

The Woods Watch

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Sardis Woods Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume III, Issue 2

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SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING HELD FOR SARDIS WOODS

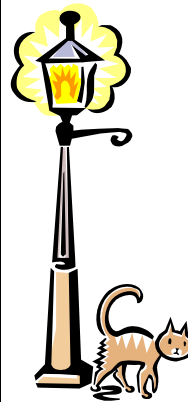
The neighborhood meeting of Sardis Woods residents was held at East Baptist Church, 6850 Monroe Road on Thursday March 8, at 7:00pm.

David Clark began with reports from the following standing committees: Street Lights, Speed bumps on Sunnywood, Entrance Signs, National Night Out, Neighborhood Yard Sale, and a new committee, for the Neighborhood Clean-Up Day. These reports will be reflected in the articles in this edition of the Woods Watch.

The remainder of the meeting was given to Officer Dave Cristy our community representative for the Independence Division of CMPD. He reported on the redistricting that has narrowed the patrol area of this division from 40 to 20 square miles. This encompasses a population of approximately 65,000 and includes policing of 3 major throughways; Independence, Monroe Road, and Providence Road.

Officer Cristy also reported on the results being compiled in the ongoing 13 safety forums around the city. Sardis Woods residents participated in one on February 22. Those attending were asked to respond to three major areas of inquiries by the police department. 1. What are the 5 major concerns you have about your community? 2. How can CMPD better engage the community? 3. What suggestions do you have for CMPD to serve you better? Those attending were able to respond in breakout groups led by area patrolmen.

When all the forums are completed, the



NEW LIGHTS TO BE INSTALLED SOON

With a 75% approval by residents of Sardis Woods, the city of Charlotte has approved the plan for increased lighting for Sardis Woods as outlined by Duke Energy. Mr. Clark reported that Mr. Steve Steelman of Duke Energy estimates the project to begin the last week in March with the flagging of the area and trenching will begin the first week in April. The project should take most of the month of April. There will be an additional 38- 40 new lights installed.

results of resident responses will be published. A good source of information is www.cmpd.org

The concerns that are covered at the neighborhood meeting give everyone an opportunity to provide input into the decisions made. Each resident also has access to their block captain to express ideas, concerns, and opinions. Your opportunity to impact this neighborhood is available through INVOLVEMENT. Where are you the night of neighborhood meetings??

NEXT SARDIS WOODS COMMUNITY MEETING: OCTOBER 11, 2007. TIME AND PLACE TO BE DETERMINED AND ANNOUNCED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE WOODS WATCH NEWSLETTER. WE NEED YOU TO BE THERE. BE A PART OF THE TEAMWORK TO KEEP SARDIS WOODS ON TOP!

Entrance Signs: The entrance signs on Sunnywood at Sardis Road North remain on hold until the future of the property is clarified.





SPEEDBUMPS VOTED DOWN ON SUNNEYWOOD

A petition throughout Sunnywood and adjacent streets, seeking three speed bumps to regulate repetitive speeding on Sunnywood failed to meet the required 60% of the affected resident's approval.

The residents affected are now being asked to support a petition requesting stop signs at three locations on Sunnywood for the same purpose, to control speeding traffic. Those signs would be placed at Watergate, Falls Church, and Bass as they intersect with Sunnywood.

Officer Jarek of the Independence Division is working with the block captains on Sunnywood and affected side streets. There is a June 5th deadline to get the required 60% approval of homeowners in the area of Sardis Woods affected.

SPRING CLEANING IS COMING TO SARDIS WOODS

Mia D, on Surreywood, is heading up a clean-up day on April 21, (Saturday) from 8 - 10 am. The goal is to rid cul de sacs, curbsides, and street shrubbery of the winter's accumulation of trash. Volunteers can meet, pick up equipment and deliver their filled bags to 159 Sunnywood, or 9503 Covedale Drive. Trash bags and latex gloves will be provided at the meeting sites. We want a secondary goal to be reached...great neighborhood involvement, as well as to meet your neighbors. We would like 50 volunteers to make short work of the Sardis Woods area. We will not be going into yards, just the curbsides and shrubs close to the roads. After the SWEEP, all participants are urged to drop their trash back at the meeting spot (in a waiting vehicle!!) and celebrate a job well done with coffee, donuts, and juice. Children are invited to join in, but if they are under 12, they must be accompanied with a parent.



