



AUG/SEPT 2009 Craven School news PG 1 **Just the facts: health care reform info session PG 3** Meet a Neighbor: the Schneider family PG 5 **In Memoriam: Farewell to Mary Montgomery PG 8** Map of neighborhood districts PG 7 **The Way We Were: Sledding on cardboard boxes PG 6** Join us, next **General Meeting: Sept. 29, 7 p.m.**

COLUMNS

lindleyparknc.com

THE LINDLEY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FUTURE OF CRAVEN ELEMENTARY BUILDING

School board: No sale to preschool program

By Mary Alice Austin

The vacant Craven School, on the corner of Parkwood Drive, Tryon Place, and Ashland Drive, has been in the news. Early Childhood Development asked the Guilford County Board of Education to give or sell them the school for an early childhood center and teaching lab. They planned to apply a \$5 million federal stimulus package to renovate the operate the program.

The request came before the School Board twice and was voted down twice, 6 to 5. To sell the property, the board must declare it "unnecessary and undesirable for public school purposes." By law, it would then go to the County Commissioners to sell.

Craven was built in 1955 and closed in the late 1980s when larger schools were more popular and the student populations was dropping. Early Childhood Development, which includes Head Start and other programs, leased Craven for 17 years at a small fee and a limited maintenance contract. Over the last four years, Guilford County School administrators have proposed several uses for the building, but the School Board has voted not to implement

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Visits from city police officers, firefighters, and a fire truck highlighted this annual event, held throughout the city to promote stronger partnerships with the Greensboro Police Department. Neighbors visited with each other (top), enjoyed ice cream and toppings, and checked out gear when the fire truck arrived (bottom)..

Thanks to Stephanie and Shawn McGovern for organizing the event and scooping ice cream.

Photos by Lynn Hey (top) and Patti Eckard (bottom).



HOPE CHAPEL

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a new neighborhood church meeting at Lindley Elementary School, Sundays at 10:30am.

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From the Chair

BILL ECKARD



Our General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 29 at 7 pm at Lindley Recreation Center.

Join us for door prizes, soft drinks and cookies. A representative from the City of Greensboro Engineering and Inspections Department will meet with us to talk about the difference between an ordinance and a law, why we have them and how to enforce them. The city has ordinances regarding garbage cans, parking, barking dogs, noise, and many many more. Come meet the enforcement officers and ask questions. Should be an interesting meeting!

WANT TO HELP OUT? Because we are an all-volunteer neighborhood association, sometimes things fall through the cracks. One of those things is the way we respond to offers to volunteer. We ask you about your interests in willingness to serve (see form on back cover) but we sometimes just don't respond to interests from fellow neighbors. So we have created a volunteer coordinator position, and stepping up to serve in that role is Michael Van Patter. You can reach him at michaelvanpatter@gmail.com.

Michael also serves as our Environmental Chair. I can assure you that if you have an interest in getting involved with the Lindley Park Neighborhood Association, he will get you involved.

See you on Sept. 29 at the General Meeting, if not before. ■

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Columns is published by the Lindley Park Neighborhood Association. More than 1,200 households receive hand-delivered copies. Issues are also posted on our Web site, www.lindleyparknc.com. Copies can be picked up at several neighborhood businesses. Publishing is February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September, October/November and December/January.

Deadline for ads is the 10th day of the month prior to publication. Ads cost \$35 per issue. Ad size is 1/6 of a page, or 2.5 inches by 5 inches. The editor of Columns reserves the right to edit as needed.

For more information, or to place an ad, contact Patti Eckard at Patti.Eckard@gmail.com or 632.1448.

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Over the Fence

LISA WATTS, EDITOR

It usually takes an issue hitting home before many of us will do much about it. Health care reform indeed hit home this year, after I left my job and then neglected to sign up on my husband's plan within a month of leaving mine. For eight months now, stupidly or stubbornly, I've been winging it. I look at the cost of plans — knowing that typically I only see my doctor for an annual check-up and an annual flare-up of poison ivy — and I can't bring myself to sign up. So I'm crossing my fingers and hoping for no catastrophes before December, when I can be added to Bob's insurance.

