



LGNA

LOWER
GREENVILLE
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

JULY / AUG 2008

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

LGNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Carr **PRESIDENT**
214-821-2562

Gay Hopkins **VICE PRESIDENT**
214-827-4559

Lisa Gala **SECRETARY**
972-989-3779

Alan Schonborn **TREASURER**
214-823-4057

Darren Dattalo **CRIME WATCH**
214-476-8023

Kathryn Willison **DIRECTOR**
214-956-4593

Philip Kingston **DIRECTOR**
214-642-1707

USEFUL NUMBERS

Council Member Angela Hunt
214-670-5415

State Rep. Dan Branch
214-745-5768

DPD Officer Keith Allen
214-671-3477

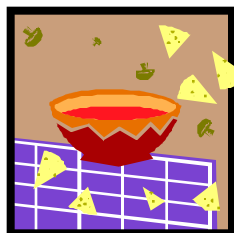
City Service Coordinator
Pame' La Ashford
214-671-8875

Sanitation / Bulk Trash
214-670-3555

Code Compliance
214-670-5708

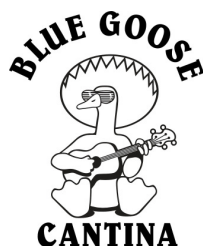
Animal Control
214-670-5111 or 311

FUN, FRIENDS & FAJITAS



LGNA's July meeting has traditionally been a covered-dish dinner to allow neighbors a relaxed venue for getting to know each other. But this year, we decided to kick it up a notch!

Our good neighbor, Blue Goose Cantina (located at Greenville and Goodwin), has generously offered to provide fajita meat, chips, and tortillas. LGNA will provide fajita toppings and beans.



To show off your culinary expertise (or your last-minute shopping expertise), bring a side dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. Whether it's a salad, corn casserole or Kroger's apple pie – bring a dish to share with your neighbors.

To spice up the evening, there will be a contest for "Best Salsa or Dip." Blue Goose will provide gift certificates as prizes. If you have a favorite salsa recipe or a dip that you're particularly proud of, bring an entry for the contest in addition to your side dish. Everyone present will have a chance to sample entries, and winners will be determined by their votes. Come prepared to taste great food and campaign for your favorites.

State Rep. Dan Branch and City Councilmember Angela Hunt, as well as several city officials, have been invited. Come and chat with these folks on an informal basis.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, July 15, 7:00 p.m. at Greenland Hills UMC, Penrose at Delmar. This is a do-not-miss event – good food, good company, and an exciting salsa competition.

Pat Carr—Vanderbilt

NEXT LGNA MEETING

WHEN Tuesday July 15
7:00pm

WHERE Greenland Hills
United Methodist
Church
5835 Penrose

TOPIC Neighborhood
Meet & Greet

LGNA meetings are held the third
Tuesday of odd-numbered months.

in this issue



- ◆ Summertime in Tietze Park
- ◆ Know Your Neighbor
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- ◆ DISD Bond Results
- ◆ Dig This: Ask A Neighborhood Gardener
- ◆ Crime Update

now on the web

Log on to
www.LGNA.net
to take our poll
and tell us what
you think.



This month's poll:
*What is your highest
priority for the neighborhood?*



SUMMERTIME IN THE PARK

There's no better time to enjoy your neighborhood park than in the summer. The Friends of Tietze Park Foundation has lined up another outdoor movie night in the park on August 8. Bring your blankets or lawn chairs to the ballfield and join your neighbors after sundown for a free showing of the classic adventure film "Raiders of the Lost Ark"! The Skillman Church of Christ, Studio Movie Grill and the Lakewood Advocate will be helping with logistics and refreshments. Sponsors include Keller Williams Dallas City Center and Lakewood Orthodontics. This is a fund-raiser for the park, and hopefully will become a popular series. Watch the website - www.tietzepark.org - for details.

In the meantime, cool off at the park pool, open every afternoon except Wednesdays, from 1:00 to 5:45, until August 17. Entrance fees are still just \$1 for under 12 years of age, \$2 for 12 or over. Speaking of the pool, you may recall that the 2006 city bond election provided \$506,000 for park improvements. Listed priorities were pool infrastructure improvements (shade anyone?) and a perimeter path. Those bonds are being sold now, and FOTPF will be hosting public meetings with the city architects this fall for ideas on the next phase of work. Contact us via our website if you're not on our email list already, and would like to receive news about the meetings.

We are very close to city approval for a new shade structure for benches near the new Lindsey Brown Toddler Playground, and for installation of engraved bricks that we are selling to raise funds for the park. Details are on the website. The Friends of Tietze Park Foundation is a volunteer-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. They welcome new members and help of any kind. Have a great summer and enjoy Your park!

