



The Bustle

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Volume 55, Issue 3

July 2026

Beta Sigma Phi—Southwest Houston City Council President's Message



July

Sister's light the World

Beta Sigma Phi is a constellation of bright sparks, each one shining a light on a new day. Like fireworks lighting the July sky, our sisters brighten the lives of those around them through friendship, kindness, and service. Even after the fireworks fade, we continue to keep the light glowing by showing care and consideration for our sister's and others.

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President's Message (continued)

I hope everyone has a wonderful Fourth of July filled with happiness, relaxation, and special moments with family and friends. Enjoy the holiday and make memories that will last long after the celebrations end.

The President, Vice President, and committee chair luncheon will be held on August 15th at Sandy McGees in Richmond, Texas. The theme is "It's a Pot Party" (flower pot) so come dressed in your favorite floral attire and be ready for a blooming good time with your sisters. Party starts at 11.

Summer promises to be a hot one, but let's remain cool chicks! Keep your light shining brightly and continue spreading joy, friendship, and fun throughout our sisterhood. As we share the spirit of Beta Sigma Phi with others, we can help our sorority grow by welcoming women with sparking personalities, caring hearts, and a desire for friendship.

Together, we are sisters who light the world.

Joan Batts
SWHCC President



This and That.....News from Council

Well July is here and with it comes the Dog Days of summer. Stay cool but, if you have to be outside, remember the sunscreen and hydrate, hydrate, hydrate.

Saturday in the Park and it was the Fourth of July. That won't happen again until 2037. I'm glad I was alive to experience it and America's 250th Anniversary. I hope everyone had a safe and happy July 4th.

Be sure to share personal events with pictures with your Bustle reporter. Your sisters love to see what you're up to.

"I am her eyes, she is my wings. I am her voice, she is my spirit. I am her sister, she is my guardian angel."

*Beta hugs,
Sherry & Karen*



Council

Meeting

While our SWHCC Board is on hiatus until September, you can keep up with the latest news through the Bustle.

Hostess Schedule 2026-2027

Sept. 10 '26	PN
Oct. 8 '26	Activity
Nov. 12 '26	ADT
Dec. 10 '26	SWHCC Board
Jan. 14 '27	Activity
Feb. 11 '27	LIO
Mar. 11 '27	Activity
Apr. 8 '27	XAEO
May 13 '27	New SWHCC Board



Beta Sigma Phi reminds us that our organization is non-collegiate, non-sectarian and non-political. We ask that all members honor these guiding principles during Council and Chapter meetings to maintain the harmony of our sisterhood.

June to August 2026 Southwest Houston City Council Meeting
No meetings



Save The Date

Fall Event



Our Torch of Light & Liberty

**Saturday
October 17, 2026
11:00AM**

Save the Date

Sweetheart Luncheon



Saturday

February 20, 2027



**UPCOMING BETA SIGMA PHI
STATE CONVENTIONS**

**2026
Beta Sigma Phi
Quadra State
Convention
July 17 - 19, 2026
Reno, Nevada**



Virginia State Convention

**Cruising Down The
Mississippi**

October 2-4, 2026

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS



NEW YORK STATE
CONVENTION
COOPERSTOWN, NY

OCTOBER 2-4, 2026

A vibrant, tropical-themed advertisement for a cruise. At the top, the Greek letters "ΒΣΦ" are displayed in gold. Below them, the title "Angels at Sea" is written in a blue, cursive font on a wooden sign. Underneath the sign, it says "7-Day Caribbean Cruise" and "Symphony of the Seas" in bold, black text. A smaller line of text reads "Cruising out of Galveston • October 18, 2026". The central image shows a large cruise ship sailing on turquoise water towards a tropical island with palm trees and a toucan perched on a branch. At the bottom, the itinerary "Roatan • Puerto Maya • Cozumel" and "Beta Sigma Phi Sisters and Friends" is listed. A table shows the prices for different cabin types: I/S at \$797.01, O/V at \$920.01, and Balcony at \$1,196.01. A "\$50 Deposit" is also mentioned. The website "www.vleetravel.com" and phone number "713.392.0114" are at the bottom. The background is decorated with tropical elements like palm leaves, flowers, and a cocktail glass.

These are a few of the upcoming state conventions around the country. Check the BSP International website for more conventions and additional information.

ALPHA DELTA THETA

JUNE CHAPTER MEETING



The ADT June Chapter meeting was hosted by Barbara Meurer in her home. Prior to the meeting, she served an appetizer of hummus and a dinner that included: shredded beef, sausage, slider buns, a potato casserole and a water-melon salad.



General business was discussed , including reports from Chapter committees. Fall event was discussed and Barbara (Event Chair) gave pertinent information including the time, date and location. A save the date will be included in this edition of the Bustle. The next social will be July 11 with the theme. "Viva La France" celebrating Bastille Day.

