



Lafayette Park News

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February 2010

Calendar

February 16
Board Meeting
Lafayette Park
Community Center
7:00 PM
Topic: Stormwater

February 20
TPD and YOU
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Lafayette Park
Community Center

March 2
Lafayette Park
Neighborhood Party
Chez Pierre 6:00 PM

March 3
City of Tallahassee
Special Meeting
Stormwater Project
4PM – 7PM
Community Center

March 16
Board Meeting
Meffert Home
818 Ingleside Ave
7:00 PM

April 20
Board Meeting
McAuliffe Home
430 Beard St
7:00 PM

Lafayette Park Wins Neighborhood Energy Challenge

Last April the Council of Neighborhood Associations challenged Leon County neighborhoods to slash their energy consumption in the Neighborhood Energy Challenge, and when it was all said and done... Lafayette Park neighborhood is the winner! The 56 homes which participated reduced their overall electrical consumption by about 55,000 kilowatts hours from 2008 to 2009. Thanks to all the residents who participated in this challenge. A prize of \$1,250 dollars was awarded to the neighborhood, which will be used toward projects in the neighborhood and assist with the Community Orchard in Lafayette Park.

Lafayette Park Community Orchard

In January, neighbors joined master gardener Tiffany Hewitt-Brown and Tallahassee Parks and Recreation staff to plant a mini-orchard in Lafayette Park. Located near the corner of Williams and Martin Streets, the orchard includes blueberry bushes, and Satsuma tangerine, Meiwa kumquat and Hana Fuyu persimmon trees.

As the plants become established, they need occasional watering during dry periods. Families are needed to assist with watering one week a month, please let Tiffany know by email at thewittbrown@embarqmail.com if you can help.

Special thanks to Brenda Pratt of the city who helped with arrangement. Plants were purchased by the LPNA.

Drainage Improvements Coming To Lafayette Park Neighborhood

The City of Tallahassee has two stormwater capital improvement projects that will reduce property damage and increase public safety by addressing flooding that occurs within the Old Town and Lafayette Park neighborhoods.

Construction on the *East Georgia at Meridian Flood Mitigation Project* started in April 2009 and is nearly complete. This project will reduce flooding along Gadsden Street, Brevard Street, Georgia Street and Miccosukee Road.

The second project is the *Lafayette Park Stormwater Outfall Flood Relief Project*. This project will reduce flooding in the vicinity of Williams Street, McDaniel Street, Martin Street and Miccosukee Road, all south (downstream) of Lafayette Park. The City's Stormwater Management Section has completed the first phase of community input and is in the process of further developing the preferred project concept, the "Tennis Court Wall" concept. Stormwater Management will host a community meeting on **March 3, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm**, at the Lafayette Park Community Center. At this meeting, citizens will have the opportunity to give input regarding the design within Lafayette Park. Information will also be provided at the LPNA Board Meeting, February 16th at 7:00pm. For additional information, please view updates on the City's website at:

<http://www.talgov.com/you/stormwater/lafayette-park.cfm>.

Gadsden Street Rezoning Issue

A request for a land use change and rezoning of the property at 913 N. Gadsden Street to Central Urban (allowing commercial use) or to Neighborhood Boundary Office (allowing office use) was heard by the Tallahassee-Leon County Local Planning Agency on February 2 as part of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process. The Planning Department staff requested input from the LPNA Board and the community for the February 2nd meeting and throughout the process. LPNA in conjunction with the planning staff arranged a meeting on February 1 at Lafayette Park Community Center to answer questions from residents about the proposal and a brief LPNA Board meeting was held to respond to the Planning Department's request for input (this information was circulated to neighbors by the LPNA E-Mail list due to short notice). The Board voted to oppose the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and associated request for rezoning. Several neighbors attended the meetings and provided input during the meeting. The Planning Agency members voted against the land use/rezoning proposals; their recommendation goes to City and County officials for a final decision. The next public hearing is **March 3 6:00** at the County Court House, other meeting dates and information are available at <http://www.talgov.com/planning/compln/2010-2.cfm>.

Lafayette Park Neighborhood Association Accomplishments Thanks Jim Pfost...

