

SIPNA Sea Isle Park NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

XLII 1 ■ February 2020

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SIPNA
P.O. Box 171301
Memphis, TN 38187-1301

Serving East Memphis since 1979

DIVISION OF PARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

The Division of Parks and Neighborhoods for the city of Memphis maintains 167 parks -- or about 3,219 acres of parkland. They support an active civic culture reflective of the diversity of the community's voices. They oversee all parks, community centers, senior centers, aquatic centers, tennis centers and golf facilities across the City of Memphis. Their goal is to create thriving communities through people, services, programs, parks, and our facilities.



► *this is important* ◀

They are looking to engage our neighborhood at our neighborhood general assembly, as a part of the Parks Master Plan process! The Parks Master Plan will clearly guide the strategic development and maintenance of parks, community centers, athletic facilities, and more.

So, please join us on Thursday, February 20, at 7pm to meet Marcha Allen who is the Community Engagement Administrator for the city of Memphis. Let's give them our input!

NEIGHBORHOOD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

We will have our neighborhood general assembly

Thursday, February 20, 7pm

at McWherter Sr. Center located at 1355 Estate Dr.

Our guests that evening will be Marcha Allen from the Division of Parks and Neighborhoods. SHE IS LOOKING FOR OUR INPUT!

Colonel Joe Oakley who is the Colonel at Mt Moriah Precinct, and Officer Antoine Smith who is the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator at Mt. Moriah will be there to give us an update on crime statistics in our neighborhood. Please come out and join us for some refreshments and a great meeting!

TOWN HALL MEETING

Super District 9-2 Councilman J. Ford Canale will be holding a Town Hall Meeting on **Tuesday, March 31, at 6pm** at McWherter Sr. Center. He will have people there from almost every facet of Memphis government. I attended his last Town Hall Meeting and was very impressed with the list of speakers and the way they addressed concerns from the audience. Councilman Canale does a very good job of facilitating this. I for one appreciate him doing this and look forward to participating again. Hope you all will join us. I will send out reminders closer to the time of the event.

Molly Laster • President

REAL ESTATE



The following is a home sales report for the last quarter of 2019.

A total of 62 homes were sold. The lowest sales price was \$79K while the highest sales price was \$365K, with an incredible average sales price of \$189,658.

Average price per square foot was \$116 and average days on the market was 22.

The number of comparable sales (settled), the number of active listings, and the absorption rate all declined.

For more information or questions regarding real estate in the SIPNA area, please contact emaynard@hobsonrealtors.com.

~Eleanore Kelly Maynard



Have you paid your SIPNA dues?

SIPNA dues are only \$20 a YEAR for each household.

Your board works to keep Sea Isle safe, our homes retaining/gaining value, all while building a true sense of neighborly care and well being. A few of the expenses your financial contribution helps fund: Cop Stop, SIPFest (our *FREE* Fall Neighborhood Festival), "SIPNews" newsletters mailed tri-annually to each of the 3,000+ Sea Isle Park homes, websites sipna.org & sipna5k.org, to name just a few.

Use the form on the back of the newsletter or simply go to sipna.org to pay with PayPal.

Thank you for your continued support!

**OVER
2,000
NEIGHBORS
ARE ON
FACEBOOK!**



ARE YOU?

SIPNA Facebook is **THE** place to be online! "Meet" your neighbors, keep up with important information about our community, find your pet, safety concerns, and get real-time recommendations on everything from arborists, doctors, lawn care, painters, bakers, plumbers, etc. Join today! Verify your address to sign up as it's a well-monitored, closed group – private and safe. Search for the group: Sea Isle Park Neighborhood Association (SIPNA).



A huge *thank you* to **Hunter Ivy**

from **Ivy's Lawn & Garden Care**

They have volunteered to maintain the beauty of the grounds at our new park entrance!

Call them for all your lawn needs! **COMPLETE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

901.481.5020 751 Scott Street, Memphis, TN 38112

Sea Isle Park is one of the most sought after neighborhoods in Memphis!



