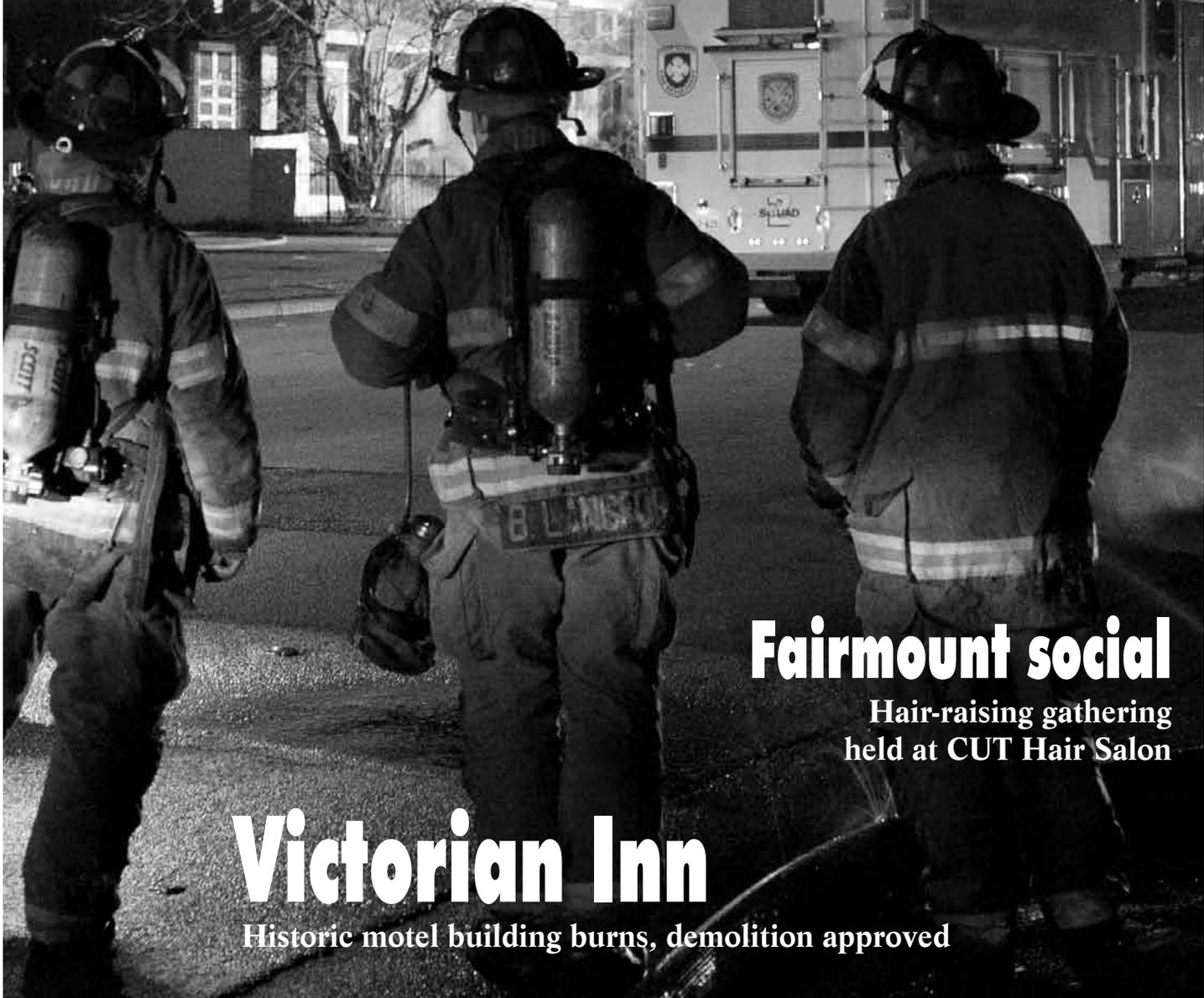




• NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT •

FAIRMOUNT



Fairmount social

Hair-raising gathering
held at CUT Hair Salon

Victorian Inn

Historic motel building burns, demolition approved

STAFF BOX

Fairmount Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 12348
Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348
www.historicfairmount.com

President

Sean Lynch
817.668.5879
president@historicfairmount.com

Promotions

Brenda Howell
817.991.2834
promotions@historicfairmount.com

Membership

Ashley Paz
817.965.1253
membership@historicfairmount.com

Finance

Jane Wedding
817.913.9814
finance@historicfairmount.com

Administration

Tyler White
administration@historicfairmount.com

Communications

Stacy Luecker
817.944.8578
communications@historicfairmount.com

Infrastructure

Jason Amon
817.253.3270
infrastructure@historicfairmount.com

Public Safety

Geri Cotten
817.926.6507
publicsafety@historicfairmount.com

Historic Preservation

Sue McLean
preservation@historicfairmount.com

Article submissions

communications@historicfairmount.com

Newsletter advertising

fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com

Fairmount is on Facebook.
JOIN US!



Printed by Cockrell Enovation
http://cockrellnovation.com

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

We have started 2012 in a big way. The city of Fort Worth and the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods honored Fairmount with its Spirit of Fort Worth Award last month. The award celebrates neighborhood associations that make neighbors feel connected by focusing on social or cultural aspects. We won for Pancakes in the Park held in conjunction with the Cowtown Marathon last February. It is great to know that the rest of the city is taking notice of the great things we are doing here in Fairmount.

We will be at it again on Feb. 26 at Fairmount Park. Please come out to cheer and eat pancakes so the city can see why we are the best neighborhood in Fort Worth.

Also, as I am sure you know, we suffered two fires last month.

We were very fortunate that no one was hurt, but extensive damage was done to buildings in our neighborhood. The biggest loss was the Victorian Inn on Hemphill. The inn had been the center of much activity for the neighborhood association. The association fought the prostitution, drugs and crime that spilled out of it into our streets for years before it was closed. That fight was a rallying call that brought neighbors together for a common cause. The second unrelated fire happened later that same day at the boarded-up duplex at 1401 Alston. It is severely damaged on one side and its future is unknown. It is always a disappointment when we lose a piece of the past.

It was also great to see so many new and returning faces at last month's general membership meeting. While discussing the increase in crime in our neighborhood isn't fun, it helps make our homes safer. Like all neighborhoods, we face a variety of difficulties that can only be resolved when we work together. Simple things like keeping your porch light lit, or calling the police if something seems suspicious will deter criminals. As Officer Stary said, they are looking for the easy score. We must make it as difficult as we can for these criminals so they will stay out of our neighborhood.

