

CANDLEGRAM

a sometime publication of the Candlelight Plaza Civic Club



Call Out

Where's my Candlegram? Stop.
i've been on tour and my assistant,
now former assistant, did not get
the Candlegram out. Stop.
Where's my Candlegram? Stop.
My phone won't stop ringing.
Stop.
People who don't have my number
are calling out on social media.
Stop.
A lot of people are "walking their
dog" in front of my house. Their
pace slows, they look, and they
ask, "Where's my Candlegram?"
Stop.
i've got to come up with
neighborhood news, and i've got
to come up with it fast. Stop.
There isn't any news. Everyone's
been in Quarantine. Stop.
Except the thieves. Stop.
Evidently they never stop. Stop.
i hope the thieves that hit Heidi's
house caught the Covid19 from
something they stole from the
Skiff garage. Stop.
Some smart person ought to come
up with a Corona topical spray
specifically designed for porch
pirates. Stop.
But i digress. Stop.
Here is the recent subdivision
news including an entrance
beautification effort by
volunteers, rocks, thefts, arrival of
new residents and departure of a
long-time resident.

-30-



Safety

Two men were canvassing the
neighborhood in the early
morning hours of May 12th. On
Bethlehem near Golf, they found
an unlocked vehicle and
rummaged through it, but found
no valuables.

On Bethlehem at Park Plaza,
they discovered an unlocked
truck in the driveway and
rummaged through it, but again,
found no valuables... except the
garage door opener.

The thieves used the garage door
opener in the vehicle to open
the Skiff garage at 5:02 a.m.

Two bicycles and two hover
boards were stolen, as well as
various small tools (a drill with
batteries, tool chargers, etc.) and
a Bluetooth speaker which easily
fit into a backpack. The
uninvited visitors rode off,
closing the garage door behind
them at 5:12 a.m.

The Skiff family was thankful
they had locked the door from
the garage into the house.

The constables were called later
that morning and arrived on the
scene within minutes of the call
being placed. A case was created
and the Precinct 1 team began
scouring pawn shops in search of
the stolen items and collecting
footage from residents' cameras
to put the pieces together.

Please check your camera
footage from that morning
(especially if you live along
Bethlehem) and let the
Constable's office know if you
see the pair on your camera! Any
footage you have will be helpful
in identifying the perpetrators.

Lastly, be diligent about locking
your doors at night. These are
crimes of opportunity, so let's
not give criminals the
opportunity in Candlelight
Plaza!

be diligent

Deed Restrictions

Please be mindful about posting political signs in front yards.
Although the law allows it, our Deed Restriction don't. Please be
prudent.

be prudent

Recently a travel trailer was
parked for several days on a cul de sac, and was hooked up to the
home's water and power. Deed Restriction No. 5 states, "**No boat,
trailer, or (non-pickup) truck shall be parked or stored in
front of any dwelling unit for more than twenty-four (24)
hours.**"

A MEMORIAM



NAJILA BALAT

The Candlelight Plaza Civic Club extends our sympathies to the family of Najla Balat, who passed away peacefully in her sleep on May 23, 2020.

Najla became a resident of Candlelight Plaza in 1971. We know the Balat family well as some of Najla's grown children have also made Candlelight Plaza their home.

Najla was born in Ramallah, Palestine and was the second of six children. She was the first member of her family to graduate high school when she completed her studies at the Friends School. She married Yousef Balat on July 12, 1942, and they had five children together before moving to Houston in 1968.

Najla worked beside Yousef at his convenience store for over ten years before he retired. She enjoyed traveling as long as she could, and spending time with her beloved family. She was the personification of the word "matriarch."

Everyone who met Najla welcomed a new friend. She was the center of love and encouragement for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Our love and prayers go out to the Balat family during this time of loss.

ROCK ON



The Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club would like to invite our neighbors to leave a painted rock in the SPP flower bed where Cheshire dead ends into Shepherd Park. This is a great project for kids, families or anyone who enjoys painting rocks.

Paint a picture or leave an inspirational word. Use your imagination.

Help us brighten up the flower bed, and thanks for working with us.

NEW NEIGHBOR PROFILE STEVE AND ERICA BRYANT

A native Houstonian, Steve grew up in the Memorial area. He attended Westbury High School, then graduated from Rice with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Steve worked three years in the aerospace industry for Lockheed Martin, then attended grad school at University of Texas and it was in Austin that Steve met his future wife, Erica.

A native Austinite, Erica was earning her psychology degree from St. Edwards in Austin when she attended a Halloween party. Dressed as a Girl Scout, Erica met Steve, disguised as Prince Harry.

