



• NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT •

FAIRMOUNT

www.HistoricFairmount.com

November 2010

A monthly publication of the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Volume 29, Issue 10

Committee formed to rescue houses

by Susan Harper

For those of us who watched 1900 5th Ave. come down, the destruction of a venerable and once beautiful old Four Square through demolition by neglect was a terrible misapplication of justice.

While Fairmount certainly provides affordable housing close to work and entertainment for many, most of us live in old houses because we love the character and individuality they offer.

The Fairmount Board determined that, where recovery was possible, another house in Fairmount would not be demolished by neglect and to that end set aside \$10,000. Additionally, they appointed a committee to create the necessary vehicle for recovery and find the financial partners to accomplish it.

By the time this newsletter is published, See *Committee*, page 3

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FAIRMOUNT ASSOCIATION MEETING

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.
College Avenue Baptist Church
1400 College Ave.

Bring your neighbor!

Trick-or-Treat in Ryan Place Halloween Night

Elizabeth Blvd. has been closed to vehicle traffic in the past, but this has been canceled and will not be continued.

Children are welcome to trick-or-treat in Ryan Place, and police officers will be in the area to help with crowd and traffic issues.



Photo courtesy City of Fort Worth Planning and Development Department

1900 5th Ave. — The structure as it stood in 2000 prior to demolition.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to Autumn, Fairmount!

At last, some porch weather. Time to sit outside, visit with neighbors enjoy a glass of something (if your like me at the end of the work day...it's more like anything) and relish the weeks we have of glorious weather that make the heat of summer and the bitter cold of winter distant memories easily forgotten. Now is when I wish the sleeping porches so common at the beginning of the 20th century were still around. This cool weather conjures up childhood memories of a screened-in sleeping porch on a lake house in Michigan with old squiggly iron beds and much used soft quilts that kept us warm while still being invigorated by that chill night air...



Nostalgia being what it is, we've added a few new features to the newsletter. Be sure to see Stacy's addition from a past *Star-Telegram* article featuring some crazy happenings on Fairmount Avenue, and Jane Wedding has started a new society column that we'll use to keep up with all the personal events in Fairmount.

Ever changing, but still familiar, Fairmount and its residents are constantly going through changes either self-imposed or forced upon us by the vagaries of life. At the same time, we have decided to change some things in order to preserve parts of our environment. The membership has voted to allocate a portion of our funds in order to save the old, dilapidated houses in our neighborhood. This is a new venture for us as a neighborhood association and one that I sincerely hope will bear much fruit and have a positive impact on many aspects of Fairmount. Change is a constant and the more we become part of that change, the more positive an impact that change will have.

Remember to turn your outside lights on and leave them on all night. Operation Porch Light helps make Fairmount safer for everyone..

Stay warm, keep cool and I'll see y'all on Tuesday.

Upcoming Fairmount street reconstruction

- 6th Avenue from Arlington south to Jessamine
- Henderson from Magnolia south to Myrtle
- 5th Avenue from Allen south to Lilac
- All of South Lake

Construction of new concrete streets, curbs, 11 ft. driveway approaches and sidewalks should begin in August 2011.

There will be another update meeting by the city (date TBA) in December.

Fort Worth Infrastructure Project Finder

Get updates on Fairmount street projects.

Visit online at:
<http://projects.fortworthgov.org>

Search by street name.

The Fairmount Beat

by Joel Stary, neighborhood patrol officer

I sat down to write my article and realized how much information is floating around that pertains to crime prevention and related topics.

I know we have gone over a lot of different subjects in my articles and at neighborhood meetings, but usually everyone has a different question on their mind about a topic they do not know much about.

With 2011 drawing near, I would like to get feedback from everyone about what topics they would like to discuss

Joel Stary
Cell: 817.944.1316
Office: 817.392.3610
Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org

and what questions they would like answered in regards to crime prevention.

It has been a busy year once again, but we have survived and I appreciate all of the help from everyone addressing concerns in the neighborhood and solving crimes this year.

Next month I will touch on holiday safety, but please begin to send me your questions and topics for next year's discussions.

Keep an eye on the Fairmount newsletter in 2011 for the answers to your questions.

Thank you to everyone for making our neighborhood a safe and wonderful place to live. Until we speak again, please remember to be safe today and safer tomorrow.

Committee *(continued from page 1)*

the committee will have met. Probably a final action on 1405 Fairmount will have been taken. Hopefully, either our committee or Historic Fort Worth will have managed to save that unique little bungalow.

Susan Harper was appointed chair of the committee.

For further information or to provide input to the committee, you may reach her at sharprone@swbell.net.



1900 5th Ave. — Demolition 2009.



1900 5th Ave. — Demolition 2009.



1900 5th Ave. — Demolition 2009.

*Working to preserve
Fort Worth history
one house at a time.*



Photos by Susan Harper

National Night Out in Fairmount

Photos by Eric Luecker and Sue McLean

Fairmount residents came out to meet neighbors and show support for their neighborhood during National Night Out in Fairmount, Sept. 28.

National Night Out is an annual event designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.



