

LGNA

LOWER
GREENVILLE
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION



JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2012

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Carr | PRESIDENT
214-821-2562

Gay Hopkins | VICE PRESIDENT
214-827-4559

Peter Loh | VICE PRESIDENT
214-826-7330

Debbie Daniel | TREASURER
214-821-0747

John Dailey | SECRETARY
214-821-6324

Darren Dattalo | CRIME WATCH
214-476-8023

DIRECTORS

Stacey Davis 214-501-8788

Corby Hankins 214-274-8283

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



LOWEST GREENVILLE IMPROVEMENT

Merchants along Lowest Greenville—the section of Greenville Avenue between Bryan and Belmont—celebrated with a block party of specials on December 10. They were celebrating the completion of construction on streetscape improvements.

Several businesses featured live music performances, and restaurants offered special pricing and special events. Mextopia Restaurant provided a face painter for its kid (and adult) customers, and Greenville Avenue Pizza Company hosted a wing-eating contest. The day's events were a "soft opening" for the planned first annual Lowest Greenville Family Festival in spring 2012.

Construction—planned to encourage shopping, dining, and family activities—was completed in late November. The city reconstructed Greenville from Bell to Alta to include wider sidewalks/parkways by narrowing the existing four-lane roadway to two lanes with parallel parking.

Landscaping, historic street lights, irrigation, street furniture, and pedestrian crosswalks were installed. Added were brick pavers along the sidewalks and crosswalks as well as seat walls along the street. The city also planted allee elms and chinquapin oaks as well as drift roses and weeping lovegrass—all drought-tolerant plants. The existing water main was upgraded.

The city is working with Oncor to relocate the overhead utility lines between Alta and Bell to the back of the businesses. This should be done in early 2012.

Most folks agree that the results are beautiful and stunning. Management at the Trader Joe's specialty food store chain must agree because they're planning to open a store in December at the Arcadia site. In the meantime, restaurants and stores along that part of Greenville Avenue are extending an invitation to take a look at the new street and visit the businesses that stuck it out through the construction.

The two-block construction project was Phase I of the Lowest Greenville improvements. Phases II and III, taking in the areas between Belmont and Bell and between Alta and Ross, will require funding from a future bond program. Once the project is funded, the plan is to implement improvements similar to the completed segments. District 14 Councilmember Angela Hunt tells us that the additional blocks are slated for inclusion in future bonds, and at the very least, "We're going to try to make some modest improvements with the streetscape."



Mextopia face painter Rebecca Hairston is supervised by Nash Montgomery 3 and Ava Montgomery 5.

NEXT MEETING

WHEN TUESDAY, January 13
7:00 PM

WHERE Snuffer's, 3526
Greenville Ave.

TOPIC Volunteer
Recognition

BULK TRASH DATE

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

PICK UP: Feb. 13-17
EARLIEST SET-OUT: Feb. 9

PICK UP: March 12-16
EARLIEST SET-OUT: March 8

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.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

SNUFFER'S
RESTAURANT & BAR

January's Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association membership meeting will be a thank-you to the scores of volunteers who make our association known as an organization that cares about its residents.

Put **Tuesday, January 31**, on your calendar. Our friends at Snuffer's Restaurant and LGNA will provide refreshments for an informal party to meet your neighbors and get acquainted with others who care about our area. We'll discuss 2011 neighborhood successes and what to expect in 2012.

The Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association has been described as one of the most active neighborhood associations in the city. That activity would not be possible without volunteers who help LGNA thrive. If you're a neighborhood volunteer or if you just want to meet your neighbors, come to the [LGNA social at Snuffer's Restaurant, 3526 Greenville. 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31.](#)

AWARD-WINNING CANNERS

Sara Wick, our newsletter's garden editor, is also an expert in preserving the bounty from her garden and local farms. Sara grew up on a farm in South Dakota and has been canning nearly all of her life. She's also on the Dallas Farmers' Market Friends Board. Sara tries new recipes every year and has been entering them in State Fair of Texas competitions for years and usually wins something. This year two of her entries won – bread & butter pickles (honorable mention) and pickled jalapeño peppers (third place).

Melissa Kingston, LGNA's representative to the Dallas Homeowners League, grew up in rural Texas watching her mother can and preserve. Melissa, however, considers her canning career to have begun "after Sara taught me how to can things." Sara encouraged her to enter the Fair too. 2011 was Melissa's second year to enter and her first year to win. Melissa's wins were for pickled fennel (honorable mention) and cherry chutney (third place).

