

Southern Gables

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Serving Southern Gables and Valley View



SouthernGablesNeighborhoodAssociation.com

FALL NEWSLETTER, 2022

A NOTE FROM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT BRUCE MCDONALD

What a year it's been so far! With such a busy summer we deserve a break, don't you think? Now that we are enjoying the change of seasons and looking forward to the winter snows (uh, sure...), I'm thinking about how *hot* we were this past summer. Change is the only constant we can depend on, isn't it? With Doug Whitten's retirement from his epic run as the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association President, I have been asked what changes to expect in what the Association does. That's not a difficult question to answer. We will be working within the guidelines of our founding charter and governing directives, and they haven't changed. To be specific, here is a summary of our Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and all that. What the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association does is:

Help make our great neighborhood even better.

So, what's to change about that? Not a thing. Following the example Doug set, and with special appreciation to the neighbors who choose to support our work by participating in activities and paying the \$20 annual dues, we will continue in this role and keep on working. Our summertime sponsorship of individual block parties got hundreds of neighbors talking to each other, laughing together and making new friends. The Neighborhood Night Out back in August had lots of activity for kids and adults alike, with neighbors going

from one booth to another visiting with local business owners and community service organizations, kids playing little games for prizes, and raffle winners running up to the DJ stand with their winning tickets for cash prizes in the free raffle.

Next month we will be holding our Leaf Collection Day. It has become a popular event – last year it was so popular that we could not take all the leaves that came in to be dropped off. This year it is just for YOU. It will be FREE for Southern Gables residents. Others from outside our neighborhood will be asked to pay a fee. Details on page 3.

In the coming months we will continue with our support of local community causes and organizations such as the Green Gables Elementary School Giving Tree, Joy's Kitchen, The Action Center, and others. If you have a favorite *local* cause or organization that aligns with our mission of supporting our neighborhood, and could benefit from some financial support, contact us (see p. 4) to tell us about it. We will be accepting nominations for the Association's year-end donations through the month of November.

Sincerely,
Bruce McDonald

Vote!

Key dates:

Oct 24 – ballot drop boxes are available

Oct 31 – last day to mail your ballot

Nov 8 – Election Day

Make sure your info is current, find voting locations and election security information, track your ballot:

jeffco.us/elections.

Get Involved.

Help make our good neighborhood better. Be a part of the solution. Become an Association Board Member. Contact any Board member (list on page 4) or SGNA.Lakewood@gmail.com

Check out our neighborhood website

SouthernGablesNeighborhoodAssociation.com and "Subscribe" (follow.it) to get notifications when new articles are published.

Peak View Park Preparation Underway at Morrison Road and Wadsworth Boulevard

Parks and trails: we've got 'em! The City of Lakewood has over 100 parks and 240 miles of trails. Healthy outdoor living is a hallmark of being a Coloradan, and here in Southern Gables we are fortunate to have so many of them close by. The newest addition is right next to Southern Gables, and work has started on making it accessible to us all. Peak View Park will feature an excellent variety of terrain types for hiking, and views of Bear Valley and Pikes Peak.

The new park project is under development across 60 acres of Jefferson County Open Space just to the southeast of the intersection of Morrison Road and Wadsworth. Targeted to be opened in 2023, the new park will include a mix of hard and soft surface trails and several viewpoints to enjoy mountain views, including Mt. Evans and Pikes Peak. A new entry road and parking lot will be located just southeast of Morrison Road and Wadsworth. Work has already started on that entry, providing access to construction crews. Another access point to the trail system will be located off of West Vassar Avenue. Lakewood Together (lakewoodtogether.org), the City of Lakewood's community engagement website, created a drone video of the property that you can see online at bit.ly/pvp-lakewood.

The land was once part of the Taylor Estate, the former home of a storied family that was one of the original investors in The Vail Corporation and owned the

The home was built in 1932 and designed by Denver architect Burnham Hoyt, also known for Red Rocks Amphitheatre and the Denver Public Library Central Building in downtown Denver. During its history, the mansion and its luxurious property hosted many notable figures: heads of state, presidents, and even royalty, including Gerald Ford, Henry Kissinger, Prince Philip, and Princess Anne. The last of the Taylor family members to live there were Vernon "Moose" Taylor and his wife Ann Bonfoey Taylor, the aviatrix, Army flight instructor, Olympic skier, and fashion designer. They made the difficult decision to sell and then Lakewood, recognizing how much we value open space, bought the prime 60-acre portion of the property. A public contest came up with the name, so we can look forward to enjoying this great decision by the City of Lakewood, Peak View Park.



