

THE BERKELEY PLACE POOBAH

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



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

AMY ALLIBON, BPA PRESIDENT

You can do it—you can do it! Just one more month until the joy of summer and a change of routine for those with school-age children. After an incredibly busy April with three BPA events—the Easter Egg hunt, Garage Sale, and Grown Ups Getaway—May is a month to focus on family. Mothers' Day, graduations, and the end of another school year load our calendars with recitals, plays, concerts, graduations, and celebrations. I hope your family enjoys these last days of spring before moving into the heat of summer, and you breathe of sigh of relief on Memorial Day weekend in sight of a slower pace for the summer.

I'm so thankful for Danny, DeeDee, Ginny, and Molly Byrne for serving as primary hosts for the Easter Egg hunt on April 1st. The Byrne family has a heart for service, and I'm so appreciative. I hope everyone

who participated in the neighborhood garage sale on April 22 made a lot of money and more importantly, cleared out their clutter. I'm equally indebted to Greg and Claudine Jackson for hosting the Grown Ups Happy Hour in their beautiful backyard. Claudine was so helpful to me as a co-conspirator/host for this event and locking down all the details. We are grateful that this event, originated by Darien and Laurie George, is now part of the BPA social schedule.

We still have room for volunteers for the fall children's events—specifically, Pumpkins in the Park and Santa in the Park. Please reach out to me if you'd be willing to assist in a small way. I promise you will not be in charge! We have chairs for each event; however, many hands make light work. Serving is so fulfilling—please consider!

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NEXT MEETING OF THE BPA

Zoom Virtual Meeting
To Be Determined



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

DATE CHANGE

Please note this date change. Berkeley Sensory Safe Trick or Treating will be on Sunday, October 29, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Not Saturday as listed in the minutes of the April meeting.



REPORT ON A FORMER NEIGHBOR

Berkeley neighbors will be glad to know that longtime Berkeley leader, Mary Dulle, is recovering well from extensive back surgery. Mary and Joe downsized and reluctantly left Berkeley in January, but their hearts remain with us.



A BRAG FROM YOUR EDITOR

Is your editor allowed a personal brag? My newest Irene in Chicago Culinary Mystery, *Irene Deep in Texas Trouble*, published April 22 and is available from Amazon in ebook and paperback. When diva and faux French chef, Irene Foxglove, visits Fort Worth, the result is not only murder and mayhem but a huge cultural clash, mostly over food.



CLIBURN FANS TRAVEL TO ARKANSAS

Nancy and Paul Witt drove to Bentonville, Arkansas recently to attend a joint concert by the 2022

(Continued on page 2)

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AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD (CONTINUED)

Cliburn Competition medalists. Dimytro Choni and Anna Geniushene astonished the sold-out crowd at Crystal Bridges Museum with their world-class performances. The Witts described Bentonville and its museums as surprising gems set in the Ozarks.



A GETAWAY WEEKEND

The East family recently got out of the neighborhood to enjoy a getaway weekend at Lake Texoma. As you can see, the fishing was good.



Fischer East and his family with the catch of the day



Fischer and Augie East making s'mores



Fischer East hanging in a hammock



HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

If you are thinking of visiting the New England area think about seeing the South Shore areas outside Boston. So beautiful any time of the year, not just for the Fall leaves. Martha Cunningham recently visited her two oldest granddaughters in Hingham, Massachusetts. They were happy that she brought some warm weather (up to 80 degrees) so they could drive to the nearest beach only twelve minutes away in Hull, Massachusetts. A five minute drive from their home is the Hornstra dairy farm selling fresh milk and ice cream. Just five minutes from there is the Cross St Flower Farm. They were there for a pick your own tulips day. There are many beautiful forest areas to hike in as well. The ferry to visit Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket is just a short distance further south. So fun!



WHO'S TEACHING YOUR KIDS?

EDITED BY MARY KELLER



Troy Langston
Paschal High School Principal

I grew up in Fort Worth and attended FWISD schools, graduating from the High School for Science and Engineering Professions at P.L. Dunbar. After high school, I went on to UT Arlington, earning a BA in anthropology. This was a groundbreaking accomplishment in my family because I am the first person, except for my uncle, to graduate from college. Though my parents encouraged me, and my granddad often repeated that education is important because “no one can take that away from you,” they did not reinforce that college was a non-negotiable expectation. My parents did not understand what a college experience would entail. I am very grateful, however, for their steadfast belief in my abilities and for my uncle who was both an encourager and the one to whom I could turn for guidance about navigating college.

Though I was drawn to the sciences, I did flounder a bit trying to figure out my path for a career or a profession. After receiving my zoology degree from the University of Texas, I began working at the Fort Worth Zoo. My zoo experiences made me consider substitute teaching.

Still not on firm footing career-wise, I put in an application with FWISD to be a substitute. Before getting my first sub assignment, I was contacted by Carter Riverside High School. The principal looked at my resume and talked to me about filling the vacancy he had for a biology teacher. Keep in mind, my only teaching experience was as a camp counselor in high school, but he needed a science teacher and, thankfully, he saw a little something in me. He hired and mentored me. The unexpected chance at Carter Riverside and TCU's Life Sciences Alternative Certification Program, set into motion my life's direction.

What followed were eleven years of teaching biology, chemistry, and AP biology at Carter Riverside. After earning my master's in education at UTA, I was selected as an assistant principal at P.L. Dunbar. Four years as an AP gave me tremendous experiences and brought about another opportunity to incorporate my passion for the sciences into FWISD's new Early College High School.

