



News

HISTORIC FOURTH & GILL NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

It's Halloween Party Time!

It's almost October and everyone knows what that means... time to start gearing up for the annual Halloween Party & Chili Cook-off. This is truly a Fourth and Gill tradition and is not to be missed. So, don't anger the spirits! Join us in the side yard at Kay Newton's house on the corner of Luttrell and Caswell starting at 5 p.m. on All Hallows Eve.

The Neighborhood Organization will provide hot dogs with all the fixin's, chips and drinks. It's up to the rest of you neighbors to provide the entertainment. That's right Kids (and grown-ups too), and join the put on your best disguise and costume parade. Prizes will be awarded in three categories for the kids: scariest, funniest and most original. One prize will also be awarded for best overall adult costume.



If you don't want to dress up, you might still win a prize - by bringing a pot of your famous (or soon to be famous) chili. If yours is voted the best, you will definitely win a prize. We also need people to help out with the party and serve as chili cook-off judges. If you would like to volunteer, please call Sarah Sexton at 216-5710 or email sarahthsexton@gmail.com.

So come out and join in the fun! It will be a sight to see!

Test Out Your Chili Making Skills

Whether your chili is spicy or mild, vegetarian or meat, with onions or green peppers or . . . even with grape jelly or chocolate, you could be the winner in this year's Chili Cook-Off! It is part of the Halloween Party and a great chance to get renowned accolade for your cooking! Assuming the winner is willing to share their "secret" recipe, we will print it in the next edition due out in early December.

Web Site Upgrade

The Fourth and Gill web site is getting an upgrade. We'll be unveiling a new design and new software to let multiple editors keep the site current. When it's ready, we'll announce the official launch on the email list at groups.yahoo.com/group/fourthandgillneighborhood/, or keep checking the site at www.fourthandgill.org.

We'll have exciting new tools to allow neighbors to upload pictures and stories about their homes, a new calendar, and much, much more.

FALL 2007

Who: Residents of Fourth & Gill



What: Halloween Party & Chili Cook-off

Where: 1006 Luttrell Street (corner of Caswell & Luttrell)

When: Oct. 31st - 5-8 p.m.

Why: So you don't anger the spirits, so you can have a good time and so you can taste some of the best chili around! Besides, seeing neighborhood children and adults in costumes is priceless!

News is published four times a year by the Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization.

Please call 865/310-0379 with comments or suggestions or email cheryl@curvededgeconsulting.com.



The historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood is located just north of downtown. Visit our web site at

www.fourthandgill.org

Our address is PO Box 3845 Knoxville, TN 37927-3845.

Neighbor News



Please send your noteworthy news to cheryl@curvededgeconsulting.com.

Welcome To:

Marshall McCauley and **Anne-Marie Wiest**, who are renting on Caswell Ave. Marshall is Assistant Manager at Downtown Wine & Spirits, and Anne-Marie is in her fourth year at UT veterinary school. They are both Maryville College alumni (Go, Scots!)

Meet our neighbor, **Isa Infante**, who bought a house at 601 Gill St. in 2005. Isa loves our neighborhood because of its proximity to downtown and the lovely old houses. She is a candidate in the present Mayoral race.

Jonathan and Cheryl Ball purchased and moved into 121 E. Glenwood Ave in June. Jonathan is a residential contractor and Cheryl is a public relations and marketing consultant.

Rob and Amy Howard have recently purchased the Barber house at 816 N. 4th Ave. next to Sassy Ann's. Rob is a Broker with Wood Realtors and Amy is the Financial Controller at UT ARMARK food services.

Governor Bredesen has appointed Luttrell Street neighbor **Kenneth Irvine, Jr.** to substitute for ailing Judge Ray Lee Jenkins as special Knox County Criminal Court judge, effective Aug. 20. Jenkins, who passed away soon after, had asked Bredesen to appoint a temporary replacement. Irvine currently serves as an assistant district attorney general for Knox County.

MPC Excellence Awards recognized two Fourth and Gill Residences!

