

# Handley Happenings

October, 2009

Volume 8, Issue 10

NEWSLETTER OF THE Historic Handley  
Neighborhood Association

www.historichandley.org

Handley, Texas

## BIRTHDAYS

Jeanette Powers; 10/2/1940  
Brenda Ehlers; 10/5/1957  
Kathryn Mitcham; 10/8/1927  
Alice Moore; 10/17/1934  
Paul Simpson; 10/15  
Bill Weiler; 10/19  
Lee Blackburn; 10/26

## ANNIVERSARIES

Kenneth & Alice Moore; 10/11/1953  
Jack & Jackie Ellett; 10-16

Our newsletter comes out with the help  
of the good people at Kwik Kopy. Please  
see them at 1850 Handley Dr. for your  
copy and printing needs.

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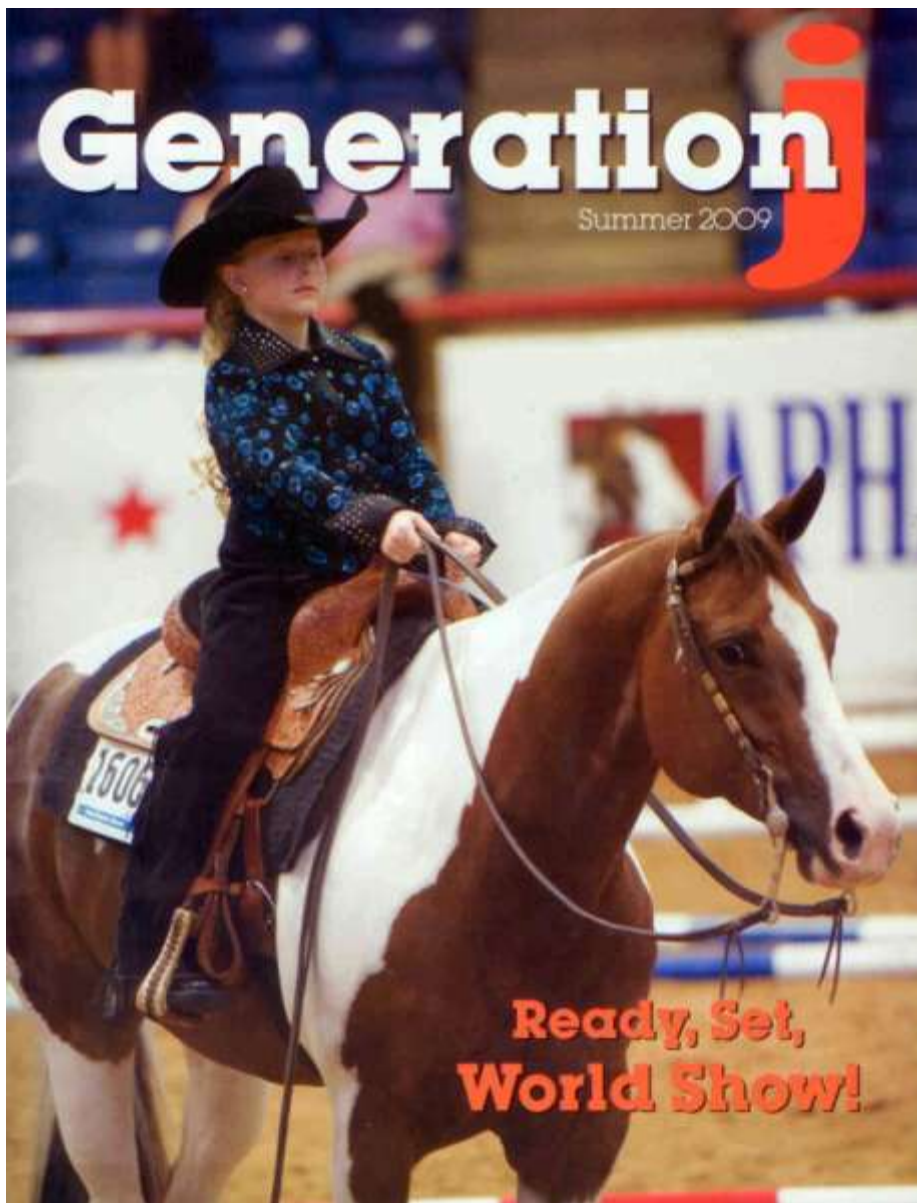
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Next  
Meeting:  
October  
12  
Handley  
United  
Methodist  
Church  
  
