

West Bellfort Property Owners Association

www.westbellfortpoa.com

Monthly Newsletter

CRIME ALERT!

August 2014

At approximately 5:30 am on Monday, July 21, two teenage males were seen by a neighbor looking into parked cars with flashlights along the streets of Pepperdine and Teal Run. The police were notified immediately. One of the suspects had successfully accessed a car by breaking a window. The owner of the car was also informed, who then came out and yelled to the two teens. At that time, the two males ran and got into a van and rode off before HPD arrived. Thankfully, although the owner has to deal with a broken car window, nothing was stolen from the car and no one was hurt.

Nonetheless, we are notifying you of this incident so you can be aware of what is going on in our neighborhood and to keep an eye out on all suspicious people in our neighborhood. As a reminder, we are providing some tips below to help keep you, your family, your home, and car safe:

- REMOVE all valuables from your car, or keep them out of sight. Ipads, Kindles, cell phones, laptop computers, watches, nice sunglasses, etc. are all open invitations to thieves who can sell the items for quick cash
- KEEP your car doors locked at all times. Thieves prefer to break into cars that do not require making any attention-drawing noise
- KEEP all access points to your home locked and secure – including the inside garage door into the house
- TURN ON your exterior / porch lights at night. Consider motion-activated exterior lights as well
- TURN ON security alarms. If you don't have one, consider getting a security system

HOW TO REPORT CRIME OR SUSPICIOUS PERSONS

- ADD the Dispatch number (713 / 643-6602) to your list of cell phone contacts
- CALL our Precinct 7 Constable Dispatch immediately (713-643-6602) for suspicious persons, suspicious activity or crimes in our neighborhood.
- CALL the Houston Police Department by dialing 911 for emergency calls only. However, if you really need the police, please do not hesitate to call them in addition to our deputies.
- GIVE a description of the crime/incident or suspicious person(s), time, date, day/night, clothes wearing, color of car/clothing, gender of person(s), etc.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT to interact directly with any suspicious persons at any time, if at all possible. This is best left to the police authorities.

Reporting incidents directly to the Constable Dispatch ensures incident information is sent to the HOA Board faster. The Board and our deputies can then work together more efficiently to ensure our neighborhood is kept safe. While the two police authorities do share information, an HPD report can take days or even weeks to reach the Precinct 7 office.

SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

Even given its location, our neighborhood is actually one of the safest in the city due to the diligent constable patrol and keen eyes of our neighbors. Unfortunately, crimes happen in all neighborhoods. However, this requires us to be diligent at all times and alert to any potential dangers.

At any time of day or night, if you see something suspicious, call our deputies. The neighbor in the incident above did the right thing by calling the authorities immediately. Two minutes of their time saved the car owner loss of personal items, but also possibly prevented other cars in the neighborhood from being vandalized.

Beginning this month, a new feature has been added to the newsletters to keep security at the forefront. But with your help and being proactive, our neighborhood can remain safe and secure. So let us all be committed and do our part as neighbors, and please help keep you, your family and your neighbors safe by following the tips above and those found later in this newsletter and future issues.

Monthly Newsletter

August 2014

WBPOA BOARD MEMBERS:

Barbara Hite, President
Jeannette Calhoun, Vice President
Phil Abrams, Secretary
Marc S. Warren, Treasurer
Jonah Nathan, Board Member
Tom Roberts, Board Member
Danny Fishman, Board Member
Dyaz Godfrey, Board Member
Mari Angelo, Board Member
Neal Harris, Board Member
Asher Belles, Board Member
Barbara Gretzer, Board Member
Zally Lazarus, Board Member

Ludington Clubhouse Rental

Joy Cunningham 713 / 729-1053
Joycunningham@sbcglobal.net

Braes Ridge Clubhouse Rental

Jeannette Calhoun 713 / 203-2407
jcalhoun@insurepointe.com

Going on vacation? Please register for vacation watch by visiting the Precinct 7 website and select "Vacation Watch"
<http://www.harriscountytexas.gov/conpct7/>

2015 HOA DUES

For the HOA to best serve our community and properly maintain our amenities, we need to receive your HOA dues promptly. Notices for the 2015 dues will be mailed out in the next few months. Please be aware that non-payment of dues severely impacts our community, as we cannot maintain the common areas, clubhouses, parks, pool and tennis court without your dues. As such, please ensure you pay your HOA dues as soon as you receive your invoice. Failure to pay dues can result in extraneous fees, liens and even foreclosure. **SO PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY!**

NEIGHBORHOOD ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

The construction along Ludington and Pembridge on the south side of West Bellfort has been completed! Thank you for your patience while this project was underway!