Above: Geri Cotten (front right), Fairmount Director of Public Safety, poses with Jeff Halstead, Chief of Police, Rudolph Jackson, Jr., Fire Chief, and members of code enforcement,



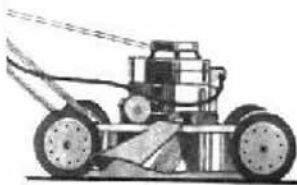
Far left: Fairmount residents share conversation and enjoy fajitas and homemade delights.



Left: Mayor Mike Moncrief (left) talks with City Councilman Joel Burns (right) during National Night Out in Fairmount.

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SOCIETY

by Jane Wedding
Director of Finance



Garden Club

The monthly meeting of the Fairmount Garden Club was held Friday, Sept. 24 at the home of Shirley Gober. Members spent an enjoyable evening making planters. According to Shirley, making the pots was not easy. The odor was none too pleasant and some pots broke when taking them off the molds. However, she did say they had fun making a mess. Other members joining Shirley were Susan Harper, Kathy Whitaker, Caryl Catalde, Selena Burns and Steve Cocanower.



Congratulations

Fairmount welcomes its newest neighbor, Vivian Grace Paz. Vivian is the daughter of Ashley and Eric Paz. Welcoming Vivian is her sister, Vera. Both Vivian and Vera are named after great, great, great aunts of Ashley's. We all know how special Fairmount neighbors are, and Vivian is certainly carrying on that tradition. She had the fortuity to be born at 9:03 p.m. on Sept. 3.



Birthday wishes

Birthday wishes go out to Finn Tobar. Finn celebrated his first birthday with a robot-themed party and was joined by family and friends who appropriately showered him with gifts of toy cars. Finn is the son of Kerry and Cisco Tobar.



Neighborhood social

Last month's neighborhood social was held at Trinity Bicycles on Main Street. The proprietor, Bernie Schefler, has a fabulous shop full of distinctive bikes and bike accessories. Neighbors had a grand time perusing the unique bike styles and accessories while enjoying delectable desserts provided by John and Gilrose Pereda of J and G Desserts. The culinary delights consisted of cheesecake bites, blonde and chocolate brownies, oatmeal cookies, and chocolate-dipped strawberries and marshmallows. Neighbors who attended arrived with gifts of school supplies that were later donated to De Zavala Elementary School. Many thanks to Bernie for his hospitality in hosting our gathering and providing a t-shirt for a door prize. And congratulations to Brad Pierce who possessed the winning ticket and won the t-shirt!



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FNA Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2010

Present: Board: Stacy L, Sean L, Sue M, Ricky P, Greg T, Jane W, Robert W
Advisory Committee: Mickey B, Fred H

Call to order: 7:04

Discussion of receivership and related need to form a committee whose intent is to work with Category 1 and 2 property stabilization within the Fairmount Historic District. Discussion about forming a committee under the direction of Historic Preservation, but with its own director and members, and/or operation as a 501(c)3 organization. Purpose of committee would be to identify members/volunteers with specific skills related to stabilization/restoration, define all requirements related to selecting a property for stabilizing work, and to propose to the board those properties that meet defined selection requirements. Process of committee would be to select a property with stabilization potential, get approval from board to proceed, remove the property from the city's

demolition list, oversee its stabilization, then sell to a buyer who would complete the renovation of the property. Potential exists to partner with Historic Fort Worth or Fort Worth South to renovate and share profits of property sale. Initial stabilization funding would come from the FNA budget, and would be a fixed-cap revolving fund that allows for ongoing property acquisition efforts when the current stabilization project is completed (i.e. when a buyer purchases property for renovation). Due to the imminent demolition of 1405 Fairmount, that property was discussed as the initial project.

Need to emphasize the progressive nature of the FNA in terms of maintaining/restoring the historical quality of the neighborhood (the street lamp project as an example). Need to emphasize establishment of a working relationship with another entity whose goal is to preserve homes in the Fairmount Historic District. Need to emphasize the revolving nature of the funding wherein the FNA replenishes the initial funding

amount when the stabilized house is sold (goal is within one year of disbursement of initial funding). Need to highlight examples of renovated homes in the neighborhood via before/after pictures.

Discussion of funding amounts. \$10k was mentioned as a possibility, and can be verified when Robert W receives quotes for foundation and roof repair of 1405 Fairmount.

Motion 1 (Sean L) — motion to form the Fairmount Restoration Committee. Second – Ricky P. Passed unanimously.

Motion 2 (Jane W) — motion to create a budgetary line item for the purpose of stabilization of 1405 Fairmount, and to initiate a partnership with another entity like Ft Worth South or Historic Fort Worth to preserve homes in the Fairmount Historic District. Second – Greg T. Passed unanimously.

8:04 Motion to adjourn — Sean L. Second — Ricky P.

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Saturday, Nov. 20 — 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Paschal High School

(at Berry and Forest Park, east of TCU)

Family friendly group meets at Fairmount Park

If you wish our neighborhood had more activities for your little ones, check out the new group, Fairmount Families. This group was created especially for you and your family. Join them at Fairmount Park every Monday at 9:30 a.m. for a morning walk. Just look for the other strollers. There are also other fun events planned such as playgroups and parties. For more information, go to Meetup.com and search for "Fairmount Families" or e-mail SallyGulde@gmail.com.

