



First Annual Crawfish Boil Enjoyed by All!

By: Mawe Takyi

The Garden District Civic Association hosted its first Annual Neighborhood Crawfish Boil on May 18th, and it was a tasty success. Over 200 neighbors showed up to the block party that took place on Camelia Ave. Crawfish was provided by La. Lob-

sters located on 3199 LA 1 South in Port Allen, which is owned by Garden District resident, Grant Fontenot. There was great music and the weather was perfect. It was a great moment for newer residents to interact and get to know long time members of the neighborhood. These are the moments that make living in the Garden District a treasure!



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Garden District News

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Summer 2014

Garden District Pair Opens Comfortable New Bar

By: Mindy Piontek

When you enter Lock and Key, you seem to leave the North College Dr. strip mall behind for New Orleans or New York, which is just what Garden District residents and owners of the bar, Arthur Lauck and Brandolyn Tabor, had in mind when they decided to open a bar. With comfortable, clubby furniture, exposed brick, paintings in gilt frames, and a wall of artfully lit bottles of whiskey glowing amber behind the bar, the ambience is far from that of the establishment on the other side of the wall.

For Arthur, owning Lock and Key is a kind of homecoming, since his parents owned a bar by the same name in Lafayette during the seventies. He had thought about opening a bar for years--"It's in his blood," says Brandi-- but a twenty-one year career as a photojournalist, the last fifteen at the Advocate, left little time to pursue the thought. After receiving an opportunity to retire early when the Advocate was reorganized, Arthur found himself looking for a new career.

"We had a conversation on the front porch of our house on Cherokee," says Brandi, "and decided that it was just too stressful wondering where his next job was going to come from." With those thoughts, the idea of owning a bar turned from vague notion to a dream worth pursuing.

Although the couple had no previous experience owning a service industry, Ar-



Garden District residents and owners of the bar, Brandolyn Tabor and Arthur Lauck.

"We had a conversation on the front porch of our house on Cherokee," says Brandi, "and decided that it was just too stressful wondering where his next job was going to come from."

thur sees a connection with his work as a photojournalist.

"At the Advocate, I was trying to serve

my community in my work. Now I'm just serving them in a different way."

Although short on practical experience, the couple had trained for their new career for years. "When we travel, we always enjoy going to bars," says Brandi. "We like going to a new spot and figuring out what works, what we would want to do," adds Arthur.

The couple is also lucky to have a pair of silent partners who allow them to focus

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2014 Champagne Stroll Slated for Late September

By: Mindy Piontek

For the past three years, the Garden District Champagne Stroll has been a huge success. It is a festive evening and brings out people who don't necessarily attend all the other functions.

One of the GDCA Board's goals is to provide different types of activities so there is

something for everyone. This year's Stroll is planned for September 21, 2014 with a possible rain date of September 28, 2014. In the next two weeks we need four residents to volunteer their yards for the event. One yard needs to be large enough for the party at the end. The other three will have a flow of people, but not all eighty at once. Please offer your yard as a venue for

the Stroll. You'll meet so many people and have more fun than the visitors.

Snacks and champagne will be provided by the GDCA. We need to have the houses lined up by July 7th.

If you have any questions, contact Ray Mack at (225) 382-0609 or raybery.l.mack@yahoo.com.

Police Patrols Increased after Great Dues Drive

By: Eric Troutman

Due to a terrific response to our latest reminder for annual dues payments, the GDCA Board has been able to approve significant increases to our neighborhood security patrols.

These increases come at a great time as the summer months are historically when we see a rise in criminal activity in the Garden District and throughout the city.

The additional patrols are ongoing as we speak, so expect to see Sgt. Stone's men in the neighborhood more frequently, work-

ing to continue doing the great job that they do for us.

Please don't take this message to mean that we can relax our personal safety standards, continue to be smart and vigilant. Thank you to all who have helped us better serve the neighborhood!

This year, in addition to the redesigned yard sign, we have been supplying "No Solicitation" stickers to GDCA members.

We are in the process of making the entire neighborhood a no solicitation area, but until that work is completed the stickers give our residents some help with this

nagging problem.

The sticker is obviously not a cure-all repellent for solicitors, but what it does is give you leverage to let the solicitors know that they aren't welcome at your home. The "No Solicitation" sticker should also give the police leverage when they are notified that someone has trespassed onto your property uninvited and harassed you.

If you became a 2014 member before the stickers were ordered and would like one, contact David Franz dsbfranz@cox.net. If you become a new member, a sticker will come attached to your new yard sign.

