

SOUTHERN GABLES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Serving Southern Gables and Valley View

FALL NEWSLETTER, 2018

A NOTE FROM SOUTHERN GABLES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, DOUG WHITTEN

I recently was honored to receive the Lakewood Mayor's Inspiration Award from Mayor Paul and the Lakewood City Council, for having made extraordinary contributions to the Lakewood Community, at a Lakewood City Council meeting held on September 10, 2018 at the Lakewood Civic Center. I feel the entire Southern Gables neighborhood is the recipient of this award due to the terrific people and groups we have in Southern Gables. Every neighbor is always willing to assist and improve his or her neighborhood. Green Gables Elementary School, Green Gables PTA, Sustainable Southern Gables, Westwood Church, as well as our own Southern Gables Neighborhood Association all work cooperatively to ensure the neighbors of Southern Gables can be extremely proud of their neighborhood. **THANK YOU EVERYONE** for this award, but the recognition belongs to you.

The Neighborhood Association just completed another very successful Neighborhood Night Out on August 24, 2018 where hundreds of our neighbors and students had a fun-filled night enjoying free food, face-painting, hula hoop participation, balloon tying, free ice cream from Magill's and many, many other super events. Our Participating Business Sponsors were extremely proud of the neighbor turn out and many will participate again next year. **THANK YOU NEIGHBORS AND STUDENTS.**

One of the most significant recent highlights of our great Southern Gables neighborhood is the exceptional testing scores for the Green Gables Elementary School. In English, over a two-year period, our school improved from the 37th percentile to 56th percentile, an outstanding improvement of 19 points; that is a huge leap in just two years. In Math, over a three-year period, our school improved from the 28 percentile to the 58 percentile, a 30-percentile increase! The Jefferson County Board of Education has publically applauded and congratulated the entire staff at Green Gables Elementary School. The Southern Gables neighborhood is proud of Principal Suanne Hawley, as well as the hard-working dedicated staff. These scores show our students are learning!

Many exciting fall activities will be held in Southern Gables shortly. Please examine these events and be sure to participate. All of the neighborhood activities are posted on your website at www.southerngableshoa.com. Go to your website, you will be impressed.

We want to hear from our neighbors of Southern Gables. Please contact Doug Whitten at whittend@comcast.net (303-986-7156) or any Board member concerning current or possible future activities.

Everyone in Southern Gables is your neighbor. Treat each other with respect. Be helpful, not hurtful.

Sincerely,
Doug Whitten

5TH ANNUAL LEAF COLLECTION, RAKING, & COMPOSTING DAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 7:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Sustainable Southern Gables and the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association are again partnering to collect and compost leaves from our neighborhood.

1. Save your Leaves: Bring your leaves to the Green Gables Elementary School parking lot for composting rather than sending to a landfill.
2. Neighbors Who Need Help Raking: We will have volunteers to help our neighborhood seniors rake leaves from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 on November 3. Contact Judy at 303-986-7157 to sign up or to nominate a senior Southern Gables neighbor who needs help.
3. Want to Volunteer? We need many volunteers to rake lawns and/or help at our drop-off station. Contact Samantha Monell at 970-631-4236 or Karen Purtell at 720-360-8895 to sign up to be a part of this big day in our Southern Gable Neighborhood.

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL HAWLEY AND GREEN GABLES ELEMENTARY

Leading, Learning, and Growing Together

We recently received some great news from Principal Suanne Hawley at Green Gables Elementary School. She sent a copy of a press release from the Jefferson County School District, highlighting our very own favorite school:

Jeffco's Performance Continues to Exceed the State

Golden, CO (August 16, 2018) — Jeffco Public Schools' Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and college entrance test results for the 2017-18 school year continue to outpace the state of Colorado for achievement and growth data on CMAS and PSAT/SAT assessments.

Success Story. One of the many school success stories in Jeffco includes Green Gables Elementary in Lakewood, celebrating English language arts growth results that

increased from the 37th percentile in 2016 to 56th in 2018. CMAS mathematics growth showed even larger gains, from the 28th percentile to the 58th percentile over three years. Achievement scores also steadily improved.

