

# LGNA

LOWER  
GREENVILLE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION



SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2011

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Carr | PRESIDENT  
214-821-2562

Gay Hopkins | VICE PRESIDENT  
214-827-4559

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214-826-7330

Debbie Daniel | TREASURER  
214-821-0747

John Dailey | SECRETARY  
214-821-6324

Darren Dattalo | CRIME WATCH  
214-476-8023

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Stacey Davis 214-501-8788

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David Jones 214-821-8984

Philip Kingston 214-642-1707

Ken Lampton 214-502-5858

Alan Schonborn 214-823-4057

## USEFUL NUMBERS

Council Member Angela Hunt  
214-670-5415

State Rep. Dan Branch  
214-745-5768

DPD Officer Keith Allen  
214-671-3477

Sanitation / Bulk Trash  
214-670-3555

Code Compliance  
214-670-5708

Animal Services Call 311

## SAVE THE DATE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Last year's National Night Out at Tietze Park was huge, with the biggest turn out yet! We've been working hard to make sure that 2011's event is just as fun. This year's event will be **Tuesday, October 4, from 5:30-8:30pm, once again at Tietze Park.**

National Night Out is designed to strengthen community relationships between residents and public service organizations such as police, city departments and charitable organizations that serve the community. Approximately 5,000 households are represented by

the three neighborhood associations that host the event – Lower Greenville, Lakewood Heights, and Lowest Greenville West. Our event generates 750+ attendees each year.

On hand will be police officers to talk to about crime concerns. In addition, we will have exhibits from quality-of-life and charitable organizations. As usual we will have the face painters, hotdogs, and bounce house. We expect to have musical entertainment and will be doing another round of last year's popular pie-eating contest.

This is a great opportunity to have some fun, meet some neighbors, and learn a little something about health and safety. Look for the flyer on your doorstep. The event will take the place of our regularly scheduled November LGNA meeting. Be sure to save the date.

We are expecting to have the Carter Bloodmobile onsite again for a blood drive. Last year the bloodmobile had mechanical trouble on the way and couldn't make it, so this year, we want to double our giving.

If you need a little incentive to donate blood, Society Bakery will be sponsoring the blood drive and will give a coupon for a free cupcake to everyone donating blood. If you've ever had a Society Bakery cupcake, you'll know that a pint of blood is a small price to pay for such a delectable treat! Carter BloodCare requires a picture ID, so bring your driver's license.



For more information  
and to register, go to  
[LukesLocker.com/Events](http://LukesLocker.com/Events)

On Thursday, October 6, J.L. Long Middle School presents its annual fund-raiser, the 5K Long Run and 1K Fun Run. Beginning at 6pm, the runs start and finish at Long Middle School, 6116 Reiger. After the races, runners, student groups, and community members meet for food, refreshments, and entertainment.

## NEXT MEETING

**WHEN** THURSDAY Sept. 29  
6:30 PM (new time)

**WHERE** Skillman Church of  
Christ, Skillman &  
Marquita

**TOPIC** Emergency  
Preparedness

## BULK TRASH DATE

**PICK UP:** Sept. 12-16  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Sept. 8

**PICK UP:** Oct. 10-14  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Oct. 6

**PICK UP:** Nov. 14-18  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Nov. 10

**Remember:** The city has a zero tolerance for placing trash out prior to the earliest set-out date. Don't get stuck with a fine for missing the date.



**LOG ON TO  
WWW.LGNA.NET**  
for information  
and updates.

## FRIENDS AND FOOD

### LGNA JULY DINNER

The approximately one hundred people who attended the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association's summer social were in agreement that the annual event is not to be missed. With an attendance that grows every year, the family-friendly dinner featured an abundance of good food and a chance to meet your neighbors.

Complete fajita fixings from Blue Goose Cantina and the famed shrimp cocktail from Aw Shucks were the stars of the six tables of food. Many thanks to Blue Goose for the wonderful spread. Complementing the main courses were dozens of side dishes and desserts brought by area residents.

Highlighting the evening was a dessert contest featuring almost two dozen homemade desserts brought by neighbors. Those present at the dinner voted on their choices of best dessert, and Society Bakery, located at Greenville and McCommas, provided three generous prizes. Receiving first prize of a \$50 gift certificate was the chocolate pecan pie brought by Sherry Saiz. Linda Roney's second-prize pineapple cake earned a \$25 gift certificate, and Alice Ann Dailey's German chocolate pie won a \$25 gift certificate for third prize.



Dessert prize winner Sherry Saiz receives Society Bakery gift certificate from Ryan Trimble, assistant to State Representative Dan Branch

Make sure you visit Society Bakery, Blue Goose, and Aw Shucks to thank them for supporting our neighborhood.

Many thanks to all the neighborhood residents who attended and especially to those who helped with the setup and cleanup.



