

# FAIRMOUNT

HISTORIC  DISTRICT

A monthly publication of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Volume 28, Issue 7

## RAPIDS PROGRAM COMING TO FAIRMOUNT

Don't miss the July 28th Association meeting for a special gift to take home with you. Guest speaker Eartha Pitre from the Fort Worth Police Departments Crime prevention office, will be demonstrating the latest crime fighting tool RAPIDS (Recovered Auto Parts ID System).

RAPIDS is a property-marking program from the Fort Worth Police Department. It is designed to aid in the prevention of burglary thefts and assist in recovery of stolen property. The identification number is encoded into a barcode format and printed on a small label. The innocuous barcode labels will contain either the property owner's driver's license number or vehicle VIN. These labels are difficult to remove once placed on property. If property is found with the RAPIDS label, it can be scanned and traced back to its owner.



Labels will be made on the spot by just scanning your driver's license at the Fairmount meeting. Your license number will not appear on the label, just as a bar code. Attaching these innocent-looking bar codes to the backs of TVs, DVRs, lawn mowers, stereos, or just about anything, can help recover stolen property.

## PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

The FNA bylaws committee has proposed the following changes to the FNA bylaws to be voted on by the membership at the July 28 meeting:

1. Move the following areas of responsibility from the Director of Promotions to the Director of Historic Preservation:
  - Keep a scrapbook of the history of the Fairmount Neighborhood and make research available upon request.
  - Be responsible for maintaining research into the history of the Fairmount Neighborhood and its houses.

The committee feels this is no longer reflective of the Director of Promotions and belongs with the Director of Historic Preservation.

2. Move the following area of responsibility from the Director of Infrastructure to the Director of Promotions:
  - Act as a liaison to neighborhood businesses.

We feel that the relationships with local businesses is more in line with Promotions as Infrastructure deals more with things within the defined area of Fairmount and most of the businesses are outside the defined areas. In addition, the relationship makes more sense with Promotions as the relationship would likely revolve around donations or other support to the neighborhood which Infrastructure doesn't really deal with.

## August 2009

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## FAIRMOUNT ASSOCIATION MEETING



Tuesday

July 28

7:00 p.m. at

Hemphill

Presbyterian

Church



Program:

Bar Codes (see article  
this page)



Bring your  
neighbor!

## Fairmount Neighborhood Association

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VillaZora@aol.com

## HISTORIC PLAQUES AVAILABLE

Is your home a contributing structure in Fairmount? If so, then why not show it off proudly with a Bronze Plaque? These lovely plaques are available for \$100.00. Please contact Sue McLean, Director of Historic Preservation, at 817.924.6100, or by email at [preservation@historicfairmount.com](mailto:preservation@historicfairmount.com). The Plaques are out of stock, but we plan to order more soon.



## A FAIRMOUNT FOURTH

Fairmount's annual parade coincides with Home Tour in May, so we headed south to help Ryan Place celebrate Independence Day.



# First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, Hemphill Campus

1701 Hemphill Street 817-924-2607

## the six o eight service

'and what does the Lord  
require of you  
but to do justice,  
and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly  
with your God?'

micah 6.8

Join the members of First Presbyterian Church as we begin a worship service at our Hemphill campus on **Sundays at 6:08 p.m.**

The time invites spiritual depth and missional response in our life of faith as written in Micah 6:8.

The service will be informal, incorporating the arts and global music, a variety of methods of proclamation and an emphasis on inclusion and participation.



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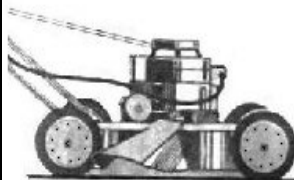
Craig Nicholson, RPh  
Monique Nicholson, RPh

