



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2014

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS & VIEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • WWW.ARLINGTONHEIGHTSNA.COM

YOUNG ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MOMS LAUNCH INAUGURAL EVENT AT COMMUNITY CENTER

It doesn't take a demographer to see that Arlington Heights is trending younger. The huge spike in young moms pushing baby strollers on our neighborhood sidewalks is hard to miss.

Early this November, Holly Emler, mother of two, arrived at the Thomas Place Community Center playground wearing her third outfit of the day. And it wasn't noon yet. "Will kept spitting up this morning," she explains to Courtney Holt, her nearby neighbor, also a mother of two. "Me, too," admits Courtney who is still nursing and blames the Halloween candy she ate that upset daughter Georgia's tummy.

The conversation is par for the course for the Arlington Heights Fort Worth Moms Group, the brainchild of Holly and Vanessa Grinnell. "We wanted to find a way to connect up the young moms in the neighborhood," says Holly who started a Facebook page late last spring, right before she gave birth to her second child.

Holly moved from Seattle to Arlington Heights two years ago with her family, discovering Thomas Place Community Center before they had even moved in. "We were driving around looking at houses and when we saw Thomas Place, it looked almost exactly like our neighborhood community center in Seattle," says Holly. "We like Arlington Heights because it's so community oriented."

It's a brisk 7-minute walk from Holly's home to Thomas Place, a trek she makes often, pushing her two kids in a double stroller. It's where Holly met Vanessa Grinnell and her daughter, Audrey, very soon after moving to the neighborhood. Holly's son, Leo, was almost the same age as Audrey. "Holly started talking to me the first time I saw her at Thomas Place and we just instantly hit it off," says Vanessa, who had never traded phone numbers with other moms she'd met in the park. "Holly and I have similar parenting styles; I respect her as a mom." The two moms and their kids started doing things together, going to the zoo, playing at each other's homes, and meeting at the park. As Holly and Vanessa's friendship grew, so, too, their kids'.

Meanwhile, both moms were working on having a second child. Vanessa's Vivian arrived five months before Holly's Will, so now their play dates and nap times accommodate a new brother and sister. "We text each other 'Can I drop off Leo while I take Will to the doctor?' or 'Heading over to Trader Joe's, do you need anything?'" says Holly who loves having the extra support. "We help each other however we can," Vanessa adds. It is one of the reasons Holly wanted to start a Facebook page for neighborhood moms, "I want other moms to have access to



The playground at Thomas Place Community Center is a regular meeting spot for Arlington Heights moms Vanessa Grinnell, Courtney Holt and Holly Emler (left to right) and their kids Audrey and Vivian Grinnell, Soren and Georgia Holt, and Leo and Will Emler (left to right). The moms have started a neighborhood Facebook page exclusively for young moms.

that, too," she explains. "The goal is to create a thriving community of moms who can develop friendships with each other and help our kids develop friendships, too." Vanessa wants the Facebook page to also be a buy and sell place, where someone can post "I'm looking for a boppy" or "Anyone want to buy a car seat?"

The playground at Thomas Place Community Center is a perfect place for meeting other young moms. That's where Holly and Courtney Holt first met and discovered they lived just a half a block from each other. Ironically, Courtney's two children are almost exactly the same age as Holly's and Vanessa's. And so the moms' circle grew.

The Arlington Heights Fort Worth Moms are launching their first event on Monday November 24 at 11:00 a.m. at Thomas Place Community Center, rain or shine. It includes playtime for the kids and complimentary lunch for moms and kids, courtesy of Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association and Thomas Place Community Center. Interested? Please RSVP by November 20 via Facebook group Arlington Heights Fort Worth Moms or email Holly at holly.emler@gmail.com so there will be enough lunches for everyone. Or just drop by and say hello.



AHNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Jessica Redman
president@arlingtonheightsna.com
817-706-8111

Vice President

Kelly Jo Nial
vicepresident@arlingtonheightsna.com
817-798-0349

Secretary

Christina Patoski
secretary@arlingtonheightsna.com
817-738-0330

Treasurer

Dave Marshall
treasurer@arlingtonheightsna.com
817-229-9676

Directors at Large

Lisa Bashore
lisa.bashore@aol.com

Paul Hooper
roadhoop@gmail.com
615-594-3652

Pat McCready
patmccready5@gmail.com
214-235-4610

Renee Tidwell
tidwell1@charter.net

Sergio Yanes
s_yanes@hotmail.com
817-343-1018

AHNA COMMITTEES

Zoning/Board of Adjustment

Richard Chowning
rwofford@att.net
817-732-0586

Neighborhood Animal Concerns

Kelly Jo Nial
vicepresident@arlingtonheightsna.com
817-798-0349

Citizens on Patrol

Jan Bourne
jan_bourne@rocketmail.com
817-737-6019

Yard of the Month

Carol Berry
carol_berry@sbcglobal.net

New Neighbor Welcome Bags

Jim Gentry
jg76107@gmail.com
512-450-4434

Please send all correspondence to:
PO Box 470692
Fort Worth, Texas 76147

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by AHNA President Jessica Redman

And, so another year comes to a close. What a year it was--a year of responsibility. Looking back, I always took for granted that someone else would take care of representing the neighborhood's needs: protecting our property values; protecting us from forces of nature, like flooding, and from increased traffic due to new construction; protecting us from commercial encroachment; getting us zoned correctly to protect the value and appeal of our neighborhood. There is no one to do this, except for ourselves. We faced each of these issues during my year as your President. Somehow we have made it through, although maybe not always as fast as any of us would have liked and maybe we didn't always get the answers that made everyone happy. It is up to each and every one of us to hold the neighborhood together, to get the best deal possible, and to make our city leaders know "Do Not Tread" on Arlington Heights.

