



Newsletter of the CandleRidge Homeowners Association

June 2009

from the President's Desk

I am going to borrow a page from the Star-Telegram and have a few Cheers and Jeers:

CHEERS to the many CandleRidge homeowners who have paid their dues lately. We had a tremendous response to our recent "Dues are Due" letter. We thank you very much.

CHEERS to the CandleRidge /Foxfire Citizens on Patrol (COP) now led by Tom Murray.

They continue to do a fantastic job patrolling our area. Their frequent patrols are a great deterrent against crime. If you would like to find out more about COP or maybe join the group, call Tom at 817-423-2795.

CHEERS to Bob Bollinger for serving as our webmaster for the last six months or so. Unfortunately, he recently had to resign due to increased time demands of his business.

CHEERS to Mike Nipper for doing a fantastic job of helping to maintain and improve CandleRidge Park and the entire greenbelt. Note the separate article called "CandleRidge Park News." Each of those actions required a lot of time and effort for Mike to plan and coordinate and sometimes "nudge" people to get things done. He has been very effective and persistent in that regard.

CHEERS to Jim Atkinson for his generous and persistent efforts to pick up all the trash that ends up in the creek beds and the greenbelt. If you see someone walking in the creek bed with a long stick and a trash bag full of trash, that invariably will be Jim.

CHEERS to Jane Bruckner for her time and expertise in selecting, purchasing, planting, mulching, weeding, and watering a lot of new plants at the flagpole flowerbed and a few at the Misty Meadow flower bed by French Lake. Both flower beds look better than ever before. Take a walk around French Lake and check them out.

JEERS to people who tape home made signs on city light posts and sign posts announcing that they have found or lost dogs or cats. This is a form of public littering and is against city ordinances. Please don't litter.

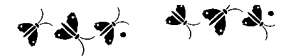
JEERS to people who let their dogs poop in the parks, especially on the sidewalks, and don't clean it up. Imagine the mess and stench we would have if everyone did that!

A hearty thanks to all of you who help to keep CandleRidge a great place to live!

Glen Estes
CHA President

Special points of interest:

- Get to know your neighbors through a new series of articles
- Congratulations to our CHA president on his award from the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods Association and the city of Fort Worth
- Our amazing French Lake Park and CandleRidge Greenbelt area continues to get better through the care of our concerned and involved neighbors in CandleRidge and the CHA Board



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CANDLERIDGE / FOXFIRE CITIZENS ON PATROL (COP) LOCAL NEWS

HOME & AUTO SECURITY ITEMS

The most effective crime prevention for the home owner is to deny the criminal the OPPORTUNITY to break into your home. In other words, don't make your home look attractive to the criminal from the street view. An open garage door, open or unlocked gates and windows ARE just a few of the opportunities the criminal looks for. Don't leave unattended yard equipment, (mowers, shrub trimmers, etc.) where a drive -by thief can stop and do a quick pick up.

If you know you will be out of town for a time, ask your trusted neighbor to collect your news papers. A yard full of news papers and advertising fliers attached to your door is a dead giveaway that you aren't home. Car burglaries are common in our neighborhoods; unfortunately many of us leave the keys in the ignition and valuables in clear sight.

THE BEST CRIME DETERRENT

Like a chain, a community is only as safe and as strong as its weakest link. We are living in some very challenging times. As the economy sours further we will see an increase

in crime. The oldest deterrent to crime is to watch each others homes and property and report suspicious activity to the police. Unfortunately the Fort Worth Police at times are short handed and may not be able to respond quickly. It has been observed that when a neighborhood is being patrolled on a regular basis by the FWPD and Code Blue (Citizens on Patrol), crime in that neighborhood drops. Our COP program needs more people like you. I was recently stopped by a young man wanting to know about the Fort Worth Police COP program. A house in his neighborhood was raided by police and it turns out the entire house was being used to grow marijuana. Needless to say this young man was concerned for the safety of his family. Get to know your neighbors and let's work together to prevent our neighborhoods from becoming a target for crime and gangs. For information on the Fort Worth Police COP volunteer program and training schedule, please call or contact me by e-mail.

