

October 2009

Security Update

-Glen Sementelli-

National Night Out
October 6, 2009
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Fellow neighbors, National Night Out is only a few weeks away, and as of now only one neighbor has volunteered to host a gathering. Surely there are a few more of you willing to open up your house, or front yard, for a community building event such as this. If you are willing to host please contact me (information at end). I will announce the houses that are hosting through the info-line and bulletin board before the event. Thank you for your time.
gsementelli@yahoo.com
713-864-1069

Dog pack update:



As hopefully you are aware, the neighborhood has been experiencing a problem with a pack of feral dogs. Fellow neighbors and the WHCA are currently involved in putting an end to the situation through the use of a hired professional trapper. We have enlisted the help of Lone Star Animal Recovery to track and humanely remove the pack from our area. As of this writing (9/14), Lone Star has been working diligently for about a week, but the pack is proving well adept at hiding. Recently BARC has chosen to help us with our situation; they will be running periodic sweeps of the area. I would highly recommend that if you have a dog or cat that you let roam free, they at the very least have a collar and the proper license. Your best bet would be to keep them indoors. Our hired trapper is not targeting our neighborhood dogs and cats, but BARC will pick up anything that is loose. We have implemented a 24 hour hotline to call if you have any information that will assist with the capture of the pack 281-782-8686. You can also be kept up to date on the bulletin board under feral animals.

On a side note I would like to acknowledge the work of some of our fellow neighbors who have been working tirelessly on this. Todd Parsons, Deanna Spencer, and Claire Getschow have gone above and beyond the call of duty to try and put an end to this neighborhood problem. I would like to offer them our thanks and appreciation.

2009 "Lighter in the Heights"

-By Tiffany Tyler and Lisa Marré, LITH Garage Sale Co-Captains

Are you ready to clear out the garage **and** help support WH neighborhood events? Look no further. The Woodland Heights Civic Association is sponsoring its **5th Annual "Lighter in the Heights" Garage Sale on Saturday, October 10th**. This year the LITH committee has set a goal to raise \$5,000, so we need your support to make this happen!

Here's how it works: Contact one of us to let us know that you would like to participate in this neighborhood-wide garage sale. We will provide you with a sign-up form; this form will also ask you to indicate how



much of your sales you will donate to LITH (minimum 20%) and whether you want to have your "leftovers" picked up by a not-for-profit group. We will be advertising in the Houston Chronicle, the Greensheet, on Craig's List, on the Infoline, and on the WH website. This might even be a good opportunity to coordinate with your neighbors for a block garage sale! On the day of the event, we will post signs, mark participating homes with balloons, and hand out route maps.

We hope that the **2009 "Lighter in the Heights"** neighborhood garage sale will build on the success of the previous years' sales and become a traditional Woodland Heights fundraising event. Remember that we have set a pretty significant goal, so we need your help! If you are interested, please let one of us know. Tiffany can be reached at (713) 868-9541 or tiffany.tyler@gmail.com; and Lisa at li-saw99@yahoo.com. Thank you in advance for your support!

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1701 Durham
713.802.0794

It's Time to Plant Your Fall Garden

-Kay Harnden-

Some of the best gardening days for Houston are upon us. Over the next couple of months, you can plant the following: bush beans, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, beets, collards, carrots, mustard greens, chard, garlic chives, radish, and arugula. Most of these can be planted by seed, directly into your garden.

Something that I like to do, which makes the garden more interesting, and also more successful, is to pair plants with others that either make them grow better by fending off the plant's natural enemies or by attracting beneficial insects. This is referred to as companion planting. Some plants will even make their companions taste better. On the flip side, there are some plant combinations that should be avoided because they can stunt each other's growth. Herbs are great companions for specific plants.

Here are a few examples:

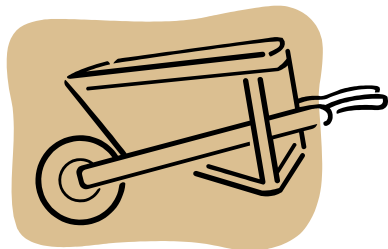
Celery improves the growth and health of cabbage. Hyssop helps deter cabbage moths. It's also a major draw for honey bees which help with pollination. Brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower) do well when planted near dill, sage, or rosemary.

Dill is great with lettuce because it attracts predatory wasps and repels aphids. It also keeps good company with onions. Keep it away from your carrots though. Interestingly, dill can attract good and bad caterpillars – swallowtail butterflies, and tomato hornworms. I'll have a word on tomato hornworms later.

