

West Bellfort Property Owners Association

www.westbellfortpoa.com

Monthly Newsletter

July 2014

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.

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

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

DUES REMINDER!

For the HOA to best serve our community and properly maintain our amenities, we need to receive your HOA dues promptly. The fees were due on January 1, 2014. If you have not already paid your HOA fees, please contact Ry Reid at Sterling ASAP for total amount due inclusive of late fees and any additional charges that may have been incurred.
Thank you!

WBPOA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Ry Reid, PCAM, AMS, CMCA
Sterling Association Services
11201 Lake Woodbridge Drive
Sugar Land, TX 77498
Phone: 832-678-4500
Fax: 281-598-4487
Emails: ry@sterlingasi.com

Ludington Clubhouse Rental

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

Braesridge Clubhouse Rental

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

NEIGHBORHOOD ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

The construction along Ludington and Pembridge on the south side of West Bellfort is almost complete. The city began updating the neighborhood infrastructure with 42" waterlines in September 2013 and in the process of finalizing the project. The update will prove a great benefit to our neighborhood, and your continued patience while they wrap up is greatly appreciated. *If you have any questions regarding the road construction, please feel free to contact City Services by dialing 311, or 713-837-0311, or by contacting Barbara Hite, District K at barbara.hite@houstontx.gov or 832-393-3016.*

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. as well as assist in keeping neighbors informed of emergency situations such as hurricanes. 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 the 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, July 29 at 7:00pm, Braes Ridge 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 Bellfort 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?

Shortly before 10:30 p.m. on March 15, 1961, Capt. Gary L. Herod of the Texas Air National Guards took off from Ellington Air Force Base to return to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio. Captain Herod been a pilot since 1952. About 10 minutes after he took off, Herod radioed that his engine had flamed out and he was losing altitude. Air traffic crews at Houston International Airport told him he could try to attempt a landing at Andrau Air Park on Westheimer. "It doesn't look like I'm going to make it," Herod said, noting that his altitude was 1,500 feet. When Herod was asked if he was going to eject, he replied "not yet." By this time, Captain Herod was over the newly built homes in the Meyerland and Bellaire area. In an attempt to avoid crashing into the homes, Herod guided his plane away from the sleeping families toward a clearing just west of Chimney Rock and North Braeswood (where the Nob Hill Apartments are today). The plane crashed, digging a 5-foot-deep crater into the ground and just missing nearby power lines. The jet's ejection seat fired on impact and Herod was thrown from the plane toward Brays Bayou. That night, Herod — sacrificing his own life to save the lives of others — became a hero. Captain Herod left behind a young daughter and a pregnant wife, who gave birth to his son just a few weeks after the crash. The Herod Elementary School on Jason Street is named in his honor and on Memorial Day 1961, a Hero Tree was planted. The Hero Tree and plaque are located on Beechnut Street in Meyerland Plaza (next to BBVA Compass) standing for 53 years (and through a complete redo of the plaza) in silent, yet heartfelt, gratitude: Thank you, Captain Herod, for your sacrifice.

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

Work on the new location for the SEPHARDIC GAN/TORAT EMET (SG/TE) school is coming along very well and it looks like things are on track for the school to move in very soon! We really look forward to welcoming the school and its students to its new location in our neighborhood!

Community Parks

The West Bellfort POA has two great community parks for your family enjoyment! Be sure to take advantage of our great weather by visiting either the Ludington or Kittybrook parks. But please keep in mind that if our parks look trashy, so does our neighborhood. So please take pride in our beautiful parks and neighborhood and clean up after your visits!

We hope you are enjoying the revitalized tennis court! We are still working on repairing the gate and lock, but should not interfere with a great rousing doubles match!

Community Clubhouses

Please consider renting one of the clubhouses for your next event. Jeanette Calhoun or Joy Cunningham will be happy to assist you in providing nice facilities that are close to home. Their contact details are on the front of the newsletter.

Ludington Pool

Want some nice relief from our summer heat? Take a refreshing dip in our pool!! It is not too late to get your pool tags (for a small fee) from the management company. Reminder, however, that in order to enjoy the pool and any of the community amenities, your homeowner dues must be paid in full. You cannot obtain pool tags if your dues are not paid.

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.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. ~Maya Angelou (April 4, 1928 ~ May 28, 2014)



Community Events and Things to Do

Tune in for different events and places highlighted each month!

