



# HISTORIC KENWOOD NEWS

JANUARY 2008

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR THE HISTORIC KENWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WWW.HISTORICKENWOOD.ORG

## Letter From the President

### ARE WE HAVING FUN?

Hello everyone. It's your newly elected president, Bob Jeffrey, wishing every one a belated holiday season. Hope every one was safe, happy and content with all their food, goodies, family and friends this season. Well, I'm still not sure what transpired this early December that afforded me the opportunity of being your president for the fifth time, I'm sure it was a complete lapse of mental capacity on my part, but here we go again.

I think the first time I was president was 1994. I'm glad to say that I have grown up quite a bit since then and our neighborhood has as well. Back then we had some serious problems and not to diminish the issues we still face, but I have to say that as I approach 20 years in this neighborhood things are vastly improved.

All the people that have come before us have done a great job and I would like to take a moment and thank everyone who has contributed time and energy in the past to making Historic Kenwood the special neighborhood that it is today. I would also like to extend a thank you to those

of you who will volunteer in one way or another over the coming year. One thing about volunteer work is that no one ever hears thank you enough.

Over the years, this neighborhood has accomplished many things. We have also garnered a great deal of recognition — both locally and nationally — for our efforts. This has happened because many people have worked very hard and very diligently to make this a better place. Again, **THANK YOU!**

So, what should we all expect over the next year? Well, I think based on the people I have talked with, we can expect many great things. A continuation of past efforts, others new and great ideas can be implemented, too. To that end, I invite you to attend this January's general meeting where we will be asking all members what they would like to accomplish during the next year. So, think about those things we have already done, things we need to continue and any other new and different ideas that you believe will take us further in the future.

One issue that we need to address though is "burn-

out". A few people have indicated that they are a little "burnt-out". This is completely normal in an organization like ours, so no one should feel bad about that. I can also tell you that there are a number of new people and some of us old warhorses who have taken some time off and are now refreshed with new ideas and desires. I encourage those that need a break to take it and those who would like to become more involved to see this as an opportunity for you.

So, if I have any sage wisdom, it is this: as a group we can only do what we can. If we have a limited workforce this year, we will do less. If we have people who wish to take on more, we will do more. All I can ask is that whatever we accomplish this year we do it in a way that is fun, supportive and respectful of those who are donating their valuable time.

I know that I speak for the entire 2008 board in saying this is the philosophy we plan to work with. Please join us in January to set the path for the future of Historic Kenwood...

**THANK YOU,**  
Bob Jeffrey

### POLICE AND CITY NUMBERS

Emergencies	911
Non-emergency	893-7780
Community Police	551-3182
Animal Control	582-2600
Auto Theft Unit	893-7080
Burglary Tip	892-5000
City Watch	551-3344
Codes	893-7373
Mayor's Action Line	893-7111
Narcotics & Vice	552-5900
Garbage Collection	893-7398

### HKNA OFFICERS

President	
Bob Jeffrey	542-4780
Vice President	
Bobbie Kensler	322-5388
Secretary	
Christina Anderson	
Treasurer	
Susan McLintock	321-2624

### HKNA BOARD MEMBERS

Susan Irvine	323-2769
Jim Longstreth	643-7512
Andrea McMahan	366-3882
John McMahan	421-9216
Kathy Young	542-5333

Please contact Molly Davis (Welcome Basket Chairperson) with addresses of new neighbors who should get a welcome basket. Her e-mail is: [HelloMollyB@aol.com](mailto:HelloMollyB@aol.com)

**SORRY  
YOU'RE  
RECEIVING  
THIS AFTER THIS  
MONTH'S  
MEETING!**

1st Home South

### Great Business

Gillie's Bar-B-Que Restaurant  
2401 Central Avenue

Gillie's has always been a great supporter of HKNA activities, including BungalowFest. In November, Gillie's catered the BungalowFest After Party and everyone just raved! The beans and ribs are sure favorites!