So what do I ask of you this one last time?

VOLUNTEER. Working together we've been able to make some very big changes in our organization. Membership is up. Attendance at our meetings this last half of the year has jumped. A cornerstone of my Presidency was to get more young people involved. We now are getting more young couples, singles, and parents involved with us than ever before. Please read about the free lunch and playtime that AHNA is helping to sponsor for the Arlington Heights moms who have recently organized in our neighborhood. These things are just the tip of the iceberg. With your help, we can make an even bigger difference this coming year.

VOTE. Another important responsibility is to vote. Freedom is not free. Representational government only works when those governed vote on the issues on the ballot. We as a neighborhood only get listened to when our elected officials know that we vote in every election. Arlington Heights needs to turn out more voters every election, so please do your part by voting and get your neighbors to vote, too.

Most important, BE VOCAL. Don't just be a complainer about how you don't like something in our neighborhood. Get involved with AHNA, let others know what you think, and let the city know, too. The only way our great neighborhood will stay great is by keeping it that way. If you want to change your zoning, do it! If you want to hold a special event, tell us about it and let's do it together.

It takes a village to make a great neighborhood. I leave you with a neighborhood a little better than it was when I got here. Now, please help incoming AHNA President Brenda Helmer make it even better. I know I will!

CONNECT WITH US!

LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @AHNAFW

Neighborhood Patrol Officer Tom McNutt

817-992-0187
thomas.mcnuitt@fortworthtexas.gov

Fort Worth Police
non-emergency
number
817-335-4222

Fort Worth City Councilman Dennis Shingleton

817-392-8807
district7@fortworthtexas.gov

Code Compliance Officer

Marc Oler
817-879-8429
marc.oler@fortworthtexas.gov

THANKSGIVING POT LUCK DINNER TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18

The festivities start early at 6:00 p.m. to give everyone plenty of time to enjoy each other and the bounties of the season. Central Market is generously providing delicious turkey, stuffing and gravy--it's up to you to bring the rest of the goodies to fill out the holiday feast. AHNA will provide non-alcoholic beverages. This year, you are encouraged to bring your own wine, beer or spirits.

Sally's Flowers is graciously donating floral arrangements that will be given away to a lucky few at the end of the dinner. So bring your kids, bring your neighbors and enjoy this special annual neighborhood event. Everyone is welcome.

NO DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Even though we meet on the third Tuesday of every month, AHNA always takes a breather during December. The holiday calendars fill up with parties, travel and other obligations, so we have decided the best thing to do is to give AHNA members time off to enjoy their family and friends.

Please make plans to join us for the AHNA Winter Social on Tuesday January 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fort Worth Firefighters Hall, 3855 Tulsa Way at Crestline Road. It will be BYOB, so come prepared for a good time visiting with your neighbors.

ADVERTISING RATES

Current circulation is 400 households bi-monthly

Business card: \$25

1/4 Page: \$50

1/2 Page: \$100

Full Page: \$200

Call 817-738-0330 or email newsletter@arlingtonheightсна.com

Funds in Unrestricted Bank Account

\$5,702.29 - Balance as of 10/31/14

Funds in Restricted Bank Account

\$5,242.75 - Balance as of 10/31/14



AHNA Meeting Schedule

NEW DAY AND NEW PLACE

Tuesday November 18, 2014
(Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner)

No December meeting
Happy Holidays!

Tuesday January 20, 2015
Winter Social - BYOB

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Every 3rd Tuesday
Our meetings are held at the Fort Worth Firefighters Hall
3855 Tulsa Way at Crestline Road



Become a member

receive your newsletter six times a year!

Please check: ☐ New member ☐ Renewing member

☐ Household \$15 ☐ Senior \$10 ☐ Business \$25

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

What are your concerns/interests? _____

Would you like to join a committee? _____

Please mail annual dues (\$15 for household, \$25 for business) to:

AHNA, PO Box 470692, Fort Worth, TX 76147-0692

*The boundaries of
Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
are the triangle of
Camp Bowie Boulevard on the north
Montgomery Street on the east
and Interstate Highway 30
on the south and west.*

Got Room for Improvement?

