



The Nor'westener



Serving Concerned Readers in greater Clark Pines, Cottage Grove, Hidden Lake, Holly Park, Lazybrook, Oak Forest, Shady Acres, Timbergrove Court, Timbergrove Manor, Timbergrove Terrace and Woodcrest.

"To Inform"

Community News Since August, 2002

March 5, 2009

Online Issue

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From Angie Greak, President, Timbergrove Manor Civic Club:

Timbergrove Manor Civic Club's

next regularly scheduled general meeting will be:

**Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. Lazybrook Baptist Church
1822 W. 18th Street**

The focus of the discussion/presentation portion of the meeting will be:

**The Opening of Salford Street
Will it be**

Lane Splitters or a Traffic Circle?

Guests for the evening's discussion will be:

**Council Member Toni Lawrence or a representative from her office,
Andy Icken, Public Works Deputy Director
and**

**anticipated attendance by representative(s) from
Traffic and Engineering**

The six slides presented at the February 19 Special Called meeting on Salford, which illustrate the choices to be made, are available on the TMCC website: www.timbergrovesmanor.org

As the City expects a decision from stakeholders within thirty days of the February 19 meeting, the community must make a decision at the March 10th meeting. Please bring a positive attitude so we can get the best result for the area. **We will take input/votes from all parties involved, not just TMCC residents.**

Please bring a few cans of food to the meeting to donate to Lazybrook Church's food bank for the needy. Please be sure to check the use-by date on donated items as the food bank cannot distribute out-of-date food.

Neighborhood Watch for Timbergrove West – January Crime Report

From the publicly available HPD Monthly Crime Reports for 2009 for TM-West (Sections 5 - 14). Timbergrove Manor along with the greater Shady Acres, Clark Pines, Lazybrook and Holly Park are in Patrol Beat 2A60. Source HPD monthly crime reports for 2A60 may be accessed at: <http://www.houstontx.gov/police/cs/beatpages/cs2a60.htm> Scroll down on that page to the calendars and select the month for which data is being sought.

1/08/09	Burglary Home	1200 Manville	7:50 a.m.*	Vacant home
1/23/09	Burglary Garage/Carport	6300 Pineshade Ln	9:00 a.m.*	
1/26/09	Burglary Home	6100 Abington Way	12:00 noon*	
1/27/09	Burglary Home	6200 Hurst	7:15 a.m.*	
1/27/09	Burglary Home	6600 Kury Ln.	9:00 a.m.*	

and on TM's boundary street with Holly Park and in Holly Park:

1/26/09	Burglary Home	1700 Salford Dr.	12:30 p.m.*	
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*Indicates the time the incident was reported. The actual time of occurrence may be different.

For those who check the monthly crime report you will also see a narcotic incident at 1700 Tannehill Dr., 1/21/09. This happened as part of a traffic stop and is not included in TM's total.

I will again strongly encourage neighbors living within TMCC's boundaries to participate in the club's block captain email alert system. Contact Carolyn@CAROLYNBRYANT.COM to find your block captain. If your block has no active captain consider volunteering for this minimal time function to help keep your immediate neighbors informed of criminal activity, lost/found pets, etc.

Eric Carlson has developed a web site displaying monthly reported crime locations within 2A60 on a web-based map. Use the zoom feature located on the left of the map to expand a given area. Click on a crime icon for incident details. <http://www.ericcarlson.net/crimestats/2A60.html>

As a follow-up from last month's report; an HPD patrol officer stopped and questioned a suspect who had been reported as following a female jogger in the early morning hours in East TM. A workup on the suspect – checking for outstanding warrants etc – revealed nothing that would justify the officer arresting the fellow, but I have every confidence he got the message his behavior was not acceptable. Credit is owed to East TM neighbors who assembled a good description of the vehicle/license number and got the information to our local HPD Heights storefront officers who issued an alert slip requesting additional patrols in the area.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Scheduled

City of Houston Household Hazardous Waste personnel will be conducting a **Batteries, Oil, Paint and Anti-freeze** collection on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of Lazybrook Baptist Church, 1822 W. 18th Street - located some one block west of Ella Blvd.

With Earth Day falling on April 22 this year Timbergrove Manor Civic Club, Timbergrove Manor Neighborhood Association and Lazybrook Civic Club are collectively encouraging their neighbors and those from other neighborhoods in the greater area to participate in this "Celebrate Earth Day Weekend '09" event.

The Mobil B.O.P.A. truck used in these type events is not equipped to handle all the items that can be dropped off at the city's hazardous waste facilities. The Mobil BOPA equipment permits accepting only: automotive style (wet cell) batteries, dry cell batteries of all types and especially rechargeable batteries - Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride and Lithium Ion, paint of all types and paint related products, used motor oil (5-gallon limit per family), oil filters, antifreeze (Cont.)

and other petroleum based auto products - but no gasoline. All liquids are required to be in sealed, non-leaking containers. The original container with label is preferable. Repackaged items must be labeled as to contents. This is a rain or shine event.

Washington Avenue Eco-Fair



Enjoy a day filled with fun and activity as many businesses of the **WASHINGTON AVENUE DISTRICT** feature specials and entertainment. Pick up an area map at any location with a **WAVE** window sticker. Grab a **Go-Rev-Go** electrocab and ride - for a tip - from a participating **WAVE** business to any other, or to.....

