LGNA

LOWER
GREENVILLE
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION



NOVEMBER • DECEMBER 2011

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Carr | PRESIDENT 214-821-2562

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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

CERT & PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

At September's LGNA membership meeting, Les Hall from the City's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) distributed information and gave hints and tips on preparing your family for emergencies such as tornadoes.

Having a family evacuation plan is important, not only for families with children, but for older citizens and individuals. Make a plan for where to secure your family in the event of a tornado. Also important is a preparedness plan on what possessions to take with you in case you have to evacuate your home after a tornado.

"Go kits" in your home and car can contain wind-up radios (Batteries may fail and blackouts may occur.), drinking-water packets, first-aid kits, and flashlights. On a simpler level, just knowing how to use a fire extinguisher using the PASS method (Pull the ring, Aim, Squeeze, & Sweep) can save time and possibly avert a horrific situation.

Hall also urged residents to consider signing up for CERT training to respond at critical times when emergency responders can't arrive immediately. He also mentioned that CERT volunteers were the people who manned emergency shelters when the city saw thousands of South Texas residents fleeing Hurricanes Rita and Ike.



Following up on the informational discussion at the meeting, CERT personnel also manned a table at National Night Out. As well as distributing informational materials, CERT's June Weirien talked to individuals about signing up for CERT training classes. Over a dozen individuals signed up to attend. Scheduled for individual neighborhoods, the 24 hours of certification classes are timed and dated to meet neighborhood needs and availability.

Training sessions include disaster preparedness, light search and rescue, team organization, disaster first aid and psychology, fire safety, and disaster medical operations such as assessment, treatment, triage, and hygiene. Even included is a disaster simulation at the fire department training grounds on Dolphin Road.

The City covers the cost, and there is no charge to participants. CERT classes will begin in January.

If you are interested in participating or just getting more information, call the CERT office at 214-670-4279 or email Director1@LGNA.net.

NEXT MEETING

National Night Out was our meeting for November. See you in January!

BULK TRASH DATE

PICK UP: Nov. 14-28 EARLIEST SET-OUT: Nov. 10

PICK UP: Dec. 12-16
EARLIEST SET-OUT: Dec. 8

PICK UP: Jan. 9-13 EARLIEST SET-OUT: Jan. 5

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.



LEGISLATORS AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

September's membership meeting – a joint project of the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association and Lakewood Heights Neighborhood Association – was an informative and congenial session.

State District 107 Representative Kenneth Sheets shared highlights of important and humorous legislation from the 82nd Congressional session.

Lighter legislation included the new law that now allows noodling as long as the noodler has a Texas fishing license. Noodling is the ancient art of catching catfish by hand in their underwater holes. Another bill now allows feral hogs to be hunted from helicopters. Feral hogs have become a serious destructive menace for Texas ranchers and farmers.

In more serious legislation, you must now show your driver's license in order to vote. A tort reform bill allows plaintiffs with smaller cases to move through the court system faster. Honorably discharged veterans in Texas will soon be able to list their status on their driver's licenses as proof of their honorable service. Rep. Sheets also shared the news that State district boundaries will be changing, and the boundary between District 108 and 107 – currently Skillman – will be moved to Abrams.

State District 108 Representative Dan Branch was scheduled to attend but had to change plans because of family conflicts. He did, however, provide delicious catered snacks for our enjoyment.

Thanks to both of our area's State Representatives!



Fire Station Baskets

Put the date on your calendar – December 17. Once again LGNA will be collecting Christmas goody baskets for the firefighters and paramedics at Station 17. It's our way of saying "Thanks for watching out f or us." Bring your cookies, brownies, or any other holiday treats to 5843 Vanderbilt on Saturday, December 17th, between 10am-2pm. We'll assemble a basket for each of the three shifts and deliver the baskets that weekend. To learn more, contact Director1@LGNA.net.

Vickery Place Cookbook

To celebrate the Vickery Place Centennial, Shelia Huffman and Kathy Harris have co-edited a cookbook, "Recipes and Recollections: Vickery Place Cooking since 1911." The cookbook is a collection of recipes by past and present Vickery Place residents and 15 neighboring restaurants, with neighborhood photos dating back to the 1920s and more historic information about the area. Proceeds are earmarked for Vickery Place NA and for SPAN which delivers pet food for low-income and home-bound senior-citizen pet owners in East Dallas.

