

Crestwood/Glen Cove Neighborhood News



Volume 6, Issue 2

Fall 2008

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Next All-Neighborhood Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7pm

All homeowners are invited to our twice-yearly all-neighborhood meetings. The meetings give us an opportunity to get together, discuss and vote on issues of neighborhood interest.

A record 55 homeowners attended the April 2008 meeting and decided many issues, including a new three year budget, increased civic club dues and tree planting. Please read about security on page four and tree planting on page five.

October 21 Meeting

Our next all-neighborhood meeting will be held Tues-

day, Oct. 21, 2008, in the cafeteria of St. Theresa's Catholic Church. The church is located next to Memorial Park at 6622 Haskell.

We are very excited to host two guest speakers:

* Scott Slaney from SWA Group will present ideas to improve Washington Avenue and SuperNeighborhood 22, of which Crestwood/Glen Cove are part. Please read the short article on page four.

* Pam Covington will present an update about improvements for the WOW roundabout.

Other discussion topics will

include security and the continuing threats to our deed restrictions. We will take the second vote to raise voluntary dues from \$50 to \$60 (seniors will still be charged \$20). We hope to see you there!

Hurricane Ike

Hurricane Ike blasted through our neighborhood and killed many trees. Please replace your trees to keep our neighborhood beautiful. Thank you to everyone for sharing your equipment, time, muscle, power and your neighborliness during this trying time.

Block Party - Sunday, Nov. 2nd

The Crestwood/Glen Cove annual "Block Party" will be held on Sunday, November 2, 2008 from 2-5 in the 300 block of Terrace Drive. "Block Party" is a misnomer, since it is truly an all-neighborhood party. Like last year, this year's party will include children's activities such as animal balloons,

face painting, and moon walk. Hot dogs and soft drinks will be available for everyone (and beer for adults). Once again we'll ask people to bring desserts though this is definitely not a requirement (experience shows it's a great way to rid yourselves of that pesky Halloween candy). Festivities will be

capped by the annual football game.

More details will be forthcoming in future announcements, but be sure to mark the date on your calendar. If you have any interest in helping out, please contact Mary Christ at 713/410-4888 or MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com.

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Receive newsletters & announcements by email. Let us know your preference. communications@crestwoodglencove.org

Thank You to Outgoing Board Members

Carolyn Garcia



Eric Newman



The Civic Club is always looking for volunteers to help their neighborhood, either by being a Board Member or by joining a committee. See below for contact information.



Thanks to Other Past Board Members

By Kim McVeigh

As the incoming president back in April, I received boxes full of Civic Club records, along with a BIG smile and sigh of relief from Ellen Lapointe. I was able to look at some of the rosters of past board members and was surprised to see familiar names. I'd like to thank all those who have volunteered on our civic club board, including those listed here. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on the board.

Robert Hamlin - Terrace
 Wally James - Blossom
 Laurie Pleasant - Camellia
 Bryan Smyth - West Cowan
 James Elston - Memorial
 Walter Schneider - Blossom
 Mike Speck - Terrace
 JoAnn Owens - East Cowan
 Kaye Horn - Glenwood
 The records are not complete so I apologize if I missed someone.



And on a sad note, for those that have lived in the neighborhood for a long time, Kevin Brower passed away on September 11th. Kevin was a long-time resident of our neighborhood and was on the Civic Club board for many years. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations to the Park People, 2311 Canal Street, Houston, 77003. Online tributes may be posted at www.bradshaw-carter.com.

Crestwood Civic Club Board Members

As of October 2008

President	Kim McVeigh	713/863-9710	president@crestwoodglencove.org
VP/President-Elect	Brent Larsen	713/301-1687	vp@crestwoodglencove.org
Treasurer	Mary Christ	713/410-4888	treasurer@crestwoodglencove.org
Secretary	Sharon Choens	713/868-4974	secretary@crestwoodglencove.org
Newsletter/Website	Kim McVeigh	713/863-9710	communications@crestwoodglencove.org
Recycling	Rebecca Marvil	713/861-6804	recycling@crestwoodglencove.org
Deed Restrictions	Chris Shamaly	713/880-5990	deedrestrictions@crestwoodglencove.org
Deed Restrictions	Ellen Lapointe	713/426-0098	deedrestrictions@crestwoodglencove.org

Update on Glen Cove III Side Setback Violation

As previously reported at our all-neighborhood meetings, in this newsletter and via flyers hand delivered to homeowners, a homeowner in Glen Cove III violated the five-foot side setback requirement in the deed restric-



tions. Once the Civic Club board members learned of the violation, we asked the City of Houston to enforce our deed restrictions. The City agreed. The trial was scheduled for August 2008, but has been

delayed until December 2008. Thank you for sending the letters of support to Mayor White and City Attorney Michel! Letters may be sent anytime until the trial later this year. For further information, please send an e-mail to deedrestrictions@crestwood-glencove.org.