As usual, we have just a ton of activities coming up. Please check our event calendar for a complete list. We have something for everybody.

I hope to see you at the next general membership meeting.



Sean Lynch, President
president@historicfairmount.com

On the Cover

Firefighters work to put out a fire at the Victorian Inn on Hemphill. A fire burned the building so severely a request for demolition was approved because there was so little left it was not feasible to restore. See more on the Victorian Inn on pages 12-15.

Photo by Michael Hiatt

The Fairmount Beat

by Joel Stary, neighborhood patrol officer

I was speaking with a Fairmount resident recently about how things have changed over the past few decades in regard to neighborhood relationships.

As a kid, growing up in a small town, I remember knowing all of our neighbor's names and their children's names as well.

I also knew not to misbehave, because everyone knew me and knew who my parents were.

It is unfortunate that we don't focus on knowing our neighbors and their kids the way we used to.

I think we all know deep down, that if we don't focus on this it is possible to wake up one morning and realize that we have no idea who is living around us,

Joel Stary
Cell: 817.944.1316
Office: 817.392.3610
Joel.Stary@fortworthtexas.gov

or right next door for that matter.

Technology gives us so many useful tools, but it has also taken a lot of useful tools away from us.

Our challenge to ourselves should be to communicate face to face with someone this week—not a phone call, not a text, not an e-mail, no tweeting, no Facebook and no HeyTell.

What we really need is a simple face to face, sit down over coffee conversation, the way we used to do.

Meaningful communication tells us all we need to know about each other. Sometimes we find something we like and sometimes we don't, but without creating these kinds of opportunities we will never know.

There may have been many things our parents and grandparents didn't know, but what they did know worked, and we must keep those practices alive today and teach them to our children as well.

I realize that the safety and security of any neighborhood always starts with communication and we should all strive to not pass up opportunities to speak with each other and watch out for each other.

Graffiti — All graffiti should be reported to the non-emergency police number at 817.355.4222 or use the MyFort-Worth smartphone app. **Please do NOT paint over graffiti until it has been reported and photographed.**

THE LAW OFFICE
of JASON AMON, P.C.



General Civil Practice

Estate Planning

Business Solutions

Adoption

Guardianship



1244 COLLEGE AVENUE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76104
(T) 817-332-1116
INFO@JASONAMON.COM

FAIRMOUNT General Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 7 p.m.
The Bastion, 2100 Hemphill St.

The next Fairmount Neighborhood Association General Meeting will be 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 28 at The Bastion, 2100 Hemphill St.

This month's speaker will be a representative from the Cultural Arts Center who will discuss an art camp.

The monthly general meeting is a great way to find out what's going on in the neighborhood.

Join us for the March
neighborhood social
Law Office of Jason Amon
Tuesday, March 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
1244 College Ave.

*Refreshments will be provided.
Come out and meet your neighbors!*

Make some NOISE and EAT PANCAKES during the Cowtown Marathon

2012
THE COWTOWN
FORT WORTH, TEXAS



ULTRA | MARATHON | UNTHG | HALF MARATHON | 10K | ADULTS 5K | COOK | CHILDREN'S 5K

Sunday, Feb. 26

Fairmount Park on 5th Avenue

Fairmount will be the happening place to be during the Cowtown marathon. Cheer for the 2,500 marathon runners, eat pancakes and sausage and drink coffee all at the same time at Fairmount Park on 5th Avenue, 8-10 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 26.

Volunteers are needed in Fairmount during the marathon for course monitors and cheer corrals. For free noise makers and T-shirts e-mail promotions@historicfairmount. Course monitor vests will be provided to use during the race.

Time: runners will run through Fairmount starting approximately from 7:50-10 a.m.

Route through Fairmount: W. Magnolia Avenue / S. on 5th / W. on Allen Avenue / S. on 8th Avenue / W. on Park Place Avenue

View a video of last year's event online at

<http://youtu.be/78g0stpPrvU>

THE BASTION ON HEMPHILL

Catering · Restaurant · Culinary Classes · Private Event Space
2100 Hemphill (Entrance in back at Hawthorne & Travis)

Catering for private dining, special events & office lunch delivery

(Reservations & minimum order required—All events are BYOB)

March 11th class: Simply Italian I March 16th class: Simply Italian II

March 24th Crawfish Boil 2PM March 31st Sat. Brunch 12-4PM

www.bastionrestaurant.com

Chef Chandra Riccetti
817-913-6972

*Help restore Hemphill and
a Texas Historic Landmark...
One meal at a time!!*



Fairmount Community Garden news

by Suzanne Mabe

The Fairmount Community Garden still has several plots for lease. The cost is minimal at \$40 for the year and \$25 for a six month lease. The main conditions are: no pesticides, maintain your plot, do not allow a plot to get weedy and overgrown, and join in a work day that occurs once a month. Water and mulch are furnished.

All of the work and what you plant are up to you.

Work days are the second Saturday of the month and are from approximately 8-11 a.m.

Members are asked to help maintain the area around the beds and the gardens. Duties include re-staining the fence, spreading mulch between the beds, and stirring the compost and edging around the beds. It's also a good way to meet neighbors, pass on gardening tips and get advice from other gardeners.

There has not been much winter weather this year and there is no idea what that will mean for spring and summer. Last year there was a lovely spring, but the summer heat affected all of us.

Gardening in Texas is not for the faint of heart, but spring lettuce and sum-



Photo by Sue McLean

Plants grow in the Fairmount Community Garden. Plots are available for lease.

mer tomatoes make it worth the effort.

Now is the time to start working the beds which are the perfect size for square foot gardening and planting certain early vegetables. To list a few: onions, beets, broccoli plants, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, lettuce, parsnips, parsley, potatoes, radishes and spinach.

Vegetables to plant in March include beans (both bush and pole), corn, cucumbers, eggplant plants, squashes, peppers and tomatoes.

Gardening stores are beginning to stock bedding plants for vegetables and herbs that can be planted now.

Lettuce and spinach are easy to start from seed, but sometimes there is better luck with vegetables like beets, cabbage, and cauliflower when started with bedding plants.

Susan Harper, community garden founder, located some information on native maples that are good for our area that she received from the senior Horticulturist at the Botanic Gardens. We can only list the names and fall color in this article and they are: Bigtooth Maple (red or yellow), Caddo Maple (red/orange), Red Maple (red/purple), Japanese Maple (yellow/red) and Shantung Maple (cardinal red). If you are interested in more information on a particular tree type, please contact Suzanne Mabe at sbmabe@flash.net.