Starting  
at 6:30

“Never doubt  
that a small  
group of  
thoughtful,  
committed  
citizens can  
change the  
world. Indeed, it  
is the only thing  
that ever has.”  
- Margaret Mead



Hi, just wanted to tell you what a wonderful job you do on the newsletter, although I do not attend all the meetings – I love that I will get an update as to what is going on when I receive my newsletter.

I wanted to brag a little about what has happened at our home in Handley this summer. My daughter Faith and her horse “Fancy” – (we have an acre and small barn) - were chosen as the cover page by the American Paint Horse association for this summer’s World Show in Fort Worth.

The photo is of them competing as 2008 World show were they placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the World.

“Fancy” will compete again in Fort Worth this coming November.

We were so proud, this honor was better than any “Win or Ribbon”.

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# PRESIDENT'S CORNER



It will soon be Halloween, get your treats ready for the ghosts and goblins.

Mark your calendars for two October events in Handley.

First, Texas Night Out Against Crime will be Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 6 P.M. to 9 P.M. at the gazebo on Handley Dr. Come meet your neighbors, friends and police. Light refreshments will be served. This is sponsored by Handley Code Blue, Police Department and Handley Neighborhood Association.

Second, the Historic Handley Street Fest and Car Show is Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. There will be a main entertainment stage with bands and **entertainers. Vendors, a car show, art show, kid's zone and much more will be going on.** the Handley Neighborhood Association will have a booth and will hold a raffle for a hand made quilt and crafts, which will be for sale, that have been made by our members. This is to raise money for the association.

If you have a craft or item to donate, please take it to Harrison Carpet on Handley Dr. Everyone come out and have a good time.

Handley Neighborhood Association is applying for conservator ship of the old Handley Cemetery. This basically means we help to preserve and protect the cemetery. This and a small grant from the Texas Historic Society for repair and maintenance of tomb stones is being done by Bob Taylor. Bob is a member of the Historic Handley Development Corp. and has offered to work on these two programs or us. We want to thank Bob for his knowledge and expertise in helping us to preserve the cemetery. A couple of years ago, a group of us spent many week-ends trimming trees, vines and bushes that had covered many of the graves. We still go and clean up trash as needed. When Rose Hill Cemetery opened, some of the people were moved, including Major Handley. However, there are still many early settlers there. The cemetery is located on Halbert St. at the electric plant. If you have some free time it is interesting to walk around.

**Because we didn't get to play Bingo at our September meeting the October meeting will be Bingo night with some great prizes.** The October meeting is Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at Handley United Methodist Church. A light meal will be served at 6:30 P.M. with the meeting starting at 7:00 P.M. See you there.

Joann



Don Boren  
Owner

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HANDLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

The Handley Neighborhood Association met on Monday, September 14, 2009 at the Handley United Methodist Church. President Joann Ehlers called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. Nedia Dryden opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved as read. The Treasurer's report was also read and approved. The following announcements were made by President Joann Ehlers:

The quilt made by Joann was shown. Tickets are on sale for 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5.

First Ever Monster Bash at the Fort Worth Nature Center.

Collection can is on table for Historic Railroad Museum project.

Drivers are needed for Meals on Wheels.

President Joann Ehlers introduced Bob Taylor who is presently with the Historic Handley Association. Bob Taylor spoke on whether the Association has interest in conservatorship in the Old Handley Cemetery. A conservatorship would allow more say on what can be accomplished and there is a \$500 grant available. The cemetery is in need of fencing and head stones need to be put back in place. There are at least two confederate soldiers currently buried there. It would be helpful if could be maintained by such organizations such as the boy and girl scouts. Periodically it is being mowed by the power plant. It would require approximately 250 ft. of fencing and two gates. A motion was made to take on the conservatorship of the cemetery. The motion passed.

