

FOREST HEIGHTS/HOLLY HILLS



HAPPENINGS



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOREST HEIGHTS-HOLLY HILLS AREA
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 12, April 2009

Neighbor to Neighbor

Bert A. Mitchell, President

Dear Neighbors,

As the saying goes, "How do you eat an elephant? One bit at a time." One way to keep our neighborhood an enjoyable place to live is to organize the area into manageable sections. The FHHNA board has divided our large neighborhood into 14 manageable zones and several people have volunteered to become our Volunteer Neighborhood Zone Captains. With over 800 homes in our neighborhood, it can be a huge task to manage. As the city is constantly changing, it can be challenging to maintain our excellent quality of life in Forest Heights/Holly Hills and Kentwood Estates. Although we have made progress, there is still much work to be done. The zones will allow us to focus on particular areas for action- whether it's neighborhood garage sales, neighborhood cleanups, block parties, code violations or dealing with rooming house situations. The Volunteer Neighborhood Zone Captains will periodically walk their areas to help maintain the objectives of the association, including:

- Educating residents regarding options for dealing with code, ordinance and law violations that impact their property;
- Promoting the adequate maintenance of dwellings and yards; and
- Getting feedback from you on how to best maintain a safe and respectful neighborhood.

The Volunteer Neighborhood Zone Captains' contact list and a map of the 14 zones will be available on the association website (<http://www.forestheights-hollyhills.com/>). The Captains are already working on gathering data on various areas so we can get a good picture of where we are as a community. Now is the best time to refocus and stay involved in ensuring that Forest Heights/Holly Hills and Kentwood Estates area remains a great place to live- in good times and in challenging ones. Remember this quote as we move through our economic storm, "And this too shall pass." This has always been one of my favorite quotes and I hope it is something that encourages you.

"If you don't know your neighbor, make the first move and go meet them."

Bert A. Mitchell, President
FHHNA

Adopt-a-Street Clean Up

It's fun; it's easy. We bring the "picker uppers and bags".

Date: Saturday April 25, 2009 (Note April date change)

Time: 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Location: High Road

Meet at 9 a.m. at the Winn Dixie on High and Tharpe Street.

Breakfast at Bruegger's Bagels Bakery - 1625 W Tharpe St. afterwards.



RSVP to this invitation at:

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/rpcvnl?v=126&a1=0&iid=khUIxAn%40RKPPaQqVVhiAaatd%40vOz%40&igid=2xaIaQ7gaJvY%40CQCFxhEmq%40%40OeRcAI2O>

**NEXT
ASSOCIATION
MEETING
TUES. APRIL 28
6:30 PM
COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Traffic Safety Speaker at April Member Meeting

Mr. Olu Sawyerr, Traffic Engineer for the City of Tallahassee, will be the speaker at our Membership Meeting on Tuesday, April 28th. This will be an opportunity to discuss questions and concerns we have about traffic issues in our neighborhood. One concern is the City's plan to place a traffic light on Tharpe at Rosedale Streets. Neighbors, particularly on Sharon Road and other Forest Heights streets, oppose this traffic light because it will increase cut through traffic and speeding to avoid the Tharpe and High Road intersection. Speeding and high traffic volume on High Road is still a problem. Traffic calming on Myrick and Raa was approved by the City but has not been implemented. **Please attend and join the discussion with Mr. Sawyerr** about these and other traffic concerns.



Tallahassee Police Department Breakfast on April 25th, 9:00 a.m. at the Lincoln Neighborhood Center, 438 W. Brevard St.
An opportunity to talk with Chief Dennis Jones & other City staff. If you plan to go, please notify Barbara Allen at 385-4124.

Hedgerows for Songbirds

One of the most important things that homeowners can do to attract more songbirds is to plant hedgerows along property boundaries. Provide a variety of food and cover throughout the year by combining deciduous and evergreen plants that flower and fruit at different seasons. Increase opportunities for feeding and nesting by providing multiple layers. Do this by planting small trees in the back, large shrubs in the middle and low shrubs in the front. Use plenty of native plants such as wax myrtle, yaupon holly, beautyberry, blueberry, hawthorn, wild plum and crabapple as they are particularly attractive to songbirds. The linkage of many individual hedges forms valuable travel corridors that songbirds and other wildlife use to move safely through their territories. Collaborate with your neighbors to provide a neighborhood network of this important habitat.

