

Whispering Hills News

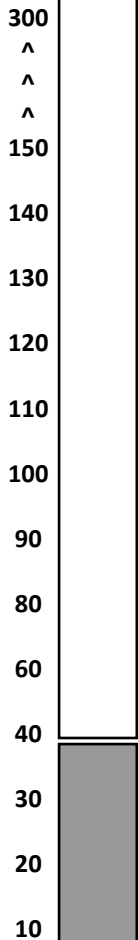
A Community of Neighbors

Serving the Residents of the Whispering Hills Neighborhood

JANUARY 2022

WHNA Membership Drive 2022 Moves Forward

**How Many
Members
Will There
Be This
Year?????
Help This
Graph Grow!**



Membership numbers are off to a very slow start this year. The new WHNA Board met for the first time via Zoom this month and will probably need to do that for several more times due to Covid precautions. Using Zoom has a cost. So does getting this newsletter printed six times a year.

There are other projects that need to be completed such as the south entrance landscaping and power washing/painting the wall. The wall on the west side of the neighborhood is in need of repair also.

WHNA also supports our very active and effective Volunteer in Patrol (VIP) and Crime Watch program under the superb guidance of Mike Gorman who has regular contact with the NE DPD.

Hopefully by this spring, or at least by summer, WHNA will be able to host some of our traditional social events so that we can become better acquainted with all of our new residents.

Only members will be able to vote on issues presented by the Board during community meetings.

Your membership will also show your appreciation for the work of all the volunteers who keep the Association active and productive.

Sign up NOW!!

There is a membership form on the back page.

To Vote by Mail in the Primary, You Must First Apply for a Ballot

Are You Eligible?

- 65 years of age or older
- Disability--as defined in Texas Election Code 82.002(a)
- Expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day
- Out of the county during the entire election including early voting
- Confined in Jail or Involuntary Civil Commitment (only one election and any resulting runoff)

Go to dallascountyvotes.org to print off a request to have ballots mailed to your home.

Or call 214-819-6359.

Under Texas' new voting law, absentee voters must include their driver's license number or state ID number or, if they don't have one, the last four digits of their Social Security number on their applications. Counties must match those numbers against the information in an individual's voter file to approve them for a mail-in ballot. Hundreds of applications have been rejected even for seniors who voted by mail for years.

Submit the application by one of the following methods:

In-Person – Only the applicant may submit his or her own application to the Early Voting Clerk.

By Mail – The application may be submitted via the U.S. Postal Service to: Dallas County Elections Dept., 1520 Round Table Dr., Dallas TX 75247.

Common or Contract Carrier – The application may be submitted via a bona fide, for-profit carrier.

Fax Transmission – Please contact your Early Voting Clerk or the Secretary of State for fax numbers.

By email – The application may be submitted by email. Please contact your Early Voting Clerk or the Secretary of State for email addresses.

Dallascountyvotes.org has more detailed information.

WHNA Board & Committee Chairs

Introducing the 2022 WHNA Board Members

NEXTDOOR NETWORK:
whisperinghills.nextdoor.com
WEBSITE: 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

WHNAmemberatl原因@whnadallas.com

Past President

Chuck Laughlin

WHNApastpresident@whnadallas.com

Committee Chairs:

VIP /Crime Watch Coordinator

Mike Gorman

WHNAvipcoordinator@whna.com

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Parks/Recycling

Carol Tobias

WHNAParks@whnadallas.com

Membership Drive Coordinator - OPEN



Keli Kincaid, President---Year 1 (VP 3 Years)

Grew up in Palestine, IL. Has an MBA in Project Management. Moved from Falls Church, VA to Whispering Hills in the summer of 2015 to be closer to family. Was WHNA Vice President 2017-2019 and is a VIP member. Recently purchased a business which is keeping her busy. She enjoys the friendly neighbors, walking her dog, Odin, spending time with her family, especially the grandchildren, and probably has too many houseplants.



Davene Morgan, Vice President---Year 1

Grew up in a small town southwest of San Antonio and moved to Dallas after graduation from Texas A&M. Has visited this neighborhood since the early 1980s during trips to see her extended family, and has lived on Deermont Trail since 2005. Works as an architect specializing in programming and planning of healthcare facilities. Hobbies include walking her dogs, gardening, putting together puzzles, and reading. WHNA concerns include reducing the speed of traffic along Whispering Hills and Deermont Trail.



