

# THE BERKELEY PLACE POOBAH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BERKELEY PLACE ASSOCIATION, FORT WORTH, TX



## PRESIDENT’S LETTER

AMY ALLIBON, BPA PRESIDENT

This is my final article as your BPA president. It has been enlightening, rewarding, and challenging, but I would not trade my time serving Berkeley. As an experienced and respected leader in my profession, serving as a neighborhood association president has been a very different experience. The dynamics that at times resembled being a middle schooler were surprising. Thankfully, I have thick skin. Surviving cancer does that for a person.

In 2020, I discovered the generosity of my Berkeley neighbors in a way I did not expect. I am forever thankful for the help you provided with donations of all shapes and sizes – trash bags, appliances, trucks to help me pick up food, stocking shelves, and volunteering in every temperature

imaginable that is unpleasant, and yes, finances – for a burgeoning food pantry at my church in River Oaks. Your generosity was the impetus for me to volunteer to serve this great neighborhood. During my three years on the board, I have gained lifetime friendships.

It has been a busy two years since I became the president. The Forest Park Pool was saved, and the renovation plan was modified to include a pool worthy of proper swim lessons and meets. We did not allow the pool to close or to simply become just a splash pad for toddlers. Our voices were heard by the city. I am proud that we have worked with our city council person, Elizabeth Beck, and neighborhood patrol officer,

*(Continued on page 2)*

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**NEXT MEETING OF THE BPA**

TBD

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONTINUED)

Juan Villagomez, on issues like short-term rentals, the increase in crime with more businesses and apartments, and yes, zoo traffic. Coming out of COVID in 2021 with a new FWPD lieutenant over traffic was a tough transition. It is a never-ending process, and the change in personnel impacts the outcome. The completion of the Hargrove Memorial Park is a shining star in Berkeley's crown thanks to Frank and Tobby Poeschel and the generous people who made that project a reality through labor and funding. After encouraging and offering funding support, I am thrilled that Berkeley Place (the street) renovated the green space on their court. Perhaps the days of dumping bulk trash on these spaces will come to an end as neighbors see that shared spaces are important to the value and beauty of a neighborhood. The silent train crossings remain a perplexing conundrum. I inherited this issue, and it is stuck in the mire of railroad politics. I have done my best and will continue to fight the fight as past president.

Whitney Thompson's pioneering actions to remove racist language from her home title forbidding people of color purchasing her home goes down in the history books for not only Berkeley, but Tarrant County. Whitney was the first to do such in Tarrant County, and she is a true pioneer. I am so proud of Whitney's tenacity and accomplishment and will be following her lead in 2024 by going through with this process for my deed. Whitney's family is moving to Crowley, and we wish them all the best.

I have truly enjoyed building relationships with many of the past presidents: Bob and Leann Adams, Herb Biddle, Deb Nyul, Chris Shipman, Greg Jackson, Carol Stanford, and Mary Dulle—thank you for your unrelenting support, encouragement, and words of wisdom. Randy Means' thoughtful editing and input on the by-law's revision was so helpful, and he must always lead the troops when it comes to July 4th. Steve Scanlon has been a real big brother, answering hundreds of texts and questions. He is the perfect sounding board. I appreciate his calm in the storms more than he will

ever know. Judy Alter has been patient and helpful at all turns with all things relating to the *Poobah*. She must adjust to a new president every two years, and that is admirable and not easy.

My thanks to all who serve Berkeley in every way possible: Annette Stapp Tess, Debra Million, Mary Keller, all of the amazing street reps, social committee helpers, web-site maintenance (Darien George), the bylaws committee (Nyul, Scanlon, Biddle, and Prudence Zavala) and my fellow board members: Charles Dreyfus, Maggi Arendsee, Tess McDonald, Ross Douglass, and Steve Scanlon. So many play a part in small ways that I cannot name here.

Berkeley, you are in good hands with the next president, Ross Douglass. Ross is a hard worker, extroverted, and very kind. I know he will do wonderful things to lead our neighborhood.

I leave you this thought—I would rather be one person's shot of whiskey than everyone's cup of tea. Peace be with you, Berkeley.

## BPA BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

BY TESS MCDONALD

Savings account \$15,038.64

Checking account \$35,545.26

Submitted 11/15/2023

# BEAUTIFY THE COURTS PROJECT

BY TESS MCDONALD



Imagine my surprise, when after floating an idea to beautify the circles in the six courts we have in Berkeley, all of a sudden came photos of the improvements to Berkeley Place! I've never heard of the city acting so quickly to make a new curb and other improvements happen. Kudos to those who made that happen!

I am trying to ride the momentum and have been meeting with a senior planner with the city who is looking into all the aspects of keeping the circles watered and, through the "Adopt a Median" program, we should be able get the projects started.

