

Woodmere News

WOODMERE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION . . . BEAUTIFUL PARKS AND HOME TO THE ARTS

Volume IX, Issue 3

Summer 2011

President's Commentary

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer months and being able to take advantage of get-away vacations with the kids and family or just hanging around the house. I just wish it wasn't so hot and humid. At least we are getting some relief with some afternoon thunderstorms and showers. We have just concluded a very successful Woodmere Neighborhood Yard Sale and have started making plans for our annual Day in the Park event for the early fall. This is a Must- Come- To- Event. If you like good music, good food, great location and want to meet your neighbors from the subdivision, please mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 4, 2011.

Jimmy Gunn



I would ask that each and every one of you to please pay your 2011 Woodmere Neighborhood Association dues within the next month, if you have not already done so. At the current time, we have 124 paid members out of approximately 776 households in Woodmere. We need a lot more of you to come on board and make a statement that you are behind the WNA Board and want to make Woodmere the premier place to live in the city of Montgomery. It doesn't matter if you own or rent, we all have a vested interest in our neighborhood to make it attractive, safe and a wholesome place to come home to everyday. Your \$25.00 annual membership fee allows the board to plan new projects for the neighborhood and to carry them out. We just had a new entrance sign to the neighborhood erected on Carmichael Road and plans are to put up an identical sign at the entrance on Woodmere Boulevard the first of next year. We want to be able to plan for some attractive landscaping around the new sign on Woodmere Boulevard. We want to be able to erect a flagpole at the Woodmere Boulevard entrance. We acquired the necessary signatures to petition for the stop signs on Woodmere Boulevard. We are actively working to see more enforcement of the city ordinances. We design and print a quarterly newsletter that is delivered to your door to keep you informed of important events in the neighborhood. We schedule and conduct quarterly meetings at the Museum, maintain the WNA website and our E-News update. We are working to make sure Woodmere remains a very desirable and safe neighborhood to live in for the future. Please fill out the 2011 WNA membership application at the back of the newsletter and send it in today. You will not regret it.

We need for you to volunteer to be a Zone Coordinator, Block Captain, serve as an Officer or be on a Committee. The pay is not much, but the rewards are tremendous. Call me and tell me you want to serve. My phone number is 277-7667. If you have any ideas or suggestions that would help our neighborhood, please email us at info@woodmeremontgomery.com. Your input is important to us. Be proactive and take an interest in your neighborhood. Let's all work together to make Woodmere the best.

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Thursday, April 11, 2011
6:30 p.m. | Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

The guest speaker will be
Evette Hester, Executive Director, Montgomery Housing Authority



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

Jessie Donaldson
1st Vice President
Forest Grove Ct.
271-4428

Chris Brodie
2nd Vice President
Salisbury Place
277-5986

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Melissa Martin
Treasurer
Queen Elizabeth Ct.
324-4540

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

www.woodmeremontgomery.com

info@woodmeremontgomery.com

City Contacts

Mayor's Office
241-2000

City Council
241-2097

Animal Control
241-2970

Police
241-2651

Fire
241-2400

Recycling
241-2925

Housing Code
Enforcement
241-2068

For all emergencies,
please call 911.

For ordinances:
www.montgomeryal.gov

The WOODMERE NEWS is the official publication of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, PO Box 231473, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

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Website: www.woodmeremontgomery.com

Financial Report

Melissa Martin, Treasurer

	April	May	June	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	3195.11	3320.11	3121.11	2158.06	
Income					
Membership Dues	125.00	225.00	225.00	2975.00	3750.00
Advertisements	0.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
T-Shirts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	2100.00	0.00
Total Income	125.00	225.00	285.00	5135.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	0.00	374.00	0.00	748.00	1400.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1200.00
Administrative Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	2813.57	203.00
Meeting Room	0.00	50.00	0.00	100.00	200.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.38	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Crime Prevention	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.00
Total Expenses	0.00	424.00	0.00	3836.95	3750.00
Ending Balance	3320.11	3121.11	3406.11	3456.11	

Quarterly Meeting Minutes - May 12, 2011

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, February 10 for its quarterly meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium. President Jimmy Gunn called the meeting to order. The attendees were given updates from the committee chairs that were present at the meeting. The guest speakers for the meeting were Councilman Charles Jinright and representatives from the Montgomery Sanitation Department. Following the reports and presentations, there was a brief question and answer session from the audience.