In 2011, I was privileged to be part of the founding team that developed and launched the Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences (TABS). During my seven years as TABS principal, we were recognized as one of Texas' highest-achieving schools. Five years ago I was selected to be the principal at Paschal. What a journey it has been, from a kid growing up in a good and, in their way, supportive family with limited educational experience. The changes, challenges, and even the wandering have all been integral to my development and, most importantly, my belief in and understanding

(Continued on the next page)

WHO'S TEACHING YOUR KIDS? (CONTINUED)

of our students as individuals of worth and potential. It is with gratitude that I can attest that my twenty-six years as an educator have given me perspective and an even deeper commitment to my leadership responsibilities. I take to heart my duty to build upon the outstanding legacy of Fort Worth's oldest and largest high school.

As a father of two girls, the oldest a junior at UTA and our youngest in high school, I also want our parents to be confident in our school and to know that they are welcome and appreciated. Our parents make countless important contributions. We couldn't do the things we do without the support of our PTA and the various booster organizations as well as other volunteers. I am frequently impressed and inspired by those individuals who give their time for the sake of our students. I am certainly

grateful for tremendously supportive parents, but at the same time, I am sensitive that it's not easy for all parents to be included in their teen's high school life. It is incumbent on us; therefore, to keep working for ways to help provide portals for parents to be comfortable, informed, and engaged. This is a challenge at a school of over 2100 students. Still, it is essential that all parents feel listened to and respected. For example, for our parents who struggle with English, we offer monthly parent meetings in Spanish. Across the board, our goal is to increase parental involvement.

My own life and professional experiences inform my decisions and actions. My core belief is that every student, regardless of family means, deserves to have access to rich academic experiences and

(Continued on the next page)

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WHO'S TEACHING YOUR KIDS? (CONTINUED)

an array of opportunities to grow and, ultimately achieve. It's interesting how being a science teacher and an avid runner both inform my leadership perspectives and goal setting. Here at PHS, I evaluate progress through the lens of "what's working and what may need improvement." This means consistently analyzing data, patterns, and environmental factors. My process approach and decision-making are attuned to and informed by nuances, like ripples in a pond. Yet, I find it endlessly fascinating and inspiring to notice and appreciate the surprises. It is delightful to witness what students are accomplishing and are capable of achieving.

Berkeley Place is one of the original communities within our Paschal feeder system. I am appreciative that in Berkeley we have generational PHS alumni. This is true across our Fort Worth community. It's true almost anywhere in our city PHS connections are less than three degrees of separation. So from our founding in 1891 through the 20th Century to today, there are generations of leaders showing amazing talent, leadership, and selfless service. This is the bedrock upon which we must continue Paschal's stellar reputation. It is a humbling privilege to be part of our outstanding urban institution where all students have world-class academic opportunities inside a supportive social and emotional environment.

It is natural for parents and their children to worry about a transition to any high school. Here at PHS, and within our feeder school pyramid (three traditional middle schools and one Montessori school), we take seriously our responsibilities to provide multiple avenues of transition support. Essential to maintaining our school's positive climate and culture are our expectations for courtesy in student behavior. I am impressed with the great kindness shown by the vast majority of PHS students. Student to student, this makes a tangible difference more than any program. To help students make those critical adjustments to high school, we have scaffolding processes, starting with incoming freshmen. In August we have a camp for



Troy Langston celebrating the Paschal Whiz Kids National Scholarship

ninth graders, with usually about a third of our six hundred freshmen attending all day and another hundred students participating part of the time. Upperclassmen, through LINK, our student leadership organization, organize and are involved in the camp and freshman orientation. They mentor the new students as "big sisters and big brothers." LINK leaders personally assist new students to develop their confidence. There are about sixty students involved in LINK. This keeps their freshman mentoring responsibilities to no more than ten new students to mentor throughout the year.

Texas public schools are proud! If we isolate our kids, how can they learn to make our American union "more perfect"? We, as citizens, are responsible for each other. We cannot take this for granted. Students must grow and learn from a variety of experiences and cultures. Our children can acquire an appreciation that not everyone has the same experiences, opportunities, perspectives, and values. Public schools contribute in essential ways to the development of understanding, compassion, and confidence. We must be guided by Thomas Jefferson's charge:

"The main purpose of the American school is to provide for the fullest possible development of each learner for living morally, creatively, and productively in a democratic society."



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ENGINEERING A HAPPY HOME ON STANLEY

BY DEBRA MILLION

Every time you drink a cool glass of tap water or drive down a smooth highway, you might should say “Thank You” to the two civil engineers who have made their home at 2409 Stanley Avenue. James and Tara McDonald and their two children Leah, almost eight, and Luke, five and a half, moved into their new home on December

17, 2022. James works for the City of Fort Worth in the Water Department Treatment Operations and Tara works designing highways for a private consulting firm, Atkins North American, Inc. Sounds like they both took a lot of math in their lives!

Originally from Houston, Tara went to Vanderbilt for her un-

dergraduate degree. James is from Benbrook and graduated from Texas A&M. They both earned their master’s degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. Attending UT as a devoted Aggie was not easy for James. When taking his UT student ID photo, he couldn’t resist giving the thumbs up GIG ‘EM! Unfortunately, the photo only

(Continued on the next page)

ENGINEERING A HAPPY HOME ON STANLEY (CONTINUED)

showed his head and not his hand, but James knew it was there! They didn't meet at UT however, but in Dallas. In 2007, they both had summer internships at the same firm and one night, two groups of co-workers, one with Tara and one with James, ended up at the same watering hole, The Loon. That's their cute meet story.

They married in 2012 while still living in Austin, then in 2014 moved to Dallas, settling in the North Oak Cliff neighborhood. The job with the city drew them to Fort Worth. Since James is from Benbrook, it felt like moving home. Having their children attend a public school was important to them, so when friends who lived in the Lily B. attendance zone, told them about this wonderful, sweet public school in their neighborhood, the search began for a home. The family lived in the Berkeley Apartments off of Forest Park for six months while they searched for a house.

