# 

**LOWER GREENVILLE** NEIGHBORHOOD **ASSOCIATION** 



NOVEMBER • DECEMBER 2014

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

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> **DPD Officer Keith Allen** 214-671-3477

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**Code Compliance** 214-670-5708

**Animal Services Call 311** 

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# COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Once again, LGNA will join other neighborhood associations and Skillman Church of Christ in hosting a neighborhood potluck Thanksgiving Dinner. The church's community center, 3014 Skillman at Monticello, will be the site of great food and camaraderie.

As In the past, the turkey, ham, and dressing will be provided. Guests are asked to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert in disposable containers. Dallas Central Patrol's police officers and Station 14's firefighters have been invited so that we can express our gratitude for their efforts to protect our area.

Skillman Church will be collecting monetary donations for the North Texas Food Bank.

Join your neighbors at this great event on Tuesday, November 25, at 6:30pm.



# Possible Closure of Tietze Pool

Last month, many area residents were shaken by articles in the Advocate and on the Dallas Observer blog that the City may close Tietze Park pool in favor of a "family aquatic center." We

asked Lisa Marshall, president of Friends of Tietze Park Foundation, for more facts. Lisa's response:

To give you some background, the Dallas Park Board submitted their proposed "Master Plan" to the Park Department a couple of years ago. The basics of the staff-recommended version are the building of 3 regional family aquatic centers and 5 family community aquatic centers. All neighborhood pools would close. Bachman Lake, with its indoor pool that is open year round, and Bahama Beach, the City's aquatic theme park would remain. With its \$40 million+ price tag, most of the funding would come from the sale of property the Park Department owns on Lake Ray Hubbard.

While a number of the pools could definitely use a new direction. throwing out what works - like Tietze and Lake Highlands - doesn't make much sense. Tietze pool not only works (It's the second most heavily attended pool.), but it's been and continues to be a beloved neighborhood oasis in the summer for generations. I can hardly think of Tietze Park without the pool!

The good news is that closing Tietze is not eminent nor a foregone conclusion. The Plan is still under discussion by the Park Department and Council - nothing is final. Let Philip Kingston, our Council Member, and the entire City Council know how you feel about this!

(CONTINUED INSIDE)

### **UPCOMING EVENT**

WHEN Tuesday Nov. 25 6:30pm

WHERE Skillman Church of Christ – 3014 Skillman

**WHAT** Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner

### **BULK TRASH DATE**

**PICK UP:** Nov. 10-15 **EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Nov. 6

**PICK UP:** Dec. 8-14 EARLIEST SET-OUT: Dec. 4

**PICK UP:** Jan. 12-16 **EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Jan. 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.



P.O. BOX 720067 • DALLAS, TX 75372

## Possible Closure of Tietze Pool (CONTINUED)

We are watching this very carefully and will let you know as new information becomes available. Thank you for supporting your park and your pool.

Councilmember Kingston feels strongly about the issue. "I am 100% opposed to closing the pool," he said. "The Aquatics Master Plan that called for the closure is deeply flawed, and the Park Board never should have adopted it. Our new Park Board member Paul Sims and I both have expressed our displeasure to the Parks Department, and we have been assured that staff was developing a plan modification to keep Tietze open. Actually, what I told Parks Director Willis Winters was that we were probably all going to get fired if we closed the pool, and we'd deserve it."

Send an email to Councilmember Kingston at **Philip.Kingston@DallasCityHall.com** if you want to register your opinion.



National Night Out at Tietze Park on October 6 was again a successful, fun event. Three neighborhood associations — Lower Greenville, Lakewood Heights, and Lowest Greenville West—joined with Friends of Tietze Park Foundation to host the annual gathering.

Neighbors visited the 30+ exhibitors representing non-profit groups, City services, churches, schools, and local businesses. They took advantage of the face painters, two bounce houses, and the kids' pie-eating contest. Go to LGNA.net for more pictures of NNO.

