

Local neighborhood initiative begins in Clinton

By Guest Columnist
Rev. Courtney Stamey

What would it be like if we truly knew our neighbors? What would it be like if we were willing to use our resources to meet another's need? What would it be like to rise together in community?

These are not some far-fetched ideas or unreachable idealism. It can happen, and it is beginning to happen in an area in northern Clinton through the work of neighbors coming together.

The residents, businesses and organizations in the area east of Pinehaven Drive, west of Magnolia Road, north of Old Vicksburg Road and south of Arrow Drive have begun to join together in an effort to coalesce and build a "neighborhood" community. With Traceway Park, Kids Towne Park, the schools along Arrow Drive, the Quisenberry Library, the subdivisions of Indian Trails, The Briars, Clinton Park North, The Cascades, Huntcliff, Kentwood, Cherry Park, Trace Ridge and Park Place, as well as countless businesses and residences within the identified boundaries, the large area has the potential to create an identity for itself within the city.

The preliminary meetings of residents of the area and community partners have had the objective of identifying resources as well as needs in the area. Some of the resources identified are tangible, like our public library, schools, city parks and local businesses. Others are intangible, like population density, demographic diversity, and a desire to work together for the betterment of our area in appearance, the arts, and human connection. Many ideas have come up, like painting murals, tutoring students, calling senior adults, and an end of the school year neighborhood party. Already, residents and businesses in the area have begun to band together for the betterment of the community, holding a cleanup event at Kids Towne Park late last month.

This initiative is in its infancy, and there is no better time to join in on the development.

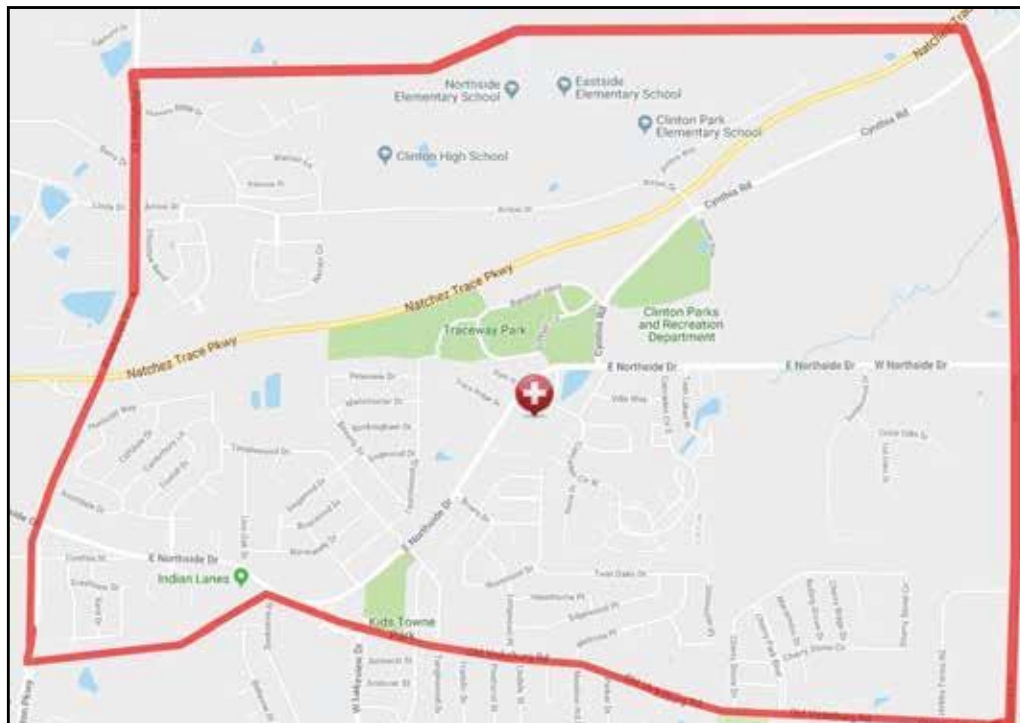
Area residents are invited – and encouraged – to come to our next meeting, which will be held on Thursday, April 4, at noon at the Quisenberry Library. Please bring your lunch. We will discuss forming a leadership team, the results of the Kid's Towne Park Cleanup, and further talks about naming this area. Some names that have come up so far are North District, Clinton North, The Parks, Central Clinton, and Northside

Community. If you have an additional name you would like to suggest for this area, please submit them to *The Clinton Courier* at office@TheClintonCourier.net, and we will have a vote in an upcoming issue. We are looking for a name that would unite the neighborhoods, residents, businesses and community partners in a similar way to "Olde Towne" here in Clinton, or "Fondren" in Jackson.

We have something to be proud of here, and it's time to name it and claim it.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at 601-924-2634.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Courtney Stamey is Senior Pastor of Northside Baptist Church, a community partner in the neighborhood initiative. She can be reached by email at courtneystamey@northsidebaptistchurchms.org.



Special to The Clinton Courier

Residents, businesses and organizations within the outlined boundaries of this area of Clinton are joining together to name the area for purposes of unification and creation of an identity for the area.

Come see what we have to offer!



Dining!



Services!



McRaney & McRaney
A Lawyer and a Friend

Shopping!



www.facebook.com/shopspringridgevillage



@39056_Shopping

SPRINGRIDGE Village

509 Springridge Rd.



@39056_Shopping



www.pinterest.com/39056shopping/