“We are so proud to see our school vision of ‘Leading, Learning, and Growing...Together!’ make a difference and that student growth is showing in our CMAS results. Over the last two years, we pulled together as a highly-collaborative school community with a laser-like focus on the student experience, professional learning, and fostering strong relationships through a commitment to restorative practices,” explained Principal Suanne Hawley.

“Thanks to the hard work of our staff, student self-direction, and support from our families, our kids are learning more than ever!”

AN EASY WAY TO HELP GREEN GABLES ELEMENTARY

Bring your friends and neighbors for a fundraiser to benefit Green Gables Elementary School. Eat dinner at Chipotle (by Kohls at 3170 S. Wadsworth) on Tuesday, December 4 from 4-8 p.m.; let them know you're there to support Green Gables and Chipotle will donate 50% of proceeds to Green Gables Elementary School.



Be sure to like Green Gables on Facebook and see what's going on at GGES! <https://www.facebook.com/GreenGablesES/>

ELIMINATING "GHOST LOADS" FROM YOUR ENERGY BILLS

By Bruce McDonald

When it comes to saving money on your energy bill, you may have already considered some of the common ways to cut costs. Many magazine and newspaper articles have been written about greening up your home. Buying energy efficient appliances, adding insulation, and changing wasteful habits usually top the lists, and they should. You can save a lot of money by taking their advice.

Ghost loads are an often overlooked part of the energy saving puzzle. They can account for up to 8 to 10% of your homes energy use, so eliminating them can save you \$50-\$100 every year. The good news is that it's not hard to do. So what are ghost loads? Ghost loads are created when devices are "off" but still consume power. Your television set is a classic example. Your TV may consume 10-20 watts of power when it's not on. That's 88 - 176 kilowatt hours (kWh) every year! If you pay \$0.15/kWh, you're spending between \$13 and \$26 a year to power a TV set that's not even on. Entertainment centers in general consume a lot of power when "off". The vast array of charging devices that you may have in your home (these devices are often known as "vampires") are another source of wasted energy. Though each one only consumes a few watts, if you have many of these devices the drain can start to really add up. Your computer can create a significant ghost load if you leave it in sleep or standby mode instead of shutting it off.

So now that you have an idea of what a ghost load is, how do you measure them? The best may is with a simple home energy measuring device like a "Kill-a-Watt". These devices are inexpensive (usually about \$30), and they can quickly identify ghost loads. Simply plug the device into a wall outlet and then plug various devices into the meter to see how many watts the device draws. You can also plug a powerstrip and see what an entire collection of devices draw. If you don't want to purchase a measuring device, simply find your charging devices and hold the transformer in your hand. The transformer is the "brick" part of the charger. If the transformer is warm even when there's no device attached to it, you know that it's drawing power and simply turning it into heat.

Now that you know what you're up against, what do you do about it? Simply unplug charging devices when you aren't charging anything with them. If they're not plugged in, they're not drawing power. For other devices that you use regularly, put them on powerstrips that you can turn off yourself. If you have a device or two that you would like to be connected to power all the time, buy a powerstrip with a few "always on" sockets on it. This will allow you to shut off the devices that don't need to be connected all the time. Another tip is to plug the powerstrip into a timer. The timer can turn the power strip off and on to match your daily routine. New digital timers often allow to you program the settings for each day of the week, giving you a lot of control over the on/off schedule.

GET INVOLVED IN SOUTHERN GABLES

Do you know there are many ways you can volunteer in our neighborhood? (One special way you can get involved is by helping during our Leaf Collection Day in November!)

Board members Bruce McDonald and Bruce Loftis are developing a list of many ways for you to get involved in helping others in our community. Please see the Southern Gables website for information about participating in our neighborhood.