New Chapter Officers were announced'

President:	Sherry Sweet
VP	Diane Leive
Treasurer	Cynthia Rogan
Corr. Sec:	Karen Sweet- Angel
Rec. Sec.:	Sonia Afshar
Parliamentarian:	Barbara Meurer



Barbara presented a program on the Angel for June- Archangel Haniel. Haniel is the angel of joy, grace and beauty in Jewish lore and angelology. Meaning "the Grace of God" or "Joy of God", she is frequently associated with the moon. The planet Venus and inner spiritual healing. It is believed that she can instantly uplift moods, ease frustration, and help people find inner fulfillment. The name Haniel derives from the Hebrew *Hen*, meaning "grace, favor and charm." She is best known as the angel of joy, intuition, and divine feminine energy. Haniel encourages us to stop searching for fulfillment outside of ourselves, instead search inside ourselves to explore trust, confidence and wonderment in the adventure that is our lives.

Barbara spoke about a friend who helped her get back into the work force, in IT, after years of being Away from IT. Her friend Robbie helped with her resume and and to get caught up to specific areas of iT. He made sure she had a place and the support she needed to return back to work.



Sylvia and Cynthia were the winners of the raffle prizes receiving a personal fan and a patriotic candle holder.



ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Barbara Meurer spent a few days with her favorite "gingers" in Mariette, GA.



ALPHA DELTA THETA...PAGE 9



After visiting with those cute red-heads in Georgia, Barbara traveled to Nashville and Fort Campbell, KY for the Change of Command Ceremony, celebrating incoming Commander Capt. Kyle A. Meurer. Congratulations to Barbara and her son Kyle.

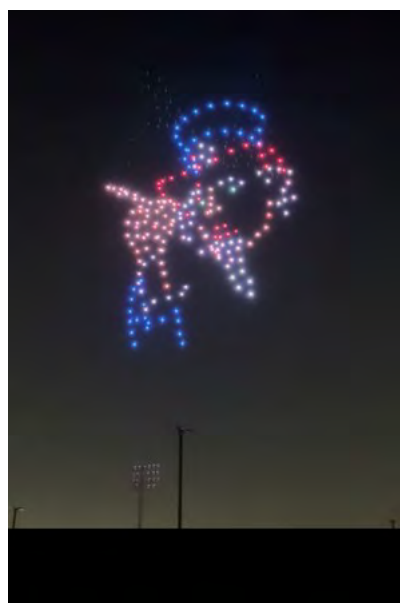
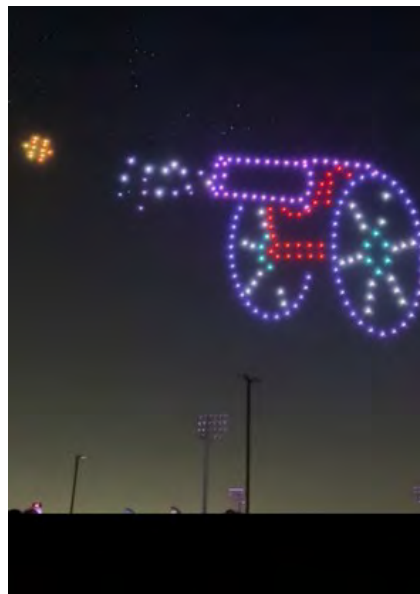


ALPHA DELTA THETA...PAGE 10



ALPHA DELTA THETA...PAGE 10

Sylia Chin attended the Fulshear Fourth of July celebration. The event had music by the Emotions and a fantastic display of drones.



Sylia and her youngest niece Mila went to greet the soccer players in Dallas



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA

REPORTER: BARBARA HUPE

LIO finally got it together. We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at Joan Batt's house complete with her usual over the top holiday decorations. The only one missing was Gail Perley. We enjoyed a lunch of various salads and a wonderful dessert. We played Joan's version of sorority Family Feud. Lots of laughs and maybe just a little cheating. That was followed by a word scramble which really tested our brains.



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA...PAGE 2

After lunch the real fun began as we exchanged Secret Sister gifts. We celebrate the birthday of our chapter and all of our birthdays together. Everyone enjoyed opening their gifts and thanking their SS whoever she may be.



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA...PAGE 3



Joan had lots of other parties including celebrating Mary Crochet's real birthday, and the CRLC End of the year party at Katy Vibes with the "In Time Band."



