

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

### LAKE EOLA HEIGHTS HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER 4th QUARTER 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: SOMETHING GOOD IS ALWAYS HAPPENING IN THE HOOD!

**By David Martens** 

Get ready for some big changes at our signature store in the center of the neighborhood, Handy Pantry. Through a matching grant with the City of Orlando, we will be giving the exterior a beautiful facelift. Colors have been chosen by Richard Forbes, historical preservation officer, that work beautifully together. Plans for the side along Cathcart will include a mural with the image of an old Eola Farms orange packing crate label. We are still in the planning stages, so if you have an interest, join the committee and give us your input.

Regarding the schools that are right in our neighborhood or at our boundary, namely Hillcrest Elementary and Howard Middle School, there is an effort to preserve the geographic preference (using the existing Hillcrest zone as a boundary) for Hillcrest and Howard. It is being promoted to Orange County Public School Board as a win-win solution for the downtown neighborhoods and OCPS. There is a risk that they may open the geographic boundary to a far larger radius, loading our schools with more students and parents transporting them outside of Eola Heights, which would not be favorable. The next school board meeting is the same evening as our meeting, November 12, so that would be difficult to attend and show your support. However, the next board meeting after that is December 8 and your attendance is desperately needed. The location of that OCPS meeting will be announced at LEHHNA's meeting. We really need your help here. We deeply value walkability and community

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# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7 p.m. Thursday November 12 at Trinity Lutheran Church 123 East Livingston Street *Bring a Neighbor!* 

### CAROLING AT THE PANTRY

The holiday tradition continues with Caroling at the Pantry. The date is Saturday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m.

Join Arti and Dev at the Handy Pantry with family, friends and neighbors for caroling and light holiday treats. Bring a favorite dish to share, a lawn chair and your best voice for singing Christmas carols. Arti and Dev will supply soft drink beverages.

No professional singing ability needed just good cheer!

#### **CHANGES TO ROBINSON?**

The Florida Department of Transportation is taking a look at making changes along Robinson Street. One idea to fix things comes from the city of Orlando's 10-year Project DTO vision plan, which suggests turning Robinson Street into a two-lane street with a dedicated bike lane and more crosswalks.

Only the preliminary study has been funded, leaving plenty of time for community suggestions. The next public meeting will be in the summer or early fall of 2016.

That's when they will begin talking about specific alternatives to transform Robinson Street.