BOOKWORMS: TAKE NOTE

Ignorance is NOT BLIS if you are missing the great group that meets every third Thursday. It is BLIS- Book Lovers in Sardis. Toby Spitzer who hosts the gathering wrote, "We choose a few books ahead of time so we'll have time to order them. Our choices have been varied autobiographies, serious fiction, the not-so-serious and a few classics." Everyone is welcome to join the group and meet good books and good friends. You can contact Toby at 704-841-2294.



CLIMB ON THE WELCOME WAGON!!

The Sardis Woods Watch Association is interested in formulating a method to provide a welcoming hand to each new resident in our neighborhood. The block captains are looking for people who might enjoy greeting new arrivals with a friendly welcome as well as information that might make the transition to their new home more convenient and comfortable. We are interested in hearing from anyone with ideas from past experiences and enthusiasm to help make this project a successful one. Contact Robin Sharpe through the Sardis Woods website or call 704-847-9250.

NO YARD SALE THIS SPRING

We must clarify the status of a spring yard sale. We DO have a day set aside for such a sale (the fourth Saturday of April) BUT the Sardis Woods Association cannot sponsor the sale unless we get significant support from participating neighbors. There have been only two inquiries about the sale and no one has “signed up to participate”.

The cost of a good size, noticeable ad in The Charlotte Observer is \$25.00. It has to be placed well in advance of the sale so last minute decisions are not possible. The past yard sale crash landed for lack of participation.

Those willing to coordinate a yard sale spend time, effort, and money to provide for a good yard sale. It is not reasonable to expect that of our volunteers.

Our first such sale in the fall of 2005 was moderately successful...very much so for the first one, but none since have had very good support.

The original plans for the sale and the SWNA's support in the sale was outlined in the September, 2006 newsletter which you can find on the neighborhood website, www.sardiswoods.org click on newsletter link. If you do not have internet access, call Sonya at 704-814-4446, or Lynn at 704 846-7430 to hear an outline of our yard sale activities.

At this time we will NOT be having a sponsored sale on April 28

If you feel a yard sale would be good in the future, we would be interested in seeing its rebirth if we have active help and resident participation.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS PLANNED FOR AUGUST 7

Hot dogs and ice cream! Games for kids. Meet your neighbors. And help fight crime! What better way to spend a mid-week summer evening and all within walking distance of home.

National Night Out is a nationwide program which encourages neighbors all over this country to turn on their porch lights, stroll around their neighborhoods, get to know each other better, show the “bad guys” we intend to support each other in keeping our neighborhoods safe and free of crime.

National Night Out is being observed again this year in Sardis Woods, sponsored by your Sardis Woods Neighborhood Association. Last year's “Night Out” was a huge success, and we're hoping this year will be even better. Nationwide, as always, the event will be held on the first Tuesday in August. This year that is August 7. Tentative plans call for the party to be held on Watergate Road from 6-8pm. (Note this is different from last year) Carolyn and Russ Ford are heading up this fun project but plenty of volunteers are needed. Things you can help with include drinks (soft drinks and/or ice tea or lemonade, (no alcoholic beverages), children's activities (games, face painting, arts and crafts, the set-up and the clean up are all needing your helping hand. We will also need assistants to help serve the food, drinks, and ice cream. Help with publicity will also be appreciated. If you can volunteer contact Carolyn or Russ Ford at 704-847-3302 or email russford@att.net

There is no way to measure the help you give to your neighborhood by standing with us on National Night Out. (Pictures of NNO 2006 can be viewed on the website.)

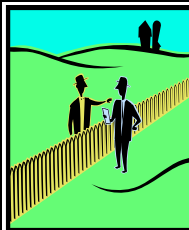
A "LOST DOG" RESOURCE

Neighbors on Covedale Drive tried hard to find the owners of a Jack Russell terrier mix in mid March. While their efforts failed, they did find that a neighborhood business on Monroe Road in the Spanish Trace shopping area, A Dog's Best Friend, was willing to hold the dog and look for a new owner. The neighbors had made a great effort to contact the owner, utilizing our neighborhood website, and putting up signs, as well as contacting the vets in our area to report a lost dog. When we find ourselves in this position in the future, we will have good ideas as to how to tackle the problem.