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## THE FAIRMOUNT BEAT

Neighborhood Patrol Officer Joel Stary

817.944.1316 (c), 817.871.8885 (o),

Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org



June was a very good month as far as crime is concerned in our area. Patrol Officers have done a great job on responding quickly and either catching the actors and giving them a ride to jail or obtaining specific suspect information, which leads to arrests of actors. Summertime is a very busy time for homeowners. Many of us have work done on or around the house (remodeling, lawn work, etc.). As I drive around the neighborhood, I see that there is always some type of work going on. If you are having work done on your home or in your neighborhood, please be aware of who is doing the work and whether or not they are doing what they were paid to do. If possible, always schedule work to be done while you are able to be at home and monitoring your contractors. If you cannot be home when the work is to be done, let a neighbor know who will be at your home, what time they will be there and what work they are supposed to be completing. Work with contractors you trust and always be aware of your surroundings. Never hesitate to call 911 if you feel something/someone is suspicious and please be available to Officers to discuss what you have witnessed. Until next month...be safe today and safer tomorrow!



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## FNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES—JULY 6, 2009

Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes of the last meeting** – 7:00 – 7:05

**Sean and Sara Lynch** – Fairmount Members Happy Hour. Rotate a happy hour for residents at local restaurants, bars or homes once a month.

**Directors' Reports** - 7:05 – 7:25

- **Director of Infrastructure – Robert.** Street light update. Ordered two speed bumps for Fairmount and Lipscomb. Adopt Allen update.
- **Director of Administration – Serena.** Looking into park sign and trashcans for Fairmount Park.
- **Director of Historic Preservation – Sue.** Cases on agenda: Joe Frank building house at 1958 Lipscomb. Same style as one on 2200 block of 6th Avenue. 2240 College garage apartment request. 2112 College request. Request to demolish Tiny Mart and request for the proposed house that will go there. A couple of cases expected to be on the agenda but are not. Need better consistency from the city staff on overseeing our historic guidelines. Discussed ways to use code more to enforce violations of Landmarks decisions.

**Director of Public Safety – David.** Moving along on National Night Out. New flag brackets update. David, what do you call these labels? Labels are coming for July meeting. The Mayor has challenged neighborhoods to increase the COP program.

- **Director of Communication – John.** Please send out group email with your contact information instead of John's. Constant contact list needs to be uploaded.

**Old Business** – 7:25-7:40

- Drug Free/Gun Free Zone signs. Patti has determined that FWISD is responsible for signs. Moving forward on contacting FWISD.
- Sports Bar on Hemphill was approved but cannot operate past midnight.
- Nominating committee meeting next week.
- 1900 5th Avenue is now in a process of appeal to the State Supreme Court.

**New Business** – 7:40 – 8:20

- TAD group protest update- Rodney Wade has come up with a list that shows the average valuation per square foot for Fairmount properties. Rentals are consistently taxed at a much lower rate. Discussion of approaching TAD to move to taxation based on a per square foot basis.
- South Side Preservation Hall needs parking. Properties behind the hall are for sale. Asking FNA for support. Board approved a motion to write a letter of support with the stipulation of landscaping requirements.
- Fall Festival – Penny, Sara & Sean want to create a fall festival with the goal of outreaching to all residents within the neighborhood. Bounce houses, band, First Friday type event for the neighborhood. Board recommends combining efforts with National Night Out.

Adjournment 8:55

Reported by Serena Keeler, Director of Administration

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## **FNA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES—JUNE 23, 2009**

**Call to Order** - Patti Randle 7:00 – 7:05

**Safety & Cleanup** 7:10 – 7:30

- **New NPO - Officer Joel Stary.** He would like to see more of us join the COP program. His cell is 817-944-1316 and email is joel.stary@fortworthgov.org.
- Code Compliance Officer Oscar Reyes – will be on a special leave for three months. **Rebecca Leal, 817-269-6225**, will take his place.
- Of special note: any door vendor who knocks on your door must have permit card issued from the city. Ask to see it.
- Illegal dumping update given by Officer Phillip Van Horn. If you see someone dumping call 911. Fine is \$1100 to \$2000. Tire dumping is big right now. Get as much information as you can like the license plate, car color, description of person. Roofing, tiles, bags, any illegal dumping or chronic hot spots, please call Phillip at 817-944-6943 or phillip.vanhorn@fortworthgov.org.