Photo: City of Lakewood

The Delicate Etiquette of Dog Walking

All around the neighborhood, we see our neighbors out walking dogs. Rain or shine, even tromping through the snow, out for a walk. Many of these dogs and their people are new to the game; according to an ASPCA study back in May of last year, nearly one in five households got a new pet during the pandemic. Even with experienced dog owners, sometimes the finer points of the dog walking etiquette get overlooked.

Not to put too fine a point on it, your dog's business is not your neighbor's responsibility. We have heard from a few neighbors that some dog-walkers aren't attentive to the cleanup task, or don't respect the few lawns that have little "please, not here" signs. You might find it hard to imagine, but some dog owners have been seen to get a little huffy if asked to clean up. Promoting mutual respect between dog-walkers and neighbors, balanced information on pet/owner/neighbor etiquette is available from the American Kennel Club (AKC). You can see some good hints and tips on the AKC website, at bit.ly/akc-tips. Even if your dog can't read, you can check it out and become a better teacher for your pet. There's a lot of good information there, but the bottom line seems to be, be respectful of each other.

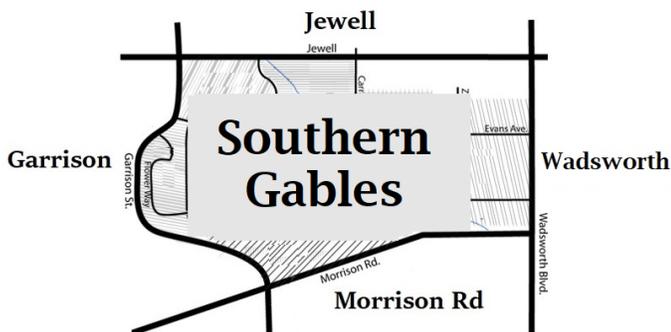
Leaf Collection Day!

Free for Southern Gables Residents

Saturday, November 5. Our fall neighborhood project brings people together in a job that just about no one really looks forward to. After the brilliance of the yellow, red, and purple colors, our trees settle down for the long winter chill. They let go of their leaves and we have to do something with them. You might use some of them for winter mulch around bushes or trees, or feed them to goats. Throwing them out with the trash is a waste.

On Friday November 4, student volunteers from Denver Christian Middle School will rake and bag leaves for senior and disabled residents who sign up to be helped with their leaves. (Contact Judy Whitten, 303-986-7157 or jewhitten@comcast.net.) All of our other Southern Gables residents can then bring bagged leaves to Green Gables Elementary on Saturday the 5th, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We will take them for composting, to put them to good use instead of going to waste. This will benefit the environment and save space in landfills.

This community activity on Saturday, November 5 is FREE for you if you live in Southern Gables. Others pay \$20.



Southern Gables Residents ONLY: bring your leaves to Green Gables Elementary Saturday November 5, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Southern Gables Neighborhood Association Dues

Association dues are \$20 per year, and are voluntary. Dues paid in April and after will cover the period to May 2023. Dues can be paid by check to the P.O. box address on the first page, by PayPal on the Association website, by Venmo @SGNA-Lakewood, or in person to any Board member. Board members are listed on page 4.

What's Happening?

