

Spring Valley Village

L I V I N G

JULY '19

An exclusive magazine serving the residents of Spring Valley Village and more because we've grown and we go to nearly 5000 HOMES.



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POPOVITS:**

**PASTOR, WRITER,
SPEAKER**

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NOMINATE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

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JULY 2019
Matt
Popovits

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FEEDBACK/IDEAS/SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 25th of each month. Go to www.bestversionmedia.com and click "Submit Content." You may also email your thoughts, ideas and photos to lherrera@bestversionmedia.com.

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Cornerstone Academy..... 713.365.5766
Spring Branch Middle School..... 713.365.5500
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CONTENT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

CONTENT DUE:	EDITION DATE:
December 25.....	January
January 25.....	February
February 25.....	March
March 25.....	April
April 25.....	May
May 25.....	June
June 25.....	July
July 25.....	August
August 25.....	September
September 25.....	October
October 5.....	November
November 5.....	December

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Dear Residents,

We hope you are enjoying your summer so far! As we prepare to celebrate our Independence Day, let's reflect on our country's history and how far our country has come. As we celebrate in our community please thank our law enforcement for keeping us all safe during these festivities.

Take a look at our July calendar to cool yourself off at Dad's Swim Club pool or movie nights at our city hall. There's so many organizations to join this summer in our community like Mom's Club and many more.

As we go through this month, let's keep in mind our new neighbors moving into our community and welcome them with open arms!

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!

Dawn Gunther, publisher
PINK SEAT Media LLC

Lidia Herrera
Content Coordinator



Dawn Gunther
PUBLISHER

P.S. Nominate your neighbor for our cover! Are they "Pink Seat" worthy? Send us your news!

NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THE

"Pink Seat"

Do you know someone in your community with a great story to tell? Maybe they recently started a business, won an award, took a trip or made a difference? These are the people we want in the "PINK SEAT!" Nominate someone in your community for the "Pink Seat" next month by emailing lherrera@bestversionmedia.com.

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SWIM CLUB MAKES A SPLASH By Lidia Herrera

The Dad's Club Swim Team hosted their 2nd annual Mayfest & Splash Bash on May 4th, 2019. Many of their swimmers, families and local businesses attended the event to support their local aquatic center.



SWIM POOL SCHEDULE

JUNE 3-AUGUST 18:

10am-9pm on Mondays to Fridays*
10am-6pm on Saturdays
1pm-6pm on Sundays

AUGUST 19- SEPTEMBER 29:

*Only open on weekends
Saturday 11:30am-6pm
Sunday 1-6pm

**The Main lanes are closed between 4-7pm but the beach is open.

***Adult swim is held the last 10 minutes of every hour in the Beach Pool. Swimmers under the age of 16 are not permitted in the pools at this time.



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ST. MARK'S CHURCH: *Serving the Heart of Houston Since 1949* By Lidia Herrera

In 1948, the Texas District of the Lutheran Church send Pastor Ed Keiper to serve as a Missionary at Large in the Spring Branch area.

Pastor Keiper went door to door in neighborhoods and businesses inviting the communities' residents to worship together. He arranged for worship services to be held in the American Legion Hall until the St. Mark building was constructed.

In January 9, 1949, St. Mark was officially congregated with 130 people attending their 1st service.

St. Mark Lutheran School was later opened in September 1949 with 18 students.

In January 1959, the church was moved to 8 acres in the Hillendahl estate a little over one mile to the west from its original location.

Eventually other facilities were added such as a gym, cafeteria, education center, a parlor and offices in 1965.

In January 1991, St. Mark purchased 9.4 acres

west of Pech Road to build a new ministry building which included a choir practice room and several classrooms completed in August 19, 1993.

70 years later, Pastor Keiper legacy still continues as his ministry is very alive at St. Mark's Church and school.

"St. Mark is a church with an incredible 70 year history and a bright future as one of Houston's most generous, welcoming, and fun communities of faith." - SR. Pastor of St. Mark Houston, Matt Popovits.

Traditional Worship is every Sunday at 8:30-9:30am, Contemporary Worship is every Sunday at 11am-12pm and Wednesday Worship at 7-8pm. St. Mark Church also offers Adult/Youth Bible Classes, social clubs, volunteer opportunities and many other events throughout the week.

