

Woodmere News

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

Volume IX, Issue 1

Winter 2011

President's Commentary

Sunshine and Happy Days Are Coming

I hope everyone in our fine community has thawed out from the winter storms and have been enjoying the sunshine. This sure has not been the type of weather that we are accustomed to here in Montgomery, Alabama. There are several projects that I would like to share with you that the board has been working on for a good while and bring you up to speed as to where we are. The first one is the installation of a new neighborhood entrance sign located on Carmichael Road. The current sign is in bad shape and beyond repair and has seen its good years. Through the effort and hard work of the WNA board over the past 14 months, I am proud to announce that we have the money available to put up a new sign that will enhance the appearance when entering into the Woodmere neighborhood. The money is being made available from a grant that we received from BONDS, the generosity of our city councilman, Charles Jinright, and from monies from the WNA treasury. Keep a lookout for the sign in the days to come. The second project is that the WNA will have a Spring Cleanup in April or May of this year and we need your help not only to identify the eyesores in the neighborhood that need special attention, but also to participate in the cleanup and make the eyesores go away this year. Let your board members or block captains know what you would like to see cleaned up and let's take care of the eyesores when we have the Spring Cleanup. It is also time to pay the WNA membership fees for the 2011 year. We had 163 paid members last year and would like to increase that number considerably this year. The cost is only \$25.00. Write that check today and become a member of the WNA, whose board will always be looking out for your best interest.

Jimmy Gunn



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

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Thursday, February 10, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

We hope to see you there!

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 any other problems,
please call 311

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.

The WOODMERE NEWS is published four times a year. Views and conclusions expressed in articles herein are those of the authors, not necessarily those of the editors or officers of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Advertising: Inquiries should be directed to the Woodmere Neighborhood Association. Rates will be furnished upon request. The Woodmere Neighborhood Association reserves the right to omit any advertising or editorial copy deemed to be unsuitable for publication. Publication herein does not necessarily imply endorsement of any product or service offered.

Website: www.woodmeremontgomery.com

Financial Report

Melissa Martin, Treasurer

	October	November	December	Year to Date	Budget
Beginning Balance	2286.06	1835.06	2158.06	3392.42	
Income					
Membership Dues	0.00	325.00	0.00	2275.00	3750.00
Advertisements	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	0.00
T-Shirts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	0.00	325.00	0.00	2395.00	3750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	374.00	0.00	0.00	1100.00	1400.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	628.49	1200.00
Administrative Expenses	27.00	2.00	0.00	178.44	203.00
Meeting Room	50.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	200.00
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.40	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.18	300.00
Crime Prevention	0.00	0.00	0.00	410.00	200.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	530.85	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.00
Total Expenses	451.00	2.00	0.00	3629.36	3750.00
Ending Balance	1835.06	2158.06	2158.06	2158.06	

Quarterly Meeting Minutes - November 4, 2010

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association met on Thursday, November 4 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 speaker for the meeting was Councilman Charles Jinright. Following the reports and presentations, there was a brief question and answer session from the audience.

The next quarterly meeting will be on Thursday, February 10, 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

Did You Know?

There are many areas of life where, with a bit of effort, we can reduce the amount of energy we use. Here are some tips from the U.S. Department of Energy for saving energy while driving.

- Idling gets you 0 miles per gallon. The best way to warm up a vehicle is to drive it. No more than 30 seconds of idling on winter days is needed. Anything more simply wastes fuel and increases emissions.
- Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration, and hard braking) wastes gas. It can lower your highway gas mileage 33% and city mileage 5%.
- Avoid high speeds. Above 60 mph, gas mileage drops rapidly.
- Clear out your car; extra weight decreases gas mileage by 1% to 2% for every 100 pounds.
- Reduce drag by placing items inside the car or trunk rather than on roof racks. A roof rack or carrier provides additional cargo space and may allow you to buy a smaller car. However, loaded roofs rack can decrease your fuel economy by 5% or more.

Information found in the Energy Savers Booklet on the U.S. Department of Energy webpage - www.energysavers.gov/pdfs/energy_savers.pdf



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A Note from the Editor....