**Program:** Beth Knight, Senior Planner, City of Fort Worth Planning Department 7:30 - 8:00

- Background information: Fairmount currently has several types of zoning. Our historic overlay protects us to some degree from development we may not want but it may not protect us enough. In the past, a Fairmount committee was formed and recommended to council a special single family zoning with a secondary dwelling option. Other neighborhoods in Fort Worth were not supportive for fear developers/homeowners might use this zoning as a loophole to develop unwanted granny flats and rentals in their neighborhoods.
- As a neighborhood, we need to decide if we want granny flats or not. If we do, Beth's recommendation for Fairmount would be to create a special PD (planned development) zoning district for Fairmount. It would be exclusive to Fairmount. Under a PD overlay we would write our own zoning. We could borrow some of the ideas recommended in the past such as, a granny flat would need to be a detached unit. It could not be more than 30% the size of the main dwelling. There would need to be a parking spot for everyone. No paving over front yards for parking. Off the alley access is a possibility. Once we decide what we want we could then request a council initiated zoning change.

**Reports from Directors:** 8:00 – 8:05

- **Chewy Redding, Finance Income** - \$17,775.68 Balance - \$41,704.01
- **Serena Keeler, Administration-** block captain and welcome packet update.

**Old Business:** 8:05 – 8:10

- **Fred Harper**, President Emeritus- 1900 Fifth last appeal. Waiting to see if going to Texas supreme court (update: the owner has since filed a petition for review in the Supreme Court of Texas).
- Nominating Committee is meeting once a month to find members to serve on the board. Four positions are available. They are President, Promotions, Infrastructure, and Membership.
- **Geri Cotten-** July 18 next Citizens on Patrol (COPs) training. Police cannot just stop and ask someone what they are doing, but they can if we call it in!

**New Business** 8:10 – 8:20

- Community Collaboration Award – City of Fort Worth

**Door Prizes – Jerry Hawkins** 8:20 – 8:30

**Adjournment** – 8:30 pm



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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Though the 2009 Board of Directors' election is not for another month, I want you all to start thinking about the responsibilities that you have in that process.

At the August 25th General Membership Meeting, you will elect four new members to your Board of Directors. After the meeting you will have a new President, Director of Membership, Director of Promotions and Director of Infrastructure.

This new leadership, working with the remaining board members, will not only lead the Fairmount Neighborhood Association in the years to come but will also be our representative, the 'face of Fairmount', to other organizations and neighborhoods as well as to the City.

Your vote for these new officers is important, and afterwards your support, involvement and encouragement are just as important.

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association has achieved many successes in the past, and now we look to the future. I challenge the incoming and the remaining board members to build on that foundation. Current committees expire on August 31. The incoming President will appoint new committee chairs and the Board of Directors will appoint members to those committees. I encourage the new board to form committees that will work diligently, thoughtfully, and respectfully to continue the progress. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact one of the board members to express your interest.

I also challenge each member of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association to help. Your ideas in the past have led to some of our great accomplishments; please continue to share your ideas with your leadership. Your willingness to pitch in on projects, whether it is small as a neighborhood cleanup or big as Home Tour, has been the key element to success; please continue to pitch in. Your friendly greetings to new neighbors have brought a lot of new neighbors into the Fairmount Neighborhood Association and from there we have found many new volunteers for projects, committees, and leadership roles.

All of these things are what make Fairmount a great place to live.

I will continue to work for Fairmount, serving on the Advisory Board. As much as has been done over the last few decades, there is still more to accomplish. Thank you all for your support over the last two years. I still have the honor of serving as your president for one more month. See you at the July 28th meeting!

Patti Randle

## YARD OF THE MONTH

Yard of the month is on vacation! It will return next month when (hopefully) the hottest air leaves and the rain comes back.





  
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 1100 Block of Lipscomb  
 (between Rosedale & Magnolia)  





**STREET LIGHT INSTALLATION**

The City has scheduled the installation of thirty-five more historic street lights—paid for by Fairmount Home Tour revenue! We need to make sure the City installs the lights in the right locations. If you see a crew working on the lights (running subsurface cables and setting round concrete forms for the bases are the first steps), please notify our Director of Infrastructure, Robert Wedding, at 817.975.8040 or [VillaZora@aol.com](mailto:VillaZora@aol.com).



