

Whispering Hills News

A Community of Neighbors

Serving the Residents of the Whispering Hills Neighborhood

OCTOBER 2022

An Urgent Call for President

By Keli Kincaid, Current WHNA President

The Whispering Hills Neighborhood Association is searching for a new President. Please consider joining and participating as the WHNA President to keep the association alive and well. The position entails conducting a meeting approximately 1/mo. (some months such as December and July are typically skipped), occasionally taking a call from a resident and simply being a point of contact mostly for Crime Watch issues and occasionally for a city representative on something such as a code question a resident might have.

It isn't difficult. All other board vacancies are filled by volunteers lending great help and support, along with other neighbors.

If you would like to help, please contact any of the Board members. See page 2 for the Board roster.

Speed Cushions Are Here!



Thanks to the efforts and persistence of neighbors Lynn Peltier and Carol Tobias, 4 speed cushions are finally in place on Whispering Hills south of Cimmaron. It is a project that has been in the works for over a year after the occurrence of a number of

accidents due to speeding, racing, and reckless driving. Walkers have observed many incidents of slowed driving, and less traffic, and have shared positive comments.

Petitions have circulated on the north end of Whispering Hills requesting the installation of additional cushions between Cimmaron and Buckingham.

Due to November Elections, the next WHNA zoom meeting will be held on November 15th at 7:00.

Slate of Officers for 2023 Board

President: OPEN

Vice President: Davene Morgan

Secretary: Anne Meadows

Treasurer: Cynthia Houck

Member At Large: Wendy Kelly

Past President: Keli Kincaid

What Is WHNA Doing For You?

- Completed a \$17,000 wall repair and painting project at the south and west ends.
- Through the Dallas Police VIP program, keeps in touch with the NE Police Division keeping our neighborhood on its radar,
- Maintains contacts with City Council member's office and with staff of various City departments which provides more clout than a single person when registering complaints.
- Makes sure the area at the end of Lawler is mowed as well the south entrance when City does not get to it.
- Publishes a newsletter providing neighborhood news and updates to all 615 residences.
- Has updated the website and invested in a campaign emailing system for use in sending out Community Corner messages.

**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

www.whnadallas.com

2022 Board Members:

President
Keli Kincaid

WHNApresident@whnadallas.com

Davene Morgan
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WHNAvicepresident@whnadallas.com
Secretary

Anne Meadows
WHNAsecretary@whnadalas.com

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Treasurer / Website

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WHNAtreasurer@whnadalas.com

WHNAtreasurer@whnadallas.com
Member at Large

Wendy Kelly
WHNAmemberatl@whnadallas.com

WHNAmemberatl@whnadallas.com
Past President

Chuck Laughlin
 W/HNApastpresident@whnadallas.com

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Grounds and Improvements

Alan Ravkind
WHNAGrounds@whnadallas.com

WHNAgrounds@whnadallas.com
Membership Drive Coordinator - OPEN

Wall Repair and Painting Project Finished

Report by Alan Ravkind, Project Coordinator



WHNA has invested \$17,000 to repair, power wash, prime and paint the walls facing Walnut and part of the wall bordering the railroad tracks.

It was a project that had been pondered for a number of years. The last time the wall was painted was about 10 years ago.



The picture at left, above, shows the damage done to the low wall on the east side of the entrance to the neighborhood. A car ran over it about a year ago.

The next picture to the right shows the repair. There was similar repair done on the west side.



Below that is the finished painting of the east wall. Note the contrasting color on the vertical posts.

At the bottom is the wall facing the tracks. It had been marked by graffiti and several attempts with mismatched paints to cover previous “art.”