Watch the Fairmount newsletter for more articles about the community garden. We would like to hear from you with stories and suggestions about your gardening experiences.

The next two garden work days are March 10 and April 14, so come out and dig in the dirt with your neighbors. Join the Fairmount Community Garden on Facebook to keep up with current news and events.

THE OLD HOME SUPPLY HOUSE

Fort Worth's Renovation Headquarters

SPECIALIZING IN

Old Doors, Light Fixtures • Period Door Hardware
Clawfoot Bathtubs • Pedestal Sinks, Faucets
Mantles, Old Molding • Odd & Unique Gift Items
Wrought Iron Gazebos, Trestles, Arbors, Benches
Antique & Concrete Statuaries & Planters
Mexican & Indian Imports • Lighting Repair and Rewiring
Bird Baths & Fountains • Kemiko Stains

1801 College Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76110
Ph: 817.927.8004 • www.oldhomesupplyhouse.com



Location includes
buildings on all four
corners of intersection!

Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Photo by Brenda Howell

Team FOO volunteers reach out to Daggett Middle School students on Challenge Day, an event designed to aid in sharing feelings.

Daggett students share feelings on Challenge Day

by George Achziger

Volunteers in Fairmount had a great opportunity to participate in Challenge Day for students at Daggett Middle School, one of our FNA partnerships coordinated by Brenda Howell.

For three days students had an opportunity to spend the day being guided through exercises and games.

Students and adults explored emotions and communication skills designed not only to get them in touch with themselves, but to show support and acceptance of the different facets of individual personalities. The day began with some gaming exercises designed to get the participants relaxed and comfortable with expressing their own feelings in front of their peers and strangers. Challenge leaders moved into very personal disclosures of themselves and many of the topics they revealed clearly touched the students. Feelings of confusion were explored of what happens when changes occur in a family through divorce, separation and deaths. Students also learned to understand differences between media presentation of a normal, perfect lifestyle versus the reality of what every day is like for themselves.

After lunch, the tone turned more serious as everyone was guided through personal emotions with an exercise called Cross the Line. In this scenario, one of the Challenge Leaders spoke of life situations everyone may have experienced either personally,

or know someone who has. Participants were instructed not to speak during this exercise, but instead to offer support and understanding by raising their hand and forming a symbol of love. At some point, most everyone had crossed the line with solidarity of peers who have experienced the same situations. At the same time, those crossing the line could see the support pouring through from those on the other side without judgement, but with sympathy and acceptance. This was an emotional time of reflection.

As the day drew to an end, participants were able to pen a note to someone, anyone, in their life they wished to express and share feelings with. In most cases, what was expressed was thanks for guidance and direction.

Not only was this an emotional and educational time for the students, but also for the adult volunteers.

The students and Fairmount volunteers were very fortunate to have this opportunity to get in touch with themselves and have the ability to learn to handle the stress of changes experienced in everyday life.

Special thanks to Fairmount volunteers Brenda Howell, George Achziger, Joan McRay, Jeannine Gailey, Amanda Douglas and Ulisses Rusher for their ongoing efforts to partner Fairmount with Daggett Middle School.

Inspiring stories needed to achieve dreams

by Brenda Howell, Director of Promotions



Mrs. Early, left, presents a Daggett Bull Dog yard sign to a student and her family. Daggett Middle School faculty and friends of Fairmount delivered yard signs to students and their families to promote school support.

Daggett Middle School truly believes in showing students the many opportunities available in the world.

Daggett will host Achieving Dreams, its annual college and career day, March 30, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The goal of the program is to let students know that whatever they dream they can achieve. Approximately 20 presenters have already signed up but they are looking for several more. They would like to have a list of presenters finalized in the next couple of weeks and are extending an invitation to everyone to sign up. No extensive preparation is necessary.

Presenters must relate to students their personal high school/college experience, how they decided to enter their current profession, duties and responsibilities they have which require using math, writing and communication skills, continuing education/training expected of them, suggestions they might have for anyone interested in your career, and finally how they achieved, or are achieving, their dreams.

If you are interested in signing up to be a presenter at Daggett Middle School, e-mail Brenda Howell, Fairmount director of promotions, at promotions@historicfairmount.com or call 817.991.2834.



Photos by Brenda Howell

George Stephens, left, Daggett Middle School custodian, and Cameron Birkmire, Saginaw Wayside Middle School student, help deliver yard signs as a part of Daggett's plan to show students that Daggett teachers and staff want them to be proud of their school.

Historic and Cultural Landmark District

Nobody Sells More Real Estate than RE/MAX



RE/MAX agents lead the industry in real estate sales experience.

And collectively, they're the most powerful real estate sales force in the world.

That's good news, whether you're looking to sell, or looking to buy.

RE/MAX agents know their communities. And they care enough to get to know you, too.

In today's economic climate, you need service you can count on. You need RE/MAX.

Call us today.

Where Do You Want to Be?SM



RE/MAX Trinity
Amaya Realty Group
Tracey, Sophie & Cassy

817-737-1983
team@amayarealtygroup.com
www.amayarealtygroup.com

Amaya
expert service
with integrity **Realty Group**

©2009 RE/MAX International, Inc. All rights reserved. Each Office Independently Owned and Operated. 091971

JONES DESIGN BUILD RESTORATION

Josh Jones
817.565.7894

Full Service Fairmount Based Contractor
Interior/Exterior Restoration & Remodel

We're Online!

Visit www.historicfairmount.com

Visit the Fairmount website for a calendar of events, news announcements, meeting minutes, resources for your historic home, a gallery of Fairmount house photos and more!



Join Fairmount on Facebook

www.facebook.com/historicfairmount

Sign up for our e-mail list

If you are not a member of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association or have not been receiving e-mail notifications for neighborhood news, you may sign up on the FNA website.

Visit online at
www.HistoricFairmount.com

Home tour progress update

by Chelsie Thornton, Home Tour Director

2012 is a milestone year for the Fairmount neighborhood as the Annual Tour of Historic Homes celebrates its 30th year this Mother's Day weekend.

The Home Tour committee has been hard at work to ensure that this year's event is a huge success. Homes have been nominated, the parade is being planned and the Wine Down celebration is in the works.

Get involved

So what can YOU do to help make the 30th annual tour the best one yet?

