



Capitol Heights Newsletter

May 2014

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Our newly elected officers for
2014-2015 :

PRESIDENT	Terry Robinson
VICE PRESIDENT	Randall Culp
TREASURER	Ken Reynolds
SECRETARY	Cindy Keeping

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Nancy Blair	Gwen Moore
Mendel Brown	DJ Pollard
Glenn Donald	Stacy Trantham
Robert Henderson	

*Thanks to Allison Griffin and her father
for the wonderful spaghetti dinner!!!*

FRONT PORCH LIVING

By Cindy Keeping

In Capitol Heights we may take our front porches for granted at times, but recently our neighbor Elizabeth wrote in her email...

"This is what I get to see from my front window every day. Yard of the Month for May. Lovely."



Thinking about buying front porch furniture? Checked out Dimensions Outdoor furniture on Madison Avenue. There is a ton of selections for your front porch and our very own neighbor, Randall Culp is the owner. Nice furniture and a good price including wooden front porch swings so you can "sit a spell and listen to the birds" or visit a neighbor! Dimensions is located on Madison Avenue next door to Culp's Piano.



GARDEN GROUP of CAPITOL HEIGHTS

By Tricia Crowley

The Capitol Heights Garden Group meets the **2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.**, with members taking turns hosting. They share garden books, tips, plants/seeds/cuttings and tour each other's gardens.

At the last meeting the group learned how to make flower pots from hypertufa, a faux stone mixture which is a combination of cement, perlite and peat moss. Having googled directions and donned rubber gloves, they mixed the ingredients in a wheelbarrow and packed the mixture into molds that had been sprayed with cooking spray to facilitate removal. Several days later, voilà! At least one member felt that hers were a good first attempt but not ready for big-time display in the garden, and it is possible that members will get better results at a subsequent meeting.

For more information about the Capitol Heights Garden Group, e-mail Tricia Crowley:
prof_crowley@hotmail.com.



Personal Safety Tips for Home

- Don't allow strangers into your home, even if they are hurt or say they need help. Keep the doors locked and call the police for them.
- Don't advertise that you live alone.
- Don't be afraid to call law enforcement to investigate suspicious circumstances, unusual people, or strange noises. It's better to be safe than sorry.
- When you move into a new home or apartment, change the locks if you own it or ask the manager to change them if you rent.
- Don't leave notes on your door announcing when you will be home.
- **Keep outdoor lights on at night.**
- If you arrive home and your door is open or things appear to be out of place, don't go in – call 911

MONTGOMERY RESOURCES



2-1-1 Connects Alabama



Are you facing difficult times and don't know where to turn? Are you looking for help with everyday needs? Are you wanting to volunteer?

Dialing 2-1-1 is your first step.

2-1-1 is a free, easy to remember number to dial for information about health and human service organizations in your community. By dialing 2-1-1, information is much easier to find. Or if you encounter someone who is in need and you don't know who to recommend, dial 211!! Check out their website for more info www.211connectsalabama.org

Landmarks Foundation

The Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established in 1967 to foster, encourage and lead the historic preservation movement in Montgomery, Alabama. Acting as an administrative agency for the City of Montgomery, Landmarks oversees Old Alabama Town and works as an independent entity on community restoration and preservation projects. ***Capitol Heights has benefited from the Landmarks Foundation recently with the Saving 1802 Madison project.***

Mission:

To preserve, interpret and present Central Alabama's architecture, history and culture.

Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call 334-240-4500 (local) or 1-888-240-1850 (toll free) for general information. We are located in downtown Montgomery, Alabama at 301 Columbus Street, 36104.

Membership Levels:

- Single: \$30
- Family: \$50
- Pioneer: \$80
- Homesteader: \$100



YARD OF THE MONTH MAY



2111 St. Charles Avenue



2207 Winona Avenue

As Karren Pell and Tricia Crowley were driving up and down ALL the streets of Capitol Heights looking for candidates for yard of the month, one thing became clear: many yards WERE NOT yard of the month candidates!

Neighbors, please mow and edge your lawns, and shovel debris out of the street from your curbs. Landlords, please maintain the appearance of your properties. It is a sign of pride in yourself and your neighborhood to keep your yard tidy. Your home does not have to have massive plantings to look appealing, and keeping up appearances is a simple way to show respect for your neighborhood.



Do you have a historical story or a renovation tip to share??...please feel welcomed to email your story/tip to:

Capitolheightsmontgomery@gmail.com

Don't worry, we will be glad to proof read your entry

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

Revitalizing Old Hardwood Floors by Glenn Donald

Do you have hardwood floors that are a little worn or have seen better days? Have you pulled up old carpeting to exposed the original hardwood floors and found them lacking the beauty you had hoped for? You can have them professionally refinished by Duck Floors (334-590-4861) for about \$1.00-\$1.25 per sq ft depending on required repairs. However, if your budget currently does not include a professional refinish job, here is a revitalization tip to help you get by.

First, clear the room of any objects and give the hardwood floors a good vacuum. Mop the floors once or twice with a solution of Murphy's Oil Soap and a traditional cotton string mop.

