



THE BOCA NEWSLETTER

BOULEVARD OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2006



The Boulevard Oaks Civic Association 16th Annual EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 15, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

at

BROADACRES PARK

(North Boulevard at Parkway, by the tennis courts at the end of North Blvd.)

Everyone is invited to enjoy the fun and refreshments and have their photo taken with the Easter Bunny. Children through the age of eight are invited to hunt for hundreds of candy-filled (and prize-winning) plastic eggs. Children nine and older will get to take their turns at a candy-filled piñata. The older children and adults are also invited to help hide eggs at 9:00 a.m.

Refreshments provided

B.Y.O. Basket

Come join the fun!

Volunteers are needed to help stuff eggs and the piñata, help decorate, provide refreshments, hide eggs, etc. Sponsors are welcome and much appreciated, as are donations to help cover the expenses of this event.

Please send your check to BOCA, P.O. Box 540331, Houston, Texas 77254, or bring it to the party.

Call 713-528-2622 to volunteer or email BOCA@airmail.net.

BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED

As people move in and out, it's impossible to keep up with more than 50 blocks without Block Captains to keep us informed so we can maintain an updated resident database and see that every new resident receives a Welcome Packet. If you're willing to walk your block and update the names and addresses on that block, please call the BOCA office at 713-528-BOCA (2622) or email boca@airmail.net and let us know. We'll send you a list of residents for your block, with space on it to make corrections, reflect new names, etc. Block Captains play a very important and much-appreciated role in BOCA's successful operation.

P.O. BOX 540331 • HOUSTON • TEXAS • 77254 • 713 528-BOCA (2622)

boca@airmail.net • www.BoulevardOaks.org

New Help for Neighborhoods

Mayra Hypolite is the new H.P.D Neighborhood Protection Chief Inspector for the University Place area (bounded by Braeswood, Kirby, US59, and Main Street). She and Inspector Laura Fuentes and their team are working in our community to identify and address neighborhood problems such as, but not limited to: graffiti, abandoned cars, high weeds, rodent problems, falling down/dangerous garages and other buildings, garbage/trash/old appliances stacked up around homes and garages for weeks and months, heavy and regular trash put out on the curb too early or left for out for days, etc. Neighborhood Protection, now handled by H.P.D., is charged with cleaning up Houston's neighborhoods and protecting our quality of life, and they're taking the job seriously. Their team recently did a drive-through in University Place (including Boulevard Oaks) and compiled a lengthy list of violations, leaving notes and citations as they went.

We're very fortunate to have Mayra and her team working on behalf of our neighborhood. If you have any concerns the Neighborhood Protection Team can help you with, don't hesitate to call Mayra at **713-218-5610**. But she asks that you **call 311 first** and get a Project Number, and then call her with the project number and complaint. She will have an inspector out to make an inspection on your complaint within 48 hours. As mentioned above, this includes graffiti, so you might want to log Mayra's number into your cell phone and report graffiti as you see it when driving around the neighborhood. Remember, though—call 311 first.

Recent Arrests

A few weeks ago, Southampton/BOCA Patrol officers made several arrests we know you'll be glad to hear about. One Thursday morning at about 3:22 a.m. a resident called H.P.D saying see had seen two men getting out of a vehicle (later determined to be a vehicle they had burglarized rather than driven there) and going down the street trying car door handles. **Officer Richard Kent**, who was on duty for the Patrol Service, heard the call broadcast on the H.P.D. radio and proceeded to the area and last known direction of travel. **Officer Roy Eveline**, a longtime Patrol Service officer, was on duty for H.P.D. at the time, along with Officer Kevin O'Brian, and both took the call. After searching the area, Officer Kent decided to check the area around the What-A-Burger on Shepherd. There, based on the description given by the caller, he found both suspects. Officer O'Brian assisted him in the arrests. Both suspects had items in their possession from two burglaries in Southampton, and both were taken back to the location and identified by the witness. The D.A. accepted Burglary of a Motor Vehicle charges on both suspects.

On a Tuesday morning at 1:30 a.m., Sgt. Johnie Vollert, Southampton/BOCA Patrol Supervisor, was on duty for the Patrol Service when he received a call from a Southampton resident who said he'd seen a man leave his garage and head west down the alley. Sgt. Vollert located the suspect a few blocks away coming out of another garage, and arrested him. H.P.D. transported him back to the original location, where the owner identified him. The D.A. accepted charges and the suspect went to jail. According to Sgt. Vollert, this suspect frequents our neighborhood and West University and is well known to all the officers in the area. Since he only takes change and/or CDs, he avoids felony charges and state jail. This was the 6th time our officers have arrested him and the second time Sgt. Vollert has arrested him.

