

# Huffman Highlights

March 2011



## *Upcoming Events*

- **March 7—HHNA**  
Meeting in the Huffman Place (100 Huffman Ave.) Dining Room at 7 p.m. All neighbors are welcome!
- **March 14—**  
HHNA Board Meeting at Huffman Place (100 Huffman Ave.), 7 p.m.

## **From the President's Parlor**

Dear Neighbors,

Hooray! Frantic, freezing February is finally over. Let's hope that March is a much better month weather-wise.

At the February's monthly meeting, elections for board members were held. The board for 2011 consists of: Rosie Miller, President; Kristy Roberts, Vice-President; Jeff Heath, Secretary; Paula Worman, Treasurer and newly elected Trustee Wayne McNamara; and returning trustees Mike Osgood, Susan Roper, Shirley Watson and Emily Weaver.

We are all looking forward to a great year in the Huffman Historic Neighborhood. One of our hopes for this year is to improve communication and involvement in the neighborhood.

Government dollars are shrinking and so are services

throughout our country. Dayton is no exception. Now more than ever, it is important that as a neighborhood we do as much as we can on our own to improve and beautify our neighborhood. This economy has left us with more abandoned properties than ever before and the city simply will not have the resources to take care of the enormous stock of overgrown yards this year.

You can help solve this problem in Huffman by adopting a vacant lot or yard near your home. With enough volunteers, perhaps we can stay ahead of an overgrowth problem. In the next few weeks we will begin identifying potential problem properties and proposing an Adopt-a-lot program. If you are willing to volunteer to cut grass, trim over-

growth etc., please call or send an email to me.

And speaking of email, this is an excellent way to keep you informed of things going on in our neighborhood and throughout the city. Weekly police reports from the city are sent to the neighborhood organizations telling me about crime in the area. This report is often complete with pictures of the criminals or suspects. This and plenty of other information can be shared with you through email. Send an email to me and I will add you to the list of contacts.

Make this your year to be a great Huffman neighbor. You can contact me by email at [rosie.miller@gmail.com](mailto:rosie.miller@gmail.com) or by phone at 937-231-8838.

Sincerely,

Rosie Miller

## Fallen Limb Removal and Pothole Info.

### Fallen Trees and Limbs

Dayton Street Maintenance crews are responsible for removing dead trees and limbs from boulevards, tree lawns (the area between the sidewalk and the street) and other public property. They also handle removing fallen trees and broken limbs that are blocking the public right-of-way, such as streets or sidewalks. Dead trees on private property are typically the responsibility of the property owner.

However, as a result of the recent ice storm, City crews, on a temporary basis, are picking up homeowners' downed branches as long as they call **333-4800** to schedule pick-up on or before **March 11**. The City crews will be removing debris through the end of the month, however they will not accept new requests after March 11. Residents who

have already phoned in a pick-up request are not required to call again.

Homeowners who have not pre-scheduled a pick-up by March 11 must make other arrangements to have their debris removed. Residents always have the option to personally drop off branches (for free) at the Wagner Ford landfill (2670 Wagner Ford Road) between 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Residents can also contact private contractors to cut and remove storm debris. City of Dayton crews are not responsible for removing items cut by private contractors.

Items collected by City of Dayton crews must be placed at the curb line only, not in alleyways. Although not required, residents are encouraged to cut and bundle the tree debris as much as possible to facilitate the collection process.

### Potholes

Potholes are a common sighting this time of year. As snow and ice melts, water seeps into the asphalt, and then refreezes and expands, weakening the road surface.

Under the constant weight of day-to-day traffic, potholes naturally result.

During cold winter months, Street Maintenance crews are only able to apply a temporary patch as conditions permit (for example, no ice or snow can be present in the hole). Once warmer weather arrives, more permanent repairs with hot asphalt are made.

Report dangerous potholes to the Public Works Call Center at 333-4800.



## Thank You, Huffman Neighbors!

To all of our Huffman Historic District volunteers who generously gave up time at Christmas to host the open house at Linden Avenue Baptist church for the Architectural Church Tour on Sunday, December 19th:

A "HEARTY" thank you. It was something of a long day, but feedback from the tour questionnaires indicated a highly successful event. Participants were warmly

greeted by all of you and the hospitality and holiday cheer was certainly felt by all who came for a short sojourn in our neighborhood.