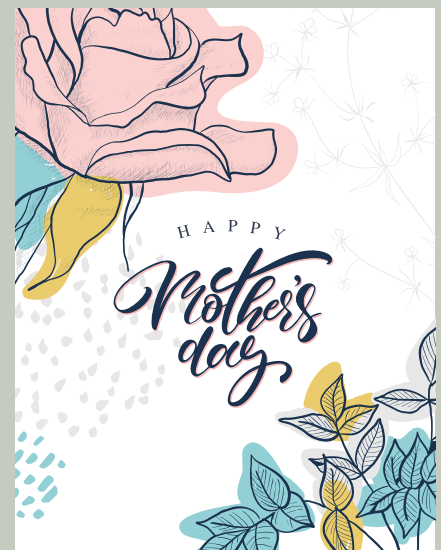
Tara said the weekend they moved into their new home, the kids were staying with the grandparents. Tara and James had worked all day, were dirty and sweaty, and decided to go to Enchiladas Olé for dinner. She said it was just such a cozy

feeling. The food was good, the drinks were good, the people were friendly, and their new home was within walking distance. It really felt like home.

With two busy young children, Tara said most of their entertainment consists of socializing with the other parents at various soccer games, baseball games, and Girl Scout meetings. Although, when I talked to Tara on the phone, she was getting ready to attend a Stanley Avenue social event called Neighbor Night. Once a month, the women on Stanley get together, share a beverage, and indulge in adult conversations. I think every street in Berkeley should steal that idea! Neighbor Night throughout the entire neighborhood! While Tara's night is for the women, the men on Stanley also have a few get togethers although they still need to give it a catchy name. Berkeley Bros?

While they have yet to adopt any family pets, the McDonald children get to see all sorts of animals when they visit James' family ranch out in Brushy Creek, close to Tyler. The HW Ranch has been in James family for over seventy years. Doesn't it seem like every Texan should have a ranch to visit on the weekends?

Tara said they feel so blessed and grateful to have found a home in a place that is so welcoming with so many great neighbors. Leah is in second grade at Lily B. in the dual language program, and Luke will begin kindergarten there in the fall. Walking to school in the morning is one of the best parts of their day. Sounds like these two engineers are designing and building a busy, happy, and full life for their family over on Stanley.



BERKELEY HEROES AND LEGENDS: ORLEW LAUGER

BY SUBIE GREEN



When Orlew and Larry Lauger moved to Berkeley in 2007, they had already lived in Chicago, Dallas, Albuquerque, St. Louis, Atlanta, and London—either working or studying during their careers. But Fort Worth was their choice for retirement, close to their daughter Anna, an interior designer in Fort Worth, and not far from daughter Laura in Austin, who has just become a flight attendant with American Airlines. Having once lived in Dallas, the Laugers knew that Fort Worth would be a good size for them with access to many opportunities that give meaning to their lives.

Orlew and Larry grew up in the small farming community of Emmetsburg, Iowa, meeting in the third grade. When each was awarded the Citizenship Award in seventh grade, they danced together at the celebration and promptly fell in love. It apparently has lasted!

The couple went their separate ways in college—Orlew to Luther College in Decora, Iowa, and Larry to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. But they stayed in touch and in love.

“I enjoyed going to the ring dances at the Academy,” said Orlew. “We married three days after graduation. Larry started working on his master’s degree at Illinois Institute of Technology and I began my twenty-eight-year career teaching French.”

When Larry joined Sandia Laboratories in Albuquerque, Orlew was able to earn her master’s degree in French at the University of New Mexico. But it wasn’t long before they were on the move again. This time it was to Palo Alto where Larry earned his MBA at Stanford University and Orlew taught fine arts at the Stanford Children’s Hospital.

“I loved teaching at the Children’s Hospital and its home school program for children who were ill. Oddly enough, some of my best students were those who knew they were dying. It was as if they were in a hurry to learn things.”

The Laugers were thrilled to live in London when Larry took a position with Rockwell International. Orlew had yet another opportunity to teach French, this time at the American School where their daughters attended.

“Please be cool, Mom,” warned Anne. And Orlew apparently was, teaching students from thirty-six nations and serving as a tour guide for visitors to the school.

“When Larry and I made the decision to relocate to Fort Worth, we sat down, and each wrote out a list of what we wanted to do in retirement. Surprisingly, both of us listed being docents at the

(Continued on the next page)

BERKELEY HEROES AND LEGENDS: ORLEW LAUGER (CONTINUED)

Kimbell Art Museum. We have loved being docents, and I've been able to give a tour in French, which was a delight. I love the high school student tours. As long as you make it all about them, they're so easy!"

In retirement Orlew actively pursued membership in organizations that would help her learn more about Fort Worth and meet new friends. She has been quite involved in the American Association of University Women (AAUW), serving as membership chair, president-elect, president, and funds chair. A natural teacher, she understands the incredible value of education for girls.

"It's truly a ripple effect. Changing one girl's life changes an entire family."

The Laugers have also been active in their church, University Christian. Orlew is pleased to be asked to be one of the scripture readers, an obvious choice with her melodious voice.

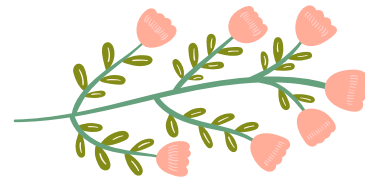
Orlew loves to entertain and adds a good measure of French culture into her hospitality. "In France when people are introduced no one asks what someone does for a living. That's a huge faux pas. It's not what you do, they want to know who you are. And no gathering would be complete without sharing food and drink, which I love to serve with French linens and china."