Volunteer your time to docent, sell tickets or help with set up. Volunteering is a fun way to meet your neighbors and get to know more about your historic community. And don't forget: volunteer-

ing is the only way to earn admission to Wine Down—the hottest party on Fairmount's social calendar!

Volunteer forms are available at www.HistoricFairmount.com or at the general membership meetings.

The annual Fairmount Tour of Homes will be held Mother's Day weekend, Saturday, May 12 and Sunday, May 13. Tickets will be available for purchase at area locations and online beginning in March.

If you would like more information about the tour or how you can get involved, please contact Chelsie Thornton at historichometour@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the tour are the primary source of funding for Fairmount Neighborhood Association endeavors.

Yards awaiting spring blooms to show beauty

Yard of the Month will be on hiatus for a couple of months as Mother Nature takes a long winter's nap.

But when those tulips and daffodils start poking their heads above ground, the wisteria is in bloom and the budding trees burst forth in chartreuse splendor, we will be out scouring the neighborhood to find the next honoree.

If you spot a yard that is a prime example of the beauty of Fairmount and should be recognized, contact Tim Appling, applingtimothy@sbcglobal.net.



Plumbing by Hart, LLC
Licensed and Insured
Master License #39897

**\$25 OFF ANY
Plumbing Service
with this Ad!**

- Plumbing Repairs
- Water Heater Installation and Repair
- Drain Cleaning
- Specializing in repair, remodels and code upgrades

Call today for a free phone quote
Toll Free 1-855-ALL-HART
(1-855-255-4278)

Not valid with any other discounts or special offers. Limit one discount on initial visit.



Your Neighborhood Library
That's Actually IN Your Neighborhood!!

Stop by & check out the lovely new patio!

www.TheNeighborhoodLibrary.org
TheNeighborhoodLibrary@gmail.com

1310 W Allen Ave (682) 710-1310

TNL is a donation-sustained 501(c)3
Thanks, Ralph Watterson, for all your support!

Fairmount wins Spirit of Fort Worth award

by Brenda Howell, Director of Promotions

Fairmount has spirit and it shows. The Fairmount Neighborhood Association is the recipient of the 2011 Spirit of Fort Worth Award presented by the city of Fort Worth and League of Neighborhoods. The neighborhood award recipients were recognized by council member Joel Burns at a Feb. 7 city council meeting. Brenda Howell and Ashley Paz accepted the award on the Fairmount association's behalf.

Awards are given for projects initiated and completed in Fort Worth during the 2011 calendar year. The Spirit of Fort Worth award celebrates a neighborhood association that makes neighbors feel connected by focusing on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood. In general these efforts support the spirit of "neighborliness" in the city and the award is given to the association that exhibited the best spirit in 2011.

The city and the League recognized Fairmount for its Pancakes in the Park event held in conjunction with the Cowtown Marathon.

This year's Pancakes in the Park will be held Sunday, Feb. 26.



Photo by Sean Lynch

Left to right: Ashley Paz, Fairmount director of membership, Brenda Howell, Fairmount director of promotions, last year's winner and Libby Willis, Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods president, display the 2011 Spirit of Fort Worth award following a presentation at a city council meeting. The award was for Fairmount's Pancakes in the Park.



THE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER
"Providing art programs to more than 10,000 children in the Fort Worth ISD area!"

SPRING BREAK ART CAMP

MARCH 12TH-15TH



SESSION ONE
9:00 - 12:00:
AGES 5-7



SESSION TWO
1:00 - 4:00:
AGES 8-12

With certified teacher & recognized mural artist
Michelle Paez

\$125 REGISTRATION FEE PER SESSION

TO REGISTER CALL: (817) 926-2921 OR EMAIL: CULTURALARTSCENTER@ATT.NET

REGISTRATION CLOSES BY MARCH 8TH, 2012

1901 Windsor Place | Conti Warehouse Suite 103 | Fort Worth, TX 76110
Telephone: 817-926-2921

APRIL 14

Fairmount Yard Sale

Get ready,
Set,
Sort your stuff!

More information coming soon.

Watch the Fairmount website, Facebook and Constant Contact e-mail notifications for how to sign up to participate.



"Preserving the future by restoring the past."

- Furniture restoration & refinishing
- Custom furniture fabrication
- Repair and restore your fine furniture and antiques
- Architectural stripping and paint removal

The heritage and spirit of the great American furniture craftsman lives on at Little Jack Horner's.



www.LittleJackHorners.com

For a behind the scenes look at what we're doing, read our blog at www.lifeinthecorner.com

Little Jack Horner's Furniture Restoration
 6240 East Interstate 20 • Aledo, Texas
 (817) 441-1075

Free List of Homes

Looking for a home?

Sign up on my website to be e-mailed a list of every home you might be interested in.

No cost. No obligation

www.ftworthhomes.net

Lori Gallagher
 The Helen Painter Group, Realtors
 817.475.5117 (cell)



Julie Mathis
 Interior Designer
 Allied ASID

817.994.9937
julie@magnoliainteriordesign.com
www.magnoliainteriordesign.com

Now at Fire Station #1 Community Center

T'ai Chi for Seniors and Adults



Studies have shown T'ai Chi...
 Improves Balance – Blood Pressure – Breathing
 Good for Arthritis – Diabetes – Stress and more!

T'ai Chi is a centuries old Chinese exercise system, best known for its exceptional health benefits, its relaxed flowing graceful movements, its safety, and unique approach to overall well being.

For the maximum benefits, our T'ai Chi classes include QiGong and NeiGong exercises plus daily Accupressure Points. Using this multi-faceted approach, Ft Worth T'ai Chi classes are more than just T'ai Chi as they represent a more complete approach to wellness and health using these historically proven techniques and exercises.

\$32.00 per month single -- \$54.00 per month couples

First Class
FREE!

For more information, contact:
 Ft Worth T'ai Chi Association

817-832-8653

ftwaichi@juno.com

Old Neighborhood Grill



A Simple Pleasure

1633 Park Place

Between 8th Ave & Forest Park

817-923-2282

Open 7a - 9p • Mon - Sat

Historic and Cultural Landmark District



Photo by Stacy Luecker



Photo by Michael Hiatt

Above: Firefighters work to extinguish a fire at the Victorian Inn on Jan. 24. Fire damage resulted in the demolition of the building. Left: Michael Cocanower, top, works with his father and Victorian Inn co-owner, Steve Cocanower, to save the Victorian Inn's sign.