FNA General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010

Call to Order: 7:02 Robert Wedding

Welcome New Members: Pat (Fairmount), Amy (Alston), Roy (5th Ave.), Dan (Lipscomb), Julie (Washington)

Safety and Cleanup: 7:05 – 7:12

NPO Joel Stary

Burglaries rose last month after a relatively calm summer. Six arrests were made. Please call about all suspicious activity. On a related note, if you feel that your call was not handled properly either by the call center or by an officer, please speak with the call center supervisor or the officer's sergeant and report your concerns. You can also call Officer Stary – but please leave your phone number. Officer Stary will be part of a team providing security at this year's Super Bowl, so he may be hard to reach at times as he trains and prepares for the event. He will continue to return all calls. There will be lots of Super Bowl activities that will be occurring in Fort Worth, so have fun but keep your crime fighting eyes open.

Announcements: 7:12 – 7:15

Special thank you gift was given to John Murphy for his work on the Fairmount newsletter.

Susan Harper asked for people to contribute money or help plant daffodils along 8th Avenue in the latter part of October. Contact Susan for details.

Reports From Directors: 7:15 – 7:30

Membership (Ricky): not present

1. Financial (Jane): not present. Chewy reviewed year end financial statements. Budget is in line with projections. We have a good cash balance, so the question is how to get funds back into the neighborhood. Suggestions are welcome. We are approximately \$14k under budget, of which \$11k was originally targeted for capital improvements but which has yet to be spent.
2. Administration (Greg): volunteer for becoming a block captain and

for doing a presentation at the Interesting Fairmount Familiares portion of the meeting.

3. Public Safety (Geri): October 2 is National Night Out. Please come out and join your neighbors. Fort Worth police are actively asking people to get their car windows etched with the car's VIN. It is a great way to discourage theft of windows (or cars whose windows are profitably sold as parts).
4. Infrastructure (Sean): not present. Robert reminded group that the FNA has adopted Allen Ave., and that the next cleanup will be in October. October 20 social hour will be at Butler Antiques.
5. Communications (Stacy): The newsletter thrives on input from members – please send information. Reminder to watch the website for information as well.
6. Historic Preservation (Sue): Landmarks Commission met and approved two garages and window additions to neighborhood homes. A brick home on Henderson was painted, resulting in a Commission denial until options for removing the paint could be explored. It was noted that guidelines do not allow unpainted brick to be painted (previously painted brick can be repainted.)

Presentations: 7:30 – 8:05

Patti Randle: food drive kickoff was discussed. There are four locations in the neighborhood at which to drop off donated food: Old Neighborhood Grill, Old Home Supply, Finn McCool's, 1208 W Magnolia Building. Interesting food facts: the primary meal of 225,000 children in the area served by the Tarrant Food Bank is a subsidized meal; 43 percent of the people who receive food are children; 18,000 senior citizens must make a daily choice between food and medicine.

Brenda Howell was introduced as the new Director of Promotions

Robert Wedding "Future of Fairmount" presentation asked what do we lose whenever a house is allowed to get run down or when it is demolished? It is possible to lose historic status if too many homes are demolished and replaced with new construction. Given that we own our neighborhood, we have done many things to preserve and enhance it, such as our streetlight installation and street sign activity. Robert proposed that the time has come to move to a new level of preservation activity by founding and funding of the Fairmount Restoration Committee. This committee would work to save neighborhood properties categorized by the city as Category 1 (properties designated for demolition within six months). The committee would find partners such as Ft Worth South, Historic Ft Worth or Historic Southside who would wish to work with us to find a suitable property capable of being stabilized. Once stabilized, the property would be sold to an individual who would restore the property. The proceeds of this sale would replenish a revolving fund, and the process would start over again - allowing another property to be stabilized. As the FNA cannot possibly fund an entire stabilization project, it was proposed to allocate \$10k for the purpose of stabilizing 1405 Fairmount.

The committee needs volunteers with legal expertise, contracting expertise, and construction expertise. Susan Harper is heading the Fairmount Restoration Committee, and should be contacted if you are interested in helping.

Motion to allocate \$10k for the purpose of establishing the Fairmount Restoration Committee and to establish a revolving fund to stabilize historic properties was made by Steve Cocanower, second by Fred Harper. Passed by majority.

Door Prizes: 8:05 – 8:10

Adjournment: 8:10

FNA Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, Oct. 4

Present: Board: Geri C, Brenda H, Stacy L, Sean L, Sue M, Greg T, Jane W, Robert W
Advisory Committee: Susan H, Fred H.

Call to order: 7:05

Director Reports:

1. Finance: need to create a Special Projects line item in budget to accommodate the Historic Preservation Committee as approved by the general membership. Propose creation of a \$6k line item for the community garden pergola, and \$10k line item for the park and other capital improvements.