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE WHAT YOU CAN DO

Ten years ago, a tornado swept through Fort Worth – killing five people and injuring another 100. This year we've been glued to TV weather maps and watched as tornados danced around our area. Do you know how you can protect yourself and – just as important – how you can help others should such a disaster strike the Lower Greenville area or nearby neighborhoods?

Your chance to learn more about how to better react to weather and other disasters and emergencies is the next LGNA meeting on Thursday, September 29. Cassandra Wallace from the City of Dallas' Office of Emergency Management will bring information that every family needs for their own safety.

Ms Wallace will also bring information on how you can become a part of CERT, the Community Emergency Response Team. CERT training promotes a partnering effort between the citizens of Dallas, the Office of Emergency Management, Dallas Fire Rescue, and the Dallas Police Department. Emergency personnel train members of neighborhoods, community organizations, and businesses to apply all aspects of their training if a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional response.

The meeting on **Thursday, September 29 at 6:30** will be held in the Rotunda Room at Skillman Church of Christ, 3014 Skillman. It will be jointly sponsored by the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association and the Lakewood Heights Neighborhood Association.



### Tietze Splash

Sponsored by Friends of Tietze Park Foundation and three neighborhood associations – Lower Greenville, Wilshire Heights, and Lakewood Heights – the third annual Tietze Splash on July 30 signaled the ending of the summer pool season. TV news crews, Station 17 firefighters, and about 50 neighborhood residents watched as Councilmember Angela Hunt presented a City proclamation to neighbor and firefighter Chris Hardin and honored pool lifeguards who were instrumental in resuscitating a young girl at the pool in June. The quick life-saving efforts of lifeguards and Chris, who was enjoying the pool during his off-duty hours, gave the crisis a positive outcome.

### DHL Boot Camp

On Saturday, August 20, ten members of LGNA and the Belmont Addition Conservation District attended the Dallas Homeowners League's annual Neighborhood Leadership Boot Camp. Held at City Hall, Boot Camp featured keynote addresses by Mayor Mike Rawlings and City Councilmember Angela Hunt as well as several useful workshops including Code Compliance ordinances, Crime Watch, presenting zoning cases, and coalition building. DHL Secretary Melissa Kingston presented two of the workshops. Kingston is also LGNA's representative to DHL. The Dallas Homeowners League is a citywide alliance of neighborhoods working for neighborhood self-determination and empowerment. LGNA is a long-time DHL supporter and this year was a sponsor of Boot Camp.



# DIG THIS!

notes from a  
neighborhood gardener

## THE NEW CITY BUDGET HOW IT AFFECTS US

About 40 people attended the neighborhood Budget Town Hall sponsored by City Councilmembers Angela Hunt and Sheffie Kadane on August 16. Indicating less interest than at similar town halls in previous years, less than half of those in attendance were individual citizens. The majority were citizen groups lobbying for libraries, public arts programs, and parks.

Assistant City Manager Ryan Evans presented the proposed \$2.6B budget, saying "We're not getting a repeat of last year's drastic budget cuts and property tax-rate hikes." Residents will, however, see a water-bill increase of 5.9%. Evans added that, thanks to conservation measures, Dallas is using 5% less water than five years ago.

The proposed budget would cut park maintenance, with trash removal occurring every 4.5 days instead of every 4 days, and mowing 2.5 times per month instead of the current 3 times. In the proposed budget, recreation centers and pools would keep the same hours as this year. The library budget, while only half of what it was ten years ago, will see some enhancements. Libraries will continue to maintain 40-hour weeks and will increase the budget for materials while decreasing staff.

Hunt and Kadane announced that Mayor Mike Rawlings intends to restore a City Council committee on libraries and the arts. "He thinks those are priorities," Hunt said. Such a committee had been discontinued by a previous mayor.

Hunt announced that the City will increase staff to replace traffic-light bulbs. Three years ago all traffic-light bulbs were replaced, and they are beginning to burn out. But response time for replacement has been slow due to last year's personnel cuts. One such inoperative light was recently blamed for a traffic accident which claimed two lives. Call 911 to report burned-out traffic lights. In response to questions about burned-out street lights, Hunt explained that Oncor replaces street-light bulbs. Call 311 to report burned-out street lights.

Other increased spending this fiscal year will be an increase for street maintenance. The current budget for street maintenance is one-half of that ten years ago. This year's budget will also see an increase in public safety expenses including slight police salary increases, adding both police officers and fire recruits, refurbishing ambulances, and training 60 paramedics. The City will also enhance 311 service with additional call takers and technology upgrades.

Last year's budget cuts included the relocation of the ambulance from DFR station 17 at Belmont and Skillman. The ambulance was removed in June 2011, and Station 17's current vehicles are an engine and a truck. A concerned citizen had earlier reported to LGNA that the truck was now under consideration to be moved. Assistant City Manager Evans told LGNA, "The Fire Department is looking at a number of scenarios, but right now there is no plan to move Truck 17."