Thanks to the local businesses and individuals who provided support via advertising in the flyer that was distributed to residents of the area and thanks to those who provided support at the event.

Music by Kate Minor and group from Munger Place Church

Never Give Up – stilt walking and music Free keys cut by Cox's Lock & Key

Popcorn provided by Vickery Place Animal Hospital Pie-contest judging by Councilmember Philip Kingston

> Free massages from Amy Marshall Holt Hot dogs provided by Matt's Rancho Martinez and US. Foods

> > Karate demos by Chamberlain Studies Popcorn provided by Bake & Play Cafe Super heroes from Heroes, Cops & Kids





















## FIRE STATION BASKETS / TOYS FOR COPS

Saturday, December 13 brings two opportunities to boost your holiday spirit.

Fortheninthyear, the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association will be collecting Christmas **goodies for the firefighters at Station 17**. It's our way of saying "Thanks for watching out for us." Bring your cookies, brownies, chips & salsa, or any other holiday treats – either homemade or purchased – and we'll assemble a basket for each of the three shifts and deliver the baskets. Previous years have seen donations of non-food items such as supermarket gift cards, games, and DVDs, and the firefighters were delighted.

Again this year, we'll be collecting gently used **stuffed toys for the Dallas Police Department**. DPD officers keep stuffed toys in their patrol cars to give to frightened children involved in domestic violence calls or car accidents. This citywide project is not well-publicized, so the police welcome any assistance. This is a great opportunity to participate in a compassionate effort while removing some of the clutter from your home.

**Saturday, December 13** – bring your stuffed toys and holiday goody donations to 5843 Vanderbilt between 10am and 2pm, and we'll deliver them to Central Patrol and the fire station. If you're unable to come by on Saturday, a box will be on the porch for toys and non-perishable fire station donations on Thursday and Friday, December 11-12.



# MARATHON ALERT!!



On Sunday, December 14, the Lower Greenville area will again provide part of the route for the MetroPCS marathon and half-marathon. The races begin downtown, move through Highland Park, and cross Central Expy to follow Longview to Greenville Avenue close to the Granada Theater. The courses then follow Greenville south to its end where it meets Munger Blvd.

The half-marathon route separates from the marathon route south of Live Oak. The half-marathon proceeds south and west along Munger to turn west on Columbia toward downtown.

The marathon route turns east from Munger onto Swiss Avenue to La Vista Drive. From La Vista is a circuitous route through Lakewood to the White Rock area. The marathon will return via La Vista and Swiss to meet Munger southbound to Columbia toward downtown.

The races begin at approximately 8:00am. It's anticipated that most runners will be through our immediate neighborhood before 11:00am. However, the marathon returns via La Vista, Swiss, and Munger to join Columbia west toward downtown. The marathon time limit is 6.5 hours, so traffic may be impacted along the streets south of our area into early afternoon.

For a map, go to DallasMarathon.com and click on "Races." The drop-down screen will list both races. Click on one of those choices for a full map.



# LOWEST GREENVILLE CONSTRUCTION, PHASE II

In May 2014, Dallas Public Works staff met with Lowest Greenville businesses to discuss planned construction on the street between Ross and Belmont. In October, City staff again met with businesses to present an update on anticipated construction.

The City was looking for stakeholder input – both businesses and neighborhoods. The Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association was invited to attend as representative of area associations and provide neighborhood feedback and suggestions.

Three years ago, construction of three blocks of Lowest Greenville streetscape was completed. Last year, voters approved a \$3 million bond package to complete the Lowest Greenville streetscape from Belmont to Bell and from Alta to Ross.

Assistant Director of Public Works Tim Starr said that the project will involve replacing sidewalks and utility infrastructure between Ross and Alta and between Bell and Belmont. The overall look will stay the same as earlier construction between Alta and Bell. Input from stakeholders has helped the City to learn what worked and what didn't work in Phase I construction three years ago.