Spend some afternoon time, between 1:00 and 5:00, visiting the **Spotts Park WAVE Eco-fair** presented in collaboration with Mayor Bill White's office. **GO GREEN** representatives from many City departments will be at the fair to provide information about their programs. Lots of green community organizations including **Houston Bat Team, Native Plant Society, White Oak Bayou Association, GHASP / MfCA, and Galveston Bay Foundation** will be sharing their knowledge and information about their initiatives.

Bring your young ones to the **CHILDREN'S SPOTT** at Spotts Park where they'll get to interact with **Hitts Theater, The Orange Show, The Weather Museum** and more. Plus a chance to win tickets to **The Children's Museum**.

The **WAVE** Eco-fair entertainment will be provided by **MECA**.



Spott's Park is located at 401 S. Heights Blvd. immediately north of Memorial Drive.

From: THE WAUGH BAT MONITOR:

VIEWING HOUSTON'S BAT COLONY



Up to 250 thousand Mexican Free-tail bats emerge at dusk from the Waugh Street bridge crevices. This bridge spans Buffalo Bayou between Allen Parkway and Memorial Drive less than a mile from downtown Houston, Texas. Look for the tall building with the American Flag on the top. The AIG tower is directly across the street from the bat viewing platform.

GPS Coordinates: N 29° 35.077' W 95° 14.476'

Presentations about the Waugh Street Bats will be given by Texas Parks and Wildlife personnel or Houston Bat Project team members starting about 20 minutes before sunset on the dates listed. Come meet our volunteers – see and hear about the bats on **1st & 3rd Friday and Saturday nights**. 3rd Fridays are Family Nights at the bridge. PLEASE check the temperature - IF BELOW 50° - Bats may not emerge. Friday, March 6 sunset 6:23 pm; Saturday, March 7 sunset 6:24 pm; Friday, March 20 sunset 7:32 pm; Saturday, March 21 sunset 7:33 pm

Visit The Waugh Bat Monitor web site at: (Cont.)

<http://community-2.webtv.net/masternaturalist/THEWAUGHBATMONITOR/> for a couple pages of information on the bats and information on viewing the bats from Buffalo Bayou Partnership's 2nd Friday-of-each-month pontoon boat tour up Buffalo Bayou launching from Allen's landing. These trips normally occur from March thru October. Contact Buffalobayou.org for times & cost.

Trash Bash Saturday – March 28

Once a year thousands of volunteers gather along the Texas waterways to do their part in cleaning up the environment and participate in the largest statewide event to educate the public about the importance of our water resources. The closest event to the greater TM area is Little Thicket Park located at 1900 W. 23rd St. just west of Ella Blvd.

This is a half-day event with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and a free lunch is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Each participant must sign a [registration form](#), also known as the liability form, for the event. Registration is in the NE corner of the Lowe's parking lot located on the corner of North Loop 610 West and Ella. Shuttle vans will transport participants to and from the park because parking is VERY limited onsite. For a map/further information go to: <http://www.trashbash.org/>

Little Thicket Park, located at 1831 West 23rd Street, is a 10.6-acre slice of nature. The City acquired the original tract in 1957 for \$1.00 from Hugh January and Leslie L. Appelt. The men declined to have their names given to the park, so it was named Helberg Park after the old Helberg estate, which it was carved from. It backed up to White Oak Bayou, which at that time was a pristine wilderness. Flood control issues caused the bayou to be rerouted into another channel and lined with concrete in 1957. Fortunately, the streambed at Helberg Park was left alone. An additional tract was bought from Appelt in 1970 and added to the park.

Fire Ant Time

Spring is the best time to deal with established or newly erupting Fire Ant mounds. Treat mounds before temperatures rise and new queens escape to establish new mounds. Treatments vary from quicker acting poisons to slower acting growth inhibitors. There are products recommended for general area broadcasting, some promising season-long protection, and for mound application. There are powders, granular baits and dilute-and-drench products. All are poisons and given the labels indicate the various products are harmful to mammals (hey that us), fish or water fowl none of them should be applied in quantities beyond label instructions and ALL should be handled with care. Having had the opportunity to try a number of these products in dealing with fire ants on the W. 18th street esplanades, experience has taught none are 100% effective. I will strongly recommend that wide-spectrum poisons be avoided in broadcast applications, given the extensive collateral damage done to beneficial insects. Baits are typically oil infused corn meal products, many with effective product life measured in weeks after opening before it spoils and ceases attracting the ants. Green Light has a product approved for use in organic gardening applications – but it still has warnings concerning harm to other-than-fire ants. Unless there is a severe infestation problem I'll recommend staying with mound treatments – scattering any type poison generally around the environment just doesn't make a whole lot of sense. One might join with other immediate neighbors in treating mounds at the same time and as new mounds appear for best control. Almost all the products come in bags sized to be beyond the needs of an individual homeowner. Refer to the Prairie View A&M report at <http://www.extension.org/faq/824> for a not too lengthy discussion of fire ant control products.

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To sign up for direct delivery to your email address simply send an email and ask to be added to the distribution.