- **Southern Gables Neighborhood Luncheons** are held monthly at local restaurants. The November luncheon will be on November 3 at the Valley Inn, 1997 S. Wadsworth Blvd. RSVP: Judy Whitten, 303-986-7157 or jewhitten@comcast.net. Monthly luncheons start at 11:30, usually the first Thursday. You can call or email Judy to get on her list, and information is on the "Events" page of our website, southerngablesneighborhoodassociation.com.
- **Ward 5 Meetings** are the first Saturday of each month beginning at 9:00 AM at the Westwoods Community Church, 7700 W. Woodard Drive. The next meeting will be November 5. Our City Council Ward 5 representatives hold these meetings on various topics throughout the year.
- **Camp Christmas** begins November 17th at Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park, and runs through December 24th. It's the quirkiest holiday tradition in the metro area. Come ride a classic carousel, meet with Santa, drink hot cocoa, and wander through the elaborate campgrounds. The City of Lakewood invites you to leave your worries behind and lean into the joy of the season! Tickets required. denvercenter.org/tickets-events/camp-christmas
- **Trail of Lights at Chatfield Farms** November 25 through January 1. Denver Botanic Gardens lights up the Chatfield location with a holiday glow illuminating the trees that line the mile-long pathway through the Green Farm, Crossroads, the Children's Play Area and 1880s Hildebrand Ranch homestead. There is the option of a shorter path as well. Tickets in advance only, botanicgardens.org/events/special-events/trail-lights.
- **Chipotle Fundraiser for Green Gables Elementary:** Wednesday December 7. Get dinner and donate to the school at the same time! Eat in or order online. When you order in person to eat in or take out, just tell the cashier you're there for Green Gables. To order online (Chipotle online or app, not through a delivery service), use code 7LMFR2F.
- **List of free things to do in the local area for fall:** denver.org/things-to-do/fall-winter/free-things-to-do-this-fall/

SOUTHERN GABLES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD

President: Bruce McDonald, 303-526-8844
bruce.mcdonald@hotmail.com

Vice President: Lisa Huntington-Kinn, 303-808-8260
lisa@hkrealstateco.com

Secretary: Liza Patty, 720-980-2698
LizaRPatty@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bruce Loftis, 720-235-9830
bruce.loftis@gmail.com

Area 1: (Between Estes St, Garrison St, Woodard Ave, and Jewell Ave.) Marci DeMott
303-319-3177 marcidemott@gmail.com

Area 2: (Between the Ag Ditch, Jewell Ave, Carr St, and Woodard Dr.) Carolyn Wolfrum
303-915-5503 cwolfrum93@gmail.com

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

Area 4: (East of Allison St, west of Wadsworth Blvd.) *Open - Looking for a volunteer.*

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

Area 6: (East of Estes St, south of Woodard Dr.) Dave Wood, 720-326-0844
mdwood@msn.com

Area 7: (Flower Way, Flower Ct, Flower St, Warren Dr east of Estes.) Marcel Guajardo
720-939-9958 marcel.guajardo@dish.com

Area 8: (Field St, Field Way, Everett St, Estes Way, Estes St, south side of Woodard Dr.) Frank Bontrager, 303-987-3042
flbontrager@comcast.net

At Large:

– Ken Fischer, 303-472-9746
blazerwood@gmail.com

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

Newsletter contributors: Bruce McDonald, Marcel Guajardo, Dave Wood, Liza Patty, Judy Whitten.

**Working together for a better neighborhood.
Join us.**



October 2022

Hello Southern Gables neighbors!

We have had an incredible start of school at Green Gables Elementary including an amazing evening with all of you at the Southern Gables Neighborhood Night Out! We know our families are so grateful for this tradition and for the opportunity to connect with one another and the greater Southern Gables community – thank you! We also loved getting to engage in our community garden kick-off in mid-September where students were able to taste salsa made fresh with garden ingredients.

One of our focuses, alongside academics, at Green Gables is building Habits of Character. This work is aligned to our literacy curriculum, Expeditionary Learning. Each month we elevate one of the habits: Perseverance, Initiative, Responsibility, Respect, Compassion, Empathy, Collaboration, and Integrity. We have been focused on digging into responsibility in September and are moving into respect for October. When we think about our students it is important that they are building the skills they need to grow and develop into successful individuals within our community.

We are so grateful to be part of this community! If you are interested in doing any volunteering, we would love to hear from you and are currently seeking crossing guards!

Thank you for all your support of our amazing school!

Jenn Withee

Principal | Green Gables Elementary

Problem in the neighborhood? Sometimes we are asked about neglected lawns or such things that happen even in the best of neighborhoods. The Southern Gables Neighborhood Association is not an HOA. We don't do enforcement. If you have property concerns, you can check out lakewood.org/codeenforcement to research the rules and contact the right City enforcement agency.

The Association is mindful of our charter, to "Encourage a cohesive community by providing opportunities for social activities and supporting worthy local civic organizations."