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA...PAGE 4

Gail Perley returned safely from a road trip to the East Coast to attend her grandmother's "Lang Family Reunion" held on June 14th. The "cousins" held the very first one in 1926. Over 160 attended this 100 Anniversary celebration held in St. Mary's Georgia. Met 2 relatives among many whose grandfathers were two of my grandmother's ten siblings. Earl Lang from Frankston in East Texas and Isaac Lang from St. George Island and Atlanta. Of course she ate lots of food! Pictured with my sister-in-law Brenda filling our plates with wonderful Southern cooking. There were 10 six foot long tables! She learned a lot of family history. First Lang family settled on Plum Island off the coast of Virginia in 1607, headed by a Protestant preacher. Lots of reading ahead of her.



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA...PAGE 5

Barbara Hupe stays busy with her Jazzercise, volunteering, and lots of lunches. She is very fortunate to have wonderful neighbors who love to share a glass of wine. They have now started to play dominoes on any given night.



Wishing everyone a happy and safe summer!!!



PRECEPTOR NU

REPORTER: SUZY PENNY



On Tuesday, June 9 at 6pm PN held a chapter meeting at the Garden Inn Hilton Sugar Land, TX. Sisters came together to enjoy a variety of appetizers and discuss the latest updates from BSP International. Many sisters expressed concern about PN's future and the happenings of SWHCC. The program and center piece were provided by our president and evening host, Lizette Polk. What a beautiful and powerful concept! A centerpiece featuring hands, gloves, and jewels brilliantly capturing the diversity of your chapter's members coming together as a unified whole.



PRECEPTOR NU...PAGE 2



Viva México!

Linda and her husband Randall spent a 35th Anniversary trip to Cancun, Mexico.



Snorkeling in Cozumel- the bluest and brightest water I have ever seen! So BEAUTIFUL!

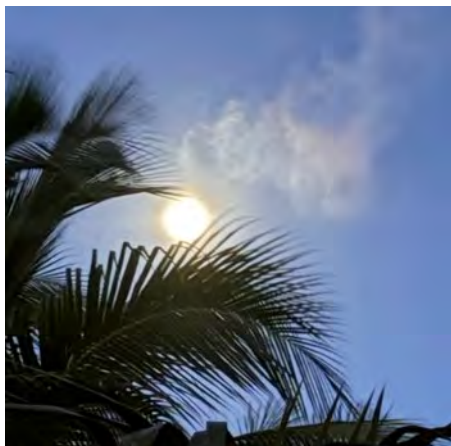
Yes, we were hot but so thrilled to be here! The ancient ruins of the Mayans are steadily being renovated.

Chichen Itza Temple



Every night was a fiesta before our siesta.

Vidanta Resorts in Quintana Roo, Cancun, Mexico



Oh, Mexico

It sounds so sweet with the sun sinking low
Moon's so bright like to light up the night
Make everything all right

By: James Taylor

The moon was so bright from our balcony.



Carolyn Meeks, Chad Bridges (her son) and Suzy Penny attended a Country Western night on Sunday, June 28. Chad bought her beautiful new black boots for the occasion. Carolyn had the opportunity to share her voice with the crowd. She sang 2 songs from her favorite country singer, Patsy Cline. The crowd danced, sang along, and cheered to "Crazy" and "Walkin' after Midnight".



Check out this fabulous looking woman. Ann Jones (XAZ) just turned a beautiful 80 years old this month. Happy Birthday Ann!



Gina Parker's Story

I'm returning to RFKC kids camp 2026!! YAY! After many years of medical issues preventing me from attending camp, healthy and ready to bless these kids that are in foster care! They definitely deserve to have the best week at camp! Please prayerfully consider donating to assist me in sending 2 kids to camp! I helped start this program years and years ago! It's where my passion from God flows! Please also be my prayer partner on Team TEXAS! Thank you and blessings for a wonderful week of camp!

<https://givebutter.com/gvyDGB/ginaparker3>

Many of PN remember Gina Parker from when she visited PN's meeting and Pinning Ritual Ceremony. She helped to create a camp in Georgia for Foster kids several years back. This is her at Camp Waymark.

Meet our Founder and Creative Director! 🐦

Michelle Lovelace is driven by a lifelong passion for theatrics, elaborate decor, and classic mystery, she decided to combine them all into one unforgettable venture...and Raven Briar was born.

So, what is Raven Briar? Well, step into the room and choose your alibi. We bring immersive, high-end mystery experiences directly to your chosen venue, wrapped in a signature aesthetic of dark elegance and classic mystery.

Forget passive entertainment. Our meticulously crafted storylines cast you and your guests as the prime suspects and sharp-witted detectives. No one is left watching from the shadows...everyone is given a purpose, a dark secret, and an unforgettable role to play.



From private celebrations and corporate gatherings to social soirées, we handle every detail: from the fancy curated decor and thematic props to the custom costumes and authentic evidence. You provide the venue and the guests and we bring the intrigue.



