



Whitland Area Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume 24, Issue 4 October 2004

Update on Elmington Park -- by Curt Garrigan, Assistant Director, Planning/Facility Development Metro Parks

As you probably know, Elmington has been one of our most intensely used green spaces in the Metro Parks system, including use for Australian football, lacrosse, baseball and general recreational activities. There was a considerable amount of rock close to the surface that, combined with intense use and wear and tear, did not allow us to maintain turf very effectively. The project at the park was initiated to produce a field system which could be better managed, including irrigation, the ability to rotate fields, and better drainage. A turf management consultant who we use at our golf courses is working on the project, and he provides considerable expertise in establishing grasses. After laser grading, rock removal, and considerable top soil added,

Bermuda grass sprigs were planted several weeks ago. The rainfall during construction and cooler than normal temperatures after sprigging has resulted in the Bermuda grass not fully covering at this time. The grass will be allowed to continue its growth through early October, and will be over seeded as previously scheduled with a perennial ryegrass at that time. We expect that coverage will be adequate for use by mid to late October. The berm and check dams are part of the erosion control and will be modified once the turf is well established. While not attractive, their function during the establishment of the turf is necessary and they are operating effectively. Occasionally the grass will be cut and the field rolled, which will improve the

appearance of the fields. The irrigation system is operable, but a rain sensor will be installed as part of the system.

Throughout the project, we have included the Friends of Elmington Park in planning and update meetings so that the neighborhood was aware of the process. While the weather this summer created several delays, the project is progressing and we are confident the park will be more attractive, functional and easier to maintain once it is complete.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.whitland.org

Whitland Area Crime Report

Several incidents were reported throughout the Whitland area over the last couple of months. We had a report of a neighbor on Leonard having a UPS or Fed-Ex delivered package stolen from his front porch. We had a Richmeade neighbor report that two very large concrete entry-way ornaments were taken. This neighbor actually witnessed her property being taken and called police. Unfortunately she

was unable to see the license plate number on the truck as it drove away. There have also been reported incidents in our area involving political signs being taken from yards. One neighbor witnessed a sign being removed from a yard and telephoned police immediately. Our neighbors across West End in the Richland Central Area have also had a large number of incidents relating to political signs being taken or destroyed. Be alert to activities that seem out of the ordinary for our



neighborhood and feel free to let us know about crimes in the area to necer@bellsouth.net so we can get the word out among our neighbors or call Denise Hawkins @ 298-1880.

**Important Numbers:
For police call 862-8600 for
NON-EMERGENCY**

& call 911 for emergency.



4-Way Stop Sign Update

On August 9, more than a dozen neighbors and children from our area appeared before the Traffic & Parking Commission to petition for a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Rolland Road and Leonard Avenue. After Anna Biederman presented our case to the board and some discussion, our 4-way stop sign was granted approval. We are now awaiting the installation of the additional signs (any day now!) Thank you to all our neighbors who so graciously

volunteered to help us get our petition signed prior to the August 9th meeting. We feel this change in the intersection will help with our ongoing traffic calming efforts.

**We wish to all the
Whitland Neighbors, a safe
and happy Halloween!**



REMEMBER . . .

Free booklets on the history of the Whitland area are now available when you pay your voluntary dues to Whitland Area Neighborhood Association. Please send tax-deductible dues for 2004 to Melody Moore, 213 Cantrell Ave., 37205. We appreciate all your support! **If you have a story or item of interest that you'd like to see in an upcoming newsletter, please send an e-mail to necer@bellsouth.net**

Good Housekeeping

Are you planning on a garage sale or just doing a little fall cleaning? We have discovered a way to help our neighbors at the West End Middle School! Dr. Cockerham who teaches 7th Grade Science & Geography has a "wish list". So, if you've got extras and would like to fulfill some wishes, please contact Dr. Cockerham at 298-8425 or clifford.cockerham@mnps.org and make arrangements to get the items to him.

- first aid kit (complete or partial)
- File Cabinet, Letter Size- 4 drawer hanging file folders: letter or legal size (solid sides or for rails)
- TI graphing calculator (any condition that still works!!!!!!!!!!!!)
- GPS (any condition that still works!!!!!!!!!!!!)
- pencils regular, drawing, and/or coloring
- dry erase markers
- sharpie permanent markers (black, blue, or red)
- glue bottles and glue sticks

- 6 ft. ladder (only if in solid & safe condition)
- LARGE Clasp-sealable envelopes – 10x15 (for storage)
- boxes of tissues/ rolls of paper towels
- "safety" scissors
- hand sanitizer
- popsicle sticks or tongue depressors (clean :) if not new)
- International souvenirs or nature artifacts for learning centers (preserved butterfly/insect, or leaf collections; rock collections IF specimens are identified)
- help plant an indoor herb garden (anytime)
- house plants any type (even last "legs" with a chance of survival can be a science project!)
- leisure reading books that "touch on" science and cultures- all reading levels
- Geo-Safari game or other globe/geography game - used, good condition
- old National Geographic magazines
- set of encyclopedias (if COMPLETE and less than 10 years old)

UPCOMING MEETING OF INTEREST - - TRANSPORTATION PLAN -

The Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is currently updating its long-range transportation plan and wants input. The new 2030 Plan will be a vision of transportation needs and solutions for the Nashville region. The meeting for Davidson County is Tuesday, October 19, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the Howard School Auditorium; 700 Second Avenue South in Nashville.



