

# Huffman Highlights

June 2010



## Upcoming Events

- **June 7**—HHNA Meeting in the Huffman Place (100 Huffman Ave.) Dining Room at 7 p.m. All neighbors are welcome!
- **June 21**—HHNA Board Meeting at Huffman Place (100 Huffman Ave.), 7 p.m.
- **June 26**—Yard Sale! 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

## From the President's Parlor

Hello,

When we bought our house 14 years ago friends and family just shook their heads and asked why. It was hard to explain that someday the house would look good and that this felt like a real neighborhood. Huffman looked a lot rougher then but there was a great spirit here. The people were warm, and welcoming, and fun—not at all like where we lived in Kettering. We knew it would take work, but we were willing to invest time and effort into both the house and the neighborhood.

Some of the people who were here have moved on but others

have come and while this has been an adventure at times, it has been a rewarding one. I have learned a lot: how to make high maintenance gardens; why it is important to know how long your garage is before you buy a car; alley sweeps really can be fun; and so on and so on. I also learned how special some people can be in your life even if you only know them for a few years. Yes, it keeps coming back to the people.

Over the years we have given time for committees, tours, meetings, work projects, and parties. I think we have made a difference here, but

only because our efforts were part of neighbors changing their neighborhood.

If you want to hear about an option that could become part of what we do next to improve the neighborhood come to the next meeting. You will hear about a project, endorsed by Preservation Dayton, that trains people how to report environmental violations through a program that offers the property owner an opportunity to correct the problem before the City takes action.

I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Gale Heller  
President, Huffman Historic Neighborhood Association

## The Garage Sale is Coming!

It's that time of year again to sort through your cabinets, closets, garages, basements etc. for all those wonderful treasures that someone else is just yearning to own.

On Saturday, June 26, the Huffman Historic Area will hold a neighborhood-wide garage sale from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The cost to participate is \$5.00 per

household to cover the following:

1. Advertising in the Dayton Daily News, local area newspapers, and online websites.

2. Posters and signs placed in strategic locations starting several week before the sale

3. Flyers handed out the day of the sale in various locations listing your address, some of the key items you have for sale and a map of the neighborhood.

4. Directional signs placed on key street corners the day of the sale, saving you the time and effort for sign making and posting.

5. Signs to mark your own porch, yard or garage location

To participate in the sale, please detach and complete

the form below, place it in an envelope along with \$5.00 (make checks payable to Huffman Historic Neighborhood Association, "HHNA") and deliver it to one of the three convenient drop off locations no later than **June 19**:

Mail box at 58 Linden Ave.

Mail slot at 25 S. June St.

Reception desk at Huffman Place – 100 Huffman Ave.

If you have any questions regarding the sale, call Rosie Miller at 546-2569.



## Huffman Neighborhood Garage Sale Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

List some of the major items or types of items you are selling, the hours of your sale if not 9:00-4:00, and where your sale will be (front yard, back yard, porch, garage etc.).

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# Some “Green” Gardening Tips

## Kill weeds in a more earth-friendly way

Instead of using really nasty commercial chemicals to rid your garden of noxious weeds, where possible just try using water. Yes, water. The trick is to boil it first of course. Boiling water is particularly effective for use on weeds in the expansion joints on driveways and paths.



## Grow your own food

Buying organic produce can

admittedly get pricey, so how about growing your own food? It's time to return to the use of gardens as food sources—you won't find fresher (or cheaper) eating anywhere else.

## Make compost from kitchen scraps

Compost like a champ by throwing in your vegetable waste, instead of allowing it to be trucked off to the landfill. Known as "gardener's gold," compost enriches soil fertility by giving it a shot of high-powered, plant-loving nutrients. Aside from stimulating

healthy root development, the addition of rich and earthy compost also improves soil texture, aeration, and water retention.

## Bring on the butterflies and bees

Provide a pesticide-free sanctuary for our pollinator pals, such as butterflies and bees. Grow a variety of native flowers such as wild lilac, goldenrod, and lemon balm. If you haven't already heard, we're in the throes of a major bee-loss epidemic. Because pollinators affect 35 percent of the world's crop production extending a little hometown hospitality could go a long way.

# Community Gardening in Huffman

Some of you may have noticed that what used to be a vacant lot at 24-26 Centre St. has turned into a vegetable garden! A few families in the neighborhood with yards too shady or too small to grow vegetables have adopted the plot and are working hard to grow our own food this Summer. Please feel free to stop by and see our progress. The lettuce, spinach, and peas are flourishing! We even got a grant from Montgomery County to buy some decorative plants which you'll see planted in in the front of the garden.

We do also hope to get a sign eventually labeling the space as the Huffman Community Garden and maybe we'll even score some fencing to keep critters from stealing all our produce.

Next year, we'll have plenty more free beds in which any of our Huffman neighbors are welcome to adopt and cultivate as their own. There may even be a lot near you that your household could adopt for the same purpose. The owners of the unused land are

usually very happy to have someone else using it. If you are interested in getting more information about starting a garden on a different lot, or even adopting a bed at the Centre St. garden for next year, feel free to contact Mark or Erin Caldwell at:



[erin-caldwell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:erin-caldwell@sbcglobal.net)

Happy Gardening!



www.huffmanhistoric.org  
huffmanhistoric@yahoo.com

## Important Phone Numbers

- Police: 333-COPS (2677)
- Weed-n-Seed: 461-9333  
Weed-n-Seed is a number that you can call to report suspicious activity including prostitution.
- City Hall: 333-3333
- Fire Department: 333-FIRE (3473)
- Abandoned Vehicles: 333-1038 Or 1058
- Animal Control: 898-4457
- Dead Animal Removal: 333-4800
- Garbage Collection: 333-4800
- Bulk Pick-up: 333-4833  
Call to schedule a pick up of large trash items. Items can't be set out more than 24 hours before the scheduled pick-up.
- Housing Codes: 333-3959

## Neighborhood Church Happenings

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 101 Huffman Ave.

### Upcoming Events:

1. St. Paul will be participating in the upcoming neighborhood garage sale from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Restrooms will be open to the public. The St. Paul Stuff Shoppe (thrift store) will be open 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. There will also be a bake sale and lunch items will be for sale at 11am.
2. The mobile dentists, Smile Program, will be at St. Paul UMC on Friday, July 16th for children 17 & younger. All children are eligible for the screening, cleaning and fluoride treatment. Medicaid and Healthy Start/Healthy Families cover 100% of the treatment. Grants sre available to provide services for children needing finacial assistance. For more information about the dental program or to register your child, please come by the church office or call 937-252-4467.

Food Pantry Needs – Koolaid, lemonade or drink mixes, condiments (ketchup, mustard, etc...), Paper & plastic bags, Shampoo, Toothpaste