Glen Cove I Residents Sued Heirs Want Deed Restriction Invalidated

By Leonard Roth
taxlsr@aol.com

In cause no. 2008-26146, James and Anna Fulbright, through the law firm of Jackson Walker, have sued all of the residents of Glen Cove St. in an attempt to invalidate the deed restrictions of the neighborhood. Despite the execution by the Fulbrights' grandparents (then owners of the property at issue which fronts Memorial and is a Glen Cove St. address) of the extension of the deed restric-

tions in 1993 and the exclusively residential development West of Westcott, the Fulbrights argue that their grandparents apparently did not know what they were signing, certain clerical errors were made in the extended restrictions and changes of condition in the residential neighborhood have occurred that invalidate the restrictions. In essence, the Fulbrights have asked for declaratory relief that would allow the sale of their Lot

5 to any purchaser- residential or commercial. This law suit affects all in the Memorial Park area. The majority of the residents of Glen Cove St. have engaged legal counsel to fight the Fulbright effort to invalidate our deed restrictions and to successfully retain the residential nature of the street. We look forward to discussing how this effort can be helped by residents of the Glen Cove/Crestwood subdivisions at the All-Neighborhood meeting Oct. 21.

Lawn Maintenance

Our neighborhood is special for many reasons, not the least of which is our closeness to Memorial Park. Please keep your yard maintained "in a neat and attractive manner," as the deed restrictions require. Also, if your property's side or back lines lie on Westcott, Memorial or one of the interior neighborhood streets, it is your responsibility to maintain that side or back yard, too. We all appreciate everyone keeping their lawns mowed and overgrowth to a minimum!



Neighborhood Signs

Please adhere to the size limitation on any real estate sign you place in your yard. Although the deed restrictions vary amongst our five subdivisions, signs generally must be no larger than five foot square. Most of us surely can appreciate keeping the sign clutter to a minimum and maintaining our beautiful, park-like neighborhood. Thank you!

Neighborhood Security Update

Robert Hamlin, who volunteered at the April meeting to serve as the temporary point person for security, has been searching for a company to manage security for our neighborhood. He discovered that paying for a management company would be too expensive, so we need suggestions and/or volunteers. He has people lined up to gather commitments from as many homeowners in our five subdi-

visions as possible in order to enter into a contract with a private patrol service company, but as yet has no one to manage the contract. If you feel you can help with this, we would encourage you to attend the October 21st All-Neighborhood meeting. Please email security@crestwood-glencove.org with any questions, comments, words of support, etc.

*****Security Alert*****

A neighbor on East Cowan warns: be on the lookout for "a tall white man with a really thin build on a bike" who stole wallet and keys from the car they were loading to leave town Monday after Ike hit.

Witnesses said the suspect pretends to stop on his bike to answer a cell call, then he robs. Keep an eye out!!

Where to Hide Your Valuables

By Walter T. Shaw, Bottom Line Personal Magazine

The master bedroom is the first place that burglars search. Valuables stored there are likely to be found even if they are well-hidden. The main living area of the home also is likely to be well-searched.

Least likely to be searched are young children's rooms...garages...

I would not recommend installing a safe. Home safes consolidate the family's valuables in one place, which makes them easier to steal. If the burglar lacks the know-how to crack your safe, he might take the whole safe with him...or wait for you to return and force you to open the safe, turning a bad situation into a dangerous one.

One potentially effective strategy is to set up your home so that it convinces the burglar that he has found your valuables before he actually has. Hide your most precious possessions in a room unlikely to be targeted, but leave a few less important "valuables" in a location a burglar is likely to search, such as a drawer in the master bedroom. These "valuables" might include a stack of small bills with a \$20 bill on top...a few credit cards that are expired or cancelled...a broken but impressive-looking camera...or some costume jewelry that looks more precious than it is.

For maximum security, rent a bank safe-deposit box. Banks always are more secure than any location in the home.

