

# FAIRMOUNT

## HISTORIC DISTRICT

A monthly publication of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Volume 28, Issue 6

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association has been honored by the City of Fort Worth and the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods with the Community Collaboration Award. The award was presented to Fairmount at the 2008 Neighborhood Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 4, 2009. We are proud to have received this award, following on the heels of last year's Fort Worth Pride Award.

The Community Collaboration Award is presented to the neighborhood exhibiting cooperation with other neighborhoods and City Staff and Departments and was presented to us for the collaboration that culminates in our Annual Fairmount Tour of Historic Homes.

Fred Harper, our past president, put together the information that earned us this award. After three years as our president, he deserves a long rest. But instead, he continues to work for our neighborhood and the City of Fort Worth. Did you know he is now a member of the Appeals Board, which hears appeals from both the Building Standards Commission and the Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission?

Wendy Davis, our newly elected State Senator, spoke at the awards ceremony. She reminded us how important our neighborhoods' involvement is to the City and the State. Mayor Mike Moncrief also told us, as we were honored at the June 2 City Council meeting, that the neighborhoods are the backbone of the city, just as small businesses are the backbone of our national economy.

I am excited to see that more new residents of Fairmount are volunteering to serve on the FNA board of directors or on committees. Fairmount has one of the most proactive neighborhood associations in the city, and as a result we are well respected in the civic community. That provides us with not only more opportunities to make a difference but also more chances to improve our neighborhood and our city.

I have always thought that the leadership of a nation, a city, or a company sets the tone for that entity's attitude and success. And while that may be true, I have learned in working with our wonderful neighborhood and our amazing city that it is the individuals collectively and collaboratively that truly make the difference. Over and over I see that volunteerism is alive and well in our city and our neighborhood. Even after working all day and all week, you raise your hands to volunteer for unpaid work that matters to our quality of life.

The awards we win get us recognition that extends beyond Fairmount. But each one of you who helps clean up a block, organizes a parade or a block party, volunteers for a committee, comes to the neighborhood meetings, or greets new neighbors and makes them feel welcome already knows what collaboration and community is really about.

So to all the Fairmount neighbors: this Community Collaboration Award is for YOU! Thank you for everything you do. I am honored to be a part of it all.

—Patti Randle, President

### July 2009

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#### FAIRMOUNT ASSOCIATION MEETING



Tuesday  
June 22  
7:00 p.m. at  
Hemphill  
Presbyterian  
Church



Program:  
Zoning 101



Bring your  
neighbor!



What does the Fairmount Neighborhood Association do to make Fairmount a better place to live? Look inside to find out!



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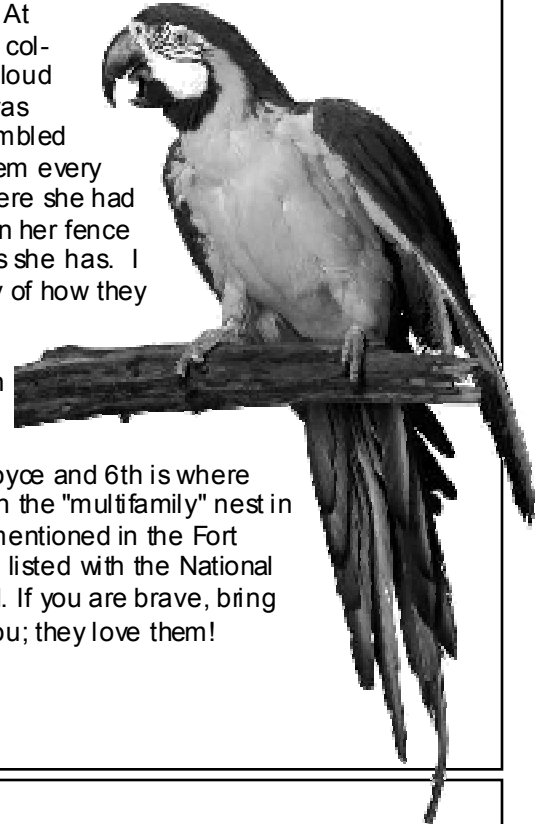
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**Home Tour**