The following reports were given:

NPO Kim Gardner reported the crime statistics from August 22 thru Sept 11, 2009.

The first week there were 18 offenses including 6 residential burglaries and 8 thefts. There were 22 offenses the second week (40 offenses in a two week period). There were seven residential burglaries and 9 burglaries of motor vehicles. The four hour block of time with the highest number of offenses occurring is from 8 pm to 12 am with 50%.

National Night Out Proclamation is September 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at City Council Chambers.

Crime Watch and Citizen on Patrol should be there. Please wear COP uniforms.

Yard of the month for September is A. B. & Joyce Williamson, 7308 Meadowbrook Drive.

*(Continued on page 10)*

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# TREASURER'S ISLAND



Hello, I sure hope everyone had a very nice Labor Day holiday and that you got to spend some quality time with your family and friends. I remember the years we didn't start back to school till after the Labor Day weekend. Times have changed through the years.

We have a new business on Meadowbrook Dr. in the old Guaranty Bank building. It's a pharmacy and it is called Meadowbrook Pharmacy and the owner's name is Abdul Rasul. The phone number is 817-451-6900 and his hours are 8-7 p.m. M/F and they are open on Saturday. They will deliver and will have health foods, vitamins and will do compounding. The owner used to work with Larry Ludington. He opened September 1<sup>st</sup> for business. They will also honor over 20 insurance companies co-pay. Please go by and pay them a visit and welcome them to our area.

Paul Tran with Paul's Liquor on Meadowbrook Dr. has recently sold out and the new owners have taken over. The new owner wants to join our Handley Neighborhood Association and become active in the various civic functions in the area. Go by and welcome them to our area. They have just become members of HNA.

CAC did not meet in September due to the Labor Day holiday. Our Handley Neighborhood Association met on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Bob Taylor was one of our speakers and Marc Veasey, our state representative, was the second speaker. We moved up our "Bingo" night to the meeting in October. ANGER is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind. Everyone needs to be loved, especially when they do not deserve it.

Don't forget October 6<sup>th</sup> is our National Night Out Against Crime. That has changed to Texas Night Out

Against Crime. We will start at 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m. Bring your chairs. Our celebration for the Handley area will take place at the "Gazebo" on Handley Drive. Please join us for fun and festivities and yes, food.

The Weiler House Fine Art and Antique Gallery hosted a "Gallery Night" on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Historic Weiler House at 3126 Handley Dr. You got to browse a wide selection of quality fine art and got to meet the artists as well. The owner, Bill Ryan, has recently also purchased a house across the street from the gallery to use as his frame shop. Go by and pay Bill a visit and see all the neat things he has in the gallery. He also has some lovely beautiful jewelry as well as beautiful friendship boxes made by Kate Holbert. If any of you remember one of our favorite news casters, Chip Moody, well, he was Kate's brother..

October 9<sup>th</sup> will find some of our alumni members having a get together at Handley United Methodist Church for a dinner...

October 10<sup>th</sup> is not only our Handley Street Festival, but also the Handley High School Alumni luncheon to be held at the Handley United Methodist Church on Forest. The same night, the class of 1958 graduates will meet at the lovely home of Jean McClung for their evening of reminiscing of days gone by and a pot luck supper.

You can't change the past, but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.  
Love and you shall be loved.  
Remember that all people smile in the same language.

Well, it's just about time to start gathering all those Christmas decorations together and start decorating for Christmas. We have promises this year of some help decorating the tree and gazebo on Handley Drive. It's been the same ones decorating every year and for the

*(Continued on page 6)*



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(Continued from page 5)

most part these old grannies just aren't up to climbing around on ladders anymore. Sooo, if you don't want another "Charlie Brown" Christmas Tree, come help us decorate. We will decorate possibly the middle of November, weather permitting, but won't turn on the lights till the Saturday after Thanksgiving, when we will have some refreshments and hopefully some entertainment. We do hope you will plan to join us. Please feel free to bring some goodies to munch on.