Anne Meadows, Secretary---Year 1

Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Attended Southwestern State (Weatherford, OK). Graduated with a business degree. Has 4 grown children, 2 grandchildren, & a step-son. She and her husband moved to Whispering Hills, in September, 2020 from the Copperfield Townhomes addition. She served on its board for 3-years as Secretary and as a member of the VIP. Has worked at Fletcher-Farley law firm as the receptionist/secretary for 20 years. Has a pilot's license and enjoys flying a Cessna 172. Is a dog mom to 2 Chihuahua mixes and a miniature Australian Shepherd. Likes to travel.



Cynthia Houck, Treasurer---Year 4

Grew up in Northern Kentucky. Worked as an administrative assistant at Procter and Gamble for 30 years--13 of those in Dallas after her husband was transferred to DFW with American Airlines. Has lived in Whispering Hills since 2001. Performs with the Shufflin' Shoes Cloggers, and is Founding Queen Mother of the Big D Re-Gals Chapter of the Red Hat Society. Joined the Board to use her skills for the benefit of the neighborhood and feels that she can best contribute as Board Treasurer.



Wendy Kelly, Member-at-Large---Year 1

Grew up in Traverse City, Michigan. Attended San Diego State in Southern California. She married Michael in 2008 and they moved into the neighborhood in 2013. Works for a non-profit, coaching inner city teachers how to effectively teach outdoors, embedding science and math using standard-aligned lessons. She presents at national education conferences, and leads district-level panels and presentations in Texas. Loves to travel, spend time with family and friends, and sailing her sloop, "Selah," on Lake Ray Hubbard.

New WHNA Board Transitions

From Keli Kincaid, WHNA President

The Whispering Hills Neighborhood Association board met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. This business meeting was devoted almost entirely to transitioning board business among the new officers.

The second Tuesday of the month was selected as the meeting time. The next meeting will probably be held via Zoom on February 8th at 7:00pm. WHNA members will be notified by email and are welcome to attend.

Upcoming topics are beautification and updating the association website, with both needing attention. The social committee is also investigating some safe options for 'outings' of some sort whether virtual or in person.



Whispering Hills Book Club

The group has not started yet for this year.

Let Ancanetta Wright know you want to participate at:

netta2038@aol.com or 972-497-9904.

She will send information when a date has been decided.

Garage Sale Information

dallascityhall.com/departments/codecompliance/Pages/garage-sales.aspx



Facebook Group for Families with Young Children

Search Whispering Hills Families, and request to join. We have the group as "private" for safety reasons.

An Idea for Getting Light into Alleys and Maybe Deter Prowlers

A few neighbors have started using motion detection solar lights mounted to their alley fences and say they are reasonable and available from many sources. They are talking to their neighbors about adding the lights along their fences. The hope is that they will deter prowlers. The more we do to tell criminals to go somewhere else, the safer our neighborhood will remain.

Each person would have to determine if their alley fence will support enough sunlight during the day-time hours to keep the lights charged overnight. One person, however, said their lights don't need direct sunlight, just daylight.

There are many different versions. Google "motion detection solar lights" to see what's available and which would work best for you.

Councilmember Adam McGough Urges Attendance at a Redistricting Town Hall Meeting

The Redistricting Commission, appointed by the City Council, will recommend a districting plan based on population changes but we need your input.

Please help inform efforts to redraw City Council districts by attending a Redistricting Town Hall .

The redistricting process is important because, as the city's population grows, the City Council boundaries must be adjusted to account for shifts in population and demographics to ensure that voters in each council district have an equal voice in electing their representatives.

If you wish to participate virtually in a Redistricting Town Hall, join the final town-hall meeting via WebEx on February 10 at 6:30 p.m. To speak during this meeting, register at bit.ly/2021RDCTH by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting. All speakers who sign up before the deadline will have three minutes to speak about anything related to the redistricting process. They will be required to show video.

To learn about the redistricting process go to dallasredistricting.com

Notes from the December Public Safety Committee Meeting

Chief Eddie Garcia told the Dallas' Public Safety Committee members that overall violent crime—homicide, robbery and aggravated assault — was down 11% since May when the department put his violence reduction plan in place, and overall violent crime was down 7.4% for the year.

The chief said we were down 218 victims of aggravated assault compared to last year for an almost 5% decrease. Dallas was down 39 murders compared to last year for an almost 26% decrease. And the City had 445 fewer victims of robbery compared to last year for an almost 27% decrease.

