

# FAIRMOUNT



HISTORIC  
DISTRICT

A monthly publication of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Volume 29, Issue 5

## HOME TOUR 2010

Home Tour was a huge success! Photos of Home Tour, the parade, and the Wine Down party appear throughout this month's newsletter.



June 2010

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**FAIRMOUNT  
ASSOCIATION  
MEETING**

**POT LUCK  
SUPPER!**

Code Blue will provide fajitas; bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Tuesday

May 25

7:00 p.m. at

College Avenue

Baptist Church

1400 College Ave.



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Neighborhood  
Association**

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Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348**

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Well, another Home Tour is behind us and, to many of us, it feels like we can breathe again. The stars came together for Fairmount and we had one of, if not the, best HT so far. A combination of several things, including two great co-directors, a great HT committee, great weather, and recent publicity all combined to make it work. And, of course, we, the residents of Fairmount, who helped along the way and the week-end of the tour, can also take a little credit for our efforts. To all of those who did help and either docented, manned the front doors, or helped set-up/tear-down or may have done both., on behalf of the HT directors and committee and the neighborhood association, I thank you. Home Tour brings out the best in us all!

If you haven't noticed, we've got two really big things to be proud of that happened since the last newsletter. The Fairmount Community Garden is up, running, and full of residents growing veggies! Another first for Fairmount and the City of Fort Worth! And our new signs have been installed (for the most part). We still have a few glitches with T/PW to iron out, but most of them are in place. Susan Harper spearheaded the community garden and after four years of hard work and a huge list of others that contributed to its inception, it's just sitting there waiting for the rain! Chewy Redding worked diligently with the city and helped the new signage along much more quickly than it would have been. If you see either of them out and about, be sure to thank them.

Summer is upon us and our May Pot-luck is our way of kicking off those lazy, dazy days of Texas heat. Be sure to come out and meet and socialize with your neighbors. See you then,

Robert.

## DE ZAVALA TREE PLANTING

Nine new trees were planted around the playground at De Zavala Elementary school on College Ave and Myrtle. Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to plant trees and to show support for one of our neighborhood schools.

From left: DeZavala principal Roberto Santana, Steve and Ann Teng, Mat Pereda, Christen White, Sara Lynch, Steve Voltman, Serena Keeler, Ricky Pike, Rhoda Brimberry and kids with sun in their eyes.







# Congratulations - Home Tour a HUGE Success!

Wine Down volunteer appreciation party was fantastic!

Amaya Realty Group proudly supports this amazing community and it's continued growth & success.



" we loved our port-a-potty sponsorship sign"



Kate Tracey Sophie Cassidy



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## COMMUNITY GARDEN GRAND OPENING ON MAY 15



## OUTSIDE YOUR OLD HOUSE

It's that time of year when you can't garden fast enough! Between the planting, the deadheading and the trimming, your garden is growing faster than you can keep up with it. But, isn't it gorgeous!? No wonder they sing that "June is bustin' out all over" song in Oklahoma.

I've been told I need to talk about fire ants that nasty black and red ant with a painful sting, raising a white pustule that is sore for days. It occurred to me that (knock on wood) we don't have fire ants in our yard although they seem to be found throughout the 'hood. Reading the literature Fred brought home with the beneficial nematodes, I real-



ized those critters were killing the ants as well as the grubs we put them down for. According to the directions, beneficial nematodes also kill fleas. Like most biological controls, nematodes aren't instantaneous so if you have an infestation of fire ants and small children or pets, you may want to use Amdro for a quicker control. Dry molasses sprinkled over the mound is also supposed to work though' I can't say I've ever tried it.

Most perennials will continue to bloom if you'll deadhead the spent blossoms. Dianthus, scabiosa (pincushion flower), phlox, coneflower, daisies can all have extended bloom times. Remontant roses will bloom until frost and will bloom better if you deadhead them. Leave the blossoms, however, if you want to use the hips. There are new varieties of both iris and daylilies that are reblooming and though they aren't "traditional" I enjoy both flowers enough to have some.

Have you enjoyed the red and white peonies that flourish in some Fairmount gardens? Me too. Peonies aren't particularly easy to grow in Texas because they like cold winters but it can be done. Try planting them in a slightly raised bed so they get the benefit of more cold as well as good drainage. It can take as long as three years to get your first blooms but with patience you'll have an outstanding show. Work some coffee grounds or other acidifier into the soil around the plant occasionally as they like a little more acid than our soils are naturally. You'll often see ants on the peony buds and the old wives tale is that they ate the nectar, helping the bud to open. They're unnecessary to that process but they don't hurt the flower. Just turn the bloom upside down in a pail of water to get rid of the ants if you want to cut the flowers.