For more information, visit their online website- <https://stmarkhouston.org> and follow their social medias (Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter) @stmarkhouston.

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Summer Fun UNDER THE SUN and IN THE WATER!

By Lidia Herrera



Cami & Nicole Young



Mickel & Juliet Lobb



Alex Bhatia

Laughter fills the warm air as kids begin their swimming lesson at Dad's Swim Club. Dad's Swim Club has been teaching kids to swim for many years and each year they have an intensive two month swimming program in the summer.

The summer program teaches children from many ages different swimming strokes and allows them to participate in swimming competitions that helps them improve their swimming techniques.

"I began swimming 5 years ago and I like trying new drills," said Cami Young. "We're learning breaststrokes, butterfly strokes and different drills on how to do things correctly."

Dad's Swim Club focuses on each swimmers flaws in their swimming techniques to strengthen them to the best of their abilities.

"I've been in other neighborhood swim programs before and this swim program; they focus on each individual child ability and they work on their techniques and try to improve each swimmer individual ability and they have a lot of team spirit. And the coaches are incredibly trained and great quality," said Mickel Lobb, mother of Juliet Lobb.

The kids love spending their part of their summer at Dad's aquatic center swimming with their new friends.

"I've been swimming for 4 years," said Juliet Lobb. "I hate when we have to leave and I love the first day. I also love meeting a lot of new friends."

During this swimming program, it gives many kids the opportunity to compete in many swimming meets.

"My favorite thing about swimming is breast stroke and competing because I like competing and I win a lot," said Alex Bhatia.

The kids aren't the only ones enjoying the swimming program. The

parents enjoy seeing their sons and daughters compete and improve in their swimming techniques.

"First of all is the health benefit of swimming and I hope they will be swimming for the rest of their lives. We got them into swimming for a safety perspective and once they were amalgamated to swimming it was good for them to experience competitive swimming and their improvement in all of their strokes. I hope they continue swimming as they grow," said Milton Young, father of Cami and Nicole Young.

"My favorite memory of her in swimming is watching her because she's improved so much. And to watch her nature and foster her love for swimming and achieving her goals and making friendships outside of school," said Mickel Lobb.

Swimming is not only a great sport but it teaches these young swimmers lessons they can take with them throughout their life.

"I started when I was 3 years old at another swim center. It was hard switching because they taught the strokes differently but Dad's Swim Club teaches better because they have more experience and they've coached great athletes," said Nicole Young. "I've learned disciplined because we do a lot of drills that aren't as easy & it's taught me to keep trying."

Parents not only love the swimming lessons their children get but also the life lessons that come with the sport.

"I think swimming is good for strength and endurance. It also allows them to get a good physical outlet as they are growing and it's a skill they can use in their life," said Lindsey Bhatia, mother of Alex Bhatia.

Swimming at Dad's Swim Club is fun lessons while cooling off from the Houston Heat. You leave here not only improving your swim techniques but also with ever lasting friendships



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Popovits Family



MATT POPOVITS: *Pastor, Writer, Speaker*

By Lidia Herrera | Photographs by David Postma/Genesis Photographers

Pastor Matt Popovits recently moved to Houston with his family to serve as the new Senior Pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

"After 6 great years in New York City, we are beyond excited to be back in Houston and call Texas our home once again," said Pastor Popovits. "Thank you to everyone who has welcomed us back!"

Pastor Popovits is originally from Flushing, Michigan. It was in his hometown where he first met his future wife, Lisa in their middle school's science class.

"We became friends and we started dating in high school," said Pastor Popovits. "We were married in May of 2002 and just celebrated our 17th wedding anniversary."

After high school, Popovits studied acting at the University of Michigan-Flint and received a degree from the department of theatre and dance. He later received his Masters of

"The first church I pastored was CrossPoint Community Church in Katy, Texas from 2005-2012," said Popovits. "We then went to New York City where I planted Our Saviour New York, a multi-parish church with locations in Queens and Midtown, Manhattan. And then, in the Fall of 2018, I accepted the call to serve as SR. Pastor of St. Mark Houston in Spring Branch."