**ADOPT A HOMELESS KITTEN!**

Since its launch in 2003, the Fairmount Trap Neuter Return program has neutered more than 600 cats. This has helped to reduce significantly, but not eliminate, the number of litters born each year. So, we have a variety of kittens needing homes, some male, some female, some cute, some ugly. Spay/neuter and rabies shots will be provided by the Fairmount Program for those that are adopted. Contact Diana Koch at 817-988-7179 or [Diana-koch@excite.com](mailto:Diana-koch@excite.com) if you are interested in giving one of them a home.

  
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*Many Thanks to Ralph Watterson of Old Home Supply for his unwavering support of TNL*

## OUTSIDE YOUR OLD HOUSE

We're moving into the dog days of summer. It may only have been 102° but with the Heat Index it felt like 108°. There are only two jobs that are consistent this time of year: water, water, water and mulch, mulch, mulch. If you bag your grass clippings, dump them on your garden beds. If you don't, buy shredded pine bark or hardwood mulch. Add some extra nitrogen fertilizer to offset what the mulch uses as it breaks down and put up to 3 inches of mulch in your garden beds. Planting or transplanting this time of year is iffy. It can be done but will take lots of extra care—and Medina Plus daily on roots and leaves.

If your tomatoes have hit the summer doldrums, you've got a couple of choices. In past years, I've found that fall vegetables are slim pickings in the nurseries and had some decent luck cutting my tomatoes back to just above the first good joint (6" to 12" depending on the plant) and keeping them watered. A couple of years ago I had tomatoes thru the first two frosts.

Many of your perennials will continue to bloom thru until frost if you'll be consistent with deadheading: coneflower, canna, plumbago, scabiosa, crape myrtle, agastache and salvia are among them. They look a little peaked right now but keep deadheading and watering and they'll give you a great show when the weather cools.

Prepare your vegetable beds for fall—broccoli and cauliflower, brussel sprouts and many of the lettuces do better in the fall than the spring. Start your seed by the first of August. I'm pretty underwhelmed with the seed selection at Lowe's and Home Depot so I go back to my Burpees and Park catalogs and read the harvest information to choose my seed. If you can harvest before Thanksgiving, you can plant it here.

—Submitted by Susan Harper



**RECYCLING PROGRAM**

Earn cash for Fairmount Neighborhood Association by recycling your old cell phones, inkjet and laser cartridges, iPods and PDAs. Please bring these items to the Neighborhood meeting and drop them into the Cartridges for Kids box. We will also recycle your burned-out compact fluorescent light bulbs and dead AA, C, and D-cell batteries for you; just bring them to the next meeting.



Citizens on Patrol is a cooperative effort between citizens & Fort Worth Police to reduce crime. For information, call the Fairmount coordinators:

- Sue McLean 817-924-6100**
- Geri Cotton 817-926-6507**
- David Thrapp 817-923-4807**
- FMCops@att.net.**



**FAIRMOUNT CALENDAR**

- July 28 FNA General Meeting, 7:00 pm (see p.. 1)
- August 3 FNA Board meeting, 7:00 pm
- August 7 First Friday on the Green free concert (see p. 9)
- August 10 Landmarks Commission hearing
- August 17 Deadline for submissions for September 14 Landmarks hearing
- August 25 FNA General Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Sept 4 First Friday on the Green free concert
- Sept 7 FNA Board meeting, 7:00 pm

**FORT WORTH CITY CONTACTS**



- Animal Services ..... 817.392.3737
- City Council ..... 817.392.6193
- City Councilperson on Joel Burns ..... 817.392.8890  
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- 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 or email Paul Holt at 817.291.7296, [Paulholtfairmount@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Paulholtfairmount@sbcglobal.net).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a \_\_\_new \_\_\_renewing member (check one)

I have lived in Fairmount for \_\_\_ years.

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

*Membership has its privileges—just ask your neighbor!*

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