■ Old House Specialists

■ Kitchens & Baths

■ Landscape

■ Interiors

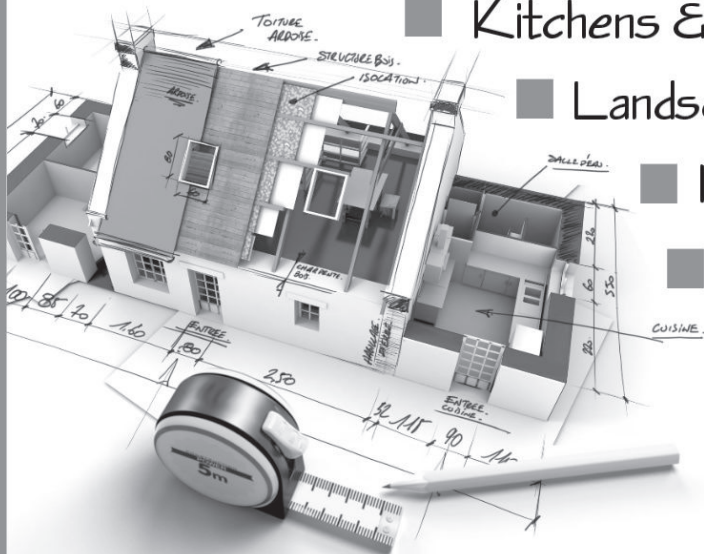
■ Additions



Making Homes Better Since 1961

817-907-4809

jeff@design-guys.com



"Who Else Wants to Lose AT LEAST 15 Pounds and Look and Feel Better Than You Have in Years?"

Your KICKSTART Program Includes:

- 8 Fat-Blasting Accelerator Training Sessions (\$340 Value)
- 4-week Membership at our Private Training Studio (\$32 Value)
- Fast Start Consultation (\$40 value)
- LeanBody Done-for-You Fat Loss Meal Plan (\$57 value)
- Unlimited E-mail Coaching (Priceless)



Sally Joslin, 48

lost 21 pounds and 19 inches



CUSTOM KICKSTART PROGRAM

~~\$469~~ ONLY **\$197**

Save **\$272!**

This special program is available ONLY to the FIRST 111 APPLICANTS if you register before November 21, 2014!

Call **Dave Fannin** at The Body Firm – **817.320.0743**

FREE Special Report "The Ultimate Body Transformation Secret" at: thebodyfirm.biz/kickstart

the body firm

personal training

817.320.0743 ■ thebodyfirm.biz ■ Get results.



PET SITTING OF FORT WORTH
IN-HOME PET CARE



Our job is for you to be able to go away and know your home and your precious pets are in the BEST possible care.

Call me today! Visit our website for a **FREE** in-home evaluation and to view our prices.

www.preciouspaws-ftw.com
(817) 266-1985



Since 2005
Amy Taylor Owner & Operator

Visit us on Facebook®
at Precious Paws Pet
Sitting Fort Worth

Making Smiles BEAUTIFUL For the Whole Family!



-NEW PATIENTS RECEIVE-

CLEANING

-Includes-
Fluoride and
Oral Hygiene
Instructions

\$39

FREE EXAM

With
Necessary X-Rays

INCLUDES

- Consultation
- Oral Cancer Screening
- Health History Review

\$246 Value

- Preventative Care
- Tooth Colored Fillings
- Crowns
- Bridges
- Porcelain Veneers
- Teeth Whitening

- Root Canals
- Extractions
- Full & Partial Dentures
- Implant Prosthetics
- Sleep Apnea & Snoring Appliances
- Insurance Welcome

JEFF KELLEY, D.D.S.

General & Cosmetic Dentistry

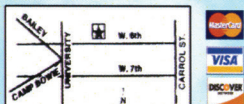
817-877-1651

2924 West 6th St.
Ft. Worth, TX 76107

Between University Dr. & Montgomery Plaza

Emergency Appointments
Seen Same Day

Open Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.



NEW AHNA OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2015

New officers and Executive Board members were elected at the AHNA membership meeting in October. Their terms will begin January 1, 2015 and run through the end of the year.

Incoming AHNA President Brenda Helmer is looking forward to a year that promises to hold a number of challenges for the association, including mitigating the negative impacts of the new Will Rogers arena, as well as looking for solutions to the chronic flooding in three different areas of the neighborhood.

New to the board this year is Sam Duncan who was elected Secretary. Sam is the Library Director at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art and has served in the past as Secretary to the Art Libraries Society of North America-Texas/Mexico chapter and is currently the webmaster for the chapter.

John Morris will return to the board after taking a year off. Renee Tidwell will take over Treasurer's duties after being an At-Large board member for the past two years. Outgoing AHNA President Jessica Redman is staying on the board as an At-Large member. Other returning board members include Lisa Bashore, Dave Marshall, Pat McCready, Kelly Jo Nial, Christina Patoski, and Sergio Yanes.



COMPLETE CARE CAMP BOWIE

Need Immediate Medical Care?

When you or someone you love needs immediate medical care or suffers a medical emergency, you shouldn't have to wait for an appointment or in the waiting room at a hospital emergency department for the medical care you need now. Here you will find a state-of-the-art emergency room with all the staff, the equipment, and the expertise ready to help you with your medical needs.

Average wait times at 15 minutes!