They have a 15 month old daughter, Eliza. who inherited her dad's striking red hair. They have two rescue dogs, Winston, a black lab, and Davy, a terrier.

Steve and Erica enjoy outdoor activities: snow skiing, hiking, running, mountain biking (especially in the Texas hill country), camping, kayaking on Texas rivers, and travel. They went to Hawaii on their honeymoon and recently returned to Maui where they stayed two weeks followed by three-weeks in Colorado.

Erica is a Teacher, initially teaching Fourth Grade English and then becoming a Literacy Coach for the Aldine I.S.D.

Steve currently works as a Petroleum Reservoir Engineer in the Lower 48, mainly in West Texas. After his company merged with Exxon and his job location became the Woodlands, they moved to Candlelight Plaza and have been Lehman residents since February.

be active

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*Join/Renew Your Plaza
Moms Membership Today!*



All PLAZA MOMS SOCIETY events are still currently on hold. Continue to check the newsletters, Facebook, and e-mail for updates. We hope everyone is well and long for a time when we can return to our events as usual. We miss our neighborhood events but have enjoyed seeing everyone out and about during these past few months!

We are currently looking for volunteers to be officers for the 2020-2021 year starting in August. Positions available are Special Events, Treasurer, Membership, and Hospitality. For more information, e-mail plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com and we will reply with detailed descriptions of each position and time commitment. We would love your help in any way big or small.

Thank you!

ENTRANCE BEAUTIFICATION



north entrance east

It all started during the pandemic. Two residents, Beckey Sacco and Karen Carr, wondered what they could do to “give back” to our subdivision which they so love and appreciate. They reached out to the Civic Club and offered to weed, plant and refresh the main entrance. Beckey and Karen did the work and provided the funds.

While a portion of our annual dues donations are budgeted toward annual color for the beds, the planting is typically done by volunteers. The unexpected and generous gift from Karen and Beckey not only beautified our North Entrance, it also generated a movement.

i sent my new assistant over to the North Entrance, to take pictures to accompany this article. She came back empty handed, saying there were too many weeds to make a good picture. Evidently my former assistant not only failed to put out a May Candlegram, we also didn't get a picture of the freshly refreshed North Entrance.

so i got my little red wagon, loaded up the weeding supplies and headed over. The garden was in need, and gardening is my passion, indeed. What a lovely way to spend a Saturday morning. It's always fun to weed a garden: you never know what you might find. Back in January, the Candlegram ran a piece on the back page titled, “Feng Shui Your Garden.” *continued on page 4*



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NORTH WEST ENTRANCE (Lehman via Ella)

The following are a few of the items left behind at our beloved North Entrance:

a glass beer bottle, a busted glass beer bottle, an orange colored plastic bottle cap, a blue utility company flag, a styrofoam cup shard on which was printed, "Relax, Renew,

Revitalize, Revive (at least the litterbug was into positive meditation), remnants of To Go

containers, a credit card statement, a tongue compressor or nail file shaped piece of wood, a crushed plastic bottle, miscellaneous trash from either garbage trucks or white trash and



two busted, outdated and inefficient landscape spotlights. Either E.T. has been trying to phone home



north entrance west

(and i hope that's not the case) or we've got some busted landscape lights.

Not only are several of the current lights busted, several others do not work and the automatic timer is broken as well, so what few lights do work have to be operated manually: either ON all night and all day, or OFF all day and all night.



The current landscape lighting at the North Entrance is antiquated and energy inefficient, which means a higher electricity bill.

The good news is the irrigation system works fine.

Maintenance and Beautification Committee Chair, Rebecca Marshall, is gathering information and bids for updated, more energy efficient landscape lighting options.

If anyone would like to contribute to or sponsor this project, an engraved brick with your name(s) will be placed at the entrance.

The two West Entrances, Golf and Alba from Pinemont, are entrance projects Marshall hopes to tackle in the future. Gardening volunteers are needed and welcome.

P.S. The roses at the North Entrance are almost ready for a good pruning and the shrubberies are in need of a good haircut.

NextDoor advises that recent scammers are targeting our elderly neighbors. Claiming to be from AT&T or other reputable company, they ask to come in and check out the home equipment. Please alert your neighbors to this danger and reiterate: Do not let anyone into your home whom you are not expecting.

JUNE 2020

reminder: no parking on cul-de-sacs on Trash days

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7	8	9 Trash & Recycling	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Trash Pickup	17	18 Heavy Trash Pickup (3rd Thurs/mo)	JUNETEENTH	20
21	22	23 Trash & Recycling	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Trash Pickup	1	2	3	4 TH OF JULY