For Adults

Architecture Houston Walking Tours - <https://aiahouston.org>
Annual Harvest Day Festival
www.haakwine.com

For Children

Zoologist for a Day
www.aquariumrestaurants.com
Blessington Farms
www.blessingtonfarms.com

For Free!

Bike, Bats & Brew
www.buffalobayou.org
Annual Harvest Day Festival
www.haakwine.com

Other Events in Houston

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

Jun 7 – Aug 9: Bands on the Sand. Moody Gardens. Every Friday and Saturday nights, enjoy live local and regional bands ranging from R&B, rock, country and blues. www.moodygardens.com/attractions

Jul 3: Movie Night at Miller Outdoor Theater – Thor: The Dark World. Come enjoy a FREE showing of this big-budget comic-book adventure set after the events of Marvel's The Avengers. <http://milleroutdoortheatre.com/events/512/> See page 7 for more information about all the free fun things to do at the Miller Outdoor Theater!

Jul 4: Freedom over Texas. Eleanor Tinsley Park. The City's 4th of July Celebration has been a six hour event of festivities and tradition for decades. www.houstontx.gov/july4/purchasetickets.html

Jul 4: Parade and Festival. Bellaire 9:30am - Parade; 10am-1pm - Festival. The first 75 participants can enter the parade and be the center of the fun! <https://tx-bellaire4.civiccities.com/index.aspx?NID=879>

Jul 4: A Star-Spangled Salute. Enjoy a free evening with the Houston Symphony listening to patriotic music topped off with the 1812 Overture and a fantastic fireworks display! Miller Outdoor Theater. <http://milleroutdoortheatre.com/events/398/>

Jul 10 – 12: Texas BBQ Fest. Pasadena Fairgrounds. A 3-day BBQ cookoff featuring teams from all over Texas, live music, carnival, and special events for vets. www.bigtexbbqfest.com

Jul 10: Alternatives to Traditional Lawns. A panel discussion exploring alternatives to traditional lawns that work in Houston's climate. Architecture Houston Center, <https://aiahouston.org>

Jul 12: Lionel Richie and CeeLo Green. Concert. Cynthia Woods Pavilion. www.woodlandscenter.org

Jul 18: Beyonce & Jay Z. Concert. Minute Maid Park. www.livenation.com/events/359530-jul-18-2014-on-the-run-tour-beyonce-and-jay-z-minute-maid-park

Jul 19: Hema Malini's Ballet Durga. Wortham Center. Music by Ravindra Jain and the glamour of Hema Malini, make this ballet an artistic treat. www.iaahouston.com

Jul 19: VegFest Houston. Pershing Middle School, 3838 Blue Bonnet Blvd. Annual festival featuring vegan food vendors, guest speakers, food demos, nonprofits, live music and fun zones for children and teens. <http://vegansocietyofpeace.org/vegfesthouston2014.php>

Jul 26: Austin Mahone. Concert. Reliant Park. www.ticketmaster.com/venueartist/98343/1715801

Jul 31: Steve Martin & the Steep Canyon Rangers. Jones Hall. www.houstonsymphony.org

Local Community Centers and Parks

The Chinese Community Center, 9800 Town Park, Phone: 713-271-6100 / Website: <http://ccchouston.org/>

Seawolf Park, 100 Seawolf Park Blvd, Galveston. The park offers one of the island's most popular fishing piers, picnic sites and a playground. Phone: (409) 797-5114 Website: <http://www.cavalla.org>

AWESOME



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www.illustration.com

Andy, The Awesome Possum

"Here comes Peter Cottontail, hopping down the bunny trail, Hippy Hoppy, Easter's on it's way!"oh! Hi, kids! Bet you didn't know possums can sing! HAHA! I know, Easter was a couple of months ago, but that song just popped into my head while I was thinking about what wild animal to talk about this month, which is Rabbits! Texas is home to a lot of different rabbits, including the famous jackrabbit. Jackrabbits are famous because of their really large ears, but they are not seen too commonly around here. In this area of Texas, the most common rabbit is the Eastern Cottontail Rabbit. Cottontails are usually reddish or grayish brown with a white belly, weigh about 2 to 4 pounds, are somewhat larger than a cat, with large hind feet, long ears and of course a short fluffy "cotton" ball of a tail.