But it's not my minor predicament that really gets me worked up about our health care system. It's so much more. It's how so many Americans take little responsibility for their health and instead turn to pills and surgery, raising the cost of care for the rest of us. It's how health insurers already dictate which doctors we can see and for what circumstances, but people — politicians and citizens alike — oppose reform of the system because they don't want "the government" to dictate what doctors they can see and for what conditions. It's the fact that after-the-fact treatments get covered but not proactive, preventative measures.

OK, I'll stop — I'm raising my blood pressure. But it's important stuff and worth informing yourself about — and then letting our elected officials know what you think. We've invited a representative from the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad to speak on the health care reform on Thursday, Sept. 3 at Lindley Recreation Center at 7 p.m. The League has made the health care debate a primary focus nationally. Expect to hear plenty of startling numbers and a nonpartisan look at how our system works today. After a presentation, audience members are invited to ask questions and share their perspectives.

I have to say so long to a few neighbors who moved away this summer. Bruce Kiesling, our first "Meet a Neighbor" subject, took a job as symphony conductor in Visalia, California, close to the L.A. film scene where he can pursue his interest in film scores. The Decola family — Jake, Angie, daughter Camille and newborn Gianna — left for Albion, Michigan, where Jake is coaching lacrosse for Albion College. We'll miss them, but we also look forward to meeting new neighbors. "Sold" signs seem to cropping up all over the neighborhood. ■

FYI

FALL FEST, CHILI COOKOFF OCT. 17

Join us for the second annual chili cookoff and other great neighborhood fun. Watch for more details in your Oct./Nov. newsletter. Questions? Call Joyce Eury, 292.7129.

LOSE AN ITEM AT EGG HUNT?

If you lost a valuable item at the Easter Egg Hunt in the park this past spring, write to Joyce Eury and describe it; she's been keeping it safe: eury1234@bellsouth.net



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continued from page 1

them because of budget constraints. Any plan for Craven’s use will require funding to renovate the building, which deteriorates the longer it sits vacant.

The pendulum has swung, and smaller schools are in vogue again. The location is prime property. It is easier to get money to build a new school if you already have land. It would be a big mistake to sell this land and then ask Guilford County citizens to vote on a bond to buy land for another school.

Think of the many education advantages the Craven property offers. It’s located in a quiet neighborhood in walking distance to the Arboretum. Imagine the learning experiences in science, nature, environment, creative writing, environmental mathematics. (One school board member even wrote a curriculum guide in the 1990s for teachers of young children on the use of the Woodland Trail. Check it out the next time you walk there.)

As we wait for the next step, we need to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity at Craven, as we would any other property in the neighborhood. The school system’s maintenance department has done an excellent job recently cleaning up the grounds and securing the building. The Greensboro Police Department has increased its surveillance.

Our neighborhood School Board representative, Jeff Belton, is doing a great job. You might let him and the other School Board members know we appreciate their dedication and long hours. ■

Mailbag

LETTERS, E-MAILS, QUESTIONS

My brothers, Dan and Ben Bullen, and I grew up at 2620 Springwood Drive from 1951-71. They now live in Texas and Ohio respectively. I would like to know if you ever have an event that includes former residents/families, because I now live in Sylva, NC, and want to attend. I keep in regular touch with some of our former neighbors (Parrish, Culpepper, Crow) and visited last week with Mrs. Doris Owens. — **Ann Dietz**

Thanks for writing (via www.lindleyparknc.com). We could make a push to have “alumni” neighbors attend the Oct. 17 Fall Fest. E-mail us c/o lwatts5@triad.rr.com, and we’ll gladly reach out to former neighbors — who are always welcome.