Pastor Popovits is also a writer and speaker that loves sharing the love of God at conferences and events such as the radio and online.

"I'm blessed to speak in front of thousands of young people every year. I host a web series called, THRED Pops and record messages that air daily at 9pm on



Matt filming an episode of ThredPops, available on YouTube



Houston radio at 100.7 KKHT," said Popovits. "I'm also the author of a short book, designed to help people make big decisions entitled, 'Tough Call!'"

Matt and Lisa Popovits have 2 children: Ava (13) and Jack (4). They also have a Shitsu-Yorkie mix named Charley who is six years old.

"Jack loves to play t-ball and hang out with his friends from school at St. Mark's School," said Popovits. "And Ava is excited to get involved in theater and choir at Houston Christian High School this Fall."

The Popovits family enjoys spending time with each other whether it's a drive down to Buccees or a trip to Michigan.

"As a family, we love Buccees! We'll drive out to the location in Katy to just go through the crazy long car wash and grab a snack," said Popovits. "We also travel each year to Arcadia, Michigan, on Lake Michigan and attend Camp Arcadia. It's our favorite week of the year."

Their family lives in the Sherwood Oaks subdivision in Spring Branch West.

"We moved there in September of 2018 because it's {a} well established neighborhood, with neighbors who are passionate about being part of the neighborhood and keeping it {a} great place for families."

The Popovits are still new in this area but they enjoy being part of our community.

"We love being a short drive from downtown, the proximity to Memorial City Mall and City Center," said Popovits. "We also really love how our neighbors come together to make sure our little corner of Houston is as safe and warm and welcoming as possible."



Matt backstage preparing to speak at a stadium event



Matt speaking at the SuperDome in New Orleans

Popovits has many activities such as running; he logs at least 3 miles every single day and is also a big fan of University of Michigan football and the Back to the Future trilogy.

"As a fun fact, I have somehow managed to be on a handful of late night talk shows. I once did a skit with Jimmy Fallon back when [he] was the host of Late Night and was lucky enough [to] interact with David Letterman and Snoop Dogg on an episode of The Late Show," said Popovits.

Pastor Popovits and his family are enjoying serving our community at St, Mark's Church. Their family motto is, "Glory to God, blessing to others and don't steal dad's iPhone charger."



Family Heading to Camp Arcadia

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June COMMUNITY Calendar 2019



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

1

- Canada Day
- International Joke Day

2

- I Forgot Day

3

- Baby Time @SBMBL @10:15am
- Baby Time @SBMBL @11am
- All Houston Libraries close at 5pm for Independence Day

7

- Chocolate Day
- Prayer Gathering @ GraceCommunityChurch @8:40am
- Coffee & Donuts in the Foyer @GraceCommunityChurch @8:45-9:10am
- Sunday School Children's Church @Grace Community Church @9-9:50am
- Worship and the Word GraceKIDS! @Grace Community Church@10:10-11:11am

8

- Video Games Day
- Pajamas Story Time @SBMBL @7pm

9

- Book Flower Bouquets @SBMBL @4pm
- Planning & Zoing Commission Meeting @CouncilChambers CityHall @7pm

10

- Baby Time @SBMBL @10:15am
- Baby Time @SBMBL @11am
- Song Detective: Poetry into Song w/ Andyroo @ SBMBL @3pm

14

- Shark Awareness Day
- Prayer Gathering @ GraceCommunityChurch @8:40am
- Coffee & Donuts in the Foyer @GraceCommunityChurch @8:45-9:10am
- Sunday School Children's Church @Grace Community Church @9-9:50am
- Worship and the Word GraceKIDS! @Grace Community Church@10:10-11:11am

15

- Bench Trial @MunicipalCourt @8:20-11:30am

16

- 3rd Annual Retro Video Game Tournament @SBMBL @4pm
- "Container and Small Space Gardening" @SBMBL @6:30pm

17

- Baby Time @SBMBL @10:15am
- Baby Time @SBMBL @11am
- Super Parkour @SBMBL @3pm

21

- National Ice Cream Day
- Prayer Gathering @ GraceCommunityChurch @8:40am
- Coffee & Donuts in the Foyer @GraceCommunityChurch @8:45-9:10am
- Sunday School Children's Church @Grace Community Church @9-9:50am
- Worship and the Word GraceKIDS! @Grace Community Church@10:10-11:11am

