**A Message From Our President**

On November 11th, SPAHA had its first ever special dinner meeting, at CDB’s Southside Restaurant. The meeting was attended by approximately 42 members, the food and drink was great, and it was overall a big success. I’d like to thank board members Judy Rothburd and Lee Schmoll for arranging this dinner, and CDB’s owner Pat Iacovella for providing such a great environment for a meeting.

On the stormwater issue, in early November we were pleasantly surprised when the City of Tampa Stormwater Department decided to cut back the mangroves in the creek that connects Lake Kipling to Lake Dundee. While this improved the flow between these two bodies of water, it also served to highlight the tremendous accumulation of muck in the creek. Ellie Montague was subsequently invited to attend a December 3rd meeting with the Mayor to discuss environmental issues, and in this meeting Ellie reiterated the need to clean out, not only the creek, but Lake Dundee and the Dundee River, and in addition complete the dredging of Lake Kipling.

Regarding Friendship Park, Wofford Johnson personally spoke to the Mayor last month to ask her what can be done to make the needed improvements to this park and bring it up to the standards of the other fine parks in this city. Wofford received a very positive response from the Mayor. SPAHA board member Ed Coppock is also coordinating with the Virginia Park neighborhood association to help make this park into something we can truly be proud of.

Last but not least, just in the past three weeks a brand-new issue has exploded onto the scene in Sunset Park, which is a 100 foot cell phone tower that is being proposed to be constructed on the grounds of Coleman Middle School, between the track and the swimming pool.

This is a very controversial issue, with some SPAHA members already mobilizing against the tower, based upon concerns about the effects of radiation from the tower upon the children at Coleman Middle School and Dale Mabry Elementary. In addition to health concerns, some individuals feel that the tower will harm the aesthetics of the area, and result in a reduction in neighboring property values.

The company promoting the tower has provided several studies which conclude that these cell towers are safe, and also has made available photographic simulations which show that the tower, near the 60 foot tall Coleman light poles, will have minimal visual impact on the area.

To help inform SPAHA members on this important issue, two articles are included in this newsletter, one for and another against the Coleman cell tower.

A critical public meeting on this issue will be held at the Coleman Middle School cafeteria on Wednesday, January 7th at 6:00pm. This meeting will gauge public support for the proposed cell tower, and depending upon the outcome, could result in a final decision for or against this cell tower.

In light of this meeting, SPAHA will be changing its January 2009 meeting to the first Tuesday of January. We will be meeting on January 6th at the Jan Platt Library, Room 108, and the meeting will be starting at 7:00pm instead of the usual 7:30pm. Social and refreshments will start at 6:30pm. Two speakers will provide a much more expanded presentation of both sides of this issue.

This will be one of the most important SPAHA meetings of the past several years, and I therefore urge as many SPAHA members to attend as possible.

Marlin Anderson

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**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

Tuesday, January 6 , 2009  
Jan Platt Library, Rm. 108  
6:30 p.m. - Social and Refreshments  
7:00 p.m. - Membership meeting  

Program: Pro’s & Con’s –Coleman Cell Phone Tower  

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The Sunset Park Porker
By
Marlin Anderson

Note: This is the eleventh installment in a series of articles to tell the story of the wild pig that made Sunset Park its home for weeks back in 2004. We are picking up from the point where I’ve finally found the correct molasses to attract the pig to my trap, and ask my teenage daughter to drive to the feed store to pick it up.

Gloria and Ashley Go on a Mission

I don’t have the time to drive all over Hillsborough County to visit these two feed stores, so I ask my daughter Gloria if she’d pick up the croker sack and the molasses for me. She said that she would, and she and her friend Ashley drive off on their mission.

They return three hours later with this big burlap bag, and a gallon bottle of feed grade molasses. The molasses bottle is shaped like a bottle of anti-freeze. It has pictures of deer and other wildlife on the label, along with a conspicuous notice “Not for Human Consumption.”

They had picked up the burlap bag at the first feed store, and their experience there was mostly uneventful. However, the second feed store, which had the molasses, was another story. Gloria is all excited, and I ask her to describe to me what happened at this store, located in northwest Hillsborough county.

The first thing you see when you walk in store is eight steel bathtubs. The first bathtub is filled with about thirty ducks, and other bathtubs with different kinds of chickens.

Gloria and Ashley look at the ducks, which are Mallards only two weeks old. They’re discussing how they’re really cute and they’d really like to have one. The lady comes out from behind the counter and gives them each a duck, which are so small they can hold them in palm of their hand. She goes on to tell Gloria and Ashley how easy they are to take care of.