**The City's budget will be adopted on September 28.**

## Reclaiming Your Garden from Ice and Heat

Well, gardens have certainly been stressed this year with a long winter freeze and drought including 100+ temperatures. Take stock of what survived these two extremes and plan for fall planting.

Fall is the best time to plant; the cooler months will allow roots to establish a sound foundation for next summer's heat. Many local nurseries will be discounting prices on their stock. Don't worry if plants don't look great in the nursery as they too have been suffering with the extreme temperatures. Most perennials and shrubs will become somewhat dormant this time of year. Good soil prep, mulch, and fall rain will insure a welcome sight next year.

Things to consider in garden plantings are shade and sun exposure, complementing what you already have, water needs and availability, time, and budget. Larger trees will provide a canopy for things below and offer protection from the summer sun. Smaller trees and shrubs provide accent and definition. For landscape recommendations, reference *Native Texas Plants: Landscaping Region by Region* by Andy & Sally Wasowski.

October is the time to thin and transplant iris, lilies and other perennials and sow some wild flower seeds. Spring bulbs are arriving in nurseries. Shop early for best selection, and plant October through January. With the anticipated arrival of cooler temps, I'm anxious to get digging in the dirt and enjoy fall gardening.

sara wick  
palo pinto





# CRIME WATCH UPDATE

## KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS.

DARREN DATTALO  
CRIME WATCH COORDINATOR

Last summer, LGNA saw a big spike in crime incidents in the neighborhood. In July 2010 alone there were 91 total incidents. We've been lucky to avoid that level of crime this summer.

Our two biggest concerns continue to be home break-ins and car break-ins, but we also have a fair amount of petty theft. For example, one resident has had a lawn sprinkler stolen from her front yard multiple times. Another had a plant dug up from her yard.

While nuisance crimes may seem petty, we should take them just as seriously. The "broken window theory" tells us that small crime ignored leads to larger crimes down the road. All residents should feel free to report these crimes to the police.

The best crime reduction tool we have in our toolkit is knowing your neighbors. Knowing what they look like, what type of car they drive, who visits them regularly, all these things help you notice if something is out of place. If you want to do something about crime in the neighborhood, the first thing you should do is to make an effort to

know your neighbors. (Meeting one new family per month is a good goal.) One good way of meeting your neighbors is to come out to our National Night Out at Tietze Park. (See separate article.)

In addition to knowing your neighbors, the next best thing is knowing what's going on around you. We send out a monthly email with a list of all the crime incidents in the area and short stories about what is happening. If you're not on the distribution list, drop us a note at [crimewatch@lgna.net](mailto:crimewatch@lgna.net). Knowing what's happening just down the street helps you be more observant about activity in your area.

Finally, please consider becoming a member of our Extended Neighborhood Patrol program. Details are available on our website at [www.lgna.net](http://www.lgna.net).

	Residential Incidents	Car Break-ins	Other Res. Thefts & Break-ins	Violent Crime*	Auto Theft
June 2011	27	13	11	1	0
July 2011	26	18	14	4	2
Typical	31	15	10	2	2

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

## PROPERTY CRIMES KEITH ALLEN—DALLAS POLICE

There is an enhanced effort within the Dallas Police Department (DPD) to not only reduce the number of offenses, but to disrupt the operations of those who habitually steal. This includes burglary, burglary of motor vehicle, theft, auto theft, and shoplifting.

One of the critical pieces for success is to obtain information. We have discussed [iWatchdallas.net](http://iWatchdallas.net) in the past, but it is worth noting how valuable a tool this is. Please make note of any suspicious activity and report it.

I know we discuss many different methods ([iWatchdallas](http://iWatchdallas.net), 911, email, etc.), and that's because we want to provide you with as many options so you can choose the best one for you. You know your street, alley, neighborhood as well as anyone. You also know what is suspicious. Report it. We will work every lead and do our best to

follow up with you at the conclusion of our efforts.

The weather will finally, hopefully change. The change should cause more outdoor activities. Those activities include criminal activity. Please note license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles, addresses where there are abnormal amounts of traffic, or any other specific data item.

Remember that your safety comes first, so never put yourself in a hazardous position. You can also assist us by sharing our request for information with those folks that work for you. Landscapers, maids, child care providers, etc. all spend time in your neighborhood. In fact, landscapers are more frequently the victims of drive off thefts than residents. Encourage them to report suspicious activity to us.

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact me. Thank you.

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND JOIN NOW!

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_  
phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
email: \_\_\_\_\_  
comments: \_\_\_\_\_



Please choose all that apply:

- ☐ Join LGNA (\$10/yr, \$5 for 65+)
- ☐ Join Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (\$200/yr, \$150 for 65+)
- ☐ 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. Please provide separate checks if possible.

**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).**