

# SYDNEY HARBOUR

News For The Residents at Sydney Harbour • June 2015 Volume 3, Issue 6



## YARD OF THE MONTH



The Yard of the Month for May has been awarded to Jimmy & Vi Duong, 15423 Opera House Row. Please join the Landscape Committee in congratulating and thanking the Duongs for helping make Sydney Harbour a community we can all take pride in and call home.

MAY  
2015

## New BOARD DIRECTOR

Hello to my fellow Sydney Harbour residents. My name is Brent Heraly and I am your new Board Director. Here is a little information on me and my wife.

I am originally from Green Bay, Wisconsin but have lived in Texas for almost 30 years. My wife, Lori, and I have three children (all married), and one grand-daughter. In January I retired from the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company, after a 35 year career in the nuclear industry. In July of last year we relocated to Sydney Harbour to be closer to our children. We are looking forward to meeting our neighbors, making new friends, and helping to keep Sydney Harbour a wonderful community to live in.

## BOARD HAPPENINGS

What's Happening At The Board Of Directors?

The Board holds public sessions about every three months, but what happens in between? The Board manages its base business, special projects and emerging issues through dialogue with the committees and with Sterling. In March, the Board began a regular biweekly teleconference with Sterling and monthly teleconference with its attorneys. To help better communicate with residents, the Board has decided to post a summary of its biweekly Sterling discussion on the HOA website and HOA Facebook page. So periodically check out the web site ([sydneyharbourhoa.org](http://sydneyharbourhoa.org)) or Facebook page (Sydney Harbour Homeowners Association) and you will know what's happening at the Board.

# SYDNEY HARBOUR

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### Key Metrics

May 7, 2015

Assessment Delinquencies, 2015 - **\$11,385.00**

Earlier - **\$10,603.00**

Deed Restriction Violations, April 2015 - **116**



### WHAT ARE KEY METRICS?

The Board would like to communicate with the residents about how we are performing. In business, certain numbers or "Key Metrics" are used to quantitatively describe performance. We chose three metrics: 1) Deed Restriction Violations, 2) Dollar amount of annual HOA assessments that are delinquent for 2015, and 3) Delinquent Dollars from 2014 and earlier. Over time, we expect that all these numbers will shrink through smart enforcement. By publishing the numbers every month, then the neighborhood is informed of our progress.

## KEEP AN EYE OPEN

Watch for the next neighborhood event scheduled for the Fall. More information to come.



## What's In a Name?

We return this month to our What's In a Name series – this month the focus is on Darling Point. One of the shortest streets in our subdivision, Darling Point is home to 24 residents.

Darling Point is a harbourside suburb of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia and located 2 miles east of Sydney's central business district. Darling Point, renowned for its desirable and expensive real estate, is mostly residential and regarded as one of the most exclusive and prestigious suburbs in Australia.

Darling Point was established in 1833 and named for Elizabeth Darling, wife of the NSW governor, Ralph Darling. It has a current population of around 4,000.

Darling Point on Sydney Harbour, NSW

Home to St Mark's Anglican Church in Darling Point Road, this popular wedding venue has hosted weddings such as Elton John's first marriage and the fictional wedding in the film "Muriel's Wedding."

Interior of St. Mark's Anglican Church

Darling Point was the focal point of the sailing events for the 2000 Summer Olympics. While the site offered many opportunities for event viewing, there was very little interest. The United States brought home one gold, two silver and one bronze medals from the competition.

Olympic Sailing Shore Base

Notable residents of Darling Point, NSW, are Nicole Kidman, Rachel Griffiths and Helen Reddy. Tom Cruise is a former resident.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## *Hockley Community Center Presents* **SPECIAL EVENTS**

In addition to regularly scheduled activities – walking, knitting, quilting, oil painting, yoga, stretching and toning exercise classes, cards and dominoes – the Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack's Hockley Community Center will offer the following special events in the coming months:

### **Party Bridge**

Bridge players are meeting at the Hockley Community Center on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until noon and are inviting others to join them. For those wanting to learn the game, a volunteer is available to teach it on Tuesdays from 10:15 a.m. until noon during "Pick/Bring a Game Time". Call (936) 931-5029 for more information.