If you plant carrots, work some onions and leeks in nearby because they will confuse carrot flies. Carrots grow well with lettuce, rosemary and sage too.

Beets are great in the garden even if you don't like to eat them because they add minerals to the soil. Lettuce, onions and brassicas are good companions for beets, as is garlic, which improves the flavor.

Rosemary works well with cabbage, beans, and carrots. It repels cabbage moths, bean beetles and carrot flies – not to mention what it will do for your spaghetti!



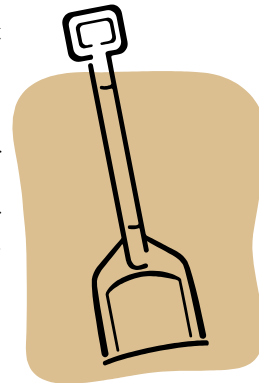
Now, a word on tomato hornworms. I had a large tomato plant that I planted much too late this summer. It never produced any fruit, but grew pretty large. One day I noticed that several tomato hornworms had taken up residence. Not liking to kill anything, and willing to sacrifice this particular non-productive plant, I let them be. I knew that they were a moth, but not sure which one. Upon investigation, I discovered that they were the larva of the really cool sphinx moth, also known as the hummingbird moth. These are amazing moths that show up at dusk, hovering and zipping around flowers just like hummingbirds. They particularly like nicotiana. They are really delightful little creatures. Call me weird, but I think I will

always include one extra tomato plant in my garden for these guys.

NOTE ON THE GREATER HEIGHTS AREA GARDEN CLUB:

Many thanks to Mike Lowery, owner of Another Place in Time. We had a great time touring his nursery, and learning about some very interesting plants that do well in Houston. Stop by to chat with Mike if you have questions on what to plant where in your garden. He's super friendly and full of knowledge.

The Greater Height Area Garden Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at noon at various locations. Locations will be posted on the Woodland Heights website, or contact me for details - klock56@sbcglobal.net or (713) 822-3814.



Woodland Park Update
"From the Past to the Future...."
-Beth Fischer-

The Friends of Woodland Park are sponsoring a family day at the park (the corner of Parkview and Houston Ave.) on Saturday, November 14th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring your own picnic lunch, lawn chairs, soccer balls, basketballs and tennis rackets and have fun!

Enjoy a great day outside with your family and friends and experience:

- a guided nature walk down to the bayou
- a puppeteer and storyteller
- a great local garage band
- an "authentic turkey egg hunt" (think Easter egg hunt only in the fall!!)
- AND a beaver naming contest!....yes folks, there's a beaver in our bayou!!



Also, you will be able to view the idea drawings for the future renovations of the park. You will be amazed!

We encourage all to either walk or ride your bikes. Parking is very limited.

Come out and see this beautiful gem in our neighborhood! We look forward to seeing you there!

Questions? - Contact Becky Houston (713-862-1520, bghouston@aol.com) or Beth Fischer (713-861-4502, fischspot@hotmail.com)



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WHCA General Meeting
Tuesday, October 13

7:30—Zion Lutheran Church—3606 Beauchamp



HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Our Front Porch CONNECTING COMMUNITY

WOODLAND HEIGHTS + HOUSTON

It's never too early to get started on your holiday shopping list. And with *Our Front Porch: Connecting Community*, you can share our neighborhood's special charm with family and friends – and support preservation efforts at the same time!

The 96-page book features wonderful photography of our Woodland Heights porches, including homes decked out for Lights in the Heights®.

The books are available in hard cover (\$48.50 including tax) or soft cover (\$21.50 including tax). Order online at www.woodland-heights.org, buy from local merchants or use the order form below.

For more information, visit www.woodland-heights.org or email mmastal@insightspr.com or blarson@greenwoodking.com.

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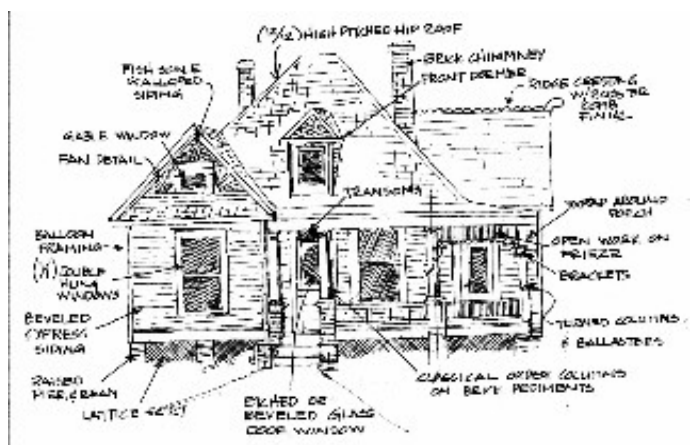
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Please send check or money order to Woodland Heights Civic Association, P.O. Box 7754, Houston, Texas 77270-7754
*If you prefer to pick up your book(s) and save shipping and handling, please see the Web site for options.