Budget Review:

- Administration: Change “Table-asset Purchase” to “Asset Purchase” for \$500.
- Remove “Non-profit establishment”
- Finance: need to determine what constituted “Non-budgeted items” for \$1720. Reduce to \$1500?
- Historic Preservation: – all ok
- Public Safety: need to determine what constituted misc. for \$198.
- Infrastructure: increase sprinkler test fee to \$150
- Will need to find someone to take over Trap/Neuter/Release program if Diane Koch does not wish to continue.
- Decrease water to \$150.
- Decrease maintenance to \$500.
- Membership: new director Brenda Howell
- Drop postage expense
- Increase FNA social to \$1200.
- Christmas Party – increase to \$500 with location to be researched and announced.
- Communications: Verify renewal pricing on Constant Contact. Also verify renewal dates of website and pricing information for hosting and domain name.
- Verify if monthly hosting/e-mail renewal is needed.
- Verify if domain hosting renewal is needed.
- New: Need to create a line item for door prizes for \$400.
- Revised Profit/Loss statement reviewed.

2. Administration – include resources for historic paint colors to be included in the welcome packet, with a link to the FNA website. Discussed providing a refrigerator magnet with emergency numbers to be included in the welcome packet

3. Historic Preservation:

Two new houses: 1509 Washington, 1316 Henderson 1922 6th Ave. – new garage

1801 Fairmount – demo rear apartment, build new garage

2215 6th Ave. – first application for PVC tongue & groove porch flooring

1601 Henderson – permission to approve recently painted brick (rehearing—paint cannot be successfully removed without damaging mortar)

4. Promotions: all possible scrapbook items can be stored at the library under special storage conditions. Discussion about FNA providing info about our neighborhood to realtors who may be selling in the area.

5. Public Safety: Reminder to visit National Night Out.

6. Communications: will assist with more information for the welcome packet. Need more non-advertisement content for the newsletter, especially visual content. Perhaps each director would generate a short article.

7. Infrastructure: streetlights are done. Proposal to adopt Fairmount Park. We can most likely reduce maintenance expenses. Perhaps the city can provide (match?) capital improvement monies. Will need to verify if irrigation is available. Motion to adopt Fairmount Park – Sean. Second – Jane. Approved.

New Business:

Home Tour – possible candidate has been identified, but members should still be looking for a Home Tour director if this lead does not pan out.

Restoration Committee: Susan H will provide list of candidate members. Susan is working with other funding sources.

John Murphy thanked the board and the association for his gift.

First Presbyterian still looking for advocacy for their proposal to create an outreach ministry on Hemphill. Board voiced concern over increased foot traffic in the neighborhood, and suggested that a location east of I-35 would actually serve the constituents better.

Still looking for a Spanish speaking community liaison to work with home owners in the area to improve their homes.

8:10 Motion to adjourn—Sean. Second – Stacy.

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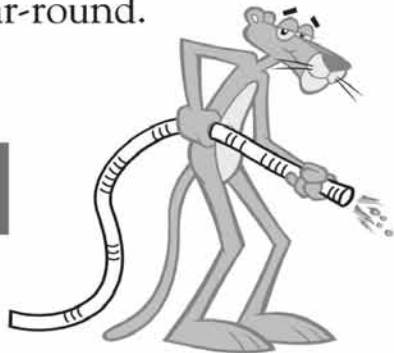


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 Sunday, December 5th - 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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 \$10/person Group Rate (20 or more)

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 The Old Home Supply Store
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 The Butler's Antiques and Uniques

2010

Additional Information:
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Fairmount September Social

Photos by Susan Stewart

Fairmount residents enjoyed friends and snacks at the Fairmount September Social, Sept. 22, at Trinity Bicycles on Main Street.

Join us for the next social and meet your neighbors.



Bernie Scheffler (left) with Brad Pierce, raffle winner, showing off his new Trinity Bicycles t-shirt.



Marc and Diana Koch



Fairmount residents mingle at Trinity Bicycles during the Fairmount September Social.

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Fairmount receives landmark decision

by Sue McLean
Director of Historic Preservation

Do you have a wood porch floor that keeps rotting away, and you are sick and tired of looking at it? Or do you keep replacing it, painting the wood on all sides beforehand, or even using wood preserver on it and it still rots?

Our current Fairmount District guidelines state that porch floor replacement must be in-kind. Therefore, a tongue and groove wood porch floor needs to be replaced with new tongue and groove wood (and they don't make wood like they used to). It must not be decked with treated lumber, not covered in plywood and painted, nor changed to concrete.

Our proposed revised historic guidelines, (which our guidelines committee has been working on for two years now, and will soon be submitted for approval,) will allow a product of exceptional quality that gives the same appearance as wood to be used for contributing and non-contributing properties on a case by case basis for replacement of wood tongue and groove porches.

Consultation with the Fairmount Historic Preservation Committee to be sure the product is of high quality and that it will be installed correctly will be required. This means it must be installed invisibly with a floor-nailer, not with screws from the top, and end-capping pieces must be installed to conceal the grooves in the board ends that would reveal that it is not real wood. Also, corners must be mitered like real wood porches, not butted one side to the other.

On Oct. 11, the Fort Worth Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission helped speed things along when they approved a new product called Aeratis PVC Porch Flooring to replace historic wood porch flooring on one of our



Photo by Sue McLean

Installation of Aeratis PVC Porch Flooring at 1328 S. Lake.

historic Fairmount homes, per our recommendation and that of the planning staff.

