

Paschal

Neighborhood Association

Cat Chat



October 2007

The Paschal Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume III Issue 4

2007 was a great year!

As we near the end of 2007, I think about what a good year it's been for the Paschal Neighborhood Association.

Attendance at our meetings is up, and our membership is up, too. Local businesses joined the neighborhood association for the first time.

We teamed with nearby neighborhoods to develop a natural gas lease most beneficial to residents, and we got involved in the planning of the proposed commuter/passenger rail line on the east side of our neighborhood.

We hosted a spring cleanup and a Neighborhood Night Out event. We continue to work with our neighborhood police officer, code compliance officer and council representative.

We expanded our quarterly newsletter, adding more content and providing a Spanish translation.

This year was good, but together we can make next year even better. I ask that everyone please pay your 2008 dues (\$10 per household) as soon as possible so the officers can plan our 2008 activities. Also, please consider how you can use your skills and talents to help us improve the neighborhood in the coming year.

See you at the October meeting! We'll elect officers for 2008, take a look at the proposed rail stations and have an update on gas drilling.

Anita Horkey, President

Gas lease negotiations nearing completion

The Paschal NA is still working with the Joint Neighborhood Gas Committee to negotiate a natural gas lease with the most beneficial terms for Paschal Neighborhood mineral owners.

Nearby Berkeley Place and Ryan Place neighborhoods negotiated with Fort Worth Energy/XTO on a gas lease that incorporates residents' safety and quality-of-life concerns. The lease includes a bonus payment of \$15,000 per acre and a 25 percent royalty. The Paschal NA has a copy of the lease.

Four Sevens/Chesapeake recently sent leases to many Paschal Neighborhood residents. The Four Sevens lease offers a high bonus payment and royalties but does not have all of the quality-of-life provisions of the XTO lease.

The Paschal NA is in contact with both XTO and Four Sevens, and our efforts to negotiate the best lease possible continue. We'll have an update at our October meeting.

For more information, contact Paschal NA vice-president James Hawks at 817-927-5583 or haw39k@sbcglobal.net.

National Night Out a success

Thank you to Virginia and Greg Merrill, who hosted our National Night Out event on Aug. 7. We had a great turnout!

We'd like to also thank Lincoln Properties/The Berkeley apartments for providing watermelon, cold drinks and door prizes, and Police Officer Andriotto and Code Compliance Officer Mark Worley for attending.

Paschal Neighborhood Meeting

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27

Park Temple Baptist Church

2832 Townsend Drive

Junta de la Vecindad Paschal

10:30 a.m. sábado, octubre 27

Park Temple Baptist Church

2832 Townsend Drive

Queridos vecinos,

No pude traducir la carta de noticias al español antes de nuestra junta de octubre. La edición en español de esta cara será disponible después del 31 de octubre, 2007. Por favor contacte a Martha Leon, Secretaria de la Asociación Vecindario de Paschal al numero 817-922-8186 para recoger su edición en español después del 31 de octubre.

Rail station locations proposed

The Southwest-to-Northeast Rail Corridor has completed conceptual drawings of and identified specific locations for rail stations. In the Paschal Neighborhood area, there are three proposed locations and designs:

- TCU/8th Avenue Rail Yard (located north of the church and post office on 8th Avenue)
- Berry/TCU Option A (located in the southeast corner of our neighborhood near Berry Street and Gordon Avenue)
- Berry/TCU Option B (located just south of Berry Street along Cleburne).

The Paschal NA officers, led by vice-president James Hawks who has been involved in the rail planning process, are considering which of the three plans to endorse on behalf of the neighborhood. We will discuss the three proposed stations at our Oct. 27 NA meeting, where we'll ask residents to comment on them. Please attend and give your opinion about the station plans so the NA officers can determine which station location to endorse.

For more information about the proposed rail line, contact James Hawks at 817-927-5583 or haw39k@sbcglobal.net.

Councilmember Davis resigns

In August, our District 9 City Council representative, Wendy Davis, announced her resignation. She is stepping down to run for State Senate District 10.

The officers of the Paschal NA appreciate Councilmember Davis' leadership and assistance during the last few years. Her office helped us get our neighborhood association started and has been very helpful on a number of issues. We thank Ms. Davis and wish her well!

FYI – Residents who want to show their support and appreciation for Councilmember Davis should plan to attend her last council meeting. The exact date of the meeting won't be known until after the election of her replacement, but her aide thinks it may be Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. Contact a Paschal NA officer for details or if you need a ride to the council meeting.

Got trash questions?

What day is our neighborhood's trash collection day? Can you recycle a plastic grocery bag? How should you dispose of a fluorescent bulb? For any and all questions about the city's garbage and recycling program, call 817-392-EASY.

Program helps special needs residents during emergencies

Getting help during an emergency can be challenging. It can be even harder if you have a special need. That's where the Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) comes in.

The Special Needs Assistance Program will provide Fort Worth and Tarrant County emergency responders with vital information about residents with permanent disabilities. Through this unique program, residents are encouraged to register each year with the Office of Emergency Management by providing disability-specific information such as the need for life support systems or mobility aids.

This information will reduce the adverse effects on those with permanent disabilities during an emergency. It will also give residents with special needs the peace of mind knowing first responders are equipped with accurate information to assist during a local disaster. Data compiled for this program will be confidential for use by emergency response agencies only.

Residents can register with the program online at www.snapforyou.org. There will also be opportunities to register in person at various events and locations throughout the city. To find out more about these opportunities or about the program, call 817-392-6144.

New and improved Tillery Park

Have you seen the new and improved Tillery Park? The park, just west of Forest Park Boulevard in the Berkeley Place neighborhood, underwent a major facelift in mid-October. Hundreds of volunteers spent several days transforming the park from a ho-hum place to a first-class playground.

We thank Friends of Tillery Park, the organization behind the new park, for this significant contribution to our community. Individuals can and do make a difference every day!

Congratulations!

Paschal High School set a new record in September: 24 students from the school were named semifinalists in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program. That's an increase from last year and the highest showing in Tarrant County! Accolades like this reflect well on the school, which in turn helps our neighborhood. Congratulations to the semifinalists and to Paschal High School!

Report potholes

If you see a pothole, don't just complain about it. Report it!

The City of Fort Worth strives to repair potholes as quickly as possible – within two-three working days of one being reported – to prevent them from expanding. To report potholes 24 hours a day, call 817-392-8100 or click on "Request a Repair" at www.fortworthgov.org/tpw.

When you report a pothole, give the precise location of it, including the block number or closest cross street.