Tom & Donna Murray
817-423-2795
tdandm@sbcglobal.net



Crime Information Website

Do You Want to Check Crimes in Your Neighborhood?

Log on to dfwcrime.star-telegram.com

This is an interesting, informative, and even FUN website that will tell you what types of crimes were committed in your area in the past week. It will show eleven categories of crimes and locates them on a map. To focus on CandleRidge, click on Fort Worth, then Far South Fort Worth. It is similar to MAPSCO where you can zoom in or out and shift up or down or left and right. You can even choose between a map or a satellite view.

CandleRidge Park News

Much has been going on during the last nine months to improve the park. It has been a very successful cooperative effort between CandleRidge Homeowners Association (CHA), the FW Parks Dept., and various volunteers. Here is a list of items and status of each:

Vertical signs – 13 new signs have been installed replacing the rotting wood ones. The new ones look like wood, but are made of recycled plastic and are very strong and durable. CHA paid for the materials, and the Parks Dept. routed and painted the lettering, removed the old signs, and installed the new ones. They look great.

Benches and picnic tables throughout the park have been repainted. The Parks Dept. provided the paint, and resident volunteers did the painting.

Cowtown Cleanup – As part of this annual spring event, a dozen resident volunteers spent half a day cleaning up the creek beds feeding into French Lake and along Weatherwood Dr. More than 20 large bags of trash were collected. This will significantly reduce the debris that ends up in the lake after heavy rains.

Weeds in creek beds – The Parks Dept. has replaced its herbicide sprayer and says it will not let the weeds build up like last year. We hope the spraying will occur by early summer.

Playground equipment upgrade – CHA has been working with the Parks Dept. and Fort Worth Housing Authority (management of Candletree Apts) on a \$50,000 grant project that will add new play equipment for both 2-5 yr olds and 5-12 yr olds, expand the play area for 2-5 year olds, and add six benches in the shade and facing the playground. Equipment and locations have been decided, the equipment has been ordered, ground work should start in late June, and we hope to have the project complete before the end of summer.

Parcourse equipment – A 15-station course will be installed just southwest of the playground area near French Lake. The equipment was purchased by CHA from gas lease agreement funds, and we are waiting on the Parks Dept. to do the installation, which we hope to be accomplished by the end of summer.

Footbridge at French Lake – Scouts from Troop 17 (St Stephens Presbyterian) volunteered to paint and seal the bridge as part of an Eagle Scout project. The Parks Dept. provided the paint, and CHA provided some other materials. The project was completed at the end of May. Thank you Troop 17!

Flower beds – Volunteers have recently been working the shrub and flower beds around the park. Of particular note is the bed beneath the flagpole at French Lake, and a portable submersible pump was purchased to water this bed. It has never looked this good.

Water fountain repair/replacement – The popular aerator fountain at French Lake has been inoperative since last winter. The Parks Dept. did not have the budget to replace the fountain, so the CHA Board approved purchase of a new one. After further investigation, it was determined that only the electric motor needed replacement. This fountain is not only attractive, but it aerates the water to help control the algae in the lake. The Parks Dept. will do the installation, and we hope to have the fountain running as early as possible in the summer.

Drinking fountain repaired – The drinking water fountain near the footbridge at French Lake has been repaired by the Parks Dept. at CHA's request. It is the only drinking fountain in the CandleRidge Greenbelt.

If you have a suggestion for improvement to the CandleRidge Park and greenbelt or would like to volunteer for an improvement project, please contact us at Parks@CandleRidgeHomeowners.com.

Mike Nipper
Greenbelt/French Lake Preservation Committee

Introduction of a new type of article -- "CandleRidge Salutes"

What is it? Starting with this newsletter, we will periodically have a new article called "CandleRidge Salutes." It will be a biographical article about someone who lives in CandleRidge and is especially noteworthy due to outstanding achievements, unusual hobbies, interesting travels, etc. Hopefully, the person and the article will be of general interest to CandleRidge homeowners.

How does it work? We will encourage residents to submit their recommendations of persons to be honored. The recommendation (to include a draft of the article) should include enough facts to document the circumstances that deserve recognition. The recommendation should be submitted via email to CHA board member Dr. Marian Haber at tex-haber@yahoo.com. She is a retired journalism professor at Texas Wesleyan University. She will evalu-

ate and determine which article to publish. She will arrange for an interview with the person to be honored and will finalize the CandleRidge Salutes article. The honoree will review the article and authorize its publication in the newsletter.