At our October meeting we will have someone from the "Fire Department" speak and in November someone from the YMCA and we will also have elections of officers. If you think you might like to be an officer, let your wishes be known to our nominating committee, other wise, our officers have expressed a desire to serve as officers for another year. Our December meeting will be our Christmas party and we will have the "Chinese" auction, which has proven to be a lot of fun in the years past. HNA will furnish the meat and drinks and we will have pot luck, as we have had in the past.

Have you tried out "Smokey's" on East Lancaster, yet? It's under new management now, Eddie Deen is the new owner. He handled President Bush's inaugural barbecues. The phone # is 817-451-8222

The "Fly'n Pig on Meadowbrook and Handley Dr. is closing or is closed by now. We hate to see another business leave our area. We understand at this time that they are still open, so maybe they will stay with us.

Everyone has beauty, but not everyone sees it.

For those of you, who purchased benches to put out in someone's memory or in honor of, these are some of the locations:

West side of Handley Dr. between barber shop and corner insurance building is a bench in memory of Fred and Bernice Wansley, Bobbie & Betty. In front of Eastside Antiques: In memory of Roy & Bonnie Drinkard, Charlie & Jack----also in front of Eastside Antiques is a bench donated by Handley High School Ex-students Assoc. in mem-

ory of Doc. Weaver—Science Class 1952 HHS.. In front of Crème de la Crème & Paper Planet 2 benches—one in Honor of Doris Harrison and the other in memory of Jimmy Harrison.& in front of Madeline's Interiors a bench in memory of TC Red Duncan and one in memory of Bethel & Lindy Hughes. A new one has just been bought & purchased & put in front of the rock insurance building, formerly corner drug store—in memory of the Storey family by Bob & Marvel Storey. We have 2 more benches over by Enchanted Forest. The weather has taken toll on some of them, mine included. Some of them need some coats of varnish put on them. We also have a broken bench, where the woman ran over the clock—the clock fell on the bench and broke the bench. We are still looking for a white woman with long strawberry blond hair driving a white suv type car, who ran over these things, breaking our clock and bench & skinning our tree. The police tell us it's a hit & run. All we need is the woman's insurance name & number. The clock was enjoyed by everyone and belongs to the Historic Handley Development Corp. and Handley Neighborhood Association. The car would have a dented in front bumper & dented hood where the clock landed on it. Please, if you see or hear anything on this situation, notify someone in our HHDC or HNA associations. It may be possible that the woman has had her car repaired by now, so maybe the people who fixed it will know who it was. The woman was given my 2 phone numbers, but has yet to call or have her insurance company call. I can't believe she would be so dishonest to let this situation go on and not do something about it. How does she live with herself and have this held over her head in fear someone will eventually find out it was her? I'm like a bull dog, I'm not letting this go.

The little church that used to set on top of the hill at Smitty's is now setting on the front porch at the house to the north of the antique mall. Plans for it in the future are for it to be placed over in front of the antique mall in a sort of village setting with another house of similar size with it. These are plans for the future.

Don't forget that October 27<sup>th</sup> is Ryanwood's Neighborhood Assoc. quarterly meeting and will be a pot luck

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**K. C. GARDNER #3144**  
NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICER

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CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/E236

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stephanie.menefee@fortworthgov.org

meeting. They meet at the First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church at 1959 Sandy Lane. They meet each quarter on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Our nominating committee in Oct. for our HNA is Estelee Romer, Kathy Read and Nedra Dryden.

We have just purchased for HNA a double canopy for us to use at our booth at the festival. Please don't forget to donate your handmade articles for our money making project at our HNA booth. Joann Ehlers has quilted a quilt for a drawing as one of our money making projects also.

I took my little dog from hell, "Toby", for her yearly check-up. They politely invited me out of the room as they were trying to trim her toe nails. She was a fighting high man out—no dachshund likes to have their feet messed with. When the vet came in, "Dr. Fuchshuber," he sat down and talked to her and petted her and she snuggled up to him and licked him all over the face—all the time glaring at Cathy for giving her the shots & cutting her toe nails. She had gained 4-5 lbs.—my fault—when I go to let the little devil out she always runs behind the couch and I have to entice her out with a treat. If I get to go on a trip and board all three dogs out, they go by the weight as to how much you are charged each day. I know 3 dogs that are going to be put on a diet before hand. It would cost me a fortune for the 3 little blimps. They have me well trained.