BUILDING WITH A TROUBLED PAST

FIRE CONSUMES VICTORIAN INN

*by Sue McLean, Director of Preservation
and Stacy Luecker, Director of Communications*

When Steve and Michael Cocanower purchased the troubled red brick building known as the Victorian Inn at 1800 Hemphill in March of 2011, they never imagined their efforts to save the historic structure would end in flames.

A beautiful state-of-the-art apartment building in 1922, the Victorian Inn held eight apartments that were arranged “shot-gun style” from front to back. Each included a full kitchen, living room, dining room and one or two bedrooms. Covered parking was also available as well as a basement. Stained woodwork, built-in cabinets, pocket doors, gas fireplaces and private second floor balconies were standard.

The Victorian Inn survived the Great Depression and WWII, but by the 1990s the building had fallen into disrepair and was operating as a cheap hotel. Closed for several years, the

building reopened in early 2000 following alleged repairs after a fire, but no permits were pulled. Code compliance continually posted violation signs and attempted to contact the owners.

After a long history of crime, including drug activity and prostitution, the police department began working with code compliance to shut down operations at the Victorian Inn. Due to structural and health violations, they managed to close the building. Unfortunately, the owners made minimal repairs and were allowed to partially reopen. The crime associated with the Victorian Inn didn't stop, and the police and code were determined to have the building closed and demolished by the city.

Fairmount residents took interest in the building in July, 2006. The landmarks commission, Fairmount board members, Wendy Davis, Joel Burns and local contractors were invited to tour the building to determine if it could be demolished.

Historic and Cultural Landmark District

Because of its listing in the National Register of Historic Places and its contribution to the Fairmount Southside Historic District, it was determined the Victorian Inn could be restored. Requested demolition by Building Standards was fought and won by Fairmount in hope that Hemphill Street would eventually become a viable place for restoration and adaptive reuse of the building.

Steve and Michael Cocanower purchased the Victorian Inn in March, 2011 with the intent to restore the building as apartments and retail space. They won the support of investors and began actively working to begin construction.

A fire in October, 2011 damaged one room on the first floor. The cause was determined to be arson, but plans for restoration continued.

“God works in wonderful ways. We’re going to be okay. Everyone is going to be okay and nobody died in the fire.”

— Michael Cocanower
Victorian Inn co-owner

Even with new hope for revitalization, problems continued to plague the building. Vandalism and vagrancy were a constant problem at the site. “I don’t like to say I am discouraged, but I am really discouraged for Hemphill. It was a constant battle to keep that place boarded up,” Steve said.

On Jan. 24 fire finally overtook the building just a few hours after construction plans were being finalized. “I was up until almost 2 a.m. working on it [the plans]. I almost had the first floor plan completely finished about two hours before it caught on fire,” Michael said.

“I checked my e-mail at 7 a.m. and they kept asking ‘are you going to rebuild?’ and I thought, rebuild what? That is how I found out it burned,” Steve said.

Following the fire, investors backed out. The restoration of the building be-



Photo by Stacy Luecker

Stepped brick parapets and wood brackets were the inn’s crowning glory.



Photo by Stacy Luecker

Fire damage sustained to the rear section of the Victorian Inn.

came overwhelming. The city was demanding immediate demolition for safety, and the state wanted expensive asbestos testing and abatement. Steve and Michael reluctantly applied for demolition of the Victorian Inn from the Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission.

From Fairmount’s preservation standpoint, rebuilding of the structure using the existing walls would have been a pre-

ferred alternative to demolition, but was not feasible for the owner. Fire officials claimed the remaining brick walls had been compromised by heat and would need to be rebuilt. The danger and the cost appeared too great and demolition was unanimously approved.

A wrecking company was contracted to demolish the building, but because the asbestos testing was cost prohibitive, all





Photo by Eric Luecker

**Above: The Victorian Inn following a fire on Jan. 24
Left: The Victorian Inn prior to fire damage.**



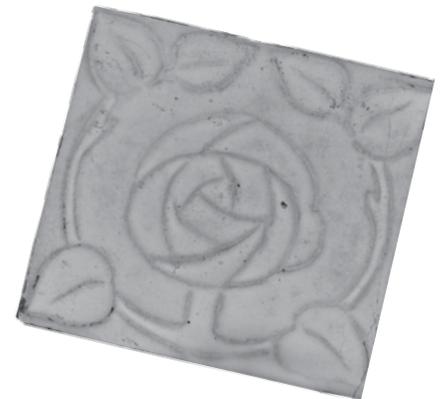
Photo by Eric Luecker

elements in the structure were considered contaminated by the State and remains from the demolition had to be sealed and removed to a landfill. Nothing could be legally saved and reused.

Steve and Michael said they were probably not considering all of the ramifications when they bought the Victorian Inn and that the financial risk was high. Both said they are grateful that nobody

was hurt during the fire. “God works in wonderful ways. We’re going to be okay. Everyone is going to be okay and nobody died in the fire,” Michael said.

Steve said their love for Fairmount and the building itself was what made them pursue every avenue to try to save it. “We did get to meet a lot of people and learned a lot of things,” Steve said. “We appreciated all the support we got.”



A rose tile from a Victorian Inn fireplace. This one has been painted over with white paint, but originally they had colorful glazes. Each apartment contained a fireplace that featured two decorative tiles each.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES by Ashley Paz, Director of Membership

Artist to feature Fairmount homes at coffee house

Christina Furr, Fairmount resident and barista at a popular coffee shop, is creating an art piece on Fairmount homes to feature for the month of April. She is currently looking for homeowners who would like to see their homes featured in the show and who would be willing to share some of the background on their house. This is a great way to bring awareness to our neighborhood and just another way to show off the love that we put into our old houses.

If you are interested in having your home featured, please contact Christina. furr@gmail.com or stop in to Avoca and say hi. She will be making selections soon so please contact her now.



Photo courtesy Christina Furr

An example of a Fairmount house that will be featured in an upcoming art show at Avoca.

The final stages of drafting what this program will entail is in progress and feedback is being sought from our members.

We ask that if you have suggestions or want to learn more, that you and your family please join us Saturday, Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. at Paul's Donuts, 1324 Hemphill St., for coffee, donuts and conversation on how to make this program great.

General meetings get new location at The Bastion

As the Fairmount Neighborhood Association has grown, so must the space where it meets, which is why all general membership meetings will now be held at The Bastion Restaurant starting in February.

