

WHISPERING HILLS

A Community of Neighbors

Whispering Hills Neighborhood Association www.whnadallas.com September/October 2015

September is the month that the Whispering Hills Neighborhood Association elects members to the board for the following year. This year's membership meeting is occurring at a couple of important milestones for the Association.

It is the 30th anniversary of its founding in 1985. The celebrate, the membership meeting will be held in the cafeteria at Liberty this time. There will be a cake and ice-cream, and hopefully some historical neighborhood items to display and peruse.

This is also a time for a seemingly sudden turnover in the age of the residents within the past year. That may dictate the direction of projects and types of activities the Association provides.

The membership meeting is an opportunity for members to give guidance as to the direction the Association takes the next year. It is also a time for participants to indicate their interest in working on a committee and to renew their membership for 2016. Membership forms

listing the committees will be available.

There have been many questions from residents about the nomination process. The following is an excerpt from the By-laws and may answer some questions.

The entire document can be found on the WHNAdallas.com website. Click on About in the upper left corner.

Article VI, Section 2. Election Procedure. Each year during the month of August, a temporary nominating committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for the purpose of selecting nominees for each office and the additional directorship for the next fiscal year. Notice of the names of the nominees so selected shall be given to the members at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the annual

meeting in the manner prescribed by the Board of Directors. The election of officers shall be held in September at the annual meeting of the general membership. Additional candidates may be nominat-

Annual WHNA Membership Meeting

**Monday, September 28
7:00 pm**

Liberty Junior High

**Celebrate WHNA's 30th Anniversary
Election of Officers**

**Come, discuss, vote and let the next Board know what is important to you!
Voting at the membership meeting is open to one vote for each member residence.**

1995

The year VIP, then called Volunteer Crime Watch, was started in Whispering Hills by Tom Ritter who also made the wooden house number signs for each house still found on many fences in alleys around the neighborhood.

*Congratulations to
Dave and Gerry Romanik on
70 years of marriage!*

Yards of the Month

SEPTEMBER

**Gene and Paula Collard
13303 Brentridge Drive**

**Billy and Jody Chambers
12605 Whispering Hills**

AUGUST

**Giancarlo and Angelica Carriero
10101 Chisholm**

**Al Tiseo
10202 Cimmaron**

JULY

**Art Yum
10232 Cimmaron**

**Brenda Eikner-Jones
12902 Jasoncrest**

JUNE

**Joe and Jean Kay
10105 Rita**

**Mike and Nancy Gorman
10139 Bettywood**

MAY

**Ancanetta Wright
12529 Hornbeam**

**Jean Caldwell and Thom Turnock
10205 Cimmaron**

APRIL

**Don and Donna Powell
10134 Panther Ridge**

**James Martin
13226 Deer Run**

Tips for Fall Gardening

dallascountymastergardeners.org

- Divide and re-plant spring blooming perennials such as Iris, yarrow, daisies, daffodils and daylilies (late September to early October).
- Plant chrysanthemums, asters, petunias, marigolds and other fall color plants.
- Plant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cilantro, collards, bush English and snap peas, leaf lettuce, bush lima beans, onion seeds, parsley, radishes, spinach, and turnips for fall harvest. If you don't plant a fall vegetable garden, sow Elbon rye as a winter cover crop.
- Avoid pruning spring-flowering trees and shrubs during the fall, as pruning now will reduce spring flowers.
- Continue to cut back spent flowers of annuals and perennials to encourage fall blooming until first frost.
- Apply a pre-emergent herbicide for cool season grassy weed control. It is also time to apply a pre-emergent for broadleaf winter weeds. Apply both by the end of September (but do not try to mix products), then water normally. Do not use a pre-emergent if you plan to overseed your lawn. Watch for brown patch in St. Augustine lawns and control with labeled fungicide.
- Watch for fall webworms on pecans, mulberries, and other susceptible trees and trim out webs as necessary or treat with appropriate products.
- Plant daffodils from late October to mid November.
- Plant pansies, flowering kale and cabbage, dianthus, cyclamen, violas for fall color as the weather cools at the end of October.
- Divide and re-plant ground covers like liriope and mondo grass, as well as new ground covers.
- Select and plant shrubs and trees, especially those that are grown for fall foliage, while fall color is visible. Late October is an excellent time for planting shrubs and hardy perennials, although it's best to wait until the winter dormant season for planting shade trees, or transplanting large woody shrubs or ornamental trees such as crape myrtles.
- Mulch or gather leaves regularly as they drop. A thick leaf layer on lawns can promote insects and diseases and delay winter dormancy. Add excess leaves to the compost pile or shred leaves and use as mulch in beds.