News from Our Neighbor - - Blakemore Children's Center

by Bonnie Spear, Director

Blakemore Children's Center (BCC) is a fully inclusive, multi-age (2 _ to 5 years) full-day early childhood education program. We serve children from a variety of ethnicities, cultures and socio-economic levels. We welcome your support and participation, and invite you for a visit at anytime.

BCC is currently selling tickets for the United Way/Hecht's Benefit Sale which will be Saturday, November 6, from 6:00 - 10:00 AM. The tickets are \$5. BCC keeps \$4 and \$1 goes to United Way. We also need volunteers to help in the stores the morning of the sale. It is a lot of fun! If you need tickets or more information, please call

Bonnie or Geraldine at 292-5443.

We will be trick or treating on Whitland Avenue on Friday, October 29 at approximately 10:15 AM or so. If you give us a treat we will sing you a song. You are welcome to walk along with us.

Volunteers are always needed to work and play with the children, especially those with special needs. This can be done in the morning or afternoon, whatever works with your schedule. If you think you might be interested, please give us a call or come by for a visit and we can talk more about it.

We would also welcome a member of the Neighborhood Association to be on our board.

We meet the third Thursday of each month, at 6:30 PM.

With adult supervision, children 2 _ to 5 years are welcome to play on our playground on the weekend.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Bonnie Spear
Director
292-5443



News from the Whitland Steering Committee by Denise Hawkins

Besides meeting every first Thursday evening of the month, the Whitland Area Neighborhood Association Steering Committee makes a huge effort to represent our area in community-wide meetings that affect us.

A few weeks ago, several steering committee members and interested neighbors attended the Kick Off to the Community Plan Update sponsored by the Metropolitan Nashville Planning Department at Hillsboro High School. A second "Visioning Workshop" was held on Tuesday, October 12. At this meeting attended by about 100 persons, participants broke up into smaller groups and discussed

three major questions: 1) what they liked about the community; 2) what they disliked; and 3) what they would like to see in the way of change. These **area 2** workshops we have been attending encompass the portion of Green Hills/Midtown Community bounded by I440 to the north, I65 to the east, Williamson Co to the south, and the railroad tracks, Belle Meade and Hwy 100 to the west.

Many neighborhoods were represented and overwhelmingly most liked having green spaces (mini parks), mature trees, differing architectural styles, low crime, and contiguous sidewalks. (cont'd on next pg)



Steering Committee Update (continued from page 3)

Some of the dislikes mentioned were inefficient public transportation (i.e., more frequent runs in more areas are needed), and the traffic, traffic and more traffic! The poorly-flowing, pedestrian unfriendly design of the Green Hills shopping area was a big sore-spot. The groups also mentioned in the area of dislikes: citizens using neighborhoods as "cut-throughs" and speeding; unkempt rental property; and unattractive signage along Hillsboro Road/Green Hills area. Changes discussed were more sidewalks and public green spaces; buried utility lines; stepped up police patrol; better communication between developers/planners and neighborhoods. The next meeting we will attend will take place on Monday evening, October 18 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Hillsboro High School Cafeteria, where we will develop a "Structure Plan"- - the product of the Community Plan Update. It includes both land use policy - - which influences future zone change and subdivision request decisions - - and provides recommendations for future infrastructure development. After the Structure Plan Workshop on October 18, staff will use the comments from the Workshop to prepare for the Draft Plan to be presented to the community on October 25, from 6:30 -8:30 PM at the Hillsboro High School cafeteria. The public is invited to attend these meetings, which are informative and a great way to meet others in the community and get involved.

www.Whitland.org

We are **hoping to add a "List Serv"** to our website www.whitland.org **in the near future.** A "listserv", or automatic email mailing list, is maintained by the neighborhood to communicate quickly and conveniently with neighbors about issues of common interest. There is no charge to subscribe.

Fast-breaking news, crime alerts, and other communications will be broadcast to all mailing list subscribers. Also, when a new issue of the newsletter is posted to the website, a notice will be sent to all listserv subscribers, allowing them to receive the newsletter electronically.

Once we have "List Serv" operational, to join the mailing list, there will be a link on our current website where all you do is click & follow the on-screen instructions.

"List Serv" also makes it possible for subscribers to submit items to be sent to the mailing list. Because this is a moderated list, all submitted items will be reviewed for appropriateness before being posted. Submissions should be limited to non-commercial items of general neighborhood interest, usually of a time-sensitive nature. For longer items, which may be better suited for a newsletter article, continue to e-mail necer@bellsouth.net

So, stayed tuned and check www.whitland.org often!

Please note that WANA will not distribute your email address to anyone and that it will be used only for neighborhood-related communications.

**The Whitland Area
Neighborhood Officers
and Steering Committee**

- Anna Biederman, President
- Linda Breggin, Vice President
- Scott Holder, Secretary
- Melody Moore, Treasurer

Steering Committee

- Adele Tyler
- Phyllis Heard
- Revell Lester
- Kate Monaghan
- Bob Lyons
- Stephanie Edwards
- Mavis Duthie
- Richard Dance
- Vickie Mertz
- Catherine Thornburg
- Denise Hawkins