Rarely does MPC recognize a house as an Excellence Award Winner in the Residential category. The **John and Judith Neff** home on Gratz is an exception because it is such an outstanding model for infill housing in historic districts. Just completed this past year, its style and proportions completely complement the surrounding Victorian-era neighborhood. Like older houses of an earlier time, the development includes a carriage house and a wonderfully landscaped backyard. A neighboring developer noted that the Neff's house set the bar so

high that others must aspire to reach the new standard.

The renowned Knoxville architect, George Barber, designed the **Bob and Melynda Whetsel** house in the 1890s. Over the years, the structure became a boarding house. Even the porch had been made into an apartment. Bob and Melynda Whetsel purchased the property and worked with High Oaks Construction

Company to start over with the original architectural proportions. Floors, mantels and stairs were painstakingly restored. A derelict property was transformed as another contributing resource in the Fourth and Gill Historic District and was awarded a Historic Restoration Excellence Award.



Congratulations to both John and Judith Neff and Bob and Melynda Whetsel! For more information on the MPC Excellence Awards and the criteria, visit the web site at www.knoxmpc.org and look in the about section.

Neighborhood Announcements

Neighborhood Bylaws Review

A group is forming to review the Fourth & Gill Neighborhood bylaws which defines how the neighborhood board is structured and operates. If you have questions, suggestions or want to be involved in the group, please contact **John Jacobs** at 300-8680 or carlaandjohn@bellsouth.net.

TDOT and Fourth & Gill Communication efforts with TDOT are being coordinated by **Steve Mealor** for the neighborhood on all the ongoing projects. Contact Steve at 456-0141 or mealors@yahoo.com with any questions or comments.

DV Communications Becomes a Neighbor

The President, **Steve Kilpatrick**, says they have purchased and are renovating the Quality Wholesale Florist building and will be moving their home office and Knoxville operations to it.

Birdhouse Laboratories

This group rents space in the Neighborhood Center at the corner of Fourth & Gill. This group of various types of artists uses the space as a gallery, venue and workshop/studio. Events often highlight different artistic works and live music. For more information, check them out at www.myspace.com/birdhouselaboratories.

Hands-On Learning Featured at Beaumont Elementary

By *Indya Kincannon*

How would you like to learn about pioneer life by visiting the Ramsey House? How about mastering map-reading skills through a treasure hunt at Ijams Nature Center? If this sounds like a fun and effective way to learn, Beaumont Magnet Elementary School, one of our neighborhood schools, is the school for you (or your children).

This school year Beaumont has started an innovative program to bolster science and social studies learning via short focused Learning Expeditions to area museums. Partners include the McClung Museum, Knoxville Zoo, Ramsey House, East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville Museum of Art and Ijams Nature Center.

Beaumont's teachers coordinate closely with museum educators so the Learning Expeditions meet curriculum goals. Children are first exposed to the material in the regular classroom, then get a more hands-on opportunity to learn at the museums. For instance, map reading skills can be taught in two dimensions at school, and then reinforced through a treasure hunt at Ijams. This is differentiated instruction in action! The curriculum is also integrated into the Special Area classes, such as Dance, Art, and Music. Every Beaumont student will have three Learning Expeditions per nine-week period, for a total of 12 during the school year. These are not field trips, but rather short focused Learning Expeditions that may take as little as two hours to complete.



*Neighborhood residents
Erin and Sonny Frost with
Dahlia Barton*

At the end of each nine-week unit the students will put on a school-wide exhibition open to the public to show off what they learned. Students create the displays and serve as docents to explain what they've learned to all visitors. There will be four exhibition nights at Beaumont this year, all on Tuesday evenings: 10/9, 12/18, 3/11 and 5/13. Stop by to show your support and to see how much our children have learned!

For questions regarding this program contact the Knox County Schools Magnet Office at 594-1731. For questions about public schools in general, contact Indya Kincannon, our neighbor and member of the Knox County Board of Education at 546-7098 or indyak@hotmail.com.