Price of the cookbook is \$11. For more information or to place an order, email KA54@aol.com

THE WELCOME WAGON IS BACK!

Some old traditions are just too good to ignore. LGNA is bringing back our "welcome project" for the newest neighbors within the LGNA boundaries. New neighbors who have recently purchased a residence in our area will soon find a "New Neighbor Welcome Wagon" at their door. Information about our association and the ways in which neighbors can participate and become more involved will be among the items included.

Because we believe that the local retail in our neighborhood is a vital part of life in Lower Greenville, we have invited neighborhood businesses to partner with us in our outreach efforts. Their responses have been overwhelmingly positive. Also included in the welcome wagon will be coupons donated by LGNA-area businesses as an incentive for those new to the neighborhood to support local retail in our community.

Our goals are two-fold: to increase participation in the neighborhood association and to add to the sense of community we have when residents patronize neighborhood businesses.

Thank you to our LGNA area businesses for helping us to offer a friendly Lower Greenville welcome to our newest neighbors.



On Tuesday, November 22, area churches and neighborhood associations will again gather at the Skillman Church of Christ, 3014 Skillman, at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate a pre-Thanksgiving potluck feast.

As in previous years, the Skillman Church of Christ, Lakewood United Methodist Church, and St. Andrews Presbyterian Church will join with three neighborhood associations – Lower Greenville, Lakewood Heights, and Wilshire Heights – for a traditional dinner. A large crowd of area residents is expected to participate in an evening with extended neighborhood family.

The neighborhood associations and churches provide turkey, ham, drinks, and supplies. Neighbors are asked to bring their choice of a Thanksgiving side dish or dessert in a disposable container. Skillman Church is requesting donations of canned food for the North Texas Food Bank.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, October 4, saw the eighth annual National Night Out in Tietze Park. This year, volunteers from three neighborhood associations – Lower Greenville, Lakewood Heights, and Lowest Greenville West – again worked to host the event. Approximately a thousand area residents attended.

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. Visitors included Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings. A former resident of our East Dallas area, Mayor Rawlings enjoyed himself by partaking of a snow cone and chatting with area residents. His visit to the Robert E. Lee school table was doubly pleasurable for Lee volunteers when he informed them that his wife had attended Robert E. Lee.

Fire Station 17 brought their truck so that the kids could take a look inside a real fire truck. The Dallas Police Department sent several representatives including Deputy Chief Mike Genovesi. Chief Genovesi served as an excellent and impartial judge of the second annual pie-eating contest.

Other participants were two dozen exhibitors including area churches, Dallas city services, security and health providers, and neighborhood associations and crime watches. Visitors took advantage of complimentary hamburgers and hot dogs cooked up by folks from Skillman Church of Christ and drinks provided by BellaVista Company, 7-Eleven at Greenville and Penrose, and the neighborhood associations.

Low-cost pet chipping was provided by Vickery Place Animal Hospital, the YMCA at White Rock brought a bounce house, and neighbors enjoyed face painting for the kids and music for everyone by recording artist and Munger Place UMC Music Director Kate Miner.

Thanks to the many volunteers who made a successful event, and thanks to our neighbors for making the event a success!





notes from a neighborhood gardener

Fall Veggies and Herbs

Feeling a bit distraught with gardening after this brutally hot, dry summer? Revive your green thumb by planting a fall vegetable garden.

Think fresh beets, carrots, mixed greens and spinach on your holiday table. The much welcomed cooler temperatures are perfect for starting a fall garden. Veggie gardening can be done in raised beds, existing beds or containers enriched with compost and organic matter. Vegetables are heavy feeders, so give a weekly boost to your yield with organic fertilizer or cow manure.

Radishes are easy, prolific, ready for harvest in 4-5 weeks, and great repeat planters. Sow a few seeds every couple of weeks for multiple harvests throughout the season. Enjoy a classic French combination of mild young radishes dipped in softened butter and coarse sea salt as an appetizer. (Small rounds of baguette are optional.)