The next project is to determine new landscaping. A couple of neighbors are working on what perhaps could be done without having a sprinkler system in place. Any other volunteer gardeners would be appreciated.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON VOTING RESPONSIBILITY

If you are thinking about not voting on November 8th, or voting without researching, take these words by President James Garfield in 1877 into account:

*"Now more than ever, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress.
If that body be ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people tolerated ignorance, recklessness and corruption."*

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

By Cynthia Houck

The landing or home page gives an overview of the site with links to each section. Sections can be reached by links along the top of the page and throughout the page itself. The vertical column on the left is being used to post WHNA news.

OUR INFO

Contact List – A list of all Board Members and Committee Chairs with their contact info.

Newsletter Archive – Links to all of this year's WHNA newsletters.

Map – An interactive map of the

neighborhood. Moving the little man into the map area opens Google Maps at street level.

CALENDAR

The calendar shows details of upcoming events in the neighborhood.

PAGES & LINKS

How to Join WHNA – A link to joining by Venmo or PayPal, as well as a WHNA Membership Form to be used the old fashioned way by sending a check via U.S. Mail. A copy of the membership

form is on the back of this newsletter for your convenience.

Documents & Pages – Information about the Association, the neighborhood, and the VIP/Crime Watch program.

External Links – to websites of interest to our neighbors

We hope the website will become a helpful reference tool. Please let me know if there is other information that you feel should be added. Emails may be sent to me at WHNATreasurer@whnadallas.com.

Weekly Crime Reports August 1-October 15

From VIP reports by Mike Gorman

We managed to get through August and the first weeks in September with few criminal incidents. There were reports of coyote sightings, bulky trash violations, some juvenile antics, property damage, and found property (3 incidents of discarded clothing).

Here is a brief overview from the weekly VIP recaps that were report to police.

8/03-08/10 BMV of truck in driveway
8/11-08/17 No reported incidents
8/18-08/24 No reported incidents
8/25-08/31 Random gunfire or fireworks
9/01-09/07 Mail theft
9/08-09/14 Mail box tampering, theft
9/15-09/21 Property theft, stabbing, gunfire, robbery
9/22-09/28 Random gunfire
9/29-10/05 Mail theft
10/6-10/12 Suspicious vehicle

Mail theft seemed to have occurred mostly on the north end streets. The property theft at a house for sale occurred on 9/15. The robbery occurred on 9/16, followed by a stabbing/cutting at the same address on the 9/19.

NE Police Division Debuts Monday Morning Wake-Up

Join police at the NE division virtually for their weekly Monday Morning Wake-up at 9:00 am. Discussions will include crime prevention tips, information about upcoming events planned by NE, and input by people from the community, City Council and City of Dallas staff.

<https://www.facebook.com/DallasPD.NE>

Link to Facebook: <https://fb.watch/fEoe8LBSfR/>

Chief Eddie Garcia Elected President of Chiefs Association

Dallas police Chief Eddie García announced to all department employees that he was elected president of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, an organization of police executives from across the United States and Canada. The organization brings together law-enforcement leaders from many of North America's largest cities in to discuss ideas, strategies and research, and to advocate for public safety policies and funding from government officials.

The group includes leaders of law-enforcement agencies in cities including Austin, Chicago, Denver, El Paso, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City and San Antonio.

Missing Teaching and My Hometown, Uvalde

By Sylvia Munoz

First of all, I want to thank you for honoring school teachers in the previous newsletter! I have lived in Whispering Hills for one year. I am a retired elementary teacher who taught for 46 years in Uvalde Texas. I started my teaching career at Robb Elementary and taught there for 18 years! It's sad that no one knew where Uvalde was when I first moved to Dallas, and now everyone knows because of the tragic shootings of nineteen students and 2 teachers! I had the honor of working with one of the victims, Mrs Garcia, an amazing, kind and loving teacher till the end!

I miss teaching, my school friends, my students, and my hometown. Both my husband and I taught in Uvalde and raised our 3 children there. All 3 children moved to the Dallas area, so we wanted to move close to them when we retired. Unfortunately, my husband passed away of a massive heart attack a month after he retired. I moved up here with my daughter, and take care of my two year-old grandson. It's been difficult, but I'm enjoying teaching my grandson.