Based on company testimonials, the product has been used on at least two National Register properties, one being Oak Alley Plantation in Louisiana, which has not affected the National Register status of either property.

For more information, see the website at www.aeratis.com/pdf/Aeratis_Sales_Sheet_2008.pdf. There is also a rebate available at www.aeratis.com/buckaboard.

Averaging \$12 per square foot, this product is not cheap. But with its 20 year warranty, look at the money and aggravation you will save by not replacing your porch flooring year after year.

If you want to install it, the product is available at Teague Lumber, 2501 White Settlement Road. You will need

both a construction permit and a Certificate of Appropriateness from the city. Contact Jamie Zwolak at the Planning Department at City Hall or call him at 817.392.8037 for more information on the process.

Many thanks to Bruce Sampley, Ken Albee of Teague Lumber, and installer Kyle Cole of Cole Construction and Remodeling (405.808.5151) for bringing this product to our attention a few months ago, and to Karen Keller for biting the bullet and being our test case with the Landmarks Commission.

You are welcome to check out how the new porch flooring looks on Bruce's front porch at 1328 S. Lake. His porch floor was administratively approved by staff a few months ago because the house is new construction and non-contributing.

Samples will be available at the next Fairmount meeting.

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Depression glass • Lead crystal

Sterling silver castor set with cobalt blue etched bottles (complete)

Early 1900s handmade quilts

Vecchia Murano Venetian Glass green basket, footed candy dish
and large ruby brandy snifter (all with 24K gold)

Vintage 1960s Barbie clothes - most handmade

Early 1900s infant christening gowns

Mahogany three tier dumb waiter

Mahogany hall tree

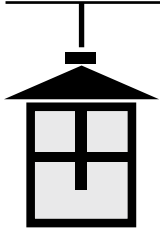
Brass and mirrored European fireplace screen

Much, much more ...

Four page spreadsheet of items available

**E-mail Lori Bailey at loribailey@sbcglobal.net
or call 817.313.1617 for more information.**

Operation Porch Light



The Fairmount Neighborhood Association is launching Operation Porch Light once again this year during the winter months. We would like to encourage all residents to install energy-saving fluorescent light bulbs in your porch lights and leave them on all night long.

According to crime prevention statistics, increased lighting reduces both petty and serious crimes by as much as 60 percent. Furthermore, increased lighting makes it safer for our residents to walk and exercise in the evenings despite the early sunsets. Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent

light bulbs use 75 percent less energy than a regular incandescent bulb and can last 10 times longer.

So, please turn on your porch lights at dusk and leave them on until the next morning. Let's all make Fairmount a brighter, safer place to live.

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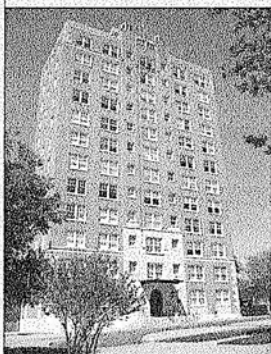
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Outside Your Old House *by Susan Harper*

At long last it's cool enough to trigger the gardening bug again. And there is certainly a lot to do in the fall garden before the leaves start falling in earnest.

If you have roses you'd like to propagate for yourself or someone else, this is the time of year to do it. Make a cut just above an outward facing bud, divide the stem if you'd like, dampen the ends and dip them in rooting powder and plant them in a potting soil filled pot. Keep the soil moist but not wet. The pot can be left outside until the first freeze.

Now is also the time to divide your spring blooming perennials: coneflower, Liatris, columbine, oxalis, violets, turk's cap, phlox, lantana and daylilies are just a few.

Foliar feeding of your garden beds can continue until frost. I like Medina Plus but seaweed and fish emulsion also work well.

Check your established plants for spider mites due to our really stressful summer. If you find them, try a shot of water from your hose. If they return, horticultural oil in your hose end



Japanese Maple and other foliage.

sprayer will take care of the little bug-gers.

There is still time to plant fall vegetable crops: all the lettuces and cabbages, broccoli and brussel sprouts, carrots and parsnips as well as the fall squashes. While you're out doing that, dig up your lemongrass. Cut off the tops for cooking and store the bulbs, wrapped in newspaper in a cool place, for next spring.

Fall is considered the best time of the

year to plant trees and shrubs. And, of course, the cream of the pansy crop should begin to show up in the nurseries any moment if they haven't already, along with the new crop of Dianthus and alyssum.

And when you've finished playing in your garden, have a seat on your front porch, invite your neighbors for a glass of wine and enjoy the fruits of your labors.

See you in the garden...

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"FORT WORTH'S RENOVATION HEADQUARTERS"

October Yard of the Month by Jarrod Holt



1618 College Ave.

Photo by Edward Mayfield

This selection for Yard of the Month began as an effort to distract visitors away from a crumbling parkway and has blossomed into a lush gardener's showcase in just under two years.

Sophie Priolo and Jarrod Holt, Fairmount residents of four years, undertook the project with the aim of creating a pair of full-bodied flower beds that could dress up the home's curb appeal while focusing on low-maintenance species that would be friendly to the hot Texas summers.