Not interested in veggies? Consider herbs. Some herbs actually do better in fall and winter months. Plant parsley, cilantro and chives for a burst of color and flavor in winter stews and soups. Oregano, thyme, rosemary, dill and lovage are also great herbs for winter gardens.

I started my fall veggies and herbs the first of October and am hoping for fresh radishes, carrots and beets at Thanksgiving and kale and spinach for Christmas. I can almost taste the tender roasted carrots and beets drizzled with a herb infused vinaigrette and feta cheese. MMMMM, MMMMM Good.

So as the cooler weather gets you back to digging in the dirt, consider adding a little homegrown goodness to your holidays.

Happy Holidays & Happy Gardening!

sara wick palo pinto



CRIME WATCH UPDATE

BURGLARY TREND

DARREN DATTALO
CRIME WATCH COORDINATOR

In September, there were five burglaries in the area between Marquita and McCommas, and Matilda and Skillman. (This area rarely sees burglaries.) These are part of a trend that is happening outside our neighborhood as well, both in the real in the AA Street to the cost of us.

Wilshire Heights and in the M-Streets to the east of us.

It started in August and continued into October as this article is being written. Each time, there is a cluster of several burglaries in one area. The thieves are breaking in through the back door and seem to be focused on stealing Apple products such as iPads, Mac laptops and iPods.

There are similar incidents happening in other parts of the neighborhood, but the clusters in this area definitely seem related. Initially these incidents were occurring in the early evening hours, but more recent events have occurred in the daytime.

As a result of increased police presence, there were three arrests for theft or burglary in September, but these were not part of the trend. Please continue to report any suspicious activity directly to 911.

Also, since most of these incidents are originating from the rear, be

sure to check your alley. Make sure there are no hiding spots where a bad guy can watch your home and ensure that your back gate is locked.

A note about holiday packages: With the holidays right around the corner, many of us do our shopping online and have packages delivered. Most of these packages end up being left on your porch when you aren't at home. Thieves have been known to follow a delivery truck and collect the goodies.

The smartest thing to do is have your packages mailed to your office. Or you can have them mailed to our local UPS store at Mockingbird & Greenville. The UPS Store will sign for packages from any carrier (even their competitors) and hold them for LGNA residents. Just call them and let them know it's coming.

	Residential Incidents	Car Break-ins	Other Res. Thefts & Break-ins	Violent Crime*	Auto Theft
Aug 2011	28	17	8	4	4
Sept 2011	31	10	14	2	3
Typical	27	13	9	2	2

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

LIGHTS & ALLEYS KEITH ALLEN—DALLAS POLICE

This is the perfect time of year to assess the view of your property. The weather has changed to allow some productive outdoor projects. We will be changing the clocks soon which, of course, will alter the amount of evening daylight.

As most of you are aware, lighting reduces crime. I know I find it much more palatable to break out the ladder and landscaping tools now. The best part about a lighting project is how easy it is to remove it from the "to do list". Replacing bulbs with higher efficiency, environmental friendly ones is something even I can do.

It's a good time to also trim away branches and bushes from fixtures. Once the "basic" maintenance is completed, walk around your property after dark and determine if there is a need for additional fixtures.

Your walk-around of your property should be critical (after you congratulate yourself for job well done). It should assess if a neighbor or

police officer would be able to see a prowler from the street, sidewalk, or alley.

Alleys provide the perfect location for many thieves to hide. I encourage you to spend some time in yours and determine how much landscaping needs to be done in order to make it less "prowler friendly".

Very few of us are going to go blocks out of the way to walk the dog. However, if you make your street one of the brighter ones, it does bring neighbors to your block which translates into more eyes providing "surveillance" and greater deterrence.

Thirty years of studies have shown that, in residential neighborhoods, increased lighting steps such as these have reduced crime by an average of 20 percent. It may sound cruel, but the goal is to have the "bad guy" go to the next house, next street, next neighborhood. Criminals will choose the target that provides them the greatest anonymity. Lighting and improved visibility make your property less of a target.

Please let me know if you have any questions. 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).