The next quarterly meeting will be on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. All are invited to attend.



Visit us online at www.woodmeremontgomery.com

The Wind Dancer

Today I saw a feather
Dancing on the breeze,
Floating ever so lightly
Upward toward the trees.

It looked so fine and delicate
The color of purest white,
And it seemed to have a purpose
As it continued on it's flight.

It looked like a graceful dancer
As it would twist, turn and bend,
Following some beautiful music
Like a ballet on the wind.

I could almost hear the music
As it gained it's lofty height,
Until when, all of a sudden....
It danced completely out of sight!

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Upcoming Events

WNA Neighborhood Meeting
August 11

Day in the Park
October 4

WNA Neighborhood Meeting
November 10

May 2011 Yards of the Month



1619 Sandstone Court



1604 Salisbury Place



5808 Green Way Drive

Convenient Recycling Locations

City Owned Containers (Serviced by Wesson Recycling)

- Aldersgate United Methodist Church – 6610 Vaughn Road – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- AUM Ball Park – University Drive off Gravel Road – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Brewbaker Junior High School – 4425 Brewbaker Drive – Metals and #1 & #2 Plastic
- Fain Park Complex – 8700 Minnie Brown Road – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Faulkner University – 5315 Atlanta Highway – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church – 6000 Atlanta Highway – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Goodwyn Community Center – 205 Perry Hill Road – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Lagoon Park – 2855 Lagoon Park Drive – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Landmark Church of Christ – 1800 Halcyon Boulevard – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Messiah Lutheran Church ELCA – 6670 Vaughn Road – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Stivers Ford – 4000 Eastern Boulevard – Paper Products, Cardboard, Aluminum & Steel Cans, #1 & #2 Plastics (Two Containers)
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Montgomery – 2810 Atlanta Highway – Paper Products & Cardboard
- Zoo – 2301 Coliseum Parkway – Paper Products and Cardboard

Saturday Drop-Off Locations

1st & 3rd Saturday – 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

- Bellingsrath Middle School – 3350 South Court Street
- Dannelly Elementary – 3425 Carter Hill Road
- Goodwyn Jr. High – 209 Perry Hill Road
- Halcyon Elementary – 1501 Parkview Drive
- Peter Crump Elementary – 3510 Woodley Road
- Southlawn Middle School – 5333 Mobile Highway
- Wares Ferry Elementary – 6425 Wares Ferry Road

Please note: This is not a complete listing of drop-off locations. For a complete list, please contact the Montgomery Sanitation Department at 241-2925 or online at www.montgomeryal.gov.



New Flood Plain Maps

You may have noticed articles in the newspaper or on TV about the new FEMA flood plain maps for Montgomery and how these new maps may affect your need for Federal Flood Insurance. A meeting was held at Garrett Elementary School on McLemore Road on July 14 with officials in attendance from FEMA, the state, the county and the city. I am pleased to report that according to the state officials at the meeting and the FEMA maps available for viewing at the meeting, none of Woodmere neighborhood will be affected. If our neighborhood had been affected, your mortgage company could require you to obtain flood insurance or they would obtain it for you.

Jessie Donaldson



Be On The Lookout For Coyotes

That long tailed bushy stray dog you see in your neighborhood may not be a dog. There have been recent sightings of coyotes in the Woodmere and Bellwood neighborhoods. They are out there and they will go anywhere they can find food. If you are leaving food outside for your pets at night, chances are you may be feeding coyotes. Coyotes are spreading into most suburban and urban areas. They are learning to cope and exist in heavily populated parts of the country. Coyotes have learned to be active at night when humans are inactive.