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**(PARROT) PARADISE FOUND**

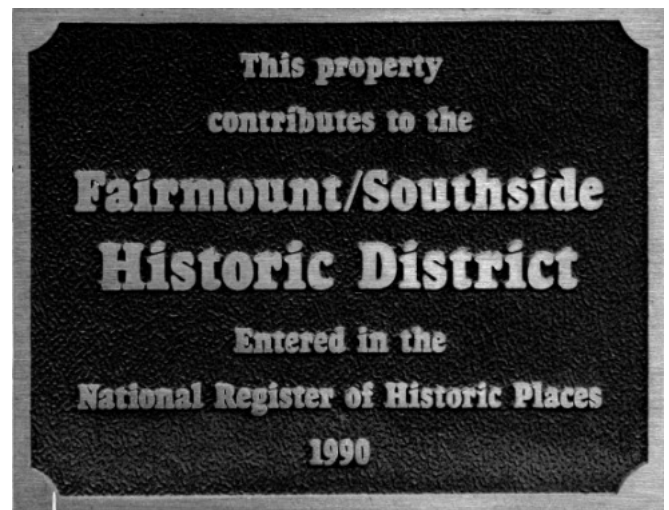
Not too far from Fairmount is a site to behold. At the corner of 6th Avenue Boyce is an amazing colony of Quaker parrots. These parrots are very loud and colorful, and their nests are enormous. I was looking for a house for sale and accidentally stumbled upon these. The lady that lives there feeds them every morning and night. The first time I came by there she had just fed them, and there were about 25 birds on her fence eating out of the numerous homemade feeders she has. I knocked on her door and she told me the story of how they came to be. I have taken several people from Fairmount over to see the sight, and it really is amazing. The best time to see them is early in the morning around 8:30 to 9:00 am. It is simple to find: from Seminary Drive, go south on 6th Avenue about 3 blocks. At the corner of Boyce and 6th is where the birds live. You cannot miss the big tree with the "multifamily" nest in them—and it is all free. This place has been mentioned in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram several times and is also listed with the National Audubon Society. You will not be disappointed. If you are brave, bring some sunflower seeds or cut up apples with you; they love them!



—Submitted by Jerry Hawkins

**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. We currently have plaques in stock.



Although restoring my old windows is easier than I thought, I did manage to break the corners off one pane. Because it was fairly large, there is an 18 X 30" piece that could be salvaged from it if you can use it. If so, give me a call to come get it. Susan Harper, 817-721-7223.

# 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

**On May 31**, 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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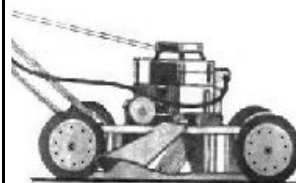
Craig Nicholson, RPh

Monique Nicholson, RPh

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### FAIRMOUNT COPS



On occasion you may have seen some of your neighbors driving around really slow and wondered what those nosey people are up too. The vehicles with "Fairmount Citizen Patrol" logo on the sides are watching out for criminal activity. All the others are just admiring your cool historic house.

Fairmount has a group of volunteers (COP's) that have taken special training classes to be on the alert for criminal activity. They carry police radios and are the extra eyes for the Ft. Worth Police. COP's are never allowed to carry guns or interact with any criminals. Members just report what they see, and are also notified by their Neighborhood Patrol Officer of problem areas or events in the neighborhood. Members also report street lights out for repair and receive monthly neighborhood crime stats.

The next 8 hour training class for Citizens on patrol will be Saturday July 18 at the Fort Worth Police Academy. If you have an interest in fighting crime in Fairmount, please contact David Thrapp 817-734-3403 [thrappville@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thrappville@sbcglobal.net) to enroll in the next class. The classes are held 4 times a year if you cannot make this one.

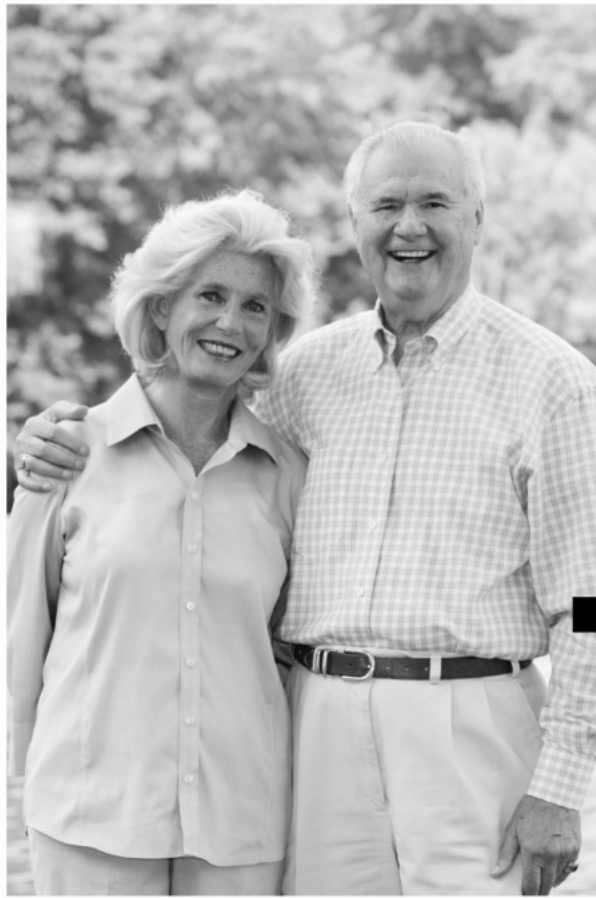
Hi Fairmount Neighbors,  
This year, I'll be participating in a very special event called the Breast Cancer 3-Day.