Ross Douglass, next years' BPA president, Maggi Arendsee, and I would like to encourage you (especially residents living on the courts) to attend future meetings where we can get your ideas and support. We want to make a beautiful space, much like Hargrove Park, to enhance our streets, increase property values, and add pleasant surroundings for all the walkers and bikers to enjoy, too.

The courts included in this are Ben Hall, Chatburn, Dartmoor, Patton, and Warner Road.

Stay tuned for future meeting dates in the *Poobah* and the Buzz.



# In Loving Memory



Berkeley surrounds Angela Kolbye and her family with love following the death of her husband, Kevin. The Kolbye family moved to Berkeley in 2016 and very much enjoyed meeting neighbors and being part of the neighborhood. Kevin had an outstanding career in law enforcement, after a brief stint as an accountant. He began with the Dallas Police Department in 1983 but joined the FBI in 1987 and served as an undercover agent in the Organized Crime/Drugs Division, was an FBI SWAT Team leader, and oversaw the Criminal and National Security Branch. In 2007, Kevin was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the FBI Dallas Field Office. In 2009, he served in a counterterrorism mission in Afghanistan. The year

2013 found him in Libya as commander of the Benghazi investigation. Kevin retired from the FBI in 2015 and joined the Arlington Police Department and was assistant police chief until 2022.

Kevin enjoyed spending time with his daughter, son, and stepsons. He loved hiking, fishing, and camping and had a special fondness for the beach. He loved his two Australian Labradoodles, Marley who stood by his side until his last day, and the new puppy, Remi Rose.

A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church on November 4.

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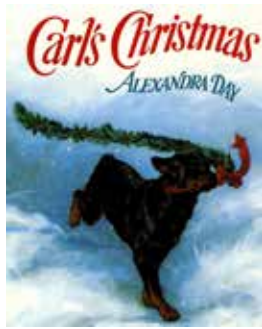
University Animal Hospital  
3109 McCart Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76110  
817-921-5429

# ROSIE'S BOOK CORNER, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BY DEBRA MILLION

Since it's December, I thought I would feature some of our daughter's favorite Christmas books that may be new to some of you.

*Carl's Christmas*, written and illustrated by Alexandra Day



Published in 1990 featuring the kind, gentle babysitting dog, Carl, that Day first introduced in her charming book, "Good Dog, Carl," the beautifully illustrated book tells the story of Carl, who is left in charge once again of Baby. Mother and Father head to church on Christmas Eve trusting Carl as usual to keep their little one safe. Little do Mother and Father know that once they leave the house, Baby and Carl go on their secret adventures. Carl always keeps his watchful eyes on Baby as they encounter carolers, shoppers and even Santa.

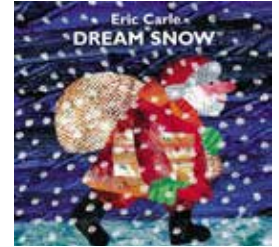
*The Snowman*, illustrated by Raymond Briggs



Published in 1978, Briggs lovely, sweet picture book shares the story of a wondrous winter adventure of a little boy and the snowman who magically comes to life. At the time of its' publication it was declared an instant classic and won the Kate Greenaway Medal, the British equivalent of the Caldecott Medal. Years ago when we purchased it for our girls, the book came with a plush Snowman that became a cherished toy year round. The book also inspired a 26-minute British television show that won the Oscar in 1978 for best animated short. If you have not

seen it, plan to add it to your list of must see holiday shows.

*Dream Snow*, written and illustrated by Eric Carle



Eric Carle, beloved author of such classics as *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Grouchy Ladybug* lends his unique collage illustrations to a story of a farmer who looks suspiciously like Santa, who dreams of snow covering the five precious animals on his small farm. Clear pages with snow and snow flakes reveal surprises with a special surprise at the end of the book. Published in 2000, charming and sweet even though the snow is deep, the story will leave you feeling warm and cozy.

Curl up with your children, under a blanket with a cup of hot chocolate and enjoy these three happy holiday stories. Merry Christmas!



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the minutes of the November 13 meeting of the Berkeley Place Association will be printed in the January issue of the *Poobah*.



# BERKELEY, BIKES & BBQ

BY AMY ALLIBON

Berkeley, Bikes, & BBQ 2.0 is in the books. Eight new cyclists from Berkeley participated in a twenty-mile ride along the Trinity Trail on Saturday, November 4. The weather was perfect, and Rob Allibon's smoked pork shoulder fed the hungry riders after the ride. If you would like to ride with Rob and Wayne Olson two days a week along the trail at 7:30 a.m., text Rob (817) 996-6104.



# BERKELEY, BIKES & BBQ (CONTINUED)



# DIRECTORY CHANGES/UPDATES

BY TESS MCDONALD

Although Tess McDonald sends out monthly updates to our neighborhood directory, we thought it might be helpful to have a cumulative to-date list.