Urban Design Students Study Washington Avenue The SWA Group 2008 Summer Internship Program

This summer, eight interns, one undergraduate and seven graduate students were selected to work with the SWA Group, an international landscape architecture, planning, and urban design firm with offices in Houston. All the students attend universities with notable landscape architecture and urban planning programs that are as distant as Turkey and as near as Louisiana.

The visiting interns, in an intensive four-week design program supervised

by SWA principals from offices across the country, focused their creative energy and expertise on the Washington Avenue - Memorial Park Super Neighborhood 22 (SN 22).

Crestwood/Glen Cove is one of many neighborhoods that make up SN22, which extends from Downtown to Memorial Park.

The SN22 Council hopes that the concepts generated by this program - from a green-roof museum to urban

orchards, and a couplet of complete streets with transit-ways - will provide residents and stakeholders with fresh visions for the area and inspire cooperative efforts between SN 22's constituent neighborhoods and their elected officials dedicated to making those visions a reality.

Come to the Oct. 21 All-NH meeting to hear a presentation of these exciting ideas from Scott Slaney of SWA Group. A PowerPoint presentation will be presented.

Tree Planting Update & Donations

Have you noticed the new recognition sign on the Camellia/Rose esplanade? The City of Houston thanks our neighborhood for planting 97 trees on 5 esplanades in April 2008.



The Crestwood Civic Club's plan is to have another sign at the other end of Westcott, near Memorial. We just need to raise another \$6,000 to complete the remaining 3 esplanades.

Thank you to all the residents and businesses who have donated money to these efforts.

It was only 6 months ago but do you remember what the Blossom/Floyd esplanade looked like April 2008? It was VERY sad with only ONE tree and trucks constantly parked on it.



Here it is AFTER we planted 29 - five gallon trees and 2 - thirty gallon trees.



Imagine it in 6 YEARS...

Donations from Crestwood/Glen Cove Residents

- Edward & Blanca Borrás, West Cowan
- John & Lindy Rydman, Crestwood
- Gerard Trione, East Cowan
- Cathy Schnaubelt & Priscilla McLeroy, W. Cowan
- Ellen & Jacques Lapointe, Blossom
- J.B. Dollison, Feagan
- Rebecca Marvil & Brian Smyth, West Cowan
- Lisa & Stan Duchman, Glen Cove
- Robert Hamlin, Terrace
- Mark Turrentine & Mildred Ramirez, Crestwood
- Dave & Jody Bucci, East Cowan
- Jeff & Lori Londa, West Cowan
- Joyce Steensrud, West Cowan
- Mark & Cynthia Mendenhall, West Cowan
- C.M. & Susan Garver, Crestwood
- Marion Bell, Terrace

Donations from Local Businesses

- Uzick & Oncken, P.C.
- Mostyn Law Firm
- R & R Watches, Bellaire

If you or your business would like to make a tax-deductible contribution, please mail your check to P.O. Box 130812, Houston, 77219-0812 or drop it off at 322 Terrace. If you have any questions, contact Kim McVeigh at president@crestwood-glencove.org or call 713/863-9710.

Did you lose any trees during Hurricane Ike?

←—————→

Please plant TWO trees for every one you lost. Let's keep our neighborhood beautiful.

Contact Trees for Houston at 713/840-TREE if you need assistance.

Coyote Sighting on Terrace

Resident and their dogs were stared down by a healthy looking coyote on September 30th. Please keep your small pets inside as much as possible to avoid any attacks.

Local Co-ops Offer Bargain-Priced Fruits & Vegetables

Are you interested in buying organic produce at good prices? The growing co-op movement has taken hold of Houston and we are lucky enough to be close to many of them. Information about the "Rawfully Organic Co-Op" was placed on our website earlier this year. In addition to this opportu-



nity, the Central City co-op, www.centralcityco-op.org, offers an open market every Wednesday and Saturday morning and a new co-op has started in Down-town's Discovery Green Park. The co-ops feature organic produce and work with local farmers as much as possible.

Resident Job Service

The Civic Club would like to include a section in our bi-annual newsletter listing services, such as yard work, babysitting, pet/house watching, etc. provided by residents and/or their children. This could be a great resource for our neighborhood. **Interested?** Please send the pertinent information to communications@crestwoodglencove.org.