MORE PET INFORMATION:

Cleaning up pet waste is good for your health and the environment! Seriously, pet waste, left on the ground, especially near streets and sidewalks, gets washed into storm drains and drainage ditches which flow to your local waterway...WITHOUT BEING TREATED. Bacteria, parasites, and viruses found in pet waste can be harmful to water quality and human health. Not only is picking up after your pooch the law & the neighborly thing to do, it is the healthy thing to do — for you and for the environment. (written by Charlotte Mecklenburg Storm Water Services)

To find out more about what you can do to protect water quality, check out the website at <http://stormwater.charmeck.org> or <http://waterquality.charmeck.org>



NEW NEIGHBORS IN THE WOODS

- WISHING WELL: Luis & Carmen Villa have moved here from Buffalo New York to be near their family. (Tell us how you like the winter here!!!)

- WISHING WELL: Kimberly & Honainey Yahyaoui are new neighbors on Wishing Well.

- LONGBROOK: John & Julianne McElroy have moved from Union County with their two girls (8 and 4) and baby boy 5 months. (Wait a minute, they moved FROM Union County????)

- BASS LANE: Maria Citinchi and her mother Josefa have moved here from Long Island, New York.

- IVY RUN: David and Brandi Dehari of Ivy Run—add baby Gabriel Dash Dahari on 2/5/07. Congratulations to this family.

- BENT PINE: Mike McManus and his little girl Katie Rose, from Sardis Forest.

ART LESSONS (Children and Adults)

Brandi Dahari is offering art lessons in her home studio at 907 Ivy Run Court. Drawing, painting, paper mache, wood burning, murals, crafts, web design, and digital photography. 10+ years of teaching experience, K- 12 NC certified art teacher, Bachelor's in studio art, Masters in art education. Private and group lessons available. \$20/hour. Call 704-654-6236 or email brandijapan@yahoo.com

A Chance to Connect: Lucy Nicoll on Winterset is interested in making contact with other cancer survivors to gauge interest in starting a support group here in Sardis Woods. If you are interested you can contact Lucy by email at LUCYGN@aol.com or call 704-321-3027.

TWO BIG THANK YOUS

Woods Watch wants to extend a hearty thank you to Meg Merchant of Watergate, who until recently was the creative force behind the lay out of the newsletter since it's inception in 2004. The Merchant family is moving from our neighborhood and these last months of preparation for that with their two small boys required that Meg not be involved in the newsletter printing. Our best wishes go with the Merchant family as they move to another part of Charlotte.

The second hearty thank you goes to Donn DeHart of Bent Pine Circle who has stepped in and continued the great quality of work for our neighborhood newsletter. We are so fortunate to have technically savvy people with a creative flair who will contribute their talents for the good of the neighborhood.

A NOT SO BURIED TREASURE

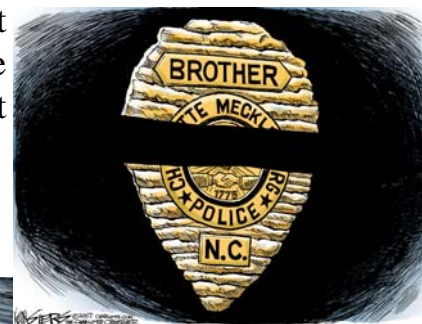
If you have not taken the time to go to the internet and check out www.sardiswoods.org you are missing a good thing. With links to babysitters, neighborhood news updates, neighborhood watch alerts, business cards, and much more...Rod Turnham has created an incredible treasure for the Sardis Woods community. He is always looking for more ideas or more news so don't you hesitate to give him feedback. First you have to go to the site and see for yourself! Thanks Rod!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION AND RESPECT TO OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT:

At the time this edition of the Woods Watch is coming to you, our city is mourning the deaths of two of her faithful policemen, Jeffrey Shelton and Sean Clark. There are widows and fatherless children standing at the graves of loved ones. Let's take the time to think through the sacrifice made by these city servants...your servants, who are willing to work for your safety and well-being.

Please consider a note, phone call, or e-mail to our Independence Division to share your appreciation for the work they are doing for us. There is no way to compare an inconvenience we may sometime feel with the reality that they are in harm's way on our behalf daily.

And whenever you see police officers, firemen, paramedics or other public servants, take the time to shake their hands, look them in the eyes and thank them for the jobs they do for us, so that we can live safely and at peace.



(Cartoons by
Kevin Siers,
Charlotte
Observer.)

GET THE LATEST NEWS, LINKS AND OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION
ON THE SARDIS WOODS WEBSITE AT: <http://www.sardiswoods.org/>