Visit them and enjoy their great barbecue flavors!

### Great Home and Garden

Marty Newlon  
2536 3rd Avenue North

If you attended BungalowFest in 2007, you'll recognize January's Great Home and Garden award winner. Marty's front and back yards are just gorgeous! Both are very manicured with unique plants and offer privacy and warmth. Marty is also great about giving out gardening ideas to those without green thumbs!

### Great Neighbor

Kenwood Christmas Carollers

Watching carollers sing "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" to two bright-eyed toddlers (or anyone in your family) should be enough to remind us why Historic Kenwood is one of Pinellas County's best neighborhoods. Thanks to the many singers who took the time to make the holidays a little brighter! Sorry we don't know all of your names! But, do it again next year, please!

## Events Calendar



Visit our web site for upcoming events ([www.historickenwood.org](http://www.historickenwood.org)).

**Friday, January 11 -**

**7:30 p.m. - ?**

**Porch Party**

**2500 3rd Avenue North**

This month our host's will be Sandy and Amy. They are residents in Bob & Lynn Jeffrey's apartment building that was on tour this year. There will be the two lower units and the backyard for us to party in. Please enter

using the gate on the 25th. Street side with your favorite beverage and a dish to share..

the HKNA Rummage Sale. Contact Kathleen Larrison at [kathlarr@tam-pabay.rr.com](mailto:kathlarr@tam-pabay.rr.com) for details.

**Saturday, January 19 -**

**8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**HKNA Rummage Sale**

Do you have unwanted clothes, tools, kid's toys? How about some hula hoops? You can sell it all at

**January**

If you haven't already done so, please submit your HKNA dues for the year using the form and address below.

## Renew or Join the Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association

Dues for membership are \$10.00 per calendar year (January through December) per household.

This small amount will keep you informed about HKNA activities and allow us to continue events like the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Founder's Day Celebration. Your involvement will improve the quality of our neighborhood. Even if you cannot always attend our monthly meetings, please take this opportunity to join.

How long have you lived in the neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_

New Member?     Renewal?

I would like to know more about volunteering

Fill out the form, clip it, and mail with your \$10.00 check payable to:

Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 15134, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-5134

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## What do you like to do?

by Bill Heyen

Presidents and boards come and go. So do ideas and even some favorite activities. What never changes is the need for new volunteers.

As with all organizations, we are only as strong as our number of active participants. So, I ask you this, for the betterment of our neighborhood, will you just do something you like? There are many areas to which you could help.

Maybe you like to plant landscaping or do a little painting. How about planning an event? Perhaps you're good at talking up the neighborhood at meetings? Maybe you're the one that just knows how to schmooze the right people to get us some extra cash. And maybe, you're just the person to grill the best burgers and dogs. We're all good at something and that generally means

we like it, too. So, when I ask you to volunteer for the betterment of the neighborhood, I'm not asking you to do anything hard or that you hate.

If each of us does a little, that is better than a few having to do it all. I'm just saying, if each of us reading this would find a way to help by doing something they like, while making some great friends at the same time, lots would get done and we'd all be the better off for doing it.

So, please come to a meeting and look at our sign-up sheets. If you're busy, you can always contact one of the board members listed in this newsletter. This neighborhood is great and if we all do our small parts, it will add up to us being even better.

## KENWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

ANTIQUe AMBASSADOR GAS STOVE FOR SALE - Four top burners, large oven, additional broiler oven and two large warming drawers - all in working order. Excellent condition \$800 - phone 727 321 1884

Have something you'd like to sell here? Want to purchase a newsletter ad? Send your write up to Stephanie Jones at [s7lorama@gmail.com](mailto:s7lorama@gmail.com) by the 20th of each month.