**Ask us
about our
prompt pay
discounts**

**OPEN 24/7
WE NEVER CLOSE!**



6006 Camp Bowie Blvd, Fort Worth, Tx 76116
Phone: 817-984-1026

www.completeemergencycare.com/fort-worth

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING DILEMMA

by Christina Patoski

Few subjects rattle the nerves of Arlington Heights residents, especially those living near the Will Rogers campus, as much as on-street parking. Or lack thereof. It's an everyday problem on the first blocks west of Montgomery Street. It gets worse and spreads deeper into the neighborhood when there's a big event at Will Rogers, like the annual 23 day-long Stock Show and Rodeo or the Cowtown Marathon.

Ask Patricia Ward who lives on Watonga Street, just a few houses west of Montgomery Street. Many of the vintage 1920s bungalow homes there were built without garages; those with garages usually only accommodate a single car. Parked cars on both sides of the narrow street create line of sight hazards when residents try to back out of their driveways.

Permanently installed No Parking signs went in several years ago along the north side of the first two blocks of Crestline Road, because police and fire couldn't get through when both sides of the street were parked. So, on street parking on this heavily traveled cut-through street is already a scarce commodity.

Jim Wietholter who lives on Crestline isn't convinced that a residential permit parking program will make things better. He points to the two 4-unit apartment buildings near him and does the math: if each household gets 3 parking permits, that's 24 cars allowed on a street that can accommodate about 12 cars total.

Another of Wietholter's concerns is how a permit program would be enforced. During last year's rodeo, an oversized pickup truck was abandoned next to a No Parking sign on the street near his house. He called the police multiple times to report it and asked for it to be towed. It took three months before it was towed away.

David Berning has City Hall on speed dial to report parking freeloaders from the museums and Will Rogers events who park in front of his house on Washburn Avenue. Even though there are permanently installed No Parking signs, people routinely ignore them and park there anyway. For years, David has been forwarding license numbers and photographs of the illegally parked vehicles, mostly to little avail.

Most neighbors agree that the arena will make an already bad situation even worse. What to do?

David Miley, who has lived on Tulsa Way for thirty-five years, says there's an easy solution to the problem: quit charging for parking at Will Rogers. He points to the 1,117 parking spaces in the Western Heritage Garage which is almost never full, or even close to full, and observes some people just simply refuse to pay for parking. As soon as they started charging for parking at Will Rogers, parking on the neighborhood streets skyrocketed.

There are currently two small residential permit parking programs in Fort Worth. North Hi Mount neighborhood initiated theirs two years ago after University of North Texas Health Science Center opened a new parking garage and started charging students \$95 a year to park there. Because students started parking on the nearby neighborhood streets instead of paying, six residential blocks turned in petitions with a 2/3 majority asking the City of Fort Worth for a permit program.

The city installed permanent restricted parking signs, leaving it up to the North Hi Mount Neighborhood Association to decide about the hours and days of restrictions and how many permits per household. It is also the responsibility of the neighborhood association to distribute the permits.

Enforcement is also up to the residents who have been instructed to call their Neighborhood Patrol Officer to report illegal parkers. Even though there is a towing graphic on the signs, no cars have ever been towed, according to Sabine Martin, one of several neighbors in charge of the North Hi Mount permit program. Even so, Sabine says the signs have pretty much stopped the students from parking on the neighborhood streets.

TCU's Bluebonnet Hills neighborhood resident parking permit program covers just two blocks near the campus. It started out with temporary paper signs (like the ones currently used in Arlington Heights during rodeo) displayed during home football games. But, students just pulled up the signs and parked there anyway and if they got ticketed, lenient judges often dismissed the tickets.

Then, permanent signs that limited parking 24/7 to residents only were installed. Parking violations are \$100 a ticket. Even though the signs display a towing truck graphic, towing rarely occurs because police say they don't have time to wait for the tow truck to arrive at the scene. As flawed as the system is, residents say it's essentially done what they wanted it to do.

Even though neither of these two neighborhood street parking situations are an apples to apples comparison to the problems the 14,000 seat Will Rogers arena will have on the nearby residential neighbors, it's an obvious option to consider.

Concurrent with the recent announcement of the new Will Rogers arena, City Councilman Dennis Shingleton, the elected city representative of Arlington Heights as well as the Will Rogers area, asked Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association if it would consider administering a parking permit program for the neighbors near the arena. AHNA Executive Board members didn't exactly jump at the idea. For starters, it wasn't clear that a permit program is what the affected neighbors wanted. Even if they do want a permit program, the board wondered why should they be burdened with providing free labor to mitigate a problem they didn't create. Then, there was the past history.

Back in 2009, when the Western Heritage Garage was being built on Montgomery Street, city staff anticipated nearby residential streets would be negatively impacted by people looking for free parking. The idea of a resident permit parking program was presented to residents on streets near the parking garage, but was resoundingly rejected, even by those who were negatively impacted. It died a quick death, until a few months ago.

At the end of October, Councilman Shingleton mailed a letter to property owners throughout Arlington Heights and acknowledged, "While the proposed multipurpose arena will bring new entertainment opportunities to the City, I recognize that legitimate concerns have been raised by those who live closest to the site." He asked AHNA

Executive Board member Sergio Yanes to chair a Street Parking Task Force "to generate ideas and solutions for neighborhood parking west of Montgomery Street."