The Berkeley Babes book club has been a great introduction to neighbors. The group is limited to twenty members and meets monthly to discuss a book and enjoy each other's company with a glass or two of wine.

"I'm still a newbie and I've been in for ten years," said Orlew. "It's an interesting group because we

read a variety of books and we really enjoy each other's company."

Orlew's name is unusual so I asked the derivation. "It comes from the Hebrew word "ohr" (light) and "lieu" (ray)," she said. And that is a perfect descriptor for Orlew Lauger—a ray of light!



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INNOVATIONS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

BY JOHN MINNERLY, DVM,
UNIVERSITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL



There are some big innovations occurring in veterinary medicine. Many are major deviations from the “traditional” practice of medicine.

The simplest change started with COVID. General practice veterinarians were forced to rely more on telemedicine to treat pets for owners that couldn't come in. Over time, they have become more comfortable with it. And the younger generations are adept with technology and do very well with sending good quality pictures and videos, making diagnosis easier. Communicating with specialists became faster and more detailed. It has helped veterinary medicine tremendously.

Monoclonal antibody therapies are a new and exciting trend in veterinary medicine. Cytopoint, which has been out for several years now, provides wonderful allergy relief for dogs without the side effects of cortisone. For cats, Solensia is a brand-new injection for osteoarthritis. Early results are promising. Many cats show significant improvement. Until now there has not been an approved long-term treatment for cats with osteoarthritis. Soon to come out is a monoclonal antibody injection for the treatment of a parvovirus infection. Trials are being conducted for approval of a monoclonal injection for osteoarthritis in dogs. The potential for treated of many conditions with monoclonal technology is staggering.

Nuclear radiotherapy injection for elbow osteoarthritis is another new technology. It has recently been developed and is on the market now. It is a once-a-year injection. Researchers are working on approval for similar injections for hips and knees.

Targeted chemotherapeutic agents are beginning


to take the place of older (less effective) methods of chemotherapy. These are developed specifically for pets and not just carried over from human medicine. These drugs have reduced side effects and the need for extensive lab work and have therefore ultimately reduced costs.

Texas A&M is building a robotics lab for students to learn robotic-assisted surgery. With the way technology is progressing and becoming more accessible, it will become more common place. Students who have grown up with game consoles will be skilled in a short time.

Laparoscopy, ultrasound, CT, and MRI have been around for a long time in specialty clinics. Improved technologies have made them more portable, higher quality, and cheaper. They are more suited to fit into a general practice now.

We are in a golden age of veterinary research and development. Some of the challenges of today will be easily treated in the near future.

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In Loving Memory



Our longtime neighbor on Park Place, John L. McCorkle, died April 3, 2023 at home, surrounded by his family and friends. John had for some time been fighting Alzheimer's.

John was born on March 30, 1947 in Fort Worth to Carol Zetta and Johnnie E. McCorkle, their second child and only son. He grew up on the historic Southside of Fort Worth. As a young boy, he was up at four in the morning to deliver the newspaper before school at Daggett Junior High. He graduated from R.L. Paschal High School in 1965, joined the Air Force Reserve, and then worked at General Dynamics. In the early spring of 1971, John met the one and only love of his life, Jacquelyn Anne (Jackie) Smith, through a mutual friend on a blind date. They married six months later on October 30, 1971. John and Jackie celebrated their fifty-first wedding anniversary this past October.

John worked several different jobs throughout his life, always being an excellent provider for his family. He was a good auto mechanic, and his most favored job as the Dallas East Texas Agent for Chilton Professional Automotive Repair Books took up most of his working career. As a classic muscle car and European motorcycle enthusiast, he owned many throughout his life and was a member of the North Texas Norton Owners Association. He collected and traded guns and knives and was a proud lifelong member of the NRA. John loved riding his bicycle and was a member of the Fort Worth Bicycle Club. He loved to visit state

parcs throughout Texas and mountain bike, hike, or trail run. John and his wife were street representatives in the Berkeley Place Association where they resided for fifty years, and they were enthusiastic members of the Creative Couples class at First United Methodist Church in downtown Fort Worth. John, an incredibly kind spirit and always a fun and enjoyable person to have around, was loved by all who knew him. He continued to work after retirement on his many home and yard projects, from fishponds and fossil rock gardens to vegetable gardens and flower beds with Jackie.

Berkeley sends sympathy to the McCorkle family and treasures the memory of this good neighbor.



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TAKE A HIKE AT TANDY HILLS NATURAL AREA

BY ANNETTE TESS



Bob and Annette at Tandy Hills

For those of you not yet familiar with this gem of nature in our midst, it's time to check out the Tandy Hills Natural Area, Fort Worth's most successful urban prairie (located at 3325 View Street). We joined and thoroughly enjoyed a guided field trip on Sunday, April 16th, hosted by the Fort Worth Chapter of Native Prairies Association of Texas (FWNPAT). Besides there being multiple trails for both easy and intermediate-level hikers, we found there is no need to drive to the Texas Hill Country when you can see the same magnificent wildflowers right here in Fort Worth!

Here are some fun facts and history about Tandy Hills:

Tandy Hills encompasses a complex of contiguous parkland that totals over 200 acres. "In 1960, both Tandy Hills Park and Natural Area were dedicated as parkland. In the 1980s, Fort Worth

Nature Center & Refuge Director, Wayne Clark, conducted an environmental assessment, which brought to light the unique and important prairie ecosystem found within the park."



FW Skyline from Tandy Hill

"Tandy Hills is a pocket of remnant Fort Worth Prairie that stretches from the Brazos River to the Red River along a narrow strip (ten – thirty miles wide) of limestone bedrock and marl soils. This highly threatened prairie ecosystem has been fragmented and there are only a few remaining examples of what the rolling prairie looked like in predevelopment times. One example is Tandy Hills, only five miles from downtown Fort Worth. Within the park, visitors can enjoy an amazing diversity of prairie wildflowers; some of which exist nowhere else in the world outside of the Fort Worth Prairie." Scientists and volunteers have documented over 1,800 species of flora and fauna here!