We are losing our Captain Sudan at the sector on east Lancaster on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. Just when we get him broken in, he flies the coop on us. He is going to the traffic division. He will be greatly missed.

A going away celebration is planned for him at the east side sector on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. His last day is September 25<sup>th</sup>. We want to welcome Gene Jones, who has been in our area before, who is taking Captain Sudan's place. A meet and greet party will be celebrated at the regular monthly Captain's meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Crime is down in our area., believe it or not. For those of us who purchased the Arch Angel, Anti Kick-In Security devices for our doors, no need to feel more secure with them. The thieves know about them, so now instead of

trying to kick the doors in, they pry the doors open—in broad open daylight. We have had 3 or 4 thefts in my area on Handley Dr. recently. We are fixing to start a "Neighborhood Watch", with our NPO, Kim Gardner's help. We need more Code Blue members. The patrolling of our Code Blue people is a crime deterrent. We need your help.

The bright colorful cans you see around in all of our businesses are for donations to our Historic Handley Rail Road Museum Project. Please feed the cans. They will gladly accept not only pocket change, but green stuff too. Help us make this dream of a museum come true. Feed the cans.

Please remember our sick and bereaved members in your thoughts and prayers.

Until next time, be careful and have a good October,  
Betty "Drinkard" Coomer

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## HANDLEY KEEPS HISTORICAL FEEL AREA IS LIKE A TRIP THROUGH TIME

Continued from September Newsletter: Betty "Drinkard" Coomer

In Burgess' opinion, the changes are part progress, part misfortune. She would like to see more restoration of the area she calls rich in history. "When I first moved out here, I met an old timer who said Handley was a fine place until all the new comers came in. I took it with a grain of salt," she said. "But we had Indians, cattle and cow-boys and a railroad and we can make a good story. There's still a lot of deep feeling out here." The area is named for Confederate Maj. James Handley, who moved to Fort Worth about 1865 from New York City where he was a clothier. He came as the last droves of buffalo and wild horses still roamed East Fort Worth and when Indians from various tribes, who lived there had been killed or displaced from the land.

Handley convinced the railroad company to route lines through the area, a move that was catalyst for the area's development. "It (Handley) did not remain an isolated countryside. It developed very, very rapidly after World War II because a lot of the generation that was raised here wanted to come back," said Ruby Schmidt, Tarrant County Historical Commission archives chairwoman.

But, the old timers, because of attribution are going to be a very small number. Most of them lived very colorful lives, though they didn't see it as such. The people were very disturbed about the annexation.

Burgess has written for several East Side community newspapers and collects old photographs of Handley. There is one of a waterfront amusement park with carousels, Saturday night social halls and summer afternoon picnic grounds at Lake Erie, now Lake Arlington. There are also photographs of the Interurban, an electric train that wound through Fort Worth and Dallas from 1902 to 1934. Many Interurban workers built Handley's homes.

The Interurban tracks were just south of what is now East Lancaster. The train later became part of Northern Texas Traction Co., which eventually split.

It was replaced by Texas Motor Coaches and Fort Worth Transit Company, when the trains were dismantled. Water from the lake had generated power for the Interurban and has done the same for TESCO, which took over the plant in 1929.

Area historians have informally discussed seeking state or national historical district designation for Handley, Schmidt said. Their concerns is for its preservation and for halting bittersweet tales of things like the tearing down of Graham School, a two-room school house built as Handley's first school in 1898 at the corner of Forest and Church streets. In these modern times, it is unlikely that old Handley will need another school. School officials, instead, are hoping to build another facility for elementary students north of Interstate 30, where most East Side growth is occurring.

The number of homes in East Handley dropped from 2,177 to 1,779 from 1978 to 1980. West Handley figures increased from 600 to 1,157 and in Handley Hitson, from 142 to 557 as young families built homes in the area. The number of people in East Handley dropped from 6,263 to 4,356 in the same period. But, the population rose

*(Continued on page 9)*

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(Continued from page 8)

from 1,390 to 2,543 in West Handley, which gained several apartment complexes, and from 459 to 1,646 in Handley Hitson.