The task force committee will "pursue and suggest any viable solution that will minimize the impact of WRMC/Arena events on the neighborhood streets," Shingleton says. A very tall task.

Sergio Yanes is no stranger to tall tasks. A Fulbright scholar, he is a consulting engineer with CP & Y where he has spent the bulk of his career overseeing construction projects at DFW Airport. He has been an AHNA Executive Board member since 2011 and served as one of two of AHNA's chief negotiators with Christ Chapel Bible Church during their recent zoning changes and expansion. In 2008, Sergio served as an AHNA representative during neighborhood gas lease negotiations.

The first order of business for the Street Parking Task Force will be to listen to the impacted neighbors, as well as study how neighborhoods in other cities have handled similar situations. The task force will also conduct a written survey of affected neighbors. The impact of the arena on Arlington Heights will go far beyond creating parking problems. Traffic, increased crime, trash, light and sound pollution are just a few of the other inevitable issues up ahead.

The first of a series of special neighborhood meetings on parking will be held on Tuesday December 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fort Worth Firefighters



The Cowtown Marathon and 23-day long Stock Show and Rodeo are two of many annual Will Rogers events that crowd the streets of nearby Arlington Heights with parking freeloaders who will walk a mile to avoid paying for parking. (Photo by David Miley)

Hall, 3855 Tulsa Way at Crestline Road. This is your opportunity to voice your concerns and to play a part in the long process of building consensus for a way forward. The meeting is open to everyone.

If you would like to be notified about future meetings, please send your email address to parking@arlingtonheightsna.com.



Deck the halls with
boughs of *Ilex aquifolium*,
fa, la, la, la, la ...

May your holidays be rooted in love,
joy, and peace on earth

Happy Holidays from BRIT.®



BOTANICAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS®

Plant to planet.®

ph 817.332.4441 fx 817.332.4112
1700 University Drive Fort Worth, TX 76107-3400
Follow us @BRIT_org Facebook.com/BRITorg

R.I.P. HITCHING POST, 1900-2014

by Derik Lattig

I was made from cement shipped by railroad and water from the Trinity River towards the end of the 19th century, as the great age of horse-drawn transportation came to a close.

I was part of the 2,186 acres known as Camp Bowie.

Hundreds of hands touched me while men tied up horses, wagons and carriages in those early years. Some apprehensive, some confident, some bewildered about their fate after leaving the Camp and heading off to fight a war.

By 1919, the soldiers had moved and contractors began marking plots for what they called neighborhoods. Those survey men tied their horses to me while they carefully marked out property lines for homes to be built in what would become the Hi Mount District.

I witnessed early Model A's and Model T's, making it down a muddy and later brick laid Camp Bowie Boulevard in all types of weather, rain, snow, ice and, of course, heat. As construction began on a house near me on what is now called Owasso Street and Tulsa Way, the contractors tied their horse-drawn wagons to me.

I watched over the next five years as the area around me transformed from desert prairie and scrub brush to what dozens would call home. The brick houses, with their shiny, polished wood floors, crisp roof lines and the flower beds full of iris, ivy, and magnolia trees, all drew happy new families to the area.

Some of those families used me to tie up their horses, but by the early 1930's, I was seeing more automobiles go by on Camp Bowie and fewer horses. The neighborhood children began to use me as a base for a hide and seek game, or as a meeting place for dozens of super-secret clubs where jacks were played beneath my base and baseball cards were traded.

Over the years, atop me my metal hook, once bright and shiny, turned dull and brown from the rain, snow and ice I endured, however, I was made to last and my concrete body only showed a few chips. Some of the children who played around me said their goodbyes to each other as they shipped off to fight another war, some to never return.

As the neighborhood grew older, I saw few, if any, horses around me, but many more automobiles with their chrome bumpers and fins. And the music changed over the years from guitars and harmonicas, to orchestra, to what they call rock and roll.

A few of those, who once played beneath me in those carefree days, were now raising their own kids and walked by me in colorful strollers, while the older kids zoomed by in metal pedal cars and bicycles. I had not been used in years, but everyone knew who I was. "Want to go to a movie? Meet you at the Hitching Post."

As time went on, the cars changed to bigger engines and became more sporty, eventually to what they called 'luxury' and larger than



One of Arlington Heights' few surviving antique horse hitches, like the one shown here, was recently demolished by a contractor who was hired by the City of Fort Worth to install new ADA-compliant curb ramps at the corner of Tulsa Way and Owasso Street. (Photo by Derik Lattig)

the carriages which once were lined in front of me. As the families grew older and moved and passed on, the houses became home to new people, cheery, full of hope and appreciative of such a wonderful neighborhood.

With the years passing more quickly now I became obsolete to many. Some who walked by me daily had no idea what I was or the history I witnessed. One man walked by me every day for ten years and would put his hands on me, almost trying to touch those who had passed by those many, many years before.