TAKE A HIKE AT TANDY HILLS NATURAL AREA (CONTINUED)



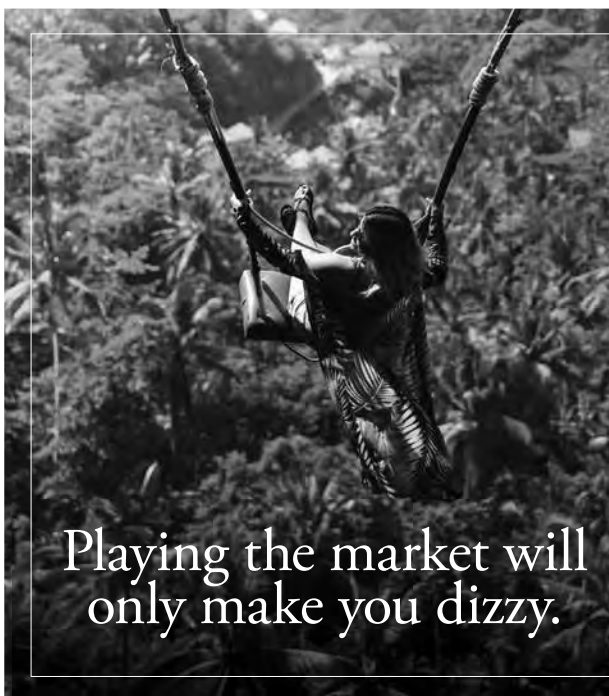
Tandy Hill Prairie Trail



Purple Paintbrush

“Rolling hills, steep valleys, intermittent streams, seeps, limestone bedrock outcroppings, and the diversity of flora in the middle of the city make Tandy Hills a unique park.”

For more information about trails and events, visit the Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area site at <https://www.tandyhills.org>



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LEAGUE LOUNGE AT LILY B.

BY ASHLYN LAWSON

March was a big month for the teachers and staff at Lily B Clayton thanks to the reveal of the highly anticipated "League Lounge." Thanks to the generous donations raised during last year's Spring Auction as well as a partnership with League Real Estate, the PTA was able to completely renovate the Teachers' Lounge to provide a brand-new space for our sweet staff members! This includes updated and ADA compliant restrooms, new paint, flooring, and blinds, comfy lounge furniture, a fully stocked snack closet, and everyone's favorite feature . . . a brand-new kitchenette with a nugget ice machine! We know the hard-working teachers and staff are just loving their new space!

Thanks to the following League agents for their donations and support of this project: Heather Teems, Lisa Branam, Carley J Moore, Hayley Wateska, Ashley Dilling, Mark Philpot, Laura Thomas, Amanda Easley, and Corey Bearden.



League Lounge Plaque



Lily B. teachers in their new lounge

BPA BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

BY TESS MCDONALD

Savings account	\$15,025.42
Checking account	\$41,645.28

Submitted 4/15/2023

BERKELEY CHEERS

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

Cheers to Mary Keller for her series on the principals of the schools in our public school pyramid. With the current controversy in Texas over school vouchers, it's good to get a picture of the public schools in our local area.

—Judy Alter

Cheers to my Patton Court neighbors! This is very late, but I would like to thank my sweet neighbors for all their help this last year when my husband was having a lot of medical issues. It's wonderful to know your neighbors are always there for you.

—Billie Kinlough

Cheers to Kamela and Matt Avila and Pam Boggess who found our lost cat, Jack, badly injured, broken pelvis and pretty torn up internally, because he'd been hit by a car. He had crawled behind one of our neighbors' bushes, presumably the night he went missing, March 17. We took him to PARC ER, and he was treated well, X-rayed, and sedated; he had surgery at Mellina Animal Hospital the next day and spent that week there (they are amazing doctors and aides!) He could not walk much, so we nursed him back to health with lots of TLC. He has finally been released from the neck cone and his incision looks good. He actually escaped to the outside again one recent morning, but he stayed close to home! Whew! Thanks to all who expressed concern and kept a look-out for him.

—Karen and Scott Steffler

Cheers to two young girls my three-year-old niece and I encountered recently while walking home from the Lily B playground. The girls were walking around the neighborhood, one wearing a wedding gown. I knew it must be a princess, so we waved and bowed. My niece was enamored and shocked at a real-life princess. The girls picked a flower and found us before we got home to present it to

my niece. We had a lovely conversation about the bride's impending nuptials to a prince and how she was on her way to the castle. Such sweet girls for going along with it. My niece is still talking about the magic princess in the neighborhood, and we have the flower saved as a keepsake.

—Kate Davis

Cheers to the Berkeley birds. Last night we had a brief, juicy downpour—I hope it caused no damage to anyone. A few cracks of thunder and a straight-down drenching was all. It was the kind of rain that my mom used to allow me to go out in, as soon as she was sure the lightning was past. Lovely to just stand in, and let it come down and soak me. And not cold. I didn't go out this time, but I looked out our upstairs window facing Wilshire Boulevard, where I can see into the branches of our two large live oaks. And something delightful was going on. I'm not sure if it was purple finches, but that's my best guess—two pairs at least, maybe a dozen—were perched, not deep within the shelter of the tree but near the outmost branches, where the raindrops descended directly upon them, and they were taking a shower! They performed the same moves that I see when they visit the birdbath, little flutterings and shakings and enjoying a bird-community splash. And then they hopped further into the tree where I couldn't see them anymore. A gift to watch.