We try to put information that is useful to our residents in our quarterly newsletters. What I find interesting, you might not find interesting. Send me an email and let me know what type of articles you would like to see in our newsletter. If you have an article that you would like to submit, please send me an email at this email address:
info@woodmeremontgomery.com.
The account is checked daily.

RECYCLING OPTIONS

Recycling can be dropped off on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at one of seven recycling drop-off sites located around Montgomery:

Halcyon Elementary • Goodwyn Jr. High
Dannelly Elementary • Wares Ferry Elementary
Peter Crump Elementary • Bellingrath Jr. High
Southlawn Middle School

Place your aluminum, paper, and cardboard only in a plastic bag, paper bag or cardboard box and drop it off at one of these sites between 9 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

The following locations are available for dropping off your recycling at any time:

McInnis Recycling Center at 4341 Norman Bridge Rd
Mount Scrap at 824 North Decatur Street

Recycling bins are also located at:
Garrett Elementary • Capital Heights Jr. High
Maggie St. Baptist Church • Bellingrath Jr. High
McKee Elementary • Floyd Middle Magnet
Jeff Davis High School • Frazer Memorial UMC

Bins collect different materials; please call 241-2925 for specifics. More bins to be added shortly.

Natural Home

The average family spends about \$1,900 a year on home utility bills, yet a large portion of that energy is wasted. However, with a bit of investigating, home owners can find ways to save energy and money on home energy bills. One approach is a Home Energy Audit where everything from user behavior, the age of the home, the climate of the region and even the home owner's billing history are looked at to find where energy is being wasted and propose the best ways to correct them for long term benefit and savings. Some energy home improvements earn tax incentives for the home owner as well.

While there are ideas and techniques individuals can use on their own, home owners may want to bring in a professional, whether by contacting local utilities or hiring a professional contractor to assess the home.

For more information go to the US Department of Energy's Energy Savers Booklet at http://www.energysavers.gov/pdfs/energy_savers.pdf

PUPPY LOVE

He couldn't wait to see her
 Each day sitting there,
 She had the brownest eyes
 And a ribbon in her hair.

Sitting in the window
 Basking in the sun,
 She never saw the stranger
 Whose heart she had won.

How he longed to be with her
 And ached to tell her so,
 But his heart was breaking
 Because she'd never know.

For she lived a pampered life
 So delicate and sweet,
 And he was just a stray
 Living on the street.

But each day he would be faithful
 Just like a shining star,
 And he'd have to be content
 To love her from afar.

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Do you recycle? Do you love animals?

If you are an animal lover and a recycler, you may be interested in knowing that the Montgomery Humane Society can use some recyclables to benefit the animals in their care. The following is a list of useful items:

Shredded paper (the long cut type, not confetti),
 Newspapers, Aluminum cans,
 Towels-any size, Blankets- any size.

To find out more about the shelter and their use of recycled goods, call 409-0622; they will be glad to take donations and answer questions.



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Don Armstrong
 Vice President, Residential Sales

3045 Mobile Highway
 Montgomery, AL 36108
 Phone: (334) 558-0889
 Cell: 657-4717

FAX: (334) 262-0244
 Email: don@unitedheating.net
 www.unitedheating.net

**Please see Woodmere
 website for offer to residents,
 or call Don at 657-4717**

Street Spam

"Street Spam" is any advertisement posted illegally in any public place. You can help fight this blight! Most laws and ordinances classify these signs as either common litter or abandoned property. As such, they are fair game for removal by anyone. From Chapter 24 of the Code of City Ordinances, please be aware of the following ordinances. These ordinances are applicable to yard sale signs and other such signs attached to utility poles, etc. Such posting of these signs is illegal.

Chapter 24 - SIGNS

Sec. 24-1. - Prohibited on public property. No signs are permitted at any time on public property such as a city street right-of-way and a utility pole.

Sec. 24-2. - Placing around Court Square Fountain - Prohibited on public property. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or have placed around the site of Court Square Fountain, on the fountain, fence or on any part thereof, signs of any sort or description.