<i>ADDRESS</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>PHONE/EMAIL</i>
1925 Dartmoor	de la Fuentes, Lupe and Ayesha (Rahan, Ilan, Camilla)	512-966-0731
1808 Forest Park	Shivers, Cale Wiley-Shivers, Ashlan	817-360-5951
2040 Glenco	Olson, Wayne & Marcella	
2207 Glenco	Remove Holmes Family	
2224 Hawthorne	Bailey, Patrick & Vivian (Wesley)	956-202-5410 vivian.m.villareal@gmail.com
2204 Huntington	Drew, Noah & Katie (Cooper)	713-410-7331 (n) noah.drew@yahoo.com (k) cooper.e.katie@gmail.com
2229 Stanley	Remove Bailey Family	
2200 Ward	Poeschel, Frank & Tobye	toby.e.poeschel@gmail.com
2229 Ward	Welder, William & Keely (Camille, Cosette)	
1932 Warner	Schafer, Cassidy	817-235-9916 cvschafer@outlook.com
2301 Warner	Holmes, Chad & Katie (Liam, Conor)	(k) 817-266-1473 (k) kholmes330@gmail.com (c) cholmes41@gmail.com
2213 Wilshire	Newberry, Don & Bonnie (Cole, Gavin)	(b) bpnewberry@gmail.com



# DIRECTORY CHANGES/UPDATES (CONTINUED)

ADDRESS	NAME	PHONE/EMAIL
1912 Windsor	Murray, Diane	dimurr@gmail.com
2228 Windsor	Cunningham, Sam & Addie	512-809-5476 addiekcunningham@gmail.com
1915 Forest Park		anjahamar@msn.com
2233 Glenco Terrace	Remove Phil & Subie Green	
2233 Glenco Terrace	Whitney Brown	214-417-7333 wmwitsend@gmail.com

*You're So Close To Home.*

And whether home means a new place  
in our own Berkeley Place or anywhere  
else in Fort Worth or beyond...

Let's find your dream together.

LAURA THOMAS  
Neighbor, REALTOR®, Friend

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Warm wishes for a Christmas Season  
full of joy and wonder, and a  
New Year that brings  
adventure and fun surprises!

And as always, thank you  
for allowing us to be a part  
of your lives.



Ruth Story  
Broker  
817.992.9232  
Ruth@DFWStoryGroup.com



Kati Van Cleave  
Broker Associate  
817.992.6817  
Kati@DFWStoryGroup.com



Canyon Van Cleave  
Realtor  
817.372.5099  
Canyon@DFWStoryGroup.com

[www.dfwstorygroup.com](http://www.dfwstorygroup.com)

SG



# JOY OF MEDICARE

## MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD ENDS DECEMBER 7!

BY FRANCES LOOK

Yay! No more advertisements interrupting games or in the mailbox! But are you stuck in a plan? Did you goof, get too busy to make that change? Don't despair—a skilled agent can find you a get out of jail free card. Maybe. This is a recap and Cliff Notes version of some change options. Not a pop quiz. Just the facts

The first is Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period. Even the name is confusing. It is January 1 to March 31. OEP legally cannot be advertised. It is only for Medicare Advantage current members. But shhh, this is a newsletter, not an ad!

During the Open Enrollment Period you can switch Medicare Advantage plans, drop a Medicare Advantage plan and return to Original Medicare, add a stand-alone Part D drug plan if a Medicare Advantage plan is dropped. And shhh! Remember, it cannot be advertised. So, no annoying ads. Just insider knowledge.

But wait, there's more! A reason why you have an agent and not those 800 call-center folks. Special Election period or "SEP" are other times throughout the year to make a change on Medicare Advantage Plans. The list is longer than my arm, but I will list a few.

Some possible situations:

- Change from a Retiree Medicare Plan. TRS spouses, this one's for you!
- Retiring—any time of the year
- Move out of plan's service area
- Disaster - floods, drought, ice, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanic eruptions
- Gain/lose eligibility for a Chronic Special Needs Plan—plans for chronic conditions such as diabetes or cardiovascular condition
- Enroll in a five-star plan or drop your first

Medicare Advantage plan within twelve months of enrolling

- Move into/out of a qualified institutional facility, like a nursing home
- Enroll in/lose eligibility for a qualified State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program
- Gain/lose eligibility for Medicaid, a Medicare Savings Program or Extra Help
- Enroll in/leave the Program of All-Inclusive Care for Elderly (PACE)
- Plan closes, stops serving your area, significantly reduces its provider network, or consistently receives low Medicare star ratings.

For those working past 65 with an employer health plan, there is an eight-month Special Enrollment Period for enrollment in Part A, Part B without late penalties. The employer plan must be deemed creditable coverage to count.