22

- Hammock Day

23

- Holocaust Music Project @4pm
- City Council Meeting @CouncilChambersCityHall @6pm

24

- Amelia Earhart Day
- Cousins Day
- Baby Time @SBMBL @10:15am
- Baby Time @SBMBL @11am
- Mission to Space w/ Butty Scientists @SBMBL @3pm

28

- National Milk Chocolate Day
- Parent's Day
- Prayer Gathering @ GraceCommunityChurch @8:40am
- Coffee & Donuts in the Foyer @GraceCommunityChurch @8:45-9:10am
- Sunday School Children's Church @Grace Community Church @9-9:50am
- Worship and the Word GraceKIDS! @Grace Community Church@10:10-11:11am

29

- National Lasagna Day

30

- National Cheesecake Day
- International Day of Friendship
- Yoga for Teens @SBMBL @4pm
- Book Flower Bouquets for Adults @6pm

31

- Baby Time @SBMBL @10:15am
- Baby Time @SBMBL @11am
- Harry Potter Birthday Bash! @SBMBL @3pm



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THURSDAY **FRIDAY** **SATURDAY**

4 • Fourth of July (Independence Day)
• City Hall/Houston Libraries Closed All Day

5 • National Hawaii Day

6 • Memorial City Coffee & Cars @MemorialCityMall WestParkingLot @8-10am

11 • Toddler Time @SBMBL @10:15am
• Preschool Story Time & Craft @SBMBL @11:15am
• Pokemon in the Park @SBMBL @4pm
• Typing for Adults @SBMBL @4pm

12 • Movie Night: *E.T. The Extraterrestrial* @CityPark @7pm

13 • National French Fries Day

18 • Show Causes @MunicipalCourt @8:30-11:30am
• Toddler Time @SBMBL @10:15am
• Preschool Story Time & Craft @SBMBL @11:15am
• Typing for Adults @SBMBL @4pm

19 • Board Game Nation @SBMBL @4pm

20 • National Lollipop Day

25 • Arraignment @MunicipalCourt @8:30-11:30am
• Toddler Time @SBMBL @10:15am
• Preschool Story Time & Craft @SBMBL @11:15am
• Typing for Adults @SBMBL @4pm

26 • Aunt and Uncle Day

27 • National Day of the Cowboy



3:25

TESTIMONY

20 MINUTES AGO

By Judy Buchanan from Kaleidoscope



This Publication WORKS

"Everyone just loves Spring Valley Village Living. During our relocation sale, we had so many clients commenting on how they read about us in the publication! I don't know how I could have made this major move to my bigger studio without advertising in this magazine!"

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National Police Week 2019

By Lidia Herrera



In May, Spring Valley Village celebrated National Police Week to honor all the officers who serve our community. In 1962, President Kennedy commemorated this week in May to recognize the American law enforcement who lost their lives in the line of duty.

57 years later, our community celebrated the officers of Spring Valley Village Police Department for all their hard work.

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SMALL BUT GREAT COMMUNITY SAFE!**

Grace Community Church



Come and meet our new Associate Pastor, Jake Fritze, his wife, Julie, and their children. Jake is the new pastor of Community Outreach, Adult Ministries and Small Groups. They come to us from Chicago, Illinois, where they have been serving on the staff of Harvest Bible Chapel. They are anxious to serve all the residents of Spring Valley Village and the greater Spring Branch area.