I'll walk 60 miles over the course of three days with thousands of other women and men. The net proceeds will support breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment through Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund.

I've agreed to raise at least \$2,300.00 in donations. I know I can raise even more than that, and have set my personal goal at \$3,000.00. So I need your help. Would you please consider making a donation? You can donate online at <http://www.the3day.org/>. Just click on Donate Now and search for my personal fundraising page. Or you can also call 800.996.3DAY to donate over the phone.

According to Susan G. Komen for the Cure, more than 200,000 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and nearly 40,000 will die from the disease. That's why I'm walking so far. To do something bold about breast cancer. I hope that you'll share this incredible adventure with me by supporting me in my fundraising efforts.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!  
Sincerely,  
Rebecca Guttery



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**JUNE YARD OF THE MONTH –  
2212 FAIRMOUNT**

Our choice for July yard of the month is the landscape of the delightful Mission-style bungalow home of Terry Stebens and Rich Pendergast. The oppressive summer heat always makes a tree shaded yard seem so welcoming.

The wide front walkway is lined with mounds of soft green Lambs Ear and Sedums. Encore Azaleas front the porch, anchored on one end by a Purple Fringe Plant and on the other by a Chinese Maple. A concrete Rabbit beneath the Chinese Maple adds a touch of whimsy. Nandina shrubs, masses of Day Lilies in Magenta and lovely Marigolds fill the area between the driveway and the house. Impatiens, scattered throughout the landscape, provide colorful blooms.

The step walls leading up to the porch are decorated with large planters overflowing with Sweet Potato Vine, Coleus, and Geraniums, while Caladiums and Asparagus Fern fill the planter next to the front door. A pair of pots filled with Impatiens and Ivy decorates the porch which is comfortably furnished with a primitive style wood bench and wicker chair and table.

Terry and Rich will receive a \$25 gift certificate, courtesy of CC's Touch of Nature. If you see a yard that you believe should be considered for Yard of the Month, please let me know. Diana Koch (diana-koch@excite.com) or 817-988-7079.



**The Association's Trap, Neuter & Release program has neutered over 500 feral cats (& counting), and we have sponsored five other neighborhoods in starting their own TNR programs.**



**Patti Randle, CPA, P.C.**

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## FNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES—JUNE 1, 2009

Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

### **Directors' Reports - 7:00-8:00**

- Director of Finance – Chewy. Net income \$17,350.68. Total in banking account: \$44,823.60. HT audit will happen in July.
- Director of Administration – Serena. First Block Captain meeting. Organizing what should go into welcome packets. City weatherization presenter scheduled for the June meeting. Working with the Parks Department to get a sign posted with the park hours for Fairmount Park.
- Director of Historic Preservation – Sue. Small agenda for landmarks. City is proposing zoning ordinance changes that will affect historic districts. Historic Preservation meeting this week.
- Director of Promotions – Jerry. No report.
- Director of Public Safety – David. Oct 6, 2009 National Night out. July meeting bar codes for identifying valuables. 6 new flag brackets on order.
- Director of Communication – John. Membership list not updated since February. Folks are not getting their newsletter. Putting membership list on an on-line storage site. It will have secure inscription that key directors will have access to. This will allow membership to be kept up to date.
- President Emeritus - Fred. Looking into cost of computer cameras to help identify graffiti "artist" and vandals. Neighborhood needs to keep calling stuff in to generate crime reports. We cannot expect changes without documented crime reports.

### **Old Business – 8:00-8:10**

- Gun/drug free zones around schools working on with Joel Bums.