Beware of the built in "trick." Why? Because while there are eight months to get Parts A & B, enrollment in Part D without penalty is only available the first two months. If enrolled after the two-month mark, there are late enrollment penalties for Part D (regardless of whether enroll in a stand-alone Part D plan or a Medicare Advantage plan that includes drug coverage). For the rest of your life, all of it, forever. A land mine built right in with serious consequences!

Wishing you the best of holiday seasons!!!

[missmedicare101@gmail.com](mailto:missmedicare101@gmail.com)

972-510-7660



# 2023 BPA BUDGET

INCOME	BUDGETED	YEAR TO DATE	DIFFERENTIAL
Poobah Ad Revenue	\$8,220	\$8,215	(\$5)
Directory Ad Revenue	\$1,000	\$1,655	\$655
Annual Dues Collection	\$20,500	\$18,505	(\$1,995)
Designated Donation July 4	\$500	\$250	(\$250)
Designated Donation Pumpkins in the Park	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
Designated Donation Hargrove Park	\$0.00	\$50	\$50
Designated Donation October Santa Park	\$500	\$0	(\$500)
<b>2023 INCOME</b>	<b>\$31,220</b>	<b>\$28,675</b>	<b>(\$2,545)</b>
EXPENSES	BUDGETED	YEAR TO DATE	DIFFERENTIAL
BPA Board Insurance	\$744	\$698	\$46
Lily B. Auction Donation	\$750	\$750	\$0
Middle School Donation 6th Grade Campus	\$325	\$325	\$0
Middle School Donation 7-8 Grade Campus	\$325	\$325	\$0
Paschal HS Donation	\$750	\$1,000	(\$250)
Annual Due Letter Postage	\$685	\$0	\$685
Berkeley Place Events	\$4,850	\$3,983.99	\$866.01
SquareSpace—BPA Website	\$337.74	\$358.91	(\$21.17)
Website Management Fees (Google Workspace)	\$144	\$0	\$144
Domain Registry	\$50	\$0	\$50
BPA All Adult Dinner	\$3,000	\$1,560.15	\$1,439.85
Dropbox/PO Box	\$400	\$0	\$400
Poobah Printing	\$9,500	\$10,296.78	(\$796.78)
Zoom Membership 1 yr	\$160	\$159.20	\$0.80
Poobah Newsletter Layout	\$1,300	\$730	\$570
Printing—Directory****	\$4,500	\$3,556.27	\$943.73
Ward Parkway/Hargrove Memorial Park	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Misc (new ribbons for light poles, BPA special mailers)	\$300	\$62	\$238
Block Parties	\$1,000	\$1,243.11	(\$243.11)
Discretionary Fund	\$500	\$950	(\$450)
Board Dinners	\$1,500	\$613.38	\$886.62
Bi-Annual Presidents Dinner	\$2,500		\$2,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$34,620.74</b>	<b>\$27,611.79</b>	<b>\$7008.95</b>

# MEET KODA

ADAPTED FROM FACEBOOK BY ROBIN FULTON



Hi! My name is Koda! I'm a one-year-old, lovable Dalmatian girl. I love to play with other dogs, play fetch, and play with my stuffed toys. I'm good with kiddos of all ages and warmed up quickly to my foster mom and dad! I do well sleeping in my crate at night and when my foster mom has to run short errands. I am mostly potty trained with very few accidents. I know a few commands like sit and down. I am very motivated by praise and love to have my belly rubbed. I am also a big snuggler! I am eager to please and can't wait to be a part of a forever family. My foster family has



enjoyed their time with me and will miss me when I leave. Bring me home in time for the holidays.

To meet me, please fill out an application! Available through Paws of Love Rescue. Application available at <https://www.pawsofloverescue.com/adoption-application>. Adoption donation of \$295 includes spay/neuter, microchip, deworming, dhpp vaccinations, rabies shot, bordetella nose spray, and any other necessary procedures prior to adoption.





## YARD OF THE MONTH

BY JENNI COLE

Congratulations to our Yard of the Month winners, Sherry and Jeff Cole, of 2205 Hawthorne Avenue. They have landscaped their front flower beds with a variety of evergreen bushes as well as purple jew and azaleas. On either side of the walkway to their front door, they planted Mexican petunias, with small purple blooms. In addition, they have well established trees in their front yard which offer shade and a crape myrtle that provides additional color to their lovely yard.

Thank you to Sherry and Jeff for keeping Berkeley beautiful. A special thank you to Calloway's for sponsoring our Yard of the Month program. Be sure to visit Calloway's for all your gardening needs!

(Side note—I am not related to Sherry and Jeff! There is no nepotism involved: we just happen to share the same last name!)