WEBSITE REMINDERS

We encourage all neighbors to regularly visit the Southern Gables website, www.southerngableshoa.com. Bruce McDonald on your Board has done an exceptional job of building and maintaining your website. There is a wealth of information available on the site. All Board members of the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association do an exceptional job directing the Association to provide services to Southern Gables. Please go to the listing of your Board members in this Newsletter and learn of all members. Call or email them if you wish.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD

President: Doug Whitten, 303-986-7157, whittend@comcast.net

Vice President: Bruce McDonald, 303-526-8844, bruce@bulgariastories.com

Secretary: Christine Laursen, 720-244-4180, christinelaursen@comcast.net

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Woodard Ave., and Jewell Ave.

Area 2: Samantha Monell, 970-631-4236, Samantha.monell@yahoo.com
Between the ditch, Jewell Ave, Carr St,
and Woodard Dr.

Area 3: Erwin Bunzli, 303-985-9083, ebunzli@q.com
Between Evans Pl., Carr St., Woodard
Dr., and Allison St.

Area 4: Deb Martin, 303-986-1761, dangels1955@gmail.com
East of Allison St., west of Wadsworth
Blvd.

Area 5: Lisa Huntington-Kinn, 303-808-8260, lisa@hkrealstateco.com
Valley View north of Morrison Rd. east of
Garrison, south of Iliff Ln.

Area 6: Monica Norval, 303-984-9836, mnorval@ecentral.com
East of Estes St., south of Woodard Dr.

Area 7: Courtney App, 303-989-3169, Courtney.app@gmail.com
Flower Way, Flower Ct., Flower St.,
Warren Dr. east of Estes

Area 8: Frank Bontrager, 303-987-3042, flbontrager@comcast.net
Field St., Field Wy., Everett St., Estes
Wy., Estes St., S. side of Woodard Dr.

At Large: Ken Fischer, 303-472-9746, blazerwood@gmail.com

SUSTAINABLE SOUTHERN GABLES



School/Community Garden Updates

Our second growing season at the Gables School/Community Garden was a huge success! Gardeners found that their plots grew prolifically, neighbors attended workshops (about things like growing tomatoes and drying herbs) throughout the summer, and we enjoyed working and learning together.

Students at Green Gables Elementary school have really enjoyed the garden again this year too. They planted in the spring and enjoyed the fruits of their labors this fall. They grew veggies for and ate pizza, salsa, salad, spaghetti sauce, a potato bar, and more.

5th Graders at the school started a new “Youth Farmstand” program this fall where they sold veggies and flowers grown in the garden to parents, families, and neighbors on four Thursdays this fall. This exciting experience provides real-world marketing, selling, money management, and business experience that fits right in with the 5th grade curriculum.

We have even more exciting plans in the works for the garden for next year. Keep an eye on the garden and watch for information in the coming months!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Mark your Calendar...

5th Annual Leaf Collection and Composting Day—Saturday, November 3, 2018, 7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at Green Gables Elementary School parking lot.

Election Day—Tuesday, November 6, 2018. You will receive your ballot in the mail after October 15. Be sure to mail your ballot back by November 3 or drop it off in person at an official ballot drop box before 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 6. PLEASE VOTE.

Fundraiser at Chipotle by Kohls (3170 S. Wadsworth)— Tuesday, December 4, 2018, 4-8 p.m. Tell Chipotle you’re there with Green Gables Elementary School. Coordinated by the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association to benefit Green Gables Elementary School.

Southern Gables Neighborhood Luncheons are the first Thursday of each month. Meet and chat with your neighbors. Dates and locations will be listed in Nextdoor.com and www.southerngableshoa.com.

Southern Gables Neighborhood Evening Get-Togethers are on rotating days monthly; dates and locations will be listed in Nextdoor.com and www.southerngableshoa.com. If you’re interested in hosting an evening get together, contact Doug Whitten.

Ward 5 meetings are the **1st Saturday of each month** at Bear Valley Church on W. Jewell and S. Old Kipling beginning at 9 am. These meeting are for all Southern Gables neighbors and Ward 5 neighbors to learn more about the City of Lakewood and services offered, and are hosted by our two Ward 5 City Councilors.