### **New Business – 8:10 – 8:30**

- Upcoming League of Neighborhoods awards.
- Committee list updated and reviewed.
- Nominating Committee moving forward.
- New "sports" bar 2825 Hemphill applying for permit. FNA is writing letter in protest.

Adjournment 8:30

*Reported by Serena Keeler, Director of Administration*



**"Santa in the Greenspace" brings St. Nick to the heart of Fairmount and the hearts of Fairmount's kids—who don't have to wait in hours-long lines at the mall to sit in Santa's lap!**

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## **FNA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES—MAY 26, 2009**

Call to Order and recognition of new members - Patti Randle 7:00 – 7:05

**Safety & Cleanup** 7:05 – 7:15

**NPO Ron Andriotto** – 17% reduction in crime in the last year in our area. Neighborhood association is making a difference. Car break-ins increase in summer. Crime goes up in the summer. Call in everything suspicious. The more the police drive through neighborhood the lower the crime rate. Citizens keeping an eye on things really makes a difference. Invite new police chief to your meeting. You will really like him. Get on his schedule. Ron will no longer be our NPO but he is still available. He will be moving over to training. His email will remain the same. Look for his new phone number in the newsletter. Change over will happen in next few weeks.

Code Compliance Officer Oscar Reyes not present

Lynda brought her recycling container please be green!

**Reports** 7:15 – 7:50

**Robert, Infrastructure:** New street light work order is in place. New lights should be getting installed. Let Robert know if you see any going up. Working on getting new flag brackets. Starting a sponsorship program for folks to hang flags on their block's flagpoles.

**Sue, Historic Preservation:** SOLD! On Historic Neighborhoods update. Robert, Diana, and Sue worked the table. We had a lot of people come by. Good PR for Fairmount. Historic Preservation 2 homes on the agenda. Dishes left at Wine Down contact Sue.

**Chewy, Finance:** Total from HT \$17,316.14. Still waiting for final numbers. Bank account total \$45,827.01.

**Serena, Administration:** block captain update, community garden update – land lease, improvised garden at 17126th Avenue, brochures on low interest home improvement loans through the city.

**Fred Harper:** Fairmount's Home Tour was a finalist for the neighborhood collaboration award in the Neighborhood USA contest. Fairmount competed with a 1000 other neighborhoods. Fairmount came out as a finalist. Focus was on how an association collaborates to make a neighborhood better. Ryan Place was third place in their category.

**David, Public Safety:** Attended the annual COP meeting. Fort Worth has one of the largest city COP programs. Coming to the July meeting, drivers license can be scanned to get a personalized bar code sticker to place on your valuables!

### **New and Old Business:**

**Home Tour:** Big success! Big thank yous to the homeowners who let hundreds of people into their homes! Big thank you to the HT committee, who met once a week for five months, for making this event such a success! Sara, Patti, Diana, Tabitha. Thank you to Dan Burns's committee who set up/broke down all the stuff for a job well done! And as always thank you to all who donated their time and efforts into making this another recorder setting Home Tour! Our ticket sales were up \$17,00 and our net in sales is \$14,000! Whew!

**Nominating Committee:** A nominating committee is being formed to find candidates to fill the four upcoming post. Upcoming positions: president, membership, infrastructure and promotions.

**Kevin Buchanan:** gave a quick update on street car funding, Ellabee Fine Foods, and the Old Gunns Building on Magnolia.

**Jerry, Promotions:** Wine Down recap and door prizes 7:50 – 8:00

Adjournment – 8:30 pm



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## FAIRMOUNT NAMED FINALIST IN NEIGHBORHOOD USA NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR CONTEST

Fairmount was recently awarded a Finalist award as a participant in the NUSA Neighborhood of the Year program. It was an honor that the City of Fort Worth Community Relations Department asked us to participate in the program in Spokane, Washington.

One of the more significant parts of the program was our response to their question regarding Community Collaboration and its something worth sharing if you aren't aware of all the activities that Fairmount develops and utilizes to create community collaboration.

Here's what we shared with NUSA regarding Community Collaboration:

Question:

What are the results of the project or initiative? How has it demonstrated collaboration?

- Direct results of Home Tour have funded over 200 streetlights throughout Fairmount (our cost is around \$1K per streetlight).
- It has kept the membership growing and fostered interest in our neighborhood
- It has allowed us to show off our community & our homes

But collaboration is an effort to engage as many people in your community as possible in reaching a common goal. So, the objective is really about finding common goals.