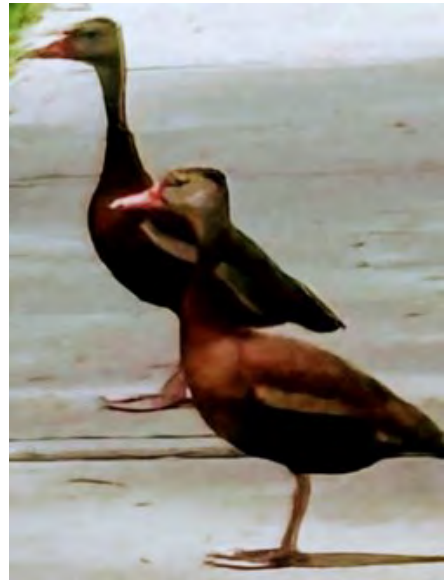
The plot is already in motion. We are officially accepting bookings for private parties and corporate events. Keep your eyes peeled this week for a recap reel to give you an inside look at our first mystery!

Let the plotting begin.



Ready to host an unforgettable night? Send us a direct message or visit our website to secure your date: www.ravenbriar.com

#RavenBriar #MurderMystery #MysteryExperience #ImmersiveTheater #EventPlanner
#PrivateParty #TeamBuilding #ElegantDecor #MeetTheFounder #SmallBusiness



This adorable couple decided to pay Shawn's yard a visit for a few days. So, she asked AI about them.

- ♦ They're very common in the Houston area and throughout much of Texas. They're known for:
- ♦ Loud, high-pitched whistling calls (often heard before they're seen)
- ♦ Nesting in tree cavities and nest boxes
- ♦ Traveling in family groups
- ♦ Wandering through neighborhoods, golf courses, parks, and sidewalks just like in your photo.

The pair in your picture look like healthy adults, likely out foraging or moving between nearby water sources.

A fun Texas fact: Black-bellied Whistling Ducks have expanded their range dramatically over the last few decades and have become one of the most recognizable neighborhood waterfowl species around Houston.

Black-bellied Whistling Ducks are generally tolerant of people, much more so than many wild ducks. That's why they often wander through neighborhoods, parks, and golf courses without appearing alarmed. However, they are still wild birds, not domesticated animals.

June Chapter Meeting

Always creating magic, from birthday menus to Santa paper wrapped with care,
Never faltering through the years Dad served overseas and she was solely there.
Gave us room to grow and explore, a voice of reason who trusted our choices,
Ensuring her children felt equal, celebrated, and heard above all other voices.
Leader of Girl Scouts, coach on the soccer field, she threw her heart into our days,
So incredibly proud of us, she wrapped our lives in her fierce, unshakeable praise.
Opened her heart so completely, making it safe to confess our deepest fears or mistakes,
Fiercely working to keep our childhoods whole, no matter the sacrifices she would make.
Reassuring and steady, she gave us the wings of independence to learn how to fly,
Important conversations were met with grace, a safe space where we could rely.
Every Christmas morning was perfectly equal, a testament to her devotion,
Navigating the hardest days as a mother with strength as deep as the ocean.
Days without her are heavy, and the ache of missing her is a constant, quiet hum,
Shelter she provided remains in our hearts, guiding us in everything we've become.
Holding the line when Dad was deployed, she was our anchor, our shield, and our guide,
Inspiring us simply by how she lived her life, always walking right by our side.
Perfectly blending the roles of a mother, a confidante, and the truest friend I ever knew,
She is my forever angel now, watching over the beautiful family she raised and grew.

XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 2

Jeana Dorow was the lucky recipient of the lovely door prize. She plans to enjoy some lazy days of summer coloring in her new Adult Coloring Book for Women.



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 3



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 4

XAEO JUNE SOCIAL

The XAEO sisters enjoyed a lovely pool day at Cathy Wilson's home. Everyone swam, floated, and caught up with one another, while Pam's bubble wand added extra fun. Cathy kept everyone re-freshed with plenty of drinks, especially Whiskey Sour Slushies and Lemon Raspberry Martinis, and the group enjoyed delicious sandwiches, vegetables, and dip.



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 5

XAEO Ritual of Jewels- Kim Horvitz

XAEO member Kim Horvitz earned her Ritual of Jewel degree at our June meeting.



*Beta Sigma Phi
Southwest Houston
City Council*

**For more info
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www.betasigmaphiswhcc.org

**Motto:
Life, Learning,
Friendship**

BΣΦ



2026-2027 Executive Board

Joan Batts — President

Barbara Meurer — Vice President

Linda Moltz — Rec/ Corr. Secretary

Cathy Wilson — Treasurer

Jeanne Melton — Parliamentarian

Chapter Presidents

ADT	Barbara Meurer
LIO	Vicky Ryan
PN	Lizette Polk
XAEO	Pam McDuffie
XAZ	Diana Rayle



Council Advisor

Winona LaBrant