WBPOA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Ry Reid, PCAM, AMS, CMCA
Sterling Association Services
11201 Lake Woodbridge Drive
Sugar Land, TX 77498
Phone 832-678-5384
or 832-678-5390
Fax: 281-598-4487
Emails: ry@sterlingasi.com

WBPOA is patrolled by :
Harris County Constable Precinct 7
Constable May Walker
Precinct 7 Dispatch 713 / 643-6602

Deputies assigned to WBPOA:

Sgt. P. Basralian
Deputy Nowlin
Deputy Dickson
Deputy Antone

Please contact your alarm company and have the Constable's precinct listed as the first police authority contact.

Volunteers Needed to Serve as Block Captains

Block Captains are residents who volunteer their time and efforts to our community to serve as "point persons" between the residents, the HOA Board, its committees and our property management team. Responsibilities could involve personally delivering any pertinent papers or obtaining signatures on HOA proxies, such as the upcoming proxy addressing the need to revise our HOA bylaws to protect us from the Chapter 42 amendment (see next page). You may also deliver information issued by the HOA such as newsletters or event announcements, etc. Block Captains can also assist in identifying WBPOA neighbors need help in the event of an emergency such as a hurricanes or other unexpected tragedy such as evacuation help, transportation, shelter, food, etc. There may be some elderly who will become frightened or unable to function alone, and who would appreciate a friendly neighbor's assistance. Block Captains may also call for welfare checks. You will NOT be asked to do anything that puts yourself in harm's way nor will you be asked to do things such as enforce HOA deed restrictions. The time involved is minimal, usually requiring only optional attendance of the HOA Board meetings once a month. However, by serving as the "eyes and ears" of our community, you will play a big part in keeping it safe, friendly and beautiful. You can even "co-share" and team up with a neighbor. If you have an interest in serving as a Block Captain, please contact any of the Board members or Ry Reid, or attend the upcoming Board Meeting on Tuesday, August 26 at 7:00pm, Ludington Clubhouse.



Important News

As mentioned in previous newsletter, in early 2013, Houston's City Council approved amendments to Chapter 42 and Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances involving Houston's urban planning. In summary, the amendment makes the City of Houston entirely urban. Simply stated, historically developers in the City of Houston have been allowed to develop multi-plex residences (such as high rise condo developments, etc.) in neighborhoods within the inner-610 Loop area (previously the only area of Houston defined as "urban"). You may recall that residents in the Rice University area have been fighting a battle against the development of the Ashby Highrise since 2007. The new amendment now allows this type of development to occur ANYWHERE within the entire city limits. Since Houston does not have zoning, the only real protection Homeowner Associations have to keep such multi-plex developments from occurring within their subdivisions is to update their HOA bylaws by a certain deadline. The WBPOA board is in the process of amending our bylaws to protect our neighborhood and our home values, which will require a 55% homeowner approval via a special vote in order to pass. As such, sometime within the next few months, you will receive a special proxy to vote for or against the amendment to the West Belfort Property Owners HOA bylaws. We hope you vote FOR the acceptance of the newly amended bylaws, as your Board believes the amended bylaws will protect our home values as well as the peaceful aesthetics of our neighborhood. If you would like to research this issue further, please visit www.planninganddevelopment@houstontx.gov.

UPDATE: On May 1, 2014, State District Court Judge Randy Wilson denied a motion to stop construction of the 21-story Ashby Highrise in Rice Village. Developers plan to start construction immediately. This motion will make it that much easier for such developments to occur in our neighborhood in the future should the amendment to the WBPOA bylaws not be approved.

Did You Know?

The City of Bellaire was founded in 1908 by William Wright Baldwin, the president of South End Land Company and Vice President of Burlington Railroad. Baldwin acquired 1,000 acres of land from William Marsh Rice and turned it into small truck farms known as "Westmoreland Farms". Bellaire was founded in the middle of the farms to serve as a residences and an agricultural trading center. Baldwin is said to have named the town "Bellaire", or "Good Air", for its breezes. Baldwin advertised his farms to midwestern farmers, and in 1908, the first major Bellaire business was established when horticulturist Edward Teas moved his nursery into Bellaire to implement the famed landscaping ideas of Sid Hare. Bellaire's first post office opened in 1911. The city was incorporated in 1918 by charter, thereby avoiding annexation by Houston later on, although Houston did successfully annex all the land around Bellaire by 1948. Bellaire adopted a home rule charter with a council-manager government in April 1949, and Bellaire High School was established in 1955. Bellaire and Houston were connected by a street car line built in 1909. The streetcar line consisted of one railway track and an overhead electric wire, with a waiting pavilion and a turnaround loop. The Houston Electric Company built a south end line from Eagle Avenue to what is now Fannin Street to connect to the Bellaire line, and service of the "Toonerville Trolley" began in December 1910. By September 1927, the trolley line was abandoned and replaced by a bus line, due to frequent derailments as well as the use of cars. In 1985, a similar streetcar was acquired in Portugal and brought to Bellaire for permanent display. Sadly, after over 100 years of operation, Teas Nursery closed in 2009 and a portion of the land was dedicated in 2011 as Evelyn's Park. Yeah for the park, but we miss you, Teas!!