YARD *of the Month*



It's a New Year for you to win Yard of the Month!! Yes, you can!!...past winners cannot repeat so the field is wide open for new winners in 2020. SIPNA is divided into 3 districts and each has 2 winners each season (season normally runs from April to September). Since 2019 each monthly winner now receives a gift card.

You may wonder what, in the committee's opinion, determines a Yard of the Month...it's easy...

Curb Appeal. One of the biggest expenses in your lifetime is your home so show you are proud of it. Keep the grass cut and edged; trim bushes back from windows; tame the ivy and monkey grass, and add a little "pop" of color with some annuals...impatiens, begonias, daylilies and DO NOT commit crape murder on your crapemyrtles. Talk to neighbors whose yards you admire for some hints. A real gardener will be glad to share knowledge about what works and doesn't work and may offer to "pass along" some perennials or other popular plants. A valuable online resource is the Memphis Area Master Gardeners website and their annual calendar with its monthly "to do" list. Best of all, Mary (a SIPNA resident) will be back at ACE Hardware running the nursery and she knows our 'hood's soil. Speaking of ACE, don't you love what Jarrett Carter (another SIPNA resident) has done to the store he has taken over??!!

We **all** lead busy lives...working long hours, tending families, caregiving, just life in general so yardwork can become a chore. Let yardwork/gardening become a stress relief with some good physical exercise in the fresh air. It's ok to get help with mowing, digging, leaves, etc. but get out there and get some dirt under your fingernails, sweat a little and don't let it become a dreaded chore.

*Have fun, enjoy the results, and
make SIPNA beautiful in 2020!*

 *Susie Hudson*



Church Connection

Neighborhood Churches
Find ONE and GET CONNECTED!

~ Kathryn Miskell

All Saints Episcopal
1508 S. White Station
685-7333
allsaintsmemphis.org

Christ the King Lutheran
5296 Park
682-8404
ctkmemphis.com

**Colonial Park
United Methodist**
5330 Park
683-5286
colonialpark.org

**New Hope In Christ
Ministries**
1708 Vera Cruz
922-5901
www.facebook.com/nhicministries

**Park Avenue
Church of Christ**
5295 Park
682-1220
parkave.org

**Redeemer
Baptist Fellowship**
5340 Quince
683-7344
redeemberf.com

Woodland Presbyterian
5217 Park
682-3349
woodlandpres.org



See You at the Sea Isle Park 5K April 18, Saturday, 9am

Hi neighbors! I'd like to invite you all to the
5th Annual Sea Isle Park 5K
presented by Prudent Financial scheduled for
Saturday, April 18 at 9:00 AM.

Whether you participate, sponsor, volunteer, or spectate, we would love if you would join us for hopefully another record-breaking year. Individual registration is \$25 and Family registration is \$50 for up to six people, and everyone gets a Sport-Tek shirt – the same kind as the last two years. Visit the Sea Isle Park 5K website at SIPNA5K.org for more info. Don't forget to like and share our event page on Facebook. We hope to see you there!
Thank you for supporting our great neighborhood!

SIPNA5K.org

Kelly Bowers
Director, Sea Isle Park 5K

SIPNA Disc Golf

Visit our new
full 18 hole disc golf course
at Sea Isle Park.
Open park hours.



See Spot Run



OPEN 6a-8p

Post pictures of your
PUP at the PARK on
our very own FB page:
Sea Isle Dog Park!



Order cool Dog Park
T-shirts & sweatshirts:
sipna.org Proceeds benefit
Sea Isle Dog Park.

YOU DIRTY RAT!

We aren't talking Mickey & Minnie here.

Germantown, Cordova, and East Memphis are all experiencing an increased infestation of roof rats. These rats have strong climbing skills and a hairless, scaly tail and can grow up to a foot long. Autumn is a very active time of year for rodents, as they often seek a warm shelter as the months grow colder. Roof rats are often tree-dwelling and are more likely to enter a structure through the roof than other species. These rats are nocturnal, emerging at night from their nesting spots to search for food, returning in the morning to nest in attics, behind walls and above ceilings. Pay close attention especially in attics for holes in the insulation. This is where the rodents will sleep and give birth. If you notice any piles of debris with droppings in or around it, it is more than likely a sign the rodents are nearby.