Sounds like plenty of good eating!



Water Restrictions

As of December 12, 2011, Stage 1 mandatory watering restrictions are in effect for all Dallas Water Utilities customers. Outside watering is allowed only twice per week. The restrictions apply to automatic sprinklers, hose end sprinklers, drip irrigation, soaker hoses, and hand watering. Even-numbered addresses may water on Sundays and Thursdays, and odd numbered addresses may water on Saturdays and Wednesdays. **The first violation will result in a warning; subsequent violations could mean fines of \$250-\$2,000.**

CRITTER



CONTROL

Many residents of our area have expressed concern about the increasing number of sightings of foxes and coyotes in our neighborhoods. To provide some answers, Greenland Hills Neighborhood Association hosted a meeting, inviting several other neighborhood associations to attend.

Representatives from Dallas Animal Services and 911Wildlife.com were on hand to give tips on eliminating sightings of foxes and coyotes and how to keep our pets safe. They explained that wild animal sightings are now a way of life in urban settings.

Not only our LGNA neighborhood, but all urban areas are home to coyotes, foxes, opossums, and raccoons. The critters are sighted, for example, in Highland Park and downtown Dallas. Neither trapping nor killing coyotes and foxes controls the populations because when there are fewer animals, litters tend to be larger.

The good news was that the critters won't attack humans and generally are no threat to pets. Foxes and coyotes feed primarily on fruit, insects, and rodents.

Foxes and coyotes are attracted by conditions that draw rats and mice, one of their major food sources. They are also attracted by places such as under houses or beneath brush piles where they can construct their dens.

The animals are naturally afraid of humans but have been conditioned to have little fear because most humans, when they see a coyote or fox, either run away in a panic or run away to grab a camera. If you see one of the animals, yell and shout. Throw things at the animal. Super-soaker hoses are an excellent deterrent also.

Other tips from both Animal Services and 911Wildlife:

- Don't leave cat or dog food outside at night. The critters love it.
- Don't leave bird seed in feeders or on the ground overnight. The seed attracts rodents which attract the critters.
- Don't put unsecured garbage outside at night.
- Store compost in proper containers.
- Ensure that wood piles are stored in proper bins.
- Cover foundation vents with heavy-gauge, rust-proof wire mesh.
- Keep your garage doors closed in the evenings.
- To prevent any wild animal from taking up residence in your yard, securely cap your chimney, repair holes in your roof and siding, trim overhanging branches that provide easy access to your roof, and keep weeds and grass cut short especially near fences and walls.

For more information, go to www.911Wildlife.com and www.DallasAnimalServices.org/wildlife.

FIRE STATION BASKETS



Peter Loh and sons Samuel Loh 4, Jonathan Reagan 11, and Peter Loh Jr. 5 deliver baskets to DFR

The holidays are a special time for caring and giving to others. The firefighters who serve at Fire Station #17 make it their job to care about and look after our neighborhood 365 days a year.

LGNA-area neighbors had the opportunity to say "thank you" to our first responders by donating lots of goodies for our Station 17 holiday gift baskets. The response from neighbors was amazing! Cookies, pies, spiced nuts, fruit, packaged gift goodies, DVDs, CDs, gift cards, and more were among the items donated for the baskets.

On December 17, some of our youngest LGNA neighbors, three young sons of LGNA Vice President Peter Loh, put caring into action by helping organize, fill and deliver six baskets to the fire station. Of course, Dad pitched in and was a big help! The firemen on duty were grateful and thrilled to accept the baskets on behalf of the three different shifts at the station.

A huge LGNA thank you goes to all who reached out with generous hands and hearts to help show appreciation to those in our community who make a difference in our lives each and every day of the year.



TOYS FOR COPS

Chief Mike Genovesi
with LGNA volunteers
Debbie and Rusty Daniel

Dallas Police Officers regularly assist local citizens in various capacities, and there is no more special time than when officers help children in need. Dallas Police officers keep soft stuffed toys in their vehicle trunks. Those comforting toys are given to distressed children that police officers encounter in the field.

