LGNA

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
2007

LOWER GREENVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN WWW.LGNA.NET

St. Patrick's Day early reminder

The 28th Annual Greenville Avenue St. Patrick's Day block party will take place on Saturday afternoon, March 17. The Block Party will be located on Greenville Avenue between Vanderbilt and Vickery.

The popular block party attracts thousands and significantly impacts our neighborhood. "No parking" areas will be designated with signs placed on the north side of streets from Morningside through Goliad, the four blocks from Greenville to Skillman. There will be no parking on the west sides of Delmar and Concho within this area as well. No parking will be strictly enforced between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. However, signs will be placed by 10:00 a.m. Friday to accommodate the City ordinance requiring 24 hours' notice.

The City will provide a map showing no-parking zones, street closures, barricades, and directional traffic flow. That map will be distributed by LGNA volunteers to streets impacted by no-parking signs – Morningside through Goliad.

The no-parking signs were initiated by the City several years ago at the request of both the fire department to allow passage of fire trucks and by the neighborhood associations involved – Lower Greenville, Vickery Place, and Greenland Hill – to lessen the event's impact on residents. These three neighborhood associations work with the City and the Greenville Commerce Association, and volunteer help is appreciated.

All signs for our area will be assembled and posted by LGNA volunteers. LGNA will again raise funds for August's National Night Out by selling St. Patrick's T-shirts to party-goers. You can also support your neighborhood association by buying T-shirts or helping to sell them.

LGNA urgently needs volunteers for these tasks. If you can help, please e-mail Director1@LGNA.net or call 214-821-2562.

"Do not mail" lists

Start your spring cleaning by reducing your unsolicited mail. A Federal Trade Commission website offers several resources for removing your name from mailing lists. Go to www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/alerts/optoutalrt.

The Direct Marketing Assn. maintains a list tcompanies use to remove names from mailing lists. Unfortunately, this service does not apply to mail sent to resident/occupant. Their address is DMA, Mail Preference Service, PO Box 643, Carmel, NY 10512.

You can also remove your name from the lists supplied by credit bureaus to companies that generate pre-approved offers for credit cards. Call 1-888-567-8688 or go to www.creditsourceonline.com/opt-out.html. You will be asked for personal information. Please note that these lists are updated quarterly, so it may take several months to notice a reduction in mail.

LGNA meeting – be there!

WHEN: Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Greenland Hills United Methodist Church at 5835 Penrose.

TOPIC: Wild animal control and Pet owner responsibilities

LGNA meetings are held the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months.

City wildlife

Area residents have long been accustomed to the wild animals inhabiting our neighborhood – raccoons, opossums, and of course, squirrels. These animals, while cute, can cause property damage and can be annoying. They may also be a hazard to pets and our own health.

In addition, there are many feral cats amongst us. Reports of dog packs endangering and killing pets are escalating. A representative from Dallas Animal Control will be at LGNA's January meeting to let us know how to deal with the wild animals among us. We'll also learn about responsible pet ownership.

Plan to attend on Tuesday, January 16, at 7:00 p.m. at Greenland Hills UMC, Penrose and Delmar.

Fire-Rescue information

At LGNA's November meeting, Frank Johnson from Dallas Fire-Rescue provided valuable information on the many services provided by these dedicated individuals.

Fire-Rescue staff will provide a fire inspection for your home. Call 311 or select "Fire Inspection" through Dallas' on-line 311 system.

Free smoke detectors are available and will be installed by Fire-Rescue personnel. Low income, elderly, or disabled citizens are targeted for this program. Call 214-670-4319 or select "Smoke Detector Request" through the 311 website.

If someone may need additional assistance in the event of a fire (e.g., wheel-chair bound), this information should be provided now to the Fire-Rescue Dept. Call 311 to have this information entered in the city's database. (You should be transferred to another operator during your call.) Emergency personnel will then receive a message while they are en route so that they are aware of any special needs.

Additional tips are available at www.DallasFireRescue.com.

Hazardous chemical collection

LGNA's November collection of hazardous chemicals was successful. Another truckload of chemicals was collected and transported to the Home Chemical Collection Center. Thanks to all those who care about the environment. Expect another collection in the spring.

The HC3, located at 11234 Plano Road, has extended hours on Tuesdays and is open two Saturdays every month.

Brush / bulk trash pick-up

Area brush and bulk trash pick-up in our neighborhood is the second full week of the month. Mark your calendars for the weeks of 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, 9/10, 10/8, 11/12, and 12/10. The city assesses substantial fines for placing items – including tree limbs and brush – at times other than the scheduled weeks.

Holiday yard decorating

LGNA's annual yard-decorating contest again spotlighted our creative neighbors – 17 of them. Generous prizes were donated by area merchants:

Blue Goose Cantina
Colonial Bank Greenville
Guaranty Bank Mockingbird
Pet Supplies "Plus"
Walgreens Mockingbird

For a list of the winning households, go to www.LGNA.net.

Neighbor initiative

Recently Crime Watch members Amy Stecklein and Shea Davis, who live on Palo Pinto, have taken the initiative to increase neighbor awareness and unity in their block.

The pair put together folders which include emergency numbers, the Grid of 9 (available at www.LGNA.net), a sample of minutes from the most recent Crime Watch meeting, some fun facts, and other neighbors' names and phone numbers. They plan to distribute the folders to all residents on their block.

Stecklein reports they look forward to forging bonds among neighbors so they can all "look out" for each other.

Fire station baskets

Many thanks to the generous neighbors who contributed to the Christmas thank-you baskets for Fire Station 17 at Belmont and Skillman. Darren Dattalo reports that baskets for all three shifts were filled to overflowing with goodies for the neighborhood fire fighters.

Another alley clean-up

Sparked by the initial Crime Watch alley clean-up project, area resident Jim Sorg recently coordinated neighbors to clean the alley in the 5900 block of Belmont.

Almost a dozen folks, young and old, showed up to help remove brush and trash. Other neighbors cleaned up their properties prior to the event in response to the flyers handed out in advance. The week before the event, one resident painted the entire back side of his graffiti-covered garage. Several others gave permission to clean up graffiti on their properties the day of the event.

All debris was put out on the curb for pick-up. (The clean-up date was coordinated with bulk-trash pick-up.) More than enough residents volunteered their curb spaces for the event.

Sorg reports that response from the neighborhood continues weeks after the event, and the event brought many neighbors together for the first time. And now the police can see clearly down the alley and criminals have one less place to hide.

For more details on the event, go to www.LGNA.net. For information on how to clean up your own block's alley, e-mail CrimeWatch@LGNA.net.

Newsletter volunteers needed

Many, many thanks to those who have offered their time to distribute newsletters. But more help is needed. The LGNA newsletter is distributed door-to-door 6 times a year and takes about an hour per street.If you can help by delivering at least one street, contact Director1@LGNA.net or call 214-821-2562.

The LGNA Newsletter is made possible by neighborhood contributors. Thanks to Metropolitan Press for providing printing.

For information on joining LGNA or renewing your dues, go to www.LGNA.net.

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IMPORTANT CITY LINES

Angela Hunt	214-670-5415
ICP Officer Keith Allen	214-670-0659
Action Center	214-670-5111 or 311
Sanitation/Bulk Trash	214-670-3555
Code Compliance	214-670-5708
Animal Control	214-670-5111 or 311