Cottontail rabbits belong to the Leporidae family under the Lagomorpha order of mammals. They prefer to live on the edges of fields and meadows with good coverage of trees and bushes nearby to hide in. You may see a rabbit during the day, but like most wild animals, rabbits prefer to roam at night. Rabbits are herbivores, which means they eat only plants. If rabbits could, they would live right next to a farm all the time, because they LOVE crops, especially peas, beans and (of course) lettuce. This is why farmers get really upset with rabbits. But think about it, would you go forage in your pantry if your favorite meal is sitting right there on the table all ready for you to eat? I know what I would do!! ☺ Mostly though, rabbits eat grasses and wild herbs in the summer and bark, twigs, young trees and buds in the winter.

A Cottontail's home range is about 9 acres, with males roaming a bit further than females. Adults live in loose groups, with a female usually being the leader. The male is called a buck and the female is a doe; a young rabbit is a kitten or kit. Their nests are usually slight depressions in the ground, surrounded by tall grass, and are lined with fur and dry grass. Cottontails usually have 2 to 4 litters per year with about 3 to 8 young per litter. Young rabbits are born blind, naked and helpless but grow very fast, usually totally independent at 4 to 5 weeks. Rabbits are known to have a lot of babies, but on the average, only 15% of the young will survive their first year. Some species of rabbits make good pets, but NEVER try to tame a wild rabbit!

Cottontails have excellent eyesight and hearing – in fact, rabbits can see almost 360° with a tiny blind spot just above their noses!! If danger is sensed, rabbits will freeze, then thump the ground with their hind feet to warn other rabbits. If danger gets too close, rabbits will run, reaching speeds of 18 mph and zig-zagging to confuse the predator. When playing, breeding, or fighting, they often make low purring, growling, or grunting sounds. If captured by a predator, rabbits may make a loud, shrill scream.

Although rabbits are considered a pest, and can in fact become a huge problem if left uncontrolled, in the wild they play an important part in our environment. They provide a food source to their natural predators (including hawks, owls, snakes, raccoons and... possums!), but more importantly, they play a part in maintaining control of unwanted plants and weeds, such as the highly invasive Kudzu Vine, which has taken over much of the southern part of the US, killing many trees and other much more desirable plants.

Rabbits have long been recognized as symbols of fertility and rebirth, which is why they are associated with spring and Easter. The rabbit is one of the 12 animals in the Chinese Zodiac. It represents graciousness, kindness, sensitivity, compassion, tenderness and elegance. So remember, although rabbits can be a pest to many, they are actually very important to our ecological system.... And are really cute to boot!

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 our Constable'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 Constables 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) Bombard with unwanted email
- 5) Fight verbally
- 9) Tend to, as sauce
- 13) Caribbean country
- 14) "Hell ___ no fury"
- 15) Sleuth played by Bogart
- 16) Knowledgeable about
- 17) Kind of sax or singer
- 18) Prop for Rembrandt
- 19) Lifftoff spot
- 21) Long-time "Wide World of Sports" host Jim
- 22) Detonating device
- 23) Even the score again
- 25) "Thee," updated
- 27) Steamy or sultry
- 31) Voting group
- 35) Married woman
- 37) Hugh who played House
- 38) Chopper toppler
- 40) "Don't delav!"
- 42) Strong cotton thread
- 43) De facto
- 45) Make "it," in a game
- 47) Ex-Soviet news agency
- 48) Like many sandals
- 50) Yon maiden fair
- 52) Poisonous
- 54) Papal representative
- 59) Concealed
- 62) Florida cape
- 64) "Amscray!"
- 65) "Short" death notice
- 66) Bishop Desmond
- 67) Artie and Robert
- 68) "Beloved" novelist Morrison
- 69) Not yet up
- 70) Having a hard time choosing
- 71) Ollie's sidekick
- 72) Weight allowance

Answers for puzzles to appear next newsletter

ROUND THE WORLD

By Mary Jerse

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12		
13					14					15					
16					17					18					
19				20						21					
22							23		24						
				25		26		27				28	29	30	
31	32	33	34		35		36			37					
38				39		40		41		42					
43					44		45		46		47				
48							49		50		51				
				52				53		54		55	56	57	58
59	60	61					62		63						
64							65				66				
67							68				69				
70							71				72				