Construction will be on one side of the street at a time to hopefully minimize disruptions to traffic and business operations. Councilmember Philip Kingston said that the City's "aim is for speed and minimal disruption." The goal is to start after St. Patrick's Day 2015 and to complete before St. Patrick's Day 2016. Go to LGNA.net for more details.



# **Explorers Competition**

Thanks to the generosity of many LGNA residents, Explorer Post 741 attended the October Alamo Competition for law enforcement Explorers in San Antonio. Neighborhood residents enthusiastically supported the post's street-number painting fund-raiser to help support the trip.

Officer Lorenzo Carranza, one of the post's sponsors, said "We are in your debt. Thanks to your residents. We did great and won eight trophies."





GARRETT GUZMAN owner / personal trainer

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name:

address:

phone:

cell:

email:

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND JOIN NOW!



#### Please choose all that apply:

- **Join LGNA** (\$20/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).

Pay Pal Now Available: LGNA has made it a little easier for you to become a member. We've added PayPal to the LGNA website. On the site, you'll see two buttons, one for regular membership and one for seniors (65+). If you have a PayPal account, you can use that directly. If not, you can skip that step and proceed directly to a credit card processing page. LGNA does not receive your credit card information, only the contact information. There is no surcharge added to the regular \$20 per household membership (\$5 for seniors).



# GET TO KNOW ROBERT E LEE ELEMENTARY!



**On November 11**, area residents joined dignitaries at Robert E. Lee Elementary to mark the initiative to publicize the positive aspects of Lee.

Principal Bridget Ransom was joined by LGNA and other neighborhood associations, Dallas Councilmembers Philip Kingston and Adam Medrano, DISD Superintendent Mike Miles, DISD Board members Miguel Solis and Mike Morath, neighborhood businesses, parents, prospective parents, and concerned area residents.

They gathered to publicize what Lee Elementary has to offer children in our community. LGNA and our surrounding community are working together to promote and support Lee which serves a large portion of LGNA from Monticello south. Located at 2911 Delmar, its attendance district is bounded by US 75 on the west and Abrams Road on the east.

As a feeder school into J. L. Long Middle School and Woodrow Wilson High School, Lee is in process of qualifying for an International Baccalaureate program. Woodrow Wilson currently has the program, and Long hopes to implement IB soon as well.

Lee is beginning the IB application process this year. International Baccalaureate is an active learning program that encourages inquisitiveness, open-minded thinking and problem solving. Ms. Ransom will be training for the IB program next month in Washington D.C. and bringing what she has learned back to Lee.

Lee offers an integrated dual language program for Kindergarten and First Grade, and will be implementing this program one grade level per year. Lee also has an award winning garden, the health program CATCH, and music and art instructors. An active PTA and Dad's group support Lee and have several projects in the works.

Go to LGNA.net for more information about what's happening at Robert E. Lee.

#### ADVERTISING IN THE LGNA NEWSLETTER

The LGNA newsletter now features advertising from neighborhood businesses. Our full-color newsletter is delivered to 2,700 households in the LGNA area. If you're interested in showcasing your business at a nominal rate, contact Advertising@LGNA.net

# DIG THIS!

notes from a neighborhood gardener

## 5 Best Texas Shade Trees

Let's face it: Texas is hot. Planting large shade trees not only adds value to your home, but it can also offer respite from the heat, shade your home to reduce energy costs, provide a home for habitat, and add beauty to your landscape.

When you live in an urban environment, it's even more important to provide shade to homes and surrounding areas – all that extra concrete from roadways, sidewalks and buildings significantly increase temperatures in the city. Shade trees are a great way to cool things off!

They say the best time to plant a shade tree was 20 years ago...I think today is pretty good too!

Texas Tree Fact: Texas Arbor Day is now the first Friday of each November! It might be a little too late to Celebrate Texas Arbor Day this year on Friday November 7th, BUT with our mild winters, any time in November will do for planting a new tree of your own!

Fall is the best time to plant new trees in Texas? You'll save yourself a lot of work by planting when we have cooler temps and rainfall, instead of waiting until the heat returns. You'll also save money by reducing your chances that you'll lose a new tree to heat and drought stress.