Gloria discovers that ducks don’t quack when they’re little, but instead make little cheep cheep sounds like a baby chick. The ducks just sit calmly in their hands. The ducks are yellowish with dark brown markings.

The lady then proceeds to tell the girls about the different types of chickens they have for sale. The breed of chickens in one bathtub lay more eggs than any other type of chicken. They’re able to lay an egg every single day, 365 days per year. $4.95 per chicken.

Next, they have chickens that lay colored eggs. Yellow eggs, pink eggs, blue eggs, and green eggs, all pastel colors. This is apparently where they got the idea for Easter eggs. Only $2.95 apiece.

They have some chickens that lay garden-variety eggs. They also have chickens from Africa, and chickens from South America that are really aggressive and bigger than all of the other ones. Still $2.95.

Unfamiliar with country ways, my daughter decides to ask some more questions.

To be continued . . .

Rental Requirements

Some homes in our area are now being rented. In order that our members know the requirements and comply with the cities program we are providing the following information.

In the City of Tampa a rental certificate is required for all property that is rented. Section 19-26 of the Tampa City Code requires that a current certificate of compliance with housing standards (rental certificate) be obtained for each dwelling or dwelling unit to be let or offered to let. After paying the applicable fee and passing an inspection, the City issues a certificate of compliance to the property owner that must be renewed annually. Section 19-26 provides only one exemption. "Dwelling and dwelling units owned and operated by federal, state, county and city housing authorities shall be exempt from the payment of the foregoing fees. The Division of Neighborhood Improvement is charged with administering the rental certificate program.

As the activity of renting a dwelling is considered a business pursuant to Section 24-101 of the City Code, the owner must also obtain an occupational license and pay the applicable tax. The Business License/Tax Division is charged with administering the business license program. In addition, the property is subject to an inspection, and if the home has been “Homesteaded”, you will lose that exemption.

The initial cost for a rental certificate is $35 per unit and the renewal fee is $10 per unit, payable to the City of Tampa Business Tax Division.

There are three kinds of pollution today: real, hysterical, and political.“

— President Ronald Reagan
RESPOND is our Neighborhood police patrol. We currently have six hour patrols on the weekends. When on duty our patrol officer has a cell phone we supply and is always just a quick call from your home. We will increase patrols as our RESPOND membership increases. Membership dues are only $120. per year. ($20.00 additional for a RESPOND yard sign). This is a real bargain as each six hour police patrol cost $202.00.

As a member you receive a schedule of the monthly patrols and the phone number for the cell phone. The officer is given a list of RESPOND member addresses and phone numbers and will pay close attention to your home during their patrols. The more members we have in the program, the more patrols we can schedule each month. Join today.

In addition, if you advise us when you will be on vacation or out of town we will ask the RESPOND officer to make a physical check of your home as he patrols our area. Remember, when the RESPOND officer is on duty the officer is only a few streets from your home.

This is an excellent program and we encourage you to participate. If you have any questions please e-mail us at wjohns7@tampabay.rr.com or call 837-8011

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Community Policing

SPAHA is located in TPD District 1. The District 1 office is located at 3818 Tampa Bay Blvd. The office is staffed 24 hours/7 days each week.

Numbers you should know are:

Shift Commander ----- 354-6698
Captain Hugh Miller—354-6697
General office information ----- 354-6600

Needless to say, in the event of an emergency, always call 911. However, for non-emergency assistance, such as to report something suspicious on your street, neighborhood disturbances, fireworks being discharged, or other non-emergency problems, call 231-6130, or If you are a member of RESPOND and the RESPOND officer is on duty, call the cell-phone number provided to you when you signed up for RESPOND.

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Neighborhood Watch:

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator is:
Ann Johnson - 837-8011

The Quadrant Leaders are:
NE - Danelle & Jody Barksdale 281-0145
NW- Open
SE - Valerie Morales - 832-4046
SW - (below River Dundee) Earlene Shofi - 831-0116
SW - (above River Dundee) Judy Rothburd - 837-5183

We still need a Quadrant leader for the northwest section of our area. Please call Ann Johnson and volunteer. We need to maintain an active Neighborhood Watch. Please call and volunteer. This is not a time consuming commitment.

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We hope you have a great 2009

SPAHAMAN
Why a Cell Phone Tower is needed

Stacy Frank

Coleman Middle School is considering placing a wireless facility within its recreational area. This article addresses questions you may have about the proposed facility.

What is the proposed wireless facility?
A 100’ slim-line monopole, installed adjacent to the track, with additional track lighting. The monopole will be 40’ higher than the existing light poles, 16 inches in diameter at the highest point, with the base concealed by 8’ fencing/landscaping. The antenna will be flush mounted.