### **Crochet Circle**

A crochet circle is now meeting at the Hockley Community Center. All skill levels are welcome to attend on Thursdays from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Call (936) 931-5029 for more information.

### **A Healthy Digestive System**

Louise Hayes, Ph.D. will give the workshop "A Healthy Digestive System" on June 3rd from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information. Sign-up is requested.

### **Festa Italiana**

Hockley Community Center is kicking off its summer program with Festa Italiana, a cultural enrichment event for all ages. The event will be on June 8th from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Learning about Italian music, words, phrases, food and other aspects of the country will be part of this activity. Children will get the chance to make and enjoy fruit pizza, and everyone will be encouraged to participate in a sing-along. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information. Sign-up is suggested.

### **"Whodunit" Book Club**

All curious minds are welcome to attend the "Whodunit" Book Club on the second Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Shelter, the first of Harlin Corbin's Mickey Boliter series, will be discussed on June 9th. Please bring a sandwich or a snack. Call (936) 931-5029 for more information.

### **Bingo for Children**

It will be bingo time at the Hockley Community Center on June 10th from 1:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. as part of the center's special summer program for children. Besides getting the chance to win prizes, the children will be treated to popcorn and lemonade. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information and to register your child.

### **Senior Bus Trip to Washington-on-the-Brazos**

Senior citizens will visit Barrington Farm, Independence Hall, and Star of the Republic Museum at the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site when they go on Hockley Community Center's June 11th senior bus trip. After lunch at Must Be Heaven Sandwich Shoppe, the bus will make a stop at the Antique Rose Emporium in

Brenham before returning to Hockley. Departure time is 8:00 a.m. Registration is required. Call (936) 931-5029 for more information.

### **Craft and Play: Spinning Tops**

Children will make their own spinning tops and use them in a Trotola Competition on June 11th from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information and to register your child.

### **Craft and Play: Bocce**

Children will create their own non-traditional game of bocce from recycled materials and play the game on June 15th from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for details and to register your child.

### **Quilling for Father's Day**

Use basic quilling techniques on June 16th from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. to make candy wrappers, greeting cards and gift tags for the upcoming Father's Day or other occasions. Call (936) 931-5030 for details and to sign up.

### **Craft and Play: Speed Color Matching**

Children will get the chance to improve their hand and eye coordination when they make and play a Speed Color Matching game on June 17th from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information and to register your child.

### **Mosaic Trivets Craft Class**

Right in time for Father's Day, volunteer instructor Liz Brogdon will work with children to make beautiful mosaic trivets on June 18th from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. Please call (936) 931-5030 for details and to register your child.

### **Craft and Play: Leap Frog**

Children are invited to be creative and test their aim on June 22nd from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. when they make their own Leap Frog games using an egg carton and a few supplies. Call (936) 931-5030 for details and to sign up your child.

### **Ribbon Bracelets**

'Recycle and create' will be the motto on June 23rd from 10:30 a.m. until noon when children 6 and up are invited to make bracelets from soda can pop tops and ribbon. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information and to sign up your child.

### **Craft & Play: Paddle Egg Catch**

Children will use household items to make and play their own paddle egg catch game on June 24th from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information and to sign up your child.

### **Hockley Support Group**

A support group offers an effective way of dealing with concerns, stress, hardship and pain. The Hockley Support Group is an open group that meets on June 30th from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Call (936) 931-5030 for more information. Sign-up is not required.

Fun for Children with Ms. Liz

*(Continued on Page 4)*

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*(Special Events, Cont. from Page 3)*

On Wednesdays in July from 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. volunteer Liz Brogdon is bringing fun, educational activities for children to the Hockley Community Center. Children will learn about a variety of topics while “crafting”, playing and enjoying the company of other children. Fourth of July Crafts is scheduled for July 1st. Historical Craft and Play: Austin’s Colony is on July 8th. Call (936) 931-5030 for details and to sign up your child.