Movies & Music On the Lawn Summer Schedule Slated

- **Friday, June 26:** *The Man Who Laughs* with score by Matsy
- **Friday, July 25:** *Sunrise* with a score by Minos the Saint
- **Friday, August 29:** *Alfred Hitchcock's The Lodger* with score by England in 1918
- **Friday, September 26:** *To Be Announced.*

Check the Baton Rouge Gallery website for more information.

As always, the screening begins at 8 p.m. (or sundown – whichever comes last) and the \$5 price of admission includes free bottomless popcorn.



Garden District News

The Garden District News is published quarterly by the Garden District Civic Association and is edited by

Mindy Piontek

If you have comments or story ideas that you would like to submit to the publication contact Mindy Piontek at mmpiontek70@yahoo.com.

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LOCK AND KEY

Continued from Page 1

on operations rather than financing. "That just doesn't happen in this industry," says Brandi.

When, in September, Arthur heard of the available space while waiting in line at Garden District Coffee on Perkins. He hurried home, grabbed Brandi, still in her pajamas, and brought her to see the site of their future bar. By December, the space was open for business.

"We would never be where we are without our staff," says Brandi, and she attributes their ability to open with such suc-

cess to the number of fantastic bartenders in Baton Rouge whom they already knew. Although they rely on the excellence of their staff, both Brandi and Arthur put in plenty of time working at or for the bar, usually sixteen or so hours a day. "Owning a small business is not a nine to five gig," says Arthur. "If we're awake, we're working on the bar."

The couple hopes to expand on their success by adding a menu of small plates in the next few weeks and building their Whiskey and Women events. They also plan to continue supporting the Food Bank with food drives, evident in the bin of non-per-

ishable goods near the front door, and Triumph Kitchen, which gives high-risk teens life skills in the hospitality industry.

Currently, the bar offers happy hour from 4:30-7:00, with select cocktails half priced as well as wine and beer specials. Wednesday is "pianoke," an open mike night for aspiring singers and musicians, who may choose to be accompanied by the house pianist. Thursdays and Fridays feature live piano from 9 to midnight, and Saturday showcases a jazz trio that occasionally expands to an octet.

On the last Saturday of May, the couple was at Lock and Key, of course, enjoying cocktails while listening to the jazz trio who had been joined by Wes "Warm Daddy" Anderson and a couple of friends from New Orleans.

"We looked at each other and knew," says Arthur, "what's happening now is just perfect."

GDCA Garage Sale

Mark you calendar ... this year's Garden District Garage Sale Day will be Saturday, August 23. Last year's sale was a huge success! And we expect the same this year.

In case you're not familiar with it ... We are coordinating a day when residents are invited to hold individual garage sales, with advertising handled courtesy of GDCA. With a multitude of sales going on all over the neighborhood, we'll be a thrift-shopper's paradise! All you have to do is put your things out and collect your money.

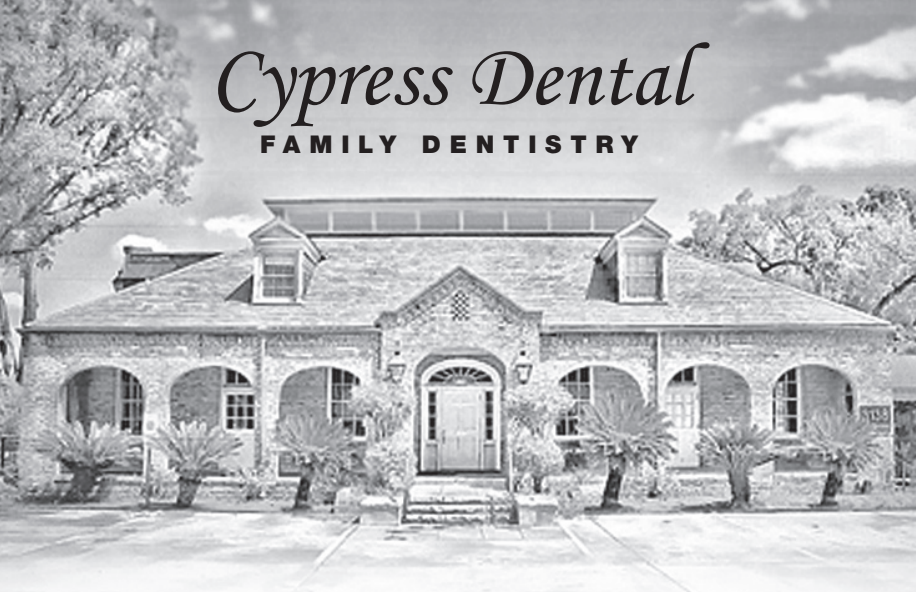
To sign up, please reply to llamia@bell-south.net with your name, address, and phone. We'll make a map of participating houses to hand out to shoppers to make sure your house doesn't get missed.

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