Please be sure to note this change on your calendar and try to make it to the next meeting.

Also, the FNA would like to extend sincere thanks to College Avenue Baptist Church for their hospitality, and to Paul and Margo Allen for facilitating the meetings at the church every month.

This month's speaker will be a representative from the Cultural Arts Center who will be discussing an art camp.

General meetings are open to the public, however voting is limited to members in good standing.

If you would like to exercise your vote, please join or renew your membership today by filling out the form on the back of this newsletter and mailing it to the address shown.

If you are unsure if you have renewed, please e-mail membership@historicfairmount.com.

The Bastion is located at 2100 Hemphill. The entrance is on Hawthorne between Lipscomb and Hemphill. Please feel free to park inside the gate, in the church parking lot across the street, or along Hawthorne.

This month's general meeting will be Feb. 28 at 7 p.m..

FNA block captain meeting scheduled for February 25

At the January Fairmount general meeting it was announced that the FNA will be holding a meeting Saturday, Feb. 18 for individuals interested in serving as a block captain or for more information about the program.

In order to avoid a conflict with COPS training and the Allen Avenue cleanup, we have decided to push the meeting back one week. We would like for everyone interested to be able to attend without missing other opportunities in the neighborhood.

Block captains will act as the FNA representative for their block to assist in welcoming new neighbors and participating in a crime watch.

Operation Porch Light

Lights shine bright on Fairmount neighborhood houses

by Jason Amon, Director of Infrastructure

When someone says that Fairmount is well lit, does your first thought tend toward illumination, or inebriation?

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association would like to encourage you to leave your porch lights on all night in an effort to make our community more attractive to members and less attractive to criminals.

Many of us turn them off habitually, without giving the matter a second thought. There was more of a reason for this before the dramatically more efficient light bulbs were available. However, there is evidence showing that increasing lighting in a community lowers crime by 20 percent compared to areas where lighting is not changed. The cover of darkness allows criminals to vandalize and break into our cars and homes without being seen, and pockets of darkness make it easier for them to escape when they are finished.

For these reasons, the community has invested heavily in illumination. The clearest examples of this are our beautiful streetlights and the tree lighting along Magnolia Avenue. While these investments have made us safer, they have also made the sidewalks more attractive to pedestrians. This, too, can help reduce crime.

The more we can encourage our neighbors to walk, the more eyes will be on the street to observe and report suspicious activity.

We are asking that you extend these benefits by leaving your front porch light on all night.



Photo by Eric Luecker

A porch light illuminates the front porch of a Fairmount bungalow on College Avenue.

Mobile enrollment is just a login away

Scan the QR to download the app

Meridian Bank Texas
 100 Lexington St, Ste. 100 | Fort Worth 76102
 817.334.4600 | www.mbt.com

Rosen House Inn

Built in 1910, Rosen House Inn offers a turn-of-the century experience with modern amenities.

- King or Queen size beds
- Private baths
- Wrap-around-porch
- Outdoor pool
- Free WiFi & HD television
- Within minutes of downtown Fort Worth

A full breakfast is served daily in the dining room including pastries, muffins and locally roasted coffee.

For reservations or information, call 888.791.4850 or e-mail kbowden@rosenhouseinn.com

<https://www.facebook.com/rosenhousebb>

FNA General Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 24, 2012

Call to Order: 7:05

Welcome and Announcements

Introduction of new members representing Alston, Henderson, Colledge, Arlington, Chase Court, Jessamine, and 6th. **Cowtown Marathon**—Marathon representative thanked FNA for last year's participation and encouraged continued support. Discussed charities aided by marathon proceeds and provided contact information.

Fort Worth Meals on Wheels—Need volunteers for meal delivery. **Texas Railroad Commission**— notices on mineral production and well pooling. David Thrapp discussed production from XTO well in the area and issues involved with the pooling of the area served by the well.

Future general meetings—at The Bastion. FNA will also use as storage facility to consolidate FNA storage.

Report of Officers

Historic Preservation (Sue)

Victorian Inn—Fire at 3 a.m. (1-24-12). Appears to be the result of arson.

1401 Alston—Fire Jan. 24. Appears to be result of burglary.

1824 Adams—City code deemed it a collapse hazard and demolition has been applied for, recycling as much as possible into new similar house.

1412 Fairmount—Waiver to keep a metal standing seam porch roof—denied, must remove or be fined. (Metal roofs are allowed, but they must have a profile resembling asphalt shingles).

1908 Fairmount—New two-story (four square) residence and a two-story, rear two-car garage approved.

2124 Fairmount—Permission to demolish the apartment accessory structure facing Mitchell approved.

1425 Alston—Reopen wrap-around

porch. Extend the south side porch from half-width to full-width. Reverse window and side entry door placement. Add a wood balcony to the second story.

1811 Fairmount—Rear remove shed roof over existing rear addition and extend current hipped roof of house over rebuilt rear addition. New portecochere on the south side with round columns. One single side dormer to top story attic conversion facing north side yard. New two-story two-car detached garage.

1940 5th—Permission to construct two-story rear addition with porch to match house. 21x20 carport approved.

2004 Alston—Misunderstanding between owner and the city giving him Admin Approval. Replace existing porch columns with tapered square wood columns on square bases covered in 117 wood siding; install wood porch railing. Install lap siding to the lower section of the house; with a waiver for Hardy Board siding to be used at 6" above ground. Replace some short replacement windows with tall wood windows to match originals. Move some original windows to original locations.

Infrastructure (Jason)

Tree Program—Discussed tree program and encouraged participation. Contact Jason for more information and to sign up.

Public Safety (Geri)

Citizens on Patrol class: February 18th 8-4. Contact Geri or Calvin for more information. Two people saw recent graffiti tagging and did not call 911. Call 911 if you see suspicious activity.

Administration (Tyler)—No report.

Membership (Ashley)—No report.

Communications (Stacy)—No report.

Home Tour

Noelle Smith—Announced that committee still needs more homes for the Home Tour, specifically large, show-piece homes for the 30th anniversary of Home Tour.

Promotions (Brenda)

FNA won Spirit Award from the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods.

Finance (Jane)

Approx. \$65,000 balance in checking and CD. No large expenses in near future. Holiday party totals: \$1,346 ticket sales, \$1,515.86 expenses and \$532.19 silent auction proceeds. Proceeds to Neighborhood Library

Presentation: Police and Code Compliance Report.