\*\*\*\*

Advance registration for special activities is typically requested. An adult must accompany and remain with anyone under the age of 18 visiting the center. The Hockley Community Center is part of the Harris County Precinct Three Recreation Complex at 28515 Old Washington Road in Hockley. A calendar of events is available at the Harris County Precinct Three website at [www.pct3.hctx.net](http://www.pct3.hctx.net). For more information, call (936) 931-5030.

## Home Safety

*(Rewritten from April 2014)*

We have compiled a few home safety tips and reminders to help you take a bite out of crime.

- Keep doors (garage doors & front doors) and windows closed and locked at all times, including doors that connect from the garage to the home.
- Utilize outside light and motion light detectors around your home.
- Utilize timers to turn lights, radio(s) or television(s) on and off at appropriate times in different areas of your home.
- File a Vacation Watch form with Harris County Precinct 4. The constables will drive by your home often to ensure all is OK. [http://www.cd4.hctx.net/online\\_forms.php?formID=vacation](http://www.cd4.hctx.net/online_forms.php?formID=vacation)
- Do not publicize vacation plans, especially on social networking sites.
- Verify that your residential alarm system is operational, monitored, and use it anytime you leave your home.
- Leaving newspapers, mail and / or garbage containers out for extended periods will draw unwanted attention. Stop your newspapers & mail from being delivered until your return.
- Properly lock your unattended vehicles at all times, including in your driveway.
- Report all suspicious person(s) and vehicles in the neighborhood. Call 9-1-1.



## CONSUMER ALERT

Avoid the storm chaser roofing scam. Don't let hail damage hurt your wallet and property value. Red flags that homeowners should watch out for when selecting a contractor to fix storm damage

- The disappearing deductible
- Mysterious door to door salesman
- Fluctuating bid
- High pressure tactics

First steps after the storm

- Call your insurance agent
- Ask agent about process
- Wait to get estimates until after your adjuster has examined your roof

### Selecting contractors

- Stay calm
- Be proactive selecting a company
- Avoid door to door solicitors
- Do your research check with BBB, Angie's List or similar
- Don't sign any document until you're sure you've selected the contractor you want
- Find a local reputable company
- Make sure it is in writing
- Verify bonding and insurance
- Check the companies referrals from neighbors and others you trust
- Avoid quick fixes and low prices
- Avoid contractors willing to “Save your deductible” which is unlawful
- Written manufacturer warranties

Protect your home and investment. Hire a local, well rated contractor



## Summer Cross Country Training for Kids

The Northwest Flyers Youth Cross Country Team is now registering for summer training in preparation for the fall cross country season. Boys and girls ages 6 – 18 may participate. For information contact: Coach Eric Wentworth at emw1105@gmail.com or 281-961-6603; Coach Scott Basinger at sjbasinger@gmail.com or 713-855-8555. Website is www.northwestflyers.org.



## Sydney Harbour Adult Water Aerobics

Water aerobics will again be held at the Sydney Harbour community pool beginning June 2 at 10:00 am for one hour.

Ms. Beverly will be helping us add to our health and exercise regimen. Aerobics will be held each Tuesday and Thursday as long as the pool is open from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. All adults are welcome. Don't forget your sunscreen, drinking water, and two water noodles if you have them.

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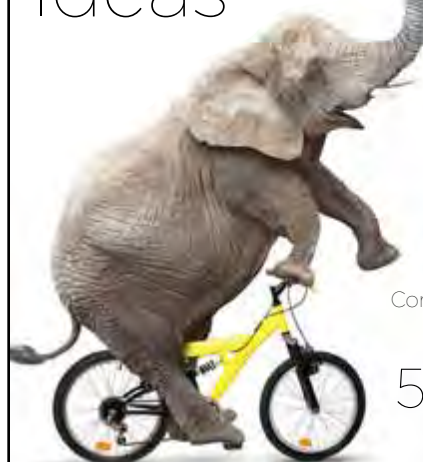
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# SYDNEY HARBOUR

## THE BENEFITS OF HOSTING SPAN BORDERS

Traveling the world and experiencing new cultures is something many dream of but few are able to do. Hosting an Ayusa exchange student provides the opportunity to experience the world while bringing other benefits to their family and local community.