They began by enlisting Jarrod's mother, Patti, a Ryan Place resident, who drew on her years of gardening experience to lay the initial groundwork and

select the original species. Unbroken rows of rosemary, red yucca and purple skullcaps make up the bulk of the planting design and mediate the space between the short yard and deep front porch. Expanding on this design, Jarrod, a graphic designer (designer of the new Fairmount neighborhood signs and street name toppers), added vibrant red Turk's Cap to the mix and laid down a cottage style brick path along the front. When helping out at his family's local bar, Finn MacCool's Pub, he now finds himself frequently trading landscaping tips with other gardeners.

Sophie, a realtor with Amaya Realty Group of RE/MAX Trinity, maintains the welcoming clusters of planted

growth at the entry steps, including purple heart, mums, dusty miller and snow princesses among others. Also a talent in the kitchen, she cooks with her own herbs, pulling from planted mint, fennel, cilantro, a giant basil plant and of course, rosemary.

Having now embraced their newfound affinity for gardening, the couple continues to make seasonal changes, but is always taking care to create a welcoming presentation for both guest and passerby, as well as providing a shady haven for their two cats, Fred and Ginger.

Thank you to CC's Touch of Nature for the \$35 gift certificate that Sophie and Jarrod will receive.

Tips break code to report offenses online

by Fred Harper

While I find Fort Worth’s city website to be very informative, it’s sometimes a challenge to find some of the more useful sites – like Code Compliance. It seems you never can find it when you are hearing the constant barking from two doors down or see the car parked in the front yard or the yard that would be useful for jungle training.

For your Fairmount toolkit, keep this handy:

To submit a code complaint:

<http://www.fortworthgov.org/code-compliance/>

Click on Submit a Complaint

Click on Enter CodeOps

Go through the steps:

1. Enter the address or block of the



- location of the violation (if it’s on a corner lot, add the cross street);
2. Pick the type of violation (the violation type will highlight/change colors when you select it);
 3. I always enter a brief description, even if its redundant;
 4. Contact information is optional. I always enter it, but select the “No” option when it asks if you want to be a witness because it keeps my information private. (however,

- when the violation is flagrant and repeated, I’ll pick “Yes”).
5. The last screen will give you the Code violation number so you can track the progress of the complaint.

Remember that one of the purposes of the website is to make it easy for the code compliance officer. If you run into one of those lots or houses that doesn’t have an address, put in the block number and add something like “it’s the fourth house (or lot) from the corner of 5th Avenue and W. Jessamine on the west side of the street” in the description block.

It’s simple, easy, fast and a great way to help the neighborhood.

You might note that the main website has lots of other useful sites for city services that you’ll want to check out.

Congratulations!

- Brenda Howell, client extraordinaire. Fairmount’s New Director of Promotions.
- Our own-Sophie Priolo & Jarrod Holt, Yard of the month.
- 2010/2011 Association Board. May it be a rewarding year.

Market Snapshot is a Fantastic New Tool that allows you to find out for yourself what homes in your neighborhood are selling for. It’s simple & it’s free. Create one for yourself or a friend, they will love it. Go ahead, be curious.....

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Subdistrict

Residents google at ArtsGoggle

by Tabitha Tow Burns



Photos by Eric Luecker

Patti Randle, Fairmount resident and FNA president emeritus, displays her artwork in the Max Mehl Building during fall ArtsGoggle. ArtsGoggle is a twice-yearly event sponsored by Fort Worth South, Inc.

Where were you Saturday, Oct. 2 from 4-10 p.m.? If you weren't listening to live music, strolling through art-bedecked storefronts or chatting with neighbors at this fall's ArtsGoggle, then you missed out! This year's event was bigger than ever with more than 250 artists, free rides on Molly the Trolley and food vendors with tasty treats.

ArtsGoggle is a grassroots gallery crawl held twice a year since 2004. Piggybacking on the Magnolia Street festival that began in 1998, Fort Worth South Inc (FWSI) partnered with Near Southside business, musicians and artists to sponsor this popular Saturday night event held every spring and fall. More than 65 Near Southside businesses were transformed into art galleries for this event, hosting artists and musicians from the neighborhood and throughout the region. The event has steadily grown in popularity and draws thousands of visitors each year, according to the FWSI website. This article highlights a few Fairmount residents

“My dad was an artist in his spare time and we used to paint together.”

— Patti Randle

who participated in the event, what inspired them to do so and what is different about this year's event.

Fairmount resident and Certified Public Accountant Patti Randle was making her debut at the historic Max Mehl Building on Magnolia Street. While many know Patti as FNA president emeritus, some were surprised to learn that Patti was making her return to art after putting down her brush more than 30 years ago. Standing among stirring portraits, still life and colorful canvases, Patti talked about how she came to paint. “My dad was an artist in his spare time, and we used to paint together,” she said. “He'd set up his easel and I'd set up mine, and we'd paint together. I've always painted. When my kids were little, I'd even paint for



Kevin Buchanan (right), founder of Fort Worthology, stands with Michel Stebbins from Fort Worth South, Inc. in front of a bike lane on South Main Street. The bike lane was part of a volunteer effort to reclaim the block for pedestrians and bicyclists.

therapy, but then I slowly painted less and less until I stopped. I didn't paint for 30 years.”