What are the rules?

1. The subject person must currently live within the boundaries of CHA.
2. Persons may submit an article about themselves, but we prefer the article to be submitted by someone else.
3. The article must be of general interest to a broad spectrum of CHA residents due to exceptional achievements, unusual hobbies, interesting travels, etc.
4. The address, phone number, and email address of the subject person must be given with the recommendation. (This is required for further coordination but will not be included in the article.)
5. If possible, articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word format, a maximum of one page (8 1/2 x 11") in length, using a size 12 font.
6. The subject person must already have approved the initial article but also must be willing to accept additional editing of the article.
7. The subject person will review the final article and must sign a release authorizing publication of the article in the newsletter and stating that he will release CHA from all liability regarding the article.
8. The CHA has no obligation or commitment to select any article for publication.

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CandleRidge Salutes ---Margie Peschel, M.D.

Dr. Margie Peschel is probably the most outstanding person I have ever known personally. She is an over achiever who is passionate about her medical profession (pathology), cares deeply about people, and gives generously of her time and expertise to help people. She and her husband, Logan Peschel have lived in CandleRidge since 1978.

Dr. Peschel graduated cum laude from Southwestern University in 1952 with a BS in chemistry and from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in 1959 with a MD degree. She served her internship at Harris Hospital and her Pathology Residency at both Harris and at St. Joseph Hospital. She earned board certification in Pathology in Anatomical and Clinical Pathology in 1964 and Pathology in Blood Banking in 1978.

Her interest in medicine began when she was a young child. Santa brought her a nurse's kit for Christmas and brought her younger brother a doctor's kit. According to her mother, the five year old Margie responded by saying "I want to be the doctor" and threw the nurse's kit across the room. She never let her gender slow her down. When she attended medical school, only about 3% of the students were female!

Dr. Peschel was an associate pathologist at St. Joseph Hospital from 1964-1974 and at JPS Hospital from 1974 -1976. She served as the Medical Director of Carter Blood Center for twenty one years, 1976-1997. She has been actively involved with many medical professional groups and has received numerous professional awards over the years. She served as president of the Tarrant County Medical Society in 1983 and the Texas Society of Pathologist in 1990. She received the Gold Headed Cane Award from the Tarrant County Medical Society in 1986.

Dr. Peschel earned both state and national recognition in blood banking. She chaired the Blood Bank Committee of the Texas Medical Association from 1989 -1997. Nationally, she was a member of the Standards Committee of the American Association of Blood Banks from 1985-1989 and served on their Board of Directors from 1989-1993. She was one of the "shakers and movers" in our national efforts to provide an adequate and safe blood supply when our blood supply was in jeopardy. She was instrumental in obtaining needed state legislative changes that required informed consent for blood transfusions and donor confidentiality for blood donors. Under her direction, the Carter Blood Center was one of the first in Texas with a number of innovations to include freezing red blood cells and tissue typing and bone marrow transplants.

Even though she officially retired in 1997, she continues to be incredibly active, serving on various medical boards and committees at age 77. She frequently gives talks to various groups about blood issues and general health concerns. She invariably prepares a handout tailored to that particular group and she normally wears a decorative hat. The hat has become something of a trademark for her.

She is also an active member of Genesis United Methodist Church where she recently served three years as president of the women's group. Dr. Peschel is a very loving, caring, and incredibly energetic person who gives generously of her time to help others. She deserves to be the first person to be recognized by "CandleRidge Salutes".