Sec. 24-3. - Placing on poles and trees. It shall be unlawful for any person to post or paste or otherwise to attach any signboard, bill, advertisement or other paper upon a pole erected by any telegraph, telephone, electric light or power company, or to fire alarm poles or to any tree growing on any street in the city, or to any fixed object on city-owned property.

Sec. 24-4. - Placing on buildings and verandas. It shall be unlawful for any person to attach any bill, advertising matter or other paper to any veranda or the front of any building in the city.

Sec. 24-5. - Owners and occupants not to permit certain signs on premises.

It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of premises in the city to permit any fence, house, store, wall or veranda thereon to have pasted, hung or attached thereto any showbill or advertising posters.

Sec. 24-6. - Defacing or destroying.

It shall be unlawful for any person to tear down, deface or destroy advertising signs or bulletins in the city without having obtained the consent of the owner of such signs or bulletins, or the owner of the property upon which signs or bulletins are displayed.

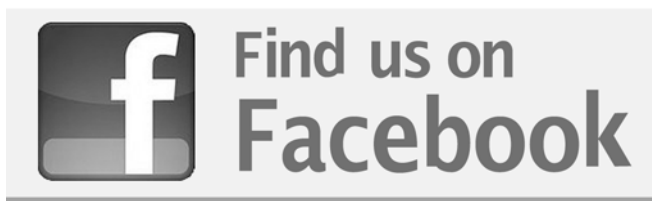
Sec. 24-7. - Injuring or carrying away professional plates and signs. It shall be unlawful for any person to take down, deface or carry away any signboard, plate or card indicating the name, occupation or business of any person in the city.

Internet Safety Tips

- To guard against identity theft, never give out your Social Security number. Treat it as confidential information.
- Commit all passwords to memory. Never write them down or carry them with you.
- When using an ATM machine, make sure no one is hovering over you and can see you enter your password.
- Adopt an attitude of healthy skepticism toward websites that offer prizes or giveaways. Chances are, all that's been "won" is the opportunity to buy something you didn't want in the first place.
- Choose a commercial online service that offers parental control features.
- Tell your children never to give out their address, telephone number, password, school name or any other personal information.
- Make sure your children know to never agree to meet face-to-face with someone they've met online without discussing it with you. Only if you decide that it's okay to meet their "cyber-friend" should they arrange to meet this person, and then the meeting should be in a familiar public place in the presence of a trusted adult.
- Tell your children never to respond to messages that have bad words, are scary, or just seem weird.
- Tell your children never to enter an area that charges for services without asking you first.
- Tell your children never to send a picture of themselves to anyone without your permission.
- Make sure that access to the Internet at your children's school is monitored by adults.

Jessie Donaldson





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Neighborhood Association!



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Do You Have a Hazardous Intersection?

From Chapter 27 and Article I of the Code of City Ordinances, please be aware of the following ordinances. These ordinances are applicable to shrubbery near intersections. Please make sure that you are in compliance with this ordinance.

Sec 27.11 Regulation of hazardous intersections.

- a. In any residence or local business district, no obstruction to vision, including shrubbery or any plant growth between the heights of three feet and 15 feet above street level shall be permitted within 35 feet of the intersection of the right-of-way lines of two public streets or of two railroads' rights-of-way; or of a public street and a railroad right-of-way.
- b. With respect to the planting of shrubbery or with the respect to any existing plant growth on city-owned, county-owned or state-owned property near the intersection of public streets in the city, and in order to avoid traffic hazards and/or traffic accidents caused by blind corners at street intersections, no shrubbery or plant growth, or any obstruction, shall be permitted in that part of the street area between the traveled portion of the street and the private property, within a distance of 35 feet from the intersection corner, or where the vision of motorists or pedestrians is obstructed between the heights of three feet and 15 feet above street level, or a distance and/or height that is reasonable, for the vision as above mentioned is obstructed.
- c. Where there is an obstruction to vision creating a traffic safety hazard on any lot within the corporate limits of the city, it shall be the duty of the property owner after notice of such obstruction to promptly remove the obstruction.
- d. Any notice required to be given under this section shall be given by the chief of police. When such notice is given to a property owner of the existence of an obstruction creating a safety hazard, the property owner shall be conclusively presumed to have notice of the existence of the obstruction.
- e. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of an offense and, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$200.00 for each offense.