# ALLOWAY'S NURSERY\*

## Monthly Lawn & Garden Organic Checklist

### January

- Fertilize pansies with [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#)
- Plant vegetables like tomatoes/peppers through March
- Plant herbs
- Spray [Bonide All Seasons Oil Spray](#) for to control scale insects, if needed
- Prune evergreen trees and shrubs
- Decorate with indoor plants

### February

- Use [Corn Gluten Meal](#) to deter weeds from germinating in the lawn
- Plant trees and shrubs using [Calloway's Tree & Shrub Planting Mix](#)
- Apply [Lava Sand](#) to beds
- Prune peach and plum trees
- Plant herbs through March

### March

- Fertilize all planting areas if not done in February
- Mulch all bare soil with [Calloway's Organic Hardwood](#) or [Cedar Mulch](#)
- Amend vegetable beds with [Calloway's Organic Compost](#)
- Apply [Turf Mender](#) to revive the soil
- Fertilize lawn with [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#)
- Replant containers with seasonal color

### April

- Apply [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#) to vegetables
- Release beneficial insects
- Leave foliage of daffodils to recharge the bulbs
- Spray [Bonide Neem](#) on roses
- Treat chlorotic plants with [Green Sand](#)

### May

- Apply [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#), [Molasses](#) and [Green Sand](#)
- Release beneficial insects
- Use [Monterey B.t. Spray](#) for bagworms
- Prune spring blooming shrubs
- Time to plant summer flowering, heat loving tropical plants

### June

- Apply [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#), [Molasses](#), and [Green Sand](#) at the first of month if not applied in May
- Apply [Horticulture Corn Meal](#) for fungus problems as needed
- Control webworms with [Monterey B.t. Spray](#) or [Bonide Captain Jack's \(Spinosad\)](#)
- Control snails, slugs and pill bugs with [Monterey Sluggo Snail & Slug Control](#)

### June Continued

- Deadhead spent blooms
- Apply [Natural Cedar Warrior](#) to deter mosquitoes

### July

- Use [Diatomaceous Earth](#) to control crawling insects
- Mulch flowerbeds and trees to conserve moisture
- Apply [Molasses](#) and [Green Sand](#) once to the lawn and beds
- Plant tomatoes

### August

- Water pots and hanging baskets daily
- Water lawns, 1" per week, best done in early mornings
- Mulch flowerbeds and trees to conserve moisture with [Calloway's Organic Hardwood](#) or [Cedar Mulch](#)

### September

- Apply [Liquid Fish & Seaweed](#) twice this month
- Apply [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#)
- Apply [Turf Mender](#) to revive the soil
- Use [Corn Gluten Meal](#) to deter weed seeds from germinating in the lawn
- Apply [Molasses](#) and [Green Sand](#)
- Refresh landscape and containers with pansies

### October

- Use [Corn Gluten Meal](#) to deter weed seeds from germinating in the lawn
- Rake and remove leaves on your lawn
- Apply [Lava Sand](#)
- Plant trees and shrubs
- Divide summer blooming perennials
- Use [Jobe's Blood Meal](#) to fertilize pansies
- Add pumpkins and gourds for fall color
- Beautify with cyclamen

### November

- Fertilize bulbs, annuals, and perennials with [Calloway's Natural Garden Food](#)
- Mulch for winter protection with [Calloway's Organic Hardwood](#) or [Cedar Mulch](#)
- Plant winter annual color

### December

- Plant spring bulbs (tulips and hyacinths) using [Jobe's Bone Meal](#) to provide nutrients
- Fertilize indoor plants once during winter
- Water any dry areas to help protect against cold injury
- Provide food and water for the area's wintering birds
- Christmas trees and poinsettias make the season bright

# PLANK SEAFOOD PROVISIONS OPENS IN THE SHOPS AT CLEARFORK

BY ERIN EAST

When thinking of dining in the cities of Omaha, Austin, and Fort Worth, the first hunger-driven search for a restaurant I would put my money on is, “Let’s find a good steakhouse!” The folks at Flagship Restaurant Group are hoping this trio of cities will also be synonymous with environmentally-responsibly sourced seafood and meat. Plank Seafood Provisions (“Plank”), an Omaha-based restaurant established in 2013, opened in mid-October in The Shops at Clearfork, in the former Twigs location. Plank has a clear and direct sourcing of ingredients focus on what they call “Conscious Earth” with the mantra: “Responsibly Caught. Humanely Raised. Mindful Earth.”

All their seafood, meat, eggs, and other animal products are either wildly caught, harvested, or farm-raised based on those principles. Plank found its way into my Instagram feed nearly a year before it was set to open and with growing anticipation, I was thrilled when Plank’s opening coincided with my birthday. The three boys in my life treated me to a seafood tower, oyster shooters, scallops, ahi tuna - all the seafood I could get my hooks into!