Major of Police Paul Junger said the force has reduced murders and cut the number of aggravated assaults “by taking weapons and drugs off the street.”

“We have seized over 1,000 more weapons this year compared to last since the inception of our crime plan,” he says. “Citywide our officers have confiscated almost 1,500 doses of narcotics that weigh over 2,759 pounds in over 332 gallons of narcotics consisting of marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine and other unknown substances.”

He says they have lowered the number of arrests while confiscating dangerous possessions, which indicates “we are arresting the right people.”

Chief Garcia said he hopes the city will add more officers to help improve response time.

“That’s something we work on, and we continue to work on,” Garcia said. “I know it’s an issue. But again, we are growing as a department. And as we grow, we hope the response times reduce.”

DPD Street Racing Task Force

*By Maggie.prosser@dallas-news.com and
Kelli.smith@dallasnews.com*

The Dallas Police Department's street-racing task force has responded to 8,367 calls this year, which is up from 5,264 last year. Those calls aren't related only to illegal racing; they include disturbances, alarms and other reports, the taskforce's Maj. Richard Foy said in an interview with *The News*.

Foy encouraged people to call police if they see street racing or stunt driving.

Meet Your Neighborhood Crime Watch Coordinator

By Sonia Harms

Mike Gorman has been the Whispering Hills VIP Coordinator going on 6 years. It's time to give him recognition for the work he has done for the neighborhood, for WHNA, for the dedication he has toward doing it.



He has been advocating for people to get security cameras, and to report suspicious activity to 911 for a long time. Due to his frequent reminders to call suspicious behavior in to 911, and his work with VIP coordinators in neighboring areas, crime occurring in the neighborhood has dropped over the last year. Officers at NE, with whom Mike stays in touch, have mentioned that Whispering Hills is quieter than other areas in the Division.

If a neighbor is hesitant to call 911, Mike often makes the call for him, or at least helps ease the hesitancy. He also gets involved in graffiti, sign, and traffic issues. There is not much going on in the neighborhood which escapes Mike's attention.

Mike says, “I liked meeting people out on the street before COVID, and then trying to grow our group. I think the only way we are going to keep this neighborhood as safe as possible is to have as many reliable and dedicated neighbors that are willing to keep and eye out for anything suspicious and share with group and DPD.”

Mike was born in the Cockrell Hill part of Oak Cliff. He attended South Oak Cliff High School and then went to the University of North Texas. He lived in Dallas until 1971 when he was transferred to Little Rock, Arkansas by Dr Pepper Company where he worked in sales. In 1990, he was transferred back to Dallas by Coca-Cola Company. In deciding where to live, they chose Whispering Hills because of the easy access to schools when their children were younger. His wife, Nancy's, office was in downtown Dallas.

Thank you, Mike!

**Want to Be
Part of Crime Watch?
See Mike's Contact Info on Page 2**

Neighborhood Criminal Activity Reports Down 20.27% Versus 2020 Reports Dropped from 301 in 2020 to 240 for 2021

Report by Mike Gorman, VIP Coordinator

Whispering Hills Neighborhood continues to be a very safe neighborhood for all residents and their families. There were no violent crimes as defined by law enforcement in WHNA during 2021. Areas that border our neighborhood have attributed to nuisance activities that continue to concern residents i.e., speeding, vehicles with loud mufflers, suspicious persons prowling property and vehicles for crimes of opportunities, graffiti on boundary walls, and random use of firearms and fireworks.

The increase in cut-through traffic north and south on Whispering Hills, and to some extent Deermont Trail and Lawler Rd, has increased the number of vehicle accidents and dangerous situations. Most non-residential traffic besides school traffic is from drivers not wanting to be detained for stoplights to our west and to apartment renters needing access to entry gates along Walnut Street. Some residents are currently working with the City of Dallas on "Traffic Calming" programs for 2022.

2022 will bring its own set of challenges regarding the safety of all residents. To maintain the levels of safety that we currently enjoying, we must get as many residents as possible involved in either street level Crime Watch groups and/or the Dallas Police Department's Volunteers in Patrol group for our neighborhood. If criminal activities are not reported by every resident to DPD, then DPD will utilize its resources in other areas of the City of Dallas.

