



Longview Gardens Gazette

November, 1998



Come to the LONGVIEW GARDENS FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 15th from 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Meet at the Snyder's Home - 309 Lord Berkley Road

Join us for Homemade Ice Cream and mugs of hot cocoa or coffee! Please bring your favorite ice cream topping or a dessert snack to share. Ice cream will be served at 3:30, followed by pleasant conversations with your neighbors and a brief business meeting at 4:15.

The Longview Gardens Neighborhood Association would like to welcome all families who are new to our neighborhood. Since our neighborhood is a large one, it's difficult for residents to get out and meet you new folks who have moved into the Longview Gardens area. We hope that all new (and old) neighbors will make plans to attend the Fall Festival on November 15th. If you're planning to come, ask a neighbor to join you!

Notes From the Co-Chairs:

Last October at our annual neighborhood gathering, Susan Reid and Cathy Hedgepeth agreed to assume the role of Co-Chairs for the Longview Gardens Neighborhood Association. Susan and I had planned to introduce ourselves through a "cheerful" winter or spring newsletter, but a neighborhood crisis interfered with those good intentions. The issue of the City's plans for placement of a large homeless shelter near our neighborhood required a great deal of attention and time. Susan and I wrote and arranged for a flier to be distributed in our neighborhood, contacted members of the City Council, distributed petitions for neighbors to sign, attended meetings of the Raleigh City Planning Commission, spoke at these meetings to oppose the proposed shelter site, and organized a telephone tree to announce future Council meetings. We were excited and pleased by the response of our neighbors. Over 50 members of our community were present at one meeting of the City Planning Commission! Many of you also

displayed your support by helping with phone calls, letters, and by signing the petition. Thank you for taking the time to speak out for our lovely neighborhood. We do think that your efforts made a difference. At least four City Council Members have expressed their support of our position, and the Commission is looking more seriously at the kind of shelter they are planning, i.e., one that actually meets the needs of the homeless. We also feel that City Council members are looking at the Longview Gardens community and other East Raleigh residents in a slightly different way. We are no longer perceived as that silent community that sits back and takes whatever the city government wants to dump on us! Thank goodness that we have residents in our neighborhood like Barbara Risan and Rick Kane who helped organize our association over 5 years ago. Otherwise the forum for dealing with this crisis would not have existed.

While no further action from the City has occurred regarding the shelter, we are still worried that the homeless shelter will be placed in East Raleigh. We remain concerned because of the safety issues for our

neighborhood, and especially because of the impact on our property values. Our community already houses, along with Southeast Raleigh, over 80% of the services for needy individuals in Wake County. We believe that we are carrying our fair share of the responsibility for human services for the residents of Wake County. Susan and I will continue to monitor this situation, and we are working closely with the East Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council to address the issue.

Another job that Susan and I assumed as your Co-Chairs involves organizing an annual gathering of neighbors. Traditionally this event has included plenty of time for fun and a brief business meeting. This year we will be gathering at the home of the Synder family for homemade ice cream. While it's true that ice cream tastes best in the summer, we think that homemade ice cream is good anytime. Please read about the details of this event and make plans to join us. This is a good opportunity to meet new and long-term residents of Longview, as well as a time to bring your neighborhood concerns to the board members of the association.