The City of Fort Worth didn't have resources to compute the number of households of people in 1981 and 1982, said Paul Hagle, data services supervisor for the city's planning department. But, the number of new homes gained in West Handley, East Handley and Handley Hitson were 84, 25 and 16 respectively, in 1983. In 1984 the numbers were zero, 38 and 69, respectively.

First State Bank was the first bank in the town of Handley. The 6700 block of East Lancaster was in the heart of what was the old town of Handley."

It will continue as it is," Schmidt said, "quiet, relatively slow, a nice place to walk down the street and talk to your neighbors."

\*\*\*\*\*

City of Fort Worth figures show that about 360 people a month moved to East Fort Worth from 1980 to 1984, bringing its population to about 33,000.

This information was in the EAST SIDE EXTRA paper in October 1985. Salvatore's, an Italian food East Side Eatery, opened its doors on Brentwood Stair Road next to Autumn Moon. The restaurant had a casual Cow-Town/Western décor with a bar that was dominated by a black baby grand that would make Van Cliburn cry if he saw it, it was so beautiful. Danny, who used to entertain at the Old Swiss House, was tickling the keys nightly. Wouldn't it be fantastic to once again have a restaurant like that in our midst? How many of you remember eating there? Salvatore Matarese was the owner and his brother owned Sardine's, that West Side institution for hot Italian food and cool jazz. They had dishes such as Scaloppini Gina Lollobrigida or Zuppa Di Pesce Del Duce. The Zuppa was muscles, clams, shrimp, scallops and red fish prepared with tomatoes, wine and garlic. Scaloppini Gina was two veal filets sautéed and laced with artichoke hearts and lemon butter sauce that would make you quiver it was so tasty.

## Help the newsletter grow.

Tell us of your days growing up in Handley, send in your old family photos of the Handley area (they will be returned). Just get your items in by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

Send in your favorite stories and pictures to:  
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Or e-mail them to:

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(Continued from page 4)

Code Ranger Dennis Mitchell reported a new class is beginning on September 19 at 9:00am – 3:00 pm at 2129 W. Broadway. Lunch is provided. Call Dennis at 817-994-1368.

Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Menefee reported that she is back in the area and can be reached at 817-879-3558.

Betty Coomer, Code Blue, reported Captain Sudan is leaving and going to traffic. On October 6 National Night Out will be from 6:00–9:00 pm at the gazebo.

HNA speaker was State Representative Mark Veasey. Representative Veasey expressed his appreciation to Code Compliance in handling problems quickly. He spoke about the many bills that were passed this last session with one of his bills being the nursing home bill on criminal checks. Also, he was disappointed that the Governor vetoed the bill on Pre-kindergarten and would like to see it passed. The Children's Healthcare Bill will be one to look at the next session. This bill would help parents working minimum pay jobs. Representative Veasey advocates redistricting and currently has 15 meetings scheduled on this subject in urban and rural areas.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Shirley Collins,  
Secretary

**Please bring your donated craft and or homemade items to the Handley Neighborhood meetings or Harrison carpet store, these items will be sold at our Handley Neighborhood Association Booth at the 11th Annual Historic Handley Festival the second weekend in October. Please bring them priced. Thanks, Doris Harrison**

## EASTSIDE CHIROPRACTIC

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Check out our channel on [youtube.com/PropertyByLori](http://youtube.com/PropertyByLori)

# Membership Enrollment Form



*Have a voice in your community.  
Help shape and improve your  
Handley Neighborhood today and for the future. Join the  
Historic Handley Neighborhood Association and make a difference.*

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date/s \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues are \$12.00 per household a year  
Please make checks payable to the Handley Neighborhood Association  
And mail to P O Box 8037, Fort Worth, Texas, 76124-8037**

**HISTORIC HANDLEY  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 8037  
Fort Worth, TX 76124-8037**

*Helping the community  
through community  
involvement*

**In God  
We Trust**

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**Historic Handley Street Festival  
And car show  
October 10, 2009  
Held on Handley Drive  
10:30 am to 10:30 pm**