What You Can Do to Prevent/Reduce Litter

- Set an example for others, especially family, co-workers, friends and children by using trash and/or recycling receptacles and not littering.
- Always have available a litter bag in your car.
- If you are a smoker, carry and use a portable or pocket ashtray. Cigarette butts and filters may take up to 12 years to biodegrade. Some researchers are saying they never degrade.
- If you see litter, pick it up.

Litter Facts courtesy of Keep American Beautiful.



Family Sunshine Center

The Family Sunshine Center has been serving victims and survivors of family violence for 30 years in Autauga, Butler, Chilton, Crenshaw, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery counties. Since 1981, they have grown to incorporate services not only to victims with immediate crisis needs, but also those ready to move out of emergency shelter and into self-sufficient lifestyles. They also provide a non-residential counseling center and a community outreach program for prevention education. Most recently, they have added sexual assault counseling to the services they offer.

The staff works diligently to raise awareness about domestic violence and sexual assault and the services that are available to victims. They strive to ensure a network and positive communications among law enforcement, legal services, the court system and other agencies a victim might encounter while exiting the cycle of violence.

How can you help? The Family Sunshine Center offsets significant operational costs with community donations of various supplies. Individual donations can be dropped off from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at our business office: 858 South Court Street. For more information contact 206-2100.

Examples of needed items are:

- New & used linen for bed and bath
- New underwear for women & children
- New socks for women and children
- Toiletries FAMILY SIZE ONLY
- Disposable diapers
- New nightgowns and robes
- New household slippers
- New plastic mattress covers
- New pillows
- Laundry and dish detergents
- Baby Bottles
- New & used car seats & strollers
- School Supplies in June and July
- Back packs

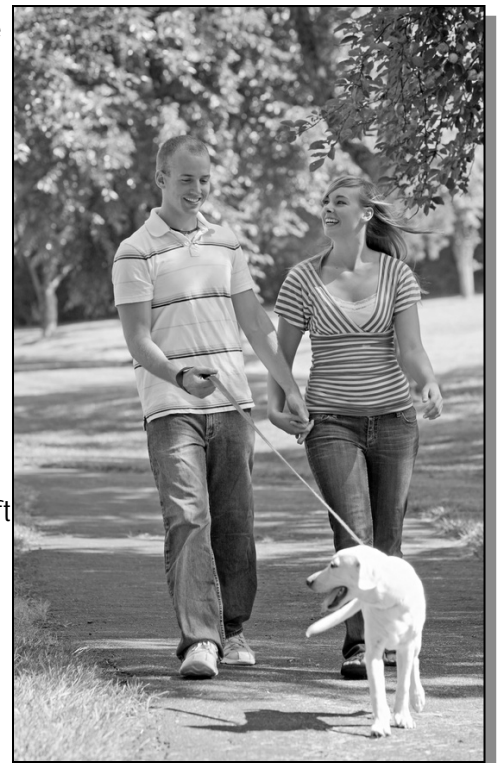


Pedestrian Safety

Beautiful scenery surrounds the walking trails in and around Woodmere and we know it is hard to resist taking advantage of this amenity. However, it's very important to use caution when walking. Follow these tips to insure you have a safe and fun walk!

1. Always walk on the sidewalk or walking path. If there is no sidewalk and you have to walk in the road, ALWAYS walk facing traffic so that you can see any car that might become out of control.
2. Dress to be seen. Brightly colored clothing makes it easier for drivers to see you during the daytime. At night, you should wear special reflective material on your clothing so that you are easily seen by traffic.
3. Tips for Crossing the Street
 - Cross only at corners or crosswalks.
 - Stop at the curb or the edge of the road. Look thoroughly to the left and right for traffic before you step into the street.
 - Remember when crossing – walk, don't run!

For more information on pedestrian safety, visit www.nhtsa.org.





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: _____