Officer Stary—Presentation on crime activity during 2011 and recent incidents. Discussion of increases in burglaries in the area, specifically an increase in burglaries to garages and how to prevent these problems. Overview of statistics regarding number of crimes involving a home, building, or vehicle that was left unlocked. During the last three weeks FWPD has greatly increased patrols in the area as a result of recent criminal activity. **Allison Letnes**—Graffiti Abatement Program. Dec.-March is most active time for graffiti tagging. Discussed use of MyFortWorth App for smartphones and encouraged use along with traditional notification methods.

Oscar Reyes—Code Compliance. Discussed his job and provided contact information.

Adjournment: 8:42

FNA Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 6, 2012

Call to Order: 7:04

Directors Present: Sean, Brenda, Ashley, Tyler, Jane, Geri, Sue, Jason, Chelsea

Ex Officio: Mickey, Patti

Old Business

Insurance—It is time to renew the insurance policy for the FNA. Cost is approximately \$800, with the discount from participation in the Land Trust Alliance.

Trees for De Zavala Elementary. Presentation by Serena Keeler. De Zavala has constructed walking trail and plans to install fitness benches around the school and playground. School approached Serena about FNA donating trees and watering services to put trees around the playground and the school. FNA's commitment would be approximately \$2,000 and would go toward watering planted trees. Discussion of watering services used for Allen Avenue and alternative watering options. Motion made by Jason to preliminarily approve proposal and allow presentation to general membership pending more information about watering services, Jane seconded, motion approved. Serena is going to research alternative watering services and update the board.

Reports of Officers

Home Tour (Chelsea)

Home Tour preparations going well. Still need volunteer to serve as coordinator for workers and volunteers. Committee is in the process of choosing homes for participation on the tour.

Historic Preservation (Sue)

Curb numbers—Ray Feyen is waiting for new construction and repair of streets and sidewalks to be completed before starting more curb painting.

Victorian Inn—Application for demolition will be heard by HCLC.

1824 Adams—City code deemed it a collapse hazard and demolition has been applied for, recycling as much as possible into a new, similar house at this location.

2224 5th—Request for demolition of outbuilding behind home. City staff has recommended denial.

1514 College—Application for new construction on HCLC agenda.

Membership (Ashley)

Block captain meeting Feb. 18 at Paul's Donuts. Ashley requested ideas about what roles the Block captain program can play in the neighborhood. Working on signs for the new meeting location. Membership renewals are up. Received approximately 200 renewals to date.

Promotions (Brenda)

Daggett Middle School—Team FOO volunteers are spending next three days participating in Challenge Day at Daggett Middle School. Discussion of awards deadlines and ceremonies. Cowtown Marathon preparations are going well. Discussion of cleanup and decoration in preparation for the race. March mid-monthly social will be at Jason Amon's office.

Safety (Gerri)

Citizens on Patrol class: Feb. 18, 8-4

Administration (Tyler White)

No report.

Finance (Jane)

\$61,769.74 balance in checking and CD. Our collection of dues is ahead of last year's schedule.

Discussion of tax issues related to community garden.

Infrastructure (Jason)

Tree planting project is active and going well. Discussion of random work by the City on sidewalks and curbs.

Cleanup of Cowtown Marathon route and Fairmount Park tentatively scheduled for Feb. 18, 2012. Traffic Calming Committee would like to request

bike lanes on portions of Fairmount and Allen Avenue. Ashley makes motion to allow committee to discuss bike lane proposal with general membership, Jane seconds, one abstaining member, motion approved.

New Business

Award recognition at city council meeting. Feb. 7, 2012 at 6:30 p.m..

Fallen tree in Allen Avenue green space. FNA will need to clean this up prior to Home Tour. Committee meetings. All committee meetings need to be on the calendar going forward, and all committees need to maintain minutes for each meeting. Discussion of what meetings require minutes and whether committee minutes should be posted online.

Motion to adjourn made by Jane, seconded by Jason, and vote approved.

Adjournment: 8:13



Photo by Stacy Luecker

Kelly Bowden, right, gets her hair blown out and styled during the February Fairmount Social at CUT Hair Salon. Socials are a monthly event held by the Fairmount Neighborhood Association to promote awareness of local businesses and encourage neighbor participation.



Photo by Eric Luecker

Fairmount residents catch up on conversation while enjoying tacos and wine.

CUTting up part of fun at FNA social

by Kelly Bowden

It was truly a hair raising event as Fairmount neighbors gathered at CUT Hair Salon Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Anthony Reale, owner of CUT Salon, and his staff, welcomed anyone who wished to have their hair blown out and styled a chance to be pampered.

The salon paid for delectable carnitas and carne asada tacos to be provided by The Bastion. Chef Chandra Riccetti happily served to the neighbors.

We hope you will join us for our next social Thursday, March 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at The Law Office of Jason Amon, 1244 College Avenue.



Photo by Eric Luecker

Chef Chandra Riccetti, left, owner of The Bastion restaurant, serves tacos to Sheila Portwood.

Retirement May Be Far Off, But the April 17 Deadline for IRA Contributions Isn't.

You have only so many years to prepare for retirement. That's why contributing to your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is so important. Fortunately, you still have time to maximize your 2011 IRA contribution before the April 17 deadline.

By contributing now, your retirement savings can have more opportunity to grow. Even if you already have an IRA elsewhere, it's easy to transfer it to an Edward Jones IRA and begin receiving the face-to-face guidance you deserve.

To learn more about the advantages of an Edward Jones IRA, call or visit today.



Bruce C Border, CFP®
Financial Advisor

2453 Forest Park Boulevard
Ft Worth, TX 76110
817-926-8056

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

FREE ESTIMATES



Jerry D. Chavira (817) 249-4766 Mobile 269-5608
www.jdchavirahomeremodeling.com

911WildLife



Uninvited House Guests?

Fast ~ Affordable ~ Humane ~ 10-Year Guarantee

www.911wildlife.com

Fort Worth (817) 737-0911 Dallas (214) 368-5911

Angie's List Super Service Award Winner



FDIC

You'll find

more

great rates, low fees
friendly, responsive service
quick approvals

Community
CM Mortgage

More than you ever expected.