- 1) Make a bust?
- 2) Insects in the cocoon stage
- 3) More or less
- 4) It fell from heaven
- 5) Iran before Khomeini
- 6) Crab's sensor
- 7) Rose oil
- 8) Colossus of ___
- 9) Apollo apparel
- 10) Chore
- 11) Brain's creation
- 12) Swear by (with "on")
- 15) Highly original and influential
- 20) Blubber
- 24) Rolodex abbr.
- 26) Mantel piece
- 28) Major in astronomy?
- 29) Needs a doc
- 30) Brenda and Peggy
- 31) Obnoxious young'un
- 32) Scottish lake
- 33) Director Preminger
- 34) "The Final ___"
- 36) Barney on "The Simpsons," for one
- 39) Spicy stews
- 41) Baby cry
- 44) Luthor the villain
- 46) Jiggly dessert
- 49) All plants with two seed leaves
- 51) Clerical abbreviation
- 53) "Murder, She Wrote" cove
- 55) Gain access to
- 56) Oranjestad's locale
- 57) Spud
- 58) Give the slip to
- 59) Whispered call
- 60) "Hello, hello, hello," e.g.
- 61) Laugh heartily
- 63) Pinta's companion

WHAT'S IN COMMON?

- Short – Bus – Rest _____
- Hound – Bull – Sheep _____
- Iron – Bronze – Stone _____
- Blood – IQ – Ink Blot _____
- Burns – Angles – Temperatures _____

PRESTO-CHANGO!

GRATE
BLAME

"Children are happy because they don't have a file in their minds called "All the Things That Could Go Wrong."
-Marianne Williamson



Fourth of July

N	L	I	S	G	D	Y	R	O	T	S	I	H	A	G	I
L	B	R	T	A	D	W	V	G	C	M	N	P	N	T	N
A	N	T	R	H	M	Q	E	D	F	O	R	A	R	E	F
V	D	I	E	Q	P	E	E	D	I	N	T	C	H	C	I
I	U	G	A	D	A	M	R	T	A	I	Y	L	G	N	R
N	B	X	M	T	O	U	A	I	O	R	L	J	A	E	E
R	X	V	E	C	I	R	D	N	C	A	A	M	L	D	W
A	Y	Y	R	I	B	R	A	E	B	A	I	P	F	N	O
C	Z	A	S	E	U	L	B	E	T	I	H	W	D	E	R
Y	C	B	L	V	A	Z	S	T	U	F	H	S	J	P	K
Y	M	E	S	N	A	A	I	K	A	C	G	Y	X	E	S
R	C	W	T	V	B	L	Z	H	N	E	E	I	B	D	Z
I	B	H	B	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H	R	B	A	N	F
C	E	P	A	T	R	I	O	T	I	S	M	G	R	I	U
M	U	U	I	P	Z	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	L	A	E
S	N	O	O	L	L	A	B	L	C	I	N	C	I	P	B

WHAT'S THE WORD?

- 1. Quickly pull, 5th letter
- 2. Honey maker, on the way
- 3. 1+1, + "bah"
- 4. Mom or Dad
- 5. 12th letter, tied ribbon

MUMBO-JUMBO!

FRI

PIEN

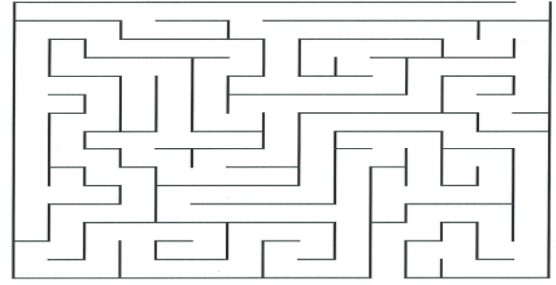
PUSCER

ERD KAO

T

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?



JOKE CORNER (Answers on back page)

- 1. What did the janitor say when he jumped out of the closet?
- 2. What did the judge say when the skunk walked into the courtroom?
- 3. Why don't you ever see giraffes in an elementary school?
- 4. What is the longest word in the dictionary?
- 5. How do you communicate with a fish?