My Favorite Websites

By Kim McVeigh

I'm ALWAYS surfing the net and occasionally I come across a website that I LOVE ... because it is innovative, informative and just plain useful. I'll list a few of my current favorites but please share yours by emailing me at communications@crestwoodglencove.org.

catalogchoice.org - Catalog Choice is an easy, free service that allows you to decline unwanted catalogs, reducing the number of catalogs in your mailbox and the number of trees that get sent to the paper mill.

glassbooth.org - For those who are still undecided, Glassbooth is a site that connects you to the 2008 Presidential Candidate that best represents your beliefs. It also allows you to pinpoint where every candidate stands on every issue. Unbiased, non-partisan ... just the facts!

zillow.com - Zillow is a real estate website but so much more. I don't want anyone to move but if you are thinking about moving or buying a second home, check out this website. Or if you're like me...just plain nosy.



12:30 pm to 4 pm - Farmer's Market and Free Concerts every 2nd & 4th Sundays on the lawn at Shepherd Drive Fellowship. On October 12th, the rock/folk group, Evangeline, will be performing. On October 26th, come see a comedy trio of country western. You won't want to miss the incredible food for sale. Come meet your neighbors and have a glass of frozen lemonade while supporting local growers. For more information, email shepherddrivefellowship@yahoo.com.

Homeowner's Dues & 2008-2009 Neighborhood Directory

You should have received a bill for the 2008 voluntary homeowner's association dues in the mail recently. Dues are \$50 per household (\$20 for seniors). These dues continue to fund neighborhood projects; last year we were able to complete the new Crestwood / Glen Cove monument at the corner of Westcott and Memorial Drive.

All homeowners who pay their dues will receive a copy of the neighborhood directory. Please be sure your information is correct! If you have any questions about paying your dues or neighborhood directory updates, please contact Mary Christ at treasurer@crestwoodglencove.org.



Recycling News



Houston

One of the Worst Recycling Cities

Houston is one of the largest cities in the United States and one of the worst recyclers. According to a recent article in the New York Times (*"Houston Resists Recycling, Independent Streak is Cited"*, New York Times, July 29, 2008), we recycle only 2.6 percent of our total waste compared to cities like New York and San Francisco which recycle 34 and 69 percent respectively. Only 162,000 households in Houston have curbside recycling and there are 250,000 on a

waiting list (*"Houston Mayor's Environmental To-Do list is Lengthy"*, Houston Chronicle, May 28, 2008).

Crestwood/Glen Cove is fortunate to have curbside pickup of newspaper, aluminum, plastic and cardboard. Our current participating household rate is about 27%. If we fall below 10% we will lose our recycling service. It would be great to get closer to 50% participation. PLEASE RECYCLE!!! Call 3-1-1 for your own green bin.



New Ways to Recycle

Bikes - Pedals for Progress (p4p.org) gives old bikes to charities in countries like Uganda and Guatemala, which in turn distribute them to those in need.

CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, videos - ACT Recycling (actrecycling.org) provides jobs to people with disabilities by employing them to refurbish these items for resale.

Shoes - Soles4Souls (soles4souls.org) collects gently worn shoes and distributes them to the needy in 60 countries worldwide.

Cell Phones - Call to Protect (donateaphone.com) sells old phones and uses proceeds to help victims of domestic violence.

Building Supplies - Consider giving to organizations like Habitat for Humanity that may take donations of unwanted doors, windows, etc.

DID YOU KNOW???

In addition to #1 and #2 plastics, you can now recycle #3, #5 and #7 plastics in your green bins.

Neighborhood Drop-off Sites

Since curbside recycling is suspended until further notice due to the Ike cleanup efforts, you can take your recyclables to the nearest neighborhood depository.



The nearest drop-off site to Crestwood/Glen Cove is 3602 Center Street, behind Star Pizza.

Tree Waste Recycling

In October, the city is implementing a new "tree waste" program as a way to recycle more waste and reduce the amount that goes into its landfills. "Tree waste" is defined as tree limbs, branches and stumps and will be collected every other month on "heavy trash" collection day. "Junk waste" - furniture and appliances - will be collected on the alternate months.

October	Junk Waste
November	Tree Waste
December	Junk Waste
January	Tree Waste
February	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste
April	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste
June	Junk Waste
July	Tree Waste

For questions or more information, please call 3-1-1, the City's Customer Service Hotline or log on to www.houstonsolidwaste.org.

Any recycling tips for future newsletters?

Email Rebecca Marvil at recycling@crestwoodglencove.org

**Crestwood
Civic Club**

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