Enjoy the season!—Susan Harper

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#### TUESDAY

##### BEEF ENCHILADAS

Picadillo enchiladas wrapped in flour tortilla, covered with our special tomato sauce, queso fresco, sour cream, green onions and cheddar cheese. Served with choice of beans and rice.  
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#### WEDNESDAY

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#### THURSDAY

##### ENCHILADAS VERDES

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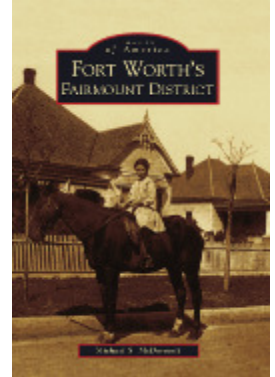
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### FAIRMOUNT BOOK PREVIEW AT JUNE MEETING

At the June membership meeting on June 22, Fairmount resident Mike McDermott will present a slideshow and lecture based on his forthcoming book, *Images of America: Fort Worth's Fairmount District*. The book contains dozens of photos of Fairmount through the years.



### Projects

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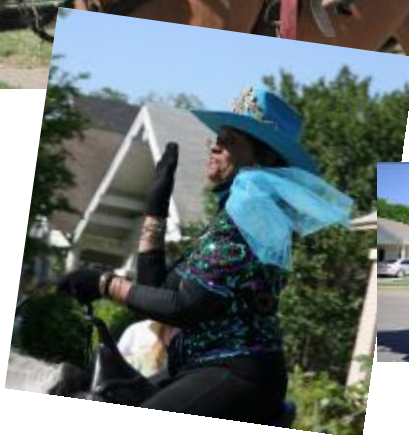
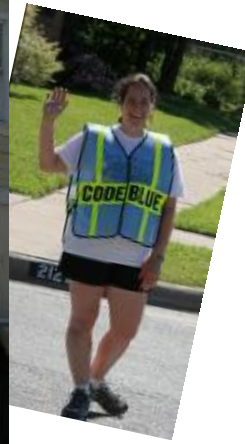
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# HOME TOUR PARADE!



## FLAGS OVER FAIRMOUNT

Thanks to the American Legion Bingo, Ms. Mary Alice Looney, and Stacy Luecker for arranging the new supply of American flags seen during the Fairmount Tour of Homes. What a wonderful sight to see all the flags grouped together on Allen Ave and throughout the neighborhood. Thanks to the flag committee for posting flags recently, Stacy & Eric Luecker, Ricky Pike, Jason and Kelly Bowden, and Carey Erff. All the brackets currently available on the neighborhood light post were filled with flags during home tour weekend. Hopefully in our spare time, in the near future, we can repair and replace brackets to add more flags throughout the neighborhood. We do have flags available, and just need hardware to hang them.

If you have interest in the neighborhood flags, please join us Thursday May 27 at 7pm at 1418 Washington to raise the colors again in celebration of Memorial day weekend. And don't forget to fly your flag at home for memorial day. David Thrapp c:817-734-3403



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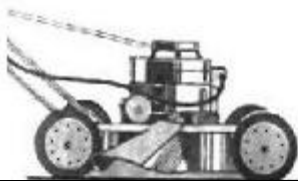
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cleaning or detergent isle. Make sure this remedy is in a location out of the way of pets and children.



—Serena Keeler







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

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**GET YOUR FAIRMOUNT CURB NUMBERS!**

Show your neighborhood pride *and* help the pizza delivery guy find your house by having the Fairmount logo and your house number painted on your curb! For just \$15, neighborhood resident Ray Feyen will paint your house number in two locations. The cost per address is \$15. Give Ray a call at (817) 924-6729 (home) or (682) 552-0791 (cell) and leave him a message, or email him at [rfeyen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rfeyen@sbcglobal.net). Although the Association has selected a new design for pole-mounted signage, we will keep using the traditional "F" design for curb numbers.





## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

May 12, 2010 Board Meeting. Attending: Robert Wedding, John Murphy, Sue McLean, David Thrapp, Ricky Pike, Christen White, Sara Lynch, Micky Bradley

### Home Tour – Christen and Sara

Proceeds estimates so far:

\$1700 silent auction; \$2400 online ticket sales; \$14,000 weekend ticket sales; ? antique mall still to be picked up; \$10,000 advertising and sponsorship; Less expenses

Ran out of books, but made more Sat night

Restaurants on Magnolia did well, some had 1 hour wait for lunch

### Gas lease Renewals – David

Those who have 'option to renew' in their contract cannot be renegotiated.

Those who do not should be able to get all benefits of the Fairmount gas lease into their new contracts, but does not appear to be any chance of getting greater bonuses than offered.

### Pawn Shops Made Legal-nonconforming issue – David

Neighborhoods were upset about this issue due to poor information from City. In 2006, 13 illegal pawn shops were made legal non-conforming – meaning if burns down cannot rebuild

Now those 13 need to go to the City to expand or remodel, and 2 mile limit between shops Joel has three pawn shops in District 9 all rampant with code violations and police calls = chronic crime area so declined to vote in favor – but it passed.

### New Signage – Robert via Chewy

Some are mis-located, old ones not replaced or missing from designated locations – Robert is going to meet a guy from the City to relocate them rather than trying to explain.