—Judy Groulx





YARD OF THE MONTH

BY JENNI COLE

Congratulations to Tobye and Frank Poeschel of 2200 Ward Parkway for being our May 2023 Yard of the Month winners. When I arrived at their home, Frank was mowing the lawn and Tobye was working with a landscaper on additional plans for their yard and the Ward Parkway median. In addition to their own yard, Frank assisted with beautifying the landscaping in the median of the parkway.

The Poeschels have a variety of colorful flowers and evergreen bushes in the front of their home. They planted red vincas around the perimeter of the large tree in their front yard. In their front beds



they have planted blue salvia, daisies, and purple clover. Their backyard is just as beautiful as their front yard, and the Poeschels enjoy relaxing in both their front and back yard outdoor spaces.



FROM BERKELEY KITCHENS



- 1 ½ tsp. vanilla extract (check for gluten free)
- 1 unbaked GF pie shell (my go-to is Wholly Wholesome gluten free)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream butter with sugar, flour, and salt in medium bowl. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Combine almond milk in glass measuring cup with vinegar and vanilla and add to creamed mixture beating well. Pour into pie shell and bake in preheated oven for approximately 45-55 minutes or until golden brown.

MOCK BUTTERMILK PIE

BY CRYSTAL BANE

When my youngest son was diagnosed with autism at age two, after medical testing, it was suggested we try a gluten- and dairy-free diet. I bought all new dietary cookbooks to find recipes for my family, but no one was happy with the finished products, including my picky eater with autism. I had to try something else so started trying to prepare his favorite foods gluten- and dairy-free, without sacrificing taste. I have had many years to implement this diet, but now most recipes are enjoyed by the whole family, so I don't have to cook separate meals. Here is one recipe for a buttermilk pie that's very popular for holidays but can be enjoyed anytime!

INGREDIENTS:

- ¼ cup dairy free butter (I use Earth Balance Soy Free brand)
- 1 ½ cup sugar (I prefer organic cane sugar)
- ¼ cup gluten free all-purpose flour
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 3 eggs
- ½ cup dairy free almond milk
- 1 tsp. white vinegar



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JULIETA NEEDS A FOREVER HOME

BY ROBIN FULTON



while everyone else dukes it out. She can totally hold her own but seems to love the calmness of not being involved in the other puppies' shenanigans! Good with dogs, good with cats, good with older/considerate kids only, good with adults, somewhat vocal, does well in the car, requires a yard, plays fetch, likes to play with toys, obedient, playful, affectionate, eager to please, intelligent.

If you're looking for a puppy who will bring a sense of Zen, apply for Julieta at www.allieshaven.org



Julieta is a three-month old, black-and-white Golden Retriever-mix puppy rescued along with her siblings when they were just five weeks old. She has a sweet and loving temperament and is already well socialized. She is treat-motivated so learning is super easy for her. Julieta is a true snuggler and loves to be held but also enjoys playing with tennis balls and Nylabones.

Julieta is healthy and ready to find a family that will love her and have lots of fun adventures. This beautiful girl takes on the oldest sibling role in her litter. She is perfectly content sitting on the sidelines





BERKELEY, YOU'RE THE BEST!

When I sent out a desperate plea for copy for this May issue, I admitted that it was my bad. I had let the deadline creep up on me and not reminded you that I needed articles. Berkeley responded in a wonderful way—I was flooded with submissions, and they were all so good. I am grateful that you have my back and that you are with me to make the *Poobah* continue to be one of the best—if not the best!—neighborhood newsletters in our city.

I now have a tickler on my calendar to send out a reminder on the fifteenth of every month.

Thanks again, Berkeley,

Judy A.



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We always enjoy seeing Dr. Loftin's Berkeley neighbors in our practice!

OGDEN NASH'S ZOO

BY DEBRA MILLION

My girls were very fortunate to have an amazing fourth-grade teacher at Lily B., Mary Ann Abramowitz, who introduced them to a love of poetry. The students in her class would do a unit on poetry, and she would send some of the poems on to be included in an annual anthology of poetry for young people. This is how we discovered one of our very favorite funny poets, Ogden Nash.

His book, *Ogden Nash's Zoo*, is my book recommendation of the month. Published in 1987, sixteen years after his death, it is a compilation of some of his best and most well-known short poems about animals. It's a slim little book. You could read all fifty-five poems in one sitting or just read one or two. Like this two-line verse;

The Cow

The cow is of the bovine ilk;
One end is moo, the other milk.

Not only are the poems funny, they will introduce your child to some new vocabulary words, like bovine, lambasted, orthopteras, and veranda! His surprising style features pun-like rhymes with words deliberately misspelled for comic effect. Enjoy one of his best known:

The Panther

The Panther is like a leopard,
Except it hasn't been peppered.
Should you behold a panther crouch,

OGDEN NASH'S ZOO



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ETIENNE DELESSERT

Prepare to say Ouch.

Better yet, if called by a panther,
Don't anther.

Nash wrote for many publications including *Life Magazine* and *The New Yorker*, was a lyricist and librettist for Broadway shows, and was a frequent guest on talk shows and game shows. His career spanned over thirty years, and when he passed away in 1971, *The New York Times* called him the country's best-known writer of humorous poetry.

During his incredibly interesting life, he wrote over 500 pieces. There are many compilations from which to choose. This little book of some of his most well-known verses is a wonderful way to introduce poetry to your children.



Free Exam for New Clients

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THE JOY OF MEDICARE: WHO PAYS FIRST: MEDICARE OR OTHER INSURANCE?

BY FRANCES LOOK

Happy Spring! Let's hop into the wildflowers or weeds on this one! Watch out for snakes. Many of us continue to work past sixty-five. Determining whether to continue to use employer coverage or Medicare plans can be tricky. Filled with potholes like our streets in our beautiful historic neighborhoods!

