

Whispering Hills News

A Community of Neighbors

Serving the Residents of the Whispering Hills Neighborhood

DECEMBER 2022



Holiday Decoration Judging Is Back

After a pause of a couple of years, judging holiday decorations will take place again this year, thanks to new neighbors, Kelley French and Jarrod Brenden. Be sure to have your lights turned on the evening of Sunday, December 18th.

There will be three categories: Best Secular, Best Religious and Judge's Choice. A sign will be placed in winners' yards. Winners will also be posted on Nextdoor Whispering Hills, and the WHNA website, whnadallas.com.

**If You Haven't Visited
the New WHNA Website,
Check It Out at
www.whnadallas.com**

Call for WHNA President Answered!!

New resident, Jacob "Jake" Bruch has stepped up to join the WHNA Board--before he even moved into his new home and amidst wedding plans!

Thank you, Jake!

Board bios in the next newsletter will have more background information.

Officers for 2023 Board

President: Jacob Bruch

Vice President: Davene Morgan

Secretary: Anne Meadows

Treasurer: Cynthia Houck

Member At Large: Wendy Kelly

Past President: Keli Kincaid

**Join WHNA by January 1st and be entered into a drawing
for a gift card!!**

WHNA Board & Committee Chairs

NEXTDOOR NETWORK:

whisperinghills.nextdoor.com

WEBSITE:

www.whnadallas.com

WHNA MAILING ADDRESS:

10323 Cimmaron Trail
Dallas, TX. 75243

2022 Board Members:

President

Keli Kincaid

WHNApresident@whnadallas.com

Vice President

Davene Morgan

WHNAvicepresident@whnadallas.com

Secretary

Anne Meadows

WHNAsecretary@whnadallas.com

Treasurer/Website

Cynthia Houck

WHNAtreasurer@whnadallas.com

Member-at-Large

Wendy Kelly

WHNAmemberatlarge@whnadallas.com

Past President

Chuck Laughlin

WHNAPastpresident@whnadallas.com

Committee Chairs:

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Membership Drive Coordinator

Roxanne Singletary

WHNA

Post Office Warns People Not to Use Its Mail Boxes

Submitted by Cynthia Houck

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has warned people not to use its blue boxes on specific dates. It particularly warned about the chances of theft from these on Sundays and holidays. The USPS's warning suggested how people can dodge the trouble. "If customers simply used retail service or inside wall drop slots to send their U.S. Mail instead of depositing it to sit outside overnight or through the weekend, blue collection boxes would not be as enticing after business hours to mail thieves for identity theft and check-washing schemes."

While the postal service warning targets holidays and Sundays, the problem exists throughout the week. Customers have to worry if checks or other valuable letters make it to their intended destinations.

I've always told friends not to put outgoing mail in their home mailboxes, and I've also told them not to use the blue mailboxes, but I have to admit that I had gotten lazy and used the drive-by, blue box at the Apollo Road Post Office in Richardson.

However, the other day I saw that the bolts on the side of that box had been removed, and the whole side was pulled open. While this probably happened at night, seeing it has cured me of my laziness. I will use the slot INSIDE the Post Office from now on.



What Are Some Things We Could Do to Build Community the Neighborhood?

Neighborhood-wide Social events which used to be key to neighbors forming friendships, as well as contacts in general, were discontinued during the pandemic. It has made a negative difference in the feeling of community.

With many new and younger families, as well as people of different cultures, moving into the neighborhood, we need to find a way to rebuild the sense of community and support of each other.

Individual streets could have block parties. How about English classes for some who struggle with the language? People with similar interests (Dominoes? Bridge? Wildlife issues? VR games?) could meet as groups. Maybe some of this is already happening. Please share!!

Suggestions are welcome. If you have ideas, feel free to send them on to any of the board members. It would be great to highlight some things neighbors are doing together in the newsletter. Let Sonia Harms know at the email listed with Committee Chairs at the left.

Whispering Hills Now Has Its Own Buy Nothing group!

By Maija Wallace, who set it up for Whispering Hills

Join us on Facebook by searching "**Buy Nothing Far North Dallas (Whispering Hills)**" or learn more about Buy Nothing here: <https://www.buynothingproject.org/about> No charge, no membership fee.

What is BuyNothing? BuyNothing offers people a way to give and receive, share, lend, and express gratitude through a gift economy network, all while meeting neighbors. This is a hyper-local group and entry is monitored to ensure all members live in the neighborhood.