Some Activities That Fall Under "See Something, Say Something (report to 911)"

- Speeding and Loud mufflers by vehicles on main streets (Whispering Hills, Lawler, Deermont)
- Drug Activity from outside areas coming into WHNA on streets, at park and maybe at houses
- Graffiti on walls and surrounding property
- Random Gunfire / Fireworks
- Package Theft and Postal Crime Activities increasing due to more home deliveries

Area South of Lawler Experiences An Increase in Activity

A tire slashing by a person driving a tow truck and a group of people knocking on doors between 11PM and 3AM have been reported recently. When the knockers were asked why they are there, they said they must have the wrong house. They have been on the same street several times.

These types of events merit an immediate call to 911!

2021 Crime Reporting in Review

Total Crime Reports from all sources to WHNA VIP coordinator for 2021 were 240. 2020 reports were 301, so there was a reduction of 61 reports or 20.27% reduction.

Crime Reported	2020 Count	2021 Count	Inc. / Dec.	% Inc. / Dec.
Random Gunfire or Fireworks	67	41	26	-38.81%
Suspicious Person / Persons	44	25	19	-43.18%
Property Theft (Home & Auto)	17	21	4	23.53%
Suspicious Vehicle	18	18	0	0.00%
Prowler	15	14	1	-6.67%
Residential Burglary	9	11	2	22.22%
BMW - Theft of Property	8	9	1	12.50%
Criminal Mischief / Vandalism	17	7	10	-58.82%
Police Activity	16	5	11	-68.75%
Graffiti	9	3	6	-66.67%

Concerns to Address/Projects to Consider

- Evictions from surrounding apartments, condominiums and some WHNA homes
- Removal and Reporting of Graffiti on walls, schools and around park
- Approval and Installation of speed control cushions etc.
- Reporting of Suspicious Persons and/or Vehicles
- Get more concerned residents involved in Crime Watch programs and reporting
- Develop a group email listing to notify as many neighbors as possible about WHNA activities, like the Remind Notification program (It would have to be managed properly.)

--Reminder--

Watch for kids, or anyone, trying to cross the west wall. Note personal details and time of occurrence. Call 911 first if behavior is suspicious, then let Mike Gorman know. (Contact info on page 2.)

If you live along the west alley, make your trash cans inaccessible as boosters for wall crossers.

Some Tips For Reducing Your Heating Bill This Winter

From a Message by Discount Power

Close unused air vents. Heating rooms you don't use is a surefire way to increase your electricity bill. Close off vents in rooms that only get occasional use.

Check your air filter. Pay extra attention during heavy-use months. At a minimum, change the filter every three months.

Lower your water heater temperature. Water heaters are often set to 140 degrees. Setting them between 120 and 125 degrees is sufficient to provide hot water for your home, reducing your energy costs. It also prevents scalding.

Set your thermostat two to three degrees lower. For every degree you set your thermostat below 78°F, you'll see a five- to seven-percent decrease in your heating costs.

Ceiling and exhaust fans

Set your ceiling fan to spin clockwise. When spinning clockwise, your ceiling fan's blades push the hot air back down after it has naturally risen, distributing warm air in an energy-efficient manner.

Only use exhaust fans when necessary. Your kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans pull in hot air that has risen and send it outside. Use them sparingly!

Fireplace

Seal it. If you don't use your fireplace, you can seal the flue area to keep cold air from getting in.

Turn off the pilot light. For natural gas fireplaces, make sure to turn off the pilot light when you're not using the fireplace.

Close the damper, unless a fire is burning. Leaving it open is like leaving a window open, letting cold air in and allowing warm air to escape up the chimney.

Cook meals in large batches. By cooking in bulk, you can save energy by reheating servings in the microwave instead of using the oven each time.

Attics

Check your attic insulation. Most attics should have about 10 to 14 inches of insulation (a value of R-38).

Insulate the access door. Even if your attic is well-insulated, the access door may not be. To prevent rising warm air from leaking into the attic, use adhesive to attach fiberglass batt insulation to the attic side of the door, forming a good seal.

Other tips for around the home

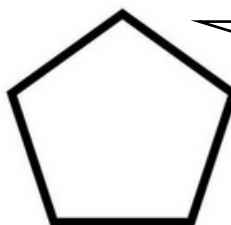
Bundle up to save a bundle. Instead of automatically turning the heat up when you're chilly, bundle up in some extra layers like a cozy blanket, warm mittens and/or a comfy sweater.

Use extra blankets. Why let blankets stay in the closet when they could be providing you with additional warmth at night? Use another blanket or two at night so you can comfortably turn down the thermostat a few degrees.