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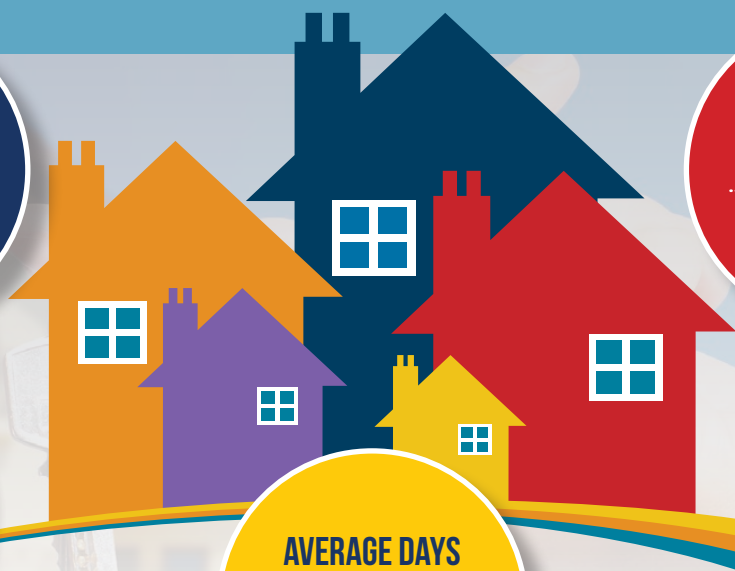
AVERAGE SALES PRICE:
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NUMBER OF SALES:
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NUMBER OF SOLD - \$500,000 - \$750,000:
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AVERAGE DAYS TO SALE:
160

NUMBER OF SOLD - \$750,000 - \$1,000,000+:
13



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United States Independence Day By Lidia Herrera

Independence Day, Fourth of July, America's Birthday... no matter what you call it, we all celebrate this day.

But what is the true meaning of the fourth day of this month? The significance of this day is more than popping fireworks in the summer night...it means our freedom.

HISTORY

In 1941, Fourth of July became a recognized federal holiday in the United States but it's origin goes back to the American Revolution in the 18th century.

In April 1775, the Revolutionary War broke out when a couple of colonists decided to become independent from Great Britain. Hostility against Great Britain grew throughout the colonies, especially when the 'Common Sense' pamphlet was published by Thomas Paine in 1776.

On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted for independence and on July 4th the delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence drafted by Thomas Jefferson.

Since 1776, July 4th is celebrated as the birth of America's independence.

EARLY CELEBRATIONS

Before America became independent, the colonists would cele-

brate Great Britain's king's birthday but after the Summer of 1776 some of the colonists celebrated the independence by holding mock funerals for King George the Third, as a way to symbolize the end of the monarchy in America.

Philadelphia celebrated the first annual commemoration of Independence on July 4, 1777 while the country was at war with England.

After the war, Americans continued to commemorate their Independence Day with concerts, bonfires, parades and firing of cannons and muskets were part of the celebration.

LATER YEARS

After the War of 1812 with Great Britain again, Independence Day became more widespread. In 1870, the US Congress officially made July 4th a federal holiday and in 1941, it became a paid holiday to all federal employees.

PRESENT

Fourth July is still one of the most celebrated holiday in the US. It is now more associated with leisure activities and an occasion for families to get together.

Present day celebrations included fireworks, outdoor barbecues, softball games, parades, and TV specials.

The Fourth of July is America's Independence Day that reminds us, the citizens of the freedom that was fought years ago and the freedom that many are still fighting today.