*Some days you're the bug,
some days the windshield.
The crisis of today is the
boring history of tomorrow*

VIP Updates

Mike Gorman

Just an FYI, 17 VIP's patrolled our streets and alley ways for 142.25 hours during August. Although this was an increase over July, there was a bump up in reported incidents by DPD. In August, we had three vehicle break-ins/vandalism and the fire at Forestridge Elementary compared to only 2 in July. Our monthly avg. is 3.87 for reported incidents.

Below is a listing showing all crimes that have been reported by DPD on their web page for our Reporting Area and the three surrounding R.A.'s so far this year. We look good in comparison.

We want to stress again for everyone to remove valuables from their vehicles and that all vehicles need to be locked if not in the garage.

A VIP patroller reported 4 youths on bikes coming out of alleys recently around 5:30 p.m. He said he followed them all the way down to the Richland Trace Apartments.

If kids are cruising in groups on bikes at times other than school time, or they are not on main streets going to and from the park, for example, then we need to consider them as suspicious.

Neighborhood Crime Stats July 16-Aug 31

From dallaspolice.net/publicdata

7/28 Deer Run Vandalism/Crim Mis
8/04 Morgan Meadow Theft
8/14 Bunchberry Arson (Playground)
8/23 Bernardin Theft
8/31 Daystrom Vandalism/Crim Mis

Our Neighborhood Patrol Officers (NPOs), have urged us to keep calling 911 to report suspicious people/activity. All of the thefts and vandalism that occurred during this time period involved cars. Look around carefully before leaving your car to make sure you are not forgetting something of value.

Some of our alleys are looking messy after trash pick-up days.

To minimize trash escaping from an over-filled trash can on windy days and while being hoisted into the sanitation truck, contain the smaller items, garbage, and scraps of paper in a bag.

Sanitation truck drivers stay in their trucks and do not stop to pick up spilled items.

Thank you to the neighbors who walk the streets carrying bags to pick up trash. The alleys behind our houses are each resident's responsibility.

137

THE NUMBER OF CRIMES REPORTED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE VIP STARTED IN 1995. IN 1996 THERE WERE 86. AS NOW, MOST CRIMES WERE THEFT, VANDALISM AND CAR BURGLARIES/THEFTS. THERE WERE 13 HOME BURGLARIES!

Crime	9606 Whispering Hills	9605 Richland Park	9607 Wood-bridge	9608 Walnut Creek	Total	Pct of Total
Robbery		4	1	3	8	22.86%
Burglry		1			1	2.86%
Criminal Mis-	1	2	2	2	7	20.00%
Fraud			2		2	5.71%
Theft	2		6		8	22.86%
Assault			2	1	3	8.57%
Lost Property			1		1	2.86%
Sudden Death			1		1	2.86%
Vehicle Accident			1		1	2.86%
Auto Theft				1	1	2.86%
Arson	1				1	2.86%
Found Property				1	1	2.86%
Total	4	7	16	8	35	100.00%
Pct of Total	11.4%	20.0%	45.7%	22.9%	100.0%	

Highlights of August Board Meeting

From meeting minutes by Holt Mitchell

From Neighborhood Patrol Officer Chad Brisco: Police are in the neighborhood one to four times a day, checking on Friendship Park. Owner of abandoned house on Rita Rd is being tracked. No suspicious or drug activity reported in the neighborhood in the past month. Regal Springs Apartment Complex is not on the SAFE program. Detective Burke Ruppy will be contacted as into why.