Gogglers and passersby also found this year's home tour committee member Ashley Paz with her friend and business partner, Lauren Essl, featuring their eco-friendly event design business, Vera Green Productions. Providing earth friendly décor for weddings, parties and events, Ashley explained what inspired her business. “Working in the event industry, I'd see people throwing away huge centerpieces and I thought, there must be a better way,” she said. “My friend Lauren and I have been doing it ever since.”

Another green thumb, Susan Harper of Beyond the Front Porch was out as



Ashley Paz (left) and Lauren Essl, owners of Vera Green Productions, an eco-friendly event design business, offer information about earth-friendly decor for weddings, parties and events.

Susan Harper, owner of Beyond the Front Porch, holds a miniature garden, one of many plant creations she had on display during ArtsGoggle.



well. Susan, founder of Fairmount's Community Garden and local landscape designer, was featuring a collection of plants beautifully arranged into old watering cans and vintage vessels. When asked about how she came to be in ArtsGoggle, Susan said, "I come from a long line of farmers, it's an addiction! And, I'm a member of Fort Worth South, so it was just natural for me to come out tonight and do this!"

Down on Main Street, Fairmount resident and founder of Fort Worthology Kevin Buchanan was excited about a Fort Worth version of "The Better

Block" concept. The concepts are taking place nationwide and most recently in the Oakcliff section of Dallas. *The Dallas Observer*, in a June story by Robert Wilonsky, describes the "living block" installations as places for residents to sit, observe art and enjoy being outdoors amid an urban environment.

Volunteers from Trinity Bicycles, Fort Worthology and the Near Southside, armed with a budget of \$500, worked "guerilla style" on the block where ABC Flags, Robert W. Kelley architect and Trinity Bicycles are located to complete the project in time for ArtsGog-



Selena Burns, Fairmount resident, sits beside one of her stained glass pieces on display at the Neighborhood Library.

"We reclaimed this block for people and bicycles ... Basically, it was a way to show city hall and the people of Fort Worth that you can have a balance of car space and people space. You can build blocks for everybody, not just traffic movement."

— Kevin Buchanan

gle.. Seeking to create a more pedestrian, bike friendly street, they reduced what was once a four-lane street with a standard sidewalk into a two-lane street with bike lanes and a crosswalk. "We reclaimed this block for people and bicycles," Kevin said. "Basically, it was a way to show city hall and the people of Fort Worth that you can have a balance of car space and people space. You can build blocks for everybody, not just traffic movement."

All this — and much more — was alive and kicking "Fairmount style" that night. Is ArtsGoggle unorthodox? Maybe. A fabulous party typical of the Southside? Definitely! To learn more about what your neighbors are doing and to experience all the sights and sounds of ArtsGoggle, be sure to come out next spring. You never know what you might find, but rest assured, the experience will certainly be interesting.



Photo by Sue McLean

Linda Reedy paints in front of the Benton House at 1730 6th Ave.

Benton House, c.1898. Meredith A. Benton, a native of Vermont, was an executive with the Lorillard Tobacco Co. who traveled extensively in North Texas and the Oklahoma Territory. He moved to Fort Worth with his wife, Ella Belle, around 1898 and took possession of this house, built under the supervision of his father, Willam A. Benton, a contractor from Kansas City. The house is a fine model of a Victorian residence with wrap-around porch supported by lathed posts and ornamental brackets, decorative shingles and intricate gable braces. It is still owned by descendants of Meredith and Ella Belle Benton, who remember that as children they could sit on the front porch and see the county courthouse downtown. The house received a Texas historic building medallion in 1971.

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Harvest Loaf Cake (Pumpkin Bread)

- 1 3/4 c flour
- 1/2 c butter
- 1 t soda
- 1 c sugar
- 1 t cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 t nutmeg
- 3/4 c canned or cooked pumpkin
- 1/4 t each ginger and ground cloves
- 3/4 c chopped walnuts
- 3/4 c chocolate chips

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease loaf pan.

Combine flour, soda, and spices. Cream butter and sugar together in large bowl; add eggs and blend well. At low speed on mixer, add dry ingredients alternately with pumpkin, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Stir in chocolate chips and nuts. Turn into prepared pan. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 c. walnuts.

Bake at 350 degrees for 50-75 minutes. Cool. Drizzle with glaze. Let stand 6 hours before cutting.

Spice glaze

Combine 1/2 c. sifted confectioner's sugar, 1/8 t each nutmeg and cinnamon. Blend in 1-2 Tablespoons of cream until it is the consistency of a glaze.

Submitted by Nan Miller

WOMAN DRAGGED BY HAIR ALONG STREET

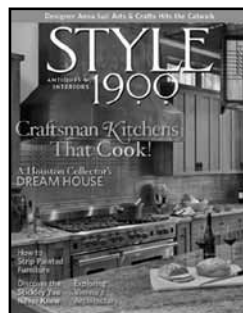
Frantic Cries Cause Reports of Murder—Police Discover Drunken Pair.