Other types of mops (sponge, strip, etc.) will not have the scrubbing or work power of the string mop and you will just be wasting your time. If the floors are particularly grimy or have hard to remove residue, add a little ammonia to the water and/or use sheetrock sanding screen for extra scrubbing power. Buy a pack of sheetrock sanding screen and using some of the Murphy's Oil Soap mop water, scrub the floor until clean. If you need to scrub large areas or the entire room, place the sheets of sheetrock sanding screen on the bottom of a sponge mop or use a sheetrock sanding pole and scrub the floor using the mop water. Mop up with the string mop until the floor is good and clean. Once the floor is good and clean, let the floor dry so you can evaluate the finish of the hardwood floor. You may find that there are areas where the stain has been worn off, or areas that look faded compared to the rest of the floor. A quick and easy way to remedy this is with Old English Scratch Guard. It comes in Dark, Medium or Light. Pick the color that is the closest match to your floor and with a soft cloth, rub onto the faded area to blend with the rest of the floor. If you have allot of faded areas or the entire floor could use "enhancing", use a sponge mop to spread the Old English Scratch Guard over the entire floor. Let it soak in for a good hour or so, and then it's time to apply the finish to add some gloss and beauty to those hardwood floors. Don't worry about any Old English residue that didn't completely dry. As you sponge on the finish, it will spread out the Old English for even more blending of the floor color.

A really good finish product I have used for years is Quick Shine by Holloway House. Apply 2-3 coats of the

floor finish using a sponge mop. The first coat will typically dry fast as it bonds to the hardwood floor. Don't be dismayed if you find dull areas after the first coat. That is typical and the wood floor in that spot was more porous and just absorbed the floor finish more than other areas. That first coat will act as a sealer. The second coat will dry with a more even glossy look. Apply a third coat if you want an even hardier and glossy look.

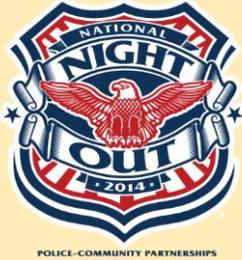
This process will not give you the same look as a professional refinish job, but for very little money and some "elbow grease", you can give a tired hardwood floor an amazing transformation

Did you know?

By Karren Pell



The majority of the area now known as Capitol Heights was, until 1903, the 200 acre Vickers's cotton plantation. Considered one of Montgomery's first suburbs, Capitol Heights is so named for its location above the riverside downtown area. During the neighborhood's early development, promoters advertised, along with homey bungalows and spacious arts and crafts houses, healthy breezes and magnificent views. In 1904, the Capitol Heights Development Company deeded the strip of land now known as Madison Avenue to Montgomery County for the designated purpose of an electric railroad or, as most called it, the trolley. The trolley was a pivotal development in the creation of Capitol Heights as people in that era did not own automobiles and depended on public transportation. When the trolley made living outside the city limits feasible, areas away from downtown, such as Capitol Heights, became popular. Capitol Heights was incorporated in 1908 and construction on many of the larger homes date between 1908-1910. At that time, Capitol Heights was a separate city from Montgomery with its own mayor, sheriff, and school. Capitol Heights became part of the city of Montgomery circa 1926.



“A Connected Neighborhood is a Safer Neighborhood”

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT coming up this August 5th is sponsored by BONDS in the Montgomery area where neighborhoods come out to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back!

In the past we have had wonderful gatherings at the Bryant's home on Winona...if anyone would like to sponsor this event at their home please call Cindy Keeping 315-0344 . This event can be a pot luck or just a social with beverages...either way we will gather as a community to welcome Montgomery's Police Department and each other as we unite against crime!!

Stay tuned for further information....



**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH SIGNS
FOR SALE
\$20.00 each**

Contact
Cindy Keeping
315-0344

The signs are professional made of metal with wooden stakes - ready to install.

2014 CANDLELIGHT TOUR

Our neighbor and newly elected Member at Large, Gwen Moore has been creating ideas in preparations for this year's Candlelight Tour.

The tour will be on the south end of the community this year...S. Capitol Parkway. For our neighbors in that area, please consider your home for the tour...the festivities really do put you in the spirit of the holiday and it is always such a treat and a crowd pleaser to have the homes on the parkway on the tour. Also, if you are trying to sell your home...this is an excellent opportunity to show off your home!!

Gwen will need helpers this year – cookie makers, set up and clean up elves, sign makers, publicity elves, carolers, house helpers and the list goes on. This is our big fundraiser for the year and this year's funds will be used to help Brantwood Children's Home. Please contact us by email capitolheightsmontgomery@gmail.com to volunteer or get more information.

2014 Christmas Parade

It's been announced and many of us are excited about this year's City of Montgomery Christmas Parade! There again, in years past we have had the most fun working on our float. The prize money is \$1,000 !!

We are thinking of creating a float with the theme "Elf on a Shelf"...so be thinking of ideas to create our float...we want first prize!! Our first meeting will be held in August...stay tuned!

COMMUNITY STREETS

Inlets should be kept as clean as possible to allow efficient water flow through the City's drainage facilities to prevent flooding. Heavy rainfall can easily wash grass and leaves into the inlets which causes flooding. **We need the assistance of residents to help keep this from occurring** by not raking leaves, grass clippings, and debris into the inlets. When an inlet has been damaged CALL THE CITY'S MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.