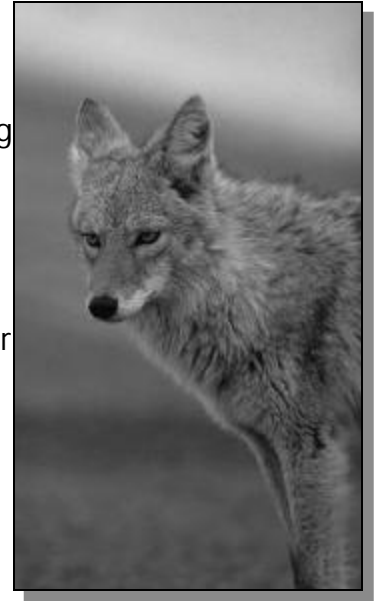
Once a creature found mostly on the Great Plains, now coyotes have spread almost nationwide. They are rapidly becoming more of a problem in areas you would never expect to find them. Coyotes may vary in coloration from dull yellow to light tan to dark brown to gray. They may vary in size up to the size of a large dog. Usually they are about the size of a medium dog.

The chances of them attacking a human are almost non-existent but they do pose a danger, especially to pets.

Since they have been spotted in our neighborhood, here are a few guidelines that may help to discourage them:

- **Don't encourage the animal.** Don't make them feel welcome.
- **Scare the coyote away.** Make loud noises, jump up and down waving your arms. Even bright lights help.
- **Don't leave food out.** Since coyotes are always on the prowl for food, take up any pet food that's outside and secure garbage cans so they can't tip over.
- **Keep small pets inside when possible.** Experts say when a coyote is lurking around your neighborhood, a little dog or cat, left outside at night inside an invisible fence is a sitting duck.

Jessie Donaldson



The Cost of Litter

The indirect costs of litter on quality-of-life are considerable. Indirect costs include the degree to which litter reduces the value of real estate, deters a customer from entering a business, or a new employer from locating to a community. To measure these impacts of litter, a 2009 study conducted by Keep America Beautiful surveyed homeowners, realtors, and business development officials.

- 93% of homeowners say a littered neighborhood would decrease their assessment of a home's value and influences their decision to purchase a property. And 40% estimated that litter would reduce a home's value by 10% to 24%.
- 36% of business development officials say that litter impacts a decision to locate to a community.
- 55% of realtors think that litter reduces property values by about 9%.
- 60% of property appraisers would reduce a home's value if it was littered.
- The presence of litter in a community decreases property values by a little over 7%, according to the National Association of Home Builders pricing model.



Crime Prevention Tips to Consider

Unfortunately, illegal entries into homes in our area—and others—happen from time to time. Residents can do more to protect themselves and their property than the association can do. Here are a few common-sense suggestions for reducing your chances of being the target of burglary.

- Install double-cylinder, dead-bolt locks on your outside doors and include a reinforced strike plate to strengthen the doorframe.
- Lock all doors and windows no matter how briefly you'll be out of the house.
- Install bars or lock pins on sliding doors and windows. These are available at local hardware or discount stores. Some mechanisms allow you to lock a sliding window or door in a partially-open position so you can enjoy fresh air securely while you're at home. However, if you go out, close the window and lock it.
- That old trick of hiding a key somewhere outside your home is a bad idea. Burglars—or anyone who may have seen you hiding the key—will know where to find it. Instead, give a key to a neighbor.
- "John, I've gone to pick up your sister. I'll be home at 3:30.—Mom" This note also means, "Burglar, this house will be unoccupied for 45 minutes. Help yourself." Don't ever leave notes like this.
- If you're going to be out of the house for a short time, leave a television or radio on to create a sense of activity and presence.
- If you're going to be away for a longer time, such as a vacation, take a few simple precautions to keep your home from looking empty. Ask a neighbor to collect or place a temporary hold on your mail, keep the door and porch clear of delivery notices, newspapers and fliers. Pick up several electric timers at the local discount store, and use them to turn lights, a television or radios on and off at various times during the day and evening. Let your neighbors know how to reach you in case there's an emergency.
- Marking your valuable personal property won't prevent it from being stolen, but it will help you get it back if it is. Engrave your driver's license number on items in a hidden area. Photographing the item (and the engraved marking, if possible) will make it easier to retrieve your items from the police if they are recovered, and will aid in making an insurance claim if they aren't.