Want to be an active member of your community? Come to a Board meeting, contact one of your HOA Board Members or Ry Reid to find how you can serve on one of the Board committees or serve as a Block Captain!

Our Community

Community News

The school year is about to start and work on the new SEPHARDIC GAN/TORAT EMET (SG/TE) school is progressing well!! It has been a lot of fun watching the new school take shape, and we are very excited about welcoming the school and its students to its new location in our neighborhood very soon!

Community Parks

The summer is not over yet!! Grab a blanket, a picnic basket full of tasty treats and your family and enjoy one of our community parks – the fun awaits you at Kittybrook or Ludington!!

Serve it!! Smash it!! Live It!! Love It!! Show you are King (or Queen) of the Court by challenging your friends to a great game of tennis on the community court!

Community Clubhouses

Are you celebrating a college-bound student and looking for a great place close to home for a huge get-together for the entire family? Then look no further!! There are two great clubhouses close by just waiting to host your event!! Please call Jeanette Calhoun or Joy Cunningham at the numbers on the front page of newsletter and they will be happy to help you arrange either the Braes Ridge or Ludington Clubhouse today!!!

Ludington Pool

The summer heat is at full blast, but you can beat the heat by making waves in our community pool!! If you still need pool tags, be sure to contact Sterling Management – but remember, your dues must be paid in full to obtain tags.

HOA Rules Regarding Garbage / Recycling / Heavy Trash / Tree & Yard Trash

Garbage and recycle bins are not to be placed at the curb until the night before pick up (ie, Wednesday nights for pick up on Thursday). Bins are to be kept out of sight at all times except for pick up days. Bins are to be removed from the curb and placed out of view no later than the same evening as pick up.

Heavy trash, tree and yard waste are never to be placed at the curb until the day before scheduled pickup. Heavy trash and yard trash pickup dates alternate months and are noted on the last page of the newsletter and on the WBPOA website. If the waste is not picked up, you are responsible for removing the items until the next pick up date. Heavy trash and yard waste are not to remain at the curb longer than one day.

HOA Rules Regarding Home Improvements

Reminder that before doing any landscaping or home improvement project involving the exterior of your home (including the front AND back yards), such as painting, the construction of patio covers, pools, etc., you MUST obtain approval first from the Architectural Control / Review Committee by completing the Architectural Control Application. The application can be found on the WBPOA website, and a copy is attached to this newsletter. Failure to receive approval for the improvement and / or change may result in you having to remove, alter or change the improvement in order to comply with the rules and regulations of the HOA, as well as possibly incurring fines and / or liens.

Accessorize

Accessorize

I admit it's tempting to wish for the perfect boss, or the perfect parent, or the perfect outfit, but maybe the best any of us can do is not quit. Play the hand we've been given and accessorize the outfit we've got. ~Allan Heinberg

Community Events and Things to Do

Tune in for different events and places highlighted each month!

For Free!

For Adults

Bar Top Tastings @ Pastry War
The Pastry War 713-225-3310
Blue Box Live Smooth Thursdays
www.blueboxtheater.com

For Children

James Harden Basketball Camp
www.procamps.com
Epic Summer Adventure Sequel
http://www.cmhouston.org/

Houston Public Library Open Mike
Comedy (clean fun for families)
http://hpl.evanced.info
Disney in Concert. (LAWN SEATS FREE)
www.woodlandscenter.org

Other Events in Houston

For many more ideas, visit <http://www.visithoustontexas.com/travel-tools/events/>

Aug 1 – Aug 10: Shakespeare in the Park! Miller Outdoor Theater. This summer, the Miller is putting on Two Gentlemen of Verona and Henry VI: Part 1. The two plays alternate nights during this period. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner to enjoy the Bard under the stars! Visit <http://milleroutdoortheatre.com/events/2014/8/>

Aug 1 – Sep 1: Houston Restaurant Weeks. Dine out and give!! Started in 2003, for 33 days, 100% of proceeds raised by area restaurants go directly to the Food Bank. For a complete list of participating restaurants and their respective Restaurant Weeks menus, visit www.HoustonRestaurantWeeks.com

Aug 1: Foam Wonderland. Reliant Park. Fusing together lights, lasers, bass and foam to create the ULTIMATE STORM! <http://nrgpark.com/events/concerts/foam-wonderland>

Aug 1 – 3: 24th Annual International Jazz Festival. Enjoy Jazz artists from around the world at this 3 day festival at the Bayou Music Center. <http://bayoumusiccenter.com/>

Aug 3: Houston Dynamos and Aug 9: Houston Dash. Enjoy Men's and / or Women's soccer. Visit <http://www.houstondynamo.com/houstondash/schedule> for tickets and details.