Medicare has rules about how it works with other insurance employer plans. Depending on other insurance, Medicare either pays first (primary) or second (secondary) on health care claims.

Employer pays first ("Primary" to Medicare):

- Company has twenty or more employees; recipient is sixty-five or older and is Medicare eligible.
- Company has a hundred or more employees; recipient is Medicare eligible and on Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments for more than twenty-four months.

Employer pays second or not at all ("Secondary" to Medicare):

- Employer has less than twenty employees; recipient is sixty-five or older and eligible for Medicare.
- Employer has less than a hundred employees; recipient is eligible for Medicare and has received SSDI payments for more than twenty-four months.

Most retiree insurance pays second to Medicare, including:

- Former employer or union retiree plans

- Some employer/union plans will choose to pay primary but are not required to do so. Make sure to get that in writing.
- COBRA continuation coverage pays secondary to Medicare. So many "gotcha's" in Cobra coverage if over sixty-five and Medicare eligible. Be sure to get in writing anything your benefits administration tells you. The wrong move could end up with many late enrollment penalties.

If other insurance pays secondary, it is not advisable to delay Medicare enrollment. Secondary insurance may refuse coverage until also enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B or may take back any payments it made when you were eligible for Medicare but not enrolled.

Sign up at the correct time to avoid late enrollment penalties for Part B (or Part A, if applicable). Disenrolling from a group plan qualifies as a "Special Enrollment Period" to sign up for Part A and/or Part B with no penalty. Although you will have eight months after employer coverage, you only have sixty-three days on Part D, prescription drug coverage, or a late fee will ensue. Be sure to keep in mind these ultra-tricky gotchas to avoid late penalties.

Comparing your current coverage—premiums, deductibles, copays, actual plan benefits—to Medicare Plans is a time-consuming task but well worth it.

Frances Look • missmedicare101@gmail.com • 972-510-7660



WALKATHON LEADS TO LANDSCAPING

BY HILLARY LARUE



Our sweet neighborhood school has gotten a recent landscaping upgrade thanks to our generous students, their families and friends, and our neighborhood supporters that donated to the 14th Annual Lily B. Clayton Walkathon in October 2022. The Walkathon raised over \$51,000 last fall, and our PTA was able to put those donations into ac-

tion by installing new plant material to frame Lily B.'s front entrance, creating new landscaping beds, addressing soil run off, and enhancing the overall beauty of our hundred-year-old school. This is just the first step in a comprehensive plan for our campus. We appreciate Berkeley's support as we continue to improve our Sweet Lily B!



EASTER PHOTOS



DON ARTEMIO NAMED JAMES BEARD BEST NEW RESTAURANT FINALIST

RESTAURANT REVIEW BY ERIN EAST

Fort Worth has made the national spotlight (again!) with the James Beard Foundation nomination of Don Artemio Mexican Heritage (Don Artemio) as a finalist for Best New Restaurant.

Don Artemio is the creation of award-winning Chef Juan Ramon Cardenas and is a sister property to the original Don Artemio in Saltillo, Mexico. Do not be fooled by the West 7th location, blending itself between chain concepts World of Beer and 7-11. When the doors are opened you are transported into the imagination of architect Luis Alberto Gonzalez Diaz de Leon who used the red clay of Saltillo to build every inch of Don Artemio. The pottery encasing the patio and the thousands of bricks that envelop the dining room were all made in Saltillo and transported to Fort Worth. Chef Cardenas wanted to replicate the warmth of an old Mexican home where the kitchen is central in the homestead. Every piece of art from the looms to the paintings was imported from Saltillo.

The dining room is an open concept with the interior tables only inches away from each other to maximize the space. For privacy, request a perimeter table when making a reservation or pony up to the bar where you can enjoy the entertainment provided by the talent behind the incredible cocktails. Don Artemio offers two group dining rooms if you have a smaller party to host.

Chef Cardenas's menu fuses his passion for Northeastern Mexican cuisine with Fort Worth mainstays. As repeat offenders to Don Artemio, we have ordered guacamole every single time with the Nopalitos Fritos; fried cactus with bacon, served with heirloom maize nixtamal tortillas. This was originally suggested by our server who also highly recommended the Cazuela de Chorizo; house-made chorizo served with brulee panela cheese and oregano pickled onions. The chorizo is hands-down the winning appetizer, subtle spices enhance the cured meat paired with the sour of the pickled onions won us over.

We treated our teenage sons to Don Artemio back in the Fall and our family has what we call "The Best Bite Challenge." Let me challenge you to take one of the warm blue maize tortillas, add a dollop of chorizo, guacamole, fried cactus twists and a spoonful of one of the three hot sauces on the table. I guarantee your tastebuds will be doing the La Bamba as they experience their Best Bite Ever! Our boys mixed and matched these delicious appetizers with various levels of hot salsa.

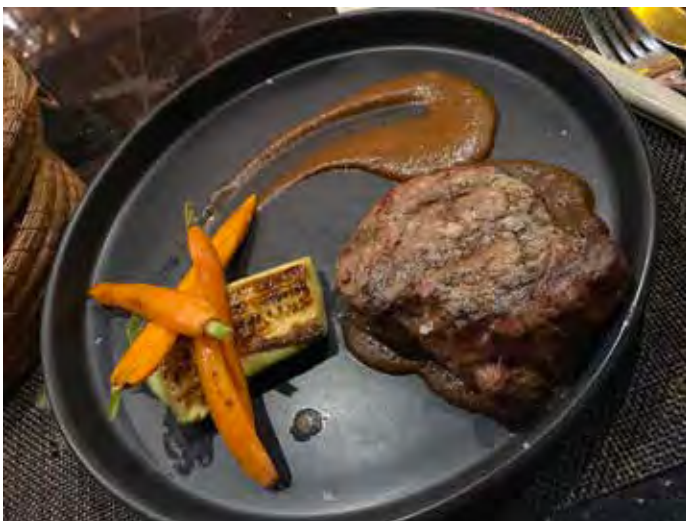
In our latest visit, a spontaneous Sunday night date, we sat at the bar and the bartender swore by the Mejillones en Salsa de Chipotle; mussels cooked in a creamy chipotle sauce with leeks, served with potato slices. The mussels absorbed the mild, delicate chipotle sauce, not at all overbearing. Our trusted bartender dropped off some French bread for dipping in the chipotle sauce which meant I left not one drop of the delectable dish in the bowl. I can't really describe the joy the toasted French bread and sauce combination brought me! You just have to trust me and try it for yourself!