David Capps is a conservation landscape designer specializing in natural habitat gardens to protect Tallahassee's water, wildflowers and wildlife. Contact him at 850.385.6548 or meadowman3@yahoo.com (www.cappslandscape.com).

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

Hi Neighbors!

I have been checking the tal.gov site for reported crime in the area. Have you? The majority of reports have been for nuisances and there have been a lot of traffic accidents as well. Do your search for Forest Heights/Holly Hills and it will bring up a map of our area and you can search for any number of reports. Officer Bird has told me that theft has been reported and, as stated at the membership meetings, often it is found that the homes or cars have been unlocked. This is a big problem with the college students in particular, so report any suspicious persons you see in the area.

Officer Bird has heard from a couple of members with questions and he would like to again offer the **free home survey to check for the security of our homes**. Please call him at **891-4184** to arrange an appointment. With summer coming up, he reminds us to note juveniles who are hanging around. They look for an opportunity to rob cars of valuables. Remember to keep all valuables from sight. See you at the Membership Meeting.

- Barbara Allen 385-4124



Grass Clippings - Notes from the Neighborhood Beautification Committee

Believe it or not, it is time to select the next Yard of the Quarter winners! We are calling for nominations now through April 24th. Please contact us if you know of a neighbor's yard that should be part of the competition. If you nominated a yard last quarter and it did not get chosen, please re-nominate it if you feel it should be in the running. You may email your nominations to Gineen Krafft at pkrafft@plp.info or call her at 386-6479. **Congratulations to last Quarter's winners! The neighbors who won were: Kentwood Estates; Anne Ashmore, 2347 Skyland Drive- Forest Heights; Eleanor Zych, 1904 Botany Drive - Holly Hills; Alan and Laura Spradley, 1907 Nelson Circle E.** Each of our winners has been given a yard sign announcing their award. The signs will be moved to the new winners' yards after the meeting on April 28th. If you haven't done so already, take a couple of minutes to drive by or walk by these homes. They are truly winners!

Temperatures are rising and May is typically one of our drier months, so it's time to get serious about watering. Many new plants are lost because of insufficient watering. Remember that new plants only have roots in an area the size of the rootball that was in the pot. So be sure to direct water to that area. Water directly over the root ball every day or two. Water the lawn and other large areas in early morning when less water is lost to evaporation and more is absorbed. Consider setting several straight-sided cans around your yard when you water to measure the water and make sure that you're not watering too little, or too much. If you apply one-half inch of water per application, you may find that you only need to water as infrequently as once a week. Annual flowers and roses will benefit from a monthly dose of fertilizer. Fertilize sparingly using a 15-0-15 product unless you have had a soil test showing that you need to add phosphorus. This same fertilizer can be used on vegetables and herbs. Fertilize daylilies lightly when buds appear. Fertilize citrus, young figs and grapes this month. As the weather heats up mulch becomes even more important. It retards weeds and keeps the soil cool and moist. Use chopped leaves from your yard for a free and environmentally friendly mulch. If these aren't available, buy pine straw or bark. If you have plant questions, call the Leon County Extension Office at 850-606-5202 and ask to speak to a Master Gardener. They are a great resource.

We need more committee members! Come on, folks, this is a fun committee! If you are interested in **becoming part of this committee**, please contact **Gineen Krafft at pkrafft@plp.info or call her at 386-6479.**

Maintaining Our Neighborhoods through Neighborhood Scout Volunteers

Where a condition exists that violates a City Neighborhood Preservation ordinance, a group known as **Neighborhood Scout Volunteers** reports the violation to the Neighborhood Code Enforcement program staff for investigation. During recent years code enforcement cases have steadily increased and volunteer assistance is needed to help maintain the good quality of our dwellings and property. If you would like to become a Neighborhood Scout Volunteer, contact **Jim Longhurst** with the **City of Tallahassee Code Enforcement Division at 891-6500.**

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 David Mulholland, Treasurer, P.O. Box 37323, Tallahassee, FL 32315. We appreciate your support! *Dues received after October apply to the next calendar year.

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