Looking forward to more Huffman hospitality in the future.

Thanks again!  
Sandy McNamara

## New Loan Assistance for Foreclosed/Vacant Houses



CityWide Development Corporation, in conjunction with the City of Dayton and Wright-Patt Credit Union has homebuyer assistance funding available for purchasers of single-family foreclosed and vacant properties in Huffman.

### Program Guidelines:

- Single family or 2 unit properties to be owner oc-

- occupied
- For borrowers at or below 120% of area median income
- Minimum borrower contribution is the greater of 1% of the purchase price or \$1,000.
- Homebuyers assistance of up to 10% of the purchase price
- 30 year fixed rate mortgage
- Flexible on credit history
- No foreclosure or bankruptcy in the last 36 months
- No private mortgage insurance required

- Additional benefits for recent college graduates
- Up to 50,000 per property can be provided for property rehab
- Homebuyer and Home Maintenance Courses required

For more information contact:

Holly Musgrove  
Community Development Loan Officer  
Wright-Patt Credit Union  
hmusgrove@wpcu.coop  
937-912-7037

## “Puzzling” by Joanie Spain

*The following is taken from our neighborhood blog: [historichuffman.org](http://historichuffman.org)*

Cold temperatures, snow and ice storms provide ample opportunities to enjoy the interior spaces of our Victorian Huffman homes. Some of our neighbors use this time to complete indoor projects and renovations. I shift into hibernation mode, however, and restoration projects wait until the energy of spring returns.

Before we bought our home in Historic Huffman, I read a book entitled *What Color is Your Slipcover?* In it, author Denny Daikeler observes that most people organize their living spaces based on magazine spreads or furniture showroom displays, rather than on how they actually *live* in their homes. Daikeler challenges the reader to think about what is important and meaningful in one's daily life and incorporate those activities or objects into the overall layout and design.

I enjoyed the book and took the concepts to heart. In fact, I got very specific about some things. Daikeler inspired me to create dedicated spaces in my home for the activities I enjoy most. Since childhood, my favorite wintertime activity has been...jigsaw puzzles.

In one corner of our living room we have an occasional table flanked by two antique ladder-back chairs. The table was actually designed for crafters: side leaves raise; gate-legs swing out and lock in place; and castors allow for easy repositioning. Three seasons of the year it functions as a simple conversation area, but in the winter it becomes our puzzling corner.

As we sit in the old ladder back chairs, hunched over the puzzle-of-the-week, I wonder about other family activities these chairs have participated in through the decades, and all the favorite wintertime activities *our* parlor has seen in its 140 years!

So, what color is *your* slipcover?



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., 937-252-4467

### Announcements:

- St. Paul UMC has two new Pastors. **George Brewer** will be  $\frac{1}{4}$  time at St. Paul. He is the pastor of Eastmont UMC ( $\frac{3}{4}$  time) where he has been for the last eight years. **Jeff Cartwright** is the pastor at New Hope UMC on Xenia Ave. New Hope is a new church start which assimilated the remaining congregation of the former Otterbein UMC. He will also serve  $\frac{1}{4}$  time at St. Paul.
- Beginning **March** 2011 worship will be at **9:30am** with Sunday School following. Pastor Jeff Cartwright will lead the congregation in worship which will include an interactive series of sermons on Worship Dreaming.

### Upcoming Events:

St. Paul semi-annual Steak Dinner Fundraiser will be on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm until 7:00pm. Adult tickets are \$8.00 and children 10 & younger are \$4.00.

### Needs & Volunteer Opportunities:

- There is a critical need for **ESOL TUTORS** (English for Speakers of Other Languages). Tutors do not need to speak Spanish or any other language to teach English. At this time, classes are being offered on Mondays & Thursdays 6 p.m.– 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. There is one-on-one tutoring throughout the week as well. If anyone is interested in teaching English, contact the church office for more information.
- We are also in need of **volunteers to assist with childcare** on Monday & Thursday 6pm-8pm and Friday & Saturday 10am -12noon.
- **The St. Paul Stuff Shoppe** (Thrift Store) is in need of good used spring & summer clothing.
- **Food Pantry needs:** Cereal, Canned Soup, Canned Meat and Toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste, etc...).