Just visit your Fairmount neighbor,
Vice President Jana Haynes
817-426-7917, or cell 817-991-7064
jhaynes@communitybank-tx.com
1300 South University Dr., Suite 100
www.communitybank-tx.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 25..... Block captain meeting
- Feb. 26.....Pancakes in the Park and the Cowtown Marathon
- Feb. 28..... (Fourth Tuesday) Fairmount Neighborhood Association general meeting
- March 2 (First Friday) Buddy's Big Band at Southside Preservation Hall
- March 5 (First Monday) FNA Board Meeting
- March 5Newsletter submission deadline (moved up due to Spring Break)
- March 8Historic Preservation Committee meeting
- March 10 (Second Saturday) Fairmount Community Garden work day
- March 11Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 12 (Second Monday) Landmarks hearing
- March 17 St. Patrick's Day
- March 19 (Third Monday) Bulk trash collection
- March 19 (Third Monday) Landmarks filing deadline (5 p.m.)
- March 27 ... (Fourth Tuesday) Fairmount Neighborhood Association general meeting
- April 2 (First Monday) FNA Board Meeting
- April 10Newsletter submission deadline
- April 14Fairmount Yard Sale



Historic Plaques Available

Is your home a contributing structure in Fairmount? Check the Fairmount website at www.Historic-Fairmount.com to find out. If so, then why not show it off proudly with a bronze plaque? Plaques are \$145 each.

Contact Sue McLean
preservation@historicfairmount.com



Associates
of Internal
Medicine

AIM for your health



Pavani Bellary, DO



Niraj Mehta, DO



Morvarid Rezaie, DO

Our Board certified physicians are home grown right here in Fort Worth. They graduated from University of North Texas Health Science Center-TCOM and trained at Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth. Now, our physicians want to take care of you - right here in your own neighborhood.

2260 College Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76110

TEL 817-870-DOCS (3627)

FAX 817-870-3636

www.associatesofinternalmedicine.com



ALEXANDERCHANDLER
REALTY

Julie Mathis
Realtor
Mobile: 817.994.9937
julie@alexanderchandler.com

Office: 817.806.4100
Fax: 817.806.4110
2550 River Park Plaza, Suite 100
Fort Worth, TX 76116
www.AlexanderChandler.com

Free Market Analysis

What is your home worth?

Do you want to know how much homes in your neighborhood are selling for? Sign up on my website for a free, no obligation market analysis.

www.sellmyhistorichome.com

Lori Gallagher
The Helen Painter Group, Realtors
817.475.5117 (cell)



Judy Garza Plumbing
Master no. 14707

*Reasonable rates • Senior discounts
Prompt service*

Phone 817.495.3406
We accept all major credit cards.

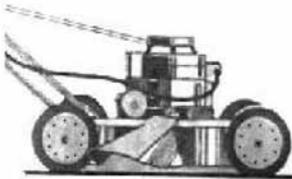


Patti Randle, CPA, P.C.
1208 W. Magnolia Ave., Suite 228
Fort Worth, TX 76107

817.569.9881 • fax: 817.569.9885

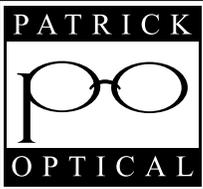
Bruce Edwards Lawn Care
Cell 817-566-4343 /Home 817-924-8448

I Live in Fairmount



Trustworthy, Reliable Service
Reasonable Rates

\$ 28 for most yards in
Fairmount



Patrick Optical

Mickey Bradley
ABOC
Registered Optician

6551 Harris Parkway, Suite 205
817.370.6118
www.patrickoptical.net

Banking Made Easy
Corner of Hemphill and Magnolia
817-927-7730

SOUTHSIDE BANK
Member FDIC
www.southside.com

urbanyOGA
YOGA

NIA
BARRE

urbanyOGAfw.com
1706 8th avenue, fort worth
817-908-flow

urbanyOGA

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY!

BUDDY'S BIG BAND

Dance to the music of the 30s and 40s in our smoke-free ballroom.

Ticket prices: Individual tickets are \$12.50 at the door, or for parties of 10 or more reserve a table for \$15 per person. Tables must be reserved prior to the event and can be made Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m at Southside Preservation Hall or by calling 817-926-2800.

www.SouthsidePreservation.com

1519 Lipscomb St.

Proceeds benefit the on-going restoration of Southside Preservation Hall and the Rose Chapel.




Fort Worth City Contacts

Animal Services	817.392.7297
City Council.....	817.392.6193
City Councilperson Joel Burns	817.392.8890
district9@fortworthtexas.gov	
Code Officer Oscar Reyes.....	817.879.4230
Oscar.Reyes@fortworthtexas.gov	
Fort Worth Police Department	
<i>Non-emergency</i>	817.335.4222
NPO Joel Stary	817.944.1316
Joel.Stary@fortworthtexas.gov	
Garbage info/illegal dumping	817.392.EASY
Graffiti.....	817.212.2700
Historic Preservation (<i>Planning</i>)	
Liz Casso	817.392.8012
Liz.Casso@fortworthtexas.gov	
Potholes.....	817.392.8100
Streetlight Outages.....	817.392.7595
www.fortworthtexas.gov/applications/tpwcrf	
Fort Worth Public Library	817.871.READ

JOIN the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Why join?

- Get the newsletter delivered to your doorstep 11 times a year.
- Know what's going on in Fairmount and the city that will affect you and your property.
- Meet old and new friends at members-only parties.

Annual dues are \$15 per individual. \$20 per family or \$20 per business.

Fill out this form and (1) send it with your dues to Fairmount Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 12348, Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348 or (2) bring it to the next Association meeting (see meeting notice on front page). Questions? Call Ashley Paz at 817.965.1253 or e-mail membership@historicfairmount.com.

Name:

Address:

Phone:e-mail:

Occupation:

I am a new renewing member (check one)

I have lived in Fairmount years.

Individual (\$15) Family (\$20)

Business (\$20) Friend of Fairmount (\$15)

Advertise in the Fairmount Newsletter

Contact the Fairmount director of communications at fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com. Items must be received by the **tenth** day of the month.

Monthly Rates

Classified Ad Give-a-Ways.....	Free
Classified Ad For Sale Items.....	\$5
Business Card Ad.....	\$10
1/4 Page Ad.....	\$25
1/2 Page Ad.....	\$50
Full Page Ad	\$100

Yearly (11 months) Advertiser Rates

Pay for your ad a year in advance and get one month FREE.

Business Card Ad.....	\$100
1/4 Page Ad.....	\$250
1/2 Page Ad.....	\$500
Full Page Ad	\$1000

The Fairmount newsletter is published 11 times a year (*Dec./Jan. issues are combined*) and distributed the weekend prior to the fourth Tuesday of each month.