Health Risks: Roof rats are a very real health risk to your family. Rats are carriers of disease and can spread some of them by biting people or contaminating food with their urine or feces. Rats can carry many diseases, including: Leptospirosis, Plague, Rat Bite Fever, Salmonellosis, and dysentery. Some although rare, are very serious such as Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (humans can contract by breathing in aerosolized virus) and Murine Typhus.

Home Damage: The problem is real. These critters could end up costing you a pretty penny! Some of our neighbors have spent from a few hundred dollars up to several thousand dollars on roof rat remediation and repairs. They cause a lot of damage with their teeth by chewing through drywall, insulation, wires, pipes, furniture, clothing, books, food packages, and your beloved pictures. Along with destroying property and contaminating food, their chewing habits can cause fire and water damage. A rat infestation closed Kirby High School for four months at the end of 2018, reopening in January this year. More than 800 students were displaced and sent to three SCS campuses while the building underwent renovations. The projected cost of the restoration project was \$2 million, which also included furniture and upgraded technology.

Tell TAIL Signs: Common signs of these invaders include...

Gnawed materials: They leave gnawing holes about two inches in diameter with rough edges. They prefer wood but can also damage property including electrical wiring and food packaging. Check your bird seed packages and dog food bags, looking for teeth marks or trails of food particles.

Sounds: In the attic you might hear the pitter-patter of their little feet running along the ceiling joints at night when it is quiet or sliding between your wall studs. You might also hear sounds such as scratching, gnawing, and digging.

Droppings/Urine: Typical roof rat droppings are 1/4-1/2 inch in length and shaped like a capsule with blunt ends. Rat droppings are shiny black and three times the size of mice droppings. You'll smell their urine before you see it. Their fine line of urine drops can only be seen under ultraviolet light.

Tips on Prevention: If you have a hole the size of a quarter in your home, garage or shed, that's enough room for a roof rat to sneak inside and start nesting! They may also follow pipes or chew through wood, plastic, dry-wall, holes around soffit vents, cables entering buildings, or turbine and box vents on roofs, aluminum siding or soft metals to get inside away from the cold and predators.

- Eliminate water sources by repairing leaky outdoor pipes, fixtures, or clogged gutters and empty birdbaths and ponds until infestation is cleared.
- Ensure all firewood, debris and piles of leaves, compost piles, stone or brick are kept as far from the foundation of the home as possible - including gardens.
- Make sure that outdoor trash cans have tight-fitting lids on them.
- Trim tree branches away from the exterior of your home.
- Repair any loose or missing roof shingles and holes along the roofline.
- Make sure chimneys have tight-fitting caps.
- Be certain garbage containers are tightly covered.
- All food and water (including pet) should be sealed to prevent availability and contamination, and don't leave pet food out overnight.
- Pick up dog poop regularly.
- Remove clutter from your home, including paper, cardboard, and any unnecessary debris.
- **Seal All Gaps!** Seal all cracks or gaps with caulking and repair windows, doors, screens or air vents that aren't in working order. Install a thick weather stripping along the bottom of doors. Install strong steel mesh in other openings in order to prevent them from getting inside.

Roof Rat Extermination: Because roof rats can potentially cause serious home damage and exposure to disease, they should be removed from your home and property at the first sign. Families should act quickly because roof rats can give birth to 5-8 young after a 21-23 day gestation period leading to a full on infestation. Traps can be placed in the attic away from children/pets as a preventive measure. Be sure to check the traps every few days in the event one is caught.

Poison is a tricky one, as it can easily be transferred to other animals (i.e. family pets!) that might find the dying rat and consume some/all of it.

Help: Is there any public assistance available?