Aug 9: Celebrity Mystery Dinner @ Spaghetti Warehouse. Have the "crime of your life" while enjoying dinner! www.celebritymysterytheater.com

Aug 14: America's Test Kitchen Live! Jones Hall. Join Christopher Kimball for an informative and lively evening exploring PBS Television's "America's Test Kitchen. <http://www.spahouston.org/>

Aug 15 – 17: 7th Annual Delta H Anime and Gaming Convention, JW Marriott. Join thousands of fans and explore Anime, Cosplay Contests, etc. and over 100hrs of programming. <http://www.deltahcon.com/>

Aug 16: Fencing Tournament. Clear Lake Community Center. 16th annual Fete de Lune fencing tournament for veteran "fencers. http://askfred.net/Events/moreInfo.php?tournament_id=25876

Aug 21: Blanket Bingo. Market Square. Bring your blanket, lawn chairs or snag one of the tables at the park for a night of music and great prizes! <http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/ourparks/marketsquarepark.html>

Aug 25: AeroSmith Concert. Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. www.woodlandscenter.org

Aug 29: Chicago and REO Speedwagon Concert. Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. www.woodlandscenter.org

Aug 30: AdvoCare Texas Kick Off. College football kicks off at Reliant Stadium. The LSU Tigers take on the University of Wisconsin Badgers. <http://nrgpark.com/events>

Aug 31: Def Leppard and KISS Concert. Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. www.woodlandscenter.org

Local Community Centers and Parks

Bethel's Place & Empowerment Center, 12660 Sandpiper Drive, Phone: 713-728-4445. <http://bethelsfamily.org/>

Evelyn's Park. The historic former Teas Nursery site in Bellaire is becoming a park! You can help get this park off to a great start by visiting <http://evelynspark.org> and by enjoying current events such as "Pop Up in the Park"

"TRIP" YOUR WAY TO BETTER SAFETY!!

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS!! Always go with your gut! Feeling embarrassed later is better than risking your life
REDUCE or eliminate opportunities that may make you a target
INCREASE your awareness of your surroundings, even in places you're most comfortable
PREPARE yourself, family, home, car and even your schedule daily with safety in mind

SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS

Here are some general safety tips for students and the college bound. A few web links are also noted below for additional safety tips:

FOR SCHOOL:

- Teach even your youngest child their address and how to use 9-1-1 in an emergency
- Children should avoid abandoned buildings, construction sites, alleys and shortcuts as they walk to and from school
- NEVER speak to people they do not know, and not to approach or get into cars with ANYONE, even neighbors – *no matter what*. If you have arranged for a family member or neighbor to pick up your child, have them meet in an appointed place at an appointed time. Have your child call or text you when picked up
- Explain that strangers are likely to be nice, friendly, normal-looking people, so that your child will not be easily fooled
- If approached by a stranger in any manner, scream "STRANGER DANGER!" or even "FIRE!" – ANYTHING that will bring attention!
- Do not have your child's name visible on the outside of their clothing, book bags, etc. where strangers may see it
- If you are not at home when your child gets home from school, have them call you
- Teach your child when home alone to tell callers you are not able to come to the phone right now. NEVER say that you are not home. Remind them to keep the doors locked and NEVER open the door to anyone, even a neighbor, unless you have called and told them specifically to do so
- If your child is threatened over money, tell them to hand over the money. They should then promptly report the incident to you, school staff, or other authorities
- If your child feels threatened or is being followed, they should know to go to a public area such as a fire station, convenience store, or other facility where there are people who can help or call our deputies or 911
- If your child is at home or walking in the neighborhood and feels threatened in any manner, have them call the Constable Dispatch number immediately. Key this number as a speed dial in their cell phones.

AT COLLEGE:

- Put emergency numbers in your cell phone, especially for your Campus Safety team
- In addition to the door to your dorm room door, make sure the door to residence hall is locked at all times.
- Lock your dorm room windows
- Do not let anyone into your hall if you do not know them
- Be careful with your keys
- Lock your car. Keep it parked close to your dorm so you can check on it during times you are not using it
- Get a locking device for your laptop
- Watch your stuff in the library or other public areas; never leave your things unattended
- Use the campus escort service at night
- Always try to go places, especially at night, with a friend
- Make sure someone knows where you are at all times – leave a note, text a friend, text your mom!
- Always call someone when you get home – establish this practice with all of your friends
- Point check with your friends throughout the evening
- NEVER leave with a stranger and do not let friends do the same
- DO NOT drink and drive
- DO NOT text and drive

SAFETY TIP WEBSITES- many others available, as well:

http://www.nsc.org/safety_home/SafetyObservances/Pages/BackToSchoolSafety.aspx

http://newsroom.cigna.com/images/9022/Safety_First.pdf

<http://finance.loyno.edu/police/safety-tips-students-while-college>

<https://gustavus.edu/safety/tips/crime.php>

AWESOME



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Andy, The Awesome Possum

Hey kids! Hope you have been enjoying this summer! I have another fun Texas wild animal for you to learn about this month, which is the squirrel! Texas is home to many kinds of squirrels, and the most common ones seen in Houston are the Fox Squirrel and the Gray Squirrel (sometimes called the “cat” squirrel due to its skittish-ness and quick movements).