KELLY NASH—FOTPF

KNOW your NEIGHBORS



Tony Tolentino was originally born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and after serving his Duty in the Army came to Texas in 1976. He met his current beautiful wife Rebecca and married in 1984. They settled down in a quaint cottage on Vanderbilt, where they lived until 2004. Tony and Rebecca watched as their son Matt grew up and finished school. Shortly thereafter, they moved to Lewis Street where the family currently resides. Tony's favorite hobbies are tending to his yard and walking his four-legged Chihuahua buddies Tito and Buster. Look for Tony at his part time job at Redenta's Garden Center where he will give you tips on how to keep up your plants. When asked what he would tell someone new moving to the neighborhood he quotes "...get a dog and you get to meet everyone!"

Victor Aves—Lewis

LGNA Elects New Officers

At our last general membership meeting, LGNA voted to confirm three board positions. Alan Schonborn and Darren Dattalo were re-elected to their current positions and Philip Kingston was elected to replace Elise Pullman whose term had expired.

Per our by-laws, at the following board meeting, the officers were elected. After several highly successful years leading LGNA, Kathryn Willison has stepped down as LGNA President and will be replaced by Pat Carr. Kathryn will remain on the board and assist Pat with her new duties. Alan Schonborn was elected Treasurer. Remaining in their current roles are Gay Hopkins as Vice President, Lisa Gala as Secretary and Darren Dattalo as Crime Watch Coordinator.

A complete list of our board members and their contact numbers is available on the cover of this newsletter and on our website at www.LGNA.net. We are here to serve you.

Got a great story you would like to see in our newsletter? We welcome any stories or articles you'd like to submit. Just drop us a line at: director1@lgna.net

How well do you know your neighbors? One of the best things you can do to improve your neighborhood is to get to know those who live around you. Not only does it make for a happier place to live, it actually helps reduce crime. Find some time this week to say hello to a new neighbor! And if you know of someone you'd like to see profiled in this column, let us know.



Want to buy your tomatoes from someone you trust?? Consider shopping for locally grown summer produce at Dallas Farmers Market. Wonderful changes are taking place at the market, namely bringing back the local farmer. "I grew this" signs seen in Shed 1 will guarantee you are buying from a local farmer. Open daily 7:00am to 6:00pm. For more info on the Farmer's Market, check out www.dfmfriends.org.

**Here's what you missed at
our last LGNA meeting:**

DISD Bond Recap



The Dallas Independent School District bond election in May was the largest in Dallas history -- \$1,350,000,000. Yes, that's over a billion dollars.

According to DISD sources, the bond debt will translate to a property-tax increase of \$117.10 for every \$250,000 of property value. What benefits will our neighborhood see? May's LGNA meeting featured DISD's Jon Dahlander who explained how our neighborhood schools will benefit.

All of our area schools will all see a technology upgrade – enhancement of teacher tools, student computers, and technology labs. In addition, all will also receive necessary exterior and interior upgrades and replacements for paint, windows, exterior doors, roof repairs, restroom refurbishments, and mechanical, electrical and plumbing repairs. The budget also includes addition or repair, as needed, of outdoor areas such as dumpster fencing, parking lots, playground equipment, or bus drop-off lanes.

Robert E. Lee will see \$1.5 Million of renovations and modernization. Stonewall Jackson is scheduled for \$2.3 Million. J.L. Long's budget is \$3.7 Million and will include ADA improvements and athletic renovations. Woodrow Wilson's allocation is \$9.9 Million, including ADA improvements, athletic renovations, and science lab additions.

Pat Carr—Vanderbilt

Super Suppers at 1906 Abrams Parkway (near Dixie House) has been a good neighbor and sponsor of LGNA events. Owner Christine Calhoun has provided an example of the quick and delicious meals you can pick up or assemble yourself.

Orange-Tarragon-Glazed Baked Chicken

- 6 medium boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (2¼ pounds total)
- 1 cup orange juice concentrate, thawed
- ½ cup finely chopped onions
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon dried tarragon, crushed
- 1 teaspoon salt



Step One: Place chicken in a resealable plastic bag for marinade, combine orange juice concentrate, onion, oil, tarragon, and salt; pour over chicken in bag. Seal bag; turn to coat chicken. Refrigerate for 2 hours.

Step Two: Preheat oven to 350° F. Drain chicken, discarding marinade. Arrange chicken in a 23x9x2-inch baking dish. Bake, uncovered, about 20 minutes or until no longer pink.

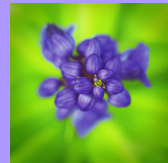
Freeze ahead: Prepare through Step One. Freeze up to 2 months. Defrost completely in refrigerator. Continue according to Step Two.

Side: Fruit and Nut Couscous **Dessert:** New York-style cheesecake

For more information, go to the website www.SuperSuppersLakewood.com.

Q&A Dig This!

Notes from a Neighborhood Gardener



I'm writing this issue after basking in the glory of having my garden featured in the June 20th "Home and Garden" section of the Dallas Morning News. Hopefully some of you enjoyed reading "A Colorful Bit of Garden Chaos" by Mariana Greene. Yes, that's my garden she so eloquently described.

