cited for an offense other than traffic violations? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no. If yes, on a separate sheet of paper explain in detail showing dates, charges, places and actions taken.

EMPLOYMENT		
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Present Employer	Supervisor	Your Title
Address	Phone	Date Hired
Previous Employer	Supervisor	Your Title
Address	Phone	Date Hired

EMERGENCY CONTACT		
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Name	Relationship	
Address	Home Phone	Work Phone

MEDICAL HISTORY
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Medical information is needed in the event of an emergency. List any medications you are currently taking and the reason for which they are used, and any other medical information you feel the Dallas Police Department should know. Attach a separate sheet, if necessary.

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE
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Please review your answers carefully and read the statements below before signing this application.

I hereby certify that there are no willful misrepresentations, omissions, or falsifications in the foregoing statements and answers to questions. I understand that any omission or false statement on this application shall be sufficient cause for rejection for enrollment or dismissal from the Dallas Police Department Volunteer Program. I understand the purpose of this program is not to train citizens to be police officers. I acknowledge that through my volunteer service I may be privy to information that is not available to the public and any release of that information may result in civil as well as criminal proceedings. I will abide by all rules and regulations set forth by the Dallas Police Department. I give the Dallas Police Department and its agents permission to conduct a thorough background investigation that may include, but not be limited to, fingerprinting, any criminal history, employment history, and personal references.

Applicant's Signature <i>Include a copy of drivers' license and social security card with this application.</i>	Date
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## APRIL YARD OF THE MONTH

April's YOM is the first one for 2004 and goes to 5400 Richard Ave. Melissa Swindle has lived in this newly renovated, 1922 home for 4 years with her chocolate lab Scout. She has a simple but effective landscape that compliments the quaintness of her home. She has two sweeping beds on either side of the porch. The common evergreen plants in the beds are Indian Hawthorne, liriopie and the tender green leaves of her summer-blooming daylilies, just emerging. Both beds also contain a Chinese fringe-flower bush. It has incredible purple-green leave all year round and in the spring it's covered with hot-pink flowers.

On the west side of the house is a beautiful red bud tree in full bloom, and on the east side is a small saucer magnolia tree which just dropped its last flower a few days ago. The wooden steps to the porch are flanked on either side by pots of red geraniums, as well as in hanging pots over the railing. To finish off the look, comfy patio furniture and adirondack chairs can be found on the porch, just waiting for a visitor.



5400 Richard



### 2004 Board of Directors

President: Leslie Farrell  
Vice President: Eric LeBlanc  
Secretary: Kris Starbird  
Treasurer: Todd McCavitt

At Large: Burton Brillhart  
Angi Brown  
Sandi Holmes  
Anton Skowronski  
Jennifer Bryarly (Editor)

*The Vickery Place Neighborhood News is published by the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association. For advertising rates and information, call the VPNA voice mail at 214-967-5134.*

## BUG TALK

April is a wonderful time of the year. The temperature isn't too bad, the roses are starting to bloom, but, you're also starting to see aphids all over your buds. WAIT!! Don't spray anything on them! Just watch...right about the time you think you can't stand it anymore you'll start to see small black bugs that look like tiny black alligators. They eat aphids! Hundreds of them. Those weird black bugs then attach themselves to the underside of leaves and in a few emerge as ladybugs! Have patience and let nature do her job.

**Plant:** Just about everything now! Roses, warm-season vegetables, trees, summer flowering perennials and herbs.

**Fertilize:** Summer-flowering roses with a good organic product like Bioform. It's excellent on everything. It's a fish & seaweed emulsion and the plants love it. Be sure you only put organic products on plants you intend to eat!

**Prune:** The spring-blooming vines and shrubs after they have flowered.

Remember to water deeply and infrequently!

Happy Gardening,  
Sandi

[sandimholmes@yahoo.com](mailto:sandimholmes@yahoo.com) for any questions or suggestions



Ladybug larvae

**REMINDER:** April meeting  
at Sur La Table - Wednesday, 4/14