Plank’s walls splash you in crashing waves wallpaper, and a wooden frame reminiscent of a Viking longship hangs from the ceiling. A ceiling filled with stars and constellations guides your appetite through the dining room. A large bar is in the center and a glass-enclosed patio lines the sidewalk.

We dove right in with the royal seafood tower: twelve oysters, six dressed, shrimp cocktail, salmon crudo, mussels escabeche and redfish ceviche. The chef’s dressing that night was a chimichurri concoction. Not normally a fan of parsley, I loved it. The salmon crudo and redfish ceviche were fresh and delicious with the expected lime and saltiness.

We opted to skip soup and salad after the medley we just conquered and ordered our entrees. I selected the ahi tuna, seasoned and with just the slightest char on a bowl of ginger scallion noodles, mushrooms, charred green onion, yuzu fruit, and bonito. The flavor was light yet powerful. It was fantastic. My son Fischer chose the sea scallops, accompanied by squid ink bucatini, Calabrian chili, coconut milk, sourdough gremolata, and carrot ginger puree. Fischer and I split our plates 50/50 and I can say the sea scallops were some of the best I have had. They were buttery and succulent. The squid ink bucatini was bland, not memorable, allowing the scallops to own the dish.

Christopher picked the bacon-wrapped shrimp with jalapeno, aged white cheddar, dirty grits, tomato, and crawfish beurre blanc. I find it pretty hard to ruin anything wrapped in bacon and these jumbo shrimps were no exception—everything is better with bacon! We make a lot of low country-style grits (by we, I mean Christopher has perfected shrimp, Tasso ham, and grits at home) so I was slightly alerted when he ordered a dish that I knew he already prepares so well. He was not disappointed; it would be a great brunch item with their Bloody Mary!

Rounding out my birthday dinner Auggie went against the waves, not ordering seafood but the lemon and herb tagliatelle pasta with smoked chili, white wine, butter, herbs, lemon, tomato, and herbed grilled chicken. He gives it two thumbs up and noting how quickly it disappeared, I would say it was a successful dish. There is a filet and ribeye on the menu, buy ahoy matey’s, this is a place for seafood!

Our server was friendly, knowledgeable, kept

*(Continued on the next page)*



# PLANK SEAFOOD PROVISIONS OPENS IN THE SHOPS AT CLEARFORK (CONTINUED)

our glasses full, and ended the night sending us their chocolate terrine dessert, overflowing with peanut butter ice cream, cultured milk crumble, a bing cherry, and smoked Maldon. Every now and then I need to do a quick google search when I simply don't know an ingredient and Maldon was one of these times. It's a finishing salt that obtains its taste from the local seawaters where it is harvested. I should not be surprised that a chocolate and peanut butter delicacy was topped with sea infused salt, coming full circle from starter to dessert, you will thank Mother Ocean for her cuisine pearls.

Plank Seafood Provisions  
5289 Marathon Avenue, Fort Worth 76109  
The Shops at Clearfork  
[www.plankseafood.com](http://www.plankseafood.com)  
@plankseafood  
817-989-2373



**Join the Team!**

**Open Board Position**  
BPA is still seeking nominations for the office of vice president for the coming two-year term.

If interested please contact  
**Amy Allibon or  
Ross Douglass**

# BERKELEY CHEERS

Give a shout-out to neighbors who have done something you appreciate! Send your cheer to [judyltr@gmail.com](mailto:judyltr@gmail.com) to be included in the next issue.

Turns out it only takes one very kind neighbor with a snazzy Little Giant ladder to change a lightbulb. I am very grateful to Jacob Locke who not only changed the lightbulb, he did it without me being the least bit frightened, for him or for the glass cover. It turned out that there were four screws holding the cover on, not three. He was even patient enough to let me clean the cover before he put it back on. Berkeley has great neighbors!

—Mary Eads



In an earlier message, Mary wrote: How many neighbors does it take to change a lightbulb? Before you jump to quick conclusions, be aware that it's a really tricky one. It's a lovely old fixture with a glass cover that I don't want broken. You have to unscrew the cover in three places to get it off in order to gain access to the bulb to change. It's located at the top of my stairs in the middle of the space. You can't put a level ladder under it to change it because it must accommodate the stairs. Even if you had a snazzy ladder that could level out under the stairs it's scary because you are high up with nothing around you to hang onto. If you are very tall with very long arms, it is possible to reach over the banister to accomplish this. The last time I had the lightbulb changed the people who did it were a father-son electrician pair that scared me so much I had to hide under the bed while they changed it. They said they were putting in an LED bulb that should last forever. Unfortunately it didn't.