Woodland Heights Architecture

-Richard Hall-

Vernacular Victorian – Part 3 Some of the features of the Vernacular Victorian raised cottage seen throughout much of older Houston and Texas, for that matter, are highlighted in the following sketch. There are many other countless more features that can be found in these structures, but space does not allow it full justice.



The American Foursquare—Part 1 No doubt, the most common 2-story style in the Woodland Heights area, if not in all of America, is the American Foursquare. Interesting, very few architectural stylebooks list the Foursquare, yet there were more of them built in the first quarter of the 20th Century in America than any other style home. Of all the styles of the period, it epitomized the rush to the “comfortable home” and away from the extravagances of the Victorian era. The Foursquare was the least expensive house for the money. It was simple, honest, economical and very practical – the perfect house for the middle-class in the early 20th Century. There were thousands upon thousands built. From the first decade of the 20th Century until well into the 1930’s the Foursquare was a staple for builders. As with the Bungalow, the Foursquare was simple and unadorned in reaction to the embellishments of the Victorian Era. Therefore, like the Bungalow Style, the Foursquare should not be adorned with



Free Thursday Concerts at Discovery Green return

-Allen Hill-

Discovery Green hosts free, family-friendly concerts on Thursdays in October. The bands always start promptly at 6:30 and go until 9, so you can bring a picnic for the whole family, cool off in the breeze that always seems to blow over the pond, and watch the sun set over downtown while you enjoy the show.

Thanks to everyone from the Woodland Heights I've seen at the shows – we appreciate your support! It's great to see so many neighbors who love live music and love living so close to such a fantastic park.

Most street parking around the park is free after 6 p.m., and the snack bar in the park serves food, beer, and wine. Here's a quick list of this season's concerts:

- October 1: Grupo Fantasma (High-energy Latin Funk)
- October 8: Terrance Simien & The Zydeco Experience (Accordion focused Cajun fun)
- October 15: Ian McLagan and The Sideshow Tramps (British Rock and Roller from The Faces, Rolling Stones, and more amazing bands)
- October 22: Blaggards and The Flying Fish Sailors (Stout Irish Rock)

Concerts at Discovery Green are like a mini-vacation just a stone's through from the neighborhood. I hope to see you there - I'll be the MC so come introduce yourself!

CALENDAR

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| October 5 | Junk Waste, E. of Watson |
| October 6 | National Night Out |
| October 10 | Lighter in the Heights |
| October 12 | Junk Waste, W. of Watson |
| October 12 | Recycling |
| October 13 | Civic Assoc. General Meeting |
| October 26 | Recycling |
| November 2 | Tree Waste, E. of Watson |
| November 9 | Recycling |

Woodland Heights Newsletter

The Woodland Heights Newsletter is a publication of the Woodland Heights Civic Association (WHCA), and seeks to keep the community informed of board activities and developments of interest to area residents.

WHCA General Meetings are held the **second Tuesday** of every month (except June, July, August and December). Unless otherwise noted, meetings are located in the meeting room at Zion Lutheran Church, 3606 Beauchamp.

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WHCA Newsletter Accepts Sponsors

-An Armstrong, VP—Newsletter-

Monthly sponsorship fees are \$50/month for a 1.75 x 3 inch (approximately business card size) sponsorships/promotions block. The WHCA Board will review all applications for sponsorship. Individuals interested in becoming WH Newsletter sponsors, should contact the WH Newsletter Sponsorship VP, An Armstrong at **newsletter@woodland-heights.org** for further details and pricing for larger blocks. Checks are payable to the Woodland Heights Civic Association, P.O. Box 7754, Houston, TX, 77270-7754.

WHCA Membership Form

Membership Year April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010

Mail to: **Woodland Heights Civic Association, P.O. Box 7754, Houston, TX 77270-7754**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Daytime phone _____

E-mail Address _____

New Member? (Circle One) YES NO

Please check the appropriate space: Homeowner - \$35 Senior (60+) Homeowner - \$10 Renter - \$10
 Friend of Woodland Heights (Non-resident /Any amount)

In addition to my dues, I would like to contribute the following amount \$ _____