7 Steps to Happiness

- Think Less, Feel More
- Frown Less, Smile More
- Talk Less, Listen More
- Judge Less, Accept More
- Watch Less, Do More
- Complain Less, Appreciate More
- Fear Less, Love More

AMERICA	FIREWORKS	NATIONAL ANTHEM
BALLOONS	FLAG	PARADE
BARBECUE	FREEDOM	PATRIOTISM
BASEBALL	GREAT BRITAIN	PICNIC
CARNIVAL	HISTORY	RED WHITE BLUE
CELEBRATION	HOLIDAY	STREAMERS
DEMOCRACY	INDEPENDENCE	

JULY 2014

July is named after Julius Caesar, who was born in this month. July was previously named "Quintilis", or "fifth month", under the Romulus calendar is use at the time Caesar was born.

Birthstone: Ruby
Flower: Larkspur
Zodiac Signs: Cancer and Leo

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10 Recycle Pick Up	11 Tree & Yard Trash – North Side*	12
13	14	15 The Three Weeks Begins – Fast of the 17 th of Tammuz	16	17 Tree & Yard Trash – South Side*	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Recycle Pick Up	25	26
27	28 Ed Al-Fitr (Ramadan ends)	29 HOA Board Meeting – Braes Ridge Clubhouse 7:00pm	30	31	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Joke Corner Answers: 1. SUPPLIES; 2. Odor in the court; 3. Because they are all in high school 4. Smiles; 5. Drop it a line </p>	

* 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



The Miller Outdoor Theater is located on 7.5 acres at 6000 Herman Park Drive, close to the Zoo. A wide range of professional performances are offered FREE to the public, including classical music, jazz, ballet, classic films and plays. Every summer, the theater hosts the Shakespeare Festival. Open from March through November, the theater dates back to 1922, when the original was built. The Hill was added in 1948. The original theater was replaced in 1968, and the newer version underwent renovations in 1996. There are 1,705 seats and 20 wheel chair spaces available under the covered area (seating is free, tickets to be picked up in the mornings of the day of performance). Or bring a blanket and relax on the huge, grassy hill directly in front of the theater (bring a picnic!). For a calendar of events, be sure to visit www.milleroutdoortheatre.com. There is something for everyone right in the middle of Houston at no cost! Fun for the family and an excellent date night idea (even when not on a budget! Bring some cheese and wine during one of the symphony performances.... Ah... how romantic!)

July 4th Becomes a National Holiday

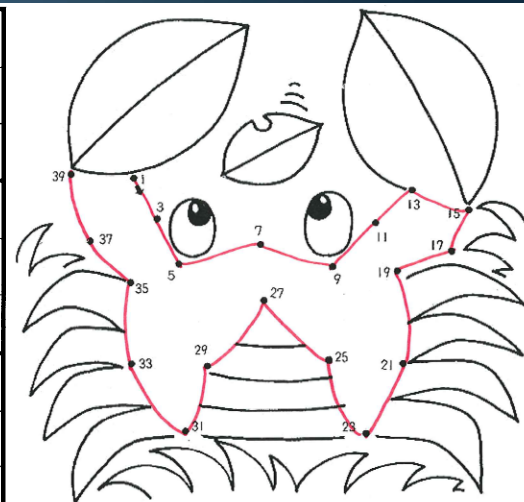
For several years after America won its independence and the Declaration was signed, people did not celebrate much. It was too new and there were a lot of other things happening in the new nation. By the 1790s, bitter partisan conflicts were going on and the Declaration had become controversial. The Democratic-Republicans admired Jefferson and the Declaration. But the Federalists felt the Declaration was too French and too anti-British, which went against their policies. In 1817, John Adams complained in a letter that America seemed uninterested in its past. But that would soon change. After the War of 1812, the Federalist party began to come apart and the new political parties considered themselves inheritors of the Democratic-Republicans. Printed copies of the Declaration began to re-circulate and people felt pride in the new nation. The deaths of both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams on July 4, 1826 also helped spread the idea of July 4 was an important date to be celebrated. Celebrations became more common as the years went on and in 1870, almost a hundred years after the Declaration was written, Congress declared July 4 as a national holiday.