As seasons change, I often find that I have things no longer need. When my son learned to walk, I realized I no longer needed a baby swing taking up precious real estate in my living room. When I finally gave up on learning to knit, I realized a giant bag of yarn was just taking up space. When I had a successful mint crop, I found myself digging up handfuls of viable plants. But what to do with these items? Landfill? Or could a neighbor maybe use a sprig of mint for their own herb garden, a ball of yarn for their own project, a baby swing for their own newborn?

Principles:

We believe our hyper-local groups strengthen the social fabric of their communities, and ensure the health and vitality of each member.

We come from a place of abundance ~ not scarcity.

We believe in abundance, we give, we ask, we share, we lend and we express gratitude.

We are a gift economy, not a charity. We see no difference between want and need, waste and treasure.

We do not buy, sell, trade, barter, or otherwise exchange money for items or services.

We measure wealth by the personal connections made and trust between people.

We value people and their stories and narratives above the 'stuff.'

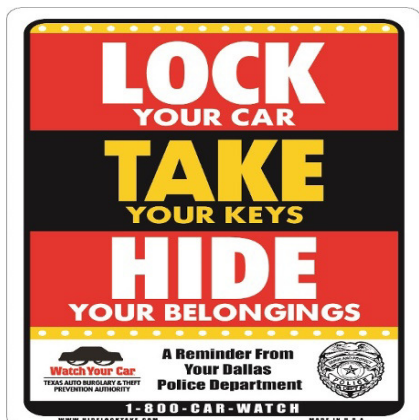
We are inclusive at our core.

We value honesty and integrity in all our interactions.

We view all gifts as equal; the human connection is the value.

We believe every community has the same wealth of generosity and abundance.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER
Especially This Time of Year.



**The Mom's Group for families
with young children
has joined with the private
Whispering Hills Family Group.**

**Search Whispering Hills Families
on Facebook and request to join.
The group is "private" for safety
reasons.**

What's the Deal With the Fight Against Short Term Rentals?

Short Term Rental (STR) owners and operators such as Airbnb and VRBO, have paid lobbyists, PR people and attorneys to fight against STRs being defined and taxed as hotels.

In Plano, according to KERA, the PAC for a real estate advocacy group, has made some of the largest campaign contributions to city council members since November of 2021. The Plano City Council has been working on ways to regulate the STRs after receiving complaints about huge bachelor parties and a sex-trafficking ring in which people were arrested.

The PAC, Texas Realtors Political Action Committee, (TREPAC) also donated to some Dallas City Council members' campaigns this past June. Donations also went to council campaigns in Arlington and Grapevine. Connected to the funds is the statement, "do not restrict short-term rentals."

The Texas Neighborhood Coalition (TNC) wants to ban short-term rentals in residential areas.

Neighborhoods all over the nation are saying STRs should not be allowed in neighborhoods due to the problems the renters cause.

A group called the Dallas Neighborhood Coalition is encouraging the City Plan Commission to adopt the Keep It Simple Solution (KISS) which would define STRs as a lodging use, and effectively prohibit them from operating in residential neighborhoods. STRs are defined as hotels by tax laws.

Following is a list Mike Gorman sent in to the Dallas Neighborhood Coalition, the City Planning Commission and Councilman Adam McGough, to let them know about issues the 4 known STRs in Whispering Hills have caused.

- ♦ Assault – Person hit in face and police called 10101 Chisholm Trail
- ♦ Carry of AR-15 style rifles – Two different party attendees were seen in alley at two different times searching for a neighbor that had complained about noise – 10101 Chisholm Trail
- ♦ Person Passed Out in Vehicle – Residents found woman passed out from party the night before in alleyway – 10101 Chisholm Trail
- ♦ Drug Use – Partygoers smoking or using drugs while standing in front yard, back driveway or while sitting in vehicles on street and in alleyway – 13421 Whispering Hills
- ♦ Trash Left in Yards and in Street – Partygoers threw out their unwanted trash in yard and streets by parked cars – 13421 Whispering Hills
- ♦ Loud Music and Voices – Various reports from multiple STR locations
- ♦ Illegal Parking in Wrong Direction and Alleyways – Partygoers park where they want and block access to cul-de-sacs by fire department vehicles. One vehicle found parked in alleyway next morning that prevented homeowner from backing out of driveway. – 10036 Lawler Rd.
- ♦ Excessive vehicles at party – One party had between 60 and 70 cars parked on multiple streets – 13421 Whispering Hills
- ♦ Property left unsecured – STR found by neighbor with front door left wide open and leaves all over the foyer – 10136 Bettywood Lane

The Dallas Neighborhood Coalition summarizes the struggle and plea to the City Plan Commission thus:

"We, the everyday residents of Dallas, are David in a fight against this Goliath industry. We are sacrificing our own time to preserve the character and safety of neighborhoods in Dallas – outgunned and outspent by the industry's highly paid and powerful lobbyists and lawyers.