Fairmount's size and population makes that an extremely challenging task.

We are a very diverse entity – 30-40% of our residents live in rental properties. While the concept of installing period style streetlights might be interesting, its not really something that appeals to the rental property owner since they can't use it as a way to charge extra for rent. The other part of the population that we have a hard time attracting for collaboration is the approximately 50% of our population that's Hispanic. We have struggled with this for years and are still trying to reach out.

The best approach we have found so far to create opportunities for more collaboration is to use Home Tour project funds for other projects; these include:

- National Night Out – we rent a City swimming pool, add two other neighborhood groups and invite everyone to join in by bringing side dishes. The main dish is donated by Old Neighborhood Grill. Fort Worth Police, including Mounted Patrol joins. The opportunity to have a swim and be around a real live horse brought us the largest group of attendees the past two years running; this group gets us one of the target groups we are trying to reach out to – young families.
- Santa on the Green – we host kids with a real live Santa and candy at one of the neighborhood parks. Attendance has gone from less than 20 to over 60 in three years.
- Flags over Fairmount – we mount American flags on the street lights on the major thoroughfare through Fairmount during National holidays.
- Trap Neuter & Release - like most inner city communities, we have a large population of feral cats that offend the senses – both from a smell and noise standpoint - and regularly terrorize the canine natives & their owners. The most effective way to deal with these guys is a program called Trap Neuter & Release. We've trapped and treated over 500 of these cats since the program inception and trained & started the process in five other local neighborhoods.
- Arts on Fifth Avenue – in 2007, we started hosting the annual membership Christmas party at a local business that offers programs in the arts (includes instruction in dance, painting, music lessons, yoga). Any proceeds received over the cost of the party are donated to this 501(c)3 entity.

We keep coming up with new ideas and trying them out to enlarge the degree and amount of participation and collaboration; we have found that there's no one project to create collaboration within the neighborhood through single project.

Our job, as a neighborhood, is create opportunities.

Opportunities for neighbors to share, to participate and to find ideas that improve quality of life. But, most importantly, ideas that bring out the neighbor in all of us.

—Submitted by Past President Fred Harper





FNA is not a homeowner's association. We are a voluntary neighborhood association with members who are homeowners, renters, area businesses, and people who are just interested in Fairmount. Join today!

**Upcoming meetings:**

June:  
Come out to hear more about our zoning or lack there of!

July:  
Bring your driver's license to the general meeting and be one of the first to get secret coded bar code stickers to place on your valuables! You don't want to miss this!



**Coming Soon:**

A representative from the city's home improvement loan and weatherization programs.

**Zoning**

Confirm your zoning category by going to [maps.fortworthgov.org/zoning](http://maps.fortworthgov.org/zoning) and type in your address. The listing at [tad.org](http://tad.org) only shows the category under which you pay taxes, not what your legal zoning is. Even if your tax statement lists you as A-5 single family, your home may not be zoned that way. Individual properties can not be re-zoned by themselves. The city requires signatures from at least 50% of homeowners on each block. Come hear more at the next neighborhood association meeting.

**Solicitors**

Soliciting door to door, is illegal without a city permit. If you see anyone doing knocking on doors, call the non-emergency police number 817-335-4222. Let the police come out to check for a permit.



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## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT—SAVE THE DATE!

This is it! One of those big parties Fairmount is famous for. You're invited to join us for the biggest block party in the city of Ft. Worth, Tuesday October 6th, from 6pm to 10pm as we give crime in Fairmount a going away party. This event is sponsored by the Fairmount Citizens Patrol, Fairmount Neighborhood Association, and the Fort Worth Police Department.

National Night Out is held to show that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime. There will be information on how to get involved in the Fairmount Citizens Patrol, the neighborhood Crime Watch program, and other great information to help make your home safe. Plus a lot of fun for kids and adults.

Fairmount is known for one of the biggest National Night Out parties in the city. Plans are still being made so if you have a band that would like to play, a business, or group that would like to participate or sponsor, email David Thrapp at [thrappville@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thrappville@sbcglobal.net). This is your big chance to get involved and fight crime in Fairmount and meet some of the great neighbors that live in the Fairmount Southside Historic District. So turn on those porch lights and let's take a bite out of crime!