Holiday Open House

We are currently seeking neighbors to volunteer their homes for the Holiday Open House. The open house will take place on Sunday, December 16 from 5-9 pm. Unlike the Home Tour, this event is not open to the public, only to Fourth and Gill residents. It's a great opportunity to relax, have some refreshments, and get to know your neighbors. For more information, please call Sarah Sexton at 216-5710 or email sarahthesexton@gmail.com.

2008 Historic Home Tour

Although Spring 2008 may seem a long way off, it's not too early to begin thinking about our next home tour. The home tour is an excellent way to raise of our neighborhood and the importance of historic preservation. It's also the primary way the neighborhood raises money to fund activities. The home tour will be part of the Dogwood Arts Festival which runs from April 4 to April 20. The exact date of the home tour will be determined in the near future. We need to have 10 homes committed to the tour by the end of the year. If you would like more information about having your house on the tour, or are interested in being a member of the tour committee to help plan the event, please contact John Jacobs at 300-8680 or carlaandjohn@bellsouth.net. The first home tour committee meeting will be September 26 at 7:00 pm at 1015 Eleanor Street.

The Ongoing Down-Low on Brownlow

Kinsey Probasco Hays owns the property and plans to develop it into approx. 30 condos with a move in date of August 2008. A tentative date of Oct. 23 is set for an auction similar to the Candy Factory Lofts. Neighborhood Chair, Melynda Whetsel was interviewed on WBIR recently saying, "This is our best chance that looks like we can work with the developer and get something done." We are all hopeful and will keep you posted as we know more.

Neighborhood Calendar

Board Meeting Mon. Sept. 17

Spring Home Tour Committee Meeting Wed. Sept. 26

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Tues. Oct. 9

Board Meeting Mon. Oct. 15

HALLOWEEN PARTY AND CHILI COOK-OFF Wed. Oct. 31

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Tues. Nov. 13

Board Meeting Tues. Nov. 19

Deadline for newsletter submissions Mon. Nov. 19

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Tues. Dec. 11

Holiday Open House Sun. Dec. 16

Neighborhood Residents Step Up to the Plate (literally)

Welcoming cool breezes blew across the lawn at Central United Methodist Church on Sunday, July 15 as Lola McGill and the Timberwinds, a local bluegrass and gospel



Barbara Simpson assembles fruit cups

group entertained congregants, friends, fans and neighbors. Fourth & Gill neighbors assembled bag suppers at Melynda Whetsel's home (including Barbara's now famous Rosemary

Honey cookies, Kay Newton's recipe gleaned from the Fourth & Gill newsletter) for the event. The evening was a wonderful way to relax in the company of friends and neighbors, listening to great music, and enjoying a respite from the heat. Thanks to neighborhood volunteers:

Virginia Douglas, Betty Henault, Diane McCarn, Kaye Osborne, Sarah Sexton, Susan Shoeten, Barbara Simpson and Melynda Whetsel.



Virginia Douglas and Sarah Sexton make sandwiches

Upcoming Bicycle Events

Meet at Market Square Sept. 15 at 9 a.m. for a bicycle version of Knox Heritage's trolley tour of George Barber houses in Old North, Fourth & Gill and Parkridge. Free bicycle safety checks from 8-9 a.m. by Cedar Bluff Cycles. Organized by Knox Heritage and the Knoxville Regional Bicycle Program. Helmets required. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Urban Bike Challenge Sept. 16 - 3 p.m. Learn how to run errands using back roads and carrying things on your bike. On this ride, we'll stop by at Tennessee Valley Bicycles, then head to the new Food City in Mechanicsville. Plus, you'll be entered in a drawing for two gift baskets from Mast General Store. Ice cream treats provided. Adults only. Helmets required.

Street Skills for Bicyclists class, Sat., Sept. 29 at 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Want to learn how to ride your bike safely and confidently in traffic? This class combines classroom learning with on-bike exercises and a practice ride in traffic. Register online.....www.knoxtrans.org.

For more information on any of these events visit www.knoxtrans.org.

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