Safety/VIP Holt Mitchell/Mike Gorman

Six new volunteers for the VIP program. Next training class will take place on Aug. 31 and Sept 1. Mike asks that neighbors please watch for bikers with backpacks outside of normal school hours.

Richardson painted a left turn lane at the intersection of Whispering Hills and Buckingham. Richardson also retimed the signal, so that the wait time at the light should be not longer than 15 seconds.

WHNA paid to have red reflective tape added to the new stop signs at Lawler and WH. A petition will be available to sign in the coming months for a stop sign at Whispering Hills and Bunchberry. A stop sign at Deer- mont and WH is currently being evaluated by the city. However, the city has a four month backlog.

A dispute has arisen over Dallas's request for Garland resident's signatures on the Deermont closure. Councilman McGough will be contacted.

Neighborhood Beautification

Schematic plans for the south entrance landscaping will be acquired

Caring Neighborhood Network

If neighbors see or know of a neighbor in need, please call or private message Susie Leinneweber on Nextdoor.

TNR-After input from neighbors, the association has decided not to donate further to the TNR program. Holt Mitchell suggested the creation of a GoFundMe account by the TNR Program to move forward and posted on Nextdoor to raise funds for the program.

Liberty Junior High-PTA is planning for a garage sale in the fall. Food drive will take place from November 2nd until the 20th. PTA is \$10 to join and anyone can join, including neighbors.

Planned Upcoming Neighborhood Events

Note the change in plans from last month. Check emails and Nextdoor for confirmation and more details.

Sep 22 **Dine Out at Frankie's 6:30**
Tues Plano Rd, south of Buckingham

Sep 28 **Annual Membership Meeting**
Mon Liberty Junior High 7:00

Oct 10 **National Night Out Pot Luck**
Sat Friendship Park, 3-5:30 pm
Volunteers will be needed to help with set-up, serving, games, clean-up etc.

RSVP to Paulette Standefer at 972-783-0890 or standefer1@att.net for Dine Outs and the pot-luck.

Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) Update

From Claudia Bankston

Three kittens have been saved from being feral cats and adopted out to permanent homes.

We have 2 in foster homes that are attending AdoptAPet.

We just recently trapped a 1.25 lb. kitten that is also in foster care. It is too tiny to be Spay/neutered at this time. It is doing well and will soon be ready for AdoptAPet

Anyone interested in fostering any TNR kittens and saving them from the feral cat life please get in touch with Claudia.

972-231-3756 claudiabankston@msn.com

More Brain Exercise

Fill in the squares so that the same words appear both across and down.

1

1. Orienteering reference 2

2. Time in the past

3. Pea home 3

	1	2	3
1			
2			
3			

Does Your Sidewalk Look Like This?

From: dallascityhall.com/departments/publicworks/

City ordinance requires property owners to replace sidewalks, drive approaches or any other associated element when they become defective, unsafe or hazardous.



The Dallas Public Works Department offers help with two sidewalk replacement programs:

Cost Share

- This is the traditional program from which the City partners with citizens to share the cost 50/50 for existing residential sidewalk removal and replacement. This is funded by bond programs while available.

- In addition, the property owner will pay 100% for the cost of drive approach removal and replacement. The City pays for all other miscellaneous items including barrier free ramps.

- In the Cost Share Program, sidewalk removal and replacement are logged in by the date received.

- From the initial inquiry it takes two to three months to assess the property and provide an estimate. From the time of payment it is approximately two to six months until project completion

Fast Fix Program

- Fast Fix is a residential and commercial (except the downtown area) sidewalk program which allows citizens to obtain sidewalk removal and replacement without having to experience an extended wait.