## OUTSIDE YOUR OLD HOUSE

Well, I'm pulling up the larkspur this week. They've been gorgeous since early April but they're done now. I've knocked all the ripe seeds into the beds so there will be a good crop next year. The Iris are all done too unless you have some of the new reblooming variety. Now it's time for the daylilies, the Monarda (Bee Balm), Hydrangeas (in the shade), Liatris and Coneflowers. Oh, and don't forget Garden Phlox for scent, Ageratum and Salvia for butterflies and good old fashioned antique roses for bloom all summer long. Many of your perennials like Scabiosa (Pincushion flower) will bloom until frost if you'll deadhead them regularly. And there are dozens of great new annuals out there to fill in the blank spots for color.

Chores for this month: Mulch, mulch, mulch. 3" to 6" of shredded pine bark or hardwood mulch will keep down the weeds, make the ones which do sprout easier to pull and save on water. Do yourself a favor and spend \$9.99 on a good moisture/light/ph meter. Before you turn on the sprinkler or hose, stick that in the soil and be sure you really need to water. Your flower beds will need more water than your lawn so water them separately. Your water bill will thank you—or you'll thank it, more likely.

I noticed a small web worm nest a couple of weeks ago and a couple of bag worms in a tree on my morning walk. Keep an eye out for those scourges this year. Net your fruit trees to keep more of the fruit for yourself. Grab a cup of coffee and go out and enjoy your garden! And if you're hankering for vegetables, come join us in the Community Garden!

—Submitted by Susan Harper



**"Flags Over Fairmount" decorates neighborhood light poles with American flags on patriotic holidays and during home tour. Look for them this Independence Day!**



**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**
- FMCop@att.net.**



**FAIRMOUNT CALENDAR**

- June 23 FNA General Meeting
- July 4 Independence Day—put out your flags and bunting!
- July 6 FNA Board Meeting
- July 13 Landmarks Commission meeting
- July 17-20 Bulk trash weekend—put out your bulk trash before 7:00 on Monday
- July 20 Deadline for filings for August Landmarks Commission meeting.
- July 27 FNA General Meeting

**FORT WORTH CITY CONTACTS**



- Animal Services..... 817.392.3737
- City Council ..... 817.392.6193
- City Councilperson Joel Burns..... 817.392.8890  
district9@fortworthgov.org
- Code Officer Oscar Reyes ..... 817.879.4230  
Oscar.Reyes@fortworthgov.org
- Fort Worth Police Dept. (nonemergency)... 817.335.4222  
NPO Ron Andriotto 817.991.8478  
Ronald.Andriotto@fortworthgov.org
- Garbage info/Illegal dumping ..... 817.392.EASY
- Graffiti ..... 817.212.2700
- Historic Preservation (Planning)  
Jamie Zwolak..... 817.392.8037  
James.Zwolak@fortworthgov.org
- Larry Abrigg ..... 817.392.8012  
Larry.Abrigg@fortworthgov.org
- Potholes..... 817.392.8100
- Streetlight outages ..... 817.392.7595  
<http://www.fortworthgov.org/applications/tpwcrf/>

**ADVERTISE IN THE FAIRMOUNT FLYER**

Contact John Murphy at [fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com). Items must be received by the 10th of the month.

**Monthly Rates**

Classified Ad Give-A-Ways	Free
Classified Ad For Sale Items	\$5.00
Business Card Ad	\$10.00
1/4 Page Ad	\$25.00
1/2 Page Ad	\$50.00
Full Page Ad	\$100.00

**Yearly (11 months) Advertiser Rates**

Pay for your ad a year in advance and get 1 month free!

Business Card Ad	\$100.00
1/4 Page Ad	\$250.00
1/2 Page Ad	\$500.00
Full Page Ad	\$1000.00

The Fairmount newsletter is published 11 times a year (November/December issue is combined) and distributed the weekend prior to the 4th Tuesday of each month.

**We're on the Web!**

<http://www.historicfairmount.com>



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**JOIN THE FAIRMOUNT  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!**

*Why Join?*

- Get this 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!
- Make your voice heard on neighborhood issues!
- 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.

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!*

On June 26 and 27, Southside City Church will be hosting a Summer Children's Festival at Fairmount Park from 6 to 8 pm with games, music, food and crafts.

June 28th we will have a cookout celebration at the College Avenue Building, 1400 College Avenue, also from 6 to 8 pm.

Contact Darrel Auvenshine for more information:  
[darrel@southsidecitychurch.com](mailto:darrel@southsidecitychurch.com) or 817-688-0276.



**Sandy Brown** GRI  
Realtor



**915-2026**  
(817) 923-2026 FAX

[sandyjohn@charter.net](mailto:sandyjohn@charter.net)

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