Yes, the Shelby County Health Department's Rodent Control Program will promptly respond to citizen complaints and will examine the property for rodent activity. Trained staff will provide information about reduction in rodent activity and if necessary, will apply EPA-certified rodenticides (rat poison) and traps in emergency situations to eliminate serious uncontrolled rat infestations.

For additional information or to file a request call:
Rodent Control 901.222.9715
Monday – Friday 7am - 4:30pm

Gail Jackson, editor

~ Thanks to **Mary & Charles Martin** for suggesting research for resolution into this problem that is affecting much of our neighborhood!

Sea Isle Park Garden

Did you know that the community has a place where you can grow food to help supplement your grocery shopping?

A place where you can get to know your neighbors?

A place that lives and breathes all its own and you can get lost in seeing all sorts of things and talking to all sorts of people?



I have been at Colonial Park UMC now for a little over 5 years. Several of us have had a dream of starting something that would help build relationships in the community that was a little different than the norm. Our hope was to build something that was rooted in a common bond and that had potential to be so much more. So, about a year ago, the Community Garden was born. We got approval and started working on where we would put it. We realized that the cost to start this garden would be substantial for a small congregation and luckily a friend introduced me to a crowdfunding site and a project that the city and county government was a part of (IOBY.org). And through the donations of so many (not only from the church but the community as well) and then to get the matching funds from the city and county government, this community garden was actually going to happen.

This first year we were able to have 31 boxes, five of which belong to members of our church and 26 of them have been given to members of our great community. From the first workdays where we cleared the area and cleared out thousands of gumballs that fell, mowing the grass, laying the cinder blocks, and shoveling dirt, relationships started to form. Most of these people had never met and now I believe they can all call themselves friends.

My day is not complete until I walk around the garden and tend my box. But I get even more joy from walking around the other boxes to see what everyone else is up to, what they are growing, how they have decorated their plots and what crazy things they have put in their box to make it their own.



It is amazing to see such a variety of flowers, fruits, and vegetables that people have. The changes and growth from day to day are so exciting to see.



I love telling a few stories in particular. One of which is one of our garden members who has lived in the community over 50 years. She is a very independent, determined, and strong 82 years young. She would never ask for help and I admire her so much for her willingness to try something like this. On one of the first days while building her box and filling the dirt, several women came in and helped. She would later tell me that while living in the neighborhood as long as she has, these were really the only relationships that she has ever had with any of her neighbors.

One family just recently decided to not only keep up their own plot but also asked if they could start a pumpkin patch in a small portion of the garden that was not being used.

They also indicated that the reason they wanted to do so was to give pumpkins to some of the children close to Halloween.

They researched, studied, and planned their patch. They worked hard in the late July and August heat to till up the dirt and box off their patch. They figured out exactly when the best time to plant was going to be and they now have a small patch that is filled with around 40 plants. They also helped

teach our church's day camp kids about the garden and gave each one a pumpkin plant to take home and grow. Their hearts are so big, and it makes my heart smile when I think of them and their love for their neighbors.



I could never have imagined all that has come from this garden. This first year has produced so much more than fruit, vegetables, and flowers. I can't wait until next year where we expand to build more boxes and build on some of the ideas we have had from this year.

**Garden plots available now for
Spring 2020!**
Please email me for more information:
bmaness@colonialpark.org

Brian Maness
Director of Outreach
Colonial Park United Methodist Church
901.683.5286
bmaness@colonialpark.org



SEA ISLE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 171301, MEMPHIS, TN 38187-1301

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SIPNA Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 20, 7pm

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Thank you for supporting SIPNA -
keeping our neighborhood one of
the most sought after in Memphis!

■ Sea Isle News
■ Edit / Design®
■ Gail Jackson



*If you are interested
in being a
Welcome Home
volunteer,
please contact:
Morgan McBride
morgan.mcbride@
comcast.net*

*We'd love to have you
on the
welcome crew
to help greet our
new neighbors
with a smile
and a bag of
SIPNA goodies!*