For schools, opening their doors to an exchange student provides their students the opportunity to experience new cultures and expand their understanding of the global society. Not only will students be able to expand their circle of friends, they will be able to reference different perspectives of world events. The new perspectives that both local and exchange students gain through the exchange experience are invaluable for the ever-expanding global community.

Ayusa exchange students are eager to learn and participate in school and community programs. They take their role as ambassadors for their country seriously. Ayusa students are not simply bystanders to their program year; they are active participants looking to make a difference in their host school and community.

Ayusa exchange students are strong academic performers, well-rounded, and open-minded. Prospective students go through an extensive interview process in their home countries and are evaluated for maturity, strength of goals, leadership skills, and academic

background. Ayusa honors all school enrollment standards, academic requirements and student placement criteria specified in school or district policies.

Host families also reap the benefits of opening their home by sharing their America. When they share with their exchange student, they are also able to see America with fresh eyes through the student. Families often learn new things about the U.S. and have different perspectives after hosting. The experiences and memories that are shared during the program last a lifetime and span international borders.

For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact your local representative Vicki Odom at 832.455.7881 or [vodom@ayusa.org](mailto:vodom@ayusa.org) or Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at [www.ayusa.org](http://www.ayusa.org).

### About Ayusa

Ayusa is a non-profit educational organization that promotes global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and leadership program programs for high school students from around the world. Ayusa offers unique, richly personal cross-cultural experiences for students, volunteer host families, schools, and local communities.

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### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Harris County Sheriff ..... 866.222.7100  
 Pct 4 Main Dispatch Number ..... 281.376.3472  
 Animal Control (Emergency) ..... 281.999.3191  
 Poison Control ..... 800.764.7661  
 Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department ..... 713.466.6161  
 Emergency ..... 911

### LOCAL UTILITY/SERVICE PROVIDERS

Electricity- Reliant Energy ..... 281-897-8808  
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### PUBLIC SERVICES

United States Postal Service ..... 281.373.9125  
 ..... 16635 Spring Cypress Road  
 Metro Park and Ride ..... 713.635.4000

### MEDICAL FACILITIES

Methodist Hospital-Willowbrook ..... 281.477.1000  
 Cy-Fair Medical Center ..... 281.890.4285  
 Memorial Herman Hospital ..... 281.392.1111  
 North Cypress Medical Center ..... 281.894.0003

### COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD Administration ..... 281-897-4000  
 ..... 10300 Jones Road  
 Farney Elementary School ..... 281-373-2850  
 ..... 14425 Barker Cypress  
 Goodson Middle School ..... 281-373-2350  
 ..... 17333 Huffmeister  
 Cy-Woods High School ..... 281-213-1727  
 ..... 16825 Spring Cypress Road

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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## STERLING ASI PERSONNEL

**Roxanne Martinez** ..... Association Manager  
 ..... 832.678.4500, roxanne@sterlingasi.com

**Janine Cruz** ..... Administrative Assistant  
 ..... 832-678-4500 ext. 205, janine@sterlingasi.com  
*Contact for any concerns or general questions for the association regarding violations, deed restrictions, ACC applications, interest in joining a committee, clubhouse/pool rentals and any other questions regarding the property.*

**Susan Marshall** ..... Account Representative  
 ..... 832-678-4500 ext. 215, susan@sterlingasi.com  
*Any accounting related questions, a payoff quote or a transfer fee, or just want to know information regarding homeowner's accounts*

**Angela Villegas** ..... Pool Card Administrator/Customer Service  
 ..... 832.678.4500 ext. 224, angela@sterlingasi.com  
*Contact for homeowner's needing a pool card for access to the pool area.*

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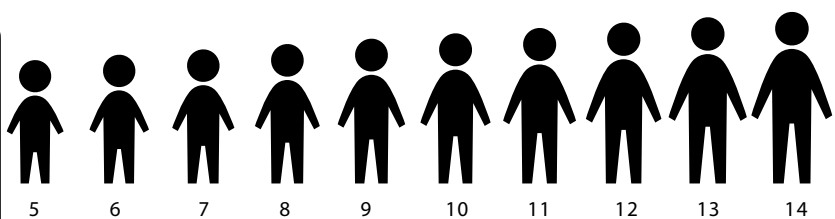
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