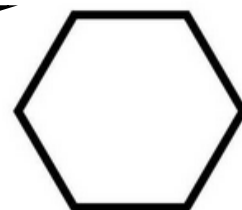
Valentine's Day is a celebration of love and lovers. The roots of Valentine's Day go back to ancient times, when people paid honor to the Roman God of Fertility. This was known as the Feast of Lupercalia, and was celebrated even then on February 14th.

The heart is the most common symbol of romantic love. Ancient cultures believed the human soul lived in the heart.

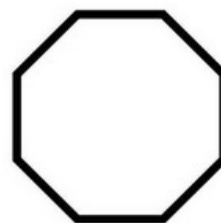
Chuckle



PENTAGON



HEXAGON



OCTAGON



SEASONGON

In life,
it's important to know
when to stop arguing
with people and simply
let them be wrong.

www.YourPositiveOasis.com

Spotted Any Monarchs? Help with This Project

Researchers are calling on the public to report monarch butterfly sightings in eight southern and Gulf states, including Texas from December 1-March 1 to better understand the insects' migration and wintering behavior.

Normally Monarchs from Canada and the eastern U.S. come across the southern U.S. in the fall on their way to wintering in Mexico.

The information from the reports may help to determine if the butterflies can spend the winter as non-breeding adults in the southern U.S.

A reporting from last winter's project showed more than 5,800 observations of monarchs in southern and Gulf states according to the Department of Natural Resources.

To report sightings set up an account with journeynorth.org/monarchs. Information on what and how to report is on the website.

You might find other projects on birds, pollinators and more listed on the site interesting.



Get Homework Help at the Dallas Public Library

Use Your library card to
connect with
a free online tutor.

HelpNow by Brainfuse offers live
homework help in all
major subjects.

Help is also available in Spanish.

Google Dallas Public Library to
get a free card.

The Philosophy of Charles Schultz, Creator of the "Peanuts" Comic Strip

A message that we need to help spread

You don't have to actually answer the following questions. Just ponder on them. Just read straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers.

They are the best in their fields.

But the applause dies .. Awards tarnish ... Achievements are forgotten.

Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.



Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worth while.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier? The lesson:

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money ... or the most awards.

They simply are the ones who care the most.





BRUSH & BULK



PICK-UP WEEKS BEGIN:

February 28 and March 28

**Set out on curb beginning Thursday,
February 24 and March 24
and before 7am on the Monday of pick-up week.**

Separate bulky trash from brush.

No glass or electronics

**Get the entire 2022 schedule at:
[dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/
brush_and_bulky.aspx](http://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/brush_and_bulky.aspx)**

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

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

Recycle These Items At the Northeast Transfer Station

7677 Fair Oaks Avenue

Wednesdays and Saturdays 7:30am-5pm

- Computer Monitors	- Console Televisions	- Flat Screen Televisions	- Computers
- CRT Television Sets	- Laptops	- Flat Screen Monitors	- Printers
- Office Phones	- Projection Televisions	- Keyboards	- Mice
- Camcorders	- VCR Players	- Electronic Toys	- Copiers
- Kitchen Electronic	- Scanners	- Docking Stations	- Computer Fans
- Speakers	- Microwaves	- Remote Controls	- DVD Players
- Radios	- Stereos	- DVR's	- Faxes
- Cameras	- GPS Navigation	- Receivers	- Walkie-Talkies
- CD Players	- Games Consoles	- Cable Boxes	- Cell Phones
- Digital Converters	- Satellite Receivers	- Tablets	- Small Servers
- MP3's	- Pagers	- Routers	- Calculators

In case you are not aware, our \$50.00 dues are the main source of income for WHNA. (That's \$.14/day; \$.96/week; \$4.17/month.) Dues enable us to pay for recurring expenses including security, common area maintenance, newsletter, social events, and other miscellaneous items.

2022 WHNA Membership Form

I would like my information to be included in the 2022 Membership Directory (circle one):

2022.JF.NL

Yes

No

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 & events*

Dues:

\$50

Additional

Donation:

(tax deductible)

(tax deductible)

Send check (made payable to WHNA) to WHNA at 10323 Cimmaron Trail.

For PayPal or Credit Card go to www.whnadallas.com/join-whna/



2022 Membership Period

January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Payments after October 1, 2021 apply to 2022 Membership.