Squirrels belong to family Sciuridae of rodents. Common myth aside, squirrels are more closely related to chipmunks, woodchucks and prairie dogs than they are to rats. Granted, squirrels can be quite the pest, but as with all the animals I have talked about so far, these little animals are very important to our environment – so much so that some consider the squirrel to be the most critical factor in the survival of our forests!

Sciurus, the origin of the name “squirrel”, dates all the way back to Ancient Greece and means “shadow-tailed”. Fox and Gray Squirrels are pretty small, weighing no more than 2 pounds and have very small slender bodies. They look bigger because of that bushy tail! Fox and Gray Squirrels are different in coloring - reddish brown for the Fox and grayish- brown (of course) for the Gray. The Fox is shy, prefers to be alone or with just a few friends and will hide behind leaves or big branches if scared, whereas the Gray is a lot more sociable, likes to be in big groups and will run or leap from branch to branch if it gets scared. The Fox moves around more at night, and the Gray is seen mostly during the day. The Gray is a bit smaller than the Fox, and interestingly, the Gray is one of the very few mammals that can descend a tree head first!

Otherwise, the squirrels are pretty similar. Both have large eyes, chunky front teeth (for gnawing) and have excellent vision and hearing. Their fur is soft, their hind legs are longer than the front and they have four or five toes on each paw. Their paws have soft pads on the “palms” and they even can have a poorly developed thumb. Squirrels often hold their food in their paws when they eat.

Some people think that squirrels eat tree bark, but squirrels cannot eat cellulose, which is what makes tree bark hard. So aside from the famous love of acorns and nuts, my furry friends eat small insects, roots, buds, shoots, fruits and seeds. They LOVE mushrooms, IF they can find them. Squirrels will also visit birdfeeders, dig up flower bulbs and steal garden vegetables. This is one reason why they are considered pests, but I can tell you one of the funniest things to watch is a mockingbird and squirrel fighting over a birdfeeder – mockingbirds are pretty tough and usually win!

Squirrels bury their food all year long, but it peaks in the fall. That is because they are preparing for the winter, when food is harder to find. They will use their great sense of smell to relocate secret stashes. However, they can't always remember where they buried all of their stashed food, which is how they help “plant” new trees and plants. This is where squirrels become VERY important to our environment, and keep our trees and forests going strong.

As you know, squirrels love to play in yards and parks, but most squirrels make nests in the holes of trunks or even in the treetops. Males are called “boars”, females are “sows” and babies are “kittens”. Litters are born in early summer, and there are usually 2 or 3 kittens. Depending on food availability, they may have a second litter in the fall.

Did you know that squirrels are natural heroes? The main predator of squirrels are hawks, owls, foxes, raccoons and snakes. When squirrels sense danger, they warn each other by sounding warning calls. The squirrel who starts the calls is usually the last one to leave, which means he puts his life in danger to save his friends! So they may be pests sometimes, but they are pretty brave little guys! I hope you enjoyed reading about these cute little heroes and will enjoy watching them playing and chattering around outside!

Be sure to stay posted for more fun Texas wildlife facts from Andy, the Awesome Possum!

See Something, Say Something!

Help keep our neighborhood safe! One of the MOST effective ways to achieve this is through the eyes and ears of our neighbors. Please practice the “See Something, Say Something” motto and call the Constable Precinct’s dispatch (713 / 643-6602) if you see anything or anyone suspicious. If it turns out to be nothing, no harm done. But you may prevent a serious crime from occurring. You do not have to be involved anymore than a phone call – our deputies will take it from there. To make things easier, program the dispatch number into your cell phones. And... while we can't move the apartments from outside our neighborhood, we can help turning ourselves into victims. So please, do not “dangle a carrot” in front of criminals’ noses and then get upset when they go for it. Prevent crime by keeping your cars locked, hide your valuables (or better yet, remove them from the car), keep your garages closed and your houses locked. And CALL if you see or suspect something – a minute of your time can prevent a serious issue. On behalf of the neighborhood, thank you!