Five good tree choices for Texas are Cedar Elm, Shumard Red Oak, Chinese Pistache, Monterrey Oak, and Live Oak. Go

to TexasTreePlanting.tamu.
edu for more information
on these trees and tree
planting.

Proper planting is key to a long and healthy life for your tree so that it can be enjoyed for generations to come.



sara wick

Send your gardening questions to Sara by email at: DigThis@LGNA.net

# CRIME WATCH UPDATE

## A little more on Social Media

In the last newsletter, I talked about a crime spree we discovered via NextDoor.com. That incident involved the "doggie door burglar" who

was breaking into homes by way of unsecured dogaie doors.

As a result I heard from several neighbors that had since secured those entry points and were being more cautious about leaving them open.

But did you know that LGNA also has a Facebook page that routinely posts useful information about area happenings including crime alerts? I'd encourage you to follow us there and post comments regarding any crime activity you see in the area.

I recently received some video footage of a burglary on Morningside and of a bike theft on Marquita (separate incidents). More and more of us are installing video security systems. They are very inexpensive and easy to install since they run on WiFi.

We posted both videos to YouTube. (Our channel name is LowerGreenvilleNA, all one word.) The link was sent out to our distribution list of about 1000+ area residents.

If you are doing this type of video and capture an image of a bad guy, please send it in so that we can show the neighborhood who to look out for. More eyeballs on the bad guys is what this is all about.

Finally, we were seeing a large spike in auto thefts in our area in October. There were seven cars stolen from different parts of the LGNA area that month. There were no specific trends that I could spot, but we usually only see one or two at most. Please lock 'em up and keep 'em in the driveway whenever possible.



### KEITH ALLEN—DALLAS POLICE

# **ADVERTISING**



Since the yearly "fall back" time change has occurred, it is time for the also yearly (Some would say "obnoxious.") reminder about the use of window coverings.

We get used to daylight well into the evening for so much of the year, that it becomes habit to leave curtains and blinds open. Have you ever noticed, while taking a walk or driving home, the big screen TV in your neighbor's house? Mounted on the wall? Perhaps even the computer on the table?

If your friendly neighbors are able to note what you have and where it's located, so too can any burglar. The contrast from the dark outside to the light from TVs, monitors, table lamps, etc. inside is stark. Thieves also "blend in" more at 6:00pm, their canvassing of the neighborhood not nearly as suspicious.

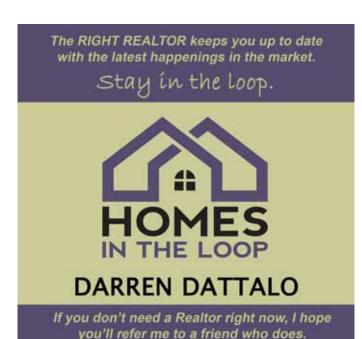
Use of window coverings reduces the inadvertent advertising of your property. Summer habits are tough to break, but remember to activate those porch/exterior lights early.

Holiday travel is a wonderful endeavor. Posting details on social media, not so much. Remember to use the appropriate privacy settings available from your social media (Facebook, Instagram Pinterest, et al.) provider.

If you "tweet" (and who doesn't?), not every detail needs to be posted. This applies not only to those long, out-of-town trips, but even posting that you are headed out for a day of shopping or to relatives for the day. These notices can provide bad guys/girls a treasure trove of information.

Posting a photo from Tarrant County that is geocoded lets anyone know date/time details in addition to location. The goal is to minimize the amount of information generously provided to the criminals.

Have a safe holiday season.



# The UPS Store



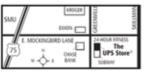
214-476-8023

At The UPS Store, we do a lot more than shipping.

Mailbox services · Printing services · Moving supplies Fax services · Notary services · And more....

## Visit us at:

5706 E. Mockingbird Lane 214-824-5100



darren@HomesInTheLoop.com