As I stood tall and strong, yet a bit weathered last week, a man in a hard hat approached me speaking a foreign language. Why is he swinging a sledgehammer at me? Why is he chipping away at me, why, what have I done, except stand and witness time go by? As he smashed my once perfect triangular concrete body into tiny chunks of concrete and threw it into a pile, I wondered about my crime. When the dump truck backed in to haul away what was left of me, the man who walked by everyday approached the crew and asked why.

A supervisor for the now sprawling city never admitted to a mistake and said he was 'limited in the actions he could take against the contractor' over my destruction. That Official gleefully said 'we'll build another one' to the man who tried to help me.

The Man called his Councilman, the Mayor, the Historical Society and the State seeking answers. No one seemed to care. After all, to them, at least, I was only a Hitching Post.

HISTORIC HORSE HITCH DESTROYED

On the afternoon of October 11, Derik Lattig was taking a walk through the neighborhood, as he does almost every day for the last ten years. As he rounded the corner from his home on Crestline Road, he noticed that one of his most beloved neighborhood touchstones, the antique horse hitch at the corner of Tulsa Way and Owasso Street was gone.

A construction crew contracted by the City of Fort Worth was installing ADA-compliant curb ramps, so Derik approached the supervisor who conceded "it was probably destroyed by the crew and he was sorry," Derik says he was told.

Heartbroken and outraged that a cherished relic from Arlington Heights' past could be so thoughtlessly demolished, Derik called Councilman Dennis Shingleton's office to report the destructive deed. An hour later, Derik was contacted by Andy Anderson of the city's Transportation and Public Works Department who said he would investigate and call back.

When Derik called him back, Mr. Anderson told him "Good news, we're going to build a new one for you, pardner." Derik was appalled and told him "Pardon the pun, but the horse is already out of the barn on this one, what good would a new one do?" Derik demanded that someone be held accountable for destroying the historic horse hitch. Mr. Anderson told him he was limited on how he could deal with the contractor whose employee destroyed it.

Derik called Mayor Betsy Price's office, but never got a call back. Then, he contacted JLB Contracting whose employee destroyed the

hitch. The contractor blamed the city for not properly marking or telling the contractor that the historic hitch was there. Derik says the JLB representative told him, "We've been round and round with the Historical Society on this one and the city should have marked it." Derik asked him why their workers didn't check with their supervisor when they saw something out of the ordinary before destroying it. "That was met with a blank stare," according to Derik.

Then, it was back to Mr. Anderson in TPW. Derik suggested he make a note to put in the file of the contractor, so the next time bids are reviewed, this incident would be in noted. Mr. Anderson said he could not do that.

The next call was to the Texas Historical Commission where Derik talked to an archeologist who listened to his story and said she would call him back. He never got the call back, but the Commission apparently notified the city because workers were back working on the Tulsa Way corner and assured Derik that they would be installing another antique horse hitch there.

There's no bringing back the original historic horse hitch, but Derik is bound and determined to stop more of them from being destroyed, "We simply can't have contractors destroying historic elements to our neighborhood with no repercussions."



Ruth Story, Broker Associate
(817) 992 - 9232
askRuthStory@gmail.com

Trusted... Reliable... Experienced

Your home may be worth more than you think!

The low inventory of existing homes continues to push prices up in many neighborhoods, producing a strong sellers market!

Call or email today for your free consultation, including discussions and advice on:

Your home's estimated value	Preparing your home for sale
Pricing strategies	Marketing & Presentation of
Market timing	your home
Staging	Answers to your questions

Whether you are selling or buying, please call or email and let us know how we can help!

www.RuthStoryOnline.com

OCTOBER YARD OF THE MONTH

Terry Silvester was surprised, but happy when his yard was selected as the AHNA October Yard of the Month. Though not a showstopper, Terry's yard makes a good case for the adage of "More is not necessarily more" when it comes to creating a harmonious and pleasing front yard landscape.

Terry is the owner of Silvester Paint, a small house painting business, so his sense of aesthetics are finely tuned to colors and hues. He says the reason he bought his house on the corner of Birchman and Tremont Avenues was for the two huge cedar trees in the front and the two pecans in the back.

"I said if I'm going to live in Texas, I've got to have some trees," remembers Terry who moved here from Oklahoma City twenty-one years ago.



AHNA's October Yard of the Month at the corner of Calmont and Tremont Avenues is a harmonious symphony of green, accentuated by two enormous cedar trees.

Terry has enjoyed his cedar trees immensely and finds them to be especially beautiful when they are wet. "The red trunks just pop," he says. Two mimosa trees also came with the house, but all that remains is a small remnant of one of them. He would like to get more of these "old school" ornamental trees.

After they moved in, Terry and his wife Sara planted red tip photinias and ivy, but the photinias have since grown up over the ivy. Close to the house is a border of boxwoods and what Terry calls "snowball shrubs". Terry does all of the artistic shrub sculpting himself. He also designed his own home-grown watering system that is pressure-driven, not electric.

Most of the plants in the front yard beds are hardy perennials, like Texas sage, rose of Sharon, and Turk's cap. Near the small Japanese pagoda lawn ornament, Terry planted cockscomb in pots this year. "Next year I'm going to be the Cockscomb King," he says. He cut off all the blooms after they had gone to seed, dried them, crumbled all the seeds out and brought them inside for the winter. In the spring, he'll plant them into tilled soil and voila, more cockscomb!