The sight of a buggy dashing down Fairmount avenue toward Myrtle street Sunday night at 11 o'clock with a woman dragging behind and held by the hair by a man in the buggy frightened pedestrians on the street, who thought the woman had been murdered and the police were notified at once.

Investigation resulted in the discovery that both the man and the woman were drunk and that the woman had been thrown over the back of the buggy by the man, who held to her hair and jerked her back into the buggy.

The occupants of the buggy were not identified and their destination could not be learned. Pedestrians on Myrtle street say that the woman was in the buggy when it reached the thoroughfare and that the determined tone in which she gave the man a verbal thrashing indicated that she was very much alive.

Printed in the *Star-Telegram*, Jan. 16, 1911



Look for Vol. 23, Issue 4 of *Style 1900 Magazine*, available Nov. 1.

Fairmount residents Eric and Stacy Luecker's living room appears in this issue.



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Join us!

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As a member you will receive the monthly Fairmount newsletter which includes neighborhood news, contact numbers for the association board, city, police, fire and code enforcement. Stay informed and ensure you receive a copy of the newsletter every month.

Sign-up NOW and your membership is good through 2011.

Membership applications are available on the FNA website at www.historicfairmount.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 26 FNA general meeting
- Nov. 1 FNA board meeting
- Nov. 10 Newsletter submission deadline
- Nov. 15 December Landmarks filing deadline (5 p.m.)
- Nov. 15 Bulk trash collection (Third Monday of the month)
- Nov. 23 FNA general meeting
- Nov. 25 Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov. 26 Busiest shopping day of the year

Congratulations

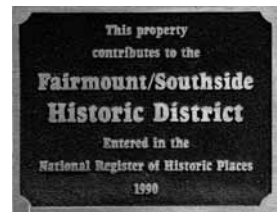
Congratulations to new board member Brenda Howell, elected to Director of Promotions during the last Fairmount general meeting.

Also, congratulations to Kevin Buchanan at Fort Worthology for being awarded Readers' Choice for best blog by *Fort Worth Weekly* readers.

And congratulations also go to Mike McDermott for being selected as the Book by Texas Author Published in Last 12 Months Readers' Choice for his book *Fort Worth's Fairmount District*.

Please do not block the sidewalks

Please remember not to block the sidewalk when parking a vehicle in a driveway. It is considered a code violation when you do this because the sidewalk is city property. You will be fined for doing this and Code Enforcement is going to be enforcing this policy.



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.

Contact Sue McLean
817.924.6100
or e-mail
preservation@historicfairmount.com.

PERSONAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Over 90% of female homicide victims knew their attacker.

Thursday, Nov. 4

Altamesa Church of Christ
4600 Altamesa, 7-8 p.m. — RSVP

Officer Rick Benson and Detective Michel Carroll of the Fort Worth Police Department are actively working to educate citizens about factors that can help reduce their risk of becoming the target of a violent personal assault.

This event is open to the public and there is no charge for this presentation.

<http://www.protectinglives.org/>

Lily B. Clayton Elementary Informational Kindergarten Coffee

Open to all families with children entering kindergarten the fall of 2011 (...or future years)

- Meet the Principal • Meet the Kindergarten Teachers
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- Receive Informational Packet

Wednesday, Nov. 3, 6:30 p.m.
2215 Forest Park Blvd.

For more information, contact Kristi Parker
817.296.7334 or e-mail bkparker@charter.net

(Parents only, children will attend Kindergarten Meet & Greet in February.)



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

Sue McLean 817.924.6100

Geri Cotten 817.926.6507

David Thrapp 817.923.4807

E-mail: FMCops@att.net

COP meets every third Monday at 6 p.m.

at the police station at
1289 Hemphill.



Daggett Paper-Recycling Program

Daggett Middle School invites Fairmount to participate in its paper recycling program. You will find a green recycling bin on the east side of the campus, accessible from Lilac St. Daggett uses the money from the recycling program to purchase plants for the school flower bed and trees for the campus.

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 only \$15, neighborhood resident Ray Feyen will paint your house number in two locations. The cost per address is \$15. *Although the association has selected a new design for pole-mounted signage, we will keep using the traditional "F" design for curb numbers.*

Contact Ray Feyen at 817.924.6729 or e-mail rfeyen@sbcglobal.net



Be aware there is another curb painter also offering a smaller F stencil. Choose as you like but please never let anyone use a color other than the historic brown or new burgundy.

We're Online! ↗

Visit www.historicfairmount.com or join us on Facebook

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

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 Ricky Pike at 817.727.4577 or e-mail membership@historicfairmount.com.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Occupation: _____

I am a new renewing member (check one)

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City Councilperson Joel Burns	817.392.8890
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Code Officer Oscar Reyes.....	817.979.4230
Oscar.Reyes@fortworthgov.org	
Fort Worth Police Department	
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NPO Joel Stary	817.944.1316
Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org	
Garbage info/illegal dumping	817.392.EASY
Graffiti.....	817.212.2700
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Jamie Zwolak	817.392.8037
James.Zwolak@fortworthgov.org	
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www.fortworthgov.org/applications/tpwcrf	
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The Fairmount newsletter is published 11 times a year (*Jan./Feb. issues are combined*) and distributed the weekend prior to the fourth Tuesday of each month.