- City staff inspects the property and provide an estimate. The program also includes the option of removal and replacement of curb and gutter, drive approaches and lead walks. The property owner then pays the contractor 100% of the total cost through an existing price agreement with the City. The work is completed in thirty to sixty days.

- Key advantage of the Fast Fix program includes the purchasing power of the City.

Both programs have a one year warranty on workmanship. The City secures all necessary permits.

Property owners may experience delays in sod replacement (if required) due to seasonal availability.

Call 214-948-4127, or 311 or use your Smartphone.

Visiting Neighbors While Walking

By Sonia Harms

Lately I have been combining my walking with patrolling nearly every morning. This takes me down both alleys and streets. In the process I have had the opportunity to chat with a couple of neighbors who recently moved into the neighborhood.

Edward McLellen was out watering his grass on Panther Ridge. In our chat and subsequent emails I learned interesting things from him. He and Alex, along with their two dachshunds, Gracie and Bette, moved into the neighborhood about 7 months ago. Even though he is a new resident himself, he has already reached out to other new neighbors, bringing them some of his homemade jam and taking water to another that was moving in.

Edward is from Connecticut. At present he is working as a personal assistant, but both he and Alex are licensed hairdressers. He enjoys photography, baking, making jam, stained glass, and both hand and machine quilting. Alex is a vegetarian and enjoys yoga and taking spin classes. Says Edward, "I love to work on our home and yard; I take great pride in where I live. I'm a very social person, but also love my alone time."

Linda Veregin and her kitten, Ollie, also live on Panther. I met her in the alley on one of my walks, too, as she was trying to decide what to do with things in her garage. She moved here a few months ago from St. Louis—she's a Cardinal fan and likes baseball. She left the job she moved here for because it was not a good fit. Now she is job-hunting again. She graduated from Baylor and has done a lot of traveling with her last job. There was also a year of teaching middle school. She enjoys gardening and is interested in looking at doing some tutoring at either Liberty or Forestridge.

There are at least 4 more residents with new occupants on Panther. I hope to visit with them on other walks. It's a great, casual way to meet people. I even happened to meet a person on another street who had one of our magazines delivered to them during the postal mix-up and didn't know that she could put it back in the mailbox for re-delivery.

Forget what your parents taught you about talking to strangers—while in the neighborhood anyway.

Yard Sale Guidelines

From Dallas Code Department website
dallascityhall.com/departments/codecompliance/garagesale

- The permit fee is \$0 for the 1st garage sale permit and \$25 for the 2nd garage sale permit in a 12-month period.
- There is a limit of two (2) garage sales at a premise during any twelve (12) month period and each sale may not exceed more than three (3) consecutive calendar days in length.
- One sign is allowed upon the lot where the sale is taking place. Up to five signs are allowed at remote locations advertising the sale.
- Signs must be placed on private property (with permission of the property owner).
- Signs placed on medians, public property or utility poles are illegal.
- Signs must be removed within 24 hours following the sale..

What is Orienteering?

It's a road rally on foot. It's a treasure hunt in the woods. It's finding your way from one brightly-colored marker to another using a special orienteering map.

The North Texas Orienteering Club begins its season of monthly events with National Orienteering Day on Saturday, September 26 at Harry Moss Park.

That is the closest venue to our neighborhood for the rest of the season.

This event is a great opportunity to experience orienteering for the first time.

It is open to the public, Boy and Girl Scouts, ROTC groups, experienced orienteers and families.

Interested? **Go to ntoa.com.**
Or contact Sonia Harms on Nextdoor

Where

What

When

Who

Weapons

The 5 Ws Needed When Calling 911

Information submitted by Cynthia Houck

Where - It is important to know the exact location of the emergency.

What – Briefly tell the 9-1-1 operator what you are reporting.

When - Tell the 9-1-1 operator when the incident occurred or if it is in progress.

Who - Tell the 9-1-1 operator how many suspects are involved. Describe clothing, vehicle, and the direction of travel if the suspect left the location.