Prioritize the interests of full-time residents of Dallas and hundreds of thousands of homeowners who invest and enrich our city by building their lives here – not those who merely profit at our expense. Please use your legal zoning powers for the greater good."

You can learn more about STRs in Dallas at <http://insideairbnb.com/dallas>

Crime/Safety Incidents and Summary Report

Recaps from Mike Gorman, Crime Watch Coordinator

10/31	Criminal Mischief Candy Theft	Morgan Meadow
	A group of 10-15 male teenagers stole all candy and bowl when door was opened for hand outs	
11/03	Discarded Clothing (5th report)	Random Locations
11/06	Simple Assault	Daystrom Ct.
11/09	Recovery of Stolen Vehicle	Hornbeam
11/12	Crisis Intervention by Police	Desert Willow
11/12	Theft	Sunridge
11/25	Theft >or Equal to \$100< \$750	Deermont
11/28	Prowlers	Bettywood/WH
12/01	Injured Person/ Firearm Injury	Whispering Hills
12/05	Theft of Catalytic Converter	Whispering Hills

In general, neighborhood safety is good; only simple assaults were serious in nature for the past period. All other activities were minor in nature. Complete list for October 11-November 12 below.

Assaults – 2 (Reported to DPD – 1)
 Criminal Mischief – 1
 Found Property – 1
 Illegal Parking (Commercial Trailers) – 2
 Police Activity (Crisis Intervention Team) – 1 (DPD)
 Property Theft – 1 (DPD)
 Random Gunfire / Fireworks – 3
 Recovery Stolen Vehicle – 1 (DPD)
 Suspicious Persons – 7 (Reported to DPD – 2)
 Suspicious Vehicles – 1
 Speeding in Alleyway - 1

WHNA Incidents with DPD numbers – 5

Neighboring Apartments and Businesses (NAB)

36 Type 01 DPD Incident Reports
 Apartment/Condominiums – 25
 Businesses/Shopping Center – 11
 Incidents by Street
 Walnut Street – 25
 Audelia Rd. – 5
 Shadow Way – 4
 Plano Rd. – 2

Top 3 Incidents – Criminal Mischief – 5, Burglary Residence – 4,
 UUMV - 4

No Change in Date for Trash Pickup in Our Area

In case you heard that Dallas Sanitation was making changes to the weekly trash pick-up days, there is no change for Whispering Hills. Trash will be picked up as usual on Tuesdays.

Sanitation has added Wednesdays to their schedule for some areas to make it less likely that there will be delayed pick-ups in other areas, they will have a change in days.

Don't Forget to Cover Your Outdoor Faucets!!

Be ready for the next freeze.

Mental Health Hotline Call 988

People experiencing a mental health crisis can now simply call or text 988.

The new number is modeled after 911 to quickly connect people in a mental crisis with a mental health professional at a crisis center closest to them. If that center is busy, the call gets sent to a back-up center.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

K F A M I L Y T R N K B J L H
 Y M U T J C O R B S X G O J H
 Y U P L R C A R O L S I Y I F
 Y C M R R E Q N W E E V E N N
 L H F E E P E H D N D I J G O
 S R B T D S C S S Y W N G L R
 Y I Q M T Y E R C M C G S E T
 U S T O C K I N G S J A E I H
 U T L I G H T S T G S D N W P
 L M F L I O V S M S N J S E O
 K A V F X B I Z G I I G D T L
 B S R E B Z S L E I G H X C E
 F K Y O L Q H R N S N O W R U
 X N L R J F Z C D N D E X X V
 H S T A R W S A N T A T L V M

BOW
 CANDY CANE
 CAROLS
 CHRISTMAS
 ELF

FAMILY
 GIVING
 JINGLE
 JOY
 LIGHTS

NORTH POLE
 PRESENTS
 REINDEER
 SANTA
 SLEIGH

SNOW
 STAR
 STOCKINGS
 TREES



BRUSH & BULK



To avoid a Code citation,
watch for signs posted on WH the
Thursday before pick-up week.

NEXT PICK-UP WEEKS BEGIN:

December 26 and January 23

Set out on curb beginning Thursday,
December 22 and January 19
before 7am on the Monday of pick-up week.