To help out DPD's wonderful efforts, the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association conducted a Toys for Cops drive. On December 23rd LGNA donated stuffed toys to the Central Patrol Division. Lots of cuddly bears, monkeys, dogs, hand puppets, and even Wylie Coyote were among the 200 toys delivered. Deputy Chief Mike Genovesi, commander of the Central Patrol Division, accepted the generous donation from our LGNA neighbors. Thank you very much from the men and women who serve in the Dallas Police Department, and to the many LGNA neighbors who donated toys.

DIG THIS!

notes from a
neighborhood gardener

As I seek inspiration for another "Dig This" column I reflect on the final stanza of my annual Christmas poem.

"...So as you pack those goods in your sleigh
Remember for this Texan on Christmas Day
Bring rainfall, sunshine and smiles to all
Things not available at the shopping mall
It's humor and laughter we need most this year
Not goods "made in China" but lots of Good
Cheer..."

Listening to the rainfall tonight I am grateful that Christmas comes early to LGNA. Rainfall, what a blessing, especially for newly planted trees. Remember this watering schedule for any new trees which require 20 gallons water per tree.

1st Year Schedule:

November thru March,
water every 2 weeks unless it has rained.

April thru October,
water once a week, unless it has rained.

2nd Year Schedule:

November thru March,
water once every 3 weeks unless it has rained.

April thru October,
water every 1-2 weeks unless it has rained.

Dallas area neighborhoods with mature trees can be up to 11 degrees cooler than neighborhoods without trees. A one-degree rise in temperature equals a 2% increase in peak electricity consumption. The national Arbor Day Foundation calculates that 100 million additional mature trees in U.S. cities would save \$2 billion annually.

RAIN, what a gift.

sara wick
palo pinto





CRIME WATCH UPDATE

WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

DARREN DATTALO
CRIME WATCH COORDINATOR

Since LGNA started its Crime Watch, we have strived to make continual improvements in the rate of crime in the neighborhood. This year, we reduced the total number of incidents in the residential part of the neighborhood by about 10%. Car break-ins were also reduced by about 10%. Violent crime such as robberies and aggravated assaults are down about 20%. Unfortunately, home and garage break-ins have not been reduced. This continues to be our most troublesome crime issue.

Sometimes it seems like living in an urban neighborhood comes with a cost. That cost can be avoided with some common sense and a little precaution. Things like leaving lights on timers when you travel can help. As our ENP officer warns in his column this month, don't leave valuables in plain sight through uncovered windows. Keep your back gate locked. Ask your neighbors to watch your house when you travel. All these things will help discourage the burglars.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

KEITH ALLEN — DALLAS POLICE

I hope each of you had a terrific season. We will be out to thwart the bad guys from having any joy at your expense.

One of the standard cautions, not just at Christmas but throughout the year, is to remind everyone not to "advertise" how much cool stuff you have. Typically the focus is on the first trash pickup after Christmas, and that is important. Equally important is the first bulk trash week following the holidays and after events like birthdays. Nothing tells a burglar/thief more than boxes from computers, power tools, iPads, etc. I know it's a pain to break down those boxes, but doing so does make it more difficult for the thieves to ascertain what valuable items you have added.

But the most important thing you can do is to keep your eyes open and always, always report suspicious activity immediately to 911. Sending your crime watch coordinator an email is appreciated, but always call 911 first.

My New Year's resolution is to make a minimum 20% improvement on the number of burglaries in our area in 2012. I can't accomplish this without your help. I hope you'll join me in resolving to be more vigilant about looking for and reporting suspicious behavior. I also hope you will spread the word to your neighbors as well. And if you have suggestions for activities or programs that you think would help reduce burglaries in the area, speak up! I'd love to hear from you. A great many of you are currently on our crime watch email list, but please take a moment to ask your neighbors to sign up as well by sending a note to crimewatch@lgna.net. [Awareness is a great tool.](#)

	Residential Incidents	Car Break-ins	Other Res. Thefts & Break-ins	Violent Crime*	Auto Theft
Oct 2011	22	7	6	2	1
Nov 2011	26	10	12	0	2
Typical	27	13	10	2	2

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

The other part of this is your window treatments. If you have them, please use them. This time of year it becomes dark around 5:30 pm. I cannot put into words how often we drive through the neighborhood and notice the wonderful wall-mounted, flat-screen televisions you all have. If we can note the location of your computers and high-end electronics, then sadly the criminals can too.

Please try to remember to shield your valuable items whenever possible. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Once again,
I hope you have a peaceful and prosperous year.

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).