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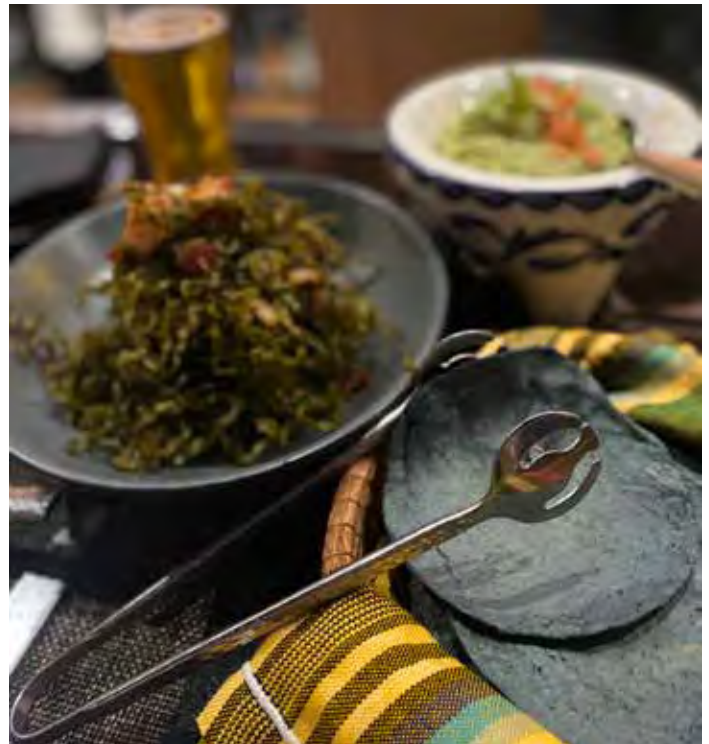
DON ARTEMIO NAMED JAMES BEARD BEST NEW RESTAURANT FINALIST (CONTINUED)

We decided to skip a salad this time around and split the Filete de Res Asado, 8 oz, (medium rare), served on a chipotle sauce, with ancho-pasilla herb black bean puree, grilled calabacita (squash), and baby carrots. The filet mignon rivals the best steaks in town, crispy char on the surface with a brilliant crimson inside. Having filled up on appetizers, most of the steak was a surprise for our sons who were hoping for some date night leftovers. Filet was gone in sixty seconds!



We have selected in previous visits the salmon en pipian verde y frijoles puercos; fresh salmon sauté, refried beans and fresh salad, it was a refreshing light option; and the Costillas de Cabrito: fried tender cabrito ribs, oregano pickled red onions, and tomatoes. The ribs were slightly greasy and a smaller portion, more of an appetizer size, but continued the trend of being delicious. The lunch, brunch and dinner menus are online if you want to investigate ahead of your feast.

The cocktail menu is extensive and focused on Mexican wines and spirits. Chef Cardenas has more than thirty Coahuila wines on the menu. I am a gin girl, and I was introduced to the Mexican gin Condesa, distilled in Mexico City. Condesa is an airy, herbal gin which complimented the lemon and bubbly in my cocktail. If you are uncertain, ask



your server. The staff is exceptional and elevate the dining experience with their knowledge of the ingredients, the chef, and the history of Saltillo. I would rate the entire staff some of the very best in town. The staff is as passionate as Chef Cardenas about Don Artemio, and they will ensure your time at Don Artemio is one to tell your friends about or your entire neighborhood! Prior to Don Artemio's nomination a typical Sunday Brunch would see around fifty reservations. That number has jumped to 250! That said, we had no issues at the bar on a Sunday night; however, I would highly recommend making reservations.

The James Beard New Restaurant winner will be announced June 5, 2023. *Interesting fact—three of the ten nominated Best New Restaurants are in Texas! Restaurant Beatrice in Dallas and Tatemo in Houston will be battling it out with Don Artemio for the top spot. Don Artemio, 3268 West 7th Street, www.donartemio.us

LILY B. SPRING AUCTION

BY ASHLYN LAWSON

Lily B Clayton's annual Spring Auction, "Havana Nights," took place on Friday, March 24th at the Fifth and Carroll Events Center. Guests and loyal school supporters enjoyed food and beverages catered by Blue Mesa, hand-rolled cigars, custom Lily B dominoes as favors, and, most importantly, a night of fun while raising well over \$100,000 for Sweet Lily B (final numbers are still being tallied)! The Paschal Band made a special appearance during the VIP reception which is always a crowd pleaser. The event was planned by auction co-chairs and Lily B. parents Laurie George and Ashlyn Lawson, photographed by Polly Hooper. A huge thank you to all of the sponsors, underwriters, volunteers, and supporters who donated/attended the auction, with a very special shout out to Laura Loftin Dentistry and Happy State Bank.



(Continued on the next page)

LILY B. SPRING AUCTION (CONTINUED)



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LILY B. SPRING AUCTION (CONTINUED)



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LILY B. SPRING AUCTION (CONTINUED)