Weapons – Tell the 9-1-1 operator if the suspect, you, or anyone at the location has a weapon. Follow the operator's instructions if you are asked to put the weapon away before responders arrive.

Try to remain calm when calling 9-1-1.

Listen to the operator and answer all the questions with brief responses. The operator will only ask questions he or she needs to process the call while keeping the safety of the caller and responders in mind.

Always keep your safety in mind when you call 9-1-1. You may need to leave the location or lock yourself in a room.

If you are unable to talk to the operator when your safety is compromised, you may need to lay the phone down and leave an open line so the operator can listen to what is going on inside the location.

Nextdoor Whispering Hills is Getting Neighbors in Touch

If you have not yet signed up on Nextdoor Whispering Hills, you are missing a lot of neighborhood goings-on.

You must be verified as living in the Whispering Hills neighborhood or be invited by a neighbor to use this site. **Go to Nextdoor.com**

NOTE: Membership on Nextdoor does **not** mean membership in WHNA.

Advertisements

All ads are by WHNA members. Their inclusion in this publication does not constitute endorsement by WHNA.

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**MAKE SURE YOUR 911 CALL
RESULTS IN A POLICE REPORT!**

**IN ORDER FOR A REPORT TO BE MADE
ON YOUR 911 CALL,
YOU NEED TO ALLOW POLICE TO CONTACT
YOU EITHER BY PHONE OR IN PERSON.**

YOU CAN ASK TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

SEE CRIME REPORTS AT:

<http://www.dallaspolice.net/publicdata/index.html>

BEAT # 254 REPORTING AREA 9606

The City of Dallas invites you to be a part of TALKDALLAS.com, an innovative citizen engagement tool which allows you to talk, connect and discuss your views about City programs, initiatives and priorities.

Visit www.talkdallas.com and join the conversation.

WHNA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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Curb (Bulky) Trash Pick-up Dates

Pick-up Weeks Begin:

September 28 and October 26

Our pick-up week is the 4th (not always last) Monday of the month. **Place trash on the curb beginning at 7 am the previous Thursday until 7 am on Monday.** To avoid missing pick-up, put trash out by Sunday evening. Trucks are often in the area early on Monday.

Dallas Code Enforcement is not required to give warning before issuing a possible \$250-\$2000 fine for trash on the curb before or after the above window of days. Call 311 to arrange for Cost Plus pick-ups at times outside of the pick-up week.

Only place out large limbs, shrubbery, bagged leaves (in sealed 50 gallon or smaller bags), furniture, appliances, mattresses and box springs. Separate yard waste from other trash.

Do not place grass clippings, bricks, concrete, rocks, dirt or construction/remodeling materials on the curb for pick-up during collection. Call Cost Plus for those materials.

The entire year's dates for the Bulky Trash Collection, and FAQs on what to recycle can be found at:
<http://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation>

Regular Trash/Recycling (Tuesdays)

Place the blue recycling container along with your gray trash container in the alley on Tuesdays by 7:00 a.m..

To order a Big Blue recycling cart, call 311 or go to dallascityhall.com. The cart will be delivered to your home.

Hazardous Materials Disposal

If you have household waste such as paint, pesticides and yard chemicals, pool chemicals, motor oil and other automotive fluids, cleaners, glues and other hobby products, fluorescent lights, batteries, old computers, or cell phones, **do not throw them in the trash or your regular recycle container.** Instead take them to the Home Chemical Collection Center at 11234 Plano Road. It is located on the east (left, going south) side of Plano Road, south of Forest Lane, just before the DART tracks. **Bring a driver's license or a water or utility bill to show proof of residence in Dallas County.** The workers there will unload your items and dispose of them safely.

Hours open: Tuesdays: 9:00 am to 7:30 pm
Wednesdays: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Thursdays: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Second and Fourth Saturdays: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Closed on Sunday, Monday and Friday

Call 214-553-1765 to find out if they will take what you want to bring or to make sure they are open. More information at:
http://www.dallascounty.org/department/plandev/hhw_intro.php