He is a fan of monkey grass because it's hearty and doesn't take a lot of water. He often digs it up and moves it around to different areas of the yard during the year.

"I have a green thumb, but it's still trial and error," confesses Terry. He doesn't buy a lot of plants; most of them are given to him by his customers.

"My yard is my relaxation," he says. "If a plant wants to live here, that's great, but if it doesn't survive, that's okay, too."

When it was time to paint the house, wife Sara wanted to paint it green, "so we both agreed on a silver green color to match the hue of the cedar tree foliage", creating a true symphony of green.

Terry, like all the AHNA Yard of the Month winners, received a \$25 gift certificate from Archie's Gardenland and a free year's membership to Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association. If you would like to become a voting member of the Yard of the Month Committee, please contact Carol Berry at carol_berry@sbcglobal.net.



Howell Home Services

Quality beyond necessary®

Renovations Additions
Repairs Maintenance

817.680.3446

EPA Lead-Safe Certified Firm NAT-93683-1
© 2011 Howell Homes, LLC

NOVEMBER YARD OF THE MONTH

The AHNA Yard of the Month award has never been given to a yard more than once. That is, until now. Laura and Bob Jenkins' yard first received the award in September 2008, but they've made so many dramatic and creative changes since then that the Yard of the Month Committee thought they deserved to be recognized a second time.

Two years ago, the Jenkins, who live at the corner of Hillcrest Street and El Campo Avenue, tore out their circular driveway and created the perfect spot for a new, large landscaping bed facing the side street. Laura found inspiration in another AHNA Yard of the Month at the corner of Hulen Street and Pershing Avenue. "I went over and Claude Badgett showed me all of his plants," says Laura who admired all the different textures Claude had achieved in his side yard beds. "Mine is a miniature version of his."



Laura and Bob Jenkins' yard, brimming with color and texture at the corner of Hillcrest Street and El Campo Avenue, is a team effort that they both enjoy doing themselves.

Laura was drawn to Claude's Blue Atlas cedars because of their incongruous, asymmetrical shapes, "like pine trees in a swamp". She planted three, lost one, and is shopping for a replacement for it. Knockout roses, Mexican feather grass, purple salvia, dwarf loropetalum, and vinca are artfully arranged beneath the cedars. Laura added some Dusty Miller because its foliage is the same color as the cedars.

Initially, the Jenkins planted the stand of tall Italian cypress to shield from their view their neighbor's 1974 hearse permanently parked in the driveway. The neighbors and hearse are long gone, but Laura is still in love with her "majestic" cypresses. Bob is a maple-lover and has found some beauties at Metro Maples in southeast Fort Worth. In the front yard bed is a Crimson Queen maple and a Tamuke yama maple, and a taller Red Emperor. By the front curb is a Fire Dragon Shantung maple.


The front yard bed is anchored with holly shrubs planted up against the house with a row of yaupon holly in front. "We put in annuals in front of the shrubs every year," Laura explains. This year's array includes hibiscus, geraniums, cockscomb, dwarf zinnias, Persian shield and dwarf dianthus. On the front porch are pots of Japanese yew and coleus.

"You'll see a lot of purple in my yard, because I have a thing for purple," Laura explains. The colorful plantings also include red, white "because it makes the other colors pop", and a little pink. The bed by the side of the house is filled with day lilies, dianthus, crepe myrtles, pittosporum, purple jew, nandinas, purple oxallis, and two red oaks. "I don't have a rhyme or reason for any of this," Laura says. "I go with what grows well; I've had lots of failures, so if it doesn't grow well, I just don't plant it again."

The yard is a team effort, with Laura providing the overall vision and care for the plantings, and Bob providing the bulk of the manual labor, as in mowing and taking care of the grass, trimming the bushes and trees, and digging the big holes. The beds are mulched every year with 3-4 inches of cedar mulch and fertilized with Miracle Gro. Bob fertilizes the grass with molasses and corn meal.

"I work out in the yard about four times a week for an hour or two, weeding and deadheading," says Laura whose parents were big gardeners. "Their yard puts ours to shame." Now that's saying something.

Williams
Trew



Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

www.williamstrew.com
817.732.8400

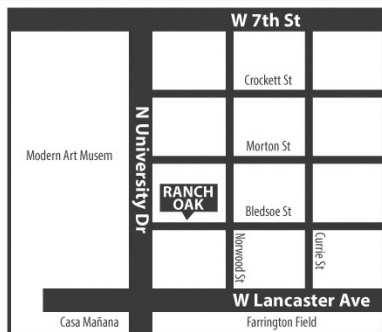
Order Texas' finest



3005 BLEDSOE STREET, FT WORTH, TX 76107

817-877-3330

WWW.RANCHOAK.COM



HOLIDAY HAMS & TURKEYS



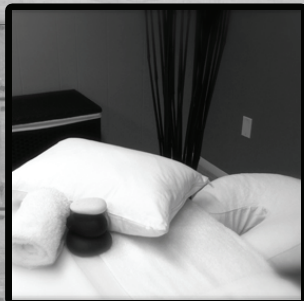
Calming States



Paul Kennedy LMT

Licensed Massage Therapist

Therapeutic Massage
Deep Tissue
Medical Massage
Reflexology
Reiki and More!