So, is it hot enough for you??? It seems when summer arrives in Texas it does so with a vengeance. Imagine how plants must feel when WHAM, it's 90+ degrees. It's a tough time to be planting so choose heat tolerant specimens. I recently added Pentas and Zinnias in a sunny garden spot, and they are flourishing in this TX sun. Hibiscus, Rudbeckia, Cone Flower, Lantana, Salvias and drought tolerant TX natives are also good choices. Plan to water regularly the first few days after planting to help them get established.

Speaking of watering, water wisely. (savedallaswater.com) Early morning is best. Water deeply and less frequently. Add mulch to beds to help retain the moisture. Reset sprinklers after power outages. Avoid using sprinklers between hours of 10:00am and 6:00pm. If you recently planted a tree, water it deeply at least weekly and add more mulch.

Be safe, avoid heat exhaustion. Best tip yet, after a grueling day of digging in the dirt head over to Tietze Park and enjoy a refreshing dip in the pool. It's open Thursday-Tuesday 1:00-6:00 with Adult swim Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 6-7:00. It's a great way to enjoy a hot day in Lower Greenville. Reach me online at digthislqna@yahoo.com.
Sara Wick—Palo Pinto



CRIME WATCH UPDATE

Our First ENP Arrest!

Sometimes, being the crime watch coordinator can really be depressing. Sometimes you learn a lot of chilling things you'd rather not know about. But other times, you get to celebrate when a bad guy gets taken off the street.

An alert neighbor witnessed someone suspicious and called 911 with a license number. Keith Allen, our ENP officer, was able to track the vehicle to a known person outside the city. Although this individual didn't match the description of the suspect, it was determined that he had loaned the car to someone else. With some "persuasion" from our patrol officer, the vehicle's owner provided the name of the suspected burglar and the time when he was expected to return to the neighborhood. A photo line-up was produced and presented to the original witness. Our neighbor identified the man in the line up as the burglar. Officer Keith then waited with undercover officers for the burglar to return and executed an arrest. There is no way to know how many burglaries we prevented with this arrest, but we are confident it was no small number based on the length of the burglar's rap sheet. His rap sheet included numerous burglary incidents going back 7 years.

Thanks to the alert neighbor who cared enough to get the license number and to our ENP officer for going the extra mile.

To be added to our crime watch email distribution list or receive information on our Extended Neighborhood Patrol program, please email us at crimewatch@lgna.net.

DARREN DATTALO—Goliad

| | Total Incidents | Residential Incidents | Residential Thefts & Break-ins | Violent Crime** | Auto Theft |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Apr-2008 | 54 | 27 | 21 | 2 | 1 |
| May-2008 | 68 | 26 | 14 | 4 | 7 |
| Average | 66 | 34 | 18 | 4 | 5 |

** Violent crime includes murder, rape, robbery or aggravated assault.



Expanded Neighborhood Patrol Update

ENP
IN ACTION!

As I began to assemble my thoughts for this article, I wanted to accomplish two things. The first was to be informative and helpful. The second was to avoid being boring. I quickly gave up on the second. One of the things I have learned from the quality time spent in your neighborhood is how much interest there is in protecting not only your own property, but also that of your neighbor. I would argue with anyone that committed, caring, involved, practical neighbors are found not only in the suburbs, but are also the core of LGNA. I hope that all of us remember to balance out the noteworthy, negative information with the more subtle, positive stories that are the majority.

As an example, a couple of weeks ago a dedicated neighbor volunteered to help with a move. They loaded up many heavy items, filled three vehicles, and closed and locked all vehicle doors except one. Of course the bad guys who probably had driven by previously took advantage and stole several items while the group was inside taking a break.

My trips through the neighborhood have highlighted the need to remind you to secure your belongings. I realize working in the yard, garage, around the house is hot, tiring work. When you take that much deserved break to get a cold drink, answer the phone....your unsecured property presents an opportunity for criminals to take advantage. The intent is to be gone for only a few seconds, but usually turns out to be longer, providing the bad guys ample time to help themselves. They are criminals for a reason. It is what they do. Our goal is to reduce their opportunities. Thanks!

KEITH ALLEN, Dallas Police

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

LGNA & LGNA EXPANDED NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL SIGN-UP FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

COMMENTS:

- Please choose all that apply:
- ☐ Join LGNA (\$10/yr, \$5 for seniors)
 - ☐ Join ENP (\$200/yr, \$150 for seniors)
 - ☐ Add me to the Crime Watch email list
 - ☐ Please contact me about volunteering

Please print clearly! Email addresses are required to receive neighborhood alerts. Personal information is not shared with any outside group or used for any other purpose. Receipts will be furnished upon request. Checks for LGNA membership should be made out to LGNA. For Extended Neighborhood Patrol membership, checks should be made out to LGNA-ENP.

Mail this form and check payable to LGNA or LGNA-ENP to: PO Box 720067, Dallas, TX 75372 (or bring it to the next LGNA meeting).