Separate bulky trash from brush.
No glass or electronics

Get the entire 2023 schedule and reminder
texts at:

dallascityhall.com/sanitation

Take These Items to the Chemical Collection
Center at 11234 Plano Rd, Dallas 75243:

Chemical products Cleaners & polishes
Aerosol sprays Computers & cell phones
Batteries of all kinds Fluorescent light tubes
Paint & home repair products
Automotive fluids & oil filters

Call 214-553-1765 for hours of operation.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wendy Phynes-Jennings

**Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant
Star Team Builder**

Inspiring Women's Lives--I bring beauty to you.

Website: marykay.com/wendyphynesjennings

Email: wendyphynes12@gmail.com

972.679.0570

Need pet care? Helen Meyer, 469-387-6094
(feature writer for newsletter). Neighborhood dogs &
kitties give great reviews on the loving & watchful
care! References Available

Reduce pain and inflammation. Increase
relaxation and circulation. Non-invasive
medical device works through your hand.

FDA cleared. Chuck Laughlin

claughli@sbcglobal.net 214-906-2012

For free demo: <https://AvacenMedical.com/Laughlin>



Classified Ad Information

This is a service for WHNA members.

Send name, address, phone, and email ,along with
ad copy to: **WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com**

Please limit ad copy to 25 words or less. No graphics.

Check QR Code or Website for Garage/Yard Sale Requirements

[dallascityhall.com/departments/codecompliance/Pages/garage
-sales.aspx](http://dallascityhall.com/departments/codecompliance/Pages/garage-sales.aspx)

Basics

- Permit from City is required
- There is a limit of two (2) garage sales at a premise during any twelve (12) month period (**NOT by calendar year**) and each sale may not exceed more than three (3) consecutive calendar days in length.
- Signs must be placed on private property; Signs placed on medians, public property or utility poles are illegal
- Signs must be removed within 24 hours of sale.
- 1st Garage Sale -No Fee
- 2nd Garage Sale -\$25.00 (No Cash)



Don't Pollute. Bag the Trash.

Yard waste finds its way
to area creeks, lakes and
the Trinity River.

For the same reason, it behooves
all of us to keep
the gutters in the
streets around our
homes free of
debris. Much of
the run-off in our
neighborhood
ends up at White
Rock Lake via the
creek flowing at
our west end.



WhereDoesItGo.com

Tossing, sweeping or blowing yard waste
and trash into the street or down
storm drains can result in
a fine of up to \$2,000.



Important Message

For All Whispering Hills Residents

- We just invested \$17,000 to repair, power wash, prime and paint the wall at Walnut St. and part of the wall bordering the railroad tracks.
- We need your help to accomplish other planned improvements to our neighborhood.
- Our homes are the most significant investment most of us make.
- WHNA helps to preserve your investment with a volunteer security patrol, and beautification of the neighborhood, as well as interacting with the City on matters that affect all of us.
- Only about 100 of the over 600 families in our neighborhood joined WHNA this year.
- Cost is only \$50 annually which is \$.14 cents per day.
- Joining WHNA is the right thing to do, and shows appreciation for those who volunteer many hours to help all of you.

Use the form below or visit our website at whnadallas.com

JOIN BY JANUARY 1ST AND BE ENTERED IN A DRAWING FOR A GIFT CARD!



2023 WHNA Membership Form



I would like my information to be included in the 2023 membership directory (circle one): YES NO

2022.ND.NL

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

_____	<Person 1	Person 2>	_____
_____	Home/Cell	Phone	Home/Cell _____

Please indicate if number is home or cell number.

_____ eMail _____
eMail address will be added to the email blast system for community meetings and events

Dues: _____ \$50 _____ Additional Donation: _____
 (tax deductible) (tax deductible)

Please indicate your interest in helping in one or more of the following ways:

- ☐ Volunteer Crime Patroller ☐ Making phone calls ☐ Attending Dallas civic and government meetings
☐ Distributing newsletters or directories ☐ Pet Registry ☐ Helping at neighborhood social events
☐ Judging Yard of the Month/Christmas Lights ☐ Working your street/block for the membership drive
☐ Serving on the Board or committee ☐ Other

Send check (made payable to WHNA) to WHNA at 10323 Cimmaron Trail, Dallas, TX 75243.
 For PayPal/Venmo, go to www.whnadallas.com

2023 Membership Period—January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023
 Payments after October 1, 2022, apply to 2023 Membership.