By Glen Estes



Park Etiquette

As many of you know, we have one of the most beautiful parks in the city of Ft. Worth. Our parks department helps in the beautification and maintenance of our park as well as the CandleRidge Homeowners Association, CandleRidge Garden Club and of course all of our wonderful neighbors. The park is for use by any and all people from our general neighborhood as well as surrounding areas. Please try to abide by the following tips:

1. Please do not throw trash on the ground; there are plenty of trash receptacles to place your trash. If able, please pick up trash and place it in the trash cans.
2. When walking your pets, please do not allow them to use the paved sidewalks to poop. There is a city ordinance that explicitly states to not allow your pet to use the sidewalk or even the grass for your dog's excrement. CHA has installed two "poop" stations filled with plastic bags for your use and convenience. They are at French Lake and at the intersection of Willow Way and Arbor Gate. Sometimes
3. Pets need sturdy collars and leashes when being walked in the park. I've seen dogs break leashes and run away from the owners. Check the leash to be sure it's not frayed and of the correct strength for the weight of the dog.
4. Not all people are dog/pet lovers. When walking/running with your pet, it's nice to go to the grass when approaching others on the sidewalk and if coming up behind walkers, call out you will be passing them with a dog.
5. When riding a bicycle, call out to walkers that you will be passing on the left or the right. This helps to avoid accidents or some to become frightened.
6. Our park is for everyone to enjoy and these reminders are just basic common courtesies that we can practice and show to each other. Let's work together to keep CandleRidge Park the most beautiful and safe in our community. Thank you to each of you for being so caring and thoughtful to our neighborhood.

Ben Ann Tomayko Good Neighbor Award

Congratulations to Glen Estes, the 2009 recipient of the Ben Ann Tomayko Good Neighbor Award. It is a true privilege to receive this award of distinction from the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods Association and the Fort Worth Neighborhood Outreach Office of the City of Fort Worth. There have been only five recipients of the Ben Ann Tomayko Good Neighbor Award. They all share the same "Ben Ann" qualities of strong leadership, thoughtfulness, inclusiveness, consideration, and can-do spirits to accomplish long lasting and great things for the neighborhoods, our communities, and our city.

Glen has done an outstanding job serving the CHA neighborhood as well as the surrounding community. He was instrumental in

having the flower bed built and maintained at French Lake, led CHA and Wedgwood South NA to a generous gas bonus signing with a sensible lease agreement, has been involved with all aspects of our park areas obtaining agreements for general improvements, and is again serving as president of CHA. Glen is also the District 6 representative on the Parks and Community Service Advisory Board. His community service is truly in the spirit of the Ben Ann Tomayko Good Neighbor Award.

Ben Ann Tomayko was a long-time community advocate who worked hard for our neighborhoods. She was the epitome of what it meant to be a dedicated neighborhood leader. That is why this award is given in her memory.

New Neighbor Committee

Welcome!

Do you know of any newcomers to CandleRidge? Please contact Marian Haber at texhaber@yahoo.com

2009 CandleRidge Homeowners Association Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone - Home _____

Telephone - Work (optional) _____

E-mail Address _____

Please complete this form and return it with your \$25 annual dues,

Senior Citizen (65 yrs.) annual dues are \$15 to:

CHA Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 331871, Fort Worth, TX 76163-1871

Your canceled check will serve as your receipt.

CandleRidge Homeowners Association never sells or otherwise shares its mailing list--we want to protect our neighbors' privacy.

More from the President

New Webmaster We have acquired the services of a new webmaster who is now in the process of analyzing the website and determining how best to update it and make it more user friendly. His name is Alan Freeman and he professionally establishes and manages websites. Check CandleRidgeHomeowners.com for an updated website about June 1st.

Help Needed We need some volunteer help and some feedback from you so your homeowners association can better serve the needs of CandleRidge.

- Assistance with periodic weeding and watering of two flower beds by French Lake
- Someone to deliver the newsletters to the main post office in north Fort Worth three or four times a year.

- Someone to help buy and serve refreshments at our general membership meeting in September (of course CHA will pay for it).
- Someone to join our board of directors as chair of our Public Service Committee. This involves liaison with the City regarding things like zoning changes and proposed exceptions to city codes, especially the sign ordinances. It also involves monitoring flagrant violations of City codes or our own deed restrictions.
- Your ideas about what the homeowners association can do to better serve the needs of CandleRidge.

Please call me at 817-292-5329 or email me at gmestes3@aol.com if you can help in any of these areas or have ideas for our improvement.

Glen Estes

Please note that the CandleRidge Homeowners Association does not endorse any products or services being advertised in the CandleRidge Homeowners Association Newsletter.

CandleRidge Homeowners
Association
—
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