The teacher in me is still alive! I decorate our house for every season just like I used to decorate my classroom! I love that we live close to the schools and I get to see children on the playground and school buses driving by our house! My grandson is in love with the school buses! I hope to volunteer at school when he starts school!

I'm grateful for the many amazing and rewarding years of teaching and I'm grateful for all the amazing teachers we have in Whispering Hills! They are in my prayers and I wish them a gratifying school year. One of my grandchildren started kindergarten here in Dallas this year and was so excited after meeting his teacher. Thank you, teachers, for all you do! Teaching is a work of heart!

New 988 Mental Health Hotline is Live

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.

DPD Officer Sgt. Moody Joined Neighborhood Night Out Event



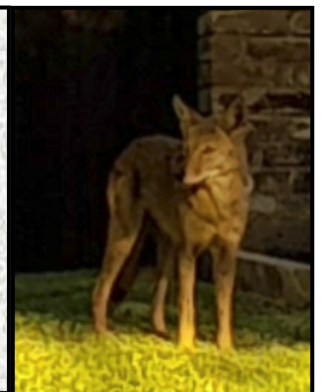
Sgt. Moody with Jean Caldwell, left, and Sonia Harms

The first in-person neighborhood event taking place since Covid discouraged gatherings, took place as part of National Night Out on the evening of October 4th. It drew a good-sized crowd of around 60 neighbors coming and going, happily chatting and catching up with one another. That fulfills the purpose of NNO --to help deter crime by getting to know your neighbors. Thank you to all who participated and helped make this event successful.

Sgt. Moody stayed for over an hour chatting with participants about neighborhood crime issues and generally learning about our area.

A Mom's Group for families with young children is in the process of being organized. If you would like to join in, let Roxanne Singletary know at Roxiesingletary@gmail.com

Leaving food out for strays or pets, invites coyotes, raccoons, bobcats, rats and mice. They should be able to fend for themselves.



Have You Found the Little Free Library in the Neighborhood?

By Helen Meyer, Feature Editor

If you drive down Whispering Hills, you will see it in neighbor Kim Bullock's front yard at the south corner on Rita! It is one of about a hundred "little free libraries" that have been put up across Dallas and one of thousands that have been put up across the United States and other countries.

Kim's father built her library, her daughter picked the colors and they put it on display in February of this year. Activity was slow at first but by Spring there was a lot of use and it has not slowed down. She attributes that largely to her yard being right across from Liberty Junior High as well as being on a bus stop to other schools.

She stocks books for all ages with content ranging from classics to topics that reflect a variety of controversial views. She especially values providing books for those who cannot afford them and for those who "need a life line." Kim includes various small trinkets, etc. from time to time and

reports that they go quickly. Book donations from teachers and others have been greatly appreciated and are always welcome.

Kim says many children thank her for the library when they see her in the yard. One of her greatest satisfactions was that this summer a group of children came to her door so they could not only thank her for the library but tell her that they had been taking some of the books in order to send them to family in Ethiopia who have none.

Kim, a writer from Maine and her husband, a computer systems architect from Missouri, moved to Whispering Hills in 1997 for a job relocation at Raytheon. They live with their two daughters, ages 17 and 21. And they invite you to come on by for a browse!



The Little Free Library concept began in 2009 when Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin "mounted a wooden container, designed to look like a one-room schoolhouse, on a post on his lawn and filled it with books as a tribute to his late mother, a book lover and school teacher who had recently died." People were invited to either take a book and leave a book or just take without having to leave one to replace it. He had no idea this was going to be the first of the exceedingly popular "little free libraries."

9 Little-Known Facts About Little Free Libraries

1. There are Little Free Libraries in all 50 states, in 91 countries, and on every continent except Antarctica.
2. One Little Free Library was carved from the stump of a 110-year-old tree.
3. More than 120 million books have been shared in Little Free Li-

braries worldwide.