MEET A NEIGHBOR



Photo by Lynn Hey

Names: The Schneider family: Bill, Michelle, Wil (9) and Dennis (7)

Address: 906 Longview Street

Lived here since: 1996

Why you chose Lindley Park: We spent a lot of time at "the corner" during our UNCG days, so it just felt like home.

What you like most about the neighborhood: The people! We have enjoyed amazing relationships over the years and now our children have developed great friendships.

We love the sense of community every time we come home. Lindley Elementary is a huge part of our daily lives and we couldn't be happier with our neighborhood school.

Pet peeves: Neighborhood trash. It

always seems to be a treasure to Wil, and Ryan who lives across the street. I visited northern Greensboro the other day and realized that even my garbage pile wouldn't fit in out there. Stop by to see our latest creation!

Your professions: Bill is co-owner of Pepper Moon Catering and Spring Garden Bakery. Michelle is director of development for Habitat for Humanity of Greensboro.

Your hobbies: All four of us are foodies! The boys love the clams and crab soup at Fishbones. Bill's an avid golfer and the rest of us are trying to catch up. We love baseball, go Phillies (and Cubs!).

What your neighbors wouldn't know: If you only knew....

GOT A CANDIDATE for Meet a Neighbor? Write to Lisa, lwatts5@triad.rr.com



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CALENDAR

SEPT. 3

Health Care Reform info session with League of Women Voters, 7 p.m., Lindley Rec Center

SEPT. 29

LPNA General Meeting, 7 p.m., Lindley Rec Center

OCT. 17

Fall Fest and Chili Cook-off. Lindley Park; details to com in next Columns

OCT. 24

Medical fundraiser at Filling Station: cookout, music, road race and more



THE WAY WE WERE. Who needs snow? Judi Mitchell, 2617 Springwood Drive, sent this photo. It was taken at the park on the north side of Springwood. She can identify (from left) Susan Henley, Pam Parrish, and Judi Mitchell on first "sled"; Pat Henley on next sled, Holly Henley in box; Terry White (laughing, in white socks), Louis Owens, Tommy Foster, and three Arrington boys. "Daddy built the house in 1947, the year I was born. I've lived in Lindley Park all of my life except for three years," Judi says. "I moved back into the Springwood residence about four years ago." Got an old neighborhood photo to share? Send it to Lisa Watts, lwatts5@triad.rr.com.

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**Beyond the Politics:
Sept. 3 Session on
Health Care Reform**

Join us for a presentation by the League of Women Voters Piedmont Triad on issues and facts in the health care and health insurance debate. A time for questions and discussion will follow. Free, open to all. Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 pm, Lindley Recreation Center.



**Classes, Clubs at
GSO Public Library**

The Greensboro Public Library offers a full slate of computer classes, book club meetings, and other events all year long. Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/library for a schedule and more information.



Questions? Contact your district representative (see page 2). Volunteer still needed to represent District 1.



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In Memoriam: Mary Montgomery (1919-2009)

Lindley Park's wonderful ambassador, Mary Montgomery, passed away at age 90 on May 30, 2009. She lived on Scott Avenue for 60 years and gave much of herself to the neighborhood and city.

I first met Mary in 1976 at a precinct meeting and was amazed at all of her community activities. She never let up; through the later years of her life she kept on giving her time. In 2006 Mary was recognized for her generous nature by WFMY NEWS 'Those Who Care' award.

Some of our neighbors have suggested ways to honor Mary. One idea is to plant a garden and simply call it 'Mary's Garden.' Do you have ideas? Please send them to me at bill@billeckard.com.

Lindley Park will miss Mary. We wish her family well. — Bill Eckard

Lindley Park Neighborhood Association Supporters, 2009

With neighbor support, the association is able to sponsor the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Fling, Fall Fest, and Holiday Luminaries. Thanks for your contributions.

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- Environmental Issues FUN-raising Park Preservation Web site Public Safety/Public Works (speeding, burglary, sidewalks, etc)
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