- 1) A possible end to night?
- 5) Defeat on a mat
- 8) Flip a lid off
- 13) Vigorous spirit
- 14) You might make it up
- 15) Documentarian Michael
- 16) Unworldly person
- 17) With a clean slate
- 18) Bologna ball game
- 19) Flipped one's deadbolt
- 22) Act the agitator
- 23) If you take this, you'll be sick
- 24) Andean volcano
- 27) Tiny charged particle
- 29) Where the Magi came from
- 33) "None of the above" alternative
- 34) Coming-___ story
- 36) 901 in Roman numerals
- 37) Went from one side to another?
- 40) Sound heard after a lot of shots?
- 41) Yale of university fame
- 42) Strong suit
- 43) Munro's pen name
- 45) Santa Barbara-to-Vegas dir.
- 46) Had a hankering
- 47) "Go to your room!" commander
- 49) Completely gratify
- 50) Extremely anxious or excited
- 58) Elephant gone amok
- 59) White-and-black stacked snack
- 60) Varied group
- 61) True pain
- 62) "Star Wars" captain
- 63) Berserk
- 64) Ethical standards
- 65) "Yew" homophone
- 66) Yardstick units

Answers for puzzles to appear next newsletter

I DONT DO WINDOWS

By Lou Holman

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
13					14				15					
16					17				18					
19				20					21					
24	25	26					27	28		29	30	31	32	
33						34			35		36			
37						38				39				
40					41					42				
43				44		45				46				
50	51	52					53	54				55	56	57
58							59				60			
61							62				63			
64							65					66		

- 1) Waiter's offering
- 2) Thicke of "Growing Pains"
- 3) Track border
- 4) Carries out, as laws
- 5) Comic strip segment
- 6) Clinched, as a game
- 7) Water-loving salamander
- 8) Flower cluster, as on a carrot plant
- 9) Soup letter
- 10) Chanel of perfumery
- 11) Gas station brand
- 12) One's contemporary
- 14) Bed of nails user
- 20) Far from finely ground
- 21) Be contingent (on)
- 24) Highland waters
- 25) Airy courts
- 26) More than surprise
- 27) "___ shoe fits ..."
- 28) 20th largest island in the U.S.
- 30) Chipmunk snack
- 31) Dealt a blow, old-style
- 32) "My bike can't move because it's two-___"
- 34) Balder's father
- 35) Lacking in physical strength
- 38) Lacquer resin
- 39) Independent one
- 44) Exempt
- 46) "Gulliver's Travels" brute
- 48) Complies with
- 49) Upright stone monument
- 50) Study at the 11th hour
- 51) Corporate symbol
- 52) Hunchback in a lab
- 53) Brandy sniffer
- 54) "... how does your garden ___?"
- 55) Ingredient in many lotions
- 56) They lay nits
- 57) Spoils of war

Like Sudko? Then try

NUMBER BLOCK!

53

	5			1	6		10	4	40
6	2		5	9	5	9	5	10	63
8	8	9	12	6	11	7	8		74
4	10	5	9	7	9	10	1		63
12		12	6	9	9	8	5	2	65
11	3	7	7	6	3	4	2	3	46
3		1	8	11	2	7	2	3	40
2	6	0	1	3	12	10	1	5	40
5	12	3	8		5	12	11	6	62
52	51	49	66	52	62	70	45	46	47

NUMBER BLOCK DIRECTIONS:

Missing numbers are between 0 and 12.
The numbers in each row add up to totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.
The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right.

SAY THAT AGAIN?

1. Bee Way Rough Thud Hog
2. Bees Items Say Elf
3. Below They Whiz Ill
4. Bet Relate Thin Heifer
5. better Hoses

HINKS-PINKS!

(Rhyming 2-Word Answers)

1. A sleeping device made out of toast
2. A slim member of the onion family
3. A spoiled feline
4. A sport with fire
5. A sun kissed male

God gave us two ends – one to sit on and one to think with. Success depends on which one you use: Heads you win, tails you lose. - anonymous

JOKE CORNER (Answers on back page)

1. What would you get if you crossed an elephant with a kangaroo?
2. What do sea monsters eat?
3. Why do you call an alligator that wears a vest?
4. Why did the boy sprinkle sugar on his pillow?
5. Why can't a leopard hide?

TRUE OR FALSE?

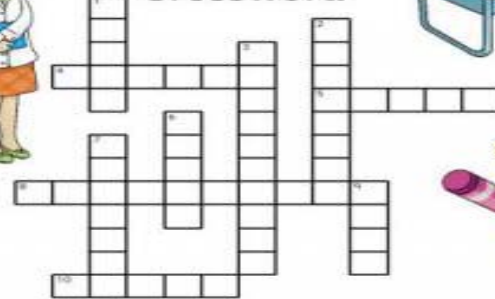
1. Human babies have more bones than adults
2. Dogs are herbivores
3. Frogs are cold-blooded animals
4. The fastest land animal in the world is the zebra
5. DNA is the shortened form of the term 'Deoxyribonucleic acid'
6. Yogurt is produced by bacterial fermentation of milk.
7. Sharks are mammals.