It doesn't take much to discourage a burglar. He succeeds on opportunity, and if your home doesn't offer a good opportunity, he'll move on to one that does.

City of Montgomery Election - Tuesday, August 23, 2011

The following deadlines assure the election process runs smoothly for voters, candidates and polling officials.

- Register to vote or update your voter registration information.
- Thursday, July 14 request for an absentee application begins.
- Friday, August 12 deadline to register to vote or updating voting address.
- Last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is Thursday, August 18.
- Hand-delivery deadline for an Absentee Ballot is Monday, August 22 and must be received at The Election Office by noon on Tuesday, August 23.
- Election Day is Tuesday, August 23 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the voter's designated polling places.

Where to register in Montgomery County:

- All Driver's License Divisions of the Probate Judge's Offices
- All county libraries
- All county health department offices
- All county agencies (Food Stamps, Welfare, Rehabilitation, etc.)
- And 100 South Lawrence Street

Voter registration is cutoff 10 days prior to any election. For more information regarding registering to vote and absentee voting visit www.montgomeryelectioncenter.org or call The Montgomery Election Center at 832-1281.

Five Easy Tips for a Beautiful Lawn

Jessie Donaldson

A well-kept lawn does more than add color and curb appeal to your home—it can increase its value as much as 11 percent according to the experts. Here are five tips you can use to keep your lawn looking green and healthy.

- **Test the soil.** A test will evaluate the status of your soil. It will also tell you the soil's pH level to determine if it's acidic, alkaline, or neutral. The local cooperative extension service can provide you with information and materials to perform a test.
- **Fertilize.** The results of your soil test will help you choose your fertilizer or any other nutrient needs for your lawn. You may need to apply lime to adjust the PH level of the soil. Fertilizer application is an important practice that affects grass color and helps prevent weed problems and disease. If you're not sure which kind to use, take your test results to a gardening center and get their advice. To be eco-friendly, consider using slow-release organic fertilizers. Feed your lawn. Be sure your fertilizer is right for your type of grass.
- **Stay sharp.** Dull mower blades will leave grass with ragged tips rather than a clean edge. With some types of grass, this may be even more noticeable and may harm the grass. Most of the lawns in East Montgomery are Bermuda which has a small narrow leaf but there are some Centipede and St. Augustine lawns in the area. Lawn care specialists suggest changing or sharpening your mower blades every four to six weeks during the growing season.
- **Don't go too short.** Let grass grow to a length of about 3 to 3 ½ inches during the growing season. Cutting grass too short can damage your lawn. When mowing, cut about 1/3 of the grass blade. Do not scalp the lawn. During our hot and dry summers, you may do serious harm to your lawn. Cut your lawn often. In our area, you need to plan on cutting at least once a week.
- **Hire a professional.** If you don't have the time or patience to maintain your lawn, consider using a lawn care service. They can take the guesswork out of the process by ensuring that your lawn gets the proper nutrients and care. Some services specialize in organic, eco-friendly lawn care.



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Neighborhood Association!



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WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2011 Membership Form

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

Date: _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

PHONE _____

CELL _____

WORK _____

EMAIL 1 _____

EMAIL 2 _____

New Association Member Renewal

Please indicate your preference for receiving correspondence from the Association for such items as the newsletter, meeting notices, etc.

Email Door mail

Association dues are \$25 annually. All memberships expire on December 31.

The Association is always looking for volunteers. Please indicate your interest below:

- Parks Committee
- Streets and Sidewalks Committee
- Crime Prevention Committee
- Newsletter
- Newsletter Distribution
- Block Captain
- Other skills/interests _____

Please note: We send out a monthly newsletter, the *Woodmere eNews*. If you provide your email address(es), you will receive this newsletter. We also send out notices about lost and found pets. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us an email.

Please send your check payable to: **Woodmere Neighborhood Association**

For WNA Use Only
Check No. _____
Amount: _____
Date: _____