Answers to June 2014 Puzzles

STEER CLEAR By Mary Jersey

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
P	O	S	E	S	E	A	S	E	C	O	C	A
A	B	E	A	M	S	M	O	G	U	G	L	I
C	O	W	T	I	P	P	I	N	G	L	E	A
T	E	N	E	T	S	D	E	C	A	D	E	N
R	H	E	A	S	U	R	E					
A	S	Y	U	L	E	P	O	S	S	U	M	
B	A	D	I	S	K	M	A	N	T	A		
B	U	L	D	O	G	T	E	N	A	C	I	T
A	L	T	A	R	N	O	P	E	D	E	B	
S	T	Y	M	I	E	P	I	C	K	E	R	E
P	E	L	F	S	T	I	R					
Y	O	U	R	S	E	L	F	A	B	E	L	I
U	R	G	E	C	A	L	F	R	O	P	I	N
R	E	L	Y	T	I	E	R	S	A	V	O	R
T	O	Y	S	L	A	Y	H	Y	E	N	A	

3	9	2	1	7	5	4	8	6
5	6	4	3	2	8	7	1	9
1	7	8	6	9	4	3	2	5
6	4	7	8	1	9	5	3	2
2	3	9	7	5	6	1	4	8
8	5	1	2	4	3	9	6	7
7	1	6	5	3	2	8	9	4
4	2	3	9	8	7	6	5	1
9	8	5	4	6	1	2	7	3



What Do They Have In Common?:

(a) King (b) Ball (c) Rack (d) Tea (e) Forest

PRESTO CHANG-O!

POUCH to POACH to PEACH to PEACE

Summer Day Scramble

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Beach | 6. Camping |
| 2. Shorts | 7. Vacation |
| 3. Warm | 8. Swimming Pool |
| 4. Fishing | 9. Picnic Basket |
| 5. Sunshine | 10. Towel |

Trivial Pursuit

- Pacific Ocean
- False – is the Nile
- Clouds
- A seismologist
- Mt. Everest

Pardon Me?

- A bottle of pop
- A bright idea
- A booby trap
- A blank look
- A blizzard

AWESOME BURGERS

(serves 8)

NOTE: Grilling **MUST** be done by an adult! Children can prepare the recipe up to that point.

- 2 lbs ground beef
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup plain bread crumbs
- 1 envelope onion soup mix

- Sliced cheese (optional)
- 8 hamburger buns
- Fixings: Lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions and favorite condiments

Recipe for Kids

In large bowl, combine the mayonnaise, bread crumbs and soup mix in bowl. Add the ground beef and mix in the mayonnaise mixture well. Shape into 8 patties and grill until preferred doneness. Immediately after taking off the grill, add sliced cheese and allow to melt on top. Serve on buns with your favorite fixings. **TIP:** Spread each of buns with a thin layer of mayonnaise; place mayo side down on the grill until lightly toasted.

- 6 – 8 salmon fillets
- Cajun Seasoning blend
- Garlic powder
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup soy sauce
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup water
- 2 – 4 tsps Sriracha sauce (or other hot sauce)

Recipe for Adults

In a small bowl, stir together soy sauce, brown sugar, water, oil and Sriracha sauce until sugar is dissolved. Reserve about one-third of the marinade. Place fish in a large plastic bag with remaining marinade, seal and refrigerate for about an hour to two hours, turning to coat. When ready, toss the marinade in the bag, place salmon on lightly oiled grill, season with the Cajun spice blend and garlic powder to taste. Grill for about 6 minutes, turn and season again. Continually brush with reserved marinade as salmon cooks (6 to 8 minutes per side).

SWEET & SPICY SALMON

(serves 6 – 8)

and... for both! 😊

In two bowls, blend the thawed berries to make a puree (keep separate). In another bowl, with electric mixer blend pudding mix, milk, condensed milk and 1 cup of Cool Whip, place in the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Line trifle bowl with bottom layer of angel food cake. Pour the strawberry puree on top of the cake, and place sliced fresh strawberries on top (be sure to line some around the sides of the bowl). Layer with 1/2 of the pudding mix then 1/2 of the remaining cool whip. Place middle layer of angel food cake on top of cool whip. Pour the blueberry (or blackberry) puree on top of the cake and sprinkle the blueberries (or blackberries) on top. Layer with the rest of the pudding mix, then put the final layer of the angel food cake on top. Cover the top of the last layer of cake with the remaining cool whip. Garnish with a full strawberry and few blue or black berries on top.

JULY 4 TRIFLE

Trifles are easy deserts layered in tall glass bowls that make for pretty presentations

- 1 angel food cake, cut into 3 layers
- 1 5-oz package instant vanilla pudding
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 large container Cool Whip
- 1 lb fresh strawberries, sliced
- 1 lb fresh blueberries OR blackberries
- 1 10-oz package frozen strawberries, thawed
- 1 10-oz package frozen blueberries (or blackberries), thawed