**NO SHAVE
NOVEMBER**

During the Month of November I will be donating 10% of the fees collected from all of the services performed at Calming States to The American Cancer Society's "No Shave November" Fundraiser. see www.calmingstates.com for more details

5608 Malvey Ave Suite 211
Fort Worth, TX 76107

214.417.3732

www.calmingstates.com

*Compassionate
Healthcare*

*Caring for you where
your roots are planted.*

- Companionship
- Mobility
- Bathing & Dressing
- Transportation/Errands
- Laundry
- Meal Preparation

Locally owned and operated

Call NOW for
your **FREE**
in-home
Assessment!

If you are a Veteran or the spouse of a Veteran, you may qualify for
VA Aid & Attendance.
We can help!

Licensed by the Texas Department of Aging and
Disability Services. Insured and Bonded.

817-570-9901

MORE NEIGHBORHOOD FLOODING

Most everyone is aware, by now, of the flood-prone part of Arlington Heights, behind Walgreen's Drugstore and the nearby streets of Western, Carleton and Ashland Avenues. Poor drainage is a chronic and decades-old problem there, as longtime residents can attest.

Phase 1 of a multiphase mitigation project was completed this year on Ashland Avenue. Phase 2 is set to break ground in early 2015 with the construction of a detention pond on Bryce Avenue, across the street from Walgreen's, and the installation of storm water storage tanks under Western Avenue.

What many people don't realize is that other parts of Arlington Heights flood, too. Patsy Berry has lived near Eldridge Street, south of Kincaid's Hamburgers, since 1951. Even though Patsy's home has never flooded, she says her neighbors have had flooding problems, some of them before she moved into the neighborhood. This area is in the Western Arlington Heights watershed, not the Central Arlington Heights watershed that creates havoc in the central part of the neighborhood.

Brenda Helmer has lived in the Western Arlington Heights watershed since 1998. She has noticed the flooding in her area has increased dramatically recently. Even though her house has never flooded, she has watched and taken photographs of a deep, fast-moving torrent of water cover the parkway and sidewalks in front of her house. Drainage problems seem to occur during short, intense rainfall events, not during a slow, steady rains.

Teri Kramer moved into Western Arlington Heights ten years ago. Her basement has never flooded until this past June and September. Her nearby neighbor, Tyler Davis, who moved into Arlington Heights in 2012, bought his house from a young couple who had lived there for less than three years, moving out after the house flooded. As Tyler has discovered firsthand, it still floods.

Everything came to a head this fall when Teri invited engineers from the City's Storm Water Management Department to come out and see the damage for themselves. And Teri started a Western Arlington Heights Flooding Facebook page where neighbors started posting their flooding videos and photographs. Teri has observed that "more water is coming from Neville (and the west), than from Penticost (and the north)." Construction of two new homes began this year on the 5000 block of Birchman Avenue, east of the Meadowmere gated community. "We are concerned that they have been a tipping point in our problem," Teri writes on the Facebook page.

At the end of September, city engineers toured the neighborhood with Teri and a few of her neighbors and followed up by ordering an inspection of the area storm water inlets. The inspection results showed no debris that would have caused the drainage problems. Since then, the engineers have been working on a drainage improvement concept for this part of the neighborhood, but say there are technical challenges. In the meantime, the neighbors have hired an outside consulting engineer to assess the drainage issues. The city's engineers are scheduled to meet with the consulting engineer and hope to get all the information they need to develop a drainage improvement for the area.



During this past June's intense rain storm, flood waters rose quickly in the 4900 block of Birchman Avenue, causing damage to a number of properties. (Photo by Brenda Helmer)



PAM ANDERSON
INDEPENDENT DESIGNER #29101
ORIGAMI OWL

YourLocketLady@aol.com
pamanderson.origamiowl.com
469-789-9316

shop ♥ host ♥ join



ALBEE BROS
A DESIGN BUILD COMPANY

817-923-7815

HOME IMPROVEMENTS, ROOFING, REPAIRS, ETC.
Kitchens, Bathrooms, Garage Conversions, Room Additions
Landscapes, Waterscapes, Xeriscapes, Tree Trimming
We Do It All!

SINCE 1978 BBB Accredited TRCC #39639
ALBEE.BROS@ATT.NET

Bring your smile to us!

Otice Z. Helmer, Jr., D.D.S.



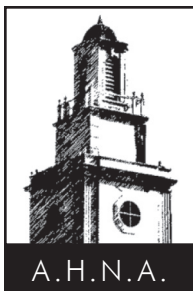
817-924-1111

4431 Oak Park Lane

(across from the Post Office @ Hulen)

7:40am - 5:00pm Monday through Thursday

- Cosmetic and Family Dentistry
- Bleaching
- Dental Implants
- Most Insurance accepted
- Providing quality dental health care since 1970
- New Patients Welcomed



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

**P.O. BOX 470692
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
76147**