

# Remington Heights News

Late Spring 2009

Official Publication of the Remington Heights Community

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community Connections is a neighborhood outreach program to welcome new neighbors. By making connections with our neighbors, this group hopes to strengthen our community and make it a safer, friendlier place to live.

**Welcome to the newest board members** elected at the March 31, 2009 HOA meeting, Katrena Plummer and Andrew Hughes.

### Katrena Plummer

*"I live on Jazz St. and have lived in the neighborhood since 2004. I am married and we have a 2 1/2 year old son. I work for the state and my husband is a mailman. I am looking forward to working with everyone, and keeping Remington Heights a good neighborhood."*

Katrena will serve on the board for the 2009-2011 term.

### Andrew Hughes

*"I moved 23 times as a kid, so I appreciate having a community to have roots in. In fact, the main reason I joined the board was to help strengthen community relationships. I live at 1715 Zydeco with my wife and 10 year old stepson. Stop by and say hello."*

Andrew will serve on the board for the remainder of the 2009 term that was left vacant.

### Ednoa Harrell

Ednoa is a returning board member and will continue her term ending in 2010.

## In this issue:

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- ❁ Upcoming Events

Remington Heights HOA would like to welcome any new neighbors and would like to feature them in the next issue of *Remington Heights News*. Please let us know about any new neighbors by emailing their address to [board@remingtonheights.com](mailto:board@remingtonheights.com).

## EVENTS

### FIRE ANTS, A MAJOR SUMMER PAIN

*Solenopsis invicta* or the imported pest more commonly known as fire ants, are not only the cause of painful stings, but they cost Texans millions of dollars. From shorting electrical equipment, such as air conditioners, to medical treatment, a recent study by Texas A&M University estimated the cost of fire ants in terms of cost of equipment repairs and replacement at a staggering \$232.6 million, in addition to the cost of medical treatment related to the pests at \$47.2 million.

It is easy to kill a mound of fire ants but as most of us know, they simply reappear a few days later in another part of the yard. Researchers have found that the best method of controlling fire ants is with community-wide coordinated efforts. The idea is that if you treat your yard and kill all the ants in your yard, and your neighbors do the

same at the same time, it will take much longer for the ants to re-invade the territory.

Remington Heights will hold a **"Down with Fire Ants" Weekend over the Memorial Day weekend, May 23-25** and would like to encourage homes in the neighborhood to treat their lawns for fire ants during that time.

Remington Heights HOA does not specifically endorse any particular method of treatment, but there are many organic and non-organic products on the market. Talking to the staff at a local nursery or a quick search on the internet will probably be all you need to find the method that is right for you.

Remember, treat your yard for fire ants over the Memorial Day weekend and we will all have a less stinging summer!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Memorial Weekend, May 23-25

Down with Fire Ants Weekend  
*Treat your yard for fire ants*

### May 1, June 1, July 1

Yard of the Month awarded

### Last week of May, June, July

Yard of the Month committee judging

### Friday, June 26 7p.m.

Ice Cream Social in the park

### Wednesday, July 1

Quarterly HOA fee due

### We want to hear your ideas.

If there's an event you're interested in seeing the Remington Heights HOA put together email [board@remingtonheights.com](mailto:board@remingtonheights.com).



# WHY IS MY GRASS DYING?

It might seem simple, grass grows and then you mow it, mix in a little water, fertilize every now and again, and you should have a great lawn, right? Wrong! Unfortunately for many homeowners who struggle with mowing St. Augustine grass (the type most widely used in Remington Heights,) the problem is not with how much they water or fertilize nor is it disease or too much traffic either, it's often caused by improper height settings on one's lawn mower. Yes, all the frustration and wasted money on expensive sod is often simply due to people not setting their lawn mower to the most appropriate height for their grass.

In Texas, St. Augustine should be cut at a depth of about 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches, which is usually one of the highest settings on most mowers. The reason is simple, the taller the grass, the more shade it provides the root system, which means the grass retains more moisture during the searing Texas summer heat.

In many cases, mowing healthy St. Augustine grass too short can reduce it to nothing more than a brown wasteland. By mowing too close to the roots or "scalping" the grass it exposes the roots to the summer sun, and without a serious amount of water this lawn will shrivel and die within a matter of days.

**Mow your grass at a full 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches in height and the grass will be much better suited to deal with the summer sun and require much less water to keep green.**



## YARD OF THE MONTH

Yard of the Month (YOM) is a monthly award recognizing front yard appearance and lawn maintenance of the residents of the Remington Heights neighborhood. To be recognized as the Yard of the Month you must maintain a beautiful front yard and have paid your Remington Heights Homeowners Association dues.

The YOM Committee judges lawns the last week of every month. Neighbors are encouraged to nominate a yard prior to judging by emailing the YOM committee, at [yom@remingtonheights.com](mailto:yom@remingtonheights.com), with the street address of the yard they would like to nominate. On the first of each month the YOM is awarded with a sign to be placed in the winners yard and a \$25 gift certificate.

The May 2009 Yard of the Month winner is Veronica Moreno, Lino Guerrero and their 4 year old son Christian of 1444 Thibodeaux. They were recognized for the care and appearance of their yard over the previous month and were awarded a gift certificate by Sunnie Campbell, YOM Chair. Look for the "Yard of the Month" sign in their yard for the entire month of May. See a photo of their yard and their "Lawn care tip of the month" on Remington Heights Neighborhood Association Facebook page.

To see previous and future YOM winners check the Remington Heights homeowner association website, at [www.remingtonheights.com](http://www.remingtonheights.com), or

Join our **emailing list** to get your quarterly newsletter and other neighborhood notifications by email. Go to the Remington Heights Homeowners Association website, at [www.remingtonheights.com](http://www.remingtonheights.com) and enter you email address in the email list form to join.



Get connected to your community through social networking. Join the Remington Heights Neighborhood Association group on **Facebook**, at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) or click on the Facebook link on the home page of [www.remingtonheights.com](http://www.remingtonheights.com), to find additional neighborhood news, links to Round Rock community resources and discussion forums about neighborhood concerns and ideas.



Be a part of your community and meet your neighbors by joining one of these newly forming committees:

- Yard of the Month
- Communications & Newsletter
- Community Connections/ Welcome Wagon
- Events & Activities

Email [board@remingtonheights.com](mailto:board@remingtonheights.com) for more information on how to join these committees.



This newsletter was made possible by the Remington Heights HOA Board, neighbor volunteers, and funded from your homeowner association dues. If you would like to volunteer to help with writing stories, submitting photos, or distributing the newsletter please email Karla Aslin, Communications & Newsletter Chair, at [newsletter@remingtonheights.com](mailto:newsletter@remingtonheights.com).



What else would you like to see the Remington Heights HOA Board do? Email Andrew, Ednoa, & Katrena at [board@remingtonheights.com](mailto:board@remingtonheights.com).

Special thanks to our contributing writers and neighbors, Karla Aslin, Sunnie & Frank Campbell, Andrew Hughes, Katrena Plummer & Jason Largent. To be a part of future issues contact [newsletter@remingtonheights.com](mailto:newsletter@remingtonheights.com).

look for posts on the Remington Heights Neighborhood association group on Facebook.

Join the Yard of the Month committee to help select the best yard every month, email Sunnie Campbell at [yom@remingtonheights.com](mailto:yom@remingtonheights.com).