We extend a special thank you to Jim Pfost who during his tenure as Lafayette Park Neighborhood Association President, spent countless hours working on the following issues among others, advocating for the Lafayette Park Neighborhood. The following reflect accomplishments of the Board as a result Jim's efforts and those of other Board members over the past two years.

- Improved Halloween safety with use of road barriers.
- Hosted Annual May Day party in the park.
- Established a LPNA E-mail service to provide ongoing information about crime and neighborhood initiatives.
- LPNA Served as liaison with city, county and state officials to address the following issues:
 - Creation of a pedestrian crosswalk on Thomasville Road at Midtown.
 - Reduced impact of tree removal for new construction area at Calhoun and Thomasville Roads.
 - Reduced parking problems on Marion Street and at Gadsden and Williams streets.
 - Addressed noise issues with Midtown area merchants.
 - Worked with Leon High School to help address parking and loitering issues.

Chez Pierre Lafayette Park Neighborhood Appreciation Night Tuesday, March 2 6:00 p.m.

In appreciation of the neighborhood, residents are invited to join Eric Favier, Proprietor, for 1/2 price drinks and appetizers during happy hour at Chez Pierre. Please RSVP with # of attendees from your party directly to Eric Favier by email at eric@chezpierre.com. Dinner reservations for afterwards may also be made by calling Chez Pierre at 222-0936. Children are welcome.

SHOW OFF

We would like to institute this new section of the newsletter that celebrates the successes of our neighbors, and positive feature stories about our homes and properties. Do you know of someone who is a great neighbor? Send us a story about why they should be featured. Do you see an amazing natural vista, tree or plant blooming along our streets? Tell us. Do you enjoy a particular aspect of our neighborhood that you want to share? Call it neighborhood pride, boasting or showing off, we would like to hear about it. We live in an amazing neighborhood with so many wonderful reasons to live here. Let's share the good news. Submit entries to Carol Westmoreland at westy1955@comcast.net.

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President: John Wallace 519-5558
poonther@comcast.net

Vice President:
Chad Heckman 933-9611
Chad@ThrasherandHeckman.com

Treasurer: Michaela Lupiani 222-8993
lupiani@ocean.fsu.edu

Secretary: Polly McAuliffe 942-6539
j-pmcauliffe@comcast.net

Jim Pfof 294-9292
jimbarb123@comcast.net

Edward Gray 222-5667
egray@fsu.edu

Alexa Kleinbard 508-0941
dancingvistas@hotmail.com

Rachelle McClure 222-4284
rachellejewel@gmail.com

Andy McLeod 942-8685
andymcleod@earthlink.net

Kathy McGuire 264-9558
kimcguire@gmail.com

Molly McKinstry 309-0848
jdmsail@embarqmail.com

Wellington Meffert 224-2608
wellingtonm2@comcast.net

Dean Minardi 294-1255
deanminardi@hotmail.com

David Mitchell 222-0156
dsmitchell1@yahoo.com

Clay Sechrest 322-7706
jcsechrest@sechrestdesigncompany.com

Carol Westmoreland 224-7106
westy1955@comcast.net

www.lafayetteparkneighborhood.org

Volunteers Needed for Web Site

We are looking for a neighbor or supporter willing to donate website design and/or maintenance services. Please contact Carol Westmoreland westy1955@comcast.net or Molly McKinstry at jdmsail@embarqmail.com if you can assist.

Join Neighborhood Email List

Interested in receiving email of Lafayette Park Neighborhood issues? Please send John Wallace your email address and he'll keep you in the loop. Information will be shared regarding police alerts, meetings and other neighborhood issues. E-mail messages will be sent out to preserve privacy and avoid unwanted spam. Send your request to join to John Wallace at poonther@comcast.net.

Special Thanks

Express Printing for generously printing each LPNA Newsletter!
222-9777 927 N. Monroe

Neighborhood Association Annual Dues

Thank you for supporting Lafayette Park Neighborhood Association. Annual dues for 2010 are \$10 dues or choose a Lifetime Membership for \$100. Please send a check payable to "LPNA" to Michaela Lupiani, Treasurer at 607 McDaniel Street, 32303, or bring to the May Day Party, Sunday May 2.