—Mary Eads




A special thank you to Kathleen and Constantine Phiripes of 1940 Berkeley Place, who took the

initiative and contacted Councilwoman Elizabeth Beck and had the concrete circle that had been destroyed by heavy trucks repaired. At the same time, the circumference of the circle was reduced, thus making it easier for those who live in that area to drive out into the street with less effort.

—Ole Lorenzetti



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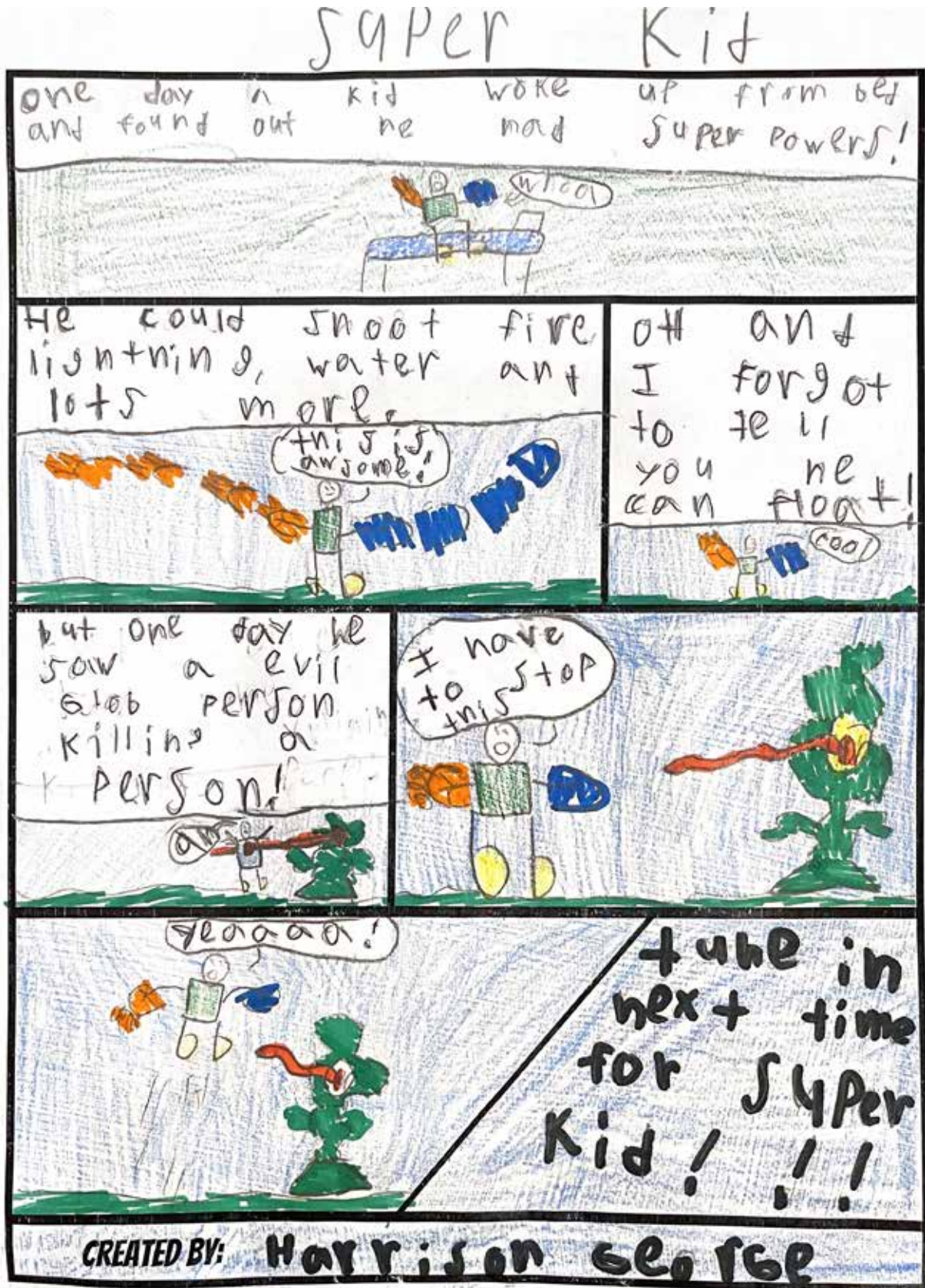


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# HARRISON GEORGE COMIC



# BERKELEY'S SENSORY SAFE HALLOWEEN

BY LAURIE GEORGE



Sunday, October 29th, Berkeley Place celebrated our fourth annual Sensory Safe Halloween, or “Berkeley Halloween.” I think “Berkeley Halloween” says it all because our sensory-safe Halloween is a shining example of who we are as a neighborhood. Berkeley Place comes together to support all people, but especially kids. As usual, it was a fantastic success despite the chilly weather!

