

2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

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VICE PRESIDENT

VACANT

Mimi – Thanks for all your help through the years. We will miss you and wish you all the best with your move! ♥

TREASURER

Becky Berentsen 591-9317
RBerentsen@comcast.net

THANK YOU!

We appreciate everyone who attended the Neighborhood Ice Cream Social in May at Bruster's Ice Cream on West Tharpe Street. It was a nice evening on the deck, the music was wonderful, the ice cream is always great, and it was fun getting to know the neighbors. We look forward to another social in the fall!

IN OUR BACKYARD

Did you know that there is a local spot in our backyard listed on the National Register of Historic Places? Check out Lichgate on High Road and cool off under the shade of the Live Oak tree that Laura Jepsen worked so hard to protect in the 1950's. Professor Jepsen taught Comparative Literature at FSU from 1946 to 1978. Her beloved Live Oak tree is registered with the Live Oak Society. For more information on this local treasure, check out the website at www.lichgate.com.

REMINDER - Member contacts: We are always updating our records and need your help! We would like to get updated contact information for our members. Please take a moment and send your name, address, phone, and email address to RBerentsen@comcast.net. Emails will only be sent with important information, neighborhood crime info from TPD and the quarterly newsletters. Thanks in advance for your help with this project!



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!

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FOREST HEIGHTS/HOLLY HILLS HAPPENINGS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOREST HEIGHTS-HOLLY HILLS AREA
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.
Volume 20, July 2011



Bert A. Mitchell, President

Neighbor to Neighbor

Dear Neighbors,

Over the last few months there has been an increase in crimes committed in our neighborhood. According to the Tallahassee Police Department (TPD) there have been 6 auto burglaries and 14 residential burglaries from May 1 to July 6th. This is of great concern to the FHHNA Board so we will use the next Association meeting to focus on crime prevention and update you on the recent criminal activities we have been experiencing. As our Mission Statement says:

*The purpose of the Association is to seek to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood on issues related to land use, environmental protection, public services, **crime prevention** and safety, and preservation of the unique character of the community.*

We have asked a representative from the Tallahassee Police Department (TPD) to come and specifically speak to us about this problem and how we can take a proactive approach in crime prevention. The meeting will be held July 26 at 6:30 pm at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on 2121 Old Bainbridge Road.

Replacing stolen or damaged items is an ordeal no one needs to experience and I am truly sorry for those families who have been affected by this. Now more than ever is the time to get to know your neighbors and look out for each another. It's time for all of us to step up and take action to make sure we have a very active and focused crime prevention community. This is probably a trend in many areas due to the current economic situation however it is up to each of us to make an effort to report **any** suspicious activity to the Tallahassee Police Department.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Be sure to bring your questions and concerns so we may address them with the neighbors.

Take care,

Bert A. Mitchell, President

Grass Clippings - Notes from the Neighborhood Beautification Committee



Summer is here and it is HOT! Luckily, July is typically the wettest month of the year, which not only helps with bringing much needed rain to our yards, but also with bringing cooler temperatures after the rains. Because of the heat, it is best to save most gardening tasks for cooler temperatures. If you must tend to gardening tasks, work outside early in the day, be sure to use ample sunscreen, and stay hydrated! One tip for summer gardens, mulching helps keep the soil moist and cool and discourages weeds from growing, which will in turn make your gardening chores lighter. ♻️

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane season began on June 1st and will end on November 30th. It is easy to think that a disaster can't happen to us being so far inland, but think again! Many of our established neighbors may remember Hurricane Kate which came through Tallahassee on November 21, 1985. It took over 2 weeks to clean up from this storm, and it was only a Category 1 when it came to visit. Many were without power for days. Trees were knocked down, and people were stranded in their neighborhoods. Now is the time to prepare. Set an Emergency Plan with your family and decide how and where you will connect in the event of an emergency. Check out www.weather.gov for more detailed preparation lists.

Create an Emergency Supplies Kit (prepare for at least three days):

- Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio
- Flashlights, extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Prescription and non-prescription medications
- Credit cards and cash
- Identification, insurance information, and contact numbers (keep copies in ziplock bags)
- Extra set of car keys
- Toilet paper (store in a ziplock bag to keep dry) and toiletries
- At least one change of clothes and shoes per person
- Non-perishable food (and a manual can opener)
- Water (one gallon per person, per day)
- One blanket or sleeping bag per person
- Emergency tools
- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members

Prepare your home:

- Review your insurance policy (many policies do not include flood protection)
- Learn the location of the nearest shelter if you must evacuate
- Trim trees and shrubbery which can cause damage during a storm
- Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts

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

Ah, the carefree days of summer. We are pleased to report that the noise complaints have been drastically reduced in our neighborhood, but the burglaries have increased in the last 90 days! Just a reminder that kids are out of school and in the neighborhoods so be sure to secure all doors and windows in your vehicles and homes. Vehicle burglaries are most often a crime of opportunity. Be sure to remove all valuables or place them out of sight in your vehicle. Always lock your car doors, even in your driveway. At home, be alert when you are working in the yard. Don't leave the front doors unlocked if you are outside in the back yard working. Leaving the garage doors open also presents an opportunity for criminals. If you are a victim of a burglary, be sure to report the crime. You may contact TPD or fill out an online report at <http://www.talgov.com/tpd/tpd-online.cfm>.

Don't forget, TPD offers a free security survey to improve the safety of your home. Please call Officer James Bird at 891-4184 to arrange an appointment. You may also request extra patrols in the neighborhood to check your home while you are on vacation. As always, be alert and don't hesitate to call 891-4200 if you see something suspicious in the area.

Congratulations! School grades are now in and our local schools fared well:

Astoria Park Elementary – Received an A
Riley Elementary School – Received a B (up from last year's C grade!)
Springwood Elementary School – Received a B (up from last year's C grade!)

Cobb Middle School – Received an A
Raa Middle School – Received an A
Griffin Middle School – Received a C

Godby High School – High School grades are still pending



Officer Maria Mercurio, our former Neighborhood TPD Officer, was chosen as Tallahassee Police Department's Officer of the Year on June 11th. Officer Mercurio – we commend you for the fine job you do in our community. Congratulations!

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Two side-by-side photographs showing a roof and gutter. The left photo is labeled "BEFORE" and shows a dirty, cluttered roof. The right photo is labeled "AFTER" and shows a clean, clear roof and gutter.

"Crime is naught but misdirected energy." Emma Goldman