Why put the monopole next to Coleman?
Customer demand for wireless service in the Coleman area exceeds the capacity and range of the existing antenna. Currently, that area is served partially by the wireless antenna mounted on the roof of the Crown building, immediately across the street from Grady Elementary. If the monopole isn’t located at Coleman, it will be located within close proximity to Coleman.

How will Coleman benefit from the monopole?
Coleman will receive 50% of all rents and the monopole will be designed for four wireless carriers. Coleman will receive annually $9,000.00 from the first carrier, increasing annually by 4% for a minimum of ten years. The potential income is more than $36,000.00 per year.

Will the antenna be a health risk?
No. The antenna operate at a low wattage and will not cause any increase in radio frequency emissions within the surrounding environment. The typical household, however, is regularly exposed to measurable radio frequency emissions through televisions, computers, kitchen appliances, and radios.

Will the monopole or antenna fall?
They are designed to withstand a sustained wind speed of 120 miles per hour.

Can children climb the monopole?
No. The monopole will not have climbing pegs.

How many schools already have a wireless facility? Nine Hillsborough County schools have wireless facilities and six more are under development. The City of Tampa and Hillsborough County lease roof tops, water tanks and public parks for wireless facilities.

Hillsborough County Public Schools conducted an emissions study in relation to prior school-based wireless facilities. The district always makes student safety a top priority.

Why you should oppose a cell phone tower at Coleman

Bill Cook

To All Our Neighbors:

THE BAD NEWS: Collier Enterprises wants to build a 100ft tower on the Coleman School property right between the track and pool. There are many reasons to oppose this tower: health, forcing our neighbors to stare at it forever in front of their homes, impact on property values and opening the floodgates to even more towers.

The GOOD NEWS – Principal Hoskinson said he will not go forward if the community is against it. You need to be heard.

Please come to the Sunset Park meeting on January 6th to get the full story. You can also email Bill Cook directly for more information at bcook@augustmktg.com.

The scientific community is divided about health risks of towers. Contrary to statements from the wireless industry there is significant cause for concern.

The American Cancer Society says: “The Bottom Line: Cellular phone towers are a relatively new technology, and we do not yet have full information on health effects. In particular, not enough time has elapsed to permit epidemiologic studies.”

In testimony before Congress Dr. David Carpenter, Harvard Doctor and member of the 2008 BioInitiative stated: “The current exposure standards in the US and around the world are based on the assumption that radio frequency fields are without serious biological effects at intensities that are not adequate to cause tissue heating, the observations [in their analyses of 2000 studies] demonstrate that this assumption is simply wrong.”

If science isn’t sure, why take that chance with children and our own community?

This tower will be a blight on our community – there are more appropriate locations.

We believe the information distributed by the industry through the school is misleading. We urge you to come to your January 6th meeting and get all the facts. –

Respectfully your friends and neighbors.
SPAHA

Officers:
Pres: Marlin Anderson 288-8952
Vice-Pres: Ed Coppock 286-2220
Rec. Sec: Tom Digiacomo 244-3476
Corr. Sec: Judy Rothburd 837-5183
Treas: Ann Johnson 837-8011

Directors:
Dir: Sheila Hanrahan 837-6670
Dir: Sam Mirabella 505-7695
Dir: Vacant
Dir: Lee Schmoll 831-6764
Dir: Lisa Williams 966-0003

Committee Chairperson:
Building/Zoning: Wofford & Ann Johnson 837-8011
Membership: Howard Weber 831-7472
Neighborhood Watch: Ann Johnson 837-8011
Newsletter: Wofford & Ann Johnson 837-8011
RESPOND: Wofford Johnson 837-8011
Sidewalks: Judy Rothburd 837-5183
Website: Wofford Johnson 837-8011
Events Lisa Williams 966-0003

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3671 S. Westshore Blvd. www.CDBsSouthside.com 813-805-0DB

Lunch - Dinner - Parties - Catering

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Sunset Park Area Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 10751
Tampa, FL 33679

Compliant hotline - Construction - 274-3100
Ext. 8232
Recycling Dept. 348-1142
Special Waste Pickup 348-1119
Manhattan Brush Site 348-1127
Potholes or sinkholes 622-1940
City Information line 274-8211
Tree Hotline 258-8733

Environmental Coordination 274-8071
Lawn Watering Complaints 274-8036
Solid Waste 348-1111
Code Enforcement 274-5545
Stormwater drains - clogged 622-1901
Zoning information 274-8405
Mosquito Control 635-5400
Street light outage (TECO) 223-0800
Animal Control 744-5660
Animals (Removal of Dead) 348-1126