SUMMER CAMPS

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JUNE	3 rd -7 th Time Travelers: Pangaea & Changes Through Time	Forensic Scientists	Introduction/ Gadgets and Gears	Woodworking/ Aerospace Engineering	
	10 th -14 th Secrets of Flight	Intro to Cartooning	Dissecting Exploration/ Jr. Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering/ Circuits & Gears	
	17 th -21 st Pet Vet Hospital Tour	Electrical Engineering	Jr. Paleontologists/ Drone Space Engineering	Drone Flight School/ Build My Own Robot	
JULY	24 th -28 th Physics In Motion	Sustainable Engineering	Jr. Coding w. Scratch/ LEGO Creators Camp	Coding w. Java/ The ART of Special Effects	
	1 st -5 th Jr. 3D Art Factory	3D Art Factory	Time Travelers: Serengeti/ Coding w. Minecraft	Robotic Exploration/ Coding w. Minecraft	
	8 th -12 th Medical Science: Future Doctors	Bakers Workshop	Jr. Bakers/ LEGO Creators Camp	Robots & the World	
AUGUST	15 th -19 th IDEA Lab Company: Toy Engineering	Genetics, DNA & Dissection	Jr. Coders: Alice in Wonderland/ Dragon Training	Risky Business/ How to be a YouTube Success	
	22 nd -26 th Medical Science: Sports Medicine	Wizard Science Academy	LEGO Creators: Build My Own Robot/ Print & Play w. 3D Printers	Exploring Medicine w. 3D Printing/ Exploring the Genes: Action	
	29 th -31 st Time Travelers: Ancient China	Chief Academy: Baking & Decor	Genius Workshop/ Circuitry Workshop	Engineering Design/ Drone Engineering	
	5 th -9 th Tinker, Build & Explore	Circuit Scientists	Diagrams, Telegraph/ Secret Spy School	Smart Home w. Arduino/ Watchy 3D Art	
	12 th -16 th Jr. Chef Academy: Appetizers & Treats	Websites Development II	Jr. Scientists/ The ART of Storytelling	Coding w. HTML/ Startup Pitch Camp	
	19 th -23 rd IDEA Lab Weather Science	The Invention Lab	Paper Circuit Workshop/ Roller Coaster Design	Create Content for YouTube/ Build Your Own Robot	
	26 th -30 th Time Travelers: Age of the Dinosaurs	Culinary Chemistry & Edible Science			

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DID YOU HEAR!? TASTE OF MEMORIAL CITY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

By Metro National

The Taste of Memorial City Food & Wine Festival first annual ticketed culinary festival was a hit!

Their VIP tickets instantly sold out!

The festival took place next to Hotel Zaza Memorial City on Saturday, May 4th.

The festival showcased more than 25 restaurants, chefs, winemakers and breweries. There were chef demonstrations, live music and so many wine, beer and food tasting.

A portion of all event ticket proceeds went to Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM). Memorial Assistance Ministries serves the community by assuring that families have the means to meet their basic needs.

They offer programs enabling long-term financial self-sufficiency, assist families facing financial crisis to avoid homelessness, assure children an improved school experience, facilitate client access to other support networks and provide value to their member congregations and the community.



WITH THEIR SUCCESS OF THEIR FIRST FESTIVAL, THE TASTE OF MEMORIAL CITY FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL WILL BE COMING BACK FOR THEIR 2ND ANNUAL FESTIVAL NEXT YEAR!

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Spring Branch Memorial Board Certified Family Lawyer



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The Herrington Law Firm, PC is a Houston based civil trial law practice specializing in family law, conveniently located in the Spring Branch Memorial area. For clients contemplating the dissolution of a marriage, custody modification or a pre/post marital agreement, we provide confidential consultations to answer questions and provide legal advice.

Our goal is to achieve a quick and respectful resolution of divorce and custody actions through negotiation and/or mediation for the protection of the children, preservation of the community estate and the privacy of the parties. However, if disputes and disagreements are unavoidable, Cathy Hale has the courtroom experience you will need for contested hearings and trial. She will take an aggressive, tough approach to handle all of your legal needs.



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Mom's Club...Sign Me Up!

By Lidia Herrera

Are you a MOM that resides within the Spring Valley Village Community? Please come and join our Spring Valley's Mom's Club!

Spring Valley Moms Club is an organization for the residents of Spring Valley Village. They host events, meetings, and parties throughout the year. This allows many of it's members to meet neighbors and make new friends.

Each year they have 6 evening meetings with speakers and shopping. They support the local community and provide meals for members with new babies.

Any Spring Valley Village resident can be part of this organization. All members are required to attend at least 2 of the business meetings plus a \$20 annual Membership fee. In addition to these 2 requirements, members are expected to help and provide at least 2 meals to new moms in the neighborhood during the year.

Many members also volunteer by hosting meetings and parties.

Other events, the club organizes are:

- Family Events: Kids and cocktails, Play dates at the city park and outings to museums, farms, etc.
- Ladies' night out
- Couples' night out
- SVV police luncheon
- Charity events or support to different local charities
- Support to any family or member in need
- Email and Facebook access to all members

Come be part of the SVV Mom's Club and support your community!

For more information go to their website- www.svmomclubs.com or their

Facebook Page- SVMC- Spring Valley Moms Club.

Contact Sher Harvin (President) at sheriharvin@gmail.com.



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