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**State Farm Insurance**

**Luis Macias CLU, Agent**

1909 34th St N  
St Petersburg, FL 33713

Bus. 727.864.1506

[luis@luismaciasagency.com](mailto:luis@luismaciasagency.com)



*Located on 34th St behind Ed's Dally restaurant*

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# Home Invasions: How You Can Stay Safe At Home

by Stephanie Jones

Recently, there have been several home invasions in Historic Kenwood. A home invasion is when robbers force their way into an occupied home to commit a robbery or other crimes. It is particularly frightening because it violates our private space and the one place that we think of as our sanctuary.

## Criminal Profile

Residential burglars work mostly during the day and when a residence is more likely to be unoccupied. Most burglars work alone and tend to probe a neighborhood looking for the right residence and the right opportunity. Alarm signs and decals, bars on windows, strong locks and doors, big dogs, and alert neighbors can sometimes deter burglars. Also, burglars will avoid a confrontation and will usually flee when approached.

Home invasion robbers, in contrast, work more often at night and on weekends when homes are more likely to be occupied. The home invader will sometimes target the resident as well as the dwelling. The selection process may include a woman living alone, a wealthy senior citizen or a known drug dealer, for example. It is not unheard of for a robber to follow you home based on the value of the car you are driving or the jewelry you are wearing. Some home invaders might have been in your home before as a delivery person, installer or repair vendor. Home robbers rarely work alone and rely on an overwhelming physical confrontation to gain initial control and instill fear in you. The greatest violence usually occurs during the initial sixty seconds of the confrontation and home invaders often come prepared with handcuffs, rope, duct tape, and firearms.

## Dangerous Trends

Home invaders know that they won't have to overcome alarm systems when the home is occupied or be worried

about video cameras and silent alarms. Unlike robbing a retail store, home invaders expect privacy once inside your home and won't have to deal with the police suddenly driving up or customers walking in. Once the offenders take control of a residence they can force the occupants to open safes, locate hidden valuables, supply keys to the family car, and PIN numbers to their ATM cards. Home invaders will try to increase their escape time by disabling the phones and sometimes will leave their victims bound or incapacitated. It is not unheard of for robbers to load up the victim's car with valuables and drive away without anyone in the neighborhood taking notice.

## Method of Operation

The most common point of attack is through the front door or garage. Sometimes the home invader will simply kick open the door and confront everyone inside. More common is when the home invaders knock on the door first or ring the bell. The home invader hopes that the occupant will simply open the door, without question, in response to their knock. Unfortunately, many people do just that.

Home invaders will sometimes use a ruse or impersonation to get you to open the door. They have been known to pretend to be delivering a package, flowers or lie about an accident like hitting your parked car. Once the door is opened for them, the home invaders will use an explosive amount of force and threats to gain control of the home and produce fear in the victims. Once the occupants are under control the robbers will begin to collect your valuables.

## Prevention Steps

The same tactics used to prevent daytime burglaries will go a long way to preventing forced entry home robberies. If you can delay a home invader

at the point of entry then you have a chance of deterring them or have time to call the police. A solid core door, strong locks with reinforced strike plates, and reinforced window devices will stop most forced entries.

The weakest home security link is the home occupant who fails to lock doors or windows or who will open the door without question at the sound of a knock. The best defense against home invasion is education and planning. Parents should hold a family meeting to discuss how to answer the door when someone knocks. Another important topic is how to act should your home or family be invaded. Once you know how home robbers work, you can effectively prevent most occurrences.

Remember these security steps:

- Install solid core doors, heavy duty locks, and window security devices
- Lock all doors, windows, and garages at all times
- Use four three-inch screws to secure heavy duty lock strike plates in the door frame
- Use the door peephole BEFORE opening the door
- Use your porch light to help you to see clearly outside
- Never rely on a chain-latch as a barrier to partially open the door
- Never open the door to strangers or solicitors
- Call the police if the stranger acts suspicious
- Alert your neighbors to suspicious solicitors
- Hold a family meeting to discuss home security plans
- Set the home perimeter alarm at night, if you have one

Let's make Historic Kenwood a safer place to live! Watch for suspicious activity in our neighborhood and act quickly to report it!

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