### Special Events Ordinance meeting – Robert

Special Events include neighborhood events like Home Tour, parades, National Night Out. Item 20-413 addresses Home Tour. Financially strapped City will need a new dept. Million dollar insurance policy would be required and notification of neighbors affected, applicants would have to attend 3 meetings to get on calendar and be approved with no conflicts, etc. Neighborhoods were given a tip on a cheap insurance plan to check out. They are trying to pass the ordinance now and fees later! June 7th 6:30pm – public hearing at Botanic Gardens – need public outcry against – wear Fairmount shirts

### Membership house signs – Robert

Cost to be made would be \$10 – same cost for members to buy. Using new bungalow-cloud logo, but due to a member suggestion, Stacy is working on recreating an alternate design like the original using the Benton house – will be voted on by the membership. Will have a mock-up to show at meeting to take orders

### Creation of Historic Preservation Taskforce – Robert

Purpose is to keep houses from getting to the point where they have to be demolished. Researching ownership, receiverships, aid programs, nuisance abatement, etc.

Growing need to buy or rent PC-projector – Ricky to look into price of buying VS renting, possibility of getting a sponsorship or grant to purchase.

May meeting will be fajitas provided by Code Blue and pot luck, no speaker

June meeting will be Mike McDermott speaking on his book to be out in June.

Public Art to be installed at Magnolia & Henderson – hoping to find a Fairmount resident to design

Adjourned at 8:15



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### YARD OF THE MONTH: 1936 WASHINGTON

The first flowers to arrive each spring in our yard of the month are the blooms on the Tea Cup Magnolia sharing space at the dining room windows with an Oak Leaf Hydrangea.

Small white butterflies cover the plants on this flowering garden. No grass here! Roses abound, both Knockouts and owner Becca Guttery's favorite—a gift from her daughter—the native Texas climber Mier Y Teran.

This yard has a multitude of four legged friends, namely, Baris, Natasha, and Marmalade, and we could never forget Frank, but Sylvia is always in charge. You will see Sylvia hiding in the Lamb's Ear and Alyssium, under the White Bridal Wreaths, guarding the entranceway to the porch. The sidewalk is softened with last days of a winter's plantings: Ornamental Cabbages, Pansies, and Kale. There is a multi colored arrangement of Stock holding the space for bushy Datura or Moonflower plants, Giant Elephant ears, and large orange Cannas that arrive each summer.

The stone walkways are planted with Creeping Thyme and Mondo Grass, always in a tug of war with Nutsedge. Peeking out from the Flowering Quince is a carpet of Blue Ajuga. Russian Sage and Rosemary on the north side of the walkway are joined by Lamb's Ear leading the way to the backyard.

Becca has lived in Fairmount for four years with her two indoor cats, Sophie and Scarlet, and her indoor/outdoor rescue, Sylvia.



Thank you to CC's Touch of Nature, our Yard of the Month sponsor, for the \$35.00 gift certificate that the homeowner will receive.

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 Geri Cotton 817-926-6507  
 David Thrapp 817-923-4807  
 FMCops@att.net.

COP meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6pm at the police station 1000 Magnolia Ave.

**RECYCLING PROGRAM**

Batteries, light bulbs, household chemicals can be taken to the Environmental Collection Center at 6400 Bridge Street near I30 and 820 east. The hours are Thursdays-Fridays 11-7 pm and Saturdays 9 am- 3 pm.  
 Staples recycles cell phones, batteries, cartridges.  
 Good Will recycles electronics.  
 Working appliances, cabinets, counter tops, doors, windows, light fixtures, sinks, toilets, bricks, etc. can be taken to the Habitat ReStore. Call 817-626-5000 for information or a pick up.

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*Why Join?*

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- Know what's going on in Fairmount and the City that will affect *you* and *your* property!
- Make your voice heard on neighborhood issues!
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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 Ricky Pike at 817.727.4577, membership@historicfairmount.com

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- City Council..... 817.392.6193
- City Councilperson Joel Burns..... 817.392.8890  
 district9@fortworthgov.org
- Code Officer Oscar Reyes ..... 817.879.4230  
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- Fort Worth Police Dept. (nonemergency)... 817.335.4222  
 NPO Joel Stary 817.944.1316  
 Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org
- Garbage info/Illegal dumping.....817.392.EASY
- Graffiti..... 817.212.2700
- Historic Preservation (Planning)  
 Jamie Zwolak..... 817.392.8037  
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- Potholes..... 817.392.8100
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# Ridglea Swimming Pool Association



A neighborhood pool is  
**great summer fun!**

Join yours today!

**[swim@ridgleapool.com](mailto:swim@ridgleapool.com)**

**6700 Calmont-near I-30 & Green Oaks**

Free swim lessons for all ages!

Ridglea Rockets  
SWIM TEAM ---looking for  
swimmers with all kinds of talent!  
ages 5 – 18!

Family and single memberships

[www.ridgleapool.com](http://www.ridgleapool.com)

**[swim@ridgleapool.com](mailto:swim@ridgleapool.com)**

or  
**817-738-0266**

**Memberships are  
available today for  
the 2010 swim  
season!**

Ridglea Swimming Pool Association    6700 Calmont Ave  
One block from I-30 and Green Oaks exit