4. There is a Little Free Library book-sharing box at the Library of Congress.
5. Many Little Free Libraries are crafted by Amish carpenters..
6. There are three Little Free Libraries for every public library in the United States.
7. Little Free Libraries were almost called "Habitats for Humanities. This name was on the list when Todd Bol and Little Free Library

co-founder Rick Brooks first began talking about what to call their little boxes of books. It doesn't seem to have the same ring.

8. The 75,000th Little Free Library was given to a school where 32 languages are spoken. Jenks East Elementary in Jenks, Oklahoma.
9. Not all Little Free Libraries stand still - some are on city buses, or wheeled from classroom to classroom.

Chuckles

Where did the mouse park his boat?
At Hickory Dickory Dock

Television may insult your intelligence,
but nothing rubs it in like a computer.



Halloween Jokes

- Why did the ghost go to a bar? It was looking for boo's.
- What do ghosts use to style their hair? Scare spray.
- Why do skeletons argue? They always have a bone to pick.
- What did the skeleton bring to the cookout? Spare ribs.
- Did you hear about the zombie that lost the race? It came in dead last.
- Where do vampires deposit their paychecks? At the blood bank.
- Why don't vampires get invited to parties? They're a pain in the neck.
- What do witches' study in school? Spelling.
- Why did the angry witch leave her broom at home? She didn't want to fly off the handle.
- Where do witches park? In the broom closet.

Neighborhood Dine Outs Are Back

It has been over 2 years since the last neighborhood Dine Out. Social Chair, Paulette Standefer, decided it was time to try again at Roccos's Italian Restaurant in September. Over 20 neighbors participated.

Watch for announcements of future dine outs, possibly next month, via Community Corner email.. Any Whispering Hills resident is welcome to attend, families, too.

Contact Paulette Standefer if you have suggestions for local restaurants to try, at her email on page 2.

Did You Know....?

All those cardboard boxes are recyclable. Flatten and put them into the Blue Bin.

And...Glass, Mirrors, and Electronics should NOT be placed out for bulky trash (curb) pickup. They break and become dangerous for walkers and pets.

Fight Against Short Term Rentals

Short Term Rentals (STRs) are a commercial, for-profit land use --- as a lodging use under the development code. The total number of SRTs in Dallas exceeds 6,000.

Without City Zoning Requirements, we can no longer assume, when a neighbor moves, that long term residents are moving in.

Depending on the room type and activity, a residential Airbnb or VRBO listing could be more like a hotel, disruptive for neighbors, taking away housing, and operating illegally.

Several areas in Dallas, including Whispering Hills, have argued against allowing short term rentals in residential areas, saying they are commercial hotels. In some zip codes, investors bought more than half of all homes sold in DFW. Most are not living in the area. The unbridled growth is responsible for ongoing devastation to Dallas neighborhoods and escalating enforcement costs to taxpayers.

A zoning petition is scheduled to reach the Dallas City Council soon.

Meanwhile...Please continue to document problems at STRs in your neighborhood by calling 311 for code issues and 911 when their guests get out of hand, and let your council member know about the 311/911 complaints that you file with the city.

The City Controller's office is responsible for collecting the Hotel Tax. Check with them to see if an SRT is registered. Google dallascityhall.com/departments/controllersoffice Click on Hotel Taxes, then Short Term Rentals.

The Texas Neighborhood Coalition's website: txneighborhoodcoalition.com has more information.

There have been questions asked by neighbors about whether there will be a Neighborhood Yard Sale this year as in the past.

In order for that to happen, a coordinator is needed. Interested in heading it up? Contact a Board member for information on what's involved.



BRUSH & BULK



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

NEXT PICK-UP WEEKS BEGIN:

October 24 and November 28

Set out on curb beginning Thursday,
October 20 and November 24.
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.

It's Garage Sale Season Check QR Code or Website for Requirements

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.SO.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
(tax deductible)

Additional Donation _____
(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.