Congratulations and thank you, Officer Kent, Officer Eveline and Sgt. Vollert for your good work! You're a great asset to the Southampton/BOCA Patrol Service and to our neighborhood. This is the second major arrest for both Officers Kent and Eveline since November. Officer O'Brian, who looks after our neighborhood on his regular duty for H.P.D., knows our neighborhood and surrounding area well. We are fortunate to have him on duty in our community.

Poe Co Thanks Boulevard Oaks For A Successful Garage Sale

Poe Cooperative Nursery School at 5100 Hazard held another very successful garage sale this year thanks to the generosity of many neighborhood residents. The event was held on Saturday, February 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and raised over \$6,500 for the school, exceeding the expectations of the organizers. According to Evalyn Krudy, "There is no doubt that donations from the neighborhood allowed us to exceed our goal." Funds will be used to provide classroom materials and improve the playground. For more information on our neighborhood preschool, visit www.poeco.org.

Most Recent BOCA Members

Listed below are the names of Boulevard Oaks residents who have joined BOCA since the last *BOCA Newsletter* was published (January 2006). Thank you very much for your support! The entire membership list for 2005-2006 will be printed in the May 2006 *BOCA Newsletter*. If you haven't joined BOCA this year, please take a few minutes to do so now. You can visit our web site at www.boulevardoaks.org to download a membership form or call the BOCA office at 713-528-BOCA and we'll send you one.

Patron

Stuart Zidell

Sustaining

Mr. & Mrs. John Cogan
Kerry Gregg & Karin Knapp
Michael Sklar

Regular

Carol Barndollar
Sue Barnum
Jeffrey Clarkson
Bruce Coffman & Bonnie McMillian
Melinda Lightsey Ford & Jim Ford
Jane & Wilbur Gay
Leslie Hector

Michelle Helin
Carter Hicks
Shelley & Paul Homeyer
Maria & Michael Thompson
Martha L. Gariepy
Yin & Surong Zhang
Elbert Johnson
Jackie & Bob Lane
Jan & Frank Veranth

Trees For Boulevard Oaks

Many thanks to the contributors of this year's Trees for Boulevard Oaks program. This year, Trees for Boulevard Oaks received close to \$7,000 for the planting of new trees, replacing sick or dead ones, and grinding stumps. Contributors since the last *BOCA Newsletter* (January 2006) are: Geoffrey Walker and Ann Kennedy, Kathy Wetmore and Shirley and Robert Williams. Please join us in extending a special thanks to our neighbors who have given so generously to keep our neighborhood green and beautiful!

The annual street tree planting should be completed within the next few weeks, and 32 new trees will grace our streets. Nearly all of the trees planted this year replace trees that have come to the end of their life spans, or have been hit by cars, as in the case of trees planted on the US59 feeder road. Contributions from BOCA residents have paid for new trees, as well as stump removals, and at sites where old trees stumps conflicted with planting.

In January, tree committee volunteers spent a Saturday morning pruning street trees on Bissonnet, North Blvd., and South Blvd. These volunteers logged 30 man-hours to help improve visibility, remove limbs obstructing sidewalks, and contributing to the health of the street trees. A huge thank you to the volunteers who turned out for this annual neighborhood event.








(Back row - left to right: Susan Sample, Laura Wilson, George Howe, Wallace Hooker, and Nancy Hamilton, Front row - Hallie Krudy)

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The Importance of Being Emailed

If BOCA doesn't have your email address, you're missing out on updates, invitations and E-NEWS alerts throughout the year. Please send your email address to boca@airmail.net so you don't get left out of the loop.

City Trash Schedule

Automated curbside collection	Tuesdays
Yard Waste (bagged)	Tuesdays
Heavy Trash	2nd Thurs.

Recycling is collected every other Tuesday.

March 14 & 28 April 11 & 25 May 9 & 23

Questions? Call 311

Private Trash Schedule

(Edgemont, Broadacres, Cherokee)

Curbside & alley collection	Tues. & Fri.
Recycling	Every Friday
Yard waste	Tues. & Fri.

Call to arrange Heavy trash pickup

Royal Disposal & Recycling 713-526-1536

Southampton/BOCA Patrol Service 713-825-5555