Our dear neighbor Jaimie Smith greets our Medstar guests each year. I'll use her words directly because she says it best:

*“We invite medically fragile children and their families to join us for a night of trick-or-treating. Some of these children have not been able to participate in Halloween for years.*

*For the past two years, my lucky stars have provided me with the opportunity to represent our amazing neighborhood by greeting these children and their families and escorting them along our bumpy sidewalks while filling their bags with candy. This year three children and*

*their families joined us. The children arrived in MedStar ambulances accompanied by EMTs, nurses, and all the equipment they needed to stay medically stable while trick-or-treating. The medical staff happily volunteer for this duty year after year and revel in the spirit of Halloween by dressing in costume.*

*Both years, I have been moved to tears by the welcoming embrace and kind spirit our neighbors and their children provide for these children and their families. The families are so very grateful. You can hear it in their words as they thank me over and over for this opportunity. You can see it in their eyes through their tears of pure joy as they watch their children take part in Halloween. It doesn't get any better than this! We live in a wonderful neighborhood. Thank you, neighbors! You are remarkable in your generosity.”*

—Jaimie Smith



After four years, Shelby Ryon and I thought it would be a great time to tell the Sensory Safe Halloween origin story for our new neighbors and those who opt out of our Facebook group, email list, homing pigeons, and skywriters.

October 31st in Berkeley is a ton of fun. It is so fun that people from all over town flock to

*(Continued on the next page)*

# BERKELEY'S SENSORY SAFE HALLOWEEN (CONTINUED)

our neighborhood to trick-or-treat. And who wouldn't? We have safe sidewalks, friendly neighbors, fabulous decorations, and tons of candy! The flip side of living in a "destination neighborhood" is that it prevents some kids from participating. Kids who use a wheelchair or scooter can't get access to the sidewalks when it's crowded. Kids with autism can get overwhelmed and hide when they see crowds. Kids going through immune suppression treatments can't get far enough away from others to stay safe. Little bitty ones aren't safe to explore because it's dark and they could easily get lost in the crowds. Adults with intellectual disabilities can be subject to bullying by those who don't understand hidden disability. These challenges and others like them prevent some people with disabilities from experiencing the simple joys

that non-disabled and neurotypical people experience without even thinking about it.

Sensory safe Halloween began in 2020, during the Covid pandemic. As the mom of a child with a disability, I sensed an opportunity. We disability mamas learn early that we must advocate and fight for our kids. However, the easiest fight to win is one that someone else started. And that year, that "someone" was Covid. Covid was the equalizer. COVID made a LOT of people feel left out: our older neighbors who look forward to Halloween each year but couldn't risk getting sick, our new or pregnant moms with little ones to worry about, our families who had already been through COVID and were terrified to get sick again. Suddenly, a lot

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# BERKELEY'S SENSORY SAFE HALLOWEEN (CONTINUED)

of people could understand what families like mine deal with every year, and I jumped on it. Berkeley Halloween was born!!

That first year was a huge success. It was just what our neighbors needed to connect during a difficult time, but more than that, it allowed so many kids to experience trick-or-treating for the first time in a way that was manageable for their family.



Shelby Ryon took on Berkeley Halloween in 2021 and boldly clarified our mission... a sensory-safe experience that allowed ALL children to participate. Medstar was eager to switch to our new event. The crowds on the 31st had always been a problem and started to get unsafe for their special passengers. Shelby introduced the interactive map and defined the terms. We implemented an education piece for neighbors to learn more about kids with disabilities and manage their expectations.



Over the years, we occasionally get pushback from well-meaning neighbors, who assume our separate Halloween is some elitist event designed to avoid interacting with our visitors on the 31st.



# BERKELEY'S SENSORY SAFE HALLOWEEN (CONTINUED)

But with a bit of education, those neighbors quickly see that inclusion, access, and equity are not synonymous with sameness.

Inclusive events like our sensory-safe Halloween exist not to separate but to promote equitable access. To use an analogy, one person may use a ramp and another the stairs, but if the goal is to get into the building, then both have achieved access. Far too many people are attempting to pull a wheelchair up the steps because they assume the goal is to get everyone to take the stairs.



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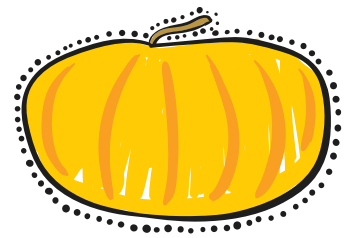
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# PUMPKINS IN THE PARK

PHOTOS BY POLLY HOOPER





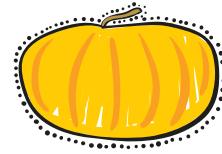
# PUMPKINS IN THE PARK (CONTINUED)



# PUMPKINS IN THE PARK (CONTINUED)



# PUMPKINS IN THE PARK (CONTINUED)



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