2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT
Bert A. Mitchell 383-1718
bert.mitchell@fhhhna.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Mimi Stangel 386-2813
mimimeredith@hotmail.com

SECRETARY
Geni Everett 575-7554
geeverett@aol.com

TREASURER
Becky Berentsen 591-9317
RBerentsen@comcast.net

THANK YOU!

We appreciate the following volunteers for helping with the Board last year: Jean Williams, our amazing newsletter editor; Patsy McCall, Vice President; Hurd Reeves, Treasurer; Penny Crandall, Member at Large; Gineen Kraft, Sue Carpenter, and Emily Jennings, Beautification Committee Members. Another huge thank you to Ann Fraser who sorts and distributes all the newsletters to the zone captains, and to the zone captains for making sure that every home has a newsletter. Volunteers like these make our association a reality.

If you would like to join us, we do have some openings for Members at Large and we welcome new ideas. Our biggest goal this year is to make our neighborhood disaster ready. One of the first steps is to get to know your neighbors!

IN OUR BACKYARD

For a local treat, visit the Mission San Luis. The Mission is a place where history comes to life, literally, with reenactments each day. The collection of artifacts is incredible, and it is just down the street! For more information, check out their website www.missionsanluis.org.

Please join your neighborhood association!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Please submit this form and a $15 check (made out to **FHHHA Neighborhood Association**) to:
Becky Berentsen, Treasurer, P.O. Box 37323, Tallahassee, FL 32315.
We appreciate your support!

Proudly printed by DQP Copy and Print
1334 N. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32303
Phone: 681-2900

FOREST HEIGHTS/HOLLY HILLS HAPPENINGS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOREST HEIGHTS-HOLLY HILLS AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.
Volume 19, April 2011

Neighbor to Neighbor

Bert A. Mitchell, President

Dear Neighbors,

We're changing the location for the next Neighborhood Association Meeting to Milano's Pizzeria at the corner of Tharpe Street and MLK, across from Raa Middle School. Come on out and hear about what's happening in your neighborhood on Tuesday, April 26, 2011. Our speaker from the American Red Cross will discuss creating a disaster plan for your family. We've been lucky the last few years with major storms but let's not let our guard down, we still need to be prepared as we enter hurricane season.

We're also planning an Ice Cream Social as well as a few other events (TBA) to give you an opportunity to meet your neighbors and share your concerns with the board. At the meeting you'll hear updates on our database creation, rooming house issues, crime updates and more. Also, we're trying to find out those neighbors who might be in need of a little help around the yard or other services. These are hard times so it's important to help each other out. If you know of any needs please let us know. Remember, the meeting will start at 6:30 pm so come on out, have some pizza, meet your neighbors and let's have a good time learning about ways we can maintain one of the BEST neighborhoods in Tallahassee!

Bert A. Mitchell, President

NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETING
TUESDAY, April 26 AT 6:30 PM
MILANO'S PIZZERIA
CORNER OF THARPE AND MLK
www.themilanopizzeria.com

Grass Clippings - Notes from the Neighborhood Beautification Committee

Re-establish old, declining lawn

Many older, thinning, declining lawns need to be reestablished. Sometimes we waste time and money attempting to rejuvenate an older, thinning, weedy lawn when the best solution is to start over. There are many factors that result in a once nice lawn deteriorating. In most cases a complex of these factors versus an individual cause is involved.

Common causes for lawn decline:

Soil compaction – Mowing equipment, vehicles and foot traffic (from adults, children and pets) all result in the soil becoming compacted within a lawn. Compacted soil results in less water and oxygen getting to the lawn roots and less than favorable growing conditions for the roots.

Nutrient imbalances – Routine fertilization can result in some fertilizer elements building up to excessive levels while other elements may be lacking. It's common to find high levels of phosphorus in older lawns. Phosphorus does not leach readily even in our sandy soils. Other elements such as potassium leach readily. Over time, we'll end up with too much of some nutrients and too little of others, which contribute to growth difficulties and possible decline in our lawns.

Tree competition – Trees and larger shrubs can compete with a lawn. I'll hear statements such as, "ten years ago, I could grow grass to the truck of my tree." That was ten years ago. The tree is now ten years bigger. Its demand for water and nutrients has increased, its root area is extensive and it is producing more shade. Lawngrasses usually thin significantly in association with older, large trees and shrubs.

Root pests – Over a period of years root pests' numbers slowly build to damaging levels. This includes various types of nematodes (microscopic roundworms) for which we have no legal chemical controls in Florida lawns. It includes some soil inhabiting fungi such as Gaeumannomyces for which we have no good chemical controls after the disease symptoms are observed. It may include ground pearls (a scale insect found in soil) for which we have no chemical control options.

Improper lawn maintenance practices – This includes improper mowing height or frequency, excessive or insufficient fertilization, irrigation and pest control regimes.

When you reach the point where there is less than sixty percent desirable cover, reestablishment should be considered. In the process of starting over, you should decide where you need lawngrass and consider other options in areas where grass may not be needed or where grass does not grow well. Also attempt to determine why the lawn declined and correct mismanagement practices if they were a contributing factor in the lawn's demise.

For more information on lawn renovation and care, contact your local UF/IFAS Extension Office or visit http://yourfloridalawn.ifas.ufl.edu.

LIKE US! *Welcome to 2011! Forest Heights-Holly Hills Area Neighborhood Association now has a fanpage on Facebook! Be sure to "like us" and stay up to date with neighborhood happenings.*

Crime Watch Corner – News from the Crime Watch & Safety Committee

With the arrival of spring, TPD has heard from several neighborhoods about suspicious people going door to door. Always be cautious of people coming to your door offering to do odd jobs when they are not solicited.

While you are doing your spring cleaning, make a note to call TPD for your free security survey for tips to improve the safety of your home. Please call Officer James Bird at 891-4184 to arrange an appointment. Summer is just around the corner and kids will be out of school.

In the past 90 days, the bulk of calls to TPD from our neighborhood were in relation to noise issues. Please remember to be courteous to your neighbors, especially late at night! Should your gathering be disruptive to your neighbors, they do have the right to call the police, and the noise complaint will be documented so we may follow up with a letter or phone call to the homeowners and tenants. If there is more than one offense at that location, a TPD officer will also be dispatched to discuss the problem with the tenants.

On a positive note, a huge thank you to our college neighbors Skyler and friends on Sunset Lane for helping clear out a huge pile of yard trash in the backyard of your neighbor down the street. Your act of neighborly kindness was written in the Applause column of the Tallahassee Democrat on March 13th! And thank you to the neighbor for reporting this wonderful act of kindness. This exemplifies the type of neighborhood where we would all like to live.

THIS NEWSLETTER SPONSORED BY:

"I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor?"
Mother Teresa