BACK TO SCHOOL PREP!

1. If 5 dogs buried 4 bones each, how many total bones were buried?
2. What is another name for tidal wave?
3. What goes in the blank? $500 + \underline{\quad} + 20 + 9 = 569$
4. Pete's book has 180 pages. He has read 50% of the book. How many pages has he read?
5. A Kelvin is a unit to measure what?



Back to School Crossword



Across

4. Do you need to sharpen yours?
5. Write or draw on this.
8. You write on this with chalk.
10. Please _____ your name on your work.

Down

1. Draw straight lines with this.
2. It has a keyboard and a screen.
3. Where you go to play at break (recess)
6. Read these at home or school.
7. They help you learn new things.
9. The teacher sits here.

AUGUST 2014

August is named after Augustus Caesar (grandnephew of Julius Caesar), when he became Emperor of Rome. August originally only had 30 days – an extra day was added so both Caesars would have the same number of days in their months. The extra day was taken from February, which originally had 29 days (and 30 days in leap years).

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Birthstone: Peridot Flower: Gladiolus Zodiac Signs: Leo and Virgo					1	2
3	4	Fast of Tish'a B'av	6	Recycle Pick Up 7	Heavy Trash – North Side*	9
10	The 15 th of Av 11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	Recycle Pick Up 21 Heavy Trash – South Side*	22	23
24	25	HOA Board Meeting 7:00 pm – 26 Ludington Clubhouse	27	28	29	30
31	Joke Corner Answers: 1. Giant holes all over Australia 2. Fish and ships always spotted 3. An invest"igator" 4. So he could have sweet dreams 5. Because he is					

* WBPOA – Northfield III and IV (North Side of West Bellfort): Heavy Trash 2nd Friday of even months / Tree & Yard Trash 2nd Friday of odd months
* WBPOA – Northfield V (South Side of West Bellfort) – Heavy Trash 3rd Thursday of even months / Tree & Yard Trash 3rd Thursday of odd months



On June 3, 1979, a well that was being drilled in the Gulf of Mexico suffered a blowout, resulting in one of the largest oil spills in history. As a result, 100 volunteers were trained to care for any wildlife impacted by the spill. Amazingly, no wildlife were affected but the group formed Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition, Houston's first urban wildlife emergency and rehab care facility. The volunteers worked out of their homes until 1992, when the TWRC was able to open its first official facility in a trailer behind the old Town & Country Mall. As the TWRC has grown, they have moved a couple more times and are now located in the Spring Branch area at 10801 Hammerly Boulevard, Suite #200. Since its founding, TWRC has treated over 100,000 injured, orphaned or sick wild animals. The TWRC has camps and other events to promote environmental conservation through public education and rehabilitation of native Texas wildlife. If you ever find a wild animal in need of care, or if you would like to volunteer or donate to their great cause, call (713)468-8972 or visit <http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org> for more information. The center hosts all kinds of events all year long, so be sure to stop by and learn about Houston's fascinating wildlife!



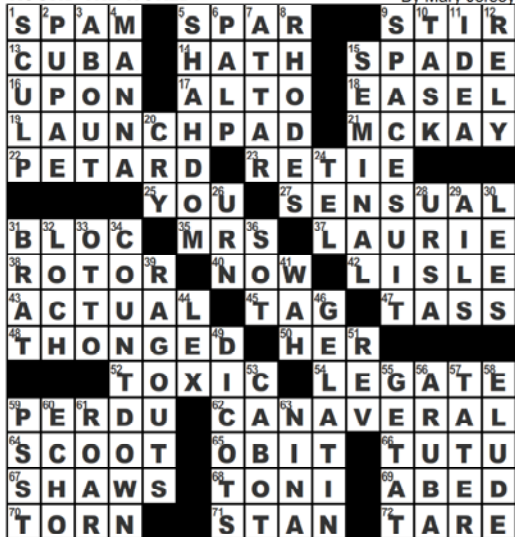
Texas Bluebonnets

As you may know, the Texas state flower is a gorgeous wildflower, the bluebonnet. But did you know that Texas bluebonnets are found only in Texas and no other place in the world? Historian Jack Maguire wrote, "It's not only the state flower but also a kind of floral trademark almost as well known to outsiders as cowboy boots and the Stetson hat. The bluebonnet is to Texas what the shamrock is to Ireland, the cherry blossom to Japan, the lily to France, the rose to England and the tulip to Holland." Lady Bird Johnson persuaded the State to seed bluebonnets and other wildflowers along highways, and every spring since, the flowers return as a legacy to the First Lady. Almost every Texan can tell you it is illegal to pick our state flower. Wait! What? It's NOT?!? In fact, it is okay to pick them! The long held belief that you can't may stem from the illegal activity associated with the picking of the flower, such as parking along highways or trespassing on private property – not to mention the strong possibility of coming across a rattlesnake or two in the process. Really, though, Texans would prefer that after your picture opportunity, the flowers be left alone, mainly in honor of Lady Bird and tradition's sake. Fortunately, thanks to Texas A&M, a hybrid bluebonnet can now be grown and enjoyed in your own gardens!

Answers to July 2014 Puzzles

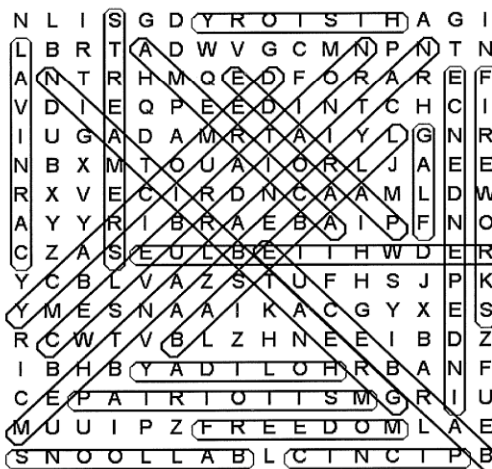
ROUND THE WORLD

By Mary Jersey



Fourth of July

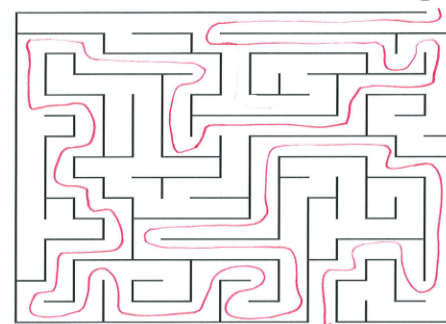
This is the solution to the puzzle located here.



4th of July Maze

Uncle Sam has bought a new hat for the parade.

Can you help him find his way through the maze to collect it?



What's In Common?: (a) Types of stops (b) Dogs (c) History Ages (d) Tests (e) Measured in degrees

PRESTO CHANG-O!

GRATE to GRADE to GLADE to BLADE to BLAME

What's the Word?

1. Jerk + E = Jerky
2. Bee + Coming = Becoming
3. 2 + "bah" = Tuba
4. A parent = Apparent
5. L + Bow = Elbow

Mumbo Jumbo

1. FIR
 2. PINE
 3. SPRUCE
 4. RED OAK
- Final: FOREST

Thought for the Day

How old would you be if you didn't know how old you were?

~Satchel Paige

Recipe for Kids

BERRY AMAZING LEMONADE

NOTE: Adults should handle the blender.

Allow fruit to thaw for at least 15 minutes (best if slightly frozen, but OK if thaws completely). When ready, blend fruit and sugar into a puree. Pour into a large pitcher and add the can of frozen lemonade. CAREFULLY add the bottle of mixer water to the pitcher a little at a time (it will foam up). Stir and serve over ice. Best with frozen berries or cherries, but can use any frozen fruit.

- 1 can frozen lemonade (regular or pink)
- 1 10 – 12 oz bag frozen strawberries OR frozen fruit of choice
- 1 cup sugar (can use equivalent amount of sugar substitute)
- 1 liter bottle club soda, tonic water or seltzer water

Recipe for Adults

GRILLED BACON ASPARAGUS

(serves 6 – 8)

- 2-3 bundles asparagus
- 1 pkg bacon, up to 2 pkgs
- 1/2 stick butter*
- 1/4 cup olive oil*
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic*
- Seasoning of choice

Melt the butter in micro, add the olive oil, seasoning and garlic. Stir and put to the side. Snap off woody section of the asparagus. Depending on size of spears, put 3 to 8 spears together, wrap with a piece of bacon, starting at the top of the spears and end toward the bottom (may need second package of bacon, depending on how much asparagus and the size of the spears). Secure with toothpick. Continue until all spears are used up. Place asparagus on the grill and brush with the butter mixture. Continue basting with the mixture until bacon is cooked (about 10 mins total), turning asparagus at least once. Can put under the oven broiler on a lower rack. Broil for 10 to 12 minutes, basting and turning about every 4 minutes. (*Adjust amounts to personal taste)

- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar PLUS
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 teaspoons cocoa powder
- 1 pinch salt
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 teaspoon oil

For both!



ONE-MINUTE MUG CAKE

For those moments when you really need a chocolate fix!

In a micro-wave safe tall mug or cup, mix all dry ingredients. Add milk, vanilla extract and oil and still until well blended. Microwave at full power for about one minute, depending on your microwave and shape of the cup. If needed, cook in 15 second increments until done (test with toothpick). Do not overcook or the cake will be rubbery. Be sure to use a tall cup or container as the cake will puff up so needs